



College Update | Week 7, Term 3, 2025

What a wonderful week it has been at WHSC! A big thank you to all our families who keenly engaged in our Book Week activities and culminating parade — the joy, creativity, and effort in the costumes was absolutely fantastic to see, and it made the celebrations truly special for our students.

Looking ahead, we are excited for a busy few weeks with our Father's Day Stall in Week 8, the Year 8 Camp in Week 9, and, on Saturday 6 September, WHSC will once again proudly host the Matsuri Japanese Festival. It is a privilege to welcome our community together through these events that celebrate learning, connection, and culture.

Spotlight on Attendance - at Whites Hill our attendance target is 95%

At Whites Hill State College, we know that **every day counts**—and regular attendance plays a crucial role in a student's academic, social, and emotional success. Missing even one day each week can add up to a term's worth of lost learning over the year. That's why we are committed to working in partnership with families to ensure that every student attend school every day.

We strive for an attendance rate of **95% or better**, and we sincerely thank our families for your ongoing support in making this a reality. We encourage all parents and carers to continue reinforcing the value of daily learning by promoting strong attendance habits at home.



The Queensland Government's "Every Day Counts" initiative highlights four key messages:

- All children should be enrolled and attend school every school day.
- Schools actively monitor and work to improve student attendance.
- Attendance is a shared responsibility between schools, families and communities.
- Children can be at greater risk in the community if they skip school or are frequently absent.

While most of our students attend regularly, there are a small number whose absences—without valid reason—can negatively impact their learning. Reasons such as shopping, visiting family, being tired, or taking extended holidays are not considered acceptable.

Good attendance is strongly linked to long-term success, and we want every student to have every opportunity to thrive. If your child is away, please notify the school with the reason for the absence either before, on the day, or as soon as possible upon return. You will receive absence notifications in line with legislative requirements. If contacted, we kindly ask that you respond via phone, text, or email to explain the absence.

Thank you for partnering with us in keeping attendance a priority—we look forward to seeing all our students at school each and every day.

Please ensure that all student 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

Whites Hill State College

PREP – YEAR 12

Ph: 3900 8333

E: admin@whiteshillsc.eq.edu.au



Imagine Believe Achieve

Artist: Danielle Leedie Gray

YMCA OSHC Driveway Safety Update

Despite clear signage stating, “No Entry – Authorised Persons Only” and the installation of a bollard at the driveway/gravel path junction, some vehicles have continued to drive beyond the designated car park area to the OSHC building. This behaviour has placed student safety at risk.

To address this, a chain has now been installed across the access point. Families are reminded that vehicles cannot pass beyond the car park, and all parents/carers are required to walk from there when dropping off or collecting children.

Thank you for supporting our efforts to prioritise student safety.

Uniform focus

Keeping uniform standards high is always a work in progress. Our uniform is a purposeful measure by our college and the community to unite us. While deviations to this uniform may seem trivial, it sends a very clear message to others. We want all students to be in full uniform as we develop a culture of united learning and playing in our school. Please refer to Our uniform policy found on our [website](#) in regards our expectations and parent commitments to our school pride.

Uniform shop [link](#).

Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness

This week, we’re focusing on *mindfulness* and being in the moment. Mindfulness is about slowing down, paying attention to the present moment, and noticing our thoughts and feelings without judgment. Practising mindfulness can help us feel calmer, more focused, and ready to learn.

This week’s question:

- What is your favourite mindfulness activity?

It might be mindful breathing, colouring, listening to music, stretching, going for a quiet walk, or simply noticing the sounds around you.

Take some time this week to try your favourite mindfulness activity — then reflect on how it makes you feel.

Have a wonderful week ahead!

Kind regards,

Richenda Wagener

College Principal



Important Date Claimers for the Weeks Ahead

The Week Ahead ... Week 7	
Wed 27 Aug	• P&C Meeting 6:30pm in AALC
Fri 29 Aug	• Wear it Purple day (Secondary)
Fri 29 – Sun 31 Aug	• FISAF Nationals Sports Aerobics
The Week Ahead ... Week 8 HPE Week	
Wed 3 Sept	• P&C’s Father’s Day stall in ILC
Thurs 4 Sept	• Year 4 – 6 Gala Day Sports • Police social media talk Yrs. 7 and 8 • Yr 11 RACQ Presentation
Fri 5 Sept	• Student-free Day
Sat 6 Sept	• Matsuri Japanese Festival @ WHSC 11:00 – 5:00pm

E: admin@whiteshillsc.eq.edu.au



Artist: Danielle Leedie Gray

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

Matsuri Brisbane

SATURDAY, 6 SEP 2025
Whites Hill State College | 11:00am - 5:00pm
138 Burn St, Camp Hill QLD

Food & Drink, Kids Fun Activities,
 Stage & Martial Arts Performances,
 Crafts, Displays & Workshops and more!

Original Fan Giveaway for SNS Followers

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www.instagram.com/matsuribrisbane
[www.twitter.com/matsuribrisbane](https://twitter.com/matsuribrisbane)

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