



Court Grammar
School

THE COURT CHIMES

2025 - Responsibility for Learning



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From the principals desk - Patricia Rodrigues

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2025. It has been wonderful to see the staff and students settle into the year so quickly and with enthusiasm. Our theme for this year is "Responsibility for Learning" and we ask all our parents and members of our school community to support us in ensuring our students understand the importance of actively demonstrating this during the year.

With the growth of our school, we welcomed several new staff in 2025.

Danniela Cromie
Thomas Jones
Amy Knibbs
Stephanie Nash
Izelle Pienaar
Suresh Veerappan
Stephanie Vella Critien
Natasha Wilson
Damian Putter
Katrina Wade
Miranda Macintyre
Karen Leahy
Hannah Robinson
Alison Veerappan

Secondary Teacher - Visual Arts
Secondary Teacher - Mathematics
Secondary Teacher - Digital Technologies
Secondary Teacher - Food Technologies
Secondary Teacher - Mathematics
Secondary Teacher - Science
Secondary Teacher - English
Secondary Teacher - Science
Pre-Primary Teacher
Year 4 Teacher
Science - Lab Technician
Education Assistant - Primary
Education Assistant - Secondary
Education Assistant - Secondary/Primary

As usual we have had a busy start to the year with a number of events this term, beginning with the Year 12 Ball which was held on 1 February at the University Club of WA that was a beautiful evening. We commend our students on their exceptional dress and behavior throughout the evening. They looked so grown up and mature!

Our **Sir Charles Court Futures Assembly** saw Mark Glasson, CEO of Anglicare deliver the 2025 Oration, with our Pre Primary students presenting our Year 12 students with their class pins. This new tradition brought a tear to many eyes.

Our Y5-Y12 students participated in our **House Swimming Carnival**, which is always a great event that has everybody cheering from the sidelines. It's clear to see our Whitby and Yarrabah House spirit is truly alive and well!

Our Primary School held parent evenings during Week 4 and our Secondary School have also held year level parent evenings.

We celebrated our **Marron Cup day** last Friday, which turned out to be full of twists and turns, but both our staff and students proved once again their resilience and ability to be flexible with arrangements are second to none when we discovered we had no power Friday morning. Our Marron Cup Day Assembly always sets the scene for the rest of the day with our traditional game of Cricket and activities, as well as inflatables, a sausage sizzle and food trucks for the afternoon and evening.

Enrolments – I have started our Year 7 Enrolment interviews for 2026, so it is timely to remind families to ensure you have submitted any sibling applications for any of our year groups as we are waitlisted for some of our year levels.

The building that we are calling our **Sapling Center** on Soldiers Road and our much-awaited **Aquatic Centre** are both well under way. The first will house 15 classrooms, offices, toilets, new canteen and a very large Multipurpose area will be ready for the start of 2026. The aquatic center will be ready mid 2026 and be very state of the art!



Chaplain's Chat - Reverend Noah Mbano

As we find ourselves well into the school year, it's heartening to reflect on the many events and opportunities that have already unfolded. With a strong sense of purpose, we're journeying through the various challenges and triumphs that make a school year so special. As your School Chaplain and having just returned from my pilgrimage to the UK, it is my privilege to share with you a few reflections, particularly as we embark on some important milestones and themes in our school community's life.



NAPLAN Testing: A Time for Growth and Reflection

For many of our students, this time of year brings the beginning of NAPLAN testing. It's natural for both students and parents to feel a bit of anxiety around this time. However, I want to remind everyone that NAPLAN is not just about testing knowledge; it's about growth, resilience, and the opportunity to showcase the hard work and learning that happens throughout the year. Whether students are sitting the test for the first time or are seasoned participants, this experience can be a valuable one if approached with a mindset of growth and understanding. It's important for students to know that NAPLAN is just one moment in their educational journey. While the results are useful for identifying areas for improvement, they do not define who you are or your potential. I encourage everyone to approach the tests with a calm spirit, a focus on doing their best, and most importantly, to remember that their worth is not measured by a test score.

The Season of Lent: A Time for Reflection and Renewal

As we move further into the year, we also find ourselves in the season of Lent, a time of reflection and renewal for Christians. Lent is a period of 40 days leading up to Easter, traditionally observed with prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. It's a time for Christians to draw closer to God, reflect on their own lives, and grow spiritually. Whether through giving up something, taking on a new prayer practice, or focusing on acts of kindness, Lent offers each of us an opportunity to pause, reflect, and renew our hearts and minds. For those who observe Lent, it's not just a time of personal sacrifice but also a time to remember the needs of others. It's a chance to give back to the community, whether it's through acts of service, generosity, or simply being present for one another. As a school community, let's support each other during this time, encouraging one another to stay focused on the true spirit of Lent—growth, renewal, and compassion.



Chaplain's Chat - Reverend Noah Mbano

Patience and Gratitude during Construction

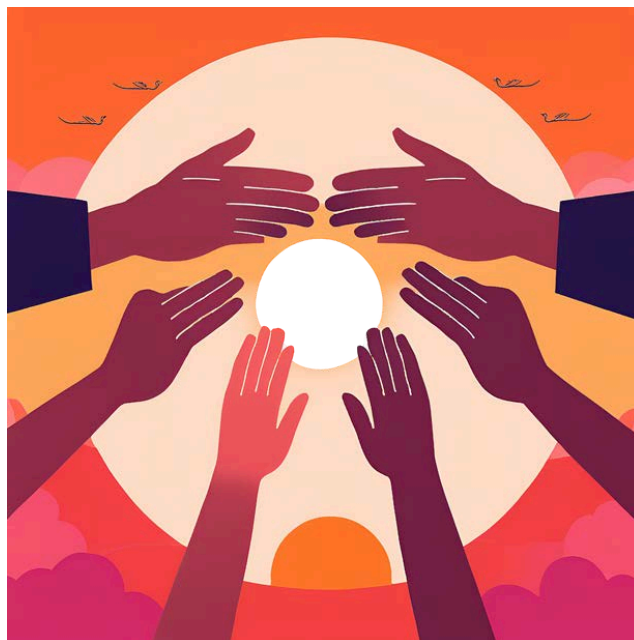
A heartfelt thank you is also in order for the entire school community as we continue to navigate the ongoing construction work around the school. We are all aware of the noise, the detours, and the slight disruptions that come with such large-scale projects. But it is important to remember that these changes are part of the long-term vision to create a better environment for our students, teachers, and staff. The new spaces and improved facilities will make a lasting impact on the learning and growth of our school community for years to come. We know that construction can be challenging at times, but the patience, understanding, and cooperation shown by everyone during this process has been nothing short of remarkable. I'm deeply grateful for the way everyone—students, staff, and parents—have managed the inconvenience with grace and resilience. Your positive attitudes have truly been a testament to the strength of our community.

Moving Forward Together

As we continue through this year, let us remember that it's not only about academic achievement or physical spaces; it's about growing together, nurturing one another, and fostering a community that reflects the values of kindness, understanding, and faith. It is about the Marrion Cup, and other School events. Whether it's in the classroom, during Lent, or while navigating construction, we are all working together to create a school environment where every individual is valued, supported, and encouraged to grow.

Thank you for your ongoing support and for your patience as we continue to make our school an even better place for learning and growth.

Let's keep looking ahead with optimism, patience, and a spirit of gratitude.



Deputy Principal - Mike Jenzen

How do I best support my teenager at School?

As we start a new year of school, for a large number of parents it may be the first for them with a child entering Secondary school. Whilst the opportunities to be physically present may be less frequent than in their primary years, parents still play an important role in helping their teenage son or daughter be successful at school. We know that students whose parents or carers actively show an interest in their schooling will perform better. Helping our teenagers be successful is a joint effort. It is important that the students get similar messages from both home and school regarding expectations of behaviour as well as the value of education.

Here are five simple tips on how to give your teenager messages that you are interested in and value their schooling:

1. Attend school events

Simply by attending school events you give a message that you are interested and value what they are doing. As well, you will have a greater sense of your teenager's context at school when you are talking about school during the year. You will have a greater sense of their teachers and an increased understanding of the school's approach which will be helpful should your son or daughter come home disgruntled about something.

2. Stay connected

Be aware of how the school communicates and stay informed about their progress. Stay abreast of messages to do with their cohort and other school happenings through SEQTA, the website, Facebook and newsletters.

3. Homework

Support your son or daughter to set themselves up for success by establishing routines and spaces which allow them to complete the increasing demands of homework and study as they get older. If things get too much for them encourage your teen to ask for help when it's needed. Most teachers are available for extra help before or after school, and also might be able to recommend other resources. CGS runs after-school classes in the Pavilion every day except Friday.

4. Diet and Sleep

Teenagers who eat a good breakfast and who have a good nights' sleep free from interruptions from devices are more likely to do well at school. Teenagers need between 8 to 10 hours sleep a night. Work back from the time they need to be awake in the morning and establish a good routine in the evening.

5. Manage Devices

Staying up late at night using social media or gaming significantly hampers a teenagers' ability to cope and focus the following day. In addition, we see many social issues arise at school from what has occurred on-line over the weekend or at night. Be aware of what your teenager is doing on-line and have an understanding with them on how it will be managed. I would also encourage not allowing them to have their device in their bedroom at night.

Head of Secondary School - Brad Krokosz

Why Year 10 Semester One counts so much

Now that students have settled into their subjects for the year, if there is one piece of advice I can give to Year 10 students, it's that Semester One counts! The reason is, that early in Semester Two we begin talking about subject selections and some students will also consider applying for Off-Campus TAFE VET in Schools courses. Entry to courses will be based on the student's performance in Semester One, hence my reminder that Semester One counts!

NAPLAN

Secondary students in Years 7 & 9 will begin their NAPLAN testing on March 12. In preparation for this testing, students will participate in practice assessments to ensure they are familiar with the format of the online tests. Students and parents are reminded that part of the NAPLAN testing is a listening component, and students are expected to bring headphones to plug into their devices. Please ensure your child's device is charged overnight and ready for assessments the next day.

Head of Primary School - Patricia McLoughlin

A Great Start

We would like to share a huge thank you to all our Primary parents and students for such a smooth and positive transition to a new school year. Your support, organisation and collaboration have been invaluable in ensuring that our school systems run efficiently and effectively, such as uniform expectations and the Kiss and Drive procedures. Your partnership plays a vital role in creating a strong, supportive school community, and we truly appreciate your efforts in helping us foster a safe, organised and welcoming environment for all. We look forward to an exciting year of learning, growth, and success together through our focus of 'Responsibility for Learning'.



Primary Information Meetings











Thank you for attending our recent Primary Information Meetings. Your active participation and thoughtful contributions play a vital role in strengthening the partnership between home and school. It was clear from these meetings just how dedicated you are to your child's education. We truly appreciated the opportunity to connect, discuss their progress, and collaborate on ways to support their growth and development. Thank you once again for your continued support and commitment to your child's learning. We look forward to working together to nurture the success and wellbeing of all our students.



Head of Primary School - Patricia McLoughlin (cont)

Our Primary Student Profiles

In alignment with the CGS Ethos and Respect Values, last year, our primary section developed a set of 'student actions' that reflect our school's core principles. These actions are designed to be integrated into our classroom behavioural systems, ensuring that the Ethos and Values are not just words, but are actively lived in our daily practice. Our aim is to make these values meaningful and relevant within the primary years, guiding students in both their academic and personal development. The actions, created by the Primary Teaching Team, are intended to support students not only at school but also in fostering skills and qualities that will benefit them in all areas of their lives. Throughout the school year, students will connect further with these actions, encountering them during moments of celebration as well as times of behavioural reflection. We encourage you to discuss these terms and their simple definitions with your child to help reinforce their understanding at home.

Our Student Profiles	What it looks like	
Caring	I am kind and think about how I impact others.	
Communicator	I listen and share my ideas thoughtfully.	
Collaborator	I can work with others productively for a purpose.	
Creative	I can explore different ways to solve problems or complete a task.	
Risk-taker	I try new things and understand that learning can push my personal boundaries.	
Resilient	I keep on trying even though something may be challenging.	
Inquirer	I ask questions to solve problems and understand the world around me.	
Independent	I think about how I can do things for myself and 'take action'.	
Integrity	I do what I know is right and help others to make good choices.	
Reflective	I think of what and how I have achieved and how I can be even better.	

The History of the Marron Cup

Where on earth did the Marron Cup tradition originate?

When the School first began, the leadership team were mapping out all the competitive events the two Houses could earn points for. Wanting to begin the House competition as soon as possible, it was decided the opening event should be a Cricket match, given it was Cricket season and, at the time, the school was located adjacent to the Mundijong Cricket Club and had full access to the Cricket oval and facilities.

Much like Australia and England playoff for the Ashes, it was decided the winning House should not only enjoy the bragging-rights of winning, they should also receive some sort of trophy.

Given the limited funds available, the staff scrounged around looking for ideas. In the corner of the staff office was a box of toys that had been left over from the play-group that had recently vacated the hall. One staff member pulled out an orange rock lobster toy, and said 'what about this?' Another staff member commented that "it looked like a marron, only orange!" Given the Yarrabah farm had marron ponds on it, it was decided.

The Woodwork teacher quickly whisked the orange rock lobster off to the workshop, gave it a spray of gold paint and mounted it on a polished jarrah shield, and in doing so created the most prized possession, that of the 'Marron Cup.'

Much argument followed that the Marron Cup, wasn't actually a cup, but none the less, the name had such a ring to it, no one disputed it. (Besides, the little secret that the Marron is actually a spray-painted orange Rock lobster toy, will just be between you and me!)

This takes nothing away from the fact that the Marron Cup symbolically represents both the significant history of the Yarrabah marron farm, and the opening event of the House competition.

The battle for the Marron Cup has been fierce since the school's inception and it remains the School's oldest House competition.

The day has now built to begin with a (segregated) Pre-Primary to Year 12 Assembly, involving the distribution of House Colours, presenting Swimming Carnival medals & Respect Mascots, awarding the Best Dressed Competition champions and the hotly contested (and truly deafening) Chant Off between the Houses.

The assembly is followed by Cricket-based activities for the Primary school in Period 5, run by the Year 11/12 Sport & Recreation students, and this year, the beginning of the "Mini Marron" Year 5/6 Cricket match in Period 6!

Finally, we host the Year 7 - 9 game immediately afterschool, followed by the Year 10 - 12 contest.

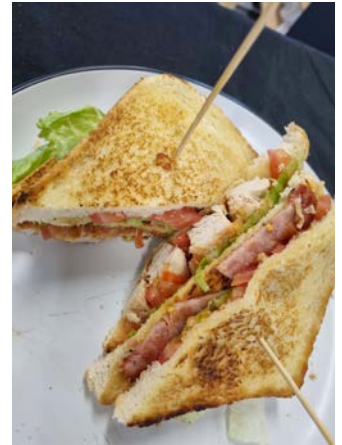
House results from the day are published further into the Newsletter.



What's happening around the School

Year 10 Food Science - Mrs Nash

We are excited to share an update on the progress of our Food Science students, from Years 6 through 12, as we begin Term 1. In just five weeks, students have already demonstrated enthusiasm and a strong aptitude for developing their cooking skills and expanding their knowledge of food safety, hygiene, and nutrition.



This update highlights our Year 10 Food Science course, where students are delving into cafe culture. They're actively refining cooking skills, sensory evaluation, and food presentation. We're already impressed with their rapid progress in understanding the importance of visual appeal. Their eagerness to learn and apply new techniques is commendable, and we believe this course provides a valuable cooking foundation.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our Food Science program.

Our 2025 Primary and Secondary Leaders



Our Primary Leaders (L-R)- Ryan Stuart, Eilidh McKay, Jonathan Emons, Emma Watson, Patrick Galvin, Elise Holmwood and Dylan Hall

Our Secondary Leaders (L-R) - Jarrah Johnston, Ebonie Richardson, Jobe Riseley, Ava O'Neill, Cambell Chappells, Caleb Macey, Gracie Mansey, Lilly Quinn and Esther Amory

Naming of our Whitby and Yarrabah Llama's

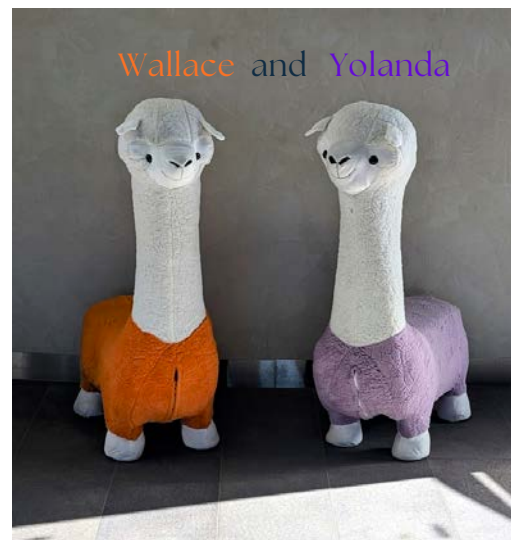
Over the past two weeks, excitement has been building as we searched for the perfect names for our new **Whitby** and **Yarrabah** llamas at the Pavilion!

After sorting through an incredible number of creative entries from both students and staff, the wait is finally over—our beloved llamas now have their official names!

Drumroll, please... 🥁

Meet **Wallace** and **Yolanda**! 🎉

A huge thank you to everyone who participated and helped us give our llamas names as special as they are!



Secondary Science Department



**Fern spore capsules
at 4x magnification**

We have triumphantly completed nearly 60 practical experiments across our secondary year groups!

Our explorations have traversed the realms of Geology, delving into rocks and minerals, while unraveling the mysteries of friction and the laws of inertia in physics. In the captivating world of Chemistry, we've danced with spectrometry. Recently, our Biology students reveled in the wonders of nature, observing spore capsules nestled upon a fern frond (as captured in the image). Meanwhile, our eager year 7s have been embarking on a delightful journey into the basics of science and its tools.

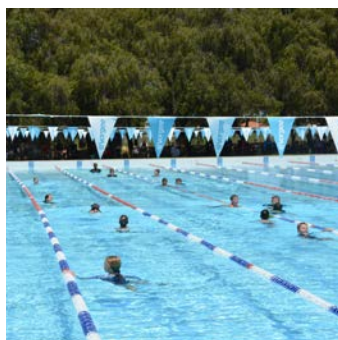
A treasure trove of adventures awaits! So, do remember to keep your Science Journals meticulously updated, and we shall continue to sprinkle joy with our hands-on practicals!

House Competitions - Mr Freel

We capped off the first competition on the House Calendar this year with the Swimming Carnival in Week 2.

It was a scorcher of a day, filled with some excellent talent on display from both Whitby & Yarrabah. Credit must also be given to the Year 12 Sport & Recreation students, who were responsible for officiating the event.

Once the races were over, the students all hopped back in the pool for the “Watermelon Relay” and “Ball Scramble”, which was a fun way to round out the day.



Congratulations to the following students, who were acknowledged at our recent Marron Cup Assembly for their efforts at the Swimming Carnival:

Year 5 Girls

Mackenzie Withers – Champion

Hannah Currie – Runner Up

Year 6 Girls

Lilly Poulter – Champion

Savannah Nunn – Runner up

Year 7 Girls

Emery Herdman – Champion

Charlotte McLaren – Runner Up

Year 8 Girls

Medea Neil – Champion

Scarlett Nunn – Runner Up

Year 9 Girls

Kiala Herdman – Champion

Olivia Knapp – Runner up

Year 10 Girls

Alyssah Nunn – Champion

Lillee Rowe – Runner Up

Open Girls

Atenea Mora Balaguera – Champion

Gracie Mansey – Runner Up

Year 5 Boys

Ryan Barclay – Champion

Malachy McLaren – Runner Up

Year 6 Boys

Patrick Galvin – Champion

Christopher Clarke – Runner Up

Year 7 Boys

Harrison Jarrett – Champion

Callum Crossley – Runner up

Year 8 Boys

Kian Young – Champion

Lucas Glenn – Runner up

Year 9 Boys

David Glenn – Champion

Jon Morris – Runner Up

Year 10 Boys

Lincoln Workman – Champion

Xavier Allen – Runner Up

Open Boys

Colm Galvin – Champion

Charlie Sullivan – Runner up

House Competitions

Respect Mascot for **Whitby**

Year 5, **Ryan Barclay**, was nominated by Sport Coordinator, Mr Furzer

- Ryan has been awarded the Respect Mascot for Whitby for swimming every race on the day – even though nervous for his butterfly event, he overcame his nerves and swam an amazing race. He had a positive attitude throughout the whole day.

Respect Mascot for **Yarrabah**

Year 6, **Patrick Galvin**, was nominated by Secondary Yarrabah Coordinator, Mr Piper

- Patrick was nominated for dominating to start with, by doing every event, but also...
- For encouraging others to sign up to races which were not filled, by bringing them to his House Coordinator's **Mr Piper & Ms Silvi**
- Helping his fellow Year 6's with putting on their swimming caps – With varying degrees of success, undeterred
- And of course, cheering on his teammates all day

Overall results:

Whitby: 695 - **Yarrabah**: 982

Following this triumphant victory of a major sporting event, we continue the tradition of allowing students from the winning House to wear their House Uniform on the following Friday.

Congratulations to Yarrabah for securing the first House Uniform day; Friday 14th March (Week 6).

Marron Cup Day Cricket results

Year Level	Whitby	Yarrabah
5/6	29	9
7 – 9	63	50
10 – 12	20	77
Combined	112	136

Congratulations to **Yarrabah**, overall.

Special thanks to all staff involved for accommodating the activities and supervising the afterschool festivities.

Thank you also to all members of our wonderful community who came down to throw their support behind their House and partake in the spectacle of the day.



Year 2 - Mrs Wixted

🌍 As part of our inquiry unit, we explored how caring for the Earth means reducing waste, recycling, and saving water.

🌱 We learned about regeneration in nature, discovering how plants grow from seeds through their life cycles.

🌿 To bring this to life, we planted our own seeds and will observe their growth over time.

💬 These activities sparked thoughtful discussions about protecting our planet and nature's amazing processes.

🌸 We're excited to watch our plants grow and see regeneration in action!



Marron Cup Day - Best Dressed

Congratulations to the following students and staff for being awarded the Best Dressed on Marron Cup Day - Each will be receiving 20 Colour points

Best Dressed Primary **Whitby** = Josie Gibson

Best Dressed Primary **Yarrabah** = Mackenzie Withers

Best Dressed Secondary **Whitby** = Lily Sammut

Best Dressed Secondary **Yarrabah** = Madeline Jarrett

Best Dressed Staff **Whitby** = Ms. Boccuzzi

Best Dressed Staff **Yarrabah** = Ms. Francis

Best Dressed **Whitby** Dog = Scully Tolhurst

Best Dressed **Yarrabah** Dog = Diaz Tolhurst



Careers and VET Information



Meet our talented CGS VET students

At Court Grammar School, students can engage in a diverse range of vocational education and training (VET) programs, equipping them with practical skills and industry-recognised qualifications. These certificate courses span various fields, including aviation, retail, tourism, education, healthcare, engineering, and construction

Students can pursue qualifications such as **Certificate II in Aviation (Cabin Crew)**, **Certificate II in Retail Cosmetics**, and **Certificate III in Retail**, catering to those interested in customer service and hospitality industries. Technical and trade-focused pathways include **Certificate II in Integrated Technologies (Pre-Vocation) - Robotics Stream**, **Certificate II in Electrotechnology (Career Start)**, **Certificate III in Engineering (Technical)**, and **Certificate II in Building and Construction (Pathway Trades) - Bricklaying/Blocklaying**.

For those considering careers in health and education, options include **Certificate III in School-Based Education Support**, **Certificate II in Community Services (with a focus on Early Childhood)**, **Certificate IV in Preparation for Health and Nursing Studies**, and **Certificate III in Dental Laboratory Assisting**. Additionally, students can explore logistics and automotive industries through **Certificate II in Supply Chain Operations** and **Certificate II in Automotive Vocational Preparation - Light, Heavy, and Electrical Rotation**.

Through these diverse certificate programs, Court Grammar School provides students with valuable hands on experience and industry certifications, supporting their transition into further education, apprenticeships, or the workforce.

**2025: Where do I start?
Let's do some investigating**

Go to website: yourcareer.gov.au/industries

Scroll through the industries and click on any you may be interested in exploring. This will give you detailed information about the industry and the process of becoming qualified. It explores TAFE, Apprenticeships, Traineeships, University, Other.

For further information please contact Ms. Jude Stringer.

Administration News

Updating family details

Families are now able to update contact details including addresses, phone numbers, student medical details and billing information through our Parent lounge. All families should have received a link to the parent lounge with your Term 1 fee statements. If you haven't yet activated your account you can contact our IT department who will be able to assist you.

Parking for families who use Camp Australia

Families who use Camp Australia for either before school or after school care are reminded to use the visitor parking bays at the front of the School when dropping off and collecting your children.

Uniform shop Hours

During the School Term our standard hours and days are as follows:

Monday: 8.00am - 11.00am

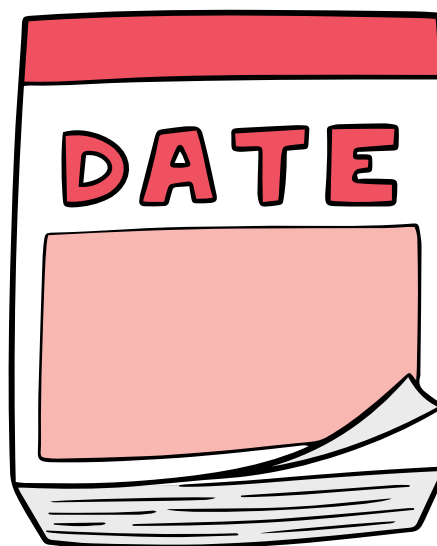
Wednesday: 12.30pm - 3.30pm

The uniform shop is open to students Monday during recess (10:15am - 10:30am) and Wednesday lunchtime (12.50pm - 1:15pm)



Upcoming Events

- **Wednesday 12 March** - NAPLAN Commences
- **Thursday 13 March** - Y9 HASS Excursion, Y5 - Y12 Art Incursion
- **Friday 14 March** - Year 9 Rite Journey Calling/Departure Ceremony
- **Monday 17 March** - Y12 ODE Excursion
- **Tuesday 18 March** - School Tour
- **Wednesday 19 March** - Y7-Y12 ACC Interscholar Swimming Carnival
- **Friday 21 March** - Primary School Assembly, Y7 Yarrabah House Pilgrimage, Movie Night
- **Friday 28 March** - Y7 Whitby House Pilgrimage
- **Monday 31 March** - Y11-Y12 Cert II First Aid Training
- **Tuesday 1 April** - Y10 HASS Incursion
- **Thursday 3 April** - School Bookfair commences, Y8 HASS Excursion
- **Friday 4 April** - Primary School Assembly, Y11 ODE Excursion, Primary School Disco
- **Tuesday 8 April** - Y10 Immunisations, Y5-Y6 Girls AFL Carnival
- **Friday 11 April** - Y7-Y12 House Cross Country, Easter Assembly, Last day of Term



Upcoming School Events (cont)

Court Grammar Movie Night March 21st 2025



Thai on Tyres
The Crust Culture
The Little Phap
Mild Bite



Food from 4pm
Movie 6.30pm
Finish 8.30pm

Charlie AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY™

Court Grammar Community Event



**Please contact Mrs Kelly
via SEQTA if you require
any further information.**

What's on in Term 1



at Before
and After
School Care!

Your OSHC.

by  Camp Australia


Every Friday

Big Art Fridays

On Fridays, we **pARTy**

February 17-21

Kindness Week

Be the "I" in  kind

February 21

Kindness Week disco

February 28 - March 28

Big Art Comp

Show the world your true colours!

Free webinar for families

Building Children's Resilience

with Maggie Dent

Find out more



campaustralia.com.au/back-to-school-term1