



## College Update | Week 2, Term 3, 2024

Week one of term 3 has been a lovely demonstration of student readiness. It has been wonderful to see students throughout our college return to the routines of learning with great enthusiasm. As we settle into the new term, I'm excited about the engaging activities and opportunities we have planned for our students.

### Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness



“Kindness is the greatest wealth of all. Small acts of kindness last longer than a lifetime” - Eddie Jaku (Author of ‘The Happiest Man on Earth’).

This week, our GEM focus is on **Empathy**. Empathy involves understanding and sharing the feelings of others, which fosters a compassionate and connected community. Here are some ways to practice empathy:

- **Active Listening:** Pay full attention to the speaker, showing that you value their thoughts and feelings.
- **Perspective Taking:** Try to see situations from others' points of view.
- **Acts of Kindness:** Small gestures, such as offering help or a kind word, can make a big difference.

### Did you know ....

80% of our happiness is derived from:

- Friendship.
- Health.
- Work fulfillment.
- Loving relationships.
- Spirituality.



When you do something kind for someone else your brain releases the love hormone oxytocin. This makes you feel good too. Check out Martin Heppell from The Resilience Project talking about being kind and the benefits of kindness. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qO-ja3h5INc>

### Official Opening

The day has finally arrived! The official opening of the *Engineering and Design Centre* (F Block) and *Student Plaza* will be held on Thursday, 18 July 2024. This momentous occasion marks a significant milestone in our commitment to providing state-of-the-art facilities and enriching learning environments for our students.

We are honoured to have Joe Kelly MP, Member for Greenslopes, representing Minister Farmer at this event. We are also delighted to welcome our School Supervisor, Ms Julie Warwick, along with members of our P&C Association, to officially open these wonderful additions to our facilities.

**Our Engineering and Design Centre** is equipped with the latest technology and tools to support our students in the areas of engineering, design, alongside the broader Industrial Design and Technology subjects. This upgraded and greatly enhanced space aims to foster creativity, critical thinking, and practical skills essential for future careers in various technical fields.

**The Student Plaza** provides a vibrant and flexible space for students to gather, study, and collaborate. It is designed to enhance the overall student experience by offering a comfortable, flexible, learning environment that encourages social interaction and a sense of community.



Our staff are also excited to utilise these enhanced learning areas and flexible outdoor teaching spaces. In addition, our community now has a fantastic hub for events, further boosting our school spirit and pride. These are exciting additions to our school!

### **Bastille Day**

On Monday, 15 July we acknowledge Bastille Day. Bastille Day, or La Fête Nationale, commemorates the storming of the Bastille on 14 July 1789, a turning point in the French Revolution. This is a great opportunity to learn more about and appreciate French culture and history.

On Monday 15 July between 7:30am – 9:15am the French-Bilingual Sub-Committee of our P&C will be hosting a special complimentary breakfast, with coffee, crepes and croissants. This is a wonderful opportunity for all members of our community to experience the flavours of France.

### **Parent Teacher Meetings**

A reminder that Parent Teacher Meetings for Secondary students will be held on Tuesday, 16 July. These meetings are a valuable opportunity for parents, caregivers to discuss their child's progress, strengths, and areas for further development with their teachers.

### **P&C Meeting**

Our next P&C meeting is on Wednesday, 17 July at 6:30pm in the AALC. The Parents and Citizens (P&C) Association plays a crucial role in supporting our school community through fundraising, organising events, and providing feedback on school initiatives.

Your participation and input are highly valued, and we encourage all parents/carers to attend to stay informed and involved in your child's education.

### **Spotlight on Attendance**

At WHSC our attendance goal for each student is 95%. Regular school attendance gives students a better chance in life. Students achieve better when they attend school all day, every day because:

- They have increased access to learning opportunities.
- They stay connected to curriculum progression.
- They develop self-efficacy as a learner.
- They maintain friendships.
- They have better long-term life outcomes.

If students need to be absent from school, please ensure that all absences are explained. To notify us of an absence, please call the school directly and follow the prompts for the student absentee line. When possible, please do this before 8:45am for each day your child is absent from school.

Student Absence Text: 0428 632 704

Student Absence Email: admin@whiteshillsc.eq.edu.au

Telephone: 3900 8370

Education Queensland has created a suite of school attendance resources to support parents. To access these resources, please click [here](#)



### Final thoughts

On a personal note, I am taking some planned long service leave this term (week 4 – week 8) as my family and I travel overseas for a family wedding (and some travel after the big event). I am pleased to announce that Mrs Samantha Hawkins will be acting College Principal during this time.

Kind regards,

*Richenda Wagener*

College Principal

### CARES focus this week



*We model the CARES philosophy of Cooperation Achievement Respect Enthusiasm Safety*

**Week 2 – Respect - We value ourselves, others and our community**

#### Uniform focus this week

Keeping uniform standards high is always a work in progress. This week our focus is: **jumpers**, please reinforce the right colour, worn in the right way. Our uniform policy can be found on our [website](#).

### The Fortnight Ahead

Week 2	TERM 3
Mon 15 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bastille Day Breakfast - thank you to our P&amp;C subcommittee</li> <li>P – 6 Whole of Primary Assembly –Monday (even weeks) in the hall from 2:00pm. Parents are welcome to join us</li> </ul>
Tues 16 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secondary – Parent / Teacher Meetings</li> </ul>
Wed 17 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P&amp;C in AALC 6:30 – 7:30pm</li> </ul>
Thurs 18 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Official opening of the <i>Engineering and Design Centre</i> (F Block) &amp; <i>Student Plaza</i></li> <li>Secondary Assembly</li> </ul>
Fri 19 July	
Week 3	TERM 3
Mon 22 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lytton District Athletics @ St Lucia Athletics Centre</li> </ul>
Tues 23 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lytton District Athletics @ St Lucia Athletics Centre</li> <li>Year 10 and 11 Hospitality students RSA course</li> </ul>
Wed 24 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 8 Geography Fieldwork</li> </ul>
Thurs 25 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secondary Assembly</li> </ul>
Fri 26 July	

### Helpful WHSC Links

[College Policies](#)

[Uniform Shop information](#)

[Outside School Hours Care](#)

### Executive team

Richenda Wagener	College Principal	<a href="mailto:principal@whiteshillsc.eq.edu.au">principal@whiteshillsc.eq.edu.au</a>
Briohny Cuskelly	Head of School (Prep-Year 6)	<a href="mailto:bcusk1@eq.edu.au">bcusk1@eq.edu.au</a>
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**WHITES HILL  
STATE COLLEGE**

Imagine Believe Achieve

**PREP-YEAR 12**

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Monday 15 July 2024 ~ 7:30 AM to 9:15 AM

BBQ area behind OSHC, Whites Hill State College

Enjoy a complimentary breakfast celebrating La Fête Nationale Française with coffee, crêpes, and croissants, honouring the principles of liberty, equality and fraternity.

Donations via EFTPOS or cash dropped into our jar, are greatly appreciated.



# GM

GENERAL MEETING

 Whites Hill State College  
AALC Building, 138 Burn Street, Camp Hill, Qld

 Microsoft Teams Meeting (online option)  
ID: 413 496 265 169  
Passcode: zMdYEG

 Wednesday 17 July 2024 at 6:30 PM

 Request more information at:  
[PandC@whiteshillsc.eq.edu.au](mailto:PandC@whiteshillsc.eq.edu.au)

