

Queensland's Oldest School Marks Milestone

Warwick East State School

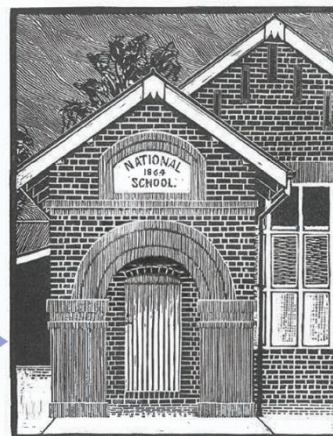
Warwick East State School, nestled on the banks of the Condamine River in Warwick, celebrates a remarkable milestone this November: 175 years of education. Opened on 4th November 1850 as the Warwick National School, it proudly holds the distinction of being Queensland's oldest state primary school still in operation.

Originally established through the efforts of local pioneer George Leslie, the school began with just 30 students in a modest timber slab classroom, administered by the NSW Board of National Education before Queensland became a separate colony in 1859. After the separation and the introduction of the Education Act of 1860, the school came under the jurisdiction of Queensland's newly formed Board of Education.

Between 1864 and 1912, the school's heritage-listed National School building, designed by prominent architect Benjamin Joseph Backhouse, was constructed in hand pressed brick. This structure remains in use today as a music facility, embodying both architectural elegance and robust educational heritage.

Today, Warwick East State School serves around 240 students from Prep through Year 6, catering to Warwick and the surrounding rural communities. Its campus

Limited addition lino prints of the National School Building will be available for purchase. Please scan the QR code below for more information.



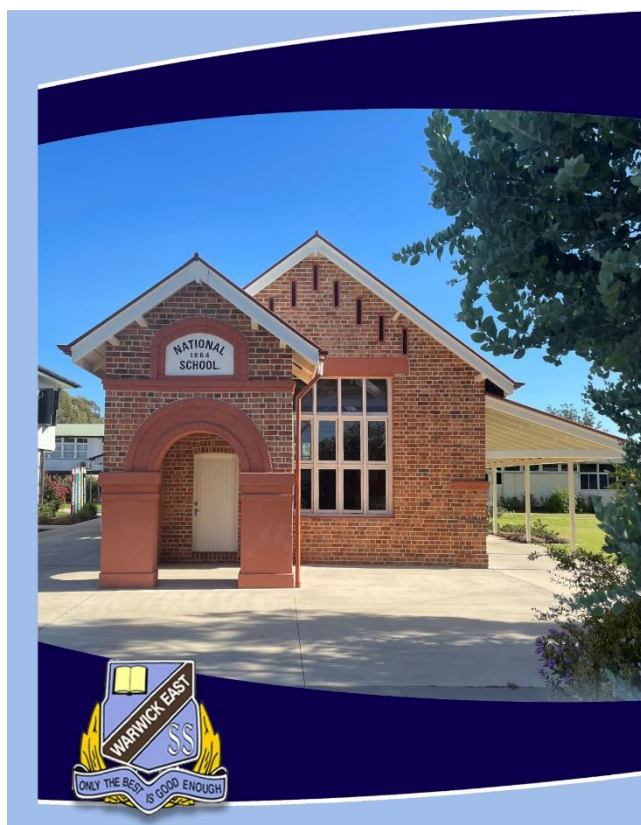
Warwick East S.S. 175 yrs

DW TIP

blends historic and modern spaces: air-conditioned modular rooms sit alongside a refurbished heritage building. The school grounds feature shaded playgrounds, playing fields, cricket pitches, multipurpose courts, and undercover learning zones. Facilities include a designated Prep Precinct, a library with media rooms and interactive whiteboards, and multiple hubs of computing devices throughout classrooms.

This November's 175th anniversary offers a timely opportunity to celebrate the school's deep roots in Queensland's educational history, and its vibrant, forward-looking role in the community. Past and current, families and staff, can gather to reflect on generations of learning, strong community ties, and the treasured heritage of one of the Sunshine State's earliest educational institutions.

Saturday 8th November 9am-3pm, with the official ceremony commencing at 2pm



Warwick East State School

Celebrating 175 Years of Education in 2025

A reunion of past and present students and staff is planned for

Saturday 8 November 2025

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Official ceremony scheduled for 2:00 pm

- National School Building historical display
- Professional photographer on site
- Open Classrooms
- Self-guided tours
- Car Show
- Food stalls/vendors
- Memorabilia
- Souvenirs
- Rose City FM broadcasting on the day
- And more

Scan for more information



Contact: 175Celebration@warwickeastss.eq.edu.au