# WISDOM NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF WISDOM COLLEGE

# FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

MR. DAMIEN BARRY

The end of our school year is fast approaching and with that comes a number of important events and dates.

- Our Awards Ceremony is on Wednesday 15th November times and venue are contained within this newsletter.
- Our Year 12's are graduating next week as well. Week 7. Their last day is Thursday 16th November. There will be a whole school assembly at 2pm and their Graduation Dinner (Valedictory Dinner) is that evening.
- At the end of Week 8 Friday 24th November this is the last day for our Prep's Year 10 and 11 students.
- EOYP (End of Year Performance) Friday 24th November
- All other year levels finish on Friday 1st December.

I have also recently sent an email to all parents, with a link to a survey. This is also contained here:

https://wisdomcollege4116.formstack.com/forms/parent\_survey \_2022\_copy

This survey is something that we do every year to obtain feedback on all that we do at Wisdom, and to seek ways to improve. It will only take a few minutes and your feedback is very valuable to us so I thank you in advance. It is completely confidential and anonymous.

## **IN THIS ISSUE**

- Principal's Message
- New Edstart Platform
- Head of Secondary
- Head of Primary
- Head of Teaching and Learning
- Head of Co-Curricular
- Student Support Officer
- 2023 Fete Save The Date
- Calendar Key Dates
- Updates and Information

Finally, a reminder that we will be changing our 4 House names from the start of the 2024 school year. Students will remain in their same House, its purely a name change to better reflect our College heritage and history.

- Farabi House (Red this was originally Purple)
- Sina House (Blue)
- Awar House (Yellow)
- Khaldun House (Green)

I hope to see many parents at our end of year events.

# THANK YOU TO OUR FETE SPONSORS

**PLATINUM SPONSOR** 



UNIT 1007 FAIRFIELD ROAD YEERONGPILLY QLD 4105

**GOLD SPONSOR** 



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PAZAR

SHOP 3, 1060 ROCHEDALE ROAD, SPRINGWOOD QLD 4127

# New way to pay your school fees

Set up your account at edstart.com.au/wisdom



We are very pleased to share that Wisdom College has partnered with Edstart to improve the fee payment experience for families. From Term 1, 2024, ALL FEE payments to Wisdom College will be made through the Edstart platform.

Whilst we put our resources into the highest quality education, sustainability and continued new initiatives, Edstart are the experts in their field and are best placed to support our families with fee payment options moving forward. We are always here to assist with any concerns and will work closely with Edstart for a smooth transition.

With Edstart Plus, families will have access to more options with their school fee payments, including:

- Options to pay weekly, fortnightly, monthly, termly, or annually by selecting the schedule that works for them
- The ability to choose a preferred day for when payments are made
- The option to spread your fees across the school year over a full 12-month period.
- The flexibility to adjust payments at any time
- Edstart pays the school up front for your fees, while you continue to have flexible payment terms
- Annual payers will still receive an early payment discount if paid by the due date

There are no fees or charges for using Edstart Plus for your Wisdom College fees. This is not a credit product and will not appear on your credit file or history. All families are required to have set up their Edstart account by Monday 27th November, in preparation for payment of fees in Term 1, 2024.

To set up your Edstart account please use the link that has been emailed to you or visit edstart.com.au/wisdom The school will forward a copy of your invoice to Edstart each term, Edstart will then pay your school fees on your behalf when they are due.

Please refer to the attached flyer for more information. You can contact Edstart on 1300 139 445 or email contact@edstart.com.au if you have any queries or require assistance.



Wisdom College has partnered with Edstart to provide you with more flexibility and choice for your school fees



#### About Edstart Plus

Edstart Plus is a school fee management service to help your school improve the fee payment experience. It is free for families to use and you can choose the payment option that best fits your budget.

| Select the schedule that works for you  |                                |          |
|---|--------------------------------|----------|
| Annual upfront                          | ✓ Termly                       |          |
| Monthly                                 | ✓ Fortnightly                  | ✓ Weekly |
| Choose your preferred payment metho     | d                              |          |
| Direct debit from your account          | Credit card                    | ✓ BPay   |
| Adjust your payments at any time if the | ere are changes to your budget |          |

#### What happens if I want to change my payments?

Simply contact us and we'll adjust your payments based on your preference. There are no fees or charges for implementing these changes.

#### Is Edstart Plus a credit or loan product?

Edstart Plus is not classified as a loan, credit or borrowing facility. No enquiry or account is added to your credit file when using Edstart Plus.

#### Do I need to verify my identification during the setup process?

As Edstart's payment service is regulated by ASIC, we are required by law to verify your identity before setting up your account by cross-referencing the details on your credit report. This will not impact your credit file or your credit rating. Alternatively, you can provide your Driver Licence or Passport to complete this process.

#### How to get started

To set up your Edstart account, visit our dedicated website atedstart.com.au/wisdom



1300 139 445



contact@edstart.com.au



edstart.com.au/wisdom



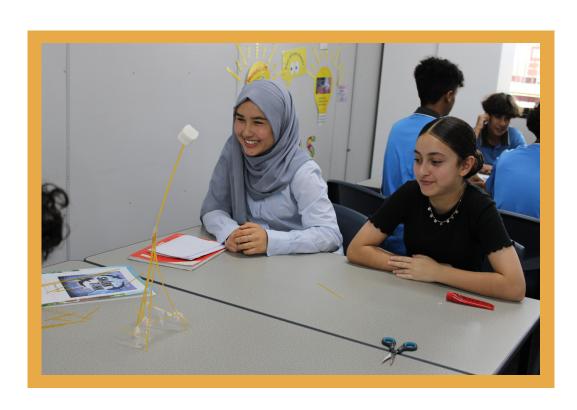
### **HEAD OF SECONDARY**

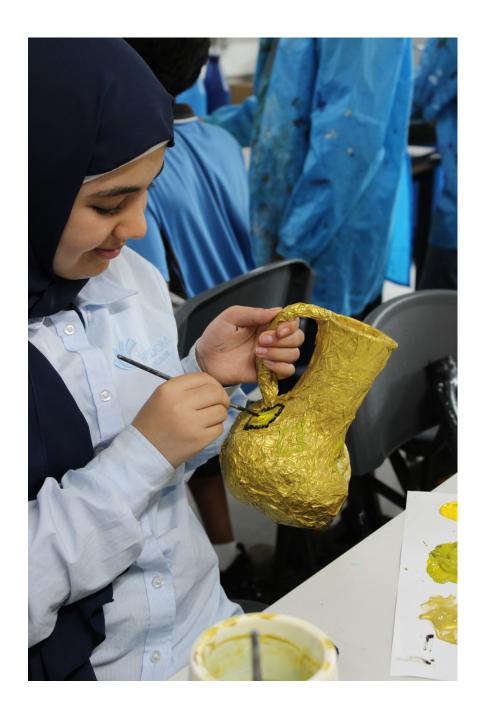
MR. JAMES EASTHOPE

Dear Parents and Students,

I trust this message finds you well and filled with enthusiasm for the rest of the term ahead. We have had a great beginning to the term, with students showing remarkable dedication and enthusiasm towards their studies. We are now past half way through the term, with only 3 weeks left! Lets begin the race to the end!

One of the areas we have been focused on throughout the year is our uniform standards. We take pride in our appearance at Wisdom College, and upholding our "Big 6" standards is a reflection of our respect for ourselves, our institution, and each other. We kindly remind students to ensure their shirts are tucked in, wear a belt with the formal uniform, and adjust their ties correctly (top button done up etc). Formal shoes with the formal uniform are a must, and our female students are to wear a single set of sleepers or studs in their ears, nothing more. No nose piercings or other facial features are accepted. For our male students, piercings are not allowed, and we require that hair is tied back neatly, off the face and shoulders. Your cooperation in maintaining these standards is greatly appreciated.





Additionally, as we progress through the term, it's crucial that students are well-prepared for each class. Being astute and organized is the key to academic success. It is a great opportunity for students to prepare thoroughly, manage their time effectively, and stay updated with their assessments.

Our commitment to fostering a positive and conducive learning environment remains unwavering. I encourage all students to take advantage of this environment by engaging in their lessons, asking questions, and seeking support when needed. Let's keep the lines of communication open between students, teachers, and parents to ensure the best possible learning experience. Thank you for your continued support. We are excited about the great things in store through the remainder of this term and look forward to the achievements and growth of our students. Together, we can make this term a resounding success.

For other announcements and news updates in the secondary school, please visit our <u>Secondary Hub</u>. Wishing you all a productive and rewarding week and rest of the term.

## HEAD OF PRIMARY

MS. ZAINAB RASHED

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we move through the busy Term 4, I wanted to take a moment to share some of the exciting events and activities that have been happening in our primary school.

# WEEKLY ASSEMBLIES - CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS TOGETHER

We are delighted to see parents actively participating in our weekly assemblies, celebrating their children's achievements. Your presence and support mean a great deal to our students, and it's heartwarming to witness the strong sense of community that exists within our school.

#### YEAR 5 AND 6 CAMP, AND OTHER EXCURSIONS

In Week 3, our Year 5 and Year 6 students embarked on a thrilling journey of adventure and learning at their annual camp. The camp fostered teamwork, leadership, and unforgettable memories. Our students had the opportunity to step out of their comfort zones, try new things, and create lasting bonds with their peers. We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to the staff, teachers, and everyone who made this experience possible for our students.

This term has also been packed with exciting excursions and field trips. These opportunities for experiential learning have allowed our students to explore the world beyond the classroom.

#### PREP AND YEAR 6 GRADUATION CEREMONIES

One of the most significant events on the horizon is the Prep and Year 6 Graduations. These are important milestones in the academic journey of our young learners. We are thrilled to announce that the graduations will take place in Week 8 on Monday. We have already sent out detailed information to parents via email regarding these ceremonies, so please be sure to check your inbox for all the necessary details.

Additionally, I'd like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to the Parents and Friends (P&F) Associations for their generous support in funding the graduation gowns for our Prep and Year 6 students. It is your support that makes these special events even more memorable.

# PREP ORIENTATION WEEK AND PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

We would like to inform you that enrolments for next year's Prep class are filling up fast. For students who have already been accepted into our school, we will be hosting a Prep Orientation Week and Prep Parent Information Sessions in week 9. We look forward to welcoming prospective Prep students and their parents to our school.

We are excited about what the future holds for our young learners and look forward to many more moments of celebration and shared success.



# HEAD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

MRS. AYSE DOGAN

As we approach the end of another school year, it's time to reflect on the journey we've undertaken together and to extend our heartfelt appreciation to each and every one of you. It has been a year filled with growth, learning, and a shared commitment to excellence.

First and foremost, we want to commend our incredible students for their unwavering efforts and hard work throughout this academic year. Your dedication to your studies, extracurricular activities, and personal growth is truly commendable, especially with all that is happening As we approach the end of the year, we encourage you to continue striving for excellence and to finish the year on a strong note.

#### **KEYS TO SUCCESS:**

#### Time Management, Goal Setting, and Seeking Help

To our students, we offer some valuable advice as we reach the finish line of this academic journey. Manage your time wisely, set clear goals, and don't be afraid to seek help when you need it. Remember that our teachers are always here to provide guidance and clarification, so don't hesitate to reach out whenever you require support.

#### Maintaining a Healthy Balance

We also want to stress the importance of maintaining a healthy balance in your life. Ensure you're eating well and getting plenty of sleep to support your overall well-being. Taking care of your physical and mental health is crucial, especially during these demanding times.

Congratulations to all our students who participated in the ICAS and AMC competitions this year. We acknowledge and appreciate your hard work and dedication, and we look forward to recognising our high achievers during our annual awards ceremony on the 15th of November. If your child is receiving an award, you would have received an email with all the details, and students have also been sent an email with relevant information. We eagerly anticipate acknowledging the achievements of our students who have excelled in various areas of school life. It's a time to celebrate not only academic excellence but also personal growth, leadership, and sportsmanship.

This term, parents will receive academic reports highlighting their child's grades for Semester Two. We look forward to working closely with parents in 2024 to build on and improve student outcomes. Your involvement and support are vital for our students' continued success.

As we prepare to close this chapter, we look forward to seeing you at various end-of-year events in the coming weeks. It's a time for us to celebrate our collective accomplishments, show our appreciation for your hard work and dedication, and set our sights on the bright future that awaits us.

In these challenging times, it's important for us to remember that the world is not without its difficulties. As the conflict continues in Palestine, we cannot remain indifferent to the suffering of those affected. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all the individuals and families facing hardships in this region. Let us collectively hope for a swift resolution, lasting peace, and a brighter future for all. In the spirit of unity and compassion, we stand in solidarity with those facing adversity and continue to keep them in our prayers. Together, as a school community, we aim to promote understanding, empathy, and the pursuit of a more peaceful world.

I wish you all safe and joy-filled weeks ahead as we wrap up this school year. Thank you for being an integral part of our school community, and we eagerly anticipate the new beginnings that the future holds for each and every one of our students.



# HEAD OF CO-CURRICULAR

MRS. COSKUN COSKUN

Dear Wisdom Family,

I am sure at home you are feeling the busy pace of these final weeks as we all are here at Wisdom!

As we wind the term down and begin to wrap up the school year we are also busy planning for many events in which we look forward to seeing you all in.

It gave me great pleasure to hand out so many Service-Learning Awards during this weeks assembly. I have always admired the sense of compassion and care Wisdom students have towards helping others less fortunate and their generosity when it comes to giving of their time. Compassion is one of our College Values and is an attribute I see deeply embedded in our College Community.

I was also very proud when acknowledging our U16 football team in their achievement with the SFL competition this year. Our boys took the premiers trophy, and their Coach Mr Coskun presented it to them acknowledging their hard work and excellent character throughout the competition. We have developed a strong and successful Football program over the last two years and have many plans to continue to strengthen and grow in this area. Football is a love and passion for many of our boys at Wisdom and we are working hard to ensure we give them the best opportunities to shine in this sport!

A space that has developed and evolved over the past 2 years at Wisdom is our sports programs. While we are working hard to introduce variety and give students opportunities in areas like basketball, volleyball and netball through gala days and friendly games with local schools our aim next year is to establish official Wisdom Teams. We are always looking for volunteers and support from the community for such endeavors and I welcome you to get in touch with me if you think this is a space that you can support Wisdom in.

I look forward to seeing you all in our various end of term events.







#### HOW TO COPE WITH PHOTOS AND VIDEO COMING OUT OF PALESTINE.

MRS. MANJA WHALEY - STUDENT SUPPORT OFFICER

Dear Wisdom Families,

The world feels heavy right now, I certainly feel affected by the images and videos coming out of Palestine. I hope that this newsletter segment can be of some support during this horrific time and offer guidance on how to cope with the influx of media showing the suffering of innocent people.

As important as it is to find healthy coping mechanisms to deal with emotions experienced from seeing images and videos, it is also normal to feel distress and people shouldn't try to hide from their emotions. It makes sense that we feel distress when seeing graphic images and we really just need to normalize that a little bit. Inadvertently, the more someone may try to ignore emotions, the more intense they get and addressing them can give insight into how a person wants to respond.

Coping with distressing images and videos, such as those from Gaza, can be challenging. Here are some strategies to help:

- 1. Limit exposure: Reduce the amount of time you spend viewing such content to prevent overwhelming yourself. Give yourself a specific time in to feel emotionally grounded (as much as this is possible) to look at the images. For example, just before going to bed is most likely not helpful as it will hinder you falling asleep and getting quality sleep.
- 2. Take breaks: Step away from the news or social media when it becomes too distressing. Engage in activities that help you relax.
- 3. Seek support: Talk to friends, family, or a mental health professional about your feelings and concerns.
- 4. Practice self-care: Maintain a healthy routine with exercise, proper nutrition, and adequate sleep to manage stress.
- 5. Mindfulness and grounding techniques: These can help you stay present and manage anxiety. Breathing exercises or meditation may be useful.
- 6. Channel your emotions: Consider supporting organizations or causes that align with your concerns to feel proactive.
- 7. Stay informed: Learn more about the situation whilst also being mindful of "second-hand trauma" through repeated exposure to graphic images which is also known as "compassion fatigue."

Some of the feelings you might experience:

- 1. Guilt: People have reported an intense feeling of guilt as the violence in Gaza escalates. Guilt results from feeling like we are not adequately responding to a certain situation. You may feel distraught about the inability to provide aid to the victims directly or you may feel guilty about having your basic needs of safety, shelter, and food when you see people losing their lives, homes and family members. We might feel guilty for skipping a video because we feel a responsibility as humans to acknowledge the suffering of others and recognize that their pain matters. However, a self-preserving part of us has noticed that our nervous system is overwhelmed and cannot handle any more distressing input. This part is really important: being attuned to attuned to your body and respect when we are getting distressed or overwhelmed by what we see and therefore the need for a break.
- 2. Empathic distress: Repeated exposure can lead individuals to experience emotional and physical exhaustion, which can be identified as "empathic distress" when we care deeply about others and become distressed from witnessing them going through traumatic experiences.

Remember, it's essential to prioritize your mental health and seek professional help if needed.

ISSUE NO. 12 NOVEMBER 2023





**COME AND SEE OUR TALENTED P-6 STUDENTS IN ACTION!** 



**FRIDAY** 24 NOVEMBER, 2023

5:30pm Arrival 6:00pm Start



UNIDUS COMMUNITY AND CONFERENCE CENTRE 204 SHERBROOKE ROAD, WILLAWONG QLD 4110

TICKETS NOT REQUIRED FOR THIS EVENT! WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL THERE



# 2023 CALENDAR

# **KEY DATES**

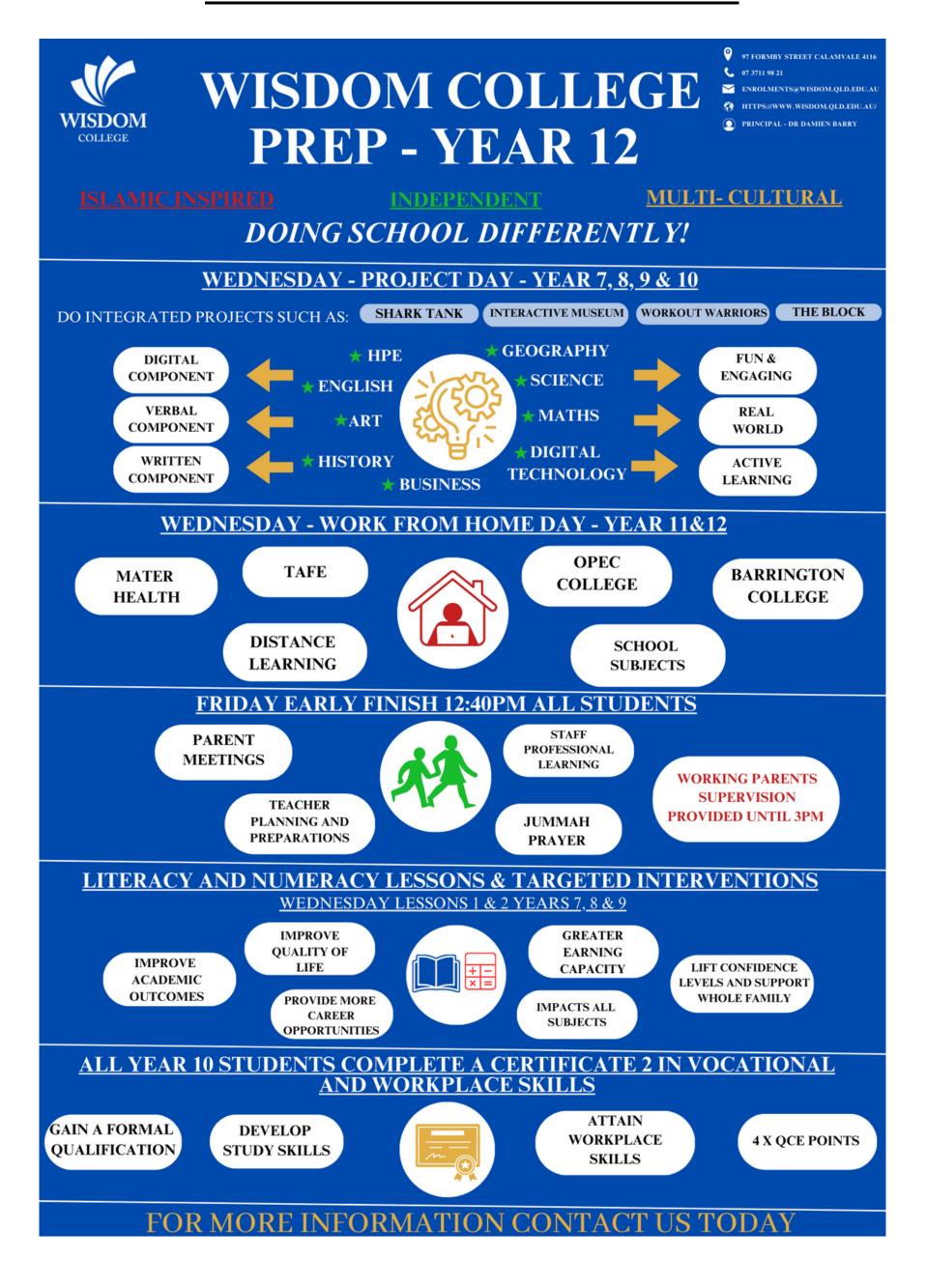
# Term 3 Dates

- Awards Night Wednesday 15th November
- End of Year Performance Friday 24th November

# **End of Year finish dates:**

- Year 12 last day Friday 17th November
- Prep, Year 10, Year 11 Friday 24th November
- Year 1 to Year 9 Friday 1st December

# **UPDATES AND INFORMATION**



# <u>UPDATES AND INFORMATION</u>

#### **UNIFORM SHOP**













#### <u>SCHOOLBOX APP -</u>



PLEASE DOWNLOAD THE APP AND ENSURE THAT ALL OF YOUR FAMILY DETAILS ARE CORRECT

#### LUNCH ORDER SYSTEM





#BLACKOUTCOFFEE

Wisdom College is excited to announce that our new lunch order system is ready to go!

WE HAVE PARTNERED WITH BLACKOUT COFFEE AND FLEXISCHOOLS TO BRING YOU THIS EASY ONLINE ORDERING SYSTEM.

As of today you can place second lunch break orders for your child/ren.

Please download the Flexischools App and click the link for more information on how to register today.











### CHESSMATES AFTER SCHOOL CLUB





**D Block Room 101** 

#### Weekly classes will help improve:

- Creativity Memory
- Independent Decision Making General Aptitude for Learning
- Concentration
- Problem Solving
- Planning Skills
- Teamwork



Learning chess has been shown to improve overall performance at school by nearly 20 % compared with children who have not

To book online, scan or go to chessmates.com.au/schools

INFO@CHESSMATES.COM.AU 1300 CHESS MATES

## **BOOKS AND STATIONARY**

