PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS

This morning we dedicated assembly to Mr Steve Jones, Lockyer Valley Regional Council Mayor, who passed away last Friday evening. As we come to terms with his sudden passing, particularly after seeing him at our leadership assembly last Wednesday, I took the opportunity on assembly to share some reflections of our time with Mayor Jones. Mayor Jones was a wonderful advocate for our school and despite his demanding schedule as mayor, Mr Jones always found the time to respond to our invitation and attend special events at Withcott State School. Such events included being a part of our leadership and ANZAC Day assemblies and presenting trophies and awards at our athletics carnivals and concert nights. In 2015, Mr Jones even altered travel plans so that he could attend our concert night. He was responsible for bringing the Governor, His Excellency the Honourable, Mr Paul de Jersey and his wife Kaye to our school last year. Mr Jones would also, on occasion, attend our P&C Meetings to share in issues affecting the school and Withcott community.

Mayor Jones set a positive example of leadership to our students; he was genuine and authentic and he made a connection with people, striving to understand their situation and context. He was always full of praise and enthusiasm for Withcott State School, often commenting on the great work that is done in the school. His final conversation with me at assembly was around how he ‘couldn’t miss it’ and how he ‘really likes to be at this school’. He will be missed by many across the school and wider Withcott and Lockyer Valley community.

Today we have flown the Australian flag at half mast as a sign of respect and undertook a minute silence in honour of Mayor Jones to reflect on the moments we had with him.

Next week we will hold a special assembly to acknowledge the contribution of Withcott State School Groundsman, Mr Carl Nicholls who has now retired. Carl was exceptional in the way he maintained the school grounds delivering award winning gardens. All parents/carers are invited to come along to assembly as we show our appreciation for his work.

Congratulations to all our 2016 student leaders who were presented with their badges at our Leadership Assembly last week. We look forward to seeing them grow and develop in their various leadership roles. It was wonderful to see so many families in attendance and to have Withcott State School Captains from 2011, Cody Breuer and Natalie Webster sharing their thoughts on leadership and memories of their time at Withcott.

We saw great attendance at our Parents’ and Citizens Association Annual General Meeting last week. Congratulations to Ian McLean, Prue Fellowes, Bronwyn Logan, Wayne Thompson and Liz Todd who were elected in their respective positions (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and Communications Officer) and to Leesa Van Zandbergen who has been re-elected to the role of Secretary. Sincere thanks to Ross Warren, Wayne Thompson and Bronwyn Logan for their valuable contribution as President, Treasurer and Assistant-Treasurer respectively over previous years.

We look forward to an exciting year ahead with an enthusiastic P&C Association and appreciate the time spent in supporting our work.

Tania Angus, Principal

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR STUDENT LEADERS FOR 2016

School Captains:
School Sport Captains:
School Music Captains:
Sports House Captains:

Oxley House Captains: Vice-Captains: Cunningham House Captains: Vice-Captains: Gorman House Captains: Vice-Captains:

Environmental Management Team

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING – EXPECTATION OF THE WEEK

The focus expectation for this week is, ‘be resilient’. In class, teachers discuss specific aspects as indicated in the expectation matrix (you’ll see this around the school and in classes) and in particular, focused on ‘accepting consequences’ and ‘reporting issues to staff’, both very important in developing resilience and taking responsibly for self.

LOCKYER ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Congratulations to those students who represented the school at the Lockyer Zone Swimming Carnival last Friday. Everyone swam their very best and the team demonstrated great sportsmanship. The following students will qualify to enter the next level of competition and will represent the Lockyer Zone at the upcoming Regional Carnival:

Congratulations to …… who broke the record for 100m freestyle. Our boys relay team won their event and the girls achieved second place (only by a whisker!). Thanks to the parents who provided transport on the day and for helping with set-up, pack-down and timekeeping. It was a great day!

STAFFING UPDATE

Kylie Judd (Wednesday 1/2H) has been successful in her application for Acting Principal at Murphy’s Creek State School for the remainder of semester one. During that time, Kylie will be unable to continue her teaching role on 1/2H. We are currently seeking a replacement teacher and will advise parents/carers of this class once this has been attained.

STUDENTS WITH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTS ON LOAN

Next Tuesday 1 March, your loaned instrument is to be left at school for the week following your lesson so that a new Asset number can be engraved on it. Thank you for your assistance.
FUNERAL DETAILS FOR MAYOR STEVE JONES

Mayor Steve Jones’ funeral service will be held 10am Friday 26 February at Gatton Sports Centre (near Showgrounds). The family of Mayor Steve Jones have requested that, in lieu of flowers being delivered to Council or the family, residents consider a donation to the Buy a Bale foundation, in support of drought-stricken farmers. This was a cause close to Steve’s heart. To support this cause, students/families are invited to make a donation on Friday to go towards a collection on behalf of the school. A collection point will be set up near the front gate on Friday 26 Feb. For details on Buy a Bale, please visit http://www.buyabale.com.au/.

P&C NEWS

The P&C welcomed its new Executive at the AGM held on 16 February:

President Ross Warren and Treasurer Wayne Thompson for their contribution to the P&C

Thompson

AGM held on 16 February:

P&C Levy – The P&C offers a stress free, time

on the Executive.

and to the school during their years of service

go to the P&C.

President

P&C Meeting – 7pm, Tuesday 15 March in the

Staffroom. Become a member to receive

activities, events, reminders and celebrations.

The Uniform Shop opens each

Wednesday morning 8.15am - 9.30am. A

notepad in the uniform shop

adverts second-hand school uniforms. Second-hand uniforms are also gratefully accepted on a donation basis.

Tuckshop Convenor ph: 0478 782 182

Leissa Whiteman

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop co-ordinator

Sonia DeBortoli

Advanced Level 2 TA Club Professional  accredited

coach.

Withcott Hotel carpark to register. Free sausage sizzle for volunteers after

the clean up provided by Withcott Hotel.

All parents/carers are invited to come along as we show our appreciation for his work.

Wednesday 2 March 2016

Join us with us at a

Special Assembly at 9am
to acknowledge the
contribution of
Withcott State School
Groundsman,

Mr Carl Nicholls.

All parents/carers are invited to come along as we show our appreciation for his work.

ZEN DO KAI Martial Arts flyers being distributed today.