

WILSONTON STATE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Thursday, 19th March 2026

Term 1, Issue 5



School Contacts

Principal – Melita Patti

Deputy Principals - Matt Gurr & Genevieve Pearson

HOSES - Jade Innes

Business Manager - Karen Thomas

Administration Officers - Kirsty Prouten, Nikki Walker, Deb Morris

Phone - 46371222

Absence Line - 46371260

Email - principal@wilsontonss.eq.edu.au

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Parents and Carers,

NAPLAN

NAPLAN (National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) commenced last week and continues for approximately two weeks. It is a short set of assessments completed by students in Years 3 and 5 across Australia. The tests measure skills in reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy.

NAPLAN helps schools and families understand how students are progressing in these important areas and supports teachers to plan learning for students.

It's important to remember that NAPLAN is just one snapshot of a child's learning, and students are supported every day through their regular classroom work.

Our students are approaching NAPLAN with dedication and are keen to demonstrate their knowledge and skills. We can see them utilising our instructional routines, trying hard to use their PLD strategies and making the best of the time they have available to complete each assessment. I am very proud of our students for the work they are doing to complete NAPLAN tasks. I'd like to thank Matt Gurr and Lynn Faulkner for their work to lead this work with Jade Innes and our class teachers. Thank you, all.





CUPPA & CONNECT

WHO: Prep- Grade 2 parents, carers and families

WHEN: 8.30am - 9.30am (school drop off)
 (W3) Wednesday 11th Feb 2026
 (W5) Wednesday 25th Feb 2026
 (W7) Wednesday 11th March 2026
 (W9) Wednesday 25th March 2026

WHERE: Prep classroom on the corner of Denyer and Fitzpatrick Street

- Opportunity to meet and connect with other parents and carers
- Supporting Families
- Connections and referrals with support services
- Support family strengths
- Family engagement and collaboration
- Holistic Support

Jessi Ellison
Family Support Coordinator

WILSONTON STATE SCHOOL
 M: 0447 890 661
 Email: Jpenn74@eq.edu.au

Jarjums Playgroup Update

At the end of this term Mrs Paula Janz will be taking extended leave. Paula has led our KindyLinq and Playgroup programs for many years and we are very grateful to her for the work she has done to support young children and their families in the Wilsonton community. During this time, Paula has also dedicated much of her personal time to the work of the Wilsonton Early Years Network alongside our Support Teacher, Barb Reed, to promote the importance of early childhood education and support services.

With the commencement of the Family Support Coordinator role across the state, our school is now fortunate to have Jessi Ellison working with us in the early years space to compliment the work Paula has been doing.

At the end of this term Jarjums playgroup will pause while we take time to build on the work Jessi is doing in our school and the Wilsonton community. I strongly encourage those parents, carers and

children who have been attending playgroup to come along to Jessi's Cuppa and Connect mornings to get to know her and more easily access the support she is able to provide. We will share more information about our school playgroup in the coming months.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Janz for her dedication to our school over an extensive period of time and wish her all the very best for her time away.

Classroom Refurbishment – F Block: Year 6 Classrooms

Our school is receiving funding from the Department of Education to refresh two of our classroom blocks – F Block (Year 6) and G Block (Year 5). This refresh will see new flooring installed, and some wall sheeting will also be replaced. QBuild will manage this project.

Work will commence in the Year 6 block during Week 10. This means we will need classes to vacate the block to enable class furniture to be moved into storage. The majority of the works will take place over the Easter holidays. All going to plan, classes will be able to move into their refreshed rooms at the beginning of Term 2. We will contact the parents and carers of students in Year 6 with more information about where their child's class will relocate to within the school in the coming weeks.

The Year 5 block refresh will take place during the June/July school holidays.

Wear Orange for Harmony Day – 20 March

**Everyone
Belongs**

**Celebrating
Cultural
Diversity**

Harmony Day



We will be celebrating Harmony Day this Friday. Students, staff and community members are encouraged to wear **orange** to celebrate Australia's cultural diversity. We also encourage you to consider your child wearing something that represents their cultural background or heritage. It is a very special day about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone.

Students are to wear their uniform if not wearing orange or clothing to represent their cultural background. This is not a free dress day, a gold coin is not required. Please ensure the clothing your child wears is sun safe and appropriate for school. Regular school shoes must be worn for workplace health and safety reasons.

Congratulations

Attendance

Every Day Counts.



This week's Attendance Trophy goes to **3JH – 94%**!

Amazing!

Special mention goes to:

6JW – 93% - 2nd place

PYKR – 92% - 3rd place

Our whole school attendance goal this year is 90%.

Regular School Attendance Matters

At school, every day counts. Regular attendance helps students stay on track with their learning, build friendships and feel connected to school.

The Queensland Department of Education reminds us that students should attend school every day unless they are unwell or there is a genuine reason for absence. Even small amounts of time away from school add up. Missing just one day a fortnight can mean around four weeks of learning lost across the year.

Families can support strong attendance by:

- Establishing consistent morning routines
- Encouraging children to attend school every day
- Scheduling appointments outside school hours where possible

If your child is having difficulty attending school, please reach out to your child's teacher, Jessi Ellison, Ashlee Paterson or the school Leadership Team. We are here to work with families to support every student to attend school regularly.

AFL AusKick is Back!

Thank you to Miss Pearson who has been assisting me to engage with the team from AFL AusKick to bring this wonderful opportunity back to Wilsonton.

On Friday the 24th of April, a member of the AFL AusKick team will join our parade to share information about the program. We'll then have a specialised AFL training program for students in Year 4, 5 and 6 during school time on Wednesday the 29th of April.

Parents and carers will receive further information about the after school AusKick program. We can confirm the 4-week program will commence on the 11th of May and finish on the 1st of June. Sessions will run from 3:15 – 4:15pm. The cost to parents and carers which is payable to AusKick is \$55 per participant which includes 4 training sessions, a football, pump and football cards. Payment details will be provided by the AusKick team soon.



Security Fence Update



Thank you for your support of our new processes regarding gate opening and closing times. These plans were developed with the safety of your children in mind. Students are not to access the school until supervision is available. At our school, that commences at 8:05 unless they are entering via the front of the school on Bridge St with a parent or carer.

We have entered the final phase of our security fence project. We are now awaiting automation of our driveway gates and the gate at the office inside the school grounds. The anticipated completion time for this is at the end of the school holidays.

Below is our continuing plan:

Before School

The pedestrian gate closest to the administration building on Bridge Street will be open at 8:00am.

Pedestrian gates at the following locations will be opened by 8:05am:

- PYKR Prep Entry – *please use the pool gate latch to open and close this gate*
- Fitzpatrick Street
- Stella Court
- Mottram Court
- Bridge Street (gate closest to the bus stop)

These gates will be locked at 9:15am each day.

Please note that on Fridays, gates will be locked at 9:45am due to parade.

During School Hours

Once perimeter gates are locked, all visitors must enter via the main Bridge Street pedestrian entrance closest to the administration building. All students arriving late, and all parents, carers and community members, are required to report to the office upon entry.

After School

By 2:45pm, gates at the locations listed above will be unlocked in preparation for home time. All gates will be locked again at 3:15pm.

P&C Meeting Updates

Last week we held our P&C Annual General Meeting followed by our March General Meeting. It was lovely to have so many parents and school staff in attendance. I'd like to confirm our 2026 P&C Executive for you. Congratulations to:

- President – Kylie Hopkin
- Vice President – Angela Peterson
- Treasurer – Adrian Gustafson
- Secretary – Carolyn Ramsay

I look forward to working with our Executive and other members of the committee as we work towards fundraising goals and exciting projects this year.

The Wilsonton State School and Wilsonton State High School Parents and Citizens' Associations warmly invite you to join us for our inaugural Combined Trivia Night.

This special community event will be held on Saturday 30 May 2026 at the Wilsonton State High School Auditorium, and promises to be a fun evening of trivia, raffles, prizes and friendly competition while bringing together families, staff and members of the wider community.

Event Details

- Date: Saturday 30 May 2026
- Venue: Wilsonton State High School Auditorium
- Doors open: 5:45pm
- Trivia begins: 6:30pm
- This is an 18+ event.

Gather a group of friends, family members or colleagues and book a table for a fantastic night out. Teams are also encouraged to decorate their tables or dress in a theme to add to the fun atmosphere.

 Food and drinks will be available for purchase on the night.

 There will also be raffles and prizes throughout the evening.

All proceeds from the event will be evenly shared between the Wilsonton State School and Wilsonton State High School P&C Associations to support students at both schools through learning resources, wellbeing initiatives and school programs.

We are also currently seeking sponsorship and prize donations from local businesses and community members. If you or someone you know may be interested in supporting the event, we would greatly appreciate hearing from you.

Thank you for your continued support of our school communities. We hope to see many of our families enjoying a great night together.



TRIVIA NIGHT
Saturday 30 May 2026

Doors open 5:45pm for 6:30pm start

\$150 per table | \$20 per person

Max 8 people per table
Bar selling alcoholic & non-alcoholic beverages
18+ event | Strictly no BYO
EFTPOS available



www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1550509

WSHS Auditorium
275 North Street, Toowoomba

Raffles | Prizes | Games

Contact: wilsontonpnctrivia@gmail.com

Jointly hosted by
Wilsonton State School P&C Association &
Wilsonton State High School P&C Association



Coming Soon – WSS Cross Country

Our students are now preparing for the annual WSS Cross Country which will be held on the 25th of March. We encourage students to train for their event and it's important their pace is a steady jog, not a sprint, to be able to complete the distance. Parents and carers are welcome to attend with access to the school from the Bridge Street front gate or the two gates on Fitzpatrick Street. We encourage you to bring a camping chair and find a spot on the oval to cheer students on. This year we are working with a different course, with our students using the oval as well as areas within the school grounds rather than running outside of the school grounds as we have done previously.

Years 3-6 Order of Events

9.30am - 8yrs Boys (2018) 1.0km
9.35am - 8yrs Girls (2018)
9.45am - 9yrs Boys (2017) 1.0km
9.50am - 9yrs Girls (2017)
10.00am - 10yrs Boys (2016) 1.3km
10.05am - 10yrs Girls (2016)
10.15am - 11yrs Boys (2015) 1.3km
10.20am - 11yrs Girls (2015)

10.30am - 12yrs Boys (2014) 1.3km
10.35am - 12yrs Girls (2014)

Years P-2 Order of Events

12.15pm - Prep Boys 300m
12.20pm - Prep Girls
12.30pm - Year 1 Boys 600m
12.40pm - Year 1 Girls
12.50pm - Year 2 Boys 900m
1.00pm - Year 2 Girls

Year 5 Emu Gully Camp

This week Year 5 students have received information about their annual camp. We have confirmed the cost and bookings can now be made.

Things you need to know:

WHEN: Monday the 7th to Wednesday the 9th of September

COST: \$348.70 per student, this includes bus transport, accommodation, all meals, equipment and activities.

PAYMENT: A non-refundable deposit of \$100 is required by Friday 1st May. *School Boost Bonus can be used for deposit.*

WSS Supervising Staff: Three members of staff will be attending the camp with our students.

Numbers are strictly limited to 40 students, so it is important to note that it is essential to pay the deposit as soon as possible. Full payment must be made by the 7th of August.

Periodic payments can be made at any time; however the full payment of \$348.70 must be made by Friday the 7th of August.

Thank you to the Wilson State School P&C for funding the transport costs for this camp.



Parent Teacher Interviews

Each semester we invite parents/guardians to participate in a face-to-face interview with their child's teacher. These interviews provide a wonderful opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress to date and ask any questions you might have about how their learning is progressing. This year, interviews will be held on Monday the 30th of March, in the school hall, commencing at 3:20pm.

A letter with additional information and a return slip was sent home last week. We look forward to seeing you at parent teacher interviews during week 10.

I look forward to seeing you throughout the next fortnight.

Melita Patti
Acting Principal

A dark blue rectangular advertisement with green leafy patterns in the corners. The text is in white and yellow. The main heading is 'We're Hiring!' in large yellow font. Below it is 'Facilities Officer - Grounds Person' in white. The body text describes the job at Wilson State School, including hours and requirements. A yellow box at the bottom contains contact information for Karen Thomas.

We're Hiring!
Facilities Officer - Grounds Person

Wilson State School is seeking a reliable and hardworking Facilities Officer to work **Thursdays and Fridays (6.5 hours per day + ADO)** for the remainder of Term 1 and all of Term 2, with possible extension.

You'll job share with an experienced long-term staff member and help maintain our grounds, facilities and pool to a high standard.

Requirements:

- ✓ Grounds & maintenance experience
- ✓ Pool maintenance experience
- ✓ Strong work ethic & communication skills
- ✓ Current Blue Card & recent criminal history check

If you take pride in keeping spaces safe and welcoming, we'd love to hear from you!

Contact our Business Manager Karen Thomas (46371222 / kthom270@eq.edu.au) for more information.

SCHOOL TERMS AND CALENDAR

Term 1: Tuesday 27 January to Thursday 2 April—10 weeks

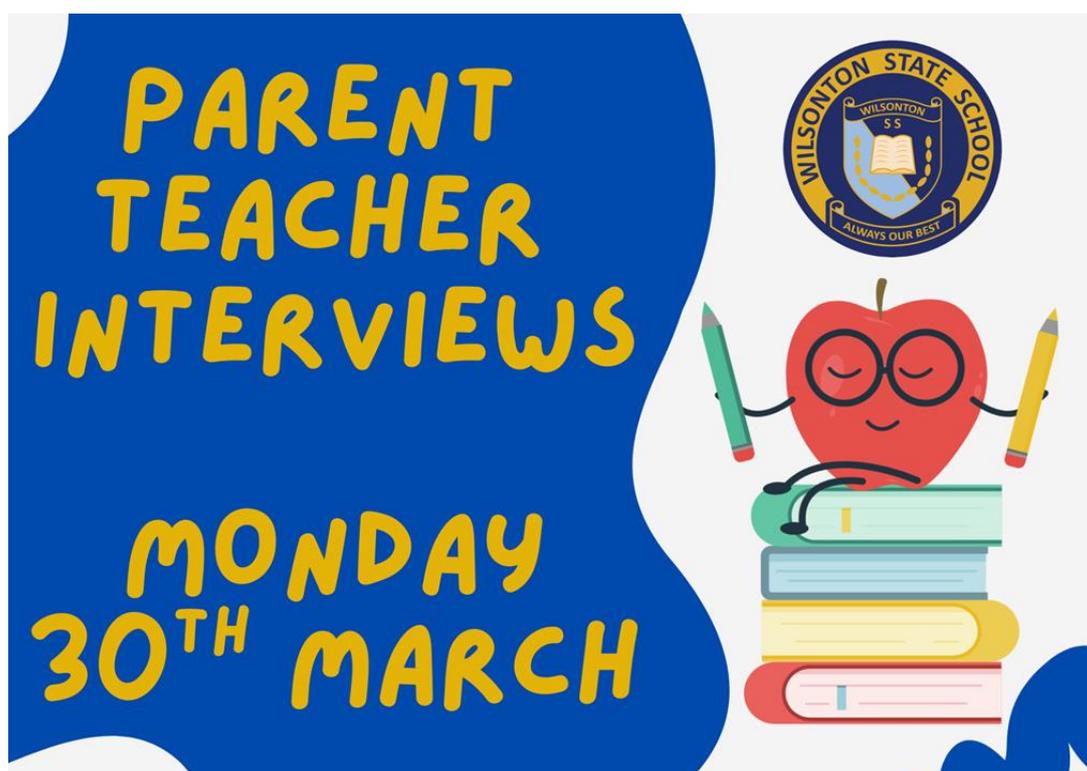
Term 2: Monday 20 April to Friday 26 June—10 weeks

Term 3: Monday 13 July to Friday 18 September—10 weeks

Term 4: Tuesday 6 October to Friday 11 December—10 weeks

Upcoming Dates

Week 8		
	19 Mar	NAPLAN
Week 9	20 Mar	NAPLAN Harmony Day Celebration All-of-RI-school-Easter-Assembly 11.50am - 12.30pm, church
	23 Mar	NAPLAN
Week 10	24 Mar	Year 2 and 3/4AB Swimming
	25 Mar	WSS Cross Country
	26 Mar	Wear Purple for Epilepsy Day
	27 Mar	Toowoomba Show Public Holiday
	30 Mar	PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Week 10	31 Mar	
	1 Apr	P&C Free Dress Day – Easter Theme
	2 Apr	Final Day of Term 1
	3 Apr	Good Friday Public Holiday



Student Engagement Update – Week Wrap

This week marks the conclusion of NAPLAN for our students. We have been incredibly impressed with the way students approached these assessments. Teachers have consistently reported that students put in a genuine effort and showed great perseverance across all sessions.

We are very proud of the way our students gave their best—this is exactly what we value most.

Circles in Classrooms

Across the school, classes have been continuing to build strong connections through check-in, check-out, preparation and response circles.

It has been fantastic to see:

- Students sharing openly and respectfully
- Thoughtful responses to prompts
- Increasing confidence in speaking and listening

These circles are an important part of building belonging, accountability and strong relationships in every classroom, and the growth in student participation has been noticeable.

Weekly Focus: Respecting Our School Toilets

This week, our whole-school focus has been on safe, respectful and responsible behaviour in our toilets, following some concerning behaviours observed recently.

As outlined in our student focus:

- Toilets should be safe, private and comfortable for everyone
- We have seen behaviours such as:
 - Throwing paper towel
 - Damaging dispensers and locks
 - Kicking doors
 - Invading others' privacy

These behaviours are considered a big problem because they:

- Make others feel unsafe
- Damage school property
- Take away resources from students

We have been explicitly teaching that:



- Privacy matters – eyes on your own space
- Respect matters – people, property and place
- Responsibility matters – leave the space clean for the next person

Students have also been learning about the real cost of damage, with repairs ranging from:

- \$120–\$600 for doors and locks
- \$150–\$300 for dispensers

Importantly, we've discussed what that money could otherwise provide—sports equipment, books, and playground improvements for everyone.

Moving Forward

Our message to students is clear:

We all have a role in keeping our school safe, respectful and a place we are proud of.

We appreciate your support in reinforcing these expectations at home.

Matt Gurr

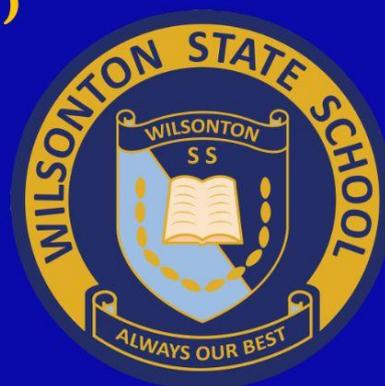
Deputy Principal



Cross Country 2026

STUDENTS, STAFF & PARENTS ARE
ENCOURAGED TO WEAR HOUSE COLOURS

**OTTER (GREEN), CHEROKEE (BLUE), PIPER (RED),
CESSNA (YELLOW)**



ORDER OF EVENTS

- 9.30am - 8 yrs Boys (2018) 1.0km
9.35am - 8 yrs Girls (2018) 1.0km
9.45am - 9 yrs Boys (2017) 1.0km
9.50am - 9 yrs Girls (2017) 1.0km
10.00am - 10 yrs Boys (2016) 1.3km
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10.15am - 11 yrs Boys (2015) 1.3km
10.20am - 11 yrs Girls (2015) 1.3km
10.30am - 12 yrs Boys (2014) 1.3km
10.35am - 12 yrs Girls (2014) 1.3km
- 12.15pm - Prep Boys 300m
12.20pm - Prep Girls 300m
12.30pm - Year 1 Boys 600m
12.40pm - Year 1 Girls 600m
12.50pm - Year 2 Boys 900m
1.00pm - Year 2 Girls 900m





Wilson State School Cross Country 2026 General Guidelines

This year our school cross country will be split into a Years 3-6 event and a Prep-Year 2 event. Years 3-6 students will compete in the morning, while Prep-Year 2 students will compete during the middle session. Parents and spectators are most welcome to attend.

It is most important that parents and/or spectators do not run beside children during the race, unfortunately this would result in their disqualification.

The start and finish areas need to be kept clear at all times, we ask that parents do not stand in either of these two areas.

Years 3 -6 students will move to the oval at 9.15am, events to begin at 9.30am. The carnival will finish by 11am.

Prep - Year 2 classes will move to the oval at 11.50am, events to begin at 12.15pm. The carnival will finish by 1.15pm.

Both lunch breaks will be normal, no food is required to be taken onto the oval.

STUDENTS, STAFF & PARENTS are encouraged to wear their house colours - **CESSNA (YELLOW)**, **OTTER (GREEN)**, **PIPER (RED)**, **CHEROKEE (SKY BLUE)**.

Shelter will be set up on the western side of the oval in front of the hall and extend north up the oval.

All students should have a water bottle and must have a hat which will be discarded before starting. All students must run in shoes, no spikes.

The start line will be adjacent to the junior playground area near the CEWB building, the finish line in the far SW corner of the oval.

IMPORTANT - Year 2's who are born in 2018 are not required to race with the Year 3's.

Students in Years 3-6 must run in their age group (Born 2018, 17, 16, 15, 14) not necessarily their class grade.

Any student suffering from illness on the day of the event should not participate.

Any student who suffers from asthma must bring with them the appropriate medication.

Selections for the school team will be based on overall time, finish position and time behind the winner. Only students born in 2017, 2016, 2015 and 2014 are eligible for selection.

If students wish to warm-up it is their responsibility to do so before school as no warm-up will take place pre-race.

Presentations will take place on parade following the holidays.

Congratulations

to our 2026 P & C Executive!



President - Kylie Hopkin
Vice President - Angela Peterson
Secretary - Carolyn Ramsay
Treasurer - Adrian Gustafson

We look forward to working with the P & C Executive and Committee in a strong partnership for our school and students.



PURPLE DAY MERCHANDISE

MAKE MARCH PURPLE FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH EPILEPSY!

\$18
EACH



Cute Purple Sloth



Adorable Purple Owl

\$20
EACH



Purple Alpaca



Kangaroo with Joey

Available at Wilson State School Office from Monday 16th March

- Cash Only (correct change please)
- While Stock Lasts (limited stock)
- All Funds Donated to Epilepsy Queensland



Epilepsy Awareness Day

Thurs 26th March
Come dressed in purple
GOLD COIN DONATION

HARMONY DAY

Celebrating Australia's Cultural Diversity



COME DRESSED IN ORANGE ON

FRIDAY 20TH MARCH

HOPPIN' EASTER FREE DRESS DAY



Dress in
Easter
theme!

WEDNESDAY
1st APRIL



Think pastel
colours, bunny
ears, chicks,
eggs, farmers,
Peter Rabbit



Gold coin donation

Please bring a \$1 or \$2 coin to
support our fundraiser

To help keep everyone safe and comfortable:

-  Closed-in shoes only – no slip-ons or thongs.
-  Be sun safe – no short shorts or singlet tops.
-  Keep it kind – any words or pictures should be positive and appropriate for school.

