Dear Parents and Families,

I hope that your mid-semester break was a time to stop and enjoy family and friends. Thank you to those families who were able to attend our Parent-Teacher conferences. The invitation is always extended to make an appointment with the College to discuss your student’s progress. I am happy to welcome Molly Wilson to our Well-Being Team. Molly is filling in for Chappy Deb for two days per week and will be based predominantly on the Primary Campus. Unfortunately we are saying farewell to Juliet DeNittis as she is moving south. Juliet has done a wonderful job at the college over the years in a variety of roles. Thank you to our families for supporting their students to continue to wear their Kuranda uniform with pride. It is great to see our students in their green or black jackets in line with our college colours.

Our NAPLAN results will be released next Wednesday and while we know this is but one data source, it will provide us with feedback as to how our students are progressing with their literacy and numeracy skills and direct what other evidence we need to collect and action to take to ensure every child is succeeding. Our focus on students’ reading goals will continue this semester and please be reminded that volunteers help particularly with reading groups is greatly appreciated.

This week, we welcomed Counsellor Angela Toppin to the College to celebrate National Tree Day and with the help of our students planted two native trees at the front of the Main office. Mrs Toppin made comment of how impressive our students looked in their formal uniform and how professional and welcoming our staff were. Finally, thank you to the hard work and dedication of the P & C and Lions Club who have raised funds to contribute to improving our digital and literacy resources.

Have a great term.

Sharon Jones

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Date Claimers

- Thursday
  Breaky Boost
  8.15am – 8.45am
- Japanese School Study Visit, 8th August

Good news

Congratulations to

May May Hobbler
She has been selected to play in the U12’s Rugby side for the Peninsula team

University Experience Program

Senior students recently had the opportunity to explore and participate in two areas of study. While visiting James Cook University they were taking part in JCU’s University Experience Program an initiative designed to assist students to make sound decisions when selecting university courses. The following courses were investigated:

Business  Creative Media  Dentistry Science and Engineering  Education  Law
Diploma of Higher Education  Humanities and Social Sciences  Social Work  Nursing and Midwifery  Information Technology  Science and Engineering
Psychology  Sport and Exercise Science & Exercise Physiology

PO Box 454  260 Myola Rd  Kuranda 4881
Telephone (07) 40855333  Fax (07) 40855300  E-mail admin@kurandadistrictsc.eq.edu.au  Web http://kurandadistrictsc.eq.edu.au
Along with the implementation of our Whole School Approach to Reading all teachers and teacher aides have been working together last term and this term to undergo professional development in the teaching of reading. This will ensure we are providing a consistent and quality approach to the teaching of reading. An analysis of term two reading levels for Prep to Year 6 indicates 76.38% of students have attained reading level of 25 to 30, (level 30 - independent reading); 57% of students in Prep to year 3 are above the National Minimum Standard (NMS) in reading levels; 25% of students in year 1 to year 3 are in the upper 2 bands. With an ongoing commitment of teachers to improving the reading levels of our students we look forward to seeing continuous improvement throughout the year. If you would like to discuss your child’s progress please contact administration to arrange a time with your child’s class teacher.

Observing lessons in our Prep to Year Six classrooms, it is clear that students are settling in well this term. Classroom data walls are displaying student growth and goals in reading. Families are welcome to visit their child’s classroom to observe the wonderful learning that students are achieving every day. Parent-teacher interviews were held on 19 July. If you haven’t had the opportunity to speak with your child’s teacher, please contact the school to organise a convenient time to meet. Prep to Year Six teachers and teacher aides are continuing their professional learning (every Tuesday, after school); working together to complete an online reading module.

We look forward to a successful term of learning with your child.
As we enter second semester, Year 12 students will be preparing to finalise their years of learning and ensure they are eligible for the Queensland Certificate of Education. To assist senior students to manage their time and assessment, an individualised assessment calendar will be provided to students in week 4. Parents and carers are encouraged to help students use this calendar and plan their time for upcoming assessments items. The college aims to have every senior student graduate with a QCE and will work closely with students, parents and carers to ensure students are on track to succeed in this aim. Success at school is also closely related to attendance. The college is continuing to review and improve its attendance systems and processes to help support students to be at school every day. Part of this process is a notification system through which the college sends a text message to parents when a student is absent. Parents and carers can help this process run smoothly by advising the college of any change to contact details including mobile phone numbers and email addresses.

Firstly, thank-you to all of the parents and carers who were able to attend our Parent & Teacher evening. Partnerships between families and the school were highly evident through the positive learning conversations. This term we look forward to receiving the NAPLAN results which will provide valuable information to help inform decision making and resourcing to support further development of literacy and numeracy skills for KDSC students. Reports will be sent out to year 3, 5, 7, 9 participants in the next 2 weeks.

Congratulations to all students who participated in the KDSC Athletics carnival! It was a fantastic event with many of our students putting in their best effort. Finally, congratulations must also go to our Sustainability students for the following awards at the Cairns Show: 1st Honey, 1st Bananas, 2nd Macadamia Nuts, 2nd Other Tropical Fruit.

Hello, my name is Molly Wilson and I am very excited to be working as the Chaplain at the primary campus two days per week! I will be here on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and Chappy Deb will be here on Thursday and Friday. I started here at Kuranda District State College on the first day of term three and received a very warm welcome from the students, staff and school community. I’ve really enjoyed playing card games and chatting with students in order to get to know them better and help support their social and emotional needs here at school. I live in Malanda and when I have free time I enjoy going swimming or walking around the lakes near my home. I also work as the Chaplain at Mutchilba State Primary and Jubilee Christian College in Atherton. I look forward to getting to know the school and local community better, so if you see me around the school or in the wellbeing room come and say hello!

Chappy Molly - mollyw@chappy.org.au
CONGRATULATIONS MARANGILLAY
2016 SPORTS CARNIVAL CHAMPIONS

Show your school pride

Sports badges are now available at the office $5.00

Thank you to all that supported the school for NAIDOC Day 2016

Office News

CONGRATULATIONS MARANGILLAY
2016 SPORTS CARNIVAL CHAMPIONS

After School Care

3:00 PM- 6:00 PM

Please note students in the community that don’t attend Kuranda District State College also have access to this service.

Resource Fee/Scheme Payments

The take up rate for the KDSC Resource Fee-Scheme has been excellent. Many thanks to the parents and carers who have signed up to take part in either paid up front or entered into some form of payment arrangement. If you have still not finalised your child’s resource arrangements for 2016, simply see the staff at the Secondary administration that will be happy to assist.

Thank you to all that supported the school for NAIDOC Day 2016
The following students participated

Students were excited to engage with 4 engineering students from the University of Queensland
20 July 2016

Engineers “Without Borders Australia” is a member-based non-profit organisation that creates systemic change through humanitarian engineering. This is achieved through working with our community partners in developing countries to address the lack of fundamental human needs, such as clean water, sanitation and hygiene, and basic infrastructure.

The Vision
Everyone has access to the engineering knowledge and resources required to lead a life of opportunity, free from poverty.

Mission Statement
We connect, educate and empower people through humanitarian engineering.
Kuranda District State College

Enjoys a Visit with “Engineers Without Borders” from University of Queensland

Construction Workshop— Floating house for Cambodia

Sustainable Bridge Workshop

The Workshops
Students with Disability: Differentiation benefits all students. It allows all students to consolidate learning, access curriculum they may have missed due to absence or just provide additional opportunity to check for understanding. However, differentiation is vitally important for inclusion. It enables students to attend age appropriate classes while meeting their individual needs both in accessing the curriculum and accessing the learning environment. Across the college we have many great examples of teachers differentiating in inclusive practices. Some students needs can be as easy as providing a tool for typing instead of hand writing- such as the use of an iPad, while others need more complex tools such as assisted communication books like Pragmatic Organisation Dynamic Display (PODD). For some students differentiation is about how they access the learning environment. Confined spaces, screens and blankets can provide secure spaces for students to access while still engaging in learning. In some classrooms we have begun the journey in co-teaching. This can be the support staff work with the students identified with needs in line with the classroom learning, or where the class teacher has the opportunity to work with the individual students to build relationships and skills while the support staff takes the whole class instruction.
Deann and Ivy, mentors from the JCU Indigenous centre visited our College on Tuesday 26th July to discuss “Pathways In to University” with several of our students from years 10, 11 and 12. They answered many questions from the students regarding careers and study at University. 
Pictured: Acaecia, Abby, Lilian, Taylah and Timmarlah

The winners of the library activities for term 2 were...Hamish Dye – for the Spelling Bee & Joel Rivers – for The Great Debate. 
Congratulations

Events:

Past: Athletics Carnival & NAIDOC Day

Predicted: Japanese School visit(s)

Staff Spotlight:

6 questions with...Mrs Sue Elias

1. Favourite food? Something free of chemical additives
2. Favourite holiday destination? The Austrian Alps
3. Favourite superhero? The Pink Panther
4. Favourite gadget? My photocopier dongle
5. Favourite quote? Be the change you want to see in the world.
6. How do you relax? Gardening – plants don’t talk back or argue.

Thank you to the secondary staff for helping to cull resources from the library. Most items found a good home with a new life in a local village in Papua New Guinea and at a school in Nigeria.

I'm at the beginning of the end and the start of eternity, at the end of time and space, in the middle of yesterday but nowhere in tomorrow.

What am I?

This ancient invention allows people to see through walls.

What is it?

Term 3 Library Lunchtime Activities

Bookshelf Scavenger Hunt & Chess Championship
Students from Prep to Year 2 enjoyed a fun filled day of experimenting, constructing, artistic expression and play with family, friends, teachers, peers and the Cairns Hinterland Steiner School. Some of the activities included face painting, Bunnings helped students plant seedlings in special water saving crystals, kite making and flying, experimenting with sounds and shapes making musical instruments, playing with dough and mercury dough, balancing around an obstacle course, making wax sculptures and bubble blowing. A popular stop was the Police car and the Fire engine. Everyone likes flashing lights. The morning was exciting, exhilarating and exhausting with lots of great new friends and “Early Learning- Everyone Benefits”