

The River School End of Term Highlights

Principal Reflections — Autumn

Welcome to the Autumn (April) edition of *The River School* newsletter. What a fabulous, action packed Term 1! In ten weeks we have managed to fit in the Yr.6 leadership camp, three excursions, introduced a new Physical Education program, held teacher/parent interviews, ran a café night incorporating the P&F AGM and experienced a school closure as a result of heavy rainfall from Cyclone Alfred as it crossed land.

"A true community flourishes when love, wisdom, and service intertwine—where every heart beats not just for itself, but for the collective growth of all." - Neohumanism



Compassion Sessions

This term, each class has begun deepening their understanding of what it means to use kind words and actions. Knowing that **we can only control three things – our thoughts, our words, and our actions** it's important to have regular discussions at school and home about what this means in terms of our behaviour choices and the effects that our words and actions have on ourselves, others, and the environment. We are utilising a variety of resources including books from our library collection and online resources such as *Bullying No Way*.

Supporting our Children & Educators

Our wonderful P&F have provided funding for teachers to undertake four sessions with Donna Joosten, Senior Occupational Therapist, over Terms 1 and 2. These sessions will provide valuable resources and opportunity for discussion, assisting teachers to navigate class cohort adjustments; ensuring every child feels safe, happy and free to learn within their classroom environment.

ANZAC DAY - Friday April 25th

This year, ANZAC Day falls on Friday of the first week back in Term 2. The River School, along with other local schools, have once again been invited by the RSL to join in the main March and Service at the RSL where we lay gifts at the Cenotaph. *River School* students and families are welcome to join the Maleny community to march down Maple Street and stay for the main service. Please meet at Cooke Park on ANZAC day at 10.30am for the 10.45am March Please wear River School shirts, neat attire and shoes to march with our River School Banner. School hats will be brought by staff from school.

Farewell to Marcus

In the last week of term, we learnt that our Year 1 teacher, Marcus, has made the difficult decision to resign his position as Lillypilly class teacher. Although we're deeply saddened by this decision, we support him fully and wish him and his family all the very best. We have embraced Marcus as a part of our Lillypilly and River School family, and we thank him for the love and heart that he's shared with our community.

Moving into Term 2, our Yr.1 students will become a 'Lillypilly within Puggles' or a 'Lillypilly within Kingfishers'. A big thank you to our parents who have supported us in making this a smooth transition for our little people.

Wishing everyone a safe, restful and sunny break ☺

In kindness with sprinklings of joy,

Ann Donoghoe

Principal



We would like to welcome all of the new families who have joined the River school Community during Term 1.

Our youngest class of Puggles (Prep) are all new to the school , with some familiar with the school as their older siblings have come before them, some have been involved from their time in River Kindy and some are brand new to the community. They have all settled into life as a Puggle beautifully. We have had families join us in Kingfishers (2), Wattles (4), Regents (5) and Red Cedars (6). These new students have all connected and created new friendships with ease and with a smile, that is magnificent to see.

We have loved getting to know each and every student and their extended families.



Energy Levy Opportunity

TUCKSHOP

Would you like to join the team and help to prep delicious food for our school community? Yolande would love extra hands on Tuesdays and Thursdays!

If you are wanting to know more please get in contact with the admin.

2025 School Calendar

Updated: 03.04.2025

Term 2	
Monday 21 st April	PUBLIC HOLIDAY Easter Monday
Tuesday 22 nd April	First day of term
Friday 25 th April	PUBLIC HOLIDAY ANZAC Day
Monday 5 th May	PUBLIC HOLIDAY Labour Day
Tuesday 27 th May – Monday 3 rd June	Reconciliation Week
Friday 30 th May	MALENY SHOW HOLIDAY
Thursday 5 th June	World Environment Day
Thursday 17 th June	Readers Cup ~ Red Cedar students
Friday 20 th June	Café Night
Friday 27 th June	Last day of term
Monday 23 rd June	Announced Lock Down Drill
7 th – 13 th July	NAIDOC WEEK
Term 3	
Monday 14 th July	PUPIL FREE DAY
Tuesday 15 th July	First day of term
Tuesday 15 th – Friday 25 th July	Taiwanese Visiting Teachers
Friday 25 th July	Prep vision screening
Wednesday 30 th – Friday 1 st August	Regent Camp: Mapleton QCCC
Friday 15 th August	Café Night
Monday 18 th – Friday 22 nd August	BOOK WEEK – Parade Friday 22 nd
Monday 25 th – Wednesday 27 th August	Wattle & Piccabeen Camp: Noosa North Shore
August TBC	OLYMPICS Day
Monday 1 st – 5 th September	Parent Teacher Interviews held this week
Wednesday 10 th – Friday 12 th September	House of Happiness Bribe Island Camp
Thursday 11 th September	Are You Okay? Day
Friday 12 th September	Last day of term
Sunday 21 st September	World Peace Day
Term 4	
Monday 6 th October	PUBLIC HOLIDAY Kings Birthday
Tuesday 7 th October	First day of term
Saturday 25 th October	SPRING FAIR
Monday 27 th October	PUPIL FREE DAY
Monday 10 th – Sunday 16 th November	National Recycling Week
Thursday 11 th December	Red Cedar Clap out & Graduation dinner
Friday 12 th December	Last day of term & Clean UP Day
6 week Summer Holidays	



2025 THE RIVER SCHOOL

School Tour & Information Sessions

TERM 1

TUESDAY 25 FEB
9AM – 10:30AM

TERM 2

TUESDAY 20 MAY
9AM – 10:30AM

TERM 3

TUESDAY 12 AUG
9AM – 10:30AM

TERM 4

SPRING FAIR SAT 25 OCT

FAIR 10AM-2PM
SCHOOL TOUR 11:00 AM

REGISTER: ADMIN@RIVERSCHOOL.COM.AU

251 Bridge Creek Rd, Maleny QLD www.riverschool.com.au

Music

In music this term, we have been investigating the cultural significance of dance, and the musical components of what makes a song fun for us to dance to.

We've enjoyed learning traditional seated dances such as Tabanaba and Sing Song Saya, to a variety of western dance styles. We performed these as whole classes and in small groups.

We're looking forward to continuing to practice some of our dances for an awesome performance at the Winter Solstice Café Night in Term 2.

Much love, Katchia



LOTE ~ Japanese

During Week 10, all students in Japanese started working on the Koi Fish for Children's Day festival on the 5 May. Children's Day, known as Kodomo no Hi (子供の日) is a day to respect children's personalities and celebrate their happiness.

PARENTS & FRIENDS OF THE RIVER SCHOOL

Upcoming activities and opportunities:

- We are planning some wonderful café nights throughout the year, with local musicians performing, bringing our community together.
- Funds from café night term 1 have allowed us to book in some professional development sessions for teachers, focusing on inclusivity and tailoring our classroom environments for the benefit of all students.
- We are also hoping to provide some funding for new, exciting book collections in the library.
- We have finalised the installation of the new oven in the tuckshop, thanks to last years' P and F, and this means more delicious food for Café nights and tuck shop days throughout the year.
- Spring Fair planning is underway and we are planning some new ideas and new stalls, making the most of the musical and craft skills of our community.

We will be running a fundraising raffle and always love to have volunteers to help run this community focused activity.

Please email us if you can help from May-August for an hour a week. This can be added to your energy hours contribution.

pandf@riverschool.com.au



HATS

All school hats were sent home at the end of term, to be washed prior to Term 2.

**If your child does not know where their hat is, you will need to purchase a new hat.
These can be bought at the office for \$30.**

No Hat means NO play during break times as we are a sun safe school.

This term in Puggle class, the beautiful Puggle children have been exploring who they are and how they are the same and different to each other. We have discussed how we look and the children created some amazing self-portraits. We talked about our favourite foods and noted our friends' preferred foods too! We have been evaluating which activities we like to participate in and what we have learned in these play investigations.

Such a busy fun term! Paula, Molly and Tash



LILYPILLIES

connecting

& creating

End of term fun: Students decided to host their own talent show - singing, dancing, musical performances and delighted fun.





Wow! The end of term is here already.

What a fabulous time we have had in the Kingfisher room. Here's a quick summary of our busy days.



We have learned about space and the planets. We explored technology in the past and how it has changed. We have built and designed in maths and Walker Learning (and of course; lego). We have meditated and stretched our minds and bodies in Inner Me. We have challenged our bodies in PE and at the creek, exploring nature (especially the changes to the creek given the recent weather). We have been on excursions and have met some new friends at Bankfoot House and at Range Care. We have developed our number sense and problem solving skills in maths. But most importantly, we have come together as a school family in our team building and kindness challenges this term. We have built on our skills and learned the importance of what it means to be a River School student. It's no wonder we are all so tired and ready for a break. Happy holidays, Kingfisher families.

Enjoy time with your children and we look forward to next term. Enjoy the photos.



Piccabeens and Pippi Longstocking



What an incredible term of learning the Piccabeens have enjoyed! We have engaged with heat transfer concepts in science and designed our own version of a COOL playground without any scorching swings, slides or apparatus and factoring in the variables of durability, longevity and suitability of materials. We have meditated, learned yoga asanas, sprouted number fact skills, solved challenging problems in maths, read, comprehended, conceptually journeyed through challenging HASS activities, learned the skills that allow us greater self and social awareness, enjoyed the modelled reading story, 'Pippi Longstocking,' which culminated in a 'Pippi Tea

Party,' which included colour and flair and Annie's speech and drama prowess, enjoyed PE sessions with Ann in our hall, and created the most amazing biographies in English, which we presented to our parents in the last week of term, and whom were most impressed!!



Wattles

It is astounding how much progress on so many levels we have already seen this year. The children have been a delight to teach and to see them so engaged with their Inquiry Unit on Fascinating Fungi has been

wonderful. Our excursion to Mary Cairncross Reserve provided a plethora of fungi for the children to discover and attempt to identify. We enjoyed every presentation at our Mycologist Conference with such an array of different specialty areas that the children chose due to their own interest. The audience witnessed presentations from the aesthetically pleasing fungi such as Coral Fungi, Humongous Fungus, which is the largest organism on earth spanning over 9km square, to those that would infiltrate the insect kingdom like the Zombie Ant Fungi. Beautifully prepared artefacts supported the children's speeches, and I thank all families

for the support you provided creating these.

Creatively the children have written some absolutely beautiful poetry inspired by nature and can see the extended vocabulary that they are now using to visually aid the reader. I could not be more proud of their efforts.

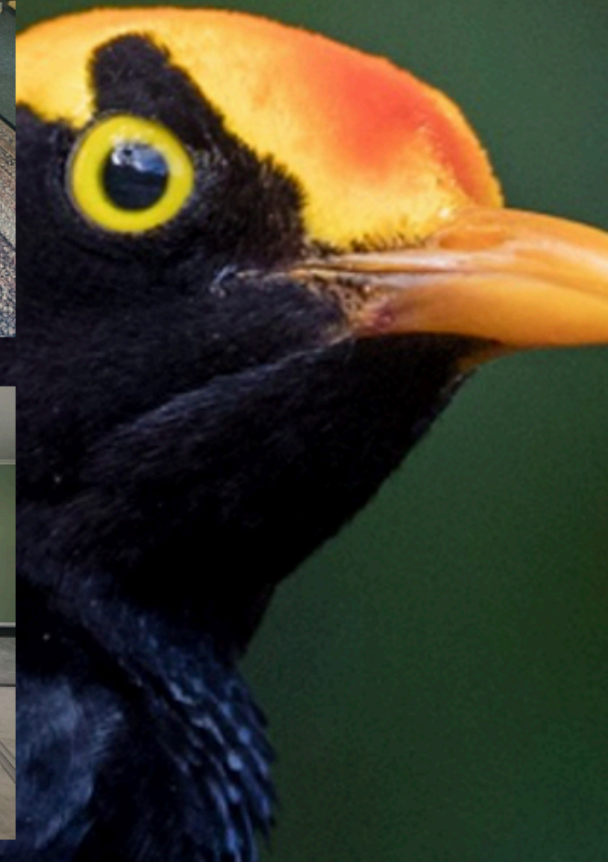
Mathematically we have developed strong foundations in the four operations and are ready to progress to new areas next term.

Thank you all for the support you have provided myself and your children this term. I wish you a wonderfully relaxed holiday break spending time with those you most love.



The Regents: Year 5 Term 1

We blinked and Term 1 was gone! The Regents kicked off the year making new friends and building lifelong connections. This term, we developed essential life skills in Mathematics and STEAM lessons, mastering the four operations and problem-solving skills by applying them to real-world scenarios. In English, we developed our persuasive writing skills and explored different cultures and countries with our class novel. We gained a deeper appreciation for how lucky we are to live in Australia and learn at our beautiful school.



One of our biggest highlights was stepping into leadership roles as mentors for our Puggles buddies—an experience we can't wait to continue! With Term 2 on the horizon, we're excited for more learning, growth, and new adventures.





Red Cedars Term 1 News!

Red Cedars have had an incredible Term 1, starting with our exciting and team building leadership camp at Emu Gully. Too many fun things to list, but perhaps our highlight was getting into the mud from head to toe and loving it. We also built on our leadership skills and engaged in some serious challenges that assisted us in overcoming some of our fears too.



On our return to school, we started our service project of designing and creating our River School tiled wall project, where we did the maths as a team, discussed and planned our design, incorporating many of the features and popular colours, which we believe reflect the River School community. We then had the wonderful job of creating the tiles with Kirsten in the art shed, where they will be fired in River School kiln. We cannot wait to see the result, of all our tiles on the wall outside our classroom, where all the River School community can see it.



We also were very fortunate to have had Linda, a university student from Switzerland, for most of the term. She assisted us with learning new maths concepts of integers and Cartesian planes and did an exciting drama and health unit too. Linda has been wonderful in all she does and will miss her dearly when she leaves at the end of week 2, next term.



We completed our unit which was based off the book *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*. William is an inspirational 11-year-old, Malawian boy, that through incredible adversity built a windmill, from odds and ends he found in the junk yard. This



windmill allowed water to be pumped to feed crops and share electricity with those in his community. We then wrote a powerful autobiography on William and the amazing things he did, and how he impacted not only his own community but inspired others around the world.

**Tuesday
29 April
9 to 11:15am**

**All family
members
welcome!**

OPEN MORNING AT


Maleny
STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Visit
our Facebook page
for more info:
<https://www.facebook.com/malenyshs>

For enquiries or to RSVP:
family name, number
attending, current school
and contact number,
please email
info@malenyshs.eq.edu.au



SCHOOL FOOD GUIDELINES



It is well known that food plays an important role in health, including physical, emotional and mental health. A condition of enrolment at The River School is that our food policies are adhered to within the school grounds and on any school excursion or camp. We ask that parents respect the following food policies for their child's school lunches, snacks and school events.

Sentient Vegetarian:

No meat, poultry, seafood or eggs. Additionally, we ask that you avoid onions, garlic and mushrooms as these foods do not align with our understanding of the positive workings of the human nervous system.

Nuts:

The inclusion of nuts in your child's lunch may be potentially dangerous for a child with a peanut allergy.

NO PEANUTS are to be brought on to the school grounds. Please check the ingredients in processed foods, this can be inclusive of nut mixes, baked goods or some crackers.

All other nuts are fine to eat at school. Cashews, almonds, macadamias etc.

Some Lunch Suggestions:

Crackers & cheese, fresh cut fruit, dried fruit, cut fresh vegetables, dips & crackers, nuts (not peanuts), salads, pasta, yoghurt, sandwiches, wraps, seaweed, corn or soya chips.

Processed foods:

We ask parents to minimise foods that are high in sugar or contain preservatives, additives and food colourings.

These foods can adversely affect a child's ability to concentrate and learn.

Minimal food packaging:

We encourage parents to use minimal packaging in their child's lunchbox, where possible and we also encourage children to take all packaging home, to minimise waste onsite.



Updated: May 2023





ART COMPETITION

Would you like to be in the Maleny
directory cover?

Apex Maleny are holding an art
competition to find a locally inspired
artwork from school aged artists to be on
the cover of the Apex Business Directory.

The winner will receive:

1st Prize \$300

2ns Prize \$200

3rd Prize 100

To find out more about the competition
write to: apexmalenyclub@hotmail.com

Entries close 31st April

All the funds raised
from the advertising in the APEX
Directory go straight back into the Maleny
Community so it is great cause for the kids
to get behind.

Witta Tennis

Kid's Fun Day



Who: Kids - all ages and levels

When: Tuesday 8 April - 8.00am – 12.30pm

Enjoy: Tennis Fun and Games, Mini Round Robyn Tournament

Targets and the Piñata

Homemade Morning Tea, Fruit & Hot Dogs

What to Wear: Sunscreen, Hat and Trainers

What to Bring: Water

Cost: \$25.00

Register: email: mareehooley@gmail.com or text 0437 295 501



MON 31	TUE 01	WED 02	THU 03	FRI 04	SAT 05	SUN 06
MON 07	TUE 08 Builder's Booth Builder's Booth Overworld Activity Station Overworld Activity Station Overworld Activity Station	WED 09 Builder's Booth Overworld Activity Station Overworld Activity Station Overworld Activity Station	THU 10 Builder's Booth Builder's Booth Overworld Activity Station Overworld Activity Station	FRI 11 Easter Eggcellent Easter Eggcellent	SAT 12	SUN 13
MON 14	TUE 15 Easter Eggcellent Easter Eggcellent Easter Eggcellent Builder's Booth	WED 16 Easter Eggcellent Easter Eggcellent Builder's Booth Builder's Booth	THU 17 Easter Eggcellent	FRI 18	SAT 19	SUN 20
MON 21	TUE 22	WED 23	THU 24	FRI 25	SAT 26	SUN 27

Our local Libraries are always fun to visit but especially over the School hOidays. So many exciting activities are planned to engage and entertain.

For more details follow this link to their home page:

<https://library.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/events/calendar?libraryCategories=HOLID&month=APR>

School Holidays at The Ginger Factory!

Get ready for a school holiday adventure like no other at The Ginger Factory! From April 5th to 21st, we've got an action-packed program full of fun for the whole family. With FREE ENTRY, it's the perfect destination to play, taste, and discover!

What's On:

Snake Boss (April 8-12) – Get up close and personal with real snakes! Brave enough to meet them?

Knight School (April 15-19) – Train like a true knight! Grab your armour, practice your skills, and get ready to protect the kingdom! Book your spot now to secure your knighthood!

Meet Zog – Your favourite dragon is back! Say hello to Zog and his princess between 10am – 1pm, Tuesday to Saturday. Don't forget your camera!

Crafty Tuesdays – Let your creativity soar in the Creative Hub with some hands-on craft fun!

Zog Trail – Journey through the enchanted rainforest and discover the magical world of Zog every day during the holidays.

Win the Mother of All Bunnies! – Hop on over and guess the weight of our Chocolate Easter Installation for your chance to WIN! Visit our website for details.

Pack your sense of adventure and get ready to create magical memories these school holidays at The Ginger Factory!

For more information and to book your spot at Knight School, visit our website: Click Here!

<https://www.gingerfactory.com.au/whats-on/school-holidays-2025/>