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"Withcott Warbler"



PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

Building Stronger Connections Through Affective Language

We are excited to share an important development in our positive behaviour approach: we have begun using **affective language** as a key part of how we communicate with students. This approach is already making a meaningful difference in classrooms and playground interactions, and **we'd love to partner with you to extend its benefits beyond school.**

What is Affective Language?

Affective language focuses on expressing feelings, developing empathy, and helping children understand how their actions impact others. Instead of simply correcting behaviour, it encourages reflection and emotional awareness. For example, rather than saying, "Stop interrupting," a teacher might say, "I feel frustrated when I'm interrupted because it makes it harder to hear everyone's ideas." This reminds the student that their actions have impacts on others.

Why We're Using It

By adopting affective language, we aim to:

- Strengthen respectful relationships between students and staff
- Help students recognise and manage their emotions
- Encourage empathy towards others and accountability for their actions
- Support a positive, inclusive school environment

Even two weeks down the track, we are already seeing students become more thoughtful in their interactions and more capable of resolving conflicts calmly and respectfully.

How Could you Gently Introduce Affective Language at Home?

You can reinforce this approach in simple, everyday ways:

Express your feelings clearly:

"I feel worried when you don't let me know where you are going."

Describe the impact of behaviour:

"It makes it hard for me to concentrate when there is shouting indoors."

Encourage reflection:

Ask questions like, "How do you think that made your brother feel?"

Acknowledge positive behaviour:

"I really appreciate how you helped clean up—it made things much easier for everyone."

Model calm communication:

Children learn a great deal from observing how adults express emotions and handle challenges.

The Benefits at Home

Using affective language consistently at home can:

- Improve communication and reduce conflict
- Build stronger, more trusting relationships
- Help children develop emotional intelligence
- Encourage children to take responsibility for their actions

Working Together

When children experience consistent messages at school and at home, the impact is even greater. By working together, we can help our students grow into confident, empathetic individuals who communicate effectively and treat others with respect.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we continue to build a caring and connected school community.

Lyndal Symonds, Principal

CHOIR NEWS

Choir families will have received an email from Mr Mc Pherson regarding the upcoming Eisteddfod on Friday 15 May. Reminder that choir students attending will need to be in the school performance uniform. Please let the school know if you require any of the addition items to be borrowed other than the performance vest which is provided to all choir students. Family and friends wishing to attend the Eisteddfod will require tickets which can only be purchased through the Empire Theatre. Students will be attending the Eisteddfod from school by a bus. Pick up is at the Empire Theatre. All students will require private transport home from the Eisteddfod. Pick up time is approximately 4:30pm. Please see the email from Mr McPherson for the full set of details.

SPORT

Congratulations to the 42 students who have been nominated to attend the upcoming Lockyer Zone Cross Country Carnival taking place in Gatton on Friday 8 May. We wish you the best of luck. **Reminder that consent forms are due no later than Friday 1 May.** Please ensure you let the office know if your child will not be attending.



All students need a wide broad brimmed hat. Please ensure it is clearly labelled.

STUDENTS P-2

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



QParents

Reminder to activate your QParents account if you have not already done so! 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. If you are new to the school this year, an invitation to join QParents has been sent by email.

If you are not on Q Parents, paper copies of excursions ect will need to be collected from the office.

P&C NEWS: P&C meetings are held **every fourth Tuesday** of each month. The next meeting will be 26 May at 6:30pm in the Library, all welcome! The P&C welcomes all parents, carers and members of the school community to get involved with the Withcott SS P&C. If you would like more information, please email pandc@withcottss.eq.edu.au.

- Thank you to all the volunteers that assisted with moving chairs for the Withcott community ANZAC service.

- Mother's Day Stall

o Next Thursday 7th May

o Students will be able to purchase gifts from the Tuckshop at a designated time with their class. Gifts range from \$1 - \$12. Please send CASH with your child on the day if you would like them to purchase a gift. Gift bags will be available to purchase for \$1, if not purchasing a bag please send a bag with your child for them to bring their gift home.

For any queries please contact Anita Kruger 0407 759 943 or anitakrugersecretary@gmail.com

- P&C Trivia Night

o Saturday 23rd May at the Withcott Hotel starting at 6pm

Tickets on sale online using following link: <https://square.link/u/tAxGm4Pk>

o Single tickets for \$20 or a table of 8 for \$120 - so get your team together and secure your tickets for a fun night!

o The bar will be open and meals available to purchase from the pub menu, with \$5 from every meal sold donated to the P&C

o This event is open to the public, invite all your friends and family. Babysitters won't be onsite and there won't be any kids activities on the evening.

- Disco - Friday 5th June

o Lock in the date.....Disco will be Friday 5th June.

o Theme to be confirmed.....keep an eye out for more info on this fun event!

- Tuckshop News

o Welcoming our new Tuckshop Convenor, Miss Julie!

o We are aiming to commence Tuckshop service in Week 4 of this Term. Menu's will be distributed soon.....so keep an eye out.

o Tuckshop day will be Thursday with order cut off day being Tuesday.

- Uniform Shop

o Reminder that Uniform Shop is open on Tuesday and Thursday AFTERNOONS 3.10 - 3.45pm. We are no longer open on a Thursday morning

Orders can be placed online using following link: <https://withcott-pandc.square.site/>

SCHOOL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2026	Term 2
20 Apr	School Resumes Term 2
29 Apr	Zone Touch Trials
30 Apr-1 May	Zone Soccer Trials
4 May	Public Holiday
7 May	School Photos
8 May	Lockyer Zone Cross Country
8 May	Carbal Retest Day
11 May	Zone Softball Trials
12 May	Zone Basketball Trials
19 May	Regional Cross Country
21 May	Regional Rugby Union
21-27 May	Bookfair
28-29 May	Regional Soccer (Boys)
29 May	Regional Soccer (Girls)
2 Jun	Regional Touch Trials
10 Jun	Regional Softball Trials
10 Jun	Regional Rugby League Trials
18 Jun	Regional Basketball Trials
18 Jun	3.4 A & 3.4 E Amaroo Excursion
19 Jun	3.4 G & 3.4 W Amaroo Excursion
25-26 Jun	Interhouse Athletics Carnival
26 Jun	Final Day Term 2
13 Jul	School Resumes Term 3
27-30 Jul	Life Ed
31 Jul	Upper Lockyer Athletics Carnival
10 Aug	Public Holiday (Lockyer Show Holiday)
12 Aug	Zone Athletics 1500m
14 Aug	Zone Athletics
21 Aug	Prep Amaroo Excursion
25-26 Aug	Regional Athletics
4 Sep	Student Free Day
16 Sep	1.2 N Amaroo Excursion
17 Sep	1.2 M & 1.2 B Amaroo Excursion
18 Sep	Zone Soccer/Netball Carnival
18 Sep	Final Day Term 3
6 Oct	School Resumes Term 4
12-14 Oct	State Athletics
25 Oct	Aquathlon
7 Dec	Swimming Carnival
11 Dec	Final Day Term 4

PAYMENTS/ PERMISSIONS DUE	
1 May	LZ Cross Country

LAMINATING

Laminating takes place on the first Thursday morning of each month and will be ready for collection the following day.

Next Laminating Date: Thursday, 7 May.

Prices: A4 - \$1.50, A3 - \$2.50, Posters - \$5 a

Withcott State School P&C

Whole School Assembly – Every Thursday at 9:00am. All welcome!

UNIFORM SHOP: The Uniform Shop will be **open** (during term time) **3:10pm - 3:45pm**, Tuesday and Thursdays for Term 2. Card payments accepted. Second-hand uniforms are also gratefully accepted on a donation basis.

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. Thank you for supporting Camp Australia. ~ *Guiding Children's Growth Team Camp Australia OSHC*

BOOKFAIR

Our Scholastic Book Fair is nearly here! It will open on Thursday 21st May, so come along to find the best new books and help to earn free books and resources for our library!



Requesting Information for Doctors and Specialists

From time to time, parents and carers may need information from the school—such as forms or letters—for a doctor or specialist. We are always happy to support these requests and provide the information you need.

To ensure we can share information appropriately, all parents and carers are required to complete and sign a *Third Party Consent Form*. This form gives the school legal permission to share information with people or organisations outside of the school. We always need to include the name of the doctor or specialist on the form.

Preparing letters and completing forms often involves input from our Student Support Team to ensure all information is accurate and meaningful. As a result, these requests can take several weeks to complete.

Our students are always our priority, and we take care to provide clear and accurate information. We appreciate your understanding and encourage you to allow plenty of time when making a request. Thank you for your support.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Withcott Football Club: We are hosting a **Females in Football Come & Try Event**. This event is open to all girls and women of all ages, whether they are completely new to football, curious to try something different, or already love the game. The aim is to create fun, welcoming and inclusive environment that encourages female participation in sport. See attached flyer for more details.

Foothills Art Show: Please see attached information.

ONLINE ORDERING
OPEN NOW!


msp
photography

School Photo Day is nearly here!!

Thursday 7th of May 2026

- School photos are just around the corner! You can now order online, if you have not received an order form, please contact MSP on 5210 5514 and you will be issued with your students shoot key.
- But hurry! Order by photo day to avoid a late fee.

We are here to help!
Please call us on 5210 5514 if you have any questions.