



College Update | Week 2, Term 2, 2024

Welcome to Term 2

Welcome back to the start of another exciting term. Our college has been a hive of activity as our students have settled back into school and into their classroom routines.

My thanks go to the wonderful staff, parents and students for welcoming me so warmly as Principal. The support I have received from our leadership teams, administration team and teaching and non-teaching staff is a clear indicator of why Whites Hill State College has such a wonderful reputation.

I would also like to welcome our new families. I am sure that they will enjoy the quality of teaching and learning and great community relationships that occurs across our college.

I have been impressed with the experience and dedication of the staff, the passion and community spirit of the parents and the confidence, intelligence and manners of the students. I consider it an honour and privilege to be given the opportunity to work in partnership with you as we strive to provide the very best education for every child across our college.

My professional background includes teaching, curriculum leadership, coaching of leaders, state wide school reviews and principal across a number of Department of Education schools. As a parent I know how important it is to have strong connections with your child's school and as such I welcome the opportunity to meet each of you.

I am very much looking forward to working with everyone throughout our community, to further enhance our college's reputation and to provide your children with the knowledge and skills necessary to participate fully in further education and beyond. Once again, please introduce yourself to me as I look forward to meeting you all throughout the course of the year.

Staff update

As per previous correspondence to our Primary families, during the Easter break, it was confirmed that the position of Head of School - Primary had become a substantive vacancy, and as such, a relocation at level has been finalised.

Briohny Cuskelly has been appointed as our new permanent Head of School – Primary. Briohny has commenced this term initially working at a fractional component of 0.4, covering Mondays and Tuesdays for term 2. We welcome Briohny to the role and our school.

I would like to express our gratitude to Alice Patterson for her dedication and service as the acting Head of School - Primary. Alice will continue in this role on a fractional component of 0.6, covering Wednesdays through Fridays for the duration of Term 2.

Mindfulness *Take a conscious moment each day to appreciate the little things around us, from a warm smile to a sunny day. "If we are peaceful, if we are happy, we can smile, and everyone in our family, our entire society, will benefit from our peace." – Thich Nhat Hanh*

Have a fantastic week.

Kind regards

Richenda Wagener

College Principal



CARES focus this week

We model the CARES philosophy of Cooperation Achievement Respect Enthusiasm Safety

Respect: We value ourselves, others and the community

ANZAC Day

Our annual Anzac Day assembly is scheduled for Wednesday 24th April at 9:00am in our school hall. This year our Years 1-6 students will be in attendance. Our Prep students will have a smaller, age-appropriate ceremony in our ANZAC Garden that will be run by our Prep teachers.

Our Junior Quota Club will be selling homemade ANZAC biscuits on Tuesday 23 and Wednesday 24 April.

Uniform focus this week

Keeping uniform standards high is always a work in progress. This week our focus is: **Hats**
Whites Hill is a sun safe school. All students at the college are required to wear a hat when they are in the sun or outdoors. Our uniform policy can be found on our [website](#). Uniform shop [link](#).

WHITES HILL STATE COLLEGE
Junior Quota JQ
Fundraiser
ANZAC DAY Bake Sale \$1 per cookie
Tue 23 April & Wed 24 April
11.25-11.55am
Primary Tuckshop

Spotlight on Attendance

What sort of start is your child getting?

Just a little bit late doesn't seem much but.....

He/She is only missing just....	That equals....	Which is.....	and over 13 years of schooling that's...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly <u>Half a year</u>
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40 mins per week	Over 2.5 Weeks per year	Nearly <u>1 year</u>
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 Weeks per year	Nearly <u>1 and a Half years</u>
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 Weeks per year	Over <u>2 and a Half years</u>

Did you know your child's best learning time is the start of the school day?

That's when every minute counts the most!!

EVERY DAY COUNTS!

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



The fortnight ahead

Week 3

Mon 22 April	Earth Day Year 4 Reverse Garbage Incursion
Tues 23 April	Parent Teacher Interviews – Secondary
Wed 24 April	Year 12 Biology Excursion Year 11/12 Aquatic Practices Excursion ANZAC Day School Service
Thurs 25 April	ANZAC Day Public Holiday
Friday 26 April	Primary Assembly – held each Friday in the ILC. Parents are welcome to join us <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Years 3–6 9:00am start • Years Prep–2 10:05am start

Week 4

Mon 29 April	Year 12 Biology Excursion HoS College Tours
Tues 30 April	Primary – Met East Cross Country (Tingalpa Sport Centre)
Wed 1 May	Secondary – Women in Engineering Explore Engineering (UQ) Year 9 History Excursion (QLD Museum) Year 12 Biology Excursion
Thurs 2 May	Secondary Assembly Year 5 Eco Marine Ambassador Training Day
Fri 3 May	Wear Pink for Hannah

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 (Mon-Tues) Alice Patterson (Wed-Fri)	Head of School (Prep-Year 6)	bcusk1@eq.edu.au apatt20@eq.edu.au
Samantha Hawkins	Head of School (Years 7-12)	shawk8@eq.edu.au
Jolene Dargie	Business Services Manager	bsm@whiteshillsc.eq.edu.au