

2025

KEY IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES

Improve student outcomes in English and Mathematics – Every child achieving C Level or above.

Enhance differentiation processes to ensure equity in curriculum delivery.

Upcoming Events

May Wed 14th	QLD Police School Support Officer Visit 1:30pm
Fri 16th	Soccer sessions commence 8:30am Library Tuckshop Miss Jenkins Last day
Wed 21st	Family Frolics Day Yr 1 and Prep
Wed 28th	State of Origin—Wear Your Footy Colours Day
Fri 30th	No Tuckshop
June 2nd & 3rd	Mon Tues: Mrs Wallace away at North Coast Region Principal Conference, Mrs Stevenson on class as per normal



McIlwraith News

13.05.25

'Strive to Achieve'

We are RESPONSIBLE, we are RESPECTFUL we are SAFE, we are LEARNERS.



From the Principal:

We have had **A big couple of weeks** to start the term with our cross country, ANZAC Day, Launching BullyProof School Program, Mothers' Day stall and a few public holidays added in just to throw us out of routine. However, the students have been very adaptable and flexible with the school routine, ensuring that it has been all systems go here at school.

A big thank you to all the students, staff and families who joined us to participate in the Bundaberg ANZAC Day Ceremony. We had a fantastic turnout which was awesome to see, especially when it was the first day of a long weekend. The students, as always treated the occasion with the respect that it so rightly deserves. Well done McIlwraith, your efforts are truly appreciated.

Mothers' Day: On the weekend, we all got to acknowledge the special mother figures in our lives. We hope that our Mums, Nans and Grans all had a lovely day and that you particularly enjoyed the little gift that the students made. The students did a great job of sewing by themselves and impressed us all with their skills and efforts. A huge effort by our P & C also needs to be acknowledged with a very successful Mothers' Day Stall. This would not have been possible without our wonderful volunteers who all contributed in different ways, be it big or small. We appreciated your time and help. What a great team we have here at McIlwraith! A very big thank you is extended to our President Bonnie, and Treasurer Elliott, whose organisational skills and use of their Granny flat/home ensured the lead up to the stall was smooth, and that everything went to plan. A huge job! Thank you Bonnie and Elliott.

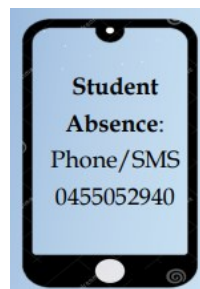
Our students are diving into a range of engaging units across the school. I need to share with parents that assessment for these units of work will start in week 6 and continue through to the end of the term. With this in mind, I ask parents to not book holidays at this time. Please give your child the opportunity to achieve their best possible result by making sure they are present at school. Please remember—every day counts, so consistent attendance through to the end of term is vital. A key component of achieving equity and excellence for all students, is maximising their learning in terms of both attendance and engagement. Every day of the school calendar matters in terms of academic achievement, behaviour and personal development. Every day counts for every student.

Have a great fortnight

Felicity

Equity and Excellence

Realising the potential of every student



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In the classroom: We are really enjoying our English unit this term. Students are learning how to identify if a text is imaginative or informative. Preps are learning about farm animals, comparing texts to identify the features of an informative and what makes them different to an imaginative text, while year 1 and 2 students have been looking at a variety of animals and sorting/composing information under relevant subheadings. In prep have been focusing on focusing on the fundamentals of writing, using finger spaces, a capital letter to start a sentence and a full stop to end it, whilst year 1 and 2 students have been aiming to use text specific vocabulary and expand their sentences with extra detail. It has been exciting to see Prep students identifying the main sounds in words and exhibiting beginning writing skills, using beginning, middle and end sounds to write words.

Our Yr 3-6 students have are learning to write in paragraphs using a clear and organised structure, including topic sentences and explicit vocabulary. They have also been reading research and learning note taking skills on Neil Armstrong and space phenoni-um. During Maths, we have been focused on place value, including decimals, converting units of time, converting 12- and 24-hour time, reading timetables and planning events. Our science is closely related to our English units, Year 3/4 are learning about how we have night and day, incorporating research about the earth's orbit, phases of the moon, eclipses and space bod-ies. Year 5/6 are learning about the solar system and technologies invented for space that have been adapted and utilised to benefit life on earth.

Jeff Horn Visit: Recently we had the real pleasure of welcoming Jeff Horn to our school. Jeff, a former teacher, Olympian and World Champion boxer, spoke with our students and parents. We enjoyed spending time with Jeff and we thank him for coming to our school. Soon, we will embark on our Bullyproof journey. This program's key messages are to have **respect** for yourself and others, have the courage to do the right thing even when you're scared, have the **integrity** to do what you say you're going to do and build **resilience** by strengthening your self image. We are committed to implementing this valuable program at McIlwraith State School, through engaging lessons, discussions and activities. Our year 5/6 students will, as peer mentors, guide our younger students through these lessons and activities. This will serve to not only empower the older students, but to build relationships within our school. We cannot wait to get started .

QLD Police Visit: Tomorrow we welcome Hami Shelford, QPS School Support Officer to McIlwraith. We are excited to meet Hami who will be talking to students about the role that Police officers undertake and how School Support Officers assist the po-lice to get safety messages out to communities.



Farewell Miss Jenkins:

Sadly, Miss Jenkins will be finishing up at McIlwraith on Friday, as she leaves to complete her final University Teaching Prac. After she finished her prac, Miss Jenkins is off to Western Australia to start her teaching career. We have been very lucky to have had Miss Jenkins on our team, her bright and happy demeanour along with her strong guidance and behaviour management has been an asset to McIlwraith. Over the past 3 years, Miss Jenkins has been a most wonderful teacher aide, a much loved member of staff, a fantastic teacher-in-training, and without a doubt, will be very much missed by everyone here at McIlwraith. On Friday we will be wishing Miss Jenkins well with a little send off at approximately 2:15pm. Parents are more than welcome to come to the classroom to join us.

Music News from Mrs Darby: The McIlwraith years 4,5,6 students have the unique opportunity to sing at this year's Bundaberg Eisteddfod. This choir will be formed with students from the Gin Gin district small schools (Maroondan, Bullyard, Wallaville and McIlwraith) to combine on stage in the Moncrieff Theatre at a scheduled time (TBC) between 28-30 July.

A letter to parents allowing your child to participate will be issued shortly. All students will therefore commit to rehearsals at their own school at a time when the music teacher is available. 2 songs have been chosen for this 'own choice' category, they are The Wellerman Song and Riptide. We hope you will be hearing them learn the lyrics at home as well. More to come regarding that soon.

Thanks,
Mrs Darby

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Family Frolics Under 8s Day Wednesday, 21st May- Prep to Year 2 students are invited to join us for this year's Under 8s Day at Gin Gin State School on Wednesday, May 21st. A letter, with details is attached for students in Prep and Year, along with a permission form for the event.

Triple P Parenting Program Our well-being guidance officer, Amanda Ericson, is running a series of free parenting seminars in Gin Gin at the end of May. The Triple P Program is all about encouraging positive child behaviour. Details of the seminars are attached to this letter, with information on how to reserve your place for each session. Parents may choose to go to one or all of the sessions. Please note that these are being held at three different venues, so if one date does not suit, perhaps another may be suitable. Bookings to be made by texting Mrs Ericson directly.

Free Flu Vax: All Queensland residents 6 months of age or older can access influenza vaccine for free in 2025 under this Queensland government funded program. The 2025 Free Flu Vaccination Program runs from 1 March to 30 September 2025. While vaccine supply may be limited initially, additional stock will arrive progressively throughout the program period.



Congratulations to Peyton and Benjamin

Benjamin receives his award for contributing meaningful answers to discussions and having a go, even when he's not sure if he is correct.

Peyton is acknowledged this week for recalling and applying her number facts to her work to solve equations.

Keep up the great !

Gotcha Winners:

Shayla: Super sounding out of words

Alyssa: Great job completing all homework

Bailey: Working hard at Prime and composite numbers

Natalia: Awesome effort completing spelling activities

Oren: No errors in homework

Charles: Well constructed sentences

Sophia: Great recall of rainbow facts

- ◆ **Gin Gin District Athletics Day: (Yr 4,5,6 students)**
Monday 21st July—Term 3 at Wallaville SS
- ◆ **Small Schools Athletics carnival: (All students)**
Friday 1st August, Term 3—at Gin Gin Primary School oval



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FREE PARENTING SEMINARS

Take the guesswork out of parenting!

Want to see more of the behaviour you like, and less of the behaviour you don't like? Come along to a Triple P – Positive Parenting Program seminar. There are three seminars available for parents of children up to 12 years old.

Find out more about why kids behave the way they do, and pick up tips and strategies to help make family life easier – and more fun!

Triple P's Power of Positive Parenting seminar can help you:

- Raise happy, confident kids
- Guide kids' behaviour
- Set rules and routines that everyone follows
- Get on well with your kids and argue less
- Balance work and family with less stress

Triple P's Raising Resilient Children seminar can help you:

- Teach kids to manage their emotions
- Develop your child's ability to bounce back from disappointments
- Show your children how to express strong feelings in a healthy way
- Raise kids who can deal with stress
- Encourage problem-solving and a positive attitude

Register for your FREE parenting seminar:

Triple P's Raising Confident, Competent Children seminar can help you:

- Get your kids to cooperate
- Develop your child's social skills
- Teach your kids to solve problems and be independent
- Raise kids who are respectful and caring
- Show your child how to set and achieve goals

Please book via
the number below:

The Power of Positive Parenting

Date: Thursday 22 May 2025

Time: 9.00 am

Venue: Wallaville State School

Raising Confident, Competent Children

Date: Thursday 05 June 2025

Time: 9.00 am

Venue: Wallaville State School

Raising Resilient Children

Date: Friday 13 June 2025

Time: 1.30 pm

Venue: Wallaville State School

The Power of Positive Parenting

Date: Friday 23 May 2025

Time: 1.00 pm

Venue: Bullyard State School

Raising Confident, Competent Children

Date: Friday 6 June 2025

Time: 1.00 pm

Venue: Bullyard Road State School

Raising Resilient Children

Date: Friday 20 June 2025

Time: 1.00 pm

Venue: Bullyard State School

The Power of Positive Parenting

Date: Friday 30 May 2025

Time: 1.30 pm

Venue: Maroondan State School

Raising Confident, Competent Children

Date: Thursday 12 June 2025

Time: 1.30 pm

Venue: Maroondan State School

Raising Resilient Children

Date: Friday 20 June 2025

Time: 9.00 am

Venue: Maroondan State School

BOOK YOUR FREE PLACE NOW AT

To register please SMS 0448 197 075

NAME: SCHOOL: DATE:

To: Amanda Ericson – Guidance Officer Student Wellbeing or

E: aeric8@eq.edu.au



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FAMILY FROLICS

Under 8's DAY

Unleashing scientific thinking through play

Family Frolics Under 8's Day is a child-focused event brought to you by Child and Family Support and the Gin Gin Neighbourhood Centre.

The day promotes the importance of early childhood development and learning in the early years of a child's life.

This year, with support from the Gin Gin Library, we will also include National Simultaneous Story Time.

The event is held for children 0-8 years and their families and includes indoor and outdoor play activities, entertainment and information.



Wednesday
21 May 2025

9.30 am - 12 noon

Gin Gin State School
13 May Street, Gin Gin

FREE

Bring:



Early Years place
Supporting children's development
Queensland Government

Funded by Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety and Department of Education and Training, Early Childhood Education and Care.

Gin Gin Neighbourhood Centre | 4 Dear Street | 4130 4630 | ggnc@bundaberg.qld.gov.au

1300 883 699
bundaberg.qld.gov.au



SEASON 2025-26

**ALL IN THE ONE LOCATION.
IT'S A FAMILY THING!**



5 REASONS to join Little Athletics

Family

Friends

Fun

Fitness

All Ages



REGISTER TODAY

Want to join Little Athletics? Club meets are on every Saturday morning at 8.30am the Athletics Field. Come down and give it a try.

What sort of start is your child getting?

Just a little bit late doesn't seem much but.....

He/She is only missing just....	That equals....	Which is.....	and over 13 years of schooling that's...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly <u>Half a year</u>
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40 mins per week	Over 2.5 Weeks per year	Nearly <u>1 year</u>
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 Weeks per year	Nearly <u>1 and a Half years</u>
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 Weeks per year	Over <u>2 and a Half years</u>

Did you know your child's best learning time is the start of the school day?

That's when every minute counts the most!!

SUPERVISED EVENT
CANTEEN FACILITIES
SAUSAGE SIZZLE

\$5 ENTRY

BLUE LIGHT DISCO

FRIDAY 15TH AUGUST

5PM - 7PM PREP TO YR 6
7.30PM - 9.30PM YR 7 TO YR 12

THEME: **BRIGHT COLOURS**

BUNDABERG CIVIC CENTRE,
BOURBONG ST, BUNDABERG CENTRAL

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