



### League Tag

I was extremely proud to hear how well-behaved our students were when representing our school at the League Tag carnival on Thursday. Our students reportedly thanked the bus driver, referees, and opposition players for a great game. On top of their wonderful sportsmanship, they also managed to pull off a number of victories. Our students truly are wonderful – well done!

### Social Skills Mega Prize

Congratulations to **Jacob (Prep)**, the lucky winner of the Term 3 Mega Prize!

This term, students have been learning social skills such as how to ask for help, follow the rules, stay focused on their work, and use their manners. Jacob received his award for always paying attention to his work and never being distracted. He was very excited to take home a brand new scooter to enjoy over the holidays.



### Under 8s Day

Next Thursday is **Under 8s Day**. From 9am to 11am, all students under the age of 8 will take part in a wide range of fun activities celebrating the joy of childhood.

Please spread the word to your friends and community, and bring along any child under the age of 8. It's a wonderful way for families to experience all that Atherton Primary has to offer.

### Break-In

I want to sincerely thank everyone – and I mean everyone – who helped restore our classrooms to a clean and ready-to-learn state after the recent break-in. From cleaners to teacher aides, teachers, admin staff, parents, and even students, your support has been incredible.

The police are now investigating and have received clear CCTV footage of the perpetrators. Unfortunately, the automatic front gate, which shuts on a timer, failed to close and allowed them access to the school. If you ever notice a gate open over the weekend, please contact **School Watch on 13 17 88**. They will then contact me so the gate can be secured.

### Netball (Students vs Staff) & Court Opening

Next Wednesday afternoon, our **Under 12s Netball team** will face off against the staff in a special grand opening match for our new netball court. The game will begin at approximately 2pm, and we'd love for you to come along and cheer us on.

The staff will be hungry for victory, with a brand-new trophy on the line and what we hope will become an annual rivalry. Some parents have expressed interest in challenging the staff, but I figured they would not stand a chance – and it would only waste everyone's time! So on this occasion, it will only be students and staff.

**Wishing you all a wonderful weekend and a terrific September holiday break with your families.**

Warm regards,  
**Matt Andrews**  
Principal

#### What to look forward to in Term 3

- Under 8s Day – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September
- T20 Cricket – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September
- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October—King's Birthday Holiday
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October—School Resumes Term 4  
4/5B & 4/5 S—Safety Squad Program
- Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October - 4/5M & 45/C—Safety Squad Program
- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October—5/6H & 6W Safety Squad Program

P (07) 4095 7333 Student Absence (07) 40957366

E [the.principal@athertonss.eq.edu.au](mailto:the.principal@athertonss.eq.edu.au) | W [athertonss.eq.edu.au](http://athertonss.eq.edu.au)

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## 4/5 Classes

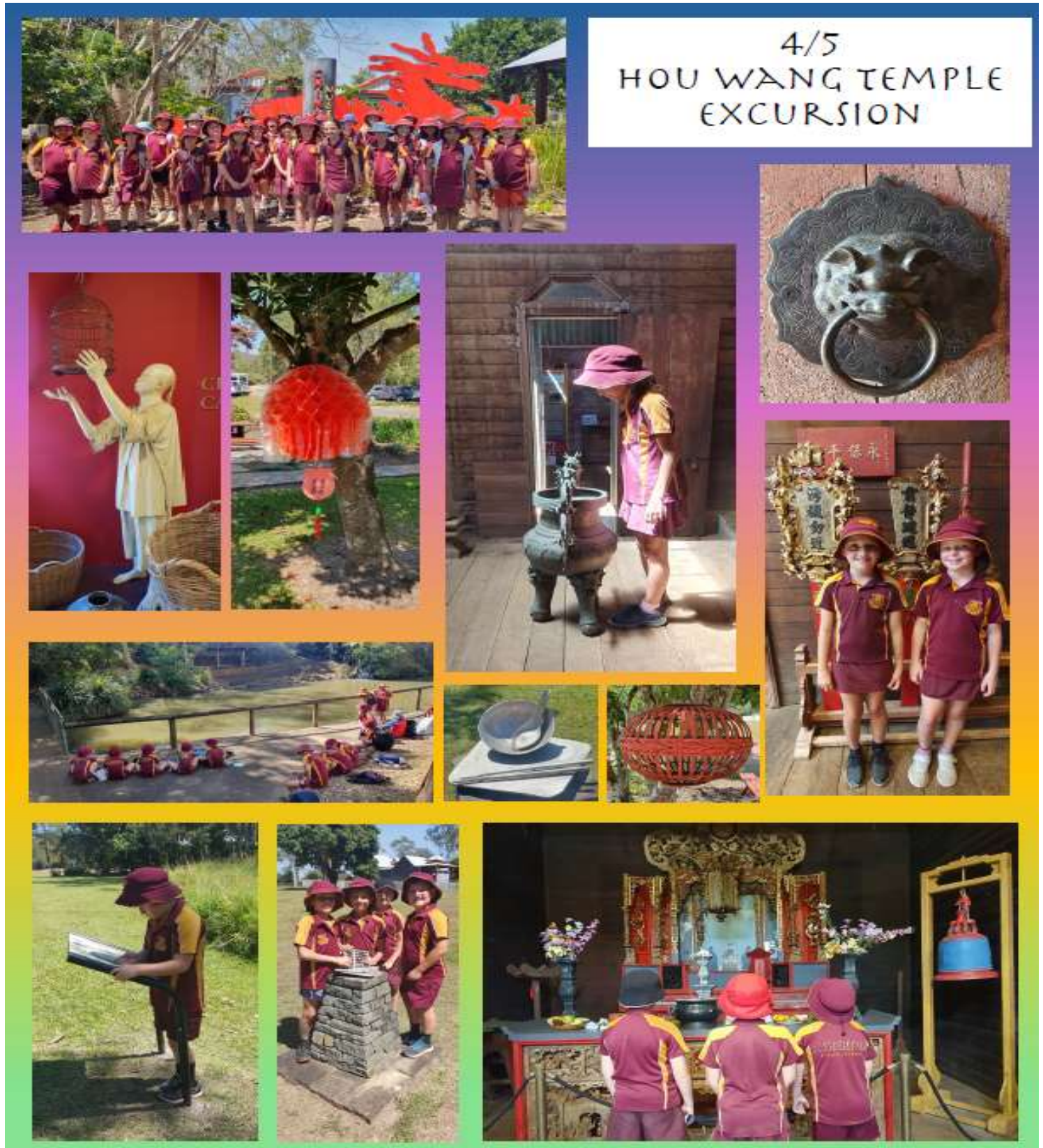
We are very pleased to see an improvement in our Year 4/5 students' attendance over the past fortnight. Keep up the great work! Remember, every school day counts – regular attendance helps all students get the most out of their learning and enjoy time with their classmates.

Our Year 4/5 students have been working incredibly hard learning their dance routines. We are now in the final stages of preparation and can't wait to share our moves at the upcoming School Disco!

### Year 4/5 FANCY DRESS DISCO Friday, 14th September

In addition to our dance practice, we are also busy completing assessment tasks across different learning areas. This is a chance for students to showcase all the wonderful skills and knowledge they have developed this term.

*Mrs Brind-House, Mrs Casey, Mrs Sullivan & Mr Moore*



## Prep

As Term 3 comes to a close, we want to take a moment to reflect on a wonderful and busy term in Prep!

### Swimming Success

Our swimming program has now come to an end, and we are so proud of how far the students have come. They've learnt important water safety skills, including how to float and kick their way to the edge of the pool. It's been fantastic to see their confidence grow with each session!

### Crazy Camel Fundraising

We're excited to be part of the Crazy Camel fundraising project this year. Students have the opportunity to create a special piece of artwork that can be turned into keepsakes like calendars, cards, and more. Prep G students have taken their templates home so they can design a picture with their families. If you're unable to complete it at home, don't worry – we'll finish them at school so everyone gets to be involved. Don't forget to check out the designs online when they're ready!

### Assessment Time

Over the past few weeks, students have been busy completing their end-of-term assessments in English and Maths. In Maths, we've been focusing on numbers to 20, including counting, number recognition, and simple addition. In English, students completed a retell based on a celebration of their choice, showing their ability to sequence events and use descriptive language. We also assessed reading skills using the book 'Max the Dog', where students demonstrated their understanding of the text and applied their growing knowledge of letter-sound relationships.

### Happy Holidays!

Thank you for a fantastic term. We wish all our Prep families a safe and happy holiday break. We look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for a great Term 4!

*Mrs Green & Mrs Hall*



## 6W & 5/6H

6W and 5/6H have been practicing their dance for the disco. Please encourage them to attend, it's the year 6's last primary school disco and the more the merrier on the night!

With two weeks left of the term, we are trying to finish off assessment pieces for all subjects. It is so important that the students come to school every day and arrive on time, because gaps in their assessments could mean the difference between a pass and a fail mark for their end of the year report cards.

*Mrs Hook & Mr Winspear*



## Year 1

Year 1 have been working incredibly hard as we finalise our assessments for the end of term. We appreciate your continued support during this busy period.

At this stage of the term, it's important to be mindful of student attendance. While we understand that there has been a lot of illness going around, and we encourage students who are unwell to rest and recover at home, we kindly ask that if your child is feeling well, they attend school on time each day. Everyday counts, especially as we complete our end-of-term learning and assessments.

Our recent excursion to Malanda was fantastic! A big thank you to the parents who joined us. It was wonderful to share a morning of sunshine and warmth with you. The students had such a great time, and your involvement made it even more special.

Don't forget, the **Fancy Disco is on tonight!** We've been practising our dance moves and getting excited. Hopefully, costumes are ready, and we can't wait to see everyone there enjoying the fun!

As we wrap up the term, we kindly ask that you return any school items that may have made their way home, especially **library books and home readers**, which often reappear around this time. Your help in getting everything back to school is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support!

*Mrs Kehrer and Miss Norris*



## 3L

Backwards desks, inside-out shirts, and even a shoe on someone's head – Year 3L certainly knows how to celebrate in style! We reached our Cob Cash goal and marked the occasion with an Opposite Day! It was so funny to see everyone's creative ideas. We had opposite desks, wacky opposite hairstyles, and even an opposite routine for the day. The classroom was full of giggles as we swapped our usual habits for something completely different.

We are also buzzing with excitement as we get ready for the school Disco Dance. Our class has been practising some moves, and we can't wait to show them off on the dance floor this Friday night.

In English, we have been writing and performing persuasive presentations. Everyone worked hard to convince the class why their "favourite thing to do" is the best. We heard some very convincing reasons about swimming, athletics, Minecraft, gymnastics, Lego, and more. The students spoke with confidence and sounded fantastic – it was hard not to agree with them!

Mrs Linton



## Year 2

Year 2's have been doing incredible learning in Maths! Incredible, because they are doing multiplication and division-learning that "groups of" is the same as multiply and that "shared by" is the same as divide. Big steps up for all of them!

We have been focusing on the 2s, 5s, 3s and 10s facts relating them to double facts and counting sequences that we already know. They have learnt 8 strategies that will help them work out answers to any multiplication and division questions.

Please take the time at home to use multiplication and division in ordinary, everyday activities and to ask your child to explain how they got to the answer. Explaining what they are thinking when they work it out is so important.

We have consolidated our understanding of number, fractions, shapes and measurement and have worked hard in all areas of Maths this term.

Mrs Cifuentes and Mrs Milson



### Every Day Counts: Why School Attendance Matters!

At Atherton State School we believe that **every school day matters**. That's why we're working with families to help every child attend school regularly and feel connected, safe, and ready to learn.

**Our school attendance goal is 85% or higher** – that's the equivalent of missing no more than **1 day every fortnight**

Currently, around **40% of our students are attending below this level**, and we want to work together to turn that around.

### Did You Know?

- Students who attend **90% of the time or more** are more likely to:
- Achieve stronger academic results in reading, writing, and maths
- Build consistent friendships and feel part of the school community
- Develop positive habits that support wellbeing and future success
- Missing just **1 day a fortnight** equals:
- **20 days per year** (a full month of school!)
- By Year 6, that's over **240 days missed**—almost **1.5 school years lost**

Attendance patterns **start early**: Children who regularly miss school in primary years are more likely to struggle in high school and disengage long-term.

**Shine like a Star** *in 2 dance*  
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# J BLOCK UPGRADES STARTING SEPTEMBER HOLIDAYS!

We're thrilled to announce that much-needed upgrades to J Block, our current Year 4/5 classrooms, will begin during the September holidays. These improvements will greatly enhance the learning environment, but we want to inform you about some temporary changes to the school grounds.

### Tuckshop Carpark

During construction, the Tuckshop carpark will no longer be accessible, as it will be used by contractors for deliveries and equipment. While this location is not ideal, it is the best available option, providing easy access to utilities and the construction zone.

### Restricted Access Around J Block

You may notice some restricted access around J Block and the adjacent pathways. Temporary fencing will be put in place to ensure the safety of students, staff, and construction workers. Alternative pathways will be available to allow students and staff to safely move around the construction area.

We greatly appreciate your understanding and cooperation during this time. While these changes may be a little inconvenient, we are excited about the improvements and look forward to the completion of the project, which will benefit both current and future students and staff.

Thank you for your patience!

## SEPT/OCT 2025 SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM



MON 22 + 29 SEPT	TUES 23 + 30 SEPT	WED 24 SEPT + 1 OCT	THURS 25 SEPT + 2 OCT	FRI 26 SEPT + 3 OCT
<p><b>SPORTS EXCELLENCE PROGRAMS</b> 9am - 3pm \$75pp</p> <p>Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> - intro sports excellence class -</p> <p>Sept 29<sup>th</sup> - extension class - participants must have done a previous intro class before registering for the extension class</p>	<p><b>FULL DAY CAMP</b> 9am - 3pm \$65pp early drop off/late pick up available</p> <p>9am - 11am Sports in the Park - \$20pp</p> <p>Level 3/4/5s Training 3.30-6pm \$30pp</p>	<p>9 - 10am Kindergym \$15pp (ages U5)</p> <p>10.15 - 11.15am Fit Like a Gymnast \$15pp</p> <p>1 - 2pm Free Time in the Gym - \$10pp</p> <p>2 - 3pm Ninja Gym (ages 5+) - \$15pp</p> <p>3 - 5pm Sports in the Park - \$20pp - HALF DAY CAMP - (Above Activities) 1-5pm - \$40pp</p>	<p><b>FULL DAY CAMP</b> 9am - 3pm \$65pp early drop off/late pick up available</p> <p>9am - 11am Sports in the Park - \$20pp</p> <p><b>Full day camps include:</b> sports in the park craft gymnastics ball games tug of war &amp; Loads More Fun</p>	<p><b>CLOSED on FRIDAYS</b></p> <p><i>All programs pick-up and drop-off at Malanda Gymnastics Club</i></p>

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL: flicksa.com.au**



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**THE RESILIENCE PROJECT™**

The Resilience Project – 2025 student survey results

**Are Our Kids Getting Enough Sleep?**

As part of The Resilience Project in Term 2, students in Years 3 to 6 completed a wellbeing survey. One key question under the "Caring Behaviour" section asked: **"Do you get at least 8 hours of sleep most nights?"**

The results suggest that many of our students may not be getting the recommended amount of sleep.

Year 4 students, along with Year 6 girls, are most affected, with others slightly below national sleep averages too.

Lack of sleep can impact learning, mood, attention, and general wellbeing — even 10-15 minutes less than needed can make a noticeable difference in the classroom.

We encourage families to review bedtime routines and make small, positive changes where possible. Together, we can help our children feel more rooted, focused, and ready to learn each day.

Need help with sleep strategies? See below.

**SLEEP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PARENTS (CAN BE A FOLLOW-UP OR SIDEBAR)**

**How Much Sleep Do Primary Students Need?**

According to Australian guidelines:

- Ages 5-13 years need 9-11 hours of sleep each night.

**Simple Tips for Better Sleep:**

- 🕒 Keep a regular bedtime and wake-up time, even on weekends.
- 📵 Turn off screens at least 30-60 minutes before bed.
- 🌙 Create a calm bedtime routine — stories, quiet music, or gentle stretching.
- 🌡️ Make sure the bedroom is cool, quiet, and dark.
- 🚫 Avoid sugary snacks or drinks before bedtime.

Even small improvements in sleep can make a big difference in your child's learning, behaviour, and energy.

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**Masonic Hall Atherton**

# PCYC News

We are thrilled to announce that two of our very own students have been selected as the Winners of the **2025 Children's Rights Book Cover Competition**, in collaboration with PCYC Queensland.



Atherton State Primary School

**Enrol now for Prep 2026 at ASPS**

Do you have a child or know of a child born between 1st July 2020 and 30th June 2021?  
**Great news! In 2026, they can start Prep!**

Enrol before December 2025 and the first 50 enrolments will receive a free "Stars of Prep" shirt for 2026.

Please contact our administration team who can support you with enrolment forms.  
**Phone: 4095 7333**

**Stars of Prep**

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## Atherton Hockey Junior Summer 6's

Expressions of Interest – Term 4 Fun!  
Keep your stick on the field and the fun rolling this summer!

### Game Details

- When: Tuesdays at 4:30 PM
- Starts: Tuesday, 30th September 2025
- Runs: 3 weeks (Final game: Tuesday, 2nd December 2025)
- Format: 30-minute halves + 5-minute halftime

### Cost to Play

- Existing Juniors: ~\$14.60 (IQA/IA 2025 insurance already covered)
- New Juniors: ~\$36
- Suitable for 7-15 years
- Played before? 11-15 years are welcome to join our mixed age open competition @ 5:30 pm

All players must be registered and paid through our AT/IA portal before taking the field.

### How it Works 7-15 years

- 1 coach + 5 Juniors on the field at a time
- Coaches will:
  - ✓ Promote fair play
  - ✓ Help develop skills
  - ✓ Umpire the game

### Want in?

Don't miss the chance to keep active with your friends and make some new teammates in Term 4!

Don't have hockey gear? – Atherton Hockey can supply you a stick & shin pads to borrow for the season!

Register your interest via email – [admin@attha.com.au](mailto:admin@attha.com.au) or message our Facebook page.

Short, Friendly, Fun. Hockey all summer long!



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Atherton  
STATE HIGH SCHOOL

ATHERTON STATE HIGH SCHOOL

For students transitioning to Year 7 in 2026

**BOOK YOUR ENROLMENT INTERVIEW TODAY**

Our Enrolment Interview Day for students commencing  
Year 7 in 2026 will be held on Friday, 5 September.

To book an interview visit:

[www.athertonshs.eq.edu.au/enrolments](http://www.athertonshs.eq.edu.au/enrolments) or phone 4030 5250.



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