

# The River School Newsletter Term 2

## Welcome to the Winter Edition of The River School Newsletter

As we reach the halfway point of 2025, it's hard to believe how much has already been accomplished in just two terms. The first half of the year has been filled with energy, creativity and community spirit. We've enjoyed two vibrant Café Nights - thanks to our dedicated P&F committee, cheered on our Year 6 students at camp, celebrated our Reader's Cup teams, engaged in the Lions *Peace Poster* competition, and honoured our Year 6 leaders. From our weekly fitness program and the launch of our new bus service, to ANZAC Day representation, parent-teacher interviews, and a successful River Café at the Maleny Show—it's been a rich and rewarding semester.

### FriYAY!

This term saw the launch of *FriYAY*—a whole-school initiative bringing joy and connection to Friday afternoons. Students from Years 1 to 6 have been participating in a variety of hands-on, interest-based activities that promote creativity, collaboration, and fun. FriYAY has quickly become a much-anticipated part of the week and will continue in Term 3, offering even more opportunities for students to explore new passions and build friendships across year levels.

### Welcoming Visiting Teachers from Taiwan

We're delighted to be hosting visiting educators from the Catholic University of Taiwan once again at the start of Term 3. Their 2023 visit was a memorable cultural highlight for many of our students, and we're excited to welcome them back. During their two-week stay, they'll deliver a range of immersive cultural experiences—including sustainability and Indigenous perspectives, traditional snacks, games, and watermelon chess. It promises to be an enriching and engaging start to the term!

### Gearing Up for Olympic Day – Term 3 Athletics

Next term, our fitness focus will turn to athletics in preparation for *The River School Olympic Day* on **Wednesday 3rd September**. From Week 3, students in Years 1 to 6 will begin training in a range of events including shot put, long jump, high jump, sprints, and ball skills. These weekly sessions not only help students build confidence and coordination, but also give them a chance to track their personal bests in the lead-up to our big event. Our Puggles (Prep) and ECC students will also join the celebrations on the day.

### With Gratitude

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to our dedicated teachers and learning assistants for an outstanding first half of the year. The breadth and depth of learning they provided is a testament to their passion, creativity and commitment. Their thoughtful integration of the Australian Curriculum with our Neohumanist philosophy ensures that our students experience learning that is holistic, meaningful and deeply connected to values of kindness and respect.

Wishing everyone a safe and re-energising holiday 😊

*Ann Donoghoe*  
Principal  
The River School



# Term 3 Calendar

|                     | Monday  | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday  | Weekend                            |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|---|------------------------------------|
| Week 1<br>July      | 14 PUPIL FREE DAY   | 15 <u>Taiwanese Visitors</u>                              | 16 <u>Taiwanese Visitors</u>  | 17 <u>Taiwanese Visitors</u>                              | 18 <u>Taiwanese Visitors</u>                              | 19 & 20                            |
| Week 2<br>July      | 21 <u>Taiwanese Visitors</u>  | 22 <u>Taiwanese Visitors</u>                              | 23 <u>Taiwanese Visitors</u>  | 24 <u>Taiwanese Visitors</u>                              | 25 <u>Taiwanese Visitors</u><br>Prep vision screening     | 26 & 27                            |
| Week 3<br>July/Aug  | 28  | 29  | 30<br>Olympics Training<br>Regent Camp @<br>Mapleton QCCC               | 31<br>Regent Camp @<br>Mapleton QCCC                      | 1<br>Regent Camp @<br>Mapleton QCCC                       | 2 & 3<br>ARTS ALIVE<br>5:30 – 9:30 |
| Week 4<br>August    | 4   | 5   | 6<br>Olympics Training  | 7   | 8   | 9 & 10                             |
| Week 5<br>August    | 11  | 12 OPEN Morning<br>TRUE Program                           | 13<br>Olympics Training   | 14  | 15 P&F Café Night<br>TRUE Program                         | 16 & 17                            |
| Week 6<br>August    | 18 Book Week<br>2:30 - 3:30 Yr 6 Parent<br>Maleny High School info<br>session @ Red Cedar classroom | 19 Book Week  | 20 Book Week<br>Olympics Training                                       | 21 Book Week  | 22 Book Week ~<br>Parade<br>Theme Reading is Magic        | 23 & 24                            |
| Week 7<br>August    | 25<br><br>Wattles/ Piccabeen Camp<br>@ Noosa Nth Shore  | 26<br><br>Wattles/ Piccabeen<br>Camp @ Noosa Nth<br>Shore | 27<br>Olympics Training<br>Wattles/ Piccabeen<br>Camp @ Noosa Nth Shore | 28  | 29  | 30 & 31                            |
| Week 8<br>September | 1<br>Parent teacher<br>Interviews this week.  | 2   | 3<br>Olympics Day!!!  | 4   | 5 State School Pupil Free Day                             | 6 & 7                              |
| Week 9<br>September | 8   | 9   | 10<br>Kingfisher & Lillypilly<br>Camp @ Bribie Island HoH               | 11<br>Kingfisher & Lillypilly<br>Camp @ Bribie Island HoH | 12<br>Kingfisher & Lillypilly Camp<br>@ Bribie Island HoH | 13 & 14                            |
| Holidays            |   | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19                                 |
| Holidays            |   | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26                                 |
| Holidays            |   | 29  | 30  | 1   | 2   | 3                                  |
|                     |   |   |   |   |   | 20 & 21                            |
|                     |   |   |   |   |   | 27 & 28                            |
|                     |   |   |   |   |   | 4 & 5                              |

Olympics Training is for years 1 - 6, Wednesday afternoons 1:30 - 2:45.

Bill & I, will be taking Long Service Leave during term 3. Pira will return in time for the Lillypilly & Kingfisher camp

The amazing Mark will be greeting families from the front desk and will be the first point of contact for any questions; [admin@riverschool.com.au](mailto:admin@riverschool.com.au)



Don't forget to collect your lost property from the front of admin!

**WE NEED YOU! PLEASE CONTACT US IMMEDIATELY IF YOU CAN HELP WITH THE APEX DIRECTORY DELIVERIES!**

# Service Project School Fundraising Energy Contribution Opportunity



For the ninth year we have been given the prosperous opportunity to deliver the **Maleny Apex Directories**. Each and every letterbox in Maleny and surrounds (4552 covers Bald Knob to Cambroon, Curramore to Booroobin) need to have a directory delivered into them.

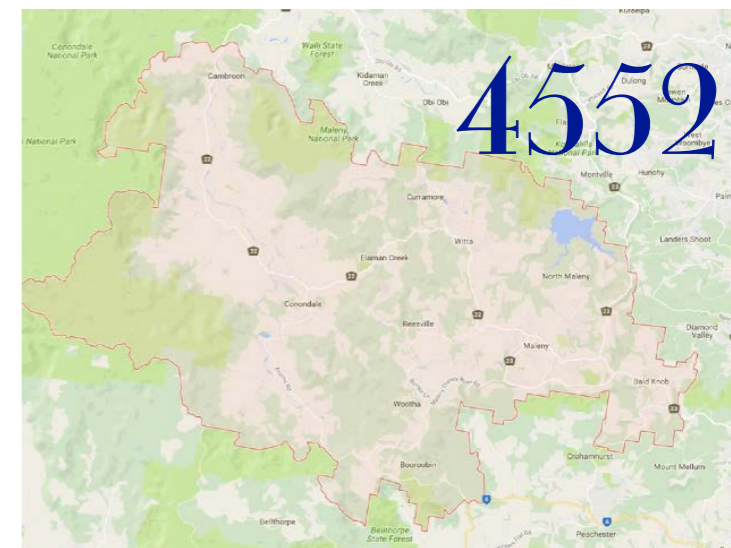
This project allows us to raise funds for the school with no financial output from anyone and gives us the incentive to get outside, get active, have a walk with our child/ren, work off some Energy Contribution Hours, and deliver directories.

4 000 directories will be delivered to the school at the beginning of term 3 (date to be confirmed).

Once they are delivered, they will be ready to collect from the veranda closest to the carpark (morning bus drop off deck).

[We then have 3 weeks to deliver all of the 4 000 directories.](#)

If you would be interested in taking part, please contact admin directly by email [admin@riverschool.com.au](mailto:admin@riverschool.com.au) or by phone 5494 3559. If you have a specific area that you would like to cover please let us know.



There are maps showing you your allocated area. You are welcome to discuss the maps that work in best for you and your family.

**Remember many hands make light work and we thank you for your support.**

# Library News

WITH KERRIE

Our library continues to grow and develop into a wonderful resource collection and hub for our school. We are so very grateful for the support of the local clubs and organisations that donated books for ANZAC Day again this year. Our families continue to be generous in their donations of both books and time. My sincere and heartfelt thanks to everyone that has taken a bag of books home to cover for us. This has been a HUGE undertaking and one that would not be possible without their commitment. Cataloguing our non-fiction collection has been a major focus this term and I can finally say that I can see a light at the end of the tunnel 😊.

A highlight of my week continues to be spending time with our River School kids in our beautiful library. They engage so openly and confidently around their reading choices, preferences and recommendations. In an age of technology and screens it is encouraging that our young people continue to value a good book!

Have a look at the holiday fun offerings at Rosetta books.

Have a wonderful winter vacation.

**YOU'RE INVITED...**

to an exciting Storytime Session and Book Signing event for Aleesah Darlison's new picture book

## CLARA CAPYBARA

Aleesah will introduce her lovable new character, Clara Capybara, conduct a book reading, and host a capybara craft activity.

Have your photo taken with a giant plush capybara!

*Aleesah*  
**Darlison**  
Award-Winning Author & Guest Speaker

10am  
Thursday 3 July  
**ROSETTA BOOKS**  
30 Maple Street  
Maleny QLD 4552  
**SUNSHINE COAST**  
FREE EVENT

Capybara Prizes and Giveaways!

PHONE RSVP: (07) 5435 2134      EMAIL RSVP: [books@rosettabooks.com.au](mailto:books@rosettabooks.com.au)

**FREE EVENT but bookings essential**



 Children's Book Week  
16–23 August 2025

*BOOK AN Adventure*





# Readers Cup Challenge Team

Red Cedar (year 6) students, Aven, Xavier, Sofia, Caitlin and Leo attended Readers Cup in week 9.

Readers Cup is the flagship event of the Children's Book Council of Australia - Queensland Branch. It is a state-wide event where teams of students read sets of books and then compete with other teams in their region to answer quiz questions.



For over three decades, Lions clubs around the globe have been sponsoring a very special art contest in schools and youth groups. Creating peace posters gives children everywhere the chance to express their visions of peace and inspire the world through art and creativity.

The Maleny branch held there's this week and everyone created beautiful and unique pieces. Willow's was selected to advance to the next stage of competition.



Red Cedar (year 6) student Lia entered the APEX Art Competition at the end of term 1. This was to create an art work that represented Maleny and could be used on the cover of this years APEX Directory.

Lia created a beautiful drawing showing an array of the Maleny magic and was awarded 2nd prize.

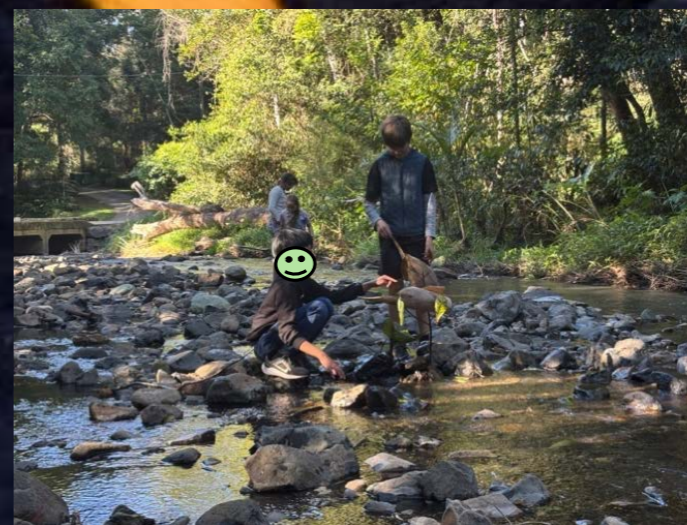
Well done Lia and we can't wait to see where your joy of art will take you.

## The Regents: Year 5 Term 2

Term 2 has flown by, and what an incredible journey it's been for the Regents! From global connections to leadership in action, our classroom has been buzzing with excitement, curiosity, and teamwork. One of our biggest highlights was connecting with students from a school in Mumbai during a live Zoom call. We shared stories, asked questions, and gained a deeper understanding of life in another part of the world.

We also demonstrated our leadership skills by guiding our Puggle buddies through hands-on science experiments—supporting their learning and building strong connections along the way.

Another favourite moment was learning basketball skills with Coach Aris from Caloundra Basketball. We practised dribbling, passing, teamwork, and game strategies, all while having a lot of fun. This term has been a great mix of learning, leading, and growing together, and we're excited to see what Term 3 will bring!



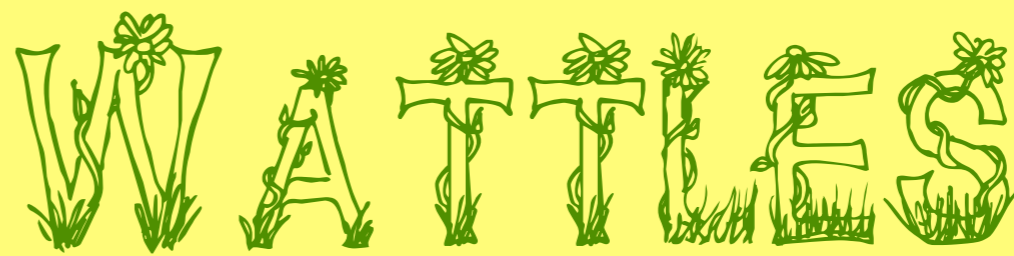


# PICCABEENS



The Piccabeens' HASS lessons this term, as part of their Unit Of Inquiry have included identifying connections between people and the characteristics of places, and exploring the importance of various celebrations and commemorations across different countries and cultural groups. As part of this exploration, students selected a celebration from a chosen country to research and present to the class in a colourful and engaging way. These student-led presentations showcased a wonderful spectrum of cultural

traditions and delights, including dancing, games, and delicious food, allowing us to celebrate the diversity of global customs together.



## It Takes a Village – A Teacher's Perspective

As a teacher, I see every day that raising and educating a child is a team effort. Each child brings a unique story, and it takes a w h o l e community, p a r e n t s , c a r e g i v e r s , support staff, and others to help them grow.

When we work together with a shared focus on a child's well-



being, the impact is powerful. Children feel safe, supported, and ready to learn. Our beautiful school represents

In our Wattles class, creativity plays a key role. Through art, music, drama, and storytelling, students engage deeply with learning. These activities aren't extras, they help children understand, express, and connect with the world in meaningful ways.

Creative work also builds empathy, confidence, and reveals hidden strengths. When families support this at home, by sharing stories, visiting museums, or simply asking about their child's projects, it shows that learning matters beyond the classroom.

Thank you for being part of this village. Together, we're raising not just learners, but compassionate, creative, and confident individuals, the future.

# KINGFISHERS & LILLYPILLIES



What a fabulous way to end our term of learning—with the Wellbeing Trade Show!

The children proudly shared their understanding of resilience and confidently promoted their wellness retreats, enthusiastically pitching their business models to the public. Their displays were nothing short of spectacular, featuring brochures, dioramas, lanyards, business cards, and beautifully presented tables. The quality of interactions and the positive feedback received were truly remarkable.

Every one of our Kingfisher and Lillypilly children rose to the occasion, overcoming nerves and embracing the opportunity to present with confidence, courage, and joy. It was both inspiring and magical to witness.



# Puggles & Lillypillies



*This week, the Prep and Year One Puggle children joyfully shared the virtue of love in our afternoon circle. Together, they sang the uplifting 'Love Bus' song and thoughtfully shared pictures of the people and things they love in The World around them. This term their sense of wonder and connection has developed very well in our science inquiries, where the children investigated a variety of engaging topics including changes to liquids, the growth of plants, and everyday forces and motions in action. Through the lens of "What happens when...?", students used hands-on experiments to explore, question, and observe change, building their understanding of The World in ways that sparked curiosity and care. This term offered many meaningful moments where children expressed kindness, creativity, and a growing awareness of how love and science both help us nurture life.*





# Energy Levy Opportunity

## TUCKSHOP

Would you like to join the team and help to prep delicious food for our school community? Suzy & Amelia would love extra hands on Tuesdays and Thursdays! It can be for an hour first thing in the morning or longer to help through service. If you are wanting to know more please get in contact with the admin.

Please make sure your Energy Contribution Hours for term 2 have been recorded in the box near the sign-in sheet.

If you are unable to come in and complete your card, please email admin the hours to be recorded.

Energy hours will be collated and any unworked hours will be invoiced next week. Once invoiced, no adjustments can be made and any hours that had been worked will be recorded towards term 3.

# 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



# A guide of foods EXCLUDED in the Sentient Diet

The sentient diet is a yoga diet. It is followed by many yoga & meditation practitioners. It is beneficial for anyone wanting to practice introspection or enjoy a quiet mind.

## Animal Products

We respect all living beings.



## Onions & Garlic

These effect our adrenal system & can cause agitation, irritability & distraction. This makes meditation dificult.



## Mushrooms

Are not a vegetable but a fungus. They have a static effect on the mind.



## Eggs

Even unfertilised eggs are part of a living being & are detrimental to spiritual practices.





# Aura NAIDOC

**UNDUMBI CULTURE**

**'THE FESTIVAL OF THE HARVEST'**

**Free Community Event**

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

**4pm - 8pm**

**Baringa Forest Park, Eden Drive, Baringa, QLD**

- Cultural Dance Performances
- Interactive Workshops
- Light Projections
- Music Entertainment
- Blackbutt Forest Guided Tour
- Market and Community Stalls
- Food Trucks
- Rock Climbing Wall
- Fireworks Presentation



## SCHOOL HOLIDAY TENNIS

With Katya

### JUNIOR TENNIS CLINIC

Tuesday 1 July  
 Wednesday 2 July  
 8.30am – 11.30pm  
 Coaching  
 Drills & Games  
 Morning tea & fresh fruit  
 \$25 per day

### KIDS FUN DAY

Tuesday 8 July  
 Fun and Games  
 Mini Tennis Tournament  
 Hot Dogs  
 8.30am – 12.30am  
 \$25

Rsvp: Maree Hooley  
[mareehooley@gmail.com](mailto:mareehooley@gmail.com)  
 0437 295 501

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We encourage local market stalls, food trucks and community providers to attend. Contact QuEvents on 0498 642 384 or email Rhiannon Tingle [Rhiannon@quevents.com.au](mailto:Rhiannon@quevents.com.au)

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