What’s happening...

Student Assessment and Mid-Year Student Reports... Many Year 3 and 5 students have been participating in the NAPLAN Language Conventions and NAPLAN Writing today, tomorrow they will be involved in a reading task and on Thursday, the focus will be on the Numeracy assessment task. Apart from NAPLAN all teachers are currently finalising student assessment in all areas of the curriculum. Students will receive their mid-year report and their student portfolio to take home on Friday 21st June. Parent-Teacher interviews will be held on Wednesday 26th June. Further information about the Parent-Teacher interviews will be forwarded in the near future. Please save the date.

It is important to note that the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) prescribe what the report format will look like and what schools must include in student reports. I am mindful that we have received feedback in the past and at the recent Parent Forum about the student report format. Thank you to parents who have forwarded their feedback. Please note however, that the format is used by all schools using a computer system that cannot be adapted to teacher or parent suggestions and cannot be changed.

Teachers will be writing reports using AUS-VELS, (National Curriculum) standards for the first time. For this reason the "standards" may differ slightly than in previous years for students in years one to six. Further DEECD information in regard to student reports is outlined on the next page.

Education Week-Open Day... The school is hosting an open day during Education Week next Wednesday 22nd May. Guided tours have been organised from the school foyer commencing from 9.00 a.m. and the last tour will leave at 10.20 a.m. The guided tours are predominantly organised for new or prospective families to the school, however all parents and carers can join a tour. Alternatively you may wish to visit classrooms and see children at work. A sign-in system will be in place at the front foyer on Brooke Street where Janine and Junior School Council members will be there to meet and greet you. In the evening we will also be hosting a Maths Information Night. Kath Pearn will be facilitating the session which commences at 7.00 p.m. and concludes by 8.15 p.m. There will be opportunities to hear Kath speak about how you can help your child at home with numeracy concepts as well as ask questions. See below for the RSVP due in by Monday 20th May at 3.30 p.m. You may choose to RSVP to Nella at bordin.nella.n@edumail.vic.gov.au or print the tear off slip below and return to the school office.

Maths Information Night

I/We will be attending the Maths Information Night on Wednesday May 22nd 2013.

Name/s ____________________________________________

Number attending: ____________________________

My child/ren name and grade level-

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________
Farewell... Today we said farewell to Pauline, the school nurse. Pauline has been with us since February 2012 and is planning to pursue a new field within the nursing profession. On behalf of the school community, I would like to wish Pauline all the best and thank her for her dedication and professional manner. Louise Green has been provisionally appointed to the role and will commence tomorrow.

Homework... Homework provides parents and carers with the opportunity to be involved in their child’s school work and learn more about what they are learning at school. Homework reinforces what is being taught at school and encourages lifelong study habits which may help when students are exposed to more in depth homework expectations once they attend high school. There are different types of homework set for students depending on their age and year level. Homework may involve such things as practising a maths task, revising concepts, reading every night, developing physical education skills or playing a musical instrument, writing a book review or having an extension assignment set. Your child’s teacher is the best person to speak with when it comes to homework. Set tasks should be an opportunity to talk about the work with your child and be completed in a reasonable length of time. Homework can also be adjusted to suit your child’s needs. Please speak with your child's teacher if you would like to share any aspect of the allocated homework tasks. To assist in making homework part of your child’s day we encourage parents/carers to establish a daily routine and ask children how their class work and homework is going. It is important that children have a balance between personal and recreational activities and time spent on homework. Remember to celebrate their successes and achievements.

Have a happy week.
Grace Conway

Introducing the student report cards (DEECD Information to Parents)

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Victorian Government has introduced student report cards in all Government primary and secondary schools for Years Prep to 10. 

_in June and December_, you will receive a plain English report on your child’s progress. The report will provide you with a comprehensive snapshot in time of your child’s achievements, as well as what the school and you can do to support your child’s future learning.

Some of the main points that you might want to note about the report cards are explained below.

**Consistency across all government schools**
All schools report student progress in the same way, and against the same state-wide standards.

**Progress against the state-wide standards**
You are able see your child’s current progress against the state-wide standard expected for the year level as well as the progress he or she has made over the past twelve months.

_(Except for students in Prep)_ A graphic incorporating an A-E rating, together with teacher comment provides you with a clear, overall picture of your child’s achievements as well as information on any areas for improvement or extension. _(Students in Prep receive...)_

**Home-school partnership**
The report cards assist in further strengthening our home-school partnership. As well as outlining what we are going to do to support your child’s learning, we will provide you with suggestions about how to help your child at home.

**More details about the student report cards**
More information, and answers to any questions you may have can be found at the student report card web site: [http://www.education.vic.gov.au/aboutschool/studentreports/default.htm](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/aboutschool/studentreports/default.htm)
Diary Dates

Wed 15th May  
Book Fair - Last Day

Tues 14th - 17 May  
NAPLAN Grades 3 & 5

Mon 20th May  
Education Week

Wed 22nd May  
Open Morning
Gr 3/4 Zoo Excursion

Thurs 23rd May  
First Whole School Assembly in the gym

Tues 28th May  
School Photos

Sat 1st June  
Westgarth Idol

Sun 20th Oct  
Westgarth Fete

Thurs 12th Dec  
Grade 6 Graduation

Meetings
School Council  
Wednesday 15th May 7pm

Year 7 Transition
A reminder to parents of all Year 6 students that transition paperwork is to be returned to the office by Friday 17th May. Thank you to those parents who have already returned these forms.
Carolyn Shiels - Transition Co-Ordinator

School Photos
School Photos will be taken on Tuesday the 28th May. Individual forms are required for each child and a family order form will be handed to the eldest child. Forms will be sent home today. Alternatively, you can order online http://www.arthurreedphotos.com.au/schoolorder.aspx

What’s happening in OSHC?  Term 2, Week 5 13th to 17th May

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<th>Inside</th>
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<th>Raining (gym)?</th>
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<td>Menu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Bruschetta</td>
<td>“What do you want to be when you grow up?” frieze.</td>
<td>“Around The World” Basketball</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Pita bread &amp; dips</td>
<td>Paper weaving.</td>
<td>Blindfold Game</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Chicken noodles</td>
<td>Making a candle rim</td>
<td>Bat Tennis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Mixed sandwiches</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Mixed sandwiches</td>
<td>Origami</td>
<td>French Cricket</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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If you park near the school please follow the parking restriction signs. These are designed to improve safety for everyone, especially our children.
Divisional Trials
Over the last few weeks some Westgarth students have participate in Divisional Trials for different sports.

In basketball we had Ruby F, Sadie G and Ailish DY successful and have progressed through to Regional Trials. For the boys in basketball Oscar B, Finn H and Toby S tried out with Finn and Toby progressing through to Regional trials.

In Soccer Divisional Trials we had James D, Rory M, Alexei P-R, Jude C, Oscar B and Lucas B-H with James D and Rory M progressing through to Regional Trials.


I congratulate all students on their efforts and good luck to those that will now compete at Regional level. Ricky Davis. PE

School Council Finance Sub-Committee
Like all sub-committees of School Council, the Finance sub-committee meets twice a term. The Finance sub-committee has a standard agenda of business – the review of the monthly financial reports prepared by the School’s Business Manager. These reports are discussed during the meeting, and once satisfied, the Finance Committee recommends to School Council that they can be adopted. In addition to standard business, there is general business brought to the meeting for discussion. At last Thursday’s meeting, the committee discussed the audit report recently issued to the school for the financial year ended 31 December 2012. Other examples of general business are the review of the annual budget as prepared by the school, the setting of student fees, the overseeing of major building or ground developments.

The meetings are open to all and meeting times are listed in the “diary dates” section of the school newsletter. If you have any questions in relation to this sub-committee you can contact me on mskarpetis@optusnet.com.au.

Thanks, Mary Skarpetis, Finance Sub-Committee Convenor

Community Advertisements

Songwriting Workshops for Kids - The Songmaking Workshop and Northcote Uniting Church-Chalice are excited to announce an introductory series of songwriting workshops for kids. A series of three weekend workshops will introduce participants to the principals of music, songwriting and performance. Participants will have the opportunity to write, record and perform an original song together. Run by award-winning songwriter and experienced music teacher Eva Popov. 8th, 15th & 22nd June. Ages 5 to 8 at 10am to 10.50am and ages 9 to 12 at 11am to 12noon. 251 High St. Northcote. Cost: $50. Bookings are Essential. Contact Eva Popov at 0417 161 360 or email thesongmakingworkshop@gmail.com

Coburg Junior High School - Come & Discover. Smart Learning, Smart Thinking, Smart Choice School Tours and discussion session for Year 7 intake 2015. Wednesday May 15th 10am & 6pm. Register at www.cshs.vic.edu.au

Diakosmos Dance Academy - Focuses on providing young dancers and dance enthusiasts with an opportunity to experience and train in contemporary dance, highlighting the benefits of form, based on the remarkable Martha Graham technique whilst providing classes in the following styles: Contemporary, Cecchetti Ballet and exam work, Pointe, Tap, Jazz, Hip Hop, Creative, VCE Dance, Special needs classes (in all styles) and Private Lessons (in all styles). Contact Dianne on: 0413 999 845, 9480 0120, or email diadance@bigpond.net.au. Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/Diakosmos-Dance-Academy

The Westgarth Primary School Council does not endorse any of its sponsors or advertisers, but we do acknowledge their support.
Westgarth Idol Saturday 1st June 2013 - Idol Form Guide

Summary: A ridiculously strong edition and impossible to narrow field down. Terrific blend of experienced and new talent with genuinely gob-smacking material. Repeat, genuinely gob-smacking.

Betting: Suggest bet on all. At $1 a vote and unlimited voting that supports the school everyone’s a winner.

Simon Minahan: Past winner on the comeback trail. Sure to have been kept very very fresh for this pet event. Watch betting particularly closely.

Rebecca Young, Sarah Coffey, Ruth Clare, Tony Wilson, Sarah Wood: A couple of Prep starters included in an all star all debutant stable bursting with vim, vigour, vitality. Expect the unexpected.


Claudia Slegers, Tracy Bell: Seasoned hand and debutant combine; dream team? Power packed performance promised. Must include.

Jo Stewart, Kate Ormonde: A scintillating sensation of a stable selects a scintillating sensation of a song. Surely a serious threat. And don’t call me Shirley.

Kate Allen: Proven track and distance winner who will be in it for a long, long way with another magnificently memorable melody. Take plenty of catching.

Sharon Bet, Myf Browning, Kate Radford, Flame Kimbell: Stable stacked with songsmiths sublime. Presents as particularly prominent performance. Preclude at peril.

Michael Lemaire: Seasoned campaigner back in the ring to take another swing (wrong sport?). Indeed an intriguing swing - a typically strong showing certain. Every chance.

James Northrop, Caroline Roberts: Stand back - dynamite stable bursting with energy, excitement and verve. Massive threat. For your own safety, please just stand back.

Amanda Hawkey: Sure to be prominent for a long long way. Delicate delivery definite; dismissal dreadfully delinquent. Keep safe.

Dave Fletcher, Sandy Bell, Inger Pearce, Linda Jenkins: Mediocrity is anathema for this winning stable with a huge reputation and punishing standards. Massive whisper.

Sasha Stella: Unique stable on debut – big big watch for a memorable showing. Must be included.

Once more the one and only George McEncroe, star of stage, screen and radio waves, will be our MC and run the trivia with withering wit, wisdom and whimsy.

The band of Kate Price, John Carr, Ben Ely, Cameron Lobb, Dave Major and some other goose will follow up the Idols with a late evening groove set. For those about to dance, we salute you.

But wait there's more - the sensational Suspended Animators, Liz Zanella, Jonny Clow, Nigel Wright, Phil McGowan and guests will once more delight with a classy set during the evening.

All the while Jason McGann will be looking after the sublime sound and smooth lighting.

How much can a koala bear? Where are the steak knives? For an evening bursting at the seams with non-stop excitement all you want to do is organise a table with your buddies and get your tickets. Where??? At the....

Westgarth Idol Very Enormous Ticket Sale - 9 am - Friday May 24th
Tables seat 10 as standard. Up to 12 if you don’t mind it a bit squishy.
Tickets $20, ie $200 for table of 10 (maths courtesy of Wizard Cup graduate)
Full details next week.
Westgarth Primary School - Parents & Friends Association
Requests for Assistance

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<td>Kids Café Stall Holder</td>
<td>Chloe or Inger</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fete</td>
<td>Raffle Sales Coordinator</td>
<td>Chloe or Inger</td>
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**Kids Café Stall Holder**

Last year Jo ran a fabulous Kids Café. This year she’s had to hang up her stall holder’s cap due to other commitments, so we’re on the hunt for a new kids café stall holder.

You’ll be:

♦ deciding the type of menu you’d like to offer and putting forward your ideas for discussion with the Fete Committee
♦ calling (via the newsletter) for volunteer bakers to either cook to your specifications and/or to provide their own delicious treats
♦ arranging the purchase of food/drinks if required (budget to be approved by Fete Committee)
♦ running a roster of volunteers to staff the café
♦ maintaining the Kids Café volunteer baker’s register listing who baked what treat and ingredients

This year the Kids Café will be based in the school canteen so you’ll have a real tuckshop with full facilities at your disposal (including windows to sell from!).

If the Kids Café is for you (or for you and a group of friends to share), please contact either Chloe 0400 977 849 chloe@parca.com.au or Inger 0412 703 521 inger.pearce@incitecpivot.com.au

**Raffle Sales Coordinator**

Dan, our Fete Raffle Prize Coordinator, is still hard at work putting together a fabulous prize pack for this year’s Fete raffle. But so far no one has come forward to handle the sales side. It’s really not as scary as it sounds, and members of the Fete committee promise to sign up to help you sell tickets at the Saturday sales tables!!

You would be:

♦ liaising with the School Office for the distribution of ticket booklets to WPS families
♦ calling (via the newsletter) for volunteer sellers at the Fete and at Saturday sales tables set up at local shopping centres/strips
♦ running a roster of people to sell tickets on Fete day at the Raffle stall
♦ organizing sales of tickets at two (or more!) pre-Fete Saturday morning sales tables (booking a site and rostering sellers)

The Fete committee has contacts for Saturday sales table sites, so don’t be at all daunted by the last dot point!

If you can help Dan out, please contact either Chloe 0400 977 849 chloe@parca.com.au or Inger 0412 703 521 inger.pearce@incitecpivot.com.au

If you have any queries about WPS Parents & Friends, please contact Emma Savage on emma@weller.id.au or 0413 185 350.
Fete Date Re-Announcement

Oops!! Well done to the sharp-eyed person who spotted the error in last weeks Fete Date announcement.

The Fete is on **SUNDAY the 20th of October**, not Saturday the 20th as previously announced.

So put a big sparkly sticker in your calendars to make sure you don’t double book yourselves!

The Fete Committee is still looking for a Raffle Sales Coordinator, and this week has commenced calling for a Kids Café Coordinator – see updated Requests for Assistance under the Parents and Friends section of this newsletter.

If you think you might be interested in either role, need more information, or have a question about any other aspect of the Fete, please contact either Chloe 0400 977 849 chloe@parca.com.au or Inger 0412 703 521 inger.pearce@incitepivot.com.au

Next Jammy Cook-up, Sunday 19 May 10.30am to 2.30pm

It will be cold & rainy this Sunday so why don’t you join us and spend the afternoon cooking up lovely chutneys and jams for the Fete at the Farmhouse (Clarke St. site). You don’t have to be a master chef – mostly, chopping, stirring and talking. Children are warmly welcome – to play or help as they see fit.

Thanks to those who have already donated jars, but we still need more, especially small and medium jars! Can you please leave jars, cleaned if possible ;‐), in the trolley at reception before Friday 17 May. Also, if you have any spare fruit in your garden, please call Trudy on 0434 376 411 to arrange collection.

Please let us know if you are coming by texting 0419 530 133 or emailing brigitte@vroombout.com. And if you have a favourite knife please bring it along.

See you there - Brigitte

Mothers and Special Persons Day Stall

We hope everyone had a lovely and relaxing day on Sunday and enjoyed receiving their lovely gifts. Thank you to Liz who ran the last minute gift stall on Friday afternoon to sell some of the remaining stock, and to Annette who came by to help pack it all away at the end.

**Foyer Sales** - We still have some stock remaining so we’ve popped it in the Brooke St foyer at sale prices. If you’re at the school this week drop by and bag yourself a bargain. Most products are all-occasions so would make handy items to have in the cupboard for gifts.

**Is my Mug Peeling?** - We’ve had an enquiry about some of the mugs (‘Mum, You’re the Best’ on a pink mug, and ‘Greatest Mum Ever’ on a purple mug) and whether they are meant to have a clear layer peeling off them. We’ve checked with the supplier who advises that this is a protective layer that has been applied to protect the glaze during shipping. It dissolves in water so should wash away fairly easily. If you’re at all worried, leave to soak overnight and then wash as per usual.

**Baked Goods Reminder** - If you were the lucky recipient of some baked goods from our stall, and have a query about the ingredients etc. please follow the instructions on the buyers guide label attached to your goods. If this label has come adrift, please contact Emma on 0413 185 350 or emma@weller.id.au

Thank you!