



WOODHILL WHISPERS

Upcoming Events

Cross Country 17th
March

Wear Orange for
Harmony Day
Monday 21st March

P and C AGM
Monday 21st March
6:30pm staffroom

Read Aloud/Free
Dress Thursday 24th
March

School banking every
Thursday

Payment days are
Thursday and Friday
only

Last day of term
Thursday 24th March

Term 2 commences
Monday 11th April

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Thank you to all of the parents who are ensuring that their children are at school every day and on time. EVERY DAY COUNTS.

GOALS

By now you should be on your second round of goals-except for Prep students. You are on your first round.

Each student should have either come home or had emailed a letter explaining the English, Math and Reading goal for them for a period of five weeks.

A Beanie Bookmark-explaining Reading strategies has been sent home.

Should you have not received this please let the office know so that the miscommunication can be addressed.

INSTAGRAM

Instagram has raised its ugly head once again. Please be aware that the legal age for this app is 14. Some of the issues occurring around this are very serious, involving both bullying and sexual innuendo. Please check your child's account and ensure that there are no school identifiers-e.g. uniforms on this app. Your child could inadvertently be alerting an online predator to the whereabouts of either themselves or another student at this school

TENNIS

We are fortunate to be able to offer tennis lessons again this year. Lessons will be held at the school commencing on Wednesday 9th March from 3:15 – 4pm. If your child is interested in participating in this program, more information is available at the office.

HARMONY DAY

Woodhill SS will celebrate Harmony Day on Monday 21st March. Harmony day is about inclusiveness and respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. We show our support by wearing anything orange. There is no need to send along a gold coin donation, but please ensure that your child is wearing sunsafe clothing (no singlets) and is wearing enclosed shoes.

READ ALOUD DAY/FREE DRESS

Thursday the 24th March will be a busy last day of term. Preps – Year 2 will be showing off their wonderful creations in the easter bonnet parade which will be followed by “Read Aloud Day” where parents and carers and family members are invited to participate in a morning of reading with our students. Hot cross buns will be available for purchase at a cost of \$1.00 each. Thursday is also Free Dress at the cost of a gold coin donation which will go towards student council fundraising. We hope to see you all there.

PARENT/CARER/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

These will be held during week 8 and week 9. Your child’s teacher will be sending notes out regarding this. This is your opportunity to ask questions pertaining to your child’s academic achievements as well as to seek assistance and guidance as to how you can also assist their achievements at home. This is also the time to inform your child’s teacher of any significant changes which could be affecting your child’s social and emotional well-being.

P AND C AGM

On **Monday 21st February 2016**, the P & C will hold its Annual General Meeting (AGM). At this time, the current Executive Committee will stand down and their roles - President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary - will become open. Due to personal commitments, several of our Executive Officers will not be able to accept nomination. We are therefore seeking new nominations from our school community to form a P & C team so that the wonderful work it does for our school and the students can continue.

We have been very fortunate over many years now to have a strong P & C presence at Woodhill

and it is easy to assume that this will always be. However, without an Executive Committee in place, a P & C is not able to function. The P & C would be placed in '**Caretaker Mode**'. Without an Executive Committee there are *no cheque signatories* and the P & C bank accounts cannot be accessed. There can be *no further fundraising done* and *no decisions can be ratified*. Any P & C activities that have not been approved by a meeting of the Association *prior* to Caretaker Mode cannot be undertaken
Life without the P & C

There would be **NO MORE**

- Book Club
- School Banking
- Easter Raffle
- Mother's Day Stall
- Billy Cart Derby
- Father's Day Stall
- School Disco
- Christmas Community BBQ and Raffle

The cost of Incursions and Excursions, such as Dance Fever and Swimming, will **increase**. They are currently being subsidised by the P & C to reduce costs for our families. Uniforms will also cost more because the school will need to pay someone to manage the ordering process and stock control.

If you are interested in assisting the P and C in any way, please come along to the AGM. You don't have to volunteer yourself for the executive positions, as any and all help offered is most appreciated.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council is 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.

Please realise that your child’s class teacher is your first point of contact if you have an issue.

If you are short of time and not sure who you need to address-simply send an email to admin@woodhillss.eq.edu.au

ATTENDANCE

The Regional target for South East Qld. is 96% attendance-sadly-we are already behind this in some classes. Some of the absences are also unexplained.

Even this early in the term and particularly on a Friday I am noticing some students arriving late to school. This is potentially setting them up to become habitually tardy in later life-something that employers do not tolerate.

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

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 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.

QPARENTS

Early next term invitations will be sent to all families to register for Qparents. Qparents will give you access to your child’s academic and behaviour records, it will allow you to notify the

school of any absences as well as making payments on line. More information regarding this exciting app will come home next week.

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.

TUCKSHOP

At present we don't have a tuckshop convenor so unfortunately tuckshop won't be available to the students. If you are able to take on this position please let the office know.

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.

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.

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/Consequence%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

MARCH BIRTHDAYS



We hope you all had a great day!!!

Paige B	Nate L
Mason C	Nash M
Jack C	Jack M
Seth D	Zoe P
Willow D	Alex R
Chloe D	Tamara R
Sarah E	Molly-Rose S
John E	Ella W
Harmony F	Jacob W
Khyla G	Ethan W
Miah G	
Kaleb G	
Madeleine G	
Peyton H	
Chelsea H	
Tyson K	
Hudson L	

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK - WEEK SIX TERM 1

Year Level	Student
Prep D	Frederick C Charlotte K
Year 1 D	Jack M Indigo M
Year 1/2R	Stan G Madison G
Year 2 D	Chelsea H Rya W
Year 3 D	Monica B Phoenix H
Year 3/4 W	Haydn C Annalise G
Year 4/5 F	Elliana S
Year 5/6D	Bella G Vanessa T
Year 5/6 K	

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK - WEEK SEVEN TERM 1

Year Level	Student
Prep D	Mia G Kate W
Prep/1 L	Lillee L Charlie M
Year 1 D	Benjamin V Cheyenne W
Year 1/2R	Peyton H Stephanie T
Year 2 D	Billy C James W
Year 3 D	Darby R Griffin S
Year 3/4 W	Kaleb G Seth R
Year 5/6D	Baileigh A Lynn L
Year 5/6 K	Ethan D Brooke J

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 9 Walking Inside: Walk slowly, watch where you are walking, be aware of who and what is around you, wait until you get to the person before speaking

CHAPPY CHAT

THOUGHT:

There's always room for improvement..... but how often do we visit this room?

Some kids love to help out, all they're waiting for is an invitation. I notice my kids using brooms, mops, or the occasional tea towel (oops) to help clean the floor. Sure they don't always do the best job, it's not always fast, it's not always the same way I would do it, but it's an attempt.

I worked with a guy a while ago who taught me this phrase: "the next one will be better". This was his nice way of saying "that results pretty poor, but there's still hope for you yet"! Trust me, my 7 year old daughter is not the most amazing car washer, vacuum operator, or floor sweeper but with a little encouragement and guidance, she'll be better tomorrow.

I think we can sometimes get caught doing everything for our kids, because we do it much better, and probably always will. Unfortunately if we never allow kids the chance to learn, we'll have to keep doing it for them. It's hard, standing back watching my daughter make her lunch, but she is capable and she is getting better.

After several years in youth work, I know you're better off forming habits early, as the **older** they get, the **less** keen they are to help out. Encourage your kids to help out today, try to make it fun and find ways to reward their efforts with praise and prizes.

With Love,
Jamie Sharp,
School Chaplain



MRS JANN HIGGINS (Head of Curriculum)

With Read Aloud Day rapidly approaching I thought I would take this opportunity to remind everyone of the many benefits of reading to and with your child.

- In this day and age of hectic lives and busy schedules, reading together is a simple and enjoyable way for parents to take time out and focus on the family. Young children need lots of special, dedicated time with their loved ones.
- Reading children's stories aloud to our kids is just plain FUN!!
- Reading children's stories is a wonderful bonding experience that fosters meaningful **one-on-one** communication with our kids.
- It shows our children in no uncertain terms that **they are important to us**.
- It moulds our kids into becoming readers, and raising a reader significantly increases our child's potential for academic success as well as lifelong success in general.
- It is a vital and integral part of teaching our kids how to read as children learn how to read by being read to.
- It helps our children master language development.
- It builds listening skills, increases a child's attention span, and develops the ability to concentrate at length of which all are learned skills.
- It develops children's ability to express themselves more confidently, easily, and clearly in spoken AND written terms.
- It develops and fosters a child's natural curiosity.
- It develops creativity and a child's ability to use their own imagination!



Read Aloud

Day



On Thursday March 24th we
will be having our
Easter Read Aloud Day!

Please join us for the morning
with your blankets, picnic
baskets and favourite books to
share with the children.

Hot cross buns will be
available for \$1.00 (proceeds to
go to Student Council).

Read Aloud Day will begin
after parade. Parade will
include an Easter Bonnet
Parade for students in years
Prep, One and Two. Please
note that students in years 1
and 2 will need to make their
bonnets at home.

We will finish reading at
approximately 10.30.