



College Update | Week 7, Term 4, 2024

As we step into Week 7 of Term 4, there's a tangible buzz around our school community! With so many important milestones and celebrations underway, it's clear we're in the home stretch of the 2024 school year. Whether it's final assessments, farewells, or exciting events, we're reminded of the collective growth, resilience, and achievements that have shaped this year.

With only a few short weeks to go, it's a wonderful time to embrace the energy, stay focused, and celebrate the journey so far. Let's make the most of this week, cheering each other on and enjoying the remaining time together.

Here's to another fantastic week ahead!

Classes for 2025

Whilst we continue to make plans for our 2025 classes. If you are not intending on returning to Whites Hill next year, can you please advise Administration via email on admin@whiteshillsc.eq.edu.au

The Leadership Team, support staff and class teachers will work together to place students in a class for next year. Staff have deep knowledge of students, their needs and which students they should not be placed with for next year.

The aim is to construct well-balanced classes in which students can work and perform to their full potential. Due consideration is given to the student's academic needs and their social/emotional needs when placement is decided. Your trust in our decision-making, your acknowledgement of the time and care that goes into this process and your respect for the competence and dedication of every member of our staff team are greatly appreciated.

Community Support

We understand that recent discussions about incidents on our college site have raised some concerns within our community. At our college, student safety is, and always will be, our top priority. We take every measure to ensure that each student is supported and that their wellbeing is attended to with care. When events arise, based on information presented we endeavour to work directly with the students involved and their families to handle each situation respectfully and thoroughly.

We kindly ask for your help and support in fostering a respectful and positive environment by refraining from spreading unverified information or speculation. This can often lead to misunderstandings and hinder the process of addressing concerns constructively. If you have questions or need clarity on any matter, please don't hesitate to contact our office directly. This will allow us to address any concerns on an individual basis with the appropriate respect and sensitivity.

Thank you for helping us maintain a safe, supportive, and respectful school community.

Week 11 - alternative program week

Looking ahead, please remember that this Friday 15 November is the final attendance day for students in Year 12 and Friday 22 November is the final attendance day for students in Years 10 and 11.

While our school remains open during Week 11, we'll be implementing an alternative program that allows teachers to collaborate and develop new learning units in preparation for the Australian Curriculum Version 9, which all Queensland state schools will be adopting next year. With this in mind, please be aware that students may be combined into diverse groups of varying ages, depending on the organised activities

If your family plans to start the holiday break early, please inform us to ensure we have accurate attendance records. You can let us know by:



- Email: admin@whiteshillsc.eq.edu.au
- Student Absence Text: 0428 632 704
- Phone: 3900 8370

Thank you for your assistance in keeping us informed, as we look forward to a productive conclusion to the school year!

P&C Christmas Raffle

🎄 **This Year's Christmas Raffle is Officially Live!** 🎄
Our P&C's much-anticipated Christmas Raffle is here, and it's an exciting opportunity to make a real impact for our school! This year, we're aiming high with a target of selling **3000 tickets**. If every family helps by selling just **five tickets** to friends, neighbours, colleagues, or local businesses, we'll reach this goal in no time!

Funds raised from the raffle will go directly toward valuable projects such as:

- **A coffee cart / coffee machine** – a great addition that can help with future fundraising!
- **Primary outdoor area upgrade** – supporting ongoing improvements that enhance our school environment.
- **Landscaping our new pétanque field** – creating more outdoor enjoyment for students and future event opportunities.



The P&C has put in an incredible effort to make this raffle possible, and now they're counting on our whole community to get involved and help sell tickets. Every little bit helps! Let's rally together to support this wonderful cause and make this our most successful raffle yet.

Important Date Claimers for the Weeks Ahead

Wk. 7	Tangalooma Island Experience – Yr. 11 Sun 10 Nov – Tues 12 Nov	Junior QUOTA Cupcake sales Tues 12 – Wed 13 Nov Annual Presentation Evening Tues 12 Nov (5.30pm for a 6.00pm start - 7.30pm)	Yr. 12 Graduation Thurs 14 Nov Yr. 12 School Formal Thurs 14 Nov	Year 12: last day of attendance Fri 15 Nov
Wk. 8	Life Education – Primary from Thurs 21 Nov	Yr. 10 / 11 CARES rewards excursion Fri 22 Nov	Years 10 and 11: last day of attendance Fri 22 Nov	
Wk. 9	Yr. 6 to Yr. 7 transition – Tues 26 Nov			
Wk. 10	Yr. 6 Graduation – Mon 2 Dec	P – 6 Awards 9:15 – 11:15 Tues 3 Dec	Primary "Shuffle UP" – Tues 3 Dec	Yr. 9 CARES rewards Dinner Dance – Wed 4 Dec
	Yr. 6 "Big Day In" – Wed 4 Dec	Yr. 6 Unleashing Personal Potential (UPP) incursion – Thurs 5 Dec Year 7/8 CARES rewards excursion – Thurs 5 Dec	Year 5 and 7 Author workshop - <i>TBC</i>	P - 6 Miracle on Samuel Street – Fri 6 Dec
Wk. 11	P-2 Swimming Carnival Wed 11 Dec – TBC	3-6 Swimming Carnival Thurs 12 Dec – TBC		



Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness

In Week 7 of our GEM (Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness) chat, we turn our attention to **Mindfulness** — being fully present in each moment.

Take a moment now to bring your focus to your breath. Notice each inhale and exhale, and observe five mindful breaths. Feel the sensation of air filling your lungs and releasing, grounding yourself in the here and now.

Practicing mindfulness helps us manage stress, improve focus, and connect more deeply with ourselves and others. Let's carry this calm, steady focus throughout the week.



Final Thoughts

As we come into the final stretch of Term 4, it's a good time to reflect on how much has been achieved and how close we are to reaching the finish line of 2024. The energy and support of our families, teachers, and students have been truly inspiring, and it's been a joy to watch our college community grow stronger and more connected with each passing week.

Whether preparing for exams, celebrating milestones, or simply savouring these last few weeks together, we encourage everyone to approach the end of term with patience, pride, and purpose. These are busy times, and a little extra encouragement can go a long way. Remember to check in with one another, celebrate the small wins, and stay connected—each of us plays a unique and important role in this journey.

Thank you for all you do to support our students, staff, and the broader college community. Let's finish the year with the same spirit of collaboration, kindness, and optimism that has carried us this far. Here's to a strong, successful close to 2024

Kind regards,
Richenda Wagener
College Principal



CARES Focus for the Fortnight - We model the CARES philosophy of

Cooperation, Achievement, Respect, Enthusiasm, Safety - Weeks 7 and 8 - Enthusiasm: We embrace every opportunity.



cares

PBL Focus for the Fortnight - Weeks 7 and 8 - Enthusiasm: I focus on the positives. I am grateful that I am able to come to school and learn each day.

Helpful WHSC Links

[College Policies](#)

[Uniform Shop information](#)

[Outside School Hours Care](#)

Executive team

Richenda Wagener	College Principal	principal@whiteshillsc.eq.edu.au
Briohny Cuskelly	Head of School (Prep-Year 6)	bcusk1@eq.edu.au
Samantha Hawkins	Head of School (Years 7-12)	shawk8@eq.edu.au
Jolene Dargie	Business Manager	bsm@whiteshillsc.eq.edu.au