What's happening...

Welcome back to another inspiring year at Westgarth Primary School! 596 students are now enrolled and with the increased numbers of students today’s newsletter is dedicated to health, safety and well being of our students.

Over 100 students started Prep at Westgarth yesterday? Welcome to all our new families, we are confident that together we will forge positive and meaningful relationships. Our focus at Westgarth Primary School is to provide educational experiences that are child centered and authentic. Our aim is to inspire and motivate children and while doing so ensure that they are learning to develop skills in socialization, independence, interdependence, resilience, learn about personal goal setting, being persistent in achieving their goals and most of all improving their learning outcomes. One of our school mottos “Be Safe-Be Fair-Be Friendly” helps us to develop understandings about positive behaviours and inclusiveness while “Learning to be Our Best” helps us to develop personal goals and improve on our individual personal best as well as what it means to work cooperatively in pairs or teams.

All staff participated in Professional Development and Induction activities on Tuesday 29th and Wednesday 30th January. Our focus for the sessions was based on “2013 A Renewed Purpose-Meeting the Challenges of New Educational Outcomes”. This will be the staff focus for the year and will involve ongoing professional learning as individuals, teams and working with our colleagues to deliver the best education outcomes at Westgarth PS.

I take this opportunity of congratulating all staff for their professionalism and the smooth start to the year. At 9.15 a.m. on the 1st January all children were settled and engaging in interesting activities planned by the school’s professional learning teams. Well Done! Part of our professional learning was dedicated to staff being accredited in Anaphylaxis and CPR training. A huge thank you to Drew Sutherland, one of our parents who assisted us by providing staff from The Benchmark Group. Thank You!

Playground Organisation—School Times—Yard Duty

Yard duty supervision for students begins at 8.45 in the morning, and ends at 3.45 in the afternoon. Please be aware that student supervision is the responsibility of parents outside of these hours. We ask that students do not arrive before 8.45 in the morning, and leave the school grounds by 3.45 in the afternoon. The yard duty teacher ensures that gates are open at 8.45 a.m. and is responsible for closing/locking the gates on Brooke Street at 3.45 p.m. A reminder that on Clarke Street the After School Care operates from 3.30 p.m. and use the playground for various activities between 3.45 and 6.00 p.m.

If you need to speak to the yard duty teachers at any time, please look for the high-visibility vest. There has been a change to where students on Brooke Street may play during term one. We are conducting a trial where the front of Brooke Street is used as a play space by the Prep-1-2 students. There are particular no-play areas that children are learning about as well as learning about safe areas to play. As a result of the trial we ask that students/parents no longer use the “pine-posts” situated along the Brooke Street pathway to secure bikes or scooters. The pine logs have served us well over the years and especially prior to the bike shelter being built. The time has now come for everyone to please walk scooters or bikes to the bike shed on Clarke Street and use one of the designated spaces to secure your belongings.
**Industrial Campaign**

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) is currently involved in enterprise bargaining with the Australian Education Union, the Community and Public Sector Union and the United Voice in relation to their respective logs of claim covering employees in the executive class, the principal class, the teacher class, the paraprofessional class and the education support class. As part of their industrial campaign the Unions have notified the Department that on and from Wednesday 30 January 2013 their members will undertake several workplace bans where for example -

- bans on all work which would involve executive class, principal class, teacher class and paraprofessional class members in schools working more than the 38 hours of attendance in any week provided for in Clause 22(2) or 22(5) of the *Victorian Government Schools Agreement 2008*;

As part of the industrial campaign the AEU has a 24 hour stop work proposed for Thursday 14th February. Details about the proposed stop work will be provided to families when we receive further information.

On most days, AEU members will be working from 8.30 – 3.45 p.m. with the exception of planned meeting times on set dates. I support the campaign. Teaching is a noble profession, staff in schools (office, administration, ESS, and others) work tirelessly to improve the learning environment and outcomes for students. It is not a profession where work is forgotten during non-school times. One measure of commitment by our staff is demonstrated by the time put in before school officially started this year and how classrooms and various school spaces were carefully organised and set up to help students with their start of year transitions.

**Kitchen Garden Program**

Year three to six students will once again be able to participate in the Kitchen Garden Program this year. The program was initiated with the assistance of many volunteers who worked hard to establish the vegetable garden and was made possible by the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation start up grant over a two year period. We are forever grateful for this help from our families and to the Stephanie Alexander Foundation.

Our dedicated Kitchen-Garden Specialist Betty V goes beyond the call of duty to ensure that everything is kept organically fresh, tidy, organized, pruned, watered, mulched and nourished. In turn our students and the whole community benefit from the work put in— a big thank you to Betty and everyone involved. To attract more volunteers and to ensure best practice we are holding an Induction/ Orientation Program for volunteers on Friday February 8th from 9.05-9.50 a.m. On the morning some of the Year 3-6 staff will participate alongside parent volunteers. Thank you if you have already let Betty know that you plan to participate, if you are still considering volunteering it’s not too late to join us and you can also attend the Induction morning. We are all passionate about the program and just to give you an idea of what to look forward to.

*Betty writes,* "The kitchen garden at Westgarth Primary School is bursting with colour and life. So we would like to firstly thank the volunteers from the school community who watered the garden during the school holidays.

*We are all very excited to finally begin the program for 2013. The year 4,5 and 6 children are busy refreshing their knife handling and food handling skills in the kitchen and the year 3 students are having fun learning about the program for the first time. We will commence the kitchen classes as of the 11/02/13. The menu for the week will be Leafy green salad, tomato bruschetta, blood plums with yoghurt and honey and a wonderful Moroccan tea to welcome all to the program.*

*We would also like to thank the parent and friend volunteers who are returning for another year of support to the program. We extend an invitation to the Year prep, 1 and 2 parents from the Brooke St campus to come along and join in the many activities in the kitchen garden program. You don’t have to be a master chef or have a green thumb, just a love for good food and the outdoors. Just inquire at the office for more details.*"
Specialist Classes
This week students will be participating in orientation classes with specialist teachers. Students will attend, Greek (years 1-6), Music, Physical Education (P.E) and Art. Please ensure that children wear appropriate clothing and footwear for PE. During Art classes students will wear smocks to protect their clothes. The Art teacher will have a class set available for students to share. The art smocks (P-2) and shirts (3-6) will be stored in the art room.

Prep-One-Two Before and After School Routines/Organisation entering and Leaving School
As part of establishing start of year routines and practices, Prep-One-Two teachers have been discussing with their students procedures for lining up, dropping off school bags and other items at the start of the day, the importance of being punctual and other important aspects that make for a positive start to the school day. These routines help children to develop independence and confidence. Please see your child’s classroom teacher if you are unsure of some of these routines, our aim is to clearly communicate so that everyone is having a happy start to the day.

The following information relates mainly to the new Prep classes as well as Cameron’s 1/2 class. During this first week of school, Preps may go straight into their classroom between 8.45 -9.00. Students will be encouraged to bring their bag into their rooms with their parents/carers/siblings and hang their bags up on designated pegs. During this first week children may be assisted to place lunch, drink bottles and other items needed in the classroom, in the appropriate place. Please use the exterior door of the classroom to enter your child’s grade. If your child is in Heidi’s class please use the door closest to the big gum tree. If your child is in Sarah’s prep class please use the door closest to the drinking taps.

Preps will join the Grade 1/2 students for the 9.00am morning assembly starting Monday 11th February. From Monday 11th February, all Prep students may choose to leave their bag either outside their classroom or leave it behind their coloured dot that has been numbered on the line up area on the Brooke St turf. The dot numbers for the prep grades are Emily (1), Heidi (2), Sarah (3), Nadine (11), Kat (12)

When the 8.55 a.m. music plays this indicates to the children it is time to make your way to the line. All preps have been practising this line up routine after recess and lunch this week, so by next Monday, this will be a familiar way of entering school. Parents are welcome to stay during the assembly, the purpose of which is to greet and welcome the children to the school day and transition from the start of school morning play to the more formal learning routines. Sometimes there are announcements that will be relevant in particular to the students and staff that relates to the school day.

Prep Sarah and Prep Heidi will use the bag hooks in the undercover area outside their classroom. For the time being, 1/2Cameron will use the set of hooks in the corridor opposite their classroom.

School grounds are open from 8.45 a.m. A yard duty staff member is on duty in the playground from 8.45am. Please do not use the Staff Car-park as entry or exit points and please refrain from dropping off children prior to 8.45 a.m. unless you are accompanying them and staying with them until 8.45 a.m.

A bell signals at 3.25 to indicate pack up and tidy up time in class rooms. All students exit their classroom through the exterior door at 3.30 p.m. where students meet parents who are waiting to collect them (the main thing is to ensure that your child knows the daily pick up arrangement you have made with them and let them know if someone else is picking them up). Teachers are briefly available whilst students are exiting their classroom at the end of the day, if you wish to have a longer conversation feel free to make a mutually convenient time. All Staff do have whole school meetings on Monday and Wednesday so would not be available these afternoons. Please exit the school grounds by 3.45 so that the yard duty teacher knows that all students have been collected and the Brooke St gates can be locked.

Thank you for your understanding in assisting to keep all students at Westgarth P. S.
Notice of Family Payment Schedule 2013... School Councils are responsible for developing and approving a school-level parent payment schedule compliant with DEECD guidelines. The Westgarth Family Payment has been reviewed by Westgarth Primary School Council and it was decided not to increase costs for 2013. A request for payment will be made which will detail the three categories of payments: Essential Educational items (stationery, text books etc), Optional Educational items (e.g. excursion/inhouse activities and extra curricula programs etc) and Voluntary Contributions (building fund, grounds improvements/special projects etc). The breakdown of costs is highlighted on the Request for Payment proforma. If you have any queries about this information please do not hesitate to contact me or Susan Price, Business Manager on 9481 5577.

Cheers, Grace Conway, Principal

Anaphylaxis Information

I take this opportunity of providing the Westgarth P.S community information about the school Anaphylaxis Policy and in particular draw attention to the risks that some of our students and staff may face if they were to come into contact with certain foods, which in turn could lead to a potentially life threatening anaphylactic episode.

There are several children attending Westgarth PS who are anaphylactic to nuts and also other foods such as Hommus, Nutella, tree nuts (amongst other foods). These particular foods, especially those containing nut based oils are easily spread and are highly unsafe for individuals most at risk of experiencing an anaphylactic episode. Consequently the school policy aims to focus on the prevention of an anaphylactic event as well as the school’s response to an anaphylactic event should one arise. The main point of this correspondence is to advise parents to avoid bringing nuts and other related foods mentioned above to school. Whilst the school is not a Nut-Free zone there are some situations where nuts are avoided all together. These include the Farmhouse and Outside School Hours Care Program.

We strongly recommend that families do not pack the above food types in children’s lunches to help us avoid a potentially life threatening situation.

Community awareness and education is one way of dispelling any confusion that exists about anaphylaxis. As well as being made aware of and understanding the risks some of our students face further information may be also obtained from Anaphylaxis Australia [http://www.allergyfacts.org.au/](http://www.allergyfacts.org.au/) or the Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Network (FAAN) at [http://www.foodallergy.org/page/peanut-allergy](http://www.foodallergy.org/page/peanut-allergy)

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Anaphylaxis Risk Management Information

(The following information is an extract/précis only from the schools Anaphylaxis Management Strategy and is provided as part of our Anaphylaxis Community Education Program)

- An Anaphylaxis Induction meeting is arranged annually with the parent and their child’s teacher, and the Assistant Principal/Nurse.

- Continue with the past practice of training all staff at the commencement of each year in the management of Anaphylaxis and the use of EPIPEN

- In most instances a backpack with EPIPEN and Anaphylaxis Action Plan follows the student throughout the day, at specialist, own classroom and during play time or the labeled Epi-pen is stored in an esky in the First Aid Room.

- Avoid use of any peanut oil and other related products at school

Con’t next page...
**Anaphylaxis Risk Management Information con’t**

- Although the school is not classified as a “nut-free zone” all teachers will discuss with students what Anaphylaxis is and how we can collectively keep our school safe by being responsible by washing hands and avoiding bringing any of the items listed on individual Anaphylaxis Plans in the classroom. Staff will discuss these foods with the children in their grade.
- Discourage and avoid food exchanges between students both inside and outside the classroom- this is a no-no
- Parent/Carer of anaphylaxis student to provide alternative treats for birthdays and special occasions etc. directly to the classroom teacher
- Specialist Music classes-students will have own recorders etc.
- Yard duty clean up: students not to pick up rubbish by hand -gloves or tongs must be provided for this task
- Action Plan together with student ID to be displayed in classroom, staffroom, sick bays and in attendance roll

Kitchen Garden Program ensure additional food safety and hygiene standards and strategies are in place.

*Please contact Grace Conway, Carolyn Shiels, Lynne Mackie or the School Nurse Pauline @ WPS for further information-thank you*

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**Music News**

Hello and welcome back to school. A big welcome to all new students and parents. The after school instrumental program will commence this Thursday with woodwind classes.

- Guitar lessons will start next Tuesday February 12th.
- All classes are held in the music room. If your child has enrolled in the program, you should have received a note with their lesson time and fee information.

Thursday February 14th is a date for proposed AEU strike action, it is also the day of woodwind lessons. This may mean that after school lessons are cancelled on that day. I will let the students involved know as soon as I have spoken with the woodwind teacher Than.

John Carr.

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**School Dates for 2013**

Term 1 - 31st January to 28th March (Preps commenced Monday 4th February)
Term 2 - 15th April to 28th June
Term 3 - 15th July to 20th September
Term 4 - 7th October to 20th December

*Westgarth Primary School 5*
WPS School Sport News:
Welcome back everyone. Hope you had a great holiday and kept active. I am excited about the New Year and looking forward to Westgarth students achieving their best and being healthy through sport and getting active both at school and at home. Once again the PE program will be asking, at different stages of the year, for parent helpers to support the extra curriculum activities that are provided by the school throughout the year. These include swimming trials, tennis, cross country, basketball, athletics, triathlon, interschool sport, and many different incursions from sporting organisations. Please keep reading the newsletter each week for this information.

Please help your child to dress appropriately (sun hat, runners, shorts, and shirt) on the day they will have their Physical Education class. Your child's classroom teacher or I will be able to tell you when this is.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns or questions throughout the year in regards to your child and PE. Go Cats, Ricky Davis. PE Co-ordinator

School Sport Victoria State Trials Nominations
If there are any students that are exceptional in a sport and wish to be nominated for trials then please note:

For all 12 Years and Under sports other than Australian Football, Basketball, Football (Soccer) and Netball all nominations will be registered online via the SSV website (https://www.ssv.vic.edu.au/TeamVic). Parents will be responsible for registering their child and for downloading all details relating to trial dates, times, venues and costs. Nominations need to be kept to a minimum of three students per school.

Nominations for 12 Years and Under Australian Football, Basketball, Football (Soccer) and Netball teams must use the form available on the SSV website. This form needs to be signed by the school. If there are many students nominated for a particular sport then I will select from those students that can progress to trials based on their achievements in that sport to date. There is a limit of 3 students per school that can be nominated.

Please feel free to explore the SSV website at www.ssv.vic.edu. Closing dates for nominations vary for each sport so if you have any questions please ask me. Cheers, Ricky Davis. PE Coordinator

Extra Curriculum Swimming Trials for Northcote District Swimming Competition
Come along to the school swimming trials at Northcote Pool on Thursday 7th of February from 3:45pm-4:30pm. All strong swimmers are encouraged to try out for individual 50m freestyle, backstroke, butterfly and/or breastroke. There will also be a 50m free-style team relay and 50m team medley relay.

This is open to all grade 3-6 social or club swimmers in the 10 years and under, 11 and 12 year old age groups (e.g. turning 10 by the 31st December 2013). There is generally only one entrant per school, per event, that swimmer may be you!

Due to Industrial Action this will be the only day/time I will be available to run swimming trials. No other teachers will be in attendance to help out as in previous years so I will need parents attending to help run the trials. We may not get through all children on this day so I would suggest that if you are able to ask your swim instructor to time your child over 50m, write down their name, date of birth, time and event and return to me by Friday 8th February as an alternative to attending the swimming trials.

Students attending time trials must be accompanied and supervised by a parent or guardian while at the pool. Please see me if you need any further information. Hope to see you there. Ricky Davis

Westgarth Primary School 6
EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA)
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS / GUARDIANS

The Education Maintenance Allowance helps families on a low income with financial assistance to cover the cost of essential educational items like textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions for their child up until the age of 16.

Eligibility for EMA - To be eligible to for the EMA in 2013, you must:
- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of 16 and
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit as of January 29th, 2013 (Instalment 1) and 15th July 2013 (Instalment 2).

In 2013 the annual EMA payment for families with children in primary school (years 1-6) will receive a payment of $150.

The School Start Bonus which was previously received by EMA families has been discontinued as a separate payment from 2013. However, additional funding has been incorporated into the EMA meaning that parents of children in Prep and Year 7 will receive boosted EMA payments of $200 and $300 respectively in those years.

From 2013, the EMA will no longer be paid 50/50 between the parent and the school. The 50% school portion of the EMA will no longer be paid to schools on behalf of parents.

New EMA Payment Option
From 2013, on the EMA application form you can choose to have your EMA payment:
- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your nominated bank account
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection
- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses

Application Form
An EMA application form is available from the school office. You will need to bring your pensioner concession or health care/benefit card in with you when completing the form and your banking details.

Please make sure that your application is in no later than 28th February, 2013 as the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has advised that no late claims will be accepted.

Leave the car at home. Try walking or cycling with your child to and from school. It’s better for their health and the environment, and will reduce the traffic around our school.
Launch of Westgarth Newsletter Going Electronic

Thank you to all parents and carers who have provided positive feedback last year about receiving the newsletter by email.

Please email Nella at bordin.nella.n@edumail.vic.gov.au together with your children/s name and grade if:

- You advised the school of your email address and have not received the newsletter electronically or,
- If you did not advise the school with your email address and would now like to receive newsletters electronically.

Newsletters will be electronically sent on Tuesday afternoon. Paper copies will continue to be sent home for a short time.

New families to W.P.S - Welcome to your first newsletter at W.P.S. If you have not received an electronic copy please email me your details advising me of your child's name and grade.

Cheers, Nella

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First Home Produce Stall Cook-up for 2013, Sunday 17th Feb

Yay! Tomato season is in full swing so that means it's time to get cracking on making all that yummy tomato relish and kashundi that will be in such hot demand at the fete in October.

Our first cook-up for 2013 will be held at the Farmhouse (on the Clarke St campus) on Sunday 17th February, 10.30am to 2.30pm. Everyone is welcome, no special relish-y type skills required, and it's a fun way to get to know your school community. If you're thinking of coming (even an hour or two is fine), please let Anne know on 0417 114 088 or wundernelli@bigpond.com to help us plan.

Looking forward to seeing you there. The Jammy Ladies.

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Kelly Sports at Westgarth Primary School

Once again Kelly Sports will be running an after hours Summer Sports Program here at Westgarth Primary School on Tuesdays and available from Prep to Grade 4 students. Enrolments forms will be going home tonight.

This is an independent program run by Kelly Sports so should you need further information about enrolling or require to speak to them during the term please contact them direct on 9731 6323.

If your child is enrolled with Kelly Sports and they are absent on a Tuesday you are required to contact Kelly Sports direct to advise them.

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Northcote High School

Northcote High School Tours:

Tours commence Monday 11 February, and run most Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, commencing at 9.15 am until late May. They take about 1 hour.

Check our website for details. All welcome. http://www.nhs.vic.edu.au or ring the office 9488 2300.

Northcote High School Open Morning:

Open Morning will be on Wednesday 24 April 2013, from 9.15 - 12.00 noon. Information sessions will be run through the morning. A repeat information session runs at 7 pm at night.

ACE High Achiever's Program Yr 7 Entry 2014:

Information regarding this program, and application forms, are now on our website. The changed arrangements of 2012 no longer apply and any interested families are encouraged to apply. See our website for details: http://www.nhs.vic.edu.au

Applications Close: Monday 29 April, 2013. 12.30 pm. Test Date: Saturday 4 May, 2013. 9.00am.

Nick Murphy, Assistant Principal. Northcote High School. St. George’s Rd, Northcote, 3070
Living Well with Asthma: Advice for Parents and Carers

1 in 10 people in Australia have asthma, and people with asthma often rate their health a lot worse and report a poorer quality of life than the general population. Children and adolescents with current asthma are more likely to miss days of school/preschool due to asthma and a key aspect of improving quality of life is ensuring that your child or teenager is are able to engage fully in physical activity and social aspects of life and learning.

Good asthma control is:

- Symptom free during the day and during physical exercise, reducing the need for reliever medication
- Symptom free at night, allowing for a good night’s rest
- Rarely experiencing asthma attacks or exacerbations
- Preventer medication and devices are being used correctly and as prescribed (e.g. on a daily basis)
- Having an asthma action plan to follow, both for the school/preschool and at home, and promptly acting on the plan when asthma symptoms occur

Asthma symptoms are not a normal aspect of life and should be taken seriously. Children and teenagers with poor asthma control should be encouraged to seek assistance, and should visit their GP or respiratory physician for an asthma review as soon as possible.

For further information, please contact the Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 645 130 or email schools@asthma.org.au

Spacer Use in Schools/Preschools: Advice for Parents & Carers

As of the 1st July 2012, schools and preschools in Victoria will be implementing a new policy in regards to single person spacer use.

This means that schools and preschools will no longer be able to wash, sterilise and re-use spacers and face masks from their asthma emergency kits when assisting students and children with asthma symptoms.

Spacers should always be used when administering reliever ‘puffer’ medication because:

- Using a spacer with a ‘puffer’ ensures that more medication reaches the airways
- Spacers are much easier for children to use than a ‘puffer’ alone, and allows school and preschool staff to help students/children during an asthma attack, often in an emergency situation
- Spacers are an essential part of the Asthma First Aid procedure that Victorian schools/preschools are instructed to follow

Asthma first aid kits should only ever be used as a back-up for when a child with asthma does not have their own spacer available, or if it is a first asthma attack or the cause of breathing difficulty is unknown. Your child’s school/preschool may implement a policy where parents/carers are responsible for the cost of the spacer if one must be used from the asthma emergency kit.

Even if your child has mild asthma, it is essential that their medication and spacer (and a compatible face mask if under 5 years old) is always available to school/preschool staff. To ensure that a spacer is not left at home, we would recommend that parents/carers purchase a second spacer for their child to have with them at school/preschool at all times if possible.

For further information, please contact the Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 645 130 or email schools@asthma.org.au
SealPony Soccer is a developmental & participation program that introduces boys and girls aged between 5–10 to the game of football (soccer). It focuses on teaching the basic skills. Fun games & activities. Great giveaways. For more information call Joe 0415 388 028 or email jyamen@optusnet.com.au. Every Sunday morning starting from 10th of March 2013. Registration Date: Saturday 2nd March 2013, 10 am – 11 am at James Street Reserve, Heidelberg Heights 3081.

Boys and girls of all ages welcome. Do you want your children to participate in the greatest game in the world? Well our soccer club is for you. Registration day is on Sunday 10th February 10am at Hayes Park - 143 Flinders Street Thornbury. For further information contact Tanya Franco on 0415 547 396 or John Zanin on 0417 554 577 or visit www.northernfalcions.com.

U11’s netball players wanted - Laila K, Alice H (5 Glenn) and Alice G (5 Mark) play in the Lakeside Netball team. They play Saturday mornings and train Friday afternoons at the Darebin Sports Centre on Plenty Rd. The team is looking for a few more players. Please call Monique on 94821228 if you are interested.

Ivanhoe Knights Kids Saturday Basketball - Competitive team basketball for girls & boys from ages 7 & up. Basketball is a good introduction to team sport for kids. No prior basketball experience is necessary for children of any age. Registration Day for Winter Season (school terms 2 & 3) is on Saturday 16 Feb, 2013, 10am – 4pm Ivanhoe East Primary School, Warncliffe Road, Ivanhoe East, Melways Ref 31,J9. Cost is $110 per player plus uniform. The Ivanhoe Knights have beginner to advanced teams in all age groups. New players are welcome. The winter season runs from April to September (excluding school holidays and long weekends). For all information see: www.ivanhoeknights.org

Love Stories by Nicholise - This Valentine’s special- 45min mini photo sessions $100 for 5 high quality digital images of your loved one/s whether they be your child, your partner or your pet. Specialising in pregnancy and newborn photography. This is a great opportunity not to be missed. Rarely available at this low price. www.facebook.com/lovestoriesbynicholise Gift certificates also available. 0406 087 567

SINGING WORKSHOPS (adults) beginning February at Westgarth PS Music Room. Bulgarian singing for women Tuesday evenings February 5 - May 14. Singing for beginners (all welcome) February 20 and 27 only. Theory for Singers February 6 and 13. Enquiries: bagryanapopov@gmail.com Piano lessons February - June close to WPS. Bagryana Popov 0433 462 592.

David Crosby Piano Lessons - Piano/theory teacher able to travel to your house for lessons in Clifton Hill and surrounding suburbs. Qualifications include a Bachelor of Music with First Class Honors at the Australian National University and many years of teaching piano to all ages and skill levels (up to date Working With Children check). Am able to accommodate a variety of study aims. Please contact: 0408 967 935 or david.james.crosby@gmail.com

The Yarra Jets Soccer Club have an open Day on Sunday 17th February starting at 11.00am at Quarries Park Clifton Hill. Anybody from 5 years and older can play. Yarra Jets strongly promote girls soccer and are a socially inclusive, community run soccer club. For further information please contact the club on 0430 164 417 or go to our website www.yarrajetsfc.org.au

Darebin Falcons - Come and Try Soccer Day For girls aged 4-11. 17th February 10.30am to 12pm at Capp Reserve Halwyn Cres, Preston. Contact Jasmine Hirst 0422 991 687 or jazhirst@yahoo.com.au or visit www.falcons.org.au

CLAY CLUB FOR KIDS - Messy, muddy, madness for kids! Does your child like to get busy and messy with clay? The Slow Clay Centre in Collingwood offers this opportunity! Term 1: Thursdays from February 7th - March 28th Time: 4.00 pm - 5.30 pm. Age: 8 yrs and over. All levels welcome. Cost: $280 inc. materials and firing. We also run adult classes and holiday classes website: www.slowclay.com email: info@slowclay.com, ph: 0418 106 039.

The Westgarth Primary School Council does not endorse any of its sponsors or advertisers, but we do acknowledge their support.