



**WHITES HILL  
STATE COLLEGE**

Imagine Believe Achieve

**PREP-YEAR 12**

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## College Update | Week 7, Term 2, 2024

Thank you to all members of our community who joined us for our annual Twilight Open Night last Tuesday 21 May. It was wonderful to see so many students being such outstanding ambassadors for our college and as we journey through Week 7 of this ten-week term, we are reminded of the incredible potential within each of our students. Their dedication to learning, exploration, and growth is truly inspiring. At our college, we strive to provide an environment where all students can thrive academically, socially, and personally.

Education is a collaborative effort, and the connection between school and home is vital to nurturing well-rounded, resilient individuals. When families are engaged in their child's education, it fosters a sense of security and motivation, encouraging them to reach new heights. We value the partnership we share with you and endeavour to keep you informed and involved every step of the way.

As we navigate these final weeks of the term, let's continue to support and encourage our students. Whether they are preparing for exams, participating in extracurricular activities, or exploring new career opportunities, your guidance and encouragement are instrumental. Together, we can help our students achieve their goals and realise their full potential, creating a brighter future for all. Thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's educational journey.

Monday	Tuesday Trivia	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Activities run during second break this week – staff and students are encouraged to participate				
<b>Yarning Circle</b> Let's have a yarn!  Where: BBQ area behind ILC	<b>First Nations themed trivia</b> Grab a few mates and test your First Nations Knowledge.  Where: ILC Learning Area.	<b>Chalk drawing</b> Where: Primary walkways  Come and draw or write your own reconciliation message.	<b>Yarning Circle</b> Where: BBQ area behind ILC  Or... Come and read or view a First Nations text in the ILC and presentation area. Where: ILC and Presentation area	<b>Reconciliation artwork</b>  Invite your friends along to add their hand to our reconciliation artwork. Where: BBQ area behind ILC
Whole of College	Secondary ONLY	Primary ONLY	Whole of college	Whole of College
Colouring in competition all week in the ILC – CARES points to be won!				

### Reconciliation Week

This week our college will host a series of events in acknowledgement of Reconciliation Week, aimed at promoting understanding and unity.

Activities will include Yarning Circles, and collaborative art projects. These events provide a valuable opportunity for our students to engage in meaningful dialogue and contribute to a more inclusive community.

### Head of School Tours

If you are or know of a prospective family who is interested in learning more about our college, a Head of School Tour will be held today, Monday 27 May with our next on Monday 29 July, please share the below details. [Book a Tour - link](#)

Choose from two tour options

- Starting Strong Tour** – focusing on Prep and the Early Phase of Learning. Facilitated by either Briohny Cuskelly or Alice Patterson, Heads of School Primary.
- On Track for Success Tour** – focusing on the Junior Secondary Phase of learning. Facilitated by Samantha Hawkins, Head of School Secondary.





## Facilities – Celebrating our new Student Plaza

Our Student Plaza is finally open! It was very fortuitous that the temporary fences came down providing access to our student plaza last Tuesday, just in time for our Twilight Open Night. It has been wonderful to see many students enjoying this beautiful area to relax, study, and connect with each other. Complete with a great green space, and a variety of seating configurations, the Student Plaza is a testament to our commitment to creating outdoor learning areas for our students. We believe this new space will become a well utilised part of our secondary campus life



## The Push Up Challenge

The Push-Up Challenge aims to raise mental health awareness and reduce the stigma around mental illness. Funds are raised for key mental health organisations, such as Lifeline, Headspace and Push for Better Foundation, so they can continue to invest in research, resources, services and programs to support our communities. Students are able to join Mr. Ashley Richters (Secondary HPE) each morning from Wednesday 5 June, at 8:30am at the Student Plaza. You can contribute to our goal of achieving a collective of 3249 push-ups by completing 10 or 20 push-ups (or alternative).



## Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness

**Empathy:** Working on empathy helps us to identify, understand and feel what another person is feeling. When we show empathy or we do something kind for someone else our brain releases oxytocin. This leads to increasing our self-esteem/confidence, energy levels, positivity and overall happiness.

### Whole Family Activity: Neighbourhood Kindness Challenge

As a family, choose an act of kindness from the list below that you would like to do for a neighbour or family friend. Each family member can select one to commit to, or you can choose to do one together.

Ask them if they need anything from the shops next time you buy groceries.	Write a note to put in their letter box thanking them for being a great neighbour or friend.
Design them a “Thank You” card.	Pick or buy some flowers to deliver to them.
Choose a little plant from your garden to give them.	Make them a gift from things around your house.
Invite them on a walk.	Cook them something delicious like a cake or biscuits
Say hello next time you see them, and ask them how their day is going.	Offer to do a job for them, like wash their car or water their garden.





**Family Habit Builder:** Every night at dinner, have each person thank another family member for something they’ve done or said today, or give another family member a compliment.

As always, have a wonderful week!

Kind regards,

*Richenda Wagener*

College Principal



### CARES focus this week

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

**Week 7 – Cooperation - We work together to accomplish goals**

### Uniform focus this week

Keeping uniform standards high is always a work in progress. This week our focus is: **Jumpers (and scarves for our Secondary students)** with the cooler weather upon us, please remember the right colour, worn in the right way. Our uniform policy can be found on our [website](#).

## The Fortnight Ahead

Week 7 RECONCILIATION WEEK ACTIVITIES 27 <sup>th</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> MAY	
Mon 27 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Head of School Tours ~9:15am – 10:15am</li> </ul>
Tues 28 May	
Wed 29 May	
Thurs 30 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secondary Assembly</li> </ul>
Fri 31 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary Assembly – held each Friday in the ILC. Parents are welcome to join us               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Years 3–6 9:00am start</li> <li>Years Prep–2 10:05am start</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Week 8 Push Up Challenge @ 8:30am at the Student Plaza 5 June --->	
Mon 3 June	
Tues 4 June	
Wed 5 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P&amp;C Meeting @ 6:30pm</li> </ul>
Thurs 6 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State of Origin Oz Tag – Major Break session (secondary)</li> <li>Secondary Assembly</li> </ul>
Fri 7 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary Assembly – held each Friday in the ILC. Parents are welcome to join us               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Years 3–6 9:00am start</li> <li>Years Prep–2 10:05am start</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## 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 (Mon-Tues) Alice Patterson (Wed-Fri)	Head of School (Prep-Year 6)	<a href="mailto:bcusk1@eq.edu.au">bcusk1@eq.edu.au</a> <a href="mailto:apatt20@eq.edu.au">apatt20@eq.edu.au</a>
Samantha Hawkins	Head of School (Years 7-12)	<a href="mailto:shawk8@eq.edu.au">shawk8@eq.edu.au</a>
Jolene Dargie	Business Services Manager	<a href="mailto:bsm@whiteshillsc.eq.edu.au">bsm@whiteshillsc.eq.edu.au</a>