PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS

Last week’s Athletic Carnival was a fabulous way to commence Semester 2. A big thank you to our whole community for working collaboratively to ensure our Athletics Carnival was such a success. I would like to especially acknowledge our students, they are to be commended for their healthy competitive spirit and outstanding sportsmanship and perfect behaviours. As a staff we are incredibly proud of each and every one of you. Well Done!!!

Keiryn Clements
Principal

SCHOOL OPINION SURVEYS

If you have already completed your Parent/Caregiver Survey, thank you and please disregard this notice. If not already completed, the online surveys will remain open until midnight on 29 July 2016. This is a great opportunity to have your say about what this school does well and how this school can improve. If you haven’t received any survey access details yet, please contact the Office on telephone 4614 9333 or email admin@withcottss.eq.edu.au.

NATIONAL COLLECTION OF DATA ON SCHOOL CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Data collection will take place on Friday 5 August. Collecting data on school students with disability helps teachers, principals and education authorities support the participation of students with disability in schooling on the same basis as students without disability. All Australian Governments have agreed to work together on the annual collection of data on school students with disability.

In 2013, 10% of Queensland state schools participated in the first year of implementation. In 2014, two thirds of Queensland schools participated and all schools began collecting data from 2015.

Please be reassured that the Department will not provide to another organisation any data that can identify an individual student. The only data being collected at the school level to be reported nationally is the:

*number of students in the school who are provided with an adjustment to address a disability;
*level of adjustments we provide for those students; and
*broader category of disability.

Consultation with parents is important not only for the data collection but also to ensure you are aware of the adjustments being provided to support your child. We will therefore continue to consult with you. While only data that cannot identify your child will be submitted outside of the Department, if you do not wish for your child’s details to be included, let the Office know by Thursday 4 August 2016.

123rd QUEENSLAND EISTEDDFOD 2016

Our Instrumental Music students in our Senior Concert Band have been rehearsing diligently in preparation for Sunday’s entry into the 123rd Queensland Eisteddfod. We wish our Senior Band all the very best and I know that they will represent the school with pride. Their commitment to their practice and rehearsals is a credit to each and every one of them.

BEHAVIOUR FOCUS FOR THE WEEK

**Be Responsible!** The focus expectation for this week will be *use the toilets appropriately* which is linked to the values of Responsible.

MATHLETICS FREE TRIAL

Our school is currently enjoying a month long free trial of Mathletics. All students from prep to year 6 have been given usernames and passwords and are able to log on as often as they like at home and at school on a variety of gadgets (computers, IPads etc.). The trial ends this week. Students are encouraged to log on as frequently as possible in the time they have left to www.mathletics.com.au

TOOWOOMBA & DISTRICT PRIMARY SCHOOL TEAMS CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Toowoomba & District School Teams Chess Championships will be held on Tuesday 6 September 2016, from 8.30am – 3.10pm in the Millennium Centre at Toowoomba Anglican College and Prep School Toowoomba. If your child is interested in attending and hasn’t brought home a note, copies are available from Mrs Stemmler or the office. Please complete the nomination form and return with a nomination fee of $10. This is a part payment as the school will subsidise the remainder. Parents need to transport students to and from the tournament and are welcome to attend. Students must wear school uniform and may either take lunch or purchase it there.

Roslyn Stemmler, Teacher Librarian

BOOK WEEK CHARACTER DRESS-UP DAY WED 24 AUGUST

The theme for Book Week this year is ‘AUSTRALIA – STORY COUNTRY’. On 24 August staff and students will dress up and pretend for a day that they are somebody else. This year the challenge is to dress as an Australian character. Parents, carers and family are invited to attend parade and join the fun. Stories that connect with prior experience and emotion are at the very heart of every culture world-wide. As people age and memories dim, the ability to recall factual information is frequently lost. Stories are remembered however, because they connect very strongly to emotion. In living life, we create our own unique stories! Stories of power and interest because they are real! What’s your story? Don’t forget to share it with your kids? Your descendants will thank you one day!

Roslyn Stemmler, Teacher Librarian

“STOP FOR A STORY”

As part of its first 5 forever project to stress the crucial role reading to young children plays in the development of language, social skills and knowledge, Lockyer Valley libraries will run a free morning of stories, games, singing and fun for little ones under the age of 5 years, parents and carers in the Withcott State School library on Thursday 1 September from 10.11am. All are very welcome. Please feel free to pass this invitation along to family, neighbours and friends. As we near the end of the year they may like to take the opportunity to check out our beautiful school.
ROLE OF THE SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISOR
The function of a School Crossing Supervisor is to:
* Assist children to safely cross roads
* Monitor and report serious incidents and traffic violations at school crossings (including the surrounding no stopping area)
* Provide advice to pedestrians on safety rules and regulations pertaining to school crossings
* Carry out duties within the parameters of workplace health and safety requirements
* Identify and make recommendations for changes to standard practices

Please support your School Crossing Supervisor by adhering to the road rules.
Road Safety is Everyone’s Responsibility!

ATTENDANCE
Regular and punctual attendance at school is expected and is essential to resilient work habits and to ensure maximum access to the education program. Education Queensland policy and procedures require schools to document student absences and the reasons for such. If a child is to be absent from school, please telephone the 24 hour Absence Line on 4614 9360. If we do not receive a call or a note explaining a child’s absence, administrative assistants may follow up with a phone call to enquire as to the reason for the absence. After arriving at school, children may not leave the grounds during the school day without the permission of the principal. Parents need to sign a register in the office foyer if a child is late or is being picked up early. Parents also need to complete a slip for late arrival/early departure of a child.

BOOK WEEK 2016
AUSTRALIA – STORY COUNTRY

DRESS UP PARADE
(AT ASSEMBLY)
WEDNESDAY 24 AUGUST
This year, dress up as an Australian character.

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, 5 August 2016.
Prices: A4 - $1.50, A3 - $2.50, Posters - $5 a metre. Drop items into the office at any time!!

P&C NEWS
Please contact me with any queries.
Liz Todd – Communications Officer
Withcott State School
P&C: pandccontact@withcottss.eq.edu.au

UNIFORM SHOP
The Uniform Shop opens each Wednesday morning 8.15am - 9.30am. A noticeboard in the uniform shop advertises second-hand school uniforms. Second-hand uniforms are also gratefully accepted on a donation basis.
Sonia DeBortoli
Uniform Shop Co-ordinator 46303495

TUCKSHOP TALK
Please note that all orders must be in by 9.30am Tuesdays, on-line or cash orders accepted.

- Week 1 - 3 August: Deb McFadyen, Jean Kennett, Bec Edmonds.
- Week 2 - 10 August: To be confirmed.
- Sports Day Thank you to all the wonderful helpers from Sports Day.
- Free-sell items of chocolates and chips (left over from sports day) will be available for $1 to $2.50 until sold out.
- Leissa Whiteman 0478782182
- Tuckshop Convenor

COMMONWEALTH BANK
SCHOOL BANKING PROGRAM
There are two new rewards released for Term 3 – jump and skip rope and a backpack eraser pen, so be sure to keep banking to earn these great rewards. There is also a special competition running for Term 3 where you can win one of 50 camping kits, 50 PlayStation packs, 200 magazine packs or 90 instant cameras - you just need to make 3 deposit in Term 3 to be eligible. This will also make the school eligible to win a sporting goods pack. See the flyer coming home with your deposit book, or call in at the office to collect one. Information packs and account application forms are available at the office, or if you have any questions regarding school banking, please email withcottschoolbanking@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY NOTICES
Community Notices are published in good faith, though not necessarily endorsed by the school.

ANZ HOT SHOTS TENNIS
Tba Regional Tennis Centre - USQ Fri 5 Aug 9am-12noon. Hot shot activities, mtea, official re-launch with tennis legend, John Fitzgerald. No cost, RSVP by 29/7 46311588

HELIDON HERITAGE FAIR 2016
Sunday 14 Aug from 8.30am. Find us on Facebook @helidonheritagefair

REGIONAL SKATEBOARDING CHAMPIONSHIPS
10am-1pm Saturday 6 August 2016 Gatton Skatepark, Lake Apex. Prizes include new skateboards, decks, wheels, bearings, etc. Pre-register to maximise event time - http://tinyurl.com/grsmcn or search online.
All competitors must be signed in by a legally responsible adult.

DOG GROOMING - WITHCOTT
Clipping, bathing, winter tidy ups, nails and groom outs to remove unwanted coat. Ph: Natalie 0447 316 536.

LAIDLEY SPRING FESTIVAL
8-10 September. Theme “We are Australian”.

SCHOOL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2016 - TERM 3
29 July School Opinion Survey closes
8 Aug Exhibition Holiday
9 Aug Philip Green Aboriginal Survival Technology
12 Aug Upper Lockyer Athletics Carnival
19 Aug Lockyer Zone Athletics Carnival
23-25 Aug Instrum. Music Camp - Selected Students
24 Aug Book Week Character Dress-up
1 Sep Stop for a Story - Library (under 5’s)
1-2 Sep Year 6 Enu Gully Camp
5 Sep Year 1/2S, 2/3P Amarooc Excursion
6 Sep School Teams Chess Championships
6 Sep Regional Athletics Carnival
15 Sep TYME Festival
16 Sep Lockyer Zone Soccer Netball Carnival
16 Sep Final Day Term 3

2016 - TERM 4
4 Oct School Resumes
9 Dec Final Day Term 4

PAYMENTS/ PERMISSIONS DUE
1 Aug Upper Lockyer Athletics Carnival 10.00
19 Aug Y6 Enu Gully $171.00
22 Aug School Teams Chess Championships $10.00

BOOK WEEK 2016
AUSTRALIA – STORY COUNTRY

COMMONWEALTH BANK
SCHOOL BANKING PROGRAM
There are two new rewards released for Term 3 – jump and skip rope and a backpack eraser pen, so be sure to keep banking to earn these great rewards. There is also a special competition running for Term 3 where you can win one of 50 camping kits, 50 PlayStation packs, 200 magazine packs or 90 instant cameras - you just need to make 3 deposit in Term 3 to be eligible. This will also make the school eligible to win a sporting goods pack. See the flyer coming home with your deposit book, or call in at the office to collect one. Information packs and account application forms are available at the office, or if you have any questions regarding school banking, please email withcottschoolbanking@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY NOTICES
Community Notices are published in good faith, though not necessarily endorsed by the school.

ANZ HOT SHOTS TENNIS
Tba Regional Tennis Centre - USQ Fri 5 Aug 9am-12noon. Hot shot activities, mtea, official re-launch with tennis legend, John Fitzgerald. No cost, RSVP by 29/7 46311588

HELIDON HERITAGE FAIR 2016
Sunday 14 Aug from 8.30am. Find us on Facebook @helidonheritagefair

REGIONAL SKATEBOARDING CHAMPIONSHIPS
10am-1pm Saturday 6 August 2016 Gatton Skatepark, Lake Apex. Prizes include new skateboards, decks, wheels, bearings, etc. Pre-register to maximise event time - http://tinyurl.com/grsmcn or search online.
All competitors must be signed in by a legally responsible adult.

DOG GROOMING - WITHCOTT
Clipping, bathing, winter tidy ups, nails and groom outs to remove unwanted coat. Ph: Natalie 0447 316 536.

LAIDLEY SPRING FESTIVAL
8-10 September. Theme “We are Australian”.

2016 TENNIS COACHING
WITHCOTT STATE SCHOOL
ROBERT WILLIAMS
TCA ADVANCED (LEVEL 2) TA CLUB PROFESSIONAL COACH
Monday (Prep only) 12.30pm-1.00pm
Monday (higher grades) 1.10pm - 1.40pm
Wednesday (lower grades) 1.10pm - 1.40pm
6-8 pupils - $65.00 per term (family discount) min 8 wk term
Term 3 commences Monday 18 July 2016
For further information and enrolment
Phone Robert Mobile 0413 488 303 / home 4635 5655
e-mail rwtc@bigpond.com

It’s essential to be taught from the start with updated techniques and analysed stroke correction from an experienced, registered TCA Advanced Level 2 TA Club Professional accredited & updated coach.

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

P&C NEWS
Please contact me with any queries.
Liz Todd – Communications Officer
Withcott State School
P&C: pandccontact@withcottss.eq.edu.au

UNIFORM SHOP
The Uniform Shop opens each Wednesday morning 8.15am - 9.30am. A noticeboard in the uniform shop advertises second-hand school uniforms. Second-hand uniforms are also gratefully accepted on a donation basis.
Sonia DeBortoli
Uniform Shop Co-ordinator 46303495