



# WOODHILL WHISPERS

## Upcoming Events

**Athletics Carnival**  
Thurs 9th and Fri 10th  
June

**1,2,3 Magic and  
emotion coaching  
parent course**  
7th, 14th and 21st June

**Pyjama Day**  
Friday 24th June

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



### **ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

Due to the predicted wet weather, we have postponed our athletics events until next week. Thursday will be year 3's – 6's completing high jump, long jump, discus and shot put and Friday will involve the whole school with relays, ball games and tug-o-war.

### **WORLD OF MATHS**

Students from year one to six participated in World of Maths last week. There were mathematical problem solving stations which included puzzles, games and hands on activities. The students rotated around the stations in groups of four and were challenged in many areas of the curriculum. All attendees enjoyed the experience. Photos are attached to the end of this newsletter of some of the students enjoying the activities.

### **UNDER 8'S**

Under 8s Day was again a huge success this year with our local Kindy joining us for the morning of fun. Thank you to all our parents and carers who came along and helped take not only their own children but others from their child's class around the wide selection of fun activities. Our students enjoyed a wonderful morning of face painting, indigenous art, bluescreen photos, dancing with the clown, playdough creations, playing with the parachute and painting.

## **PYJAMA DAY**

Students are invited to wear their pyjamas to school on the last day of term, Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June, for the cost of a gold coin donation. All proceeds will go to the Pyjama Foundation who support Kids in Care

## **MICROSOFT OFFICE**

Did you know your child can get Microsoft Office 2016 free of charge, just for being a student at Woodhill State School? All you need is your child's school email address to sign in.

To help prepare your child for success this academic year, the Department of Education and Training has teamed up with Microsoft to provide free Office 2016 to every Queensland state school student. With Office 2016, your child will have access to the latest version of Word for writing, Excel for spreadsheets, PowerPoint for presentations, OneNote for organisation and notetaking, and much more. You can install a complete version of the latest Microsoft Office on up to five compatible PCs and Macs, five tablets and five smartphones. Your Office subscription lasts for as long as your child is a state school student.

Ask your child to follow these simple steps to get Office:

For PC and Mac, visit [portal.office.com](http://portal.office.com), login using your school email address, click through to install and follow the onscreen process.

For tablets and smartphones, download from your app store and sign in with your school email address.

Visit [www.education.qld.gov.au/office2016](http://www.education.qld.gov.au/office2016) for instructions on how to download and install Office 2016 to your personal home computers

## **ATTENDANCE.**

With sickness and an abnormal amount of families taking time off to travel overseas, our attendance rate has slipped below 92% which is disappointing. Under the law you must make sure your child is enrolled and attends school on all school days unless there is a reasonable excuse. Schools must monitor attendance of students and follow up with parents and caregivers any unexplained absences. Across Australia, a considerable number of students are having their opportunities to perform to their

potential adversely affected by parent-condoned absences.

Once it was the case that students only missed school when they were genuinely ill, but now that seems to have changed. Students are being allowed to stay away for an ever-increasing number of excuses, including:

- A day off for their birthday
- A day because relatives are visiting
- A day off to be with parents at home
- A day off to go shopping

Every day a student is away, they are losing a learning experience. Over time, their knowledge base will be full of holes like Swiss cheese.

A sobering fact is that in Australia today, the average student will lose one year of education (200 days) through parent-condoned absences over their school career from Prep to Year 12. After love and care, the most important thing that we as parents can give our kids is an education.

## **SCHOOL REPORTS**

Semester one reports will be completed and distributed by the end of this term. Please ensure we have your correct email address as school reports will be disseminated electronically. Please be advised that grades given relate to the percentages in the table.

<b>RESULT</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
A	95-100%
B	87-94%
C	75-86%
D	50-75%
E	Under 50%

## **UNIFORM**

With the cooler weather upon us it is timely to remind parents and carers as to what is considered acceptable to wear to school as part of the winter uniform.

**Plain black or bottle green jumpers – this means the jumper should have no advertising, patterns or designs or stripes on it.**

**Plain black tracksuit pants – no advertising or patterns or stripes.**

Of course there are school jumpers/ jackets and tracksuit pants available for purchase from the uniform shop as well as a limited supply of

secondhand items. Microfibre tracksuit pants are only \$10 but are only available in limited sizes.

### **FACILITIES**

Mr Marios is replanting gardens to ensure the safety of our students.

He is also repainting the railing around the wheelchair access path and removing any welding tags that could cause an injury.

In the interests of safety he has also removed from temptation the ability to cut down the hill between the Resource centre and the under covered area.

### **READING WORKSHOP**

Mrs Lovegrove will be facilitating a workshop to support our parent volunteers who assist with reading. You will develop strategies that will not only help you assist children in the classroom but will also be of benefit when reading with your own child at home. Please complete the attached form if you are interested in participating in this worthwhile workshop, alternatively you can register your interest by contacting the office.

### **QPARENTS**

QParents website allows parents of Queensland state school students to access information about their child and communicate directly with the school. You will have access to your child's reports, their absence details, any outstanding invoices you may have and positive behaviour records. Registration details have been emailed to our families already. If you have not received this email please contact the office to update your email details and your access codes will be emailed to you. Qparents also enables you to advise the school of upcoming absences and to provide 'explanations' for any unexplained absences. Further information can be found at <https://www.qld.gov.au/education/schools/information/pages/qparents.html>.

### **CHILDREN ARRIVING BEFORE 8:15**

Duty commences at 8:15 a.m. If you are unable to provide adequate supervision for your child till this time each day, please contact P.C.Y.C.

They run an excellent before and after school care program.

### **BILLY CART DERBY**

Our annual Billy Cart Derby will be held on Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup> July. This is a fantastic day where the community comes together for a fun day of rides, stalls, food and of course billy cart races. To add to the atmosphere we are looking for a band or DJ to donate their time and talent to the day. If you can be of assistance, please contact the office.

### **MAGIC 1,2,3 AND EMOTION COACHING AND PARENT COURSE**

Mrs Maggie Butler, our Guidance Officer, will be facilitating a parenting course commencing on the 7<sup>th</sup> June (refer to the attached flyer) This course includes topics such as

- How to discipline without arguing, yelling or smacking
- How to sort behaviour
- How to handle challenging and testing behaviours
- Choosing your strategy, the three choices
- Using emotion coaching to encourage good behaviour
- 7 tactics for encouraging good behavior

If you wish to participate, please register your interest by filling in the attached registration form. Forms are also available in the office.

### **TUCKSHOP**

Tuckshop has commenced. Orders need to be received at the office on Wednesday morning on a brown paper bag for processing and Tuckshop is open on Thursday. The menu has been sent home and is also available on the website. Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who make this happen each week. <https://woodhillss.eq.edu.au/Supportandresources/Formsanddocuments/Documents/Tuckshop%20Menus/Tuckshop%20Term%202%202016.pdf>

### **STUDENT COUNCIL**

Student Council is still selling lemonade ice blocks at Tuesday lunchtime for \$1 each as part of their fundraising for the year. Due to the time constraints during lunchtime, students are only allowed to purchase one ice block for themselves and are not permitted to purchase ice blocks for their friends.

## **MAKING AN APPOINTMENT TO SEE YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER.**

We, as parents are always anxious about our children. If you have some concerns please see your child's teacher outside school hours. Please don't set your child's and their class up for failure by "chatting" to a teacher as they are attempting to take the students to the classroom. Teachers, by their nature are a polite bunch and feel obligated to respond to you when you say-"just a quick one". However whilst you have the teacher's attention the class is not being adequately supervised, often leading to small niggly behaviour with the potential to turn into a major incident-something that could be avoided if correct protocol and procedures are followed.

## **WOODHILL COMPLAINTS PROCESS**

If you have an issue or query regarding your child, please make an appointment to see your child's teacher. Teachers are obviously very busy with their students in the morning so please don't monopolise their time when they are trying to get organised for the day. They are more than happy to see you at a scheduled time and to arrange an appointment please contact the office. If you are not satisfied with the outcome of that meeting, then an appointment can be made with the principal.

If you have discussed your complaint with the principal and still feel that you have not reached a resolution, you have the right to contact your local Department of Education and Training office. More information can be found on our website: [support](#) and [resources/documents/making a complaint](#).

## **HOMEWORK**

We are a homework school. As well as homework going home with your child you can also find it on the webpage. This alleviates the problem of homework going missing.

## **STOP, DROP AND GO/PARKING**

If you will be using Stop, Drop and Go, please let the school know if you need a new name sign for your car.

The guidelines for using stop drop and go can be found on the school website [www.woodhillss.eq.edu.au](http://www.woodhillss.eq.edu.au)

A reminder that the school carpark is still part of the school, and as such, is a NO SMOKING area.



## **SCHOOL WEBSITE**

Woodhill School has a website full of great information. If you go to [www.woodhillss.eq.edu.au](http://www.woodhillss.eq.edu.au) you will find your child's homework, upcoming events, current and previous newsletters, school policies and a variety of other helpful information. The P and C also operate a Woodhill School facebook page which is well used and also a great source of information.

## **QSCHOOLS APP**

A new app has become available that allows parents to receive notifications from the school as soon as they have been uploaded to the school website. Search for the app 'Qschools' and download to your mobile device. **To receive automatic updates you will need to ensure that Qschools push notifications are enabled on your device.** Search for Woodhill State School and select it as a favourite.

## **NEWSLETTERS**

Our newsletter is produced fortnightly and will be available on the school website. Newsletters will also be emailed to families this year so please ensure your email details are up to date. If you don't have access to a computer, you can request that a paper copy be provided.



## **LATE ARRIVALS/EARLY DEPARTURES**

School schedule

8.40am	First bell to line up
8.45am	Bell to go to class
10.45am	Eating break starts
10.55am	Eating finishes and play break starts
11.15am	Play break ends
1:15pm	Eating break starts
1.30pm	Eating break ends, play break starts
2.00pm	Play break ends.
3.00pm	School finishes

Students are expected to be at school before the first bell and remain at school until 3pm. Please try and schedule appointments outside of these hours. If this is not possible, please send a note to your child's teacher advising what time the student will need to be collected. If you are late for school or need to leave early you must come to the office to sign your child in/out and receive an arrival slip or a departure note. Please contact the school **BEFORE 2PM** if you need to change your child's transport arrangements in the afternoon.

### **ABSENCES**

If your child is away from school please contact the office or send a note in to your child's teacher. If we don't have an explanation for the absence it will be logged as an unexplained absence. Once a month a report is generated detailing all unexplained absences and a letter will come home asking for an explanation for the absence. This is Education Queensland policy.

### **PAYMENT DAYS FOR INCURSIONS/EXCURSIONS**

You can pay for your child's excursions and incursions online or at the office on **Thursdays** and **Fridays**. As these are the only days that we can get to the bank any moneys sent on other days will be sent home. The school bank account details are

**WOODHILL STATE SCHOOL BSB 064 400 ACC 00090138.** This account can be used for incursion and excursion payments. To pay for uniforms and any other P and C related costs including fundraising please use the P and C account BSB 064 400 ACC 00900276.

### **SCHOOL BANKING**

School banking is run through the Commonwealth bank and an account for your child can be set up on line through the Commonwealth website. Banking is collected every Thursday and we would like to thank Saskia for continuing to give up her time to coordinate this service.

### **UNIFORM SHOP**

Uniform shop is run by the P and C and is open on Tuesday and Friday mornings. You may place an order at anytime during the week and our

wonderful volunteers will fill the order and send it home on Friday. Thank you to Kylie who volunteers her time to run this facility.

### **LOGAN LIBRARIES**

The Logan Libraries website is an excellent educational place to visit. Not only can you utilize their online tutor program but you can also access online educational sites such as Literacy Planet. All you need is a current Logan Library card and go to [www.loganlibraries.org](http://www.loganlibraries.org).

### **MEDICAL INFORMATION**

Woodhill State School is committed to supporting students' health and wellbeing. We would appreciate parents/carers providing the school with any relevant health information that is required to support the student at school. This information is also collected at enrolment but needs to be updated regularly, or if a new health condition develops.

Information about medically diagnosed conditions such as allergies, asthma, diabetes and epilepsy and other health conditions that may require school staff to provide support to students, including administering medication and performing health procedures, should be provided to the school along with a **Medical Action Plan** from your doctor.

Information should be provided in writing, and any specific health plans (only to be completed and signed by the medical practitioner) should be included. Please contact the school to discuss any specific requirements.

Please inform the school office staff of any changes to contact details or the contact details of the people nominated as emergency contacts. Thank you for your assistance in this regard. All information is kept confidential and only disclosed to the relevant staff required to support your child.

More information regarding medical conditions and administering medication is attached.

### **BEHAVIOUR POLICY**

Woodhill State School participates in the School Wide Positive Behaviour programme which, in simple terms, means that we ensure that our consequences as well as our positive behaviour rewards are consistent throughout the school. Our behaviour consequences grid is available on

the school website  
<https://woodhillss.eq.edu.au/Supportandresources/Formsanddocuments/Documents/Consequences%20Grid.%202015.pdf> This demonstrates to parents and carers, the consequences attached to a particular behaviour.

### FOCUS FORTY

“Focus Forty” is a program which aims to actively and directly teach the skills necessary for children to be accepted into and participate effectively in the variety of group situations they will encounter in school. Each week a new topic is introduced and taught to the students. We will advise you of the Focus Forty focus for the week so you can re-iterate those values at home.

Have a great week



### JUNE BIRTHDAYS

We hope you all had a great day!!!

Kaylah B	Monica B
Tyler C	Frederick C
Tahlia C	Ryan F
Leah F	Stan G
Ella G	Lleyton G
Georgia G	Annalise G
Cooper H	Heath H
Nash H	Samuel L
Lara L	Charlie M
Cooper M	Harlan S
Poppi S	Annameeka T
Keeley U	

### STUDENTS OF THE WEEK - WEEK SIX TERM 2

Year Level	Student
Prep D	Sienna C Brooklyn H
Prep 1/L	Fletcher B Amity B
Year 1/2 D	Izac A Cyndel S
Year 1/2R	Leah D Chase H
Year 2 D	Ethan H Cooper M
Year 3/4 W	Krystal D Kaleb G
Year 5/6 D	Poppy S Oscar C

### STUDENTS OF THE WEEK - WEEK SEVEN TERM 2

Year Level	Student
Prep D	Frederick C Sam L
Prep/1 L	Miah G Shelby G
Year 1/2 D	Benjamin V Cheyenne W
Year 1/2R	Ashton B Cohwen H
Year 2 D	Khyla D Chelsea H
Year 3/4W	Emily J Lara L
Year 5/6K	Jaxin C Eris P

## ORAL HEALTH SERVICES

If your child requires a dental check up, please contact Metro Oral Health Services on 1300 300 850 to make an appointment. This service is free for

- 2-17 year olds who are eligible for the Child Dental Health Benefits
- All children aged 4 to grade 10
- Children whose parent's hold a current Health Care Card, Pension Concession Card or a Centrelink Card

Appointments are also available in the school holidays.



## FOCUS FORTY

Week 8 and 9: Taking turns: Choose a fair way to decide on turns, make sure everyone agrees, once the order is decided, stick to it and wait patiently for your turn.

## WORLD OF MATHS



## MAGGIE BUTLER – GUIDANCE OFFICER

### **Good Manners – the way to a person's heart**

Good manners are about being courteous, polite and respecting others *and yourself*. When you use manners you are considering the feelings of other people, and being the kind of person that others will like and respect. The good thing about manners is they are contagious – what you do encourages others to do the same to you. Here are some simple but useful tips for you to teach and demonstrate to your child (guaranteed to make parenting easier at the same time):

#### Be polite

- say hello (or good morning) and goodbye when you meet someone you know
- say 'please' and 'thank you' as often as possible
- say 'excuse me' if you need to interrupt or pass between people
- Always ask if you want to borrow something, and return it in good order
- Take your turn (or offer others to go first)

- For older children - when answering the phone say hello and who you are, and ask how you can help the person)

#### Be respectful

- Look after yours and others property
- Offer an older person or a pregnant lady or a disabled person your seat if they are standing
- Open a door to others (don't push your way in first)
- Use nice language not bad language
- Always introduce a friend (this is.....) if you know 2 people don't know each other
- Be aware of your noise level - avoid being loud in a public place – it's not fair on others
- Treat others kindly
- Be aware of others' cultural ways (eg. it is highly rude in Japan to blow your noise in public)
- Always be aware of others feelings and respect them.

#### When eating

- Never talk with food in your mouth
- Eat silently and with your mouth closed

*Having good manners not only makes you a pleasant person but will also make others want to be with you.*

Aspects adapted from 'Kids Health Topics' – Children, Youth and Women's Health Service

#### **CHAPPY CHAT –JAMIE SHARPE**

Thought: 'Yesterday is history. Tomorrow is mystery. Today is a gift, that's why it's called the present.'

How can we combat selfish behaviour?

Recently I had an experience with a couple of kids who were devastated when they didn't receive a toy they had asked for. Even though they'd had a nice night out, a lovely dinner and Baskin Robbins for dessert, they still wanted the 'gimmicky' toy that was before their very eyes (whatever it was)?

At this point I decided we needed to change our focus from selfish to sharing! One idea I came across was to designate a certain portion of the child's allowance to a 'giving box'. Once a month we will take this portion of the allowance and go buy some nice gifts for the box (or for someone special, maybe a certain teacher), then at Christmas, or whenever the box is full, go and donate it to a charity of your child's choice. Just watch as the spirit of giving changes your child to a loving, caring, sharing person at home and school.

Together let's raise up a generation of generous carers who freely give, to create a better world!

With Love,

Jamie Sharp,

School Chaplain