What's happening...

Extra Curricula... Art and Sustainability. Thank you to the art teachers, Julia and Rushe who will be working with students to design art work that will be made into either a calendar, card or iPhone cover. Rushe and Julia are working through the process and will keep you informed through the newsletter. The art project has an added benefit of being a fundraiser for the school as you will be able to purchase the finished product/s if you wish. Bianca, Rosie and the school Sustainability Team have been developing a concept that involves year two students voluntarily joining the Sustainability Squad. This will be trialled as a term three lunch time activity during the next 6 weeks. We all appreciate the time the team have put into developing the lunch time idea, thank you for including the program outline in this newsletter. A great cause and a terrific use of lunchtime play.

Artist in School... The Artists in Schools funding program is managed by Arts Victoria and offers grants for professional practicing artists to work in schools for approximately 20 days. Some funding is available for the 2014 round. Information sessions have already been held or are being held around Victoria. Part of the application involves identifying a professional artist to work with a target group of primary (or post primary) students. It will be necessary to identify the art form or project that will be carried out and identify 20 days during the school year where the artist will work with students. If you are an interested professional artist (parent or community member) visit the web site to see if your idea fits the Artist in Schools framework and criteria, and then please contact me to discuss your proposal. Applications are due to close on 20th September, contact me at your earliest convenience or no later than 8th August as this will allow plenty of time to discuss and consider applications (if we receive more than one). Further information please see: http://www.arts.vic.gov.au/Funding_Programs/Education_Partnerships/Artists_in_Schools

Safety House Association Victoria Inc... Last week I received notification from Safety House Victoria that a motion was passed at a recent meeting “To cease all operations of the Safety House Victoria Program by the close of business 31st July, 2013”. As such WPS staff advise all students and members of the school community that the Safety House Program will cease to operate as of tomorrow. According to the information received, the program was voted to cease due to a “serious lack of funding and changing community attitudes”. A number of Westgarth families have over many years volunteered to become a Safety House so as to ensure that children walking to and from school and also at other times had a place to seek safety should they feel threatened or feel unsafe. Several of our past and current parents have played an active role and I take this opportunity of thanking you for your assistance and dedication to the Safety House Program. I also thank Allison Gray for acting as Liaison Officer and working with Safety House Association Co-ordinators. Allison has already sent letters to community members advising of the Safety House Program closure, if you would like further information about the program email: jgray@bigpond.net.au

The Safety House Association staff have sent this acknowledgement... over the years I have been fortunate enough to have had many dealings with Principals, school staff and community members. Thank you wholeheartedly for your commitment to your community, its children and your involvement with the Safety House Program.
IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING ANAPYLAXIS

Potential allergic reactions to nuts, nut products, seeds & other food products

As you may be aware for some children even a minor exposure to nuts or foods containing nut products or seeds can set off a severe allergy which may cause loss of breathing.

The parents of children who may have a severe reaction would like you to help us make the school environment as safe as possible by exercising caution when packing school snacks and lunches. Whilst students with severe allergies can learn to manage and control what they eat there is no real way of protecting themselves from nut traces that may be present in the environment such as on clothing, furniture, drink taps and of course on other people’s hands.

- Please avoid preparing school lunches with products that contain nuts, nut spreads, sesame products or chocolate that may contain nuts (e.g. Peanut Butter, Nutella and Tahini)
- If sending party food to school please avoid using recipes that require nut products (e.g. almond meal)
- As part of our Policy we do not encourage students to share food. All students will be encouraged to wash hands before and after eating.
- Please avoid packing any whole nuts as part of lunches for children under eight as they may get caught in small children’s airways presenting as a choking hazard

Parent/Family Connections...The school helps to facilitate parent and family connections and support where possible. An example is the school has facilitated Anaphylaxis Support Group meetings over the past few years. One of our parents would like to hear from parents of twins or community members with expertise in this area. If you would like to discuss your ideas or experiences as a parent of twins, or simply have a keen interest, please contact Annette on 0419 810 395.

VALUES IN THE 21ST CENTURY – Wednesday 21st August...We are fortunate to have Chris Daicos as presenter and facilitator for a parent/staff professional development session on, Values in the 21st Century.

Chris is well known as a Social Worker, Educator and Lecturer within Victoria and nationally. Chris has received positive feedback from previous presentations at the school.

Chris is passionate about the whole child and all children developing resilience and the skills required to be a well-rounded person in the 21st Century. During the session, Chris will talk about core values for the 21st Century and how we might best develop these values with children.

Please let us know if you will be able to attend on Wednesday 21st August, 7.00 to 8.30 p.m. in the library on Clarke Street.

Regards,
Grace Conway, Principal

Values in the 21st Century Seminar

RSVP: VALUES IN THE 21ST CENTURY - A SEMINAR FOR WESTGARTH PARENTS AND STAFF
DATE: WEDNESDAY 21ST AUGUST - 7.00 - 8.30 P.M.
WHERE: LIBRARY SPACE, CLARKE STREET

I/We be attending Values in the 21st Century Seminar:
Name/s:__________________________________________  Number attending: __________
My child/ren name and grade level: ____________________________________________

__ __ __

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**Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) For Instalment 2, 2013**

**What is Education Maintenance Allowance** - EMA is provided to assist eligible families with the cost associated with the education of your child/ren. To be eligible you must hold a valid Centrelink Pension / Health Care Card as at Monday 15th July 2013.

**Continuing Claims** - Parents who successfully applied for EMA in the first half year and who are still entitled to EMA, **do not** have to reapply for the second instalment. Please contact the office only if your circumstances have changed and you have a new card.

**New claims** - if you are new to the school and hold a valid Centrelink Pension / Health Care Card as at 15th July 2013 or have acquired one during the year, please call in at the office and fill out a form.

**Closing Date for Application** - Forms must be returned to the school office by Friday 2nd August 2013. Late applications cannot be processed.

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**Chocolate Fundraiser** - Money is now due for chocolates (box $60).

**Art Fundraiser**
This term students will be designing a piece of artwork which will be made into calendars, cards and iPhone covers as a fundraiser for our school. More information and order forms will be sent home next week - stay tuned.

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**Sports Diary Dates**

**Term 3**
- Tuesday 13th August: District Basketball Tournament (selected students only)
- Thursday 15th August: Grade 3-6 House Athletics Day
- Tuesday 3rd September: Grade 3-6 House Athletics Reserve Day
- Friday 13th September: District Athletics (selected students only)
- Monday 16th September: District Athletics Reserve Day

**Term 4**
- Tuesday 8th October: Division Athletics (selected students only)
- Wednesday 16th October: Regional Athletics (selected students only)
- Friday 15th November: Grade 3-6 Team Triathlon (optional)
- Friday 22nd November: Triathlon Reserve Day
Spotlight on Sustainability

As of Wednesday this week, we will be commencing a Student Sustainability Squad. This lunchtime activity involves volunteer students from year 2. The year 2 students were selected as it gives them an opportunity to take on leadership roles. The interest has been overwhelming; as such the year 2 students will be split into two working groups.

Weeks 3,4,5  Year 2 Rosie, Noreen, Kenji, Barb, Yolanda
Weeks 6,7,8  Year 2 Cameron, Betty, Julia, Nettie

The Student Sustainability Squad will operate from 1.05-1.40 every Wednesday in Rosie's room or outside in the yard. This day was chosen as it did not clash with participating staff yard duty commitments.

What is the objective of the Student Sustainability Squad?

♦ To provide lunchtime activities which engage students to think & act sustainably
♦ This will give the students a forum to share their ideas/knowledge
♦ To provide student leadership in the promotion of sustainable practices to the school community.

What are the possible benefits of a Student Sustainability Squad?

♦ Providing an alternate lunchtime activity for students
♦ Creating a greater awareness of Westgarth's involvement in the AUSSI Vic Resource Smart Program
♦ Reusing common objects to create art and promote sustainable practices
♦ Improving the school's biodiversity by improving habitats or resource use
♦ Creating opportunities for student leadership on the Brooke Street campus
♦ Providing a transition link to the Kitchen Garden Program
♦ Another creative outlet for students

Any queries please see Rosie (Gr 1-2), Bianca (Gr 3-4).

Making Art at Westgarth from Recyclable Materials
Seeking donations of plastic bottle tops

We are looking for donations of plastic bottle tops, any size, any colour. Please send along plastic bottle tops that are from containers that are free of peanuts, fish or sesame products. Suitable bottle tops can be found on orange juice/milk cartons, water bottles, soft drink bottles, shampoo bottles, tubes, and other products. We ask that all lids be washed and donations be left outside the art room in the box provided. The bottle tops will be used to create art installations as a combined project between the Student Sustainability Squad and the Kitchen Garden Program.
Congratulations to these Students of the Week!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep Emily - Stella A</th>
<th>1/2 Yolanda - Alex H</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep Heidi - Maddyn B</td>
<td>3/4 Bianca - Anson B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep Kat - Harry S</td>
<td>3/4 Hannah - Jade N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep Nadine - Whole Class</td>
<td>3/4 Holly - Whole Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep Sarah - Zara C</td>
<td>3/4 Ryan - Dimitri C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Barbara - Kato S</td>
<td>3/4 Sarah - Tori J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Betty - Maddie P</td>
<td>3/4 Taryn - Patrick D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Cameron - Angus M</td>
<td>5 Brenda - Meg P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Julia - Zoe H</td>
<td>5 Gaby - No selection this week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Kenji - Matthew L</td>
<td>5 Glenn - No selection this week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Nettie - Thomas M-P</td>
<td>5 Mark - No selection this week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Noreen - India M-R</td>
<td>6 Andy - No selection this week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Rosie - Hamish W</td>
<td>6 Phana - Sadie G</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What’s happening in OSHC? Term 3, Week 6 July 29th – August 2nd

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inside</th>
<th>Indoor</th>
<th>Outdoor</th>
<th>Raining (gym)?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Pita Bread, veggies &amp; cheese</td>
<td>Weaving</td>
<td>Skipping Races</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Mixed sandwichies</td>
<td>Outrage Card Game</td>
<td>Cricket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Pizza</td>
<td>Weaving</td>
<td>Animal Zoo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Chicken Noodles</td>
<td>Paper Dolls</td>
<td>Cricket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Pita Bread, veggies &amp; cheese</td>
<td>Uno</td>
<td>Four In A Row</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reminder: Please notify OSHC either by phone 9482 3323 or email asc.westgarth.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au if your child is absent or has been collected from sickbay during the day and will not be attending the program.

Jump Rope for Heart

It is great to see all the students at Westgarth getting very enthusiastic about skipping and getting their hearts healthy! Last week a note was sent home with the Jump Rope for Heart website if you decide to sponsor your child with their skipping. If you have any questions about this process please see me. Please note your child does not need to collect sponsorship to part of the program and will still be skipping this term!

Keep skipping! Cheers, Ricky Davis
Whopping Great Fete - Sunday 20th October 2013

The planning and preparation for this the 2013 WHOPPING GREAT FETE is well underway. There is a bustle and a hustle in the air as our stalwart Fete Committee members line up the finish line in their sights and suddenly realize that there are all sorts of things yet to be done.

Sadly, Fetes become neither Whopping nor Great on their own so here is how you can help out. Go on - you know you want to.

CARPET - Yes. Carpet. Good stories and rocking music numbers simply cannot be fully appreciated if you have sticks poking into your pants. So for the general comfort of our audiences we're after some carpet squares we can lay down in front of the story telling throne and the main stage. If you have some sizeable pieces left over from a recent reno, or have a large rug you are willing to donate to the stick-free pants cause, please let us know.

SILENT AUCTION - Will our auction fall completely silent this year? At this rate Yes. Our fabulous 2013 Silent Auction Coordinator is being shy and hasn’t come forward yet. Please, whoever you are, pop your hand up and make yourself known! All you are up for is a spot of administration to catalogue the prizes, prepare the bid sheets and roster helpers for the day. Promise. Oh, there might also be a bit of cellophane involved so our fabulous prizes remain dust-free. But if you have a phobia about cellophane, let us know and I'm sure we can find someone to take this bit on...

FOOD FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD! - The BBQs back, and so is Mediterranean Food. Baguettes are on board and there'll be cake in the café. But despite this apparent abundance of tucker WE RUN OUT EVERY YEAR!! We desperately need some more offerings so that everyone has a chance to be happily fed without queuing with sleeping bags from 5.00am.

Here are some ideas:

CORN ON THE COB - With a barbeque by your side, a tub of butter and a supply of salt you can be the belle of the ball. Or at least the churner outer-er of sweet corn cobs on sticks to a delighted crowd. Bound to be a fave. We have the equipment and contacts for the supplies. We. Just. Need. You.

TACOS - Hands up if you've been to the Taco Van? Then you know the drill. Meat or beans, salad, cheese and sour cream. Yum Yum. This would surely be a surefire success. Just add people. Want to serve these from an actual van? Then let us know and we will see what we can do.

PIZZA/PASTA - If Tacos don’t grab you, how about a pizza or pasta stall? We’ve got the gear and the know how. Once again we just need volunteers to chop, heat and serve. Not a single TV food judge in sight, just a contented crowd purring in the sun with full tums.

Got an idea of your own? Come on then - out with it!

To make us an offer or to find out more contact:
Chloe 0400 977 849 chloe@parca.com.au
Inger 0412 703 521 inger.pearce@incitecpivot.com.au

BAKERS DELIGHT DOUGH RAISER PROGRAM
Did you know that by shopping at Bakers Delight you can help raise funds for the school? If you shop at either:
♦ Northcote Plaza Bakers Delight
♦ Fairfield Bakers Delight
just mention Westgarth Primary School when you are paying for your goods and 5% of your purchase value will go to our school. How easy is that? If you have any queries about this fundraiser please contact Emma Savage on 0413 185 350 or emma@weller.id.au
**School Council Information**

**Environment Committee Report:**

The cycle of life and death has been well-represented in the WPS environment recently. Just before the end of last term the bi-annual arborist audit gave the school notice that two trees on the Clarke Street campus were rotted through with Canker and we were advised to have them removed immediately. There are also a couple of trees on Brooke Street that will have to come out in the near future because they either have canker, are causing distress to larger trees, or in one case, is actually dead!

On the upside during the holidays, the Brooke Street site was professionally re-planted with fourteen mature age trees so in a few years there will be a beautiful canopy of trees all around the playground. Planting during the holiday time ensured there were no children around so the trees could have optimal survival conditions to settle in! We have also received lots of positive feedback about the new entry at the western end of Brooke Street, and plans are afoot for some quiet playspaces in the open area outside Kenji’s room.

Quotes are also being received for some major sandpit redevelopments on the western side of the Brooke Street playground (as per the mud map developed last year). These works will hopefully be completed by the end of the year. Clarke Street has not been forgotten, with the toilet refurbishment nearly complete, and ongoing discussions about how we can proceed with some planting for the garden areas, and some designs for quiet play/seating areas under discussion, not to mention the lovely new tree throne left by the arborists! Please feel free to contact the environment committee with any ideas for fabulous playground ideas, things you would like to see improved or general feedback on our progress. Bec Yule, on behalf of the Environment Committee.

**Entertainment Book - Would you like to save 5% all year round on your supermarket shopping?**

Entertainment Book holders are entitled to 5% discount on supermarket shopping at both Coles and Safeway, and also at their respective petrol partners, all year round. That can amount to $250 saving on an average weekly supermarket shop of $100! And that is just one of the Entertainment Book offers. There are literally hundreds of 2 for 1 offers and 25% to 50% off offers on a huge range of attractions, activities, cafes, sports and much more all across Melbourne (many local businesses). We will wrap up selling the books over the next few weeks, so get a book now to enjoy all the savings. Books are valid until 1st June 2014. As an added incentive, if you order online before 31 July, you get free delivery to your door (contact me for details). Of course, you can still get the book by dropping into the school office or by contacting me directly.

Books cost $65 of which $13 goes towards our school’s fundraising. You can “share” buying a book with a friend, and save even more. Feel free to forward this offer to family and friends. If you have any questions feel free to contact me Mary Skarpetis on 0423 195 001 or mskarpetis@optusnet.com.au.

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**Community News**

**3/4 bedroom house available** in close proximity to Westgarth primary, for reasonable rent, for 4 weeks, from mid Sept. to mid Oct. Please contact Panayiota on 0418 767 241

**Kids Saturday Basketball - Ivanhoe Knights** Competitive team basketball for girls and boys from ages 6 and up

Basketball is a good introduction to team sport for kids. No prior basketball experience is necessary for children of any age. The Ivanhoe Knights Basketball Club is holding a Registration Day on Saturday 10 August 2013, 10am – 4pm at Ivanhoe East Primary School, Warncliffe Road, Ivanhoe East. $99 per player for early registration or $114 per player on registration day plus uniform. We have beginner to advanced teams in all age groups. New players are welcome. The Summer Season runs from October to March (excluding school holidays and long weekends). For further information go to: www.ivanhoeknights.org

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