School Camp Report

On Monday the 14th of December 95 students travelled to Camp Manyung in Mt Eliza for 2 and a half days full of activities and adventures! Students went snorkelling, tree rolling, flew to great heights on the flying fox and learnt what geo caching was – a giant world-wide treasure hunt using GPS!

Some students even managed to have a go at surfing when completing the Open Water Program and find some sea creatures whilst exploring the rock pools. Students were very lucky with the weather, each day being clear blue skies and bright sunshine.

We returned to school on Wednesday, albeit a bit tired but with many memories to share with mums and dads. Thank you to all the teachers, staff and Omar that came along!
Dear Parents,

You can visit our school website www.rivergumps.vic.edu.au for further information about our school vision and how we showcase our students owning their learning.

“At River Gum students own their learning and our teachers use their pedagogical knowledge to personalise learning. We value community, relationships and reflection.”

**Merry Christmas and Term Dates for 2016:** I would like to wish all our families a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and safe, happy holidays!

Thank you to our community members who came along on Thursday for our afternoon tea and stayed to celebrate our end of school year at our final assembly.

Our first day back for 2016 is Thursday 28th January. Parents are able to come into the Office and pay for their children’s materials and book packs on Wednesday 27th January in the morning from 9:00am to 11am and re-opening in the afternoon at 2pm to 5:00pm.

**Graduation—Congratulations to our Graduating class of 2015:** I would like to say a special goodbye to the families that are leaving our school this year. In particular our School Council president Sherryn Dunmore for her work on School Council. I would also like to acknowledge the work of Allison King and the Graduation team for making this graduation a wonderful conclusion for our year 6 students.
The Smith Family Learning for Life Scholarships

The Smith Family have a partnership with River Gum Primary School and aim to create a better future for our students. The Smith Family provide Learning for Life scholarships to students to assist with education expenses; they also offer educational programs to support the learning of our students.

One program we have been running with the Smith Family for 4 years now is the Student 2 Student program which is a support reading program with older students mentoring younger primary students to increase the enjoyment of reading.

This year I would like to congratulate Hagera Ibrahim, Sachpreet Vijan, Halima Ali and Myles Swindle for their participation in the program. A special award from the Smith Family is a Kobe e-reader which is awarded to the student who showed the most improvement in their reading. I would like to congratulate Hagera Ibrahim on her achievements and winning the award this year.

If you would like to participate in this reading program next year please see me.

Lyn Cockerell

Congratulations to James for receiving the Holt Community Spirit & Leadership Award.

Presented by Anthony Byrne MP

CATS: The Childhood to Adolescence Transition Study

Thank you so much to the families and school staff at River Gum Primary School for participating in CATS since Grade 3 – we are really grateful for your participation over the last 4 years! We also want to pass on the exciting news that CATS will be continuing in 2016, so keep an eye out for any new information coming your way. Happy holidays everyone!!!

*P.S. Don’t forget that if your contact details have changed, or if you have any questions about the study, please contact the study team on (03) 9345 6732 or email cats@mcri.edu.au

Thank you for participating in CATS!
George Patton (Project Director), Lisa Mundy (Project Manager) and the CATS team
Congratulations to the Class of 2015
And the teachers and parents that made it all possible

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays
From River Gum Primary School