Welcome to our newsletter for Weeks 7 and 8. We have had a calendar filled with many extra-curricula events and the remainder of this term is finishing on the same note. I had the honour of attending Upper Lockyer and Lockyer Zone athletic carnivals for the past two Fridays. I am incredibly proud of our student’s sportsmanship and commitment to their events. We had thirty-five students compete in last Friday’s Lockyer Zone carnival. The final outcomes saw several of our students achieve personal successes along with Withcott and Upper Lockyer taking out the majority of trophies. Well done to our representatives, we are very proud of you all.

High quality Administrative and Support Staff play a valuable role in the successful operation of our school. This week is School Support Staff Recognition Week. Without School Support staff our students would not have the access to our quality education. Queensland’s public schools would not open, there would be no enrolments, no excursions, no play areas or ovals freshly mowed and safe, things would stay broken, facilities would not be as clean, and literally no lights on if the bills weren’t paid! In many ways, our School Support Staff are the unsung heroes of our school system and I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate the important contributions that Gail Dinsey, Helen Tennant and Des Askim make every day. Gail and Helen’s quality work behind the scenes ensures that our teachers, students and I have a strong foundation that is essential to be successful. Des tirelessly and selflessly commits his time and energy to maintaining our grounds and facilities. Their roles at Withcott are instrumental to the smooth running of our school and I thank them for their ongoing support and commitment.

Week 7 and 8’s Behaviour values focus on: Be Responsible and Be Respectful. This week students are looking at the setting of the whole school regarding the expectations of: learning to follow procedures for equipment at school; for students to use, bring and care for appropriate items and to take care of property. Next week the setting of the whole school regarding the expectations of: learning to follow assembly procedures to create a positive, efficient environment.

Due to Regional expectations I have been out of the school for two days, last week attending the Principal’s Business Meeting and Data Literacy Roadshow at Highfields. These days are strategically run to provide a Regional approach to current educational practices, expectations and requirements, whilst building capability. This week I have attended Lyn Sharratt’s Professional Development for two days with the core focus on putting faces on data.

Keiry Clements
Principal

**BEANIE FOR BRAIN CANCER - THIS FRIDAY 26 AUGUST**

**JOIN US TO RAISE AWARENESS AND RAISE FUNDS FOR BRAIN CANCER……….. AND WE’LL RAISE OUR HATS TO YOU.**

This term the student council will be raising awareness for brain cancer. We would like to raise funds to promote research, heighten awareness and support brain cancer patients and their families within the community. Brain cancer is a serious disease that affects many children and adults in Australia. On Friday 26 August (Week 7), wear a beanie for brain cancer and bring a gold coin to donate to this worthy cause. More information about this cause can be found at http://www.markhughesfoundation.com.au. Thanks for all your support. It’s a no brainer!!

**STUDENT COUNCIL**

**FATHER’S DAY STALL**

The P&C will be running the annual Father’s Day stall on Tuesday 30 August. Please remember to send money with your child/ren to school on Tuesday so they can purchase a great gift for Dad. Prices vary from $1 to $5 and include coffee mugs, lamps, puzzles, tools plus heaps more. Get Dad a gift that he’ll love!

To make this a success we need some helpers, even if it is just half an hour. If you can spare some time please contact Leesa Van Zandbergen on: 0438 176 431.

**UPPER LOCKYER ATHLETICS 2016**

On Friday 12 August Withcott enjoyed a very successful day and won both the Overall Points trophy and the Average trophy for the day.

Age Champion results from Withcott students:

New Record results from Withcott students:

Congratulations Team!

**LOCKYER ZONE ATHLETICS 2016**

Thirty-five of our students represented the Upper Lockyer at the Lockyer Zone Carnival last Friday 19 August. The Upper Lockyer team won the Overall, Track and Field trophies.

Age Champion results from Withcott students:

Eleven students will now represent the Lockyer Zone at the Darling Downs Regional Athletics on Tuesday 6 September. Good luck!

PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS

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Keiry Clements
Principal

**WITHCOTT STATE SCHOOL ACKNOWLEDGES:**

All our wonderful helpers from the Upper Lockyer Athletics Carnival and the Lockyer Zone Athletics Carnival.

Your assistance and support is greatly valued.

**PREP 2017**

Enrolments are now invited for Prep 2017. If applicable, families are welcome to come to our office to pick up an enrolment package. If you know of anyone in the community who is planning on enrolling a child in Prep next year, please encourage them to make contact with us.
CHARACTER DRESS - UP DAY
Parade was a sea of colour on our first rainy book week dress-up day. A huge thanks to all the fabulous parents/carers, grandparents, aunties, uncles and neighbours who helped the kids come up with costumes, and thanks also to our wonderful school staff who annually let down their hair. It’s absolutely phenomenal what can be achieved with a few old clothes and a bit of paint and cardboard. It then requires a smidge of bravery to run the risk of appearing silly but the fun is always worth the leap. A costume offers a brief holiday in someone else’s shoes, even if that someone is a mermaid, highway rat or a sheep. When the kids are old and grey and telling their grandkids about what they did when they went to school, those outfits will be one of the things they remember best.

This year’s theme of Australia – Story Country allowed students to connect with real and fictional Australian characters. There were numerous swagmen, which hopefully do not truly reflect the true state of our economy and oodles of bushrangers including Mr G who REALLY acted the part. We had Bindi Irwin, a fictional Australian characters. There were one of the things they remember best. when they went to school, those outfits will be many others doing the same.

and telling their grandkids about what they did even if that someone is a mermaid, highway office by 3pm Wednesday 31 August.

We have a 19” 4 stroke push mower for available to inspect here at the school.

PAYMENTS/PERMISSIONS DUE
Watch this space!

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

GATTON SWIMMING CLUB is commencing its 2016-17 season. All swimmers who can swim at least 12.5m in one or more strokes are welcome. Sign on night: 2 Sep 5.45-7pm. Info: www.gattonswimmingclub.net or email: gattonsc@bigpond.net.au

PLAY NRL - SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMPS - SEP 2016
Camps for:
- 10-12yr old boys
- 12-15yr old boys and 10-16yr old girls. Register online today: www.playnrl.com

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

WISHING TO ENROL YOUR CHILD AT CENTENARY HEIGHTS IN YEAR 7 FOR 2017?
You can first determine whether you are within the catchment area at (http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/maps/edmap/) and then follow the steps below.

Step 1: Expression of Interest for Enrolment form to be collected and submitted in person from the Administration office. These are being accepted from Monday, August 8 2016. Upon receipt of email notification, and if indicated in this email, you may proceed to Step 2: Enrolment Application Form - also to be collected in person from the Administration office. After completion of the enrolment form and all supporting documents you will receive confirmation of enrolment early in Term 4 as a part of the enrolment pack that will be posted to you. Please don’t hesitate to contact our Administration staff on 46367500 for further details or refer to our school website.

Tim O’Connell
Head of Department Junior Secondary & Languages

BOOK WEEK CALENDAR OF EVENTS
2016 - TERM 3
26 Aug Beanie for Brain Cancer - bring gold coin
30 Aug Father’s Day Stall - gifts range $1-$5
1 Sep Stop for a Story - Library (under 5’s)
1-2 Sep Year 6 Emu Gully Camp
5 Sep Year 1/2S, 2/3P Amarooc Excursion
6 Sep School Teams Chess Championships
6 Sep Regional Athletics Carnival
7 Sep Treat Day “Celebrate Spring”
15 Sep TYME Festival
16 Sep Lockyer Zone Soccer Netball Carnival
16 Sep Final Day Term 3

2016 - TERM 4
4 Oct School Resumes
21 Nov-2 Dec Prep - Year 6 Swimming Program
9 Dec Final Day Term 4

TENDER - PUSH MOWER
We have a 19” 4 stroke push mower for tender. It is fourteen years old and is being tendered in “as is condition”. The mower is available to inspect here at the school. Tenders should be put in writing and left at the school office by 3pm Wednesday 31 August.

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, 2 September 2016.

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

P&C NEWS
Father’s Day Stall - The P&C will be running the annual Father’s Day stall on Tuesday 30 August. See page 1 of newsletter for more details.

Liz Todd – Communications Officer Broughton State School P&C e: pandcontact@withcottss.eq.edu.au

UNIFORM SHOP
The Uniform Shop opens each Wednesday morning 8.15am - 9.30am. A newsletter in the uniform shop advertises second-hand school uniforms. Second-hand uniforms are also gently 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 5 - 31 August: Helpers needed.
Week 1 - 7 September ‘Treat Day - Celebrate Spring’: Helpers needed.
Menus out later this week.

Leissa Whiteman 0478782182 Tuckshop Convener

COMMONWEALTH BANK SCHOOL BANKING PROGRAM
Remember to drop your bankbook with completed deposit slip in the office before 3pm on Mondays. If a public holiday or student free day falls on a Monday, banking day will be on the Tuesday for that week. 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 withcottschoolbanking@gmail.com.

LOST PROPERTY
All lost property is stored in the undercover area (near bubblers in tuckshop area). Families are reminded that any unmarked lost property not collected by the end of each term is donated to local charities.

SCHOOL WATCH
PH: 131788
The motto of the School Watch Program is ‘Look, Listen, Report’. It is designed to make sure that suspicious activities are reported and that members of the community are not placed at risk of harm or injury by intercepting an incident in progress. If you wish to report any suspicious activity or behaviour, please phone.

MUSIC NOTES
TYME - Members of the Senior Choir and Concert Bands will shortly receive the information/permission letter for the annual TYME festival to be held at USQ on Thursday, September 15. This will contain all the information related to Performance times and places and I would ask you to keep an eye out for it and retain for your benefit. It is a wonderful day of celebrating everything wonderfully music that the Downs has to offer, and gives our children not only the opportunity to perform in another setting in front of their peers, but also they get to see and hear so many others doing the same.

Class Update: Our study of ‘Let’s sing around the world’ is progressing well and we’re on track to keep to our itinerary dates and deadlines. So far, we’ve visited Greece, France, South Africa and China – with three more countries to go.

How is your Year 2/3 – 6 child going with their Workbook? Are they keeping up to date with it? These will be collected in the last week of term, for assessing.

Mr Brett Gredig Classroom Specialist & Choir Conductor

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Step 3: Return completed Enrolment Application Form together with all required ORIGINAL documents in person to the Administration office. Upon verification of the enrolment form and all supporting documents you will receive confirmation of enrolment early in Term 4 as a part of the enrolment pack that will be posted to you. Please don’t hesitate to contact our Administration staff on 46367500 for further details or refer to our school website.

Tim O’Connell
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Lauren Wh...