



Withcott State School 4614 9333
Student Absentee Line 4614 9360
Student Absentee Text 0427259562
Website: www.withcottss.eq.edu.au
Email: admin@withcottss.eq.edu.au



No. 10 18 June 2025

"Withcott Warbler"



PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

Evacuation Drill – Friday 20th June

As part of our commitment to student safety, we conduct either a lockdown or evacuation drill each term. To ensure preparedness, each drill varies in scenario, day, and time.

This term's evacuation drill will take place on Friday 20th June at 2:45 pm. For students and staff, this will be part of a normal school day.

Important Note for Parents on Campus: If you are on the school grounds during the drill, you will be expected to evacuate with the students and staff to the oval. Alternatively, a staff member may ask you to wait at the gate until the drill concludes.

We appreciate your support in helping us maintain a safe environment for everyone.

Celebrating Our Unsung Heroes: A Big Thank You to Our School Cleaners!

This week, we take a moment to shine a spotlight on some of the most hardworking and often unsung members of our school community—our amazing cleaners.

Every morning, before the first bell rings, and long after the last student leaves, our cleaning team is hard at work making sure our classrooms, walkways, and shared spaces are safe, clean, and welcoming for everyone. Their dedication, attention to detail, and quiet care make a huge difference in the daily lives of students and staff alike.

Please join us in saying a huge THANK YOU to our cleaners. Next time you see them around the school, take a moment to smile, wave, or say thanks—they deserve it!

We will celebrate our cleaners with a gift and card at our Week 1 assembly, as they are unfortunately not available for assembly this week.

Lyndal Symonds, Principal

What Respect Looks Like at Withcott State School: I Actively Listen

Respect starts with listening.

We are noticing a growing issue across the school where some students are finding it difficult to listen without interrupting, talking over others, or becoming distracted by friends or their surroundings. This is impacting learning, classroom culture, and the way students interact with all adults—including teachers, school staff, relief staff, volunteers, and visitors.

Being an active listener is not just about being quiet—it's about showing respect to the speaker and the group, filtering out distractions, being engaged and tuning in to what matters. This is a vital skill, not only for school success but also for life: from listening to instructions at work, understanding news or directions, enjoying a movie, to making informed decisions as adults.

What Does an Active Listener Look Like at School?

An active listener:

- Has eyes on the speaker.
- Keeps their body still and hands to themselves.
- Waits their turn to speak.
- Thinks about what is being said.
- Thoughts and comments are on the topic.
- Blocks out distractions like background noise or friends talking.
- Doesn't interrupt, argue, or talk over the speaker.

How Parents Can Support at Home

- Model active listening.
- Remind your child what active listening means.
- Take turns talking.
- Limit background noise for conversation.
- Praise respectful listening.

Being an active listener is a respectful listener that helps every learner feel heard, valued, and ready to learn. Thank you for your ongoing support in helping us reinforce these expectations both at school and at home.

The WSS PBL Team

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.

STUDENTS P-2 All students in P-2 should always have a **change of clothes** in their bag in case of toileting accidents.



QParents -

If you have not activated your QParents account, do so today, don't miss out! Please contact the office if you require assistance.

The majority of consent/permissions forms will be done through QParents. You can also submit absences, view report cards and pay invoices. Please contact the office with any questions or issues with activating your account.

Families without QParents will be responsible for collecting a paper form from the office.



Exciting Update:
QParents sign up now easier with just a Licence and Medicare Card required!



SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL)

During Term 1 Education Queensland's suite of Respectful Relationships lessons were rolled out at Withcott Sate School. These lessons were designed by the Department to upskill students with age-appropriate content in the areas of Personal and Social Awareness, Respectful Interactions and Protective Behaviours.

In addition for several years now we have been rolling out a parallel parent pack which has been curated by our Social and Emotional Learning committee to assist families to have guided discussions around Respectful Relationship topics within their own homes.

We are currently using a mapping tool to consider ways in which we can improve our whole school approach to Respectful Relationships and would appreciate your feedback via the following survey.

Survey Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XSFDJZN>

SEL Committee

TUCKSHOP

Tuckshop service has now come to an end for the term! Thank you to everyone who has supported tuckshop, we hope that the kids have enjoyed it as much as we have!

A huge THANK YOU to all of our volunteers who have helped out this year so far, we literally could not have delivered to the standard that we did without you! You have not only been a great help, but great company too! With some people moving on, we do have volunteer opportunities available on Tuesday mornings from 9:00am, for an hour or two or on Thursdays. There is no need or expectation to commit to every week. If you'd like to be involved, please send an email to withcottstuckshop@gmail.com

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop will close for the term on Thursday 19 June. Any orders placed before this time can be collected from the Uniform Shop between 8:15am-9:00am. Orders not collected by 9:00am will be available for collection at the office. Please note that any orders placed after this time will be available for collection from the Uniform Shop in Term 3. Click [here](#) to shop online now.

We're also still looking for a friendly volunteer to help out! If you have just 30 minutes a week or even every fortnight, we'd love your support. You're welcome to pop in after drop-off, or even bring your little one(s) along—there's plenty of space to play hopscotch outside while you keep things running smoothly. If you're available to help please email withcottstuckshop@gmail.com

FANFARE

On the 4th of June our Choir (combined with Grantham) travelled to St Luke's Church to participate in this year's Choral Fanfare Competition. This is a state wide event where schools perform in regional heats/finals. Choirs are judged against a criteria and are given an award that matches the standard of their performance.

The Valley Vocalists received Gold overall for their efforts. Here is the breakdown of how they went in each criteria:

Programming and Overall Presentation: Platinum

Sound Quality: Gold

Technical Elements: Gold

Musical Interpretation: Gold

Some comments from the adjudicators:

Rubber Ducks: A lovely unforced sound that was sweet throughout – thank you for not shouting, even in the louder sections. Good attention to diction – I could understand all your words! Consider an even taller vowel on "thou" of thousand.

Wildlife Warrior: A great contrasting piece to round out your program. I really enjoyed your long legato phrasing that was musical and told a wonderful story of a legend. I loved that you kept your eyes on the conductor the whole time. Just a little memory slip but you recovered well in the middle section. Maybe in future try to animate your faces even more as this helps to tell the story.

Overall: A wonderful opening to our performances today. You are doing excellent work and should be very proud.

SCHOOL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2025	Term 2
23 Jun	5.6 Excursion to see Puffs @CHSHS
26-27 Jun	Interhouse Athletics Carnival
27 Jun	Final Day Term 2
14 Jul	School Resumes Term 3
25 Jul	Regional Ruby League Trials (Girls)
25 Jul	Year 3.4 St Helena Island Excursion
1 Aug	Upper Lockyer Athletics Carnival
4 Aug	Primary School Futsal Gala Day
8 Aug	Prep Amaro Excursion
11 Aug	Public Holiday (Lockyer Show Holiday)
13 Aug	Zone Athletics 1500m
13 Aug	'Treasure Hunt' Incursion
15 Aug	Zone Athletics
18 Aug	Book Week
21 Aug	Book Week Dress Up Day
1-2 Sep	Regional Athletics
5 Sep	Student Free Day
16 Sep	1.2 KN Amaro Excursion
18 Sep	1.2 AM & 1.2SM Amaro Excursion
19 Sep	Zone Soccer/Netball Carnival
19 Sep	Final Day Term 3
7 Oct	School Resumes Term 4
10 Oct	Run 4 Fun Colour Explosion
13-15 Oct	State Athletics
31 Oct	Aquathlon
8 Dec	Swimming Carnival
12 Dec	Final Day Term 4

PAYMENTS/
PERMISSIONS
DUE

19 Jun	5.6 Puffs Production @ CHSHS
25 Jun	Futsal Gala Day
27 Jun	Year 1 Phonics Check

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

If you need care or would just like the assurance that your child is cared for if you have that appointment that runs late, contact www.campastralia.com.au or phone customer care 1300 105 343. You are always most welcome to come and have a look around, ask questions or just have a friendly chat. Bye for now from Team Camp Australia OSHC.

Camp Australia is proud to present a free parent webinar with renowned parenting expert Dr Justin Coulson.

Unplug Childhood

Tuesday 24 June, 7:30pm AEST, Online, Free, See attached flyer to register.

~ Guiding Children's Growth, Team Camp Australia OSHC

P&C NEWS: P&C meetings are held **every fourth Tuesday** of each month. The next meeting will be 24 June at 6:30pm in the Library, all welcome!

Sports Day Canteen

This year the Sports Day Canteen will be run by Greedies - P&C thank Greedies for offering this service to our school community. Menu is attached to newsletter.

Greedies Sports Day Canteen will be open 9am - 2.30pm Thursday & Friday in the 'Blue area' next to the library. On Thursday priority will be given to serving Junior students during designated break times.

Gluten Free Food Option - Greedies is happy to accommodate Gluten Free food options, however this **MUST be pre ordered** through Greedies (46425054) or text Deb (0422303297) **by Tuesday 24th June please.**

Vagabonds Travelling Cafe coffee van will also be attending Sports Day on Thursday & Friday 8.30am - 1pm. They will be situated in front of the auditorium on the grassy area. They will be offering a range of hot & cold drinks.

INTERHOUSE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Junior Carnival - Thursday 26 June (5-8yr olds, born 2017-2020)

Students aged 5-8 will be participating in the Junior Athletics Carnival on Thursday 26 June from 9:00am-1:00pm. The morning session will consist of field event rotations, with the focus on participation. Following morning tea, there will be sprint events and relays, with ribbons being awarded for the sprint event only.

Senior Carnival - Thursday 26 and Friday 27 June (9-12yr olds, born 2013-2016)

The Senior carnival will commence with the 800m and discus events on Thursday afternoon from 1:00pm. Discus will consist of all competitors having two throws, followed by the top eight having a third throw only. The main carnival will be on Friday with long jump, high jump, shot put, 200ms, sprints and relays. Please note 200m heats will be ran Thursday 19 June (subject to weather) during school hours with the finals only being run on the carnival day. Completed consent forms are mandatory for participation in discus.

Parents, carers and spectators are welcome to attend both the Junior and Senior Carnivals. All students should wear their appropriate coloured house polo shirt (with collar if possible-Sunsmart) Gorman - Red; Cunningham - Yellow; Oxley - Green. If you are unsure of your student's house colour, please see your class teacher or the office. Interhouse Athletics Programs are available for pre-purchase - \$3.00. Please order by Monday 23 June using the slip in the newsletter or at the office. Pre-ordered programs will be sent home with students during the week of the carnival. Following the Interhouse Athletics Carnival, selected students will participate in the Upper Lockyer District Athletics Carnival on Friday 1 August at Ropehill. The number and age of students to be selected in specific events is listed in the table below (subject to change).

Age	Sprint				Field				Distance		Relay	1500
	Multi	50m	80m	100m	High	Long	Shot	Discus	800m	200m		
8 yrs			4							4 #	1	UPP Loc Team selected from 800 first 6
9 yrs			4		3	2			4	2	1	
10 yrs	2			4	3	2	2 (2kg)	3* (500g)	4	2	1	
11 yrs	2			4	3	2	2 (2kg)	3* (750g)	4	2	1	
12 yrs	2			4	3	2	2 (3kg)	3* (750g)	4	2	1	

INTERHOUSE ATHLETICS PROGRAM ORDER - BY MONDAY 23 JUNE

I would like to order _____ (number) of programs at \$3.00 each. I have enclosed \$ _____ payment. Please send program/s home with _____ (child's name) in Roll Class _____

I understand program/s will be sent home by Wednesday 25 June. Signature: _____