



# *Introducing Our Teaching Staff for 2024*

## *Leadership Team*

Angelique Padgett

Principal

[apadg6@eq.edu.au](mailto:apadg6@eq.edu.au)



Ange is excited to be Principal at Mango Hill State School. Ange has been a principal in schools in both the Metro and North Coast regions. She is looking forward to building strong connections with staff, students and the community in 2024. Ange is driven to ensure every student reaches their full potential through explicit curriculum, teaching and learning processes. She is looking forward to working alongside and leading the Mango Hill Team.

Ben Mills

Deputy Principal – Year 6

[bxmil3@eq.edu.au](mailto:bxmil3@eq.edu.au)



Ben has been a part of Mango Hill State School Staff since 2016. In that time, he has been a classroom teacher, STEM specialist teacher, Head of Department - Curriculum and Deputy Principal. Ben is excited to be Deputy Principal for Year 6 again this year. Year 6 is such a significant year in the lives of our students and their families and Ben looks forward to making it a memorable one for this cohort. Ben is passionate about preparing students for the future and engaging them through collaborative and innovative learning opportunities. He enjoys seeing students create and collaborate using digital tools and supporting teachers to enhance learning opportunities using technology. He is excited to work with this cohort of Year 6 students again in their final year of primary school.

Greg McCallum

Deputy Principal – Year 5

[gmcca24@eq.edu.au](mailto:gmcca24@eq.edu.au)



Greg is excited to be joining the Mango Hill team in 2023. Greg is an experienced school leader who is passionate about knowing the students, knowing the curriculum and knowing the next steps. He is looking forward to getting to know the school community and having a positive impact on academic progress and student wellbeing.

**Danielle O'Brien****Deputy Principal – Year 4****dxobr0@eq.edu.au**

Danielle is excited to continue her role in 2024, as Deputy Principal of Year 4 at Mango Hill State School. Since joining Team Mango in 2019, Danielle has worked as a classroom teacher, Pedagogy Coach and Head of Department Curriculum. With experience in both early and upper year levels, she is looking forward to continuing to collaborate with staff, students and parents to inspire minds, create opportunities and provide an education required for students to reach their highest potential.

**Kris Olsen****Deputy Principal – Year 3****kolse55@eq.edu.au**

Kris Olsen is exceptionally excited to begin his new role for 2024, as Deputy Principal of Year 3 at Mango Hill State School. Over the past eight years Kris has worked in the roles of classroom teacher and Pedagogy Coach, Head of Learning and Principal across the Metro North and Far North Queensland regions. He is caring and calm in nature, who enjoys building strong connections with staff, students and the wider community to ensure all children reach their potential.

**Kylie Vaughan****Deputy Principal – Year 2****kvaug3@eq.edu.au**

Kylie has worked in education for over fifteen years with her experience as a classroom teacher being exclusively in the Early Years working in Prep to Year Three classrooms. She has been at Mango Hill since the time the school opened and has worked as a classroom teacher, a Head of Department and more recently as Deputy Principal in Year 1 and 2. Kylie is excited to be welcoming a new cohort of students and their families to Year 2 in 2024. She finds working with young children in their first years of school to be very rewarding and is dedicated to getting the best possible outcomes for the children in her care. Kylie feels a strong connection to the school and the community having watched it grow from the ground up.

**Melinda White****Deputy Principal – Year 1****mwhit37@eq.edu.au**

Melinda joined the Team Mango community in 2019 as Deputy Principal for Prep. Since arriving at Team Mango, she's welcomed 100s of new families to our school and has moved into the role of Deputy Principal for Year 1. Throughout her career thus far, she has worked as classroom teacher, literacy consultant, Head of Campus at a small school of distance education and, for the past 13 years, as a Deputy Principal in the Early Years. She has a particular passion for building positive partnerships with families and working together to ensure students work to their true potential. "Getting the basics right" is her personal motto, and she is highly committed to working with teachers to ensure students are engaged, with the explicit teaching of literacy and numeracy skills of paramount importance. In her "spare time", she is a mum to two, human children plus two fur children, a Labrador called Molly and a grey and white cat called Clover.

**Mieke Munko****Deputy Principal – Prep****mmunk1@eq.edu.au**

Mieke is delighted to be joining the team at Mango Hill S.S. in 2024 as Deputy Principal for Prep. Mieke is passionate about setting children up for success through a strong start to schooling and all students having the opportunity to realise their potential through the provision of inclusive learning environments. Mieke looks forward to working with Mango Hill staff and partnering with our learners and their families as we embark on a new year of learning in 2024.

**Suzette Holm****Head of Curriculum****shol0@eq.edu.au**

Suzette is excited to continue working as part of the Leadership team and within the Hub, where she can share her love of books with all of our eager readers at Mango Hill State School. Suzette has worked in education for more than 30 years in various schools and locations. She has been at Mango Hill since the opening and has worked hard to ensure that the school's curriculum program and the resources available in the Hub provide a range of rich learning opportunities for all students. She is particularly enthusiastic about reading and writing and loves the challenge of working with teachers and students to continually improve in these areas. When she is not reading, Suzette loves walking on the beach, camping and shopping for new books for the Hub!

**Jessica Rivett****Head of Curriculum and Year 6 Deputy Principal****jxqui5@eq.edu.au**

Jessica is excited to be continuing at Mango Hill SS. She was delighted when appointed Head of Curriculum in 2019 and was excited to return to her role recently. She continues to display her commitment and passion for curriculum through developing innovative practices and collaborating with staff, students and parents to create positive learning experiences in STEM. Jessica is passionate about delivering learning experiences, which excite and engage the students in her classes.

**Petrina Ollard****Business Manager****polla2@eq.edu.au**

Petrina is excited to join the Mango Hill State School in 2024. With 12 years of experience with the Department of Education, she joins the Senior Leadership team to oversee corporate services allowing them to focus on delivering the most effective curriculum opportunities for our students. Petrina will ensure the upkeep of the expanding facilities to a very high standard. She prioritises building capability and fostering continuous learning for all support staff, with a focus on integrating our core values. Petrina looks forward to working with the Mango Hill staff and partnering with the wider community.

## *Prep Team*

**Alyssa Lahey****Prep A****alahe10@eq.edu.au**

Alyssa is thrilled to embark on her 2<sup>nd</sup> year of teaching Prep at Mango Hill State School! Alyssa finished her bachelor in Primary Education at Australian Catholic University, where she minored in inclusive education. Her passion is creating an inclusive, nurturing, and supportive learning environment, where all students thrive. Alyssa has a love for the early years curriculum, and seeing the wonder and passion as they learn new things. She values the development of meaningful relationships with students and families. Alyssa believes in having clear, open lines of communication between school and home to ensure the best outcomes for her students. Alyssa is looking forward to engaging with the Mango Hill school community in 2024!

**Debra Browning****Prep B****dmbro2@eq.edu.au**

Debra is delighted to be starting her fifth year at Mango Hill State School teaching in prep. She is a qualified Primary educator having graduating from Australian Catholic University with an Early Childhood and Primary Bachelor of Education in 2014. Debra works to create a classroom atmosphere that is stimulating, encouraging, and adaptive to the varied needs of her students. She has a love of lifelong learning and she encourages all the children she teaches to have this love of learning as well.

**Graceyn Turner****Prep G****gturn84@eq.edu.au**

Graceyn is super excited to commence her teaching career at Mango Hill in 2024. After recently completing a Bachelor of Education (Primary) at UniSC, she is excited to give back to her local community and work in the Moreton Bay region. She is thrilled to join the Prep team and work to create an environment for her students to grow and learn. Graceyn hopes to instil a love of learning in her students to create lifelong learners, and confident and creative individuals.

**Kate Armfield****Prep K****kmnei0@eq.edu.au**

Kate is excited to be joining the Prep Team at Mango Hill State School in 2024. Kate is passionate about modelling and creating a love of lifelong learning for all her students. She continually develops and improves effective teaching techniques and instructional methods which allows her to strive for the best possible outcomes for her students.

**Vanessa Lahney****Prep L****vlahn1@eq.edu.au**

Vanessa is looking forward to returning to work in Prep after a couple of years in the Middle Years. She completed her Bachelor of Education Degree at Queensland University of Technology and has over twenty years of teaching experience. Vanessa has taught in the Torres Strait and in Far North Qld. Vanessa thoroughly enjoys working with students in their first year of school and their seeing their growth and confidence soar as the year goes by.

**Megan Goodall****Prep M****mgood180@eq.edu.au**

Megan is excited to be part of the joining the Prep team at Mango Hill in 2024! This is Megan's fifth year at Mango Hill and her thirteenth year of teaching. Megan has qualifications in Early, Primary and Middle Years education and enjoys building strong relationships with the students and families in her class. She is passionate about delivering exciting and engaging learning experiences in the classroom!

**Jo Bulger****Prep M – Friday & Prep N - Thursday****jbulg2@eq.edu.au**

Jo is very excited to be teaching prep again this year. She believes positive experiences in the early years lays the foundation for a love of life-long learning. Jo completed her Bachelor Teaching (Early Childhood) and Bachelor Education (Early Childhood) at University of New England and has worked as a principal and in Early Years classrooms for many years. Jo encourages the children to become problem solvers and loves seeing her students hit those light bulb moments in learning. Jo really values partnerships between the teacher and families and looks forward to an exciting fun filled year.

**Nicole Batterbee****Prep N- Monday, Tuesday Wednesday and Friday****nhohn7@eq.edu.au**

Nicole is excited to be teaching Prep again in 2024. She joined Mango Hill State School in 2017 and has been working as a teacher with Education Queensland for over 10 years, working in schools in both Brisbane and Central Queensland. She has taught various year levels during this time however is most passionate about working in Early Years classrooms. She thoroughly enjoys engaging, challenging and promoting a love of learning with all students and helping them achieve their full potential.

**Brendan Shields****Prep S****bshie14@eq.edu.au**

Brendan is looking forward to another exciting year working with students and colleagues in the Prep year level. He completed his Bachelor of Education Degree (in Early Childhood) at Queensland University of Technology and has over twenty years of teaching experience. Brendan has taught in both Australia and the United Kingdom, with most of his teaching experience being in Prep and the Early Years. Brendan thoroughly enjoys working with students in their first year of school; guiding them as they explore, make discoveries, demonstrate creativity and investigate new concepts.

**Tiffany Street****Prep T –Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday****tstre34@eq.edu.au**

Tiffany is looking forward to another exciting year working with students and colleagues in the Prep year level. She completed her Bachelor of Education Degree at Queensland University of Technology and has over sixteen years of teaching experience. Tiffany has taught around the Ipswich area for most of her teaching career, then moving onto Mango Hill State School where her children already attended. She has been teaching Prep for 11 years now. Tiffany thoroughly enjoys working with students in their first year of school, building relationships and assisting each student to grow and develop into the best they can be.

**Gerda Viljoen****Prep V****gvilj0@eq.edu.au**

Gerda is very excited and thankful to be a part of Team Mango. She is an experienced, dedicated and student focused educator with over twenty years of experience in the primary classroom. She is very passionate about facilitating student-centred learning experiences and fostering a lifelong love of learning. She enjoys helping students' meet their unique interests and ability levels while having fun in the classroom!

**Elissa Chambers****Prep ILT and Prep T Fridays****echam25@eq.edu.au**

Elissa is looking forward to teaching within the outstanding Inclusive Learning Team again this year. She is a qualified Primary educator after graduating from Griffith University with a Graduate Diploma in Primary Education. With more than ten years teaching experience, Elissa is passionate about providing meaningful learning experiences, challenging students to be deep thinkers and giving them plenty of opportunities to shine. She is keen to work collaboratively with other staff, students and families to provide quality opportunities and to achieve the best possible outcomes for students.

## *Year One Team*

**Sarah Hills****1B – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday****sgree243@eq.edu.au**

Sarah is very excited to teach Year 1. Sarah has a Bachelor of Education (Primary) and has taught in Brisbane and Central Queensland for the last 15 years. Sarah is committed to the development and achievement of all students at Mango Hill both socially and academically. Sarah loves meeting new families and is very excited to work closely with the school community in 2024 to ensure the best possible outcomes for our children.

Teresa Messer

1B – Friday

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Teresa has been a part of the Mango Hill State School community since 2015 and working with Education Queensland as a teacher for over 10 years. She has enjoyed a range of teaching roles in her time as an educator, however, particularly enjoys working in the Early Years sector. Teresa is passionate about supporting every child to unlock their passion for learning through her inclusive teaching practices and by creating an engaging classroom environment. She believes with a strong family connection; each child will feel supported through their learning journey. A quote that inspires Teresa's teaching – *Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.* ~Benjamin Franklin

Candida Bellert

1C

TBA



Candida Bellert is very excited to be starting at Mango Hill State School in 2024. She has a Bachelor of Education along with 12 years of teaching experience in both Primary and Early Childhood. Candida enjoys the rewarding benefits of teaching and being able to watch children grow over the year that they are in her class. Candida has a passion for ensuring that all children in her class have the ability and space to learn.

Miranda Franklin

1F

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2024 will be Miranda's third year at Mango Hill State School. She has been teaching in the local area for the last eleven years and enjoys being a part of the Mango Hill community. Miranda completed her Bachelor of Creative Industries and Graduate Diploma of Education (Early Years) at Queensland University of Technology. She has a passion for teaching children in the early years and strives to create learning environments that are safe, supportive and structured.

Ryan Woodrow

1H

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Ryan is ecstatic to begin his teaching journey at Mango Hill State School in 2024. Ryan a recent graduate with a Bachelor of Primary Education, is excited to teach Year 1 students. He is committed to cultivating a safe and inclusive environment, he values strong relationships with students. Ryan is dedicated to empowering students through encouragement and a growth mindset, to foster student academic learning, creative expression, and physical growth.

April Jerrard

1J

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April is excited to be continuing in the Year 1 team at Mango Hill State School. She is grateful for the opportunity to be part of a supportive and encouraging school community. April is passionate about providing a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students and is committed to building strong relationships with students and families.

**Hannah Ratcliffe****1M****hratc11@eq.edu.au**

Hannah is thrilled to embark on her teaching journey with Year 1 students at Mango Hill State School from Semester 2. As a recent graduate with a Bachelor of Primary Education, Hannah is passionate about creating a safe, inclusive space for students. Committed to building strong relationships with both students and families, she believes in the transformative power of encouragement and a growth mindset, empowering students to reach their full potential. Collaborating with staff, students, and families, Hannah fosters a love of learning and provides diverse opportunities for creative expression. Dedicated to helping each student achieve their goals, Hannah instils a lifelong passion for learning in her classroom.

**Bex Orole****1O****rstou4@eq.edu.au**

Rebekah is looking forward to another year of teaching at Mango Hill State School. She completed her Bachelor of Primary and Middle Schooling at the University of Southern Queensland with a major in Expressive Arts. Throughout her years of teaching, Rebekah has taught a range of year levels with her most recent years being in the early years. The joy of seeing students, develop and grow in confidence through quality learning experiences, is truly the essence that makes her career as an educator, so rewarding.

**Karen Reimers****1R****kreim4@eq.edu.au**

Karen is an Experienced Senior Teacher who is very excited to be teaching Year 1 in 2024. Karen has a lifelong love of learning, enabling her to continually improve her pedagogy and practice, allowing her to strive for the best possible outcomes for her students. She is committed to ensuring every child achieves to their fullest potential. Karen is particularly interested in teaching students to grow in emotional intelligence and independence, and building positive home/school partnerships through clear, open and regular lines of communication. In her downtime, Karen enjoys reading, hiking, bike riding, being a minimalist, watching the sun rise and sun set and eating chocolate!

**Reena Singh****1S – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday****rting94@eq.edu.au**

Reena is looking forward to her fourth year at Mango Hill State School working with Year 1 colleagues, students and their families. She has a Bachelor of Education from the University of the South Pacific and a Postgraduate Diploma in Education from the Queensland University of Technology. Reena has been teaching for over seventeen years and has been an Early Years classroom teacher for the past twelve years. She has a passion for teaching Early Years and has successfully performed her role as a Prep and Year 1 teacher. She endeavours to individualise learning for her students by supporting their social, emotional and academic well-being through an inclusive, supportive and safe setting. Reena values parent support and strong partnership in providing children with valuable learning environments.

**Amanda Kunne****Year 1 ILT****axkun0@eq.edu.au**

Amanda is delighted to be part of Team Mango again in 2024 as the Year 1 ILT and teaching alongside Morgan Sheehan in 1M. She completed her Bachelor of Education-Primary at QUT in 2016 and has worked in the Early Years for most of her teaching career. Amanda is committed to providing rich learning experiences that are engaging for all learners. She has a passion for the early years of learning and assisting students to learn, grow and explore during their first steps in schooling.

# Year Two Team

Jasmin Corney

2C

[jcorn129@eq.edu.au](mailto:jcorn129@eq.edu.au)



Jasmin joined the Mango Hill State School team in 2023 and is thrilled to continue working with the Year 2 colleagues, students and their families in 2024. She completed a Masters of Primary Education at Griffith University. Jasmin is committed to creating a supportive, inclusive, and collaborative learning environment, where all students can reach their full potential. She is passionate in building a strong rapport with students and parents to help students succeed academically, emotionally, and socially. Jasmin is looking forward to engaging with the supportive school community in 2024.

Danee Edens

2E

[deden1@eq.edu.au](mailto:deden1@eq.edu.au)



Danee is excited to be joining the Mango Hill State School family as a new member of the teaching staff. She comes with a passion for education and a commitment to fostering an inclusive and dynamic learning environment. With 19 years of experience in primary education in Queensland and the Northern Territory, she has had the privilege of working with diverse groups of students, each of whom has played an important part in her teaching journey. Her teaching philosophy revolves around cultivating curiosity, nurturing creativity, and instilling a lifelong love for knowledge in every student. Danee believes that every student has the potential to excel and contribute meaningfully to the world.

Emma Feeny

2F

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Emma is looking forward to another wonderful year working with students and colleagues in Year 2. She completed her Bachelor of Education Degree at Queensland University of Technology in 2017 and has taught in both Australia and the United Kingdom. Emma is a caring and passionate teacher who strives to create an inclusive classroom environment that prioritises the students' social and emotional wellbeing.

Kelly Ihde

2I – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

[kihde0@eq.edu.au](mailto:kihde0@eq.edu.au)



Kelly is very excited to be starting her fourth year of teaching at Mango Hill State School in 2024. Kelly has previously taught Year 5 and this will be her second year teaching Year 2. She graduated from the Queensland University of Technology in 2020 with a Bachelor of Education (Primary). Kelly prides herself on creating an inclusive and safe classroom environment that supports all students in becoming successful learners for life. She is passionate about children's mental health and helping them to believe in themselves, promoting a growth mindset so they know they can achieve anything and everything.

Louise Slade

2I - Wednesday

[lmsla0@eq.edu.au](mailto:lmsla0@eq.edu.au)



Louise is delighted to be joining the year 2 team at Mango Hill State School in 2024. She graduated with a Bachelor of education from the University of Canberra in 2009 where she grew up. Louise taught in the ACT for 8 years on a range of year levels before moving to Brisbane where she has taught for the past seven years. She is committed to building and maintaining a supportive and safe learning environment to help students achieve their best. Louise also prioritises the importance of families in a child's learning journey and is eager to inspire a love of learning for her students.



Chloe Langham

2L

cleut5@eq.edu.au



Chloe is looking forward to her fourth year teaching at Mango Hill State School and her third year on Year 2 teaching the PACE class. It is her passion to work with and support children to achieve their goals and full potential. As a teacher, she believes in creating a safe and supportive learning environment where students feel comfortable to take risks and to achieve their best. In her downtime, Chloe enjoys spending time with her two sons and husband at the beach or outside. She is very excited to continue her teaching journey at Mango Hill SS, and is looking forward to building strong connections with her students and families in 2024.

Mel Luetton

2M

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Mel is excited to be joining the Year 2 team at Mango Hill SS. With 15 years experience, spent across a variety of different schools and year levels, she is keen to get back into the Year 2 learning space. Mel is passionate about working in the early years and ensuring that her students have the building blocks to become lifelong learners. She believes that working with families, staff and the community ensures the best student learning environment and whole school culture possible.

Shaun Pollock

2P

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Shaun is excited to be teaching Year 2 for another year at Mango Hill State School. Originally from New Zealand, Shaun moved to Australia in 2008 where he now calls Brisbane home. Shaun graduated from the Australian Catholic University with a Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood and Primary) in 2020. Shaun has a passion for education in the early years and enjoys helping children reach their full potential. Shaun strives to instill a love for learning within his students in the hope they become life-long learners. Shaun believes in creating a collaborative, safe and supportive learning environment that will holistically support his students to achieve learning goals and experience academic success.

Sharna Reade

2R

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Sharna is delighted to be teaching at Mango Hill again in 2024! She is enthusiastic about providing students with engaging hands-on and collaborative learning experiences that enrich and deepen understanding across learning areas. She prides herself on creating a positive and supportive classroom environment where students feel safe and happy, and can achieve their goals!

Tiffany Peckham

2T

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Tiffany is excited to be joining the Mango Hill Year 2 team. She started her teaching journey at Mango Hill in 2023, working with various year levels. Tiffany has spent most of her teaching career in the Northern Territory and is beginning her 6<sup>th</sup> year of teaching. She is passionate about building positive relationships with students and their families to support students to achieve their potential.

Melanie Bertram

Year 2 ILT

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Melanie is delighted to be joining the Mango Hill State School Community in 2024. Throughout her years teaching with Education Queensland, Melanie has taught across a range of year levels before recently moving into student engagement. She has a passion for supporting the development of the whole child, and working in partnership with colleagues in determining the most appropriate adjustments for children. Melanie prioritises positive connections with all children and their families in helping to establish an environment where children can experience success and have a sense of belonging. A quote that inspires Melanie's teaching- "I've learned people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."- Maya Angelou

## *Year Three Team*

Gin Balfe

3B

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Gin is excited to be teaching Year 3 at Mango Hill in 2024. Over the past few years of her teaching career, she feels lucky to be working with supportive teaching staff and parents. Gin is excited to get to know her new students and encourage them to learn and grow in a safe and supportive environment. She looks forward to continuing her teaching journey and feels proud to be a part of the Mango Hill community.

Cassie Stewart

3C

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Cassie is delighted to be teaching on Year 3 again in 2024 at Mango Hill State School. She has a Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood) and has been working as a teacher with Education Queensland for just over 14 years. Throughout her teaching career, Cassie has taught Prep through to Year 3. Cassie started at Mango Hill State School in 2012 as a foundation staff member. In this time, she has enjoyed being a part of such a supportive school community. Cassie is very passionate about teaching in the early years, striving for all students to reach their full potential through a positive and rich learning environment. Cassie is committed to the development and achievement of all students at Mango Hill both socially and academically.

Darlene McColl

3D – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

drmcc0@eq.edu.au



After working in the early childhood sector for over 16 years, Darlene graduated from QUT with a Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood in 2013. Darlene joined Mango Hill State School in 2014 and since then has taught Prep, Year 1 and Year 2. Darlene loves working with children in their early years of schooling, creating diverse and engaging lessons where children get to unpack the curriculum content and learn from real life situations. Darlene is passionate about ensuring all children reach for their true potential and works hard to ensure this occurs for each child in her class. Darlene is proud to be a part of the school community at Mango Hill State School and looks forward to getting to know her students in Year 3 in 2024.

Claire Morrell

3D – Friday

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Claire has been in her role as a Music and Performing Arts Teacher at Mango Hill State School since 2019. Alongside this she has also been a Class Teacher and is excited to be continuing these roles in 2024. She completed her Bachelor of Arts and two teaching qualifications in the UK and has taught for 20 years in a number of schools. She gained wider experience as a Manager of School Coding Camps and as an Education Consultant. She has a breadth of experience across the age range and enjoys spending each day making a difference to our young people.

Kara Gough

3G

kdixo51@eq.edu.au



Kara is enthusiastic about returning to the Year 3 team in 2024. She is an experienced classroom teacher and has filled many roles since starting at MHSS in 2018, including Prep teacher, STEM, ILT and student engagement teacher. Kara is committed to using her knowledge and experience to support students to be engaged in their academic and social learning.

Soraya Krosch

3K

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Soraya Krosch is a dedicated teacher with a passion for nurturing young minds. Having completed her bachelor of primary education, and successfully guiding a vibrant group of sixth graders in 2023, Soraya is excited to embark on a new adventure as a Year 3 teacher at Mango Hill State School in 2024. As Soraya steps into this new role, she is eager to foster a love for learning, encourage curiosity and provide a supportive atmosphere where every child can thrive. Soraya prioritizes building strong connections with students and families, firmly believing in the potential for every student to achieve and feel valued in her classroom.

Roxanne Louw

3L – Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

rxlou2@eq.edu.au



Roxanne is excited to start her fifth year at Mango Hill State School. She completed her Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood & Primary) at Australian Catholic College in 2014. Roxanne has a passion for the Early Years and believes in creating a collaborative, safe and supportive learning environment for all students to thrive!

Peta Fishburn

3L Thursday and Friday

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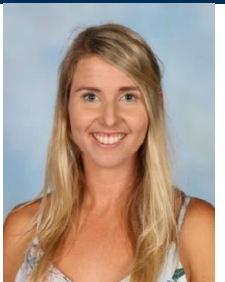


Peta Fishburn is super excited to be teaching Year 3 at Mango Hill State School in 2024. She has a bachelor of Early Childhood Education along with 20 years teaching experience. She has been part of the Mango Hill team since 2013. Peta has taught in a variety of positions over the years with the most experience teaching Year 3. She finds teaching the middle years really rewarding. Peta is passionate about providing an inclusive environment where every student can feel confident, be engaged and reach their full potential.

Marissa Krosman

3M

mkros4@eq.edu.au



Marissa is entering her 14<sup>th</sup> year of teaching with Education Queensland. She has been teaching at Mango Hill State School since 2020 and she is excited to be teaching Year 3. Marissa is looking forward to building and fostering positive relationships with students, staff and the wider community. She has a passion for teaching and strives to implement learning experiences that are highly engaging. Marissa has high expectations of all students and she endeavours to create a safe, positive and supportive learning environment that enables all students to achieve.

**Bev Rintala****3M - Tuesday****brint0@eq.edu.au**

Bev has worked in various early childhood, VET and primary school settings across both the public and private sector in Queensland, NSW and the ACT for over 20 years. Her involvement in Mango Hill State School began in 2011, taking on an active role in the community consultation process, prior to the school's opening. She is a proud Finn and loves to travel, enjoying all of the many cross-cultural experiences that come with it. Bev is always eager to share her passion and appreciation of languages, the arts, history, geography and the environment with others, and often incorporates these into her teaching practises. Her aim is to help her students develop a love of lifelong learning so that they grow into the best version of themselves and become contributing global citizens.

**Katelyn Shanahan****3S****knsha0@eq.edu.au**

Katelyn is thrilled to be teaching on Year 3 again in 2024. She will be entering her sixth-year teaching, and her third year at Mango Hill State School. Katelyn completed her Bachelor of Primary Education at Queensland's University of Technology (QUT) in early 2019. She was born in Mt Isa but has resided in Brisbane most of her life. Katelyn has previously taught multi-aged classes for 3 years in Central Queensland, spanning from years 1-3 and 5-6. She is a proud Aboriginal woman and is passionate about bringing culture into the classroom. Katelyn strives to build positive and supportive relationships with the whole community. She believes in creating an environment that supports the learning as well as the whole student.

**Tanya Skewes****3T- Wednesday, Thursday and Friday****tskew5@eq.edu.au**

Tanya is entering her fifteenth year as a classroom teacher with Education Queensland. Since completing her Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood) degree with the Queensland University of Technology, Tanya has taught in Prep, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 classrooms. She is passionate about working in Early Years classrooms and highly values building a safe and supportive classroom culture. In this environment students are able to take risks in their learning and challenge themselves to set and achieve their goals. She understands the value of bringing fun and creativity into the learning process, to help build students' confidence. Tanya welcomes collaborative partnerships with families to ensure the needs of all students are met.

**Anita Fitzpatrick****3T - Monday and Tuesday****axfit2@eq.edu.au**

Anita is excited to be in the Year 3 team again in 2024. She graduated from QUT in 2013 and has loved her journey as a teacher over the past 10 years. Anita is passionate about delivering learning experiences which excite and engage the students in her class. She enjoys creating supportive and fun learning environments that foster both independent and collaborative learning.

**Stevie-Lee Vos****3V****sxsta95@eq.edu.au**

Stevie-lee is very excited to be teaching Year 3 at Mango Hill State School in 2024. She has a bachelor of Primary Education along with nine years teaching experience. She enjoys teaching the middle- and upper-year levels as she finds it very rewarding. Stevie-lee has a passion for mathematics and writing. She is committed to teaching the curriculum in an enriching and engaging way which provides each student with the opportunity to succeed. She also enjoys helping her students ignite a passion for learning and assisting them to explore, discover, learn and grow.

**Lauren Whitta****3W****lwhit214@eq.edu.au**

Lauren is looking forward to teaching Year 3 again at Mango Hill State School in 2024. She is an experienced senior teacher who has had the opportunity of working in both very small and very large schools, teaching in the middle and upper years. Lauren believes that strong relationships are the core to success in every classroom. She creates a learning environment where all students feel safe, accepted and know that they play an important role in the learning community. Lauren maintains high expectations while supporting students to reach their goals.

**Taylor Oughton****Year 3 ILT****tough1@eq.edu.au**

Taylor is looking forward to joining the Mango Hill team and learning the Mango Hill way. He will be temporarily joining the outstanding Inclusive Teaching Team and supporting Year 3. He is a qualified Primary educator who graduated from the University of Waikato with a Bachelor of Education and Diploma of Teaching. With more than 20 years of teaching and education leadership in over six different countries, Taylor is passionate about inquiry-based learning, developing compassionate, open-minded and critical thinkers, and supporting all students to be their best selves. He feels privileged to work with staff, students and families at Mango Hill State School.

## *Year Four Team*

**Aleasha O'Brien****Year 4A****aobri272@eq.edu.au**

Aleasha is excited to begin her teaching career at Mango Hill State School. She has recently completed her Bachelor of Primary Education at the University of the Sunshine Coast. She believes the key to successful learning comes from a safe and supportive learning environment where children can be comfortable to explore, discover, and learn. Aleasha enjoys helping her students to reach their full potential.

**Anita Baker****4B – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday****aabak0@eq.edu.au**

Anita is excited to continue working in Year 4 in 2023. In 2020 she completed a Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood) from QUT. At MHSS she has had the opportunity to work across all year levels and get to know many students and their families. She is committed to creating a safe, supportive and stimulating classroom environment where students take measured risks in their learning and grow in confidence.

**Danielle Croft****4C****dmsta0@eq.edu.au**

Danielle is excited to be teaching Year 4 at Mango Hill State school in 2024. She has a bachelor of Primary Education along with 7 years teaching experience. Danielle is passionate about teaching the curriculum through a range of collaboration strategies, making the classroom a positive and supportive environment that engages and challenges her students. She is committed to building positive relationships with students and their families. Danielle is looking forward to working with Year 4 for the first time!

**Lizzie Hartmann****4H****lhart166@eq.edu.au**

Lizzie is excited to be on Year 4 this year. This is her eighth year of teaching having taught in Brisbane and North Queensland. Lizzie believes in creating an inclusive classroom environment that prioritises the students' social and emotional wellbeing. She is a caring and passionate teacher, who builds strong relationships with students and parents/caregivers. Lizzie loves seeing her students succeed and meet their goals.

**Kelly McGuinness****4M – Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday****kmcgu50@eq.edu.au**

Kelly McGuinness is excited to be teaching Year 4 again at Mango Hill State School in 2024. She is an Experienced Senior Teacher with 12 years experience teaching in lower and middle primary school. Kelly is passionate about creating a fun, calm and challenging learning environment where all students feel valued and engaged and celebrate each other's achievements. She is committed to upholding high expectations and encourages her learners to strive for personal excellence.

**Kelly Linnane****4M - Tuesday****ktayl294@eq.edu.au**

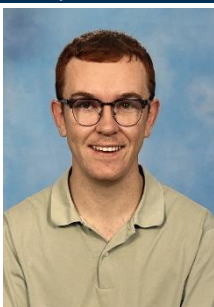
Kelly is delighted to be joining the Year 4 Team on a Tuesday and teaching in 4M. She is a qualified Primary School educator and has had over 10 years of experience in a range of year levels. As an educator, Kelly strives to create a supportive learning environment where all children are happy, engaged and are being challenged at an optimal level for them.

**Caitie Osbourne****4O****cxosb0@eq.edu.au**

Caitie is excited to be joining the Mango Hill State School community for 2024. Caitie has been doing relief work at Mango Hill for the last 2 years, She has taught various year levels including year 4 in term 4 and has got to know many of the students. Caitie is passionate in helping students reach their personal and learning goals in a safe, supportive, and engaging learning environment.

**Mariska Putter****4P****mxput0@eq.edu.au**

Mariska is very excited to be part of the Mango Hill School community. She is an experienced and passionate educator who provides meaningful and hands on learning experiences to all her students. She prides herself on creating a positive learning environment where all students feel safe, supported and have a genuine feeling of belonging. Mariska is committed to building strong relationships with students and their families.

**Harry Smith****4S****hdono29@eq.edu.au**

Harry is excited to be entering his second year on the Year 4 team at Mango Hill State School. He completed a Bachelor of Education (Primary) at Queensland University of Technology. Harry is a calm and compassionate teacher, who places a huge emphasis on fostering a strong rapport with his students and their families. By being in tune with his students', he aims to support inclusive student participation and engagement through exciting curriculum activities that challenge students to use many realms of thinking. Harry wants to encourage his students to express their creative capacities, to practice productive failure and to become individuals who display respect, teamwork, resilience, and empathy.

Zelina Thomson

4T

zltho0@eq.edu.au



Zelina is excited to be joining the Mango Hill SS Year 4 team again in 2024 and is excited to get to know her new students and families. She graduated from Central Queensland University in Bundaberg with a Bachelor of Learning Management (Early Childhood) in 2012. Zelina has taught kindergarten in Bundaberg and in Doomadgee before moving to Townsville where she taught Prep, Year 2 and Year 4 for six years before joining the year 4 team at Mango Hill in 2022. She creates open, welcoming classrooms where every student feels safe, valued and able to achieve their best.

Kelly Koch

Year 4 ILT and 4B Friday

kkoch4@eq.edu.au



Kelly is a Senior Teacher with 20 years of teaching experience. This has included teaching in the Atlanta Public School system in the US and Education QLD. She has been fortunate enough to spend some time across 4 different countries in Africa, where she helped build houses and water filtration systems, and taught reading to children in orphanages. Kelly has been at Mango Hill SS for 11 years. Her teaching career has been primarily in grades 4 – 6 on class and in Learning Support and STEM. Kelly is passionate about instilling a love and appreciation of reading in reluctant readers, and watching the joy of reading embed and blossom in upper primary aged children. She also enjoys finding ways to help children develop confidence to tackle Maths problems independently and successfully.

## *Year Five Team*

Beth Bulowski

5B

bebul0@eq.edu.au



Beth is looking forward to joining the Year 5 team at Mango Hill State School this year. She started her teaching journey in 2021 in a small town named Biloela; and looks forward to contributing her experience and skills to a new schooling environment. Beth's particular passion lies in instilling a growth mindset within her students. Her focus is on empowering them to take charge of their own learning journey and encouraging a collaborative atmosphere where students support and uplift one another. With her commitment to fostering a positive and empowering educational environment, Beth is dedicated to making the 2024 school year a transformative experience for her students.

Jody Carlsson

5C - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

jxcar18@eq.edu.au



Jody is excited to be teaching at Mango Hill State School for another year. She completed her Masters of Teaching (Primary) at Queensland University of Technology in 2019 and joined the Mango Hill team. Jody is passionate about her role in the educational journey of her students and encourages a growth mindset in order for each child to be the best that they can be. She enjoys fostering a love of learning through engaging and collaborative learning opportunities, whilst working alongside families to support the social, emotional and academic growth of each student.

Kelly Linanne

5C - Monday

ktayl294@eq.edu.au



In 2024, Kelly is delighted to be joining the Year 5 team teaching in 5C on a Wednesday. She is a qualified Primary School educator and has had over 10 years of experience in a range of year levels. As an educator, Kelly strives to create a supportive learning environment where all children are happy, engaged and are being challenged at an optimal level for them.

Hannah Devine

5D – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

hgben0@eq.edu.au



Hannah is looking forward to working with Year 5 this year, and working with the wonderful staff, students and families in Team Mango. She is passionate about all children achieving their potential and working with families to help students in their Year 5 journey. She enjoys teaching Maths, Science and English. In her downtime, Hannah enjoys spending time with her family and friends, reading and just chilling out!

Beth Humphreys

5F- Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

bbraz15@eq.edu.au

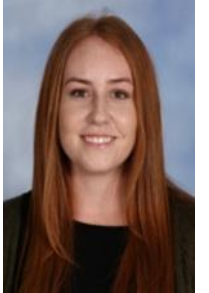


Beth is looking forward to another year of teaching at Mango Hill State School. She is very excited to be joining the Year 1 team. She completed her Bachelor of Primary Education with her major studies being completed in the areas of Early Childhood. Throughout her years of teaching, Beth has taught Grade 1, 2, 5 and STEM. The pleasure of seeing the building blocks of learning, develop and grow through quality learning experiences, is truly the essence that makes her career as an educator, so rewarding.

Tamara Wills

5F- Thursday and Friday

bbraz15@eq.edu.au



Tamara is delighted to be teaching Year 5 alongside the wonderful Year 5 team. She completed her Bachelor of Education at QUT, with a minor in Inclusive Education. Tamara is passionate and committed to creating an inclusive and supportive environment that meets the individual needs of all her students. This is to provide every child with the opportunity to succeed. She also strives to create an environment where students are encouraged to have a growth mindset and learn from their mistakes.

Josh Frisby

5J

jjfri0@eq.edu.au



Josh is excited to be teaching Year 5 at Mango Hill State School in 2024. He enjoyed his time working at Mango Hill in 2023 working as a relief teacher and is eager to build relationships with our 5J students. He studied a Bachelor of Sport, Health and Physical Activity and a Master of Teaching in Adelaide and has recently relocated to Brisbane. Josh has a passion for teaching mathematics and ICT. He is committed to teaching the curriculum using ICT to engage students in their learning, and differentiating student work to ensure each student is working at their optimal level of challenge.

Libby Vafiopulous

5L

lvafi1@eq.edu.au



It is with great excitement that Libby is joining the Year 5 Mango Hill team for 2024. With over 17 years of teaching experience, Libby has taught almost all year levels of primary school. She has a passion for creating a safe and supportive learning environment where students can grow and develop themselves as individuals. Libby encourages all students to become lifelong learners and fosters a culture of belonging and acceptance. She enjoys building strong relationships with the students and their families.



Brooke Pearce

5P- Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

bcupi11@eq.edu.au



Brooke is looking forward to another year of teaching at Mango Hill State School. She completed her Bachelor of Primary Education in 2013 and her Master of Education in Leadership and Management in 2019. Throughout her years of teaching, Brooke has taught grade 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. Creating a safe and supportive learning environment is a priority for Brooke and she takes joy in creating a positive classroom culture.

Jess Cutcliffe

5P - Monday

jblak101@eq.edu.au



Jessica is thrilled to be continuing her teaching journey at Mango Hill State School as part of the dynamic Year 5 teaching team. Jessica is a qualified Primary educator after graduating from Queensland University of Technology with a Bachelor of Education (Primary). She feels very privileged to have found a school which has the same beliefs as her own. Jessica believes that being a teacher is an incredible career and gives her the ability to help shape the future by creating students who not only enjoy school and learning, but love every aspect of it and strive to achieve more. Jessica's previous teaching experience has given her an exceptional understanding of the development and pedagogy for all year levels.

Kristen Roberts

5R

krobe408@eq.edu.au



Kristen is looking forward to teaching Year 5 during her fifth year of teaching at Mango Hill State School. During her time at Mango Hill Kristen has taught STEM in P-6, Prep and Year 5. Kristen is especially enthusiastic to be moving back to Year 5 and reconnecting with student she taught during her STEM days. She completed her Bachelor of Education at Queensland University of Technology, specialising in inclusive education. Kristen is passionate about all children achieving their potential and working closely with families to help students succeed.

David Vlieg

5V

dvlie1@eq.edu.au



David is delighted to be teaching Year 5 in 2024. He started his teaching career working in Far North Queensland and then at Humpybong SS before starting at Mango Hill State School in 2012. During his teaching career David has worked as a teacher in grades ranging from Year 3 to Year 7. In 2023, David taught Year 5 and is again looking forward to working with our Year 5 cohort. He is a passionate and caring teacher who believes that strong connections create a sense of well-being. This leads to creating an environment where all students can reach their potential through engaging learning experiences.

Natalie Bliesner

Year 5 ILT and 5D Friday

nblie1@eq.edu.au



Natalie is looking forward to joining the Inclusive Learning Team working in across the classrooms 4 days a week. One day a week, Natalie will be co-teaching in 5D. Natalie has been teaching since 1993 in a range of roles including classroom teacher and tutoring. During this time, Natalie has taught in both private and public settings from Kindergarten to year 5. She has worked within the Education Department since 2001. Natalie creates a safe supportive environment where students are encouraged to work towards individual learning goals. Students succeeding is what makes her career as an educator so rewarding.

# Year Six Team

Bec Wilson

6B

[rwils408@eq.edu.au](mailto:rwils408@eq.edu.au)



Bec is excited to be joining the Mango Hill team after spending 3 years in the South Burnett. Bec takes pleasure in facilitating growth and development in her students as they progress towards becoming confident, capable young adults. With significant emphasis on strong connections between teachers, students, and parents, recognizing the crucial role these relationships play in the learning process. She actively nurtures essential life skills, encourages critical thinking, problem-solving abilities, and instils a growth mindset in her students. With high expectations for their success, she is wholeheartedly dedicated to creating a secure and supportive learning environment, where her students can explore, reach, and even exceed their own expectations.

Steph Curran

6C- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

[scurr95@eq.edu.au](mailto:scurr95@eq.edu.au)



Steph brings over a decade of primary teaching experience to Mango Hill State School, entering her seventh year with enthusiasm and dedication. A proud graduate of the University of Queensland with a Bachelor of Education in 2013, she furthered her expertise at QUT, earning a Master of Educational Leadership in 2023. Having spent the first four years of her teaching career in rural Queensland, Steph values the diverse experiences that have shaped her teaching philosophy. She is deeply committed to fostering a positive classroom environment, highlighting the importance of creating a safe and supportive space where every student can thrive in their learning journey. Steph's passion lies in providing students with opportunities to become lifelong learners, instilling enthusiasm for education.

Jess Cutcliffe

6C- Wednesday

[jblak101@eq.edu.au](mailto:jblak101@eq.edu.au)



Jessica is thrilled to be continuing her teaching journey at Mango Hill State School as part of the dynamic Year 6 teaching team. Jessica is a qualified Primary educator after graduating from Queensland University of Technology with a Bachelor of Education (Primary). She feels very privileged to have found a school which has the same beliefs as her own. Jessica believes that being a teacher is an incredible career and gives her the ability to help shape the future by creating students who not only enjoy school and learning, but love every aspect of it and strive to achieve more. Jessica's previous teaching experience has given her an exceptional understanding of the development and pedagogy for all year levels.

Steph Drummond

6D- Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

[sdrum28@eq.edu.au](mailto:sdrum28@eq.edu.au)



Steph is excited to be teaching Year 6 this year after starting at Mango Hill State School in 2015. She completed her Bachelor of Education in 2011 with minors in Children's Literature and Media Studies at QUT. Steph is passionate about creating a safe and supportive classroom where all students can access quality learning by promoting positivity and critical and creative thinking. She implements inquiry-based learning experiences for the students, encouraging them to explore and question the world around them. Steph is committed to giving students challenging and engaging curriculum activities to help all achieve their goals.

**Theresa Verster****6D - Monday****txver0@eq.edu.au**

Theresa is very excited to be joining 6D in 2024. She has a great passion for teaching and strives to engage a love of learning in all her students. Theresa is passionate about collaborative learning and building strong relationships with the children and parents. She values working together to develop confident and independent learners. Theresa is enthusiastic to start 2024.

**Sam Dixon****6E – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (Week 5 onwards)****sdixo64@eq.edu.au**

Sam is delighted to be teaching Year 6 this year at Mango Hill State School. After completing a Bachelor of Education at The Queensland University of Technology, she has taught in a range of year levels across rural Queensland, London and Brisbane over the past decade. Sam is passionate about teaching students in the upper primary years to grow both socially, academically and emotionally. She is eager to foster students learning by creating a supportive learning environment where all students are valued, active learners and are keen to strive for their best. Heading in to her tenth year at Mango Hill, Sam is excited to deliver learning experiences that will engage and challenge the students in her class.

**Courtney Evans****6E - Monday and Friday****caeva1@eq.edu.au**

Courtney is delighted to join the Year Six team at Mango Hill State School in the classroom 2024. With over 15 years of teaching in Melbourne, she has experience in educating across most year levels. Courtney has a strong belief that with support, encouragement and the right growth mindset, students can and will achieve their full potential. She endeavours to build positive home/school relationships with all of her students and their families. In her free time, Courtney enjoys spending time with her husband and two children exploring the beautiful Sunshine State.

**Suzanne McEvoy****6G – Monday, Tuesday, Friday 6J- Wednesday, Friday****swill389@eq.edu.au**

Suzanne is looking forward to being part of the Mango Hill State School Team again this year and is enthusiastic about teaching Year 6 students. She is an experienced classroom teacher and believes that each child is a unique individual who needs a secure, caring and stimulating atmosphere in which to grow socially, emotionally and academically.

**Katie Thomas****6G – Monday and Thursday 6M - Friday****kthom491@eq.edu.au**

Katie is delighted to be teaching Year 6, for her eleventh year at Mango Hill SS. Katie is a qualified Primary educator, after graduating from Queensland University of Technology with a Bachelor of Education. She has been teaching for 14 years in schools in rural Queensland and Mango Hill. Katie is passionate about creating a safe and supportive classroom where all students can access quality learning. A strong focus of hers is to create a culture in which all students are expected to learn successfully in their own ways and at their own pace. Outside the classroom, Katie values time with her family, cooking and camping.

**Rachael Beard****6J-Monday, Tuesday and Friday****rbear20@eq.edu.au**

Rachael is excited to join the Year Six team at Mango Hill State School this year. She has been a primary school teacher with Education Queensland for over 14 years and has taught early, middle and upper primary. Rachael considers it a privilege to teach students in their final year of primary school and is looking forward to supporting each child to achieve their individual learning goals and celebrate success every day. She wants to foster a growth mindset in her students and encourage them to take ownership of their learning.

Karen Robinson

6K

kmrob1@eq.edu.au



Karen is delighted to be teaching Year Six again this year. This will be her sixth year at Mango Hill SS, and she is excited to be working with such a professional and dedicated team of educators. Karen believes in fostering a supportive inclusive learning environment where students feel valued and respected. Karen is passionate about delivering learning experiences that not only excite and engage her students, but challenge them to be the best that they can be. Outside of the classroom, Karen enjoys reading, eating out and spending time with her family.

Kurt McGregor

6M Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

kmcgr177@wq.edu.au



Kurt is ecstatic to be re-joining the Mango Hill State School team this year. He has been teaching since 2021 as a relief teacher in Adelaide, South Australia and moved back to Queensland with his young family in 2022. He has been with Mango Hill since Term 4 of 2022, teaching Year 6. Kurt is enthusiastic about building positive relationships with students and providing them with enriching experiences to support their wellbeing, academic growth and development. He is passionate about ensuring that each student has the opportunity to reach their individual potential, by providing a highly engaging and safe environment to learn and grow together.

Michelle Jackson

6R

mhj1@eq.edu.au



Michelle is excited to join 6R for the remainder of 2024. With 15 years of experience, she has worked both internationally and locally in classroom environments as well as in physical education. As a passionate and optimistic educator, Michelle fosters community and connection while encouraging independence in learning. Known for her positive outlook and happy demeanor, she values open communication and collaborates closely with families to ensure that each student achieves their personal best.

Joel White

6W

jawhi4@eq.edu.au



Joel considers it an absolute privilege to be teaching Year 6 for his 5<sup>th</sup> year as part of the Mango Hill Team in 2024. With over 20 years in Education, he has had many amazing opportunities to effect positive change in young peoples' lives and the wider school community. Throughout his career, he has taught all primary grades within team teaching, multi-grade and single grade class scenarios as well as being a teaching principal, physical education teacher and Primary Sports Coordinator. As an educator, he is passionate about creating a positive and effective learning environment that provides all students with the opportunities to develop the skills and knowledge needed to be their best and have lifelong success. He is look forward to another great year in 2024!

Pam Penrose

Year 6 ILT

ppenr1@eq.edu.au



Pam is excited to be continuing work as a part of the Inclusive Learning Team in 2024, to support students moving up into Year 6. As a qualified Primary educator, with over 20 years of teaching experience, Pam has taught from Years 3 to 7. She is passionate about instilling in children a love of learning, within a supportive environment. Pam is looking forward to connecting with teachers and building relationships with families to enable students supports required to access and engage in learning.

# Specialist Teachers

Tracy Lundberg

Guidance Officer

tlund10@eq.edu.au



Tracy is thrilled to be joining the Mango Hill team in 2024. Tracy has many years of experience as a Guidance Officer and has most recently been working in Regional Office of the Department of Education as a Guidance Officer: Student Engagement and Wellbeing, providing regional support to a range of schools and families across the greater Brisbane area. Tracy is passionate about supporting the wellbeing of both students and their families, with a particular passion for facilitating quality transitions for students, both as Preps and as Year 6s starting their journey to high school.

Daneka Walters

SET – Alt Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

Emdwalt75@eq.edu.au



Daneka joined the Mango Hill State School team in 2021 and is excited to be working as an Student Engagement Teacher this year. She loves working in a team collaborating with staff, students and families so each student can reach their potential both academically and socially. Daneka looks forward to a year of learning, exploration, laughter and new adventures.

Kerris Hore

SET

Khore5@eq.edu.au



Kerris is excited to join this vibrant learning environment of Team Mango. With over 17 years of teaching experience across various educational settings and working with a diverse range of learners, she brings a passion for teaching and learning that has only grown stronger over the years. She has taught in Japan and has experience in teaching students of diverse language backgrounds. Kerris is committed to supporting every student in reaching their full potential. Outside of the classroom, she enjoys staying active and indulging in home cooking. She looks forward to contributing to our wonderful school community and embarking on this exciting journey together.

Lauren O'Connor

STEM Teacher

locon34@eq.edu.au



Lauren is an Experienced Senior Teacher who is excited to explore a new role as a STEM specialist teacher. Lauren has worked in a variety of roles throughout her career: Classroom Teacher, Positive Behaviour for Learning Coach, Pedagogical Coach and Inclusive Learning Teacher. She is passionate about empowering every learner to reach their potential and is looking forward to working in partnership with parents and colleagues in 2024.

**Kara Rufford****STEM Teacher****kxruf0@eq.edu.au**

Kara is very happy to be joining the Mango Hill State School STEM team. Kara graduated from a Master of Teaching (Primary) in 2019, after completing a Bachelor of Business in 2013. She is currently studying a Master of Education (Inclusion Education Specialisation) at QUT. As an Inclusive Learning Teacher, Kara ensures that all students receive the support they need to belong to the school community, engage purposely in learning and experience academic success. She is looking forward to learning more about your child/ren in 2022 and working in partnership with you to support their needs to achieve success.

**Lauren Cannon****STEM Teacher****lcann83@eq.edu.au**

Lauren is excited to begin another school year at Mango Hill SS. This will be Lauren's eighth year at this wonderful school. She completed her Bachelor of Education (Primary) at the Queensland University of Technology in the year 2010. She will be teaching STEM to Years Prep to 2, and Technology with Year 3 – 6 students. Lauren is excited to specialise in this engaging curriculum and enjoys building connections with a range of students across different years levels within our school. One of the highlights of her role is meeting the siblings of students she has taught in previous years!

**Michelle Burris****STEM Teacher – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday****mburr9@eq.edu.au**

Michelle is excited to be teaching STEM again this year. With over 25 years teaching experience, Michelle is still avid about learning and hopes to provide experiences which excite and engage the students in her classes. She implements hands-on learning and inquiry-based teaching, encouraging students to question and explore the world around them. This year Michelle is excited to promote creative thinking in the classroom, asking students to be innovative, imaginative and collaborative.

**Jenny Russell****STEM Teacher- Tuesday, Wednesday****jmhar5@eq.edu.au**

Jenny is excited to be a part of Mango Hill State School in 2024. She is a highly qualified teacher, with over 20 years of experience in both private and public sectors. Mrs Russell enjoys teaching all year levels and all sorts of little characters. Investing authentic care into students' well-being comes naturally and she feels a sense of peace when growth in confidence and happiness is experienced within each of her students.

**Teresa Verster****Italian Teacher – Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday****txver0@eq.edu.au**

Theresa is very excited to be teaching Italian in 2024. She has a great passion for teaching and strives to engage a love of learning in all her students. Theresa is passionate about collaborative learning and building strong relationships with the children and parents. She values working together to develop confident and independent learners. Theresa is enthusiastic to start 2024.

Alicia Victor

Italian Teacher – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

[airwi40@eq.edu.au](mailto:airwi40@eq.edu.au)



Alicia is very excited to be returning to Mango Hill State School for her second year as Italian Teacher. Alicia is passionate about building strong relationships with all of her students and creating a classroom that is welcoming and inclusive. Alicia is eager to share her passion and knowledge of the Italian language and culture and is looking forward to a fun and exciting year ahead.

Shona McEvoy

Italian Teacher – Prep to Year 2

[smcev13@eq.edu.au](mailto:smcev13@eq.edu.au)



Shona McEvoy has been a part of the Mango Hill School Community since 2017. She has taught a range of roles, including classroom, PE and LOTE in schools over Queensland for the past 20 years. She particularly loves working with children in the early years and supporting them in their learning journey. She is excited to work together with students and their families to help each child grow and achieve their goals in 2024.

Nick Hills

PE Teacher

[nhill96@eq.edu.au](mailto:nhill96@eq.edu.au)



Nick will be teaching PE at MHSS for his 11th year in 2024. Nick has a love of sports and teaching physical education and tries to convey to students the importance of sport in both their physical and social development. Nick has a total of 13 years teaching experience in physical education, previously teaching at the indigenous school of Woorabinda in Central QLD for 3 years before calling Mango Hill home. Nick is excited to continue coordinating the opportunities for students at MHSS which include PE lessons, Cross Country, Athletics Carnival, Swimming Carnival, AFLQ Schools Cup and Interschool Sport Days as well as many other interschool sports competitions.

Tyson Newell

PE Teacher

[tnewe20@eq.edu.au](mailto:tnewe20@eq.edu.au)



Tyson is excited to be returning to teach PE for his sixth year at Mango Hill SS. He is a sports fanatic who loves teaching, watching, playing and talking about all sports. Tyson completed his Bachelor of Education at Griffith University and specialised in Health and Physical Education. Throughout his thirteen years of teaching PE, Tyson has taught across both primary and secondary year levels, however it is the primary aged students that he loves teaching. Tyson is an extremely passionate Physical Education teacher that has a strong focus on building a positive rapport with students.

Michelle Hodges

PE Teacher

[mlhod0@eq.edu.au](mailto:mlhod0@eq.edu.au)



Michelle is very excited to be joining the PE team again along with Mr Nick Hills, Mr Tyson Newell and Mr Callum Lisha. She is passionate about all sports and loves getting students involved in physical activity. Since completing her Bachelor's Degree in Education (Physical Education), she has taught in a few different places including Rockhampton, Sarina and London before moving to Brisbane. While Michelle has enjoyed teaching many different year levels in the classroom, she absolutely loves teaching PE.

Callum Lisha

PE Teacher

[clish2@eq.edu.au](mailto:clish2@eq.edu.au)



Callum has been teaching for 12 years in primary school and is in his third year of teaching physical education. He completed eight years of rural service in Mount Isa and is passionate about building positive working relationships with both students and parents. Throughout his teaching career, he has taken on a variety of roles which include STEM teacher, coaching, classroom teaching, mentoring, and running a range of lunch time clubs. He is enthusiastic about technology and its potential to enhance learning experiences.

**Glenda Kostoglou****Dance & Drama Teacher****gkost1@eq.edu.au**

Glenda is thrilled to be teaching dance to many students at Mango Hill State School. She began teaching in 1994 and over the years, she has been a class teacher and a performing arts specialist. She has directed many award winning teams for events such as the Magical Minerals Rock Eisteddfod, JRock, Wakakirri and dance eisteddfods. In 2018, the Mango Hill S.S Wakakirri team won nationally out of 240 schools! Glenda also loves being able to give extra opportunities to every student by providing lunchtime dance clubs, teams and concert performances. She believes that performing arts helps all students to develop physically, emotionally, socially and cognitively. She hopes that all the students have fun in her programs and they create wonderful memories that last forever.

**Janet Almond****Music Teacher****jmalmo@eq.edu.au**

Janet is excited to continue being part of the Mango Hill team in 2024 teaching Music. She has over 20 years teaching experience in a variety of roles including 8 years in London, 4 years in Melbourne and 3 years as the music teacher for Dayboro State School. Janet has completed her 4th year at Mango Hill SS and is looking forward to 2024. Janet's passion is making music fun and enjoyable for her students and choirs by encouraging active participation and providing a positive environment for every student to flourish.

**Claire Morrell****Music & Performing Arts Teacher – Monday to Thursday****clmor0@eq.edu.au**

Claire has been in her role as a Music and Performing Arts Teacher at Mango Hill State School since 2019. Alongside this she has also been a Class Teacher and is excited to be continuing these roles in 2024. She completed her Bachelor of Arts and two teaching qualifications in the UK and has taught for 20 years in a number of schools. She gained wider experience as a Manager of School Coding Camps and as an Education Consultant. She has a breadth of experience across the age range and enjoys spending each day making a difference to our young people.

**Emma Nicolopoulos****Instrumental Music Teacher****gjbar3@eq.edu.au**

Emma is thrilled to be returning to Mango Hill SS in 2024. She holds a Bachelor of Music (majoring in classical piano) and Bachelor of Education from the Conservatorium of Music/Griffith University. Emma is passionate about music education in state schools and has been teaching for over 20 years. This will be her third year at Mango Hill SS. She is delighted to be working alongside Alena and Erin and is looking forward to teaching the Mango musicians of the future.

**Alena Bogdan****Instrumental Music Teacher****axbog1@eq.edu.au**

Alena Bogdan has studied and performed extensively in her home country Belarus and also throughout the Europe. She began playing violin at the age of seven and learning piano at nine. While still studying at the Belarusian State University, she began working with the superb Belarusian State Dance Company "Khoroshki" as the principal violinist, touring throughout Europe, Scandinavia and Russia. In 2000 Alena became a recipient of a major scholarship at the Wesley Institute for Ministry and the Arts in Sydney, where she studied under prominent American violinist and teacher Dr David Johnston. Since then she has had a variety of educational experiences including conducting, coordinating and teaching strings at Fort Street High School in Sydney, Grace Lutheran College in Rothwell and various schools on the Sunshine Coast. Alena has a wide range of orchestral experience including the Sydney Sinfonietta, Wesley International Chamber Orchestra, East-West Philharmonic Orchestra and ICEJ International Orchestra in Jerusalem. When not at work she enjoys gardening, reading and traveling. She likes to spend her spare time with her husband and two children. Her daughter is playing violin and alto saxophone and her son is learning piano and clarinet.