PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS

World Teachers’ Day

Last Friday we marked World Teachers’ Day, recognising the hard work and dedication of our teachers who deliver quality education to our students, every day. I was left speechless by the thoughtfulness of our P&C, as our fabulous and generous community came together to provide the most delicious and indulgent morning tea, I have ever seen. Not only did they prepare a beautiful table, cook amazing food, these ladies took the time to serve the teachers in our school. I thank you ladies, for recognising the teachers of Withcott State School on this special day for making such positive impact in the lives of our school children each and every day.

Same Day Notifications

The Queensland Government has accepted a recommendation from the Queensland Family and Child Commission that the Department will implement Same Day notifications advising parents/carers when a child has an unexplained absence from school. This must be fully implemented by the first day of Term 1, 2017. Withcott State School will implement this process as of this week. This will require all teachers to notify the Office by 9:15am, every morning and 2pm each afternoon of any unexplained absences and parents will then be rung straight away. We are asking parents to work collaboratively with the school to ensure this process runs smoothly.

Parents please:
- *ensure your child arrives at school or commences their educational program on time every day
- *ensure your child attends school or their educational program every morning and 2pm each afternoon of any unexplained absences and parents will then be rung straight away
- *provide your current contact details to the school to enable effective notification
- *contact the school prior to any planned absences
- *provide an explanation (preferably in writing) for each absence, either before or on the day of the absence, or as soon as practicable, in accordance with the school’s communication processes. This may take the form of: a medical certificate, a written explanation provided to the school via a note, email or text message containing the student’s name, date of absence(s) and reasons for absence(s), a verbal explanation to the school through either a phone call or visit to the school, any other form of communication agreed by the Principal.
- *ensure your child follows the school’s recommended communication processes and procedures for late arrival and early departure
- *notify the school if your child will be late using the school’s recommended communication processes. This may take the form of: accompanying the child to the school, phoning the school, emailing the school, providing the child with a signed and dated note.

Have you considered a career in teaching?

There are so many great reasons to become a teacher, including a great work-life balance and one of the highest starting salaries for university graduates in Australia. It’s never too late in life to study teaching. Teaching is a four-year undergraduate degree or a one-year post-graduate diploma for students enrolling in 2017.

From 2018, the post-graduate diploma will become a two-year study program.

Teaching is a career where you can inspire others, make a difference and work with Queensland’s future! For more information, visit the Education website (www.teach.qld.gov.au).

Keiryn Clements
Principal

SWIMMING 2016 FOR PREP-Y6

$105.00 per student

Due 3.15pm

THIS Friday 4 November

Our Swimming Program at the Toowoomba Grammar School Aquatic Centre will be held 21 Nov - 2 Dec. Students will travel daily to the Centre by chartered bus.

Swimming notes and invoices have already been distributed. The cost is $105.00 per student.

Payments close 3.15pm Friday 4 November.

If your child will not be participating, please still return the form, indicating the appropriate box.

LANGUAGES - Coming up ……..

こんいちは!

Toowoomba is celebrating 25 years of friendship with its Japanese Sister City, Takatsuki. The Nihon Matsuri (Japan Festival) is being held 12 November, 2016. Experience Japanese Culture and much more! A flyer is attached with this newsletter.

MRS ENGLISH

LOADS OF LOVE APPEAL

Christmas can be an amazing time of year, a time for family, fun and friendship. Sadly, this is not the reality for everyone and Christmas can be a difficult time for many struggling families. The Loads of Love Appeal was created to bring together local residents, business and community organisations with the purpose of collecting and distributing non-perishable food and personal items to households most in need during the Christmas period.

The student council is helping MetroCare Toowoomba and Lifeline Darling Downs to support families in the local region. MetroCare is looking for donations of non-perishable food products to provide support. The student council would love our community to assist. Please help by bringing in a donation of a non-perishable food item (Please ensure the use by or best before date is at least February 2017) or toiletry item and place in the hamper outside the 4/5C classroom. We will be collecting items for a few weeks and every donation is welcomed and appreciated.

Help us Help, The Student Council

ENROLMENT 2017

Preliminary planning has commenced around staffing for 2017. It is imperative that we obtain accurate enrolment information. It would be greatly appreciated if you could let the office know if your children will not be returning to Withcott State School in 2017. Similarly, if you know of someone who wishes to enrol and has not yet done so, please advise them to call to the office for an enrolment package. Due to fluctuations in enrolment, staffing and class placement is not completed until the student free days in 2017.

NEW OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE AT WITHCOTT STATE SCHOOL

Exciting news! Outside School Hours Care starts Mon 23 January, 2017. A Parent Info Session will be held 6pm 30 Nov (Science Rm). A flyer is attached today.

MUSICAL FESTIVAL

NIGHT

&

ART IN THE DARK 2016

TUESDAY 8 NOVEMBER

WITHCOTT STATE SCHOOL

ACNOWLEDGES:

Joanne & Tom Otto

for the generous donation of Japanese Souvenirs and resources to the Japanese Department and students.

Thank you for your generosity, they will be greatly valued!
LAMINATING
Laminating takes place on the first Friday afternoon of each month and will be ready for collection the following day.
Next Laminating Date: Friday, 4 November 2016.
Prices: A4 - $1.50, A3 - $2.50, Posters - $5 a metre. Drop items into the office at any time!!

P&C NEWS
Subway Day We are having a Subway Day on Wednesday 16 November 2016.
Orders are prepared and dropped to the school each Subway Day. We are having a Subway Day on Wednesday 16 November 2016.
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GRANDPARENTS’ DAY ASSEMBLY
To celebrate Grandparents’ Day and to recognise the role that grandparents play in the lives of our students, Withcott State School will host a special morning for our grandparents.

Wednesday 16 November 9:00 - 10:30am
The program will include:
9:00am Assembly in the auditorium
9:30am Classroom visits
10.00am Morning Tea
For catering purposes, please return the RSVP Slip below or phone the school office 4614 9333.

RSVP GRANDPARENTS’ DAY ASSEMBLY
Family name: ___________________________
Number attending: ____________

SILICON SWIM CAPS
with school emblem $10
and SWIM BAGS $8
are now available at the Uniform Shop and the school office.

SUBWAY ORDERS
Please return to the office mailbox by 9am Tuesday 8 November.
NO LATE ORDERS can be accepted.

SWIMMING PAYMENTS DUE THIS FRIDAY 4 NOVEMBER
$105.00 PER STUDENT
*Please return this slip even if your child is not participating*

COMMONWEALTH BANK
SCHOOL BANKING PROGRAM
Remember to drop your bankbook with completed deposit slip in the office mailbox before 9am on Mondays. While we distribute tokens for each deposit made, they are not required for a reward redemption, as the system keeps track, so don’t fret if they are lost. If you have any questions regarding school banking, please email withcotschoolbanking@gmail.com.

SCHOOL CALENDAR OF EVENTS
2016 - TERM 4
2 Nov Prep 2017 Parent Meeting 6.30-7.30pm
3 Nov Year 4 Cycle Safety
8 Nov Music Festival Night & Art in the Dark
9 Nov Volunteers’ Morning Tea
11 Nov Prep 2017 Transition Day 9-11am
11, 18, 25 Nov You Choose Y6 Program
15 Nov P&C Meeting 7pm in the Reflection Room
16 Nov Grandparents’ Day Assembly & Morning Tea
16 Nov Subway Day
18 Nov Prep 2017 Transition Day 9-11am
21 Nov-2 Dec Prep - Year 6 Swimming Program
28 Nov Seniors’ Farewell Dinner
30 Nov Outside School Care Meeting 6pm
8 Dec End of Year Concert
9 Dec Final Day Term 4

2017 - TERM 1
23 Jan School Resumes
26 Jan Australia Day Holiday
31 March Final Day Term 1

2017 - TERM 2
18 April School Resumes

PAYMENTS/PERMISSIONS DUE

4 Nov School Swimming Program $105.00
8 Nov Subway orders
16 Nov Seniors’ Farewell Dinner payments

COMMUNITY NOTICES

SWIMMING PAYMENTS DUE THIS FRIDAY 4 NOVEMBER
$105.00 PER STUDENT

*Please return this slip even if your child is not participating*

SCHOOL SWIMMING PROGRAM 2016 - PARENT CONSENT FORM
☐ My child will be participating ☐ My child will NOT be participating
I give my consent for ___________________________ to participate in the School Swimming Program at TGS Aquatic Centre, Toowoomba 21 November – 2 December 2016 travelling by chartered bus.

Family Name: ___________________________ Student Roll Class/es: _______
Signature: ___________________________ Date: ___________

Payment $ 105.00
☐CASH ☐CHEQUE
☐CREDIT CARD BY BPOINT
(Details sent home previously on invoice)

BPOINT Receipt No: ___________________________