What’s happening...

Wild Weather... The unfavourable weather conditions yesterday wreaked havoc on our school yard. Both sites were affected as the strong wind gusts reported to be over 100 mph hit our school grounds twice, between 11.10 and 1.30 p.m. Power was cut off to the school for quite some time, however, this was a minor concern. The worst area affected was the Westgarth Kinder where a major part of a gum tree came down hitting the kinder decking and part of the decking roof. We all feel very fortunate that no one was injured. The afternoon was spent ensuring that everyone was kept safe. Kindergarten students and staff were evacuated from the kinder and spent the afternoon in the WEB (new building) space. The kindergarten will remain closed during Tuesday to enable cleaning operations to occur. The other area badly affected are two homes bordering the kindergarten where the crown section of the gum tree to the East of the kindergarten came down damaging fences and other plantings of number 7 and 9 Oxford Street.

The wild weather affected other trees on Clarke Street while on Brooke Street the large gum tree situated between the school car park and Emily’s prep room lost several branches during the storms. In fact, one of these branches is hanging precariously in the highest part of the tree canopy and for this reason the area has been isolated until it can be made safe. We are continuing to communicate with neighbours affected and to work with DEECD emergency management staff who have been called in to assess the damage, clean up and make the school grounds safe. Thank you to all the WPS and kinder staff for working together and responding quickly amid the unfolding afternoon events ensuring that our focus remained on the safety of all our students.

We are extremely fortunate that the school was recently audited for diseased trees, two of which were removed during the last school holidays on the advice that they would prove hazardous during extreme weather. DEECD staff will continue to access damage and the condition of trees today.

Book Week 19th–23rd August–Read Across the Universe... Book Week celebrations and special activities have been planned for next week. There will be visiting authors such as Nicky Johnston who writes on topics such as resilience and Meredith Costain, author of Rosie to the Rescue and Dog Squad. There will be multi-age activities, poetry workshops as well as a visit by Uncle Phil who has asked if our students could bring along a spare book on Friday 23rd to donate to children who do not have many books. If students have a spare book, please bring it along to the Uncle Phil session next Friday and Uncle Phil will deliver the books to Torres Strait Islander children. Hannah and the Book Week team are finalising arrangements and will be sending home some information this coming Thursday. To coincide with Book Week, Dianne has once again, organised the Book Fair which will operate from the WEB.

Parent Information Sessions... A reminder that the SKOOVILLE, parent information session is being held this Thursday 15th August at 7.00 p.m. in the WEB. This session is for parents of children in years 3 to 6. On Wednesday 21st August at 7.00 p.m. in the WEB a parent and staff seminar on Values in the 21st Century is being facilitated by Chris Daicos. Please join us for one or both of these activities.
3 Way Student-Teacher-Parent Conferences
Later this year the school will be trialling 3 way conferences. If successful we plan to run the three way conferences as part of the mid-year Parent-Teacher Interviews, the difference will be that students will be involved during the interview process. The philosophy behind the 3 way conference relates to child centred learning where students learn to reflect and evaluate their learning and set personal goals that will lead to self-improvement. The teacher acts as learning facilitator, guiding, mentoring and coaching students to take personal responsibility for their learning. Students will be able to select a focus for their interviews and talk about what they have learnt and identify steps that will assist them to make future learning improvements. Student reports will still be provided each year in June and December. Student Portfolios will continue with some areas of the school adopting a digital approach to the Portfolio. The same AusVels (Essential Learning Standards) will be used across the school to plan for student learning however, there will be more of an emphasis on student focused, self-directed learning approaches which are central to successful 3 way learning conferences. If you wish to know more about these approaches please speak with your child’s classroom teacher or contact Barbara, Lynne or myself if you would like any clarification.

In order to start the 3 way conference implementation, teachers have commenced looking at or revisiting the philosophies and approaches that support this initiative. In addition, School Council support this initiative and have endorsed the school in seeking from the North West Victoria Region Regional Director permission to alter the school times on December 5th. Please enter this date in your diary as a provisional date for the 3 way conferences to be held during the school day and early evening. More information will be provided once we have received confirmation from the Region.

Whilst on this topic, a reminder that Monday 5th November is a student free day while arrangements for Thursday 5th December are to be confirmed.

Ambulance Service…To ensure that student safety is a priority, when a student sustains an injury at school that is deemed an emergency, our process, is to call an ambulance. In nearly all instances, ambulances who have been called to Westgarth Primary School have taken students to The Children’s Hospital. Unfortunately, the school is not covered for ambulance costs. In this regard we encourage families to take out their own ambulance cover so that costs are covered in the event that an ambulance is needed. Many private health funds include ambulance cover as part of their policies so please check if you happen to have private medical health insurance.

Westgarth Education Building (WEB)…Thank you to the School Council Environment Committee and to the Junior School Council students who made suggestions for renaming the BER building. The name change was well overdue and we are now referring to the new building as the “WEB”.

House Sports/Thursday Assembly this week…Good luck all students in years 3-6 who will be competing in the House Athletics on Thursday 15th August. Thank you to Ricky for preparing all the students for a day full of sporting events and serious fun. GO WALKER (blue), RUCKER (red), URQUAHART (yellow) and Gerrard (green).
Due to the athletics day, Prep - two students will attend the Thursday afternoon assembly this week. Barbara, Kat and some year 2 students will be assisting with hosting the assembly. Parents more the welcome to join in the fun. Cheer squads welcome!

Take care,
Grace Conway
Principal
School Council Report

School council met last Wednesday night. We are currently working on the proposed new Kinder Licence Agreement, as well as reviewing our agreement with our current school uniform supplier. We spent time discussing the new Languages Review Working Party, in particular, endorsing the Terms of Reference. Mary will tell you more about this below. Apart from these things, we covered our usual business (from fees to trees with a policy in between). As always, the minutes will be available from the office within the next week for those interested in the 'motions and actions' side of things.

If you ever have any questions about school council related matters, or want to know how to get involved, please feel free to email me ullmerkel@hotmail.com

Ully Merkel, President

Languages Review Working Party

At its meeting last Wednesday night School Council endorsed the "Terms of Reference and Operating Guidelines" (the "TOR") of the Languages Review Working Party (LRWP). So we are up and running! The membership of the LRWP comprises Grace, Ully, 3 school councillors (including myself as Convenor), 3 staff members and we are seeking 2 parent representatives. By way of summary, the LRWP will undertake a review of the languages education at Westgarth Primary School, which we anticipate will take until September 2014. The review will consider the language/s to be taught and the language/s learning model. The LRWP will provide progress reports to School Council and will put recommendations to School Council for approval. Further details about the scope of work, roles and responsibilities etc are outlined in the TOR which is available at the school office or can be emailed upon request.

Anyone interested in being one of the parent representatives should consider the TOR and if interested contact me, Mary, either on 0423 195 001 or mskarpetis@optusnet.com.au to discuss. I’m happy to answer any questions people may have.

If you are interested in being involved but unable to commit to, there may be other ways of becoming involved at a later stage. Please watch this space. However, at this early stage I would love to hear from anyone who may just be interested in providing general assistance or advice throughout the review.

Parents/carers will be given the opportunity to ask questions and express their opinions during the review. The LRWP will inform you of the processes that will be used at a later stage. Newsletter reports will be provided to keep everyone informed of how the review is going. That’s it for now - hope to hear from you.

Mary Skarpetis, Convenor, LRWP
**Diary Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 13th August</td>
<td>Father's Day/Special Person's Day Raffle Tickets going home today. 50 cents each. Due back 28/08/13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 15th August</td>
<td>School Assembly in gym 2.40pm. Item: Prep Kat Grade 3-6 House Athletics Day Skooville Parent Information Night 7p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 15th - 21st Aug</td>
<td>Book Fair East end of BER Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 19th August</td>
<td>Notification of Year 7 Placements for 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 21st August</td>
<td>Values in 21st Century Session 7p.m. BER Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 22nd August</td>
<td>Book Week Parade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 29th August</td>
<td>Father's Day / Special Person's Day Stall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 3rd Sept</td>
<td>Grade 3-6 House Athletics Reserve Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 20th October</td>
<td>Westgarth Fete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 10th Dec</td>
<td>Grade 6 Orientation Day (State Secondary Schools)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 12th Dec</td>
<td>Grade 6 Graduation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Meetings**

- Environment: Thursday 29th August 4.00 p.m. Resource Room
- Policy: Friday 30th August 8.30 a.m. Resource Room
- OSHC: Monday 2nd September 2.00 p.m. BER Office
- Finance: Wednesday 4th September 8.30 a.m. Grace’s office
- School Council: Wednesday 11th September 7.00 p.m. in Staffroom
- Parents & Friends: T.B.C.

**Art Fundraiser - School Calendars, Cards and iPhone Covers**

This term students will be creating a piece of artwork that will be made into calendars, cards and iPhone covers as a fundraiser for Westgarth Primary School. A sample from the printing company (Kids Art Works) is on display at the office.

An order form for the calendars, cards and/or iPhone covers was sent home last week. If you didn’t receive one please contact the office for another one. The calendars are $12, a set of 8 cards is $14 per pack and iPhone covers are $15. The same piece of artwork will be used for all items.

The order forms and money will need to be returned to school no later than Friday 6th September, 2013. Any late orders will not be accepted due to processing deadlines.

*It is very important that a separate order form is used for each child, as this identifies each child's artwork.* Thanks, Rushe & Julia R

**Book Fair News**

The Book Fair will be starting this Thursday morning 15th August until Wednesday 21st August. This year it will be held in the east end of the BER building.

**Opening Times:**

- Thursday 15th August: 8.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.
- Friday 16th August: 8.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. only
- Monday 19th August: 8.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.
- Tuesday 20th August: 8.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.
- Wednesday 21st August: 8.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. only

Due to limited space we usually receive 2-3 copies of each book but most books are able to be reordered so nobody will miss out on a copy of your favourite book. Purchasing books can be made by cash, cheque or credit card.

*Please feel free to come and visit the Book Fair. There is no obligation to purchase.*

Thank you, Dianne (Book Fair Organiser)
Congratulations to these Students of the Week!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep Emily - Whole Class</th>
<th>1/2 Yolanda - Charlie K</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep Heidi - Francesca A</td>
<td>3/4 Bianca - No selection this week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep Kat - Holly P</td>
<td>3/4 Hannah - Kasper P-W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep Nadine - Georgia B</td>
<td>3/4 Holly - Kai A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep Sarah - Olley D</td>
<td>3/4 Ryan - Tessa P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Barbara - Scarlett P-W</td>
<td>3/4 Sarah - Orlando O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Betty - Evie T</td>
<td>3/4 Taryn - Caitlin B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Cameron - Charlotte A-D</td>
<td>5 Brenda - Louis P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Julia - Hannah C</td>
<td>5 Gaby - Heath R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Kenji - Ava J</td>
<td>5 Glenn - Will McB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Nettie - Jonah A</td>
<td>5 Mark - Dahlia K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Noreen - Katrina McC</td>
<td>6 Andy - Chryzelle S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Rosie - Neave McK-P</td>
<td>6 Phana - Reuben S</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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What’s happening in OSHC? Term 3, Week 5 12th August to 16th 20th to 24th May

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Inside</th>
<th>Outdoor</th>
<th>Raining (gym)?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Pizza</td>
<td>Make a guitar</td>
<td>Skipping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Mixed Sandwiches</td>
<td>Slime</td>
<td>Quoits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Pita Bread &amp; Vegies</td>
<td>Make a guitar</td>
<td>8 and Back</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Mixed Sandwiches</td>
<td>Slime</td>
<td>Quoits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Chicken Noodles</td>
<td>Children’s Choice</td>
<td>4 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.

Sports Diary Dates

**Term 3**

- **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

Westgarth Primary School
DAFFODIL DAY FUNDRAISER - Friday 23rd August 2013

On Friday 23rd of August 2013, Westgarth Primary School will be taking part in the Cancer Council Daffodil Day. The School Captains and Vice Captains will be selling pins ($3), small foam footballs ($5), pens ($2) and wristbands ($2) to classrooms from tomorrow Wednesday 14th of August to Friday 23rd of August to help the Cancer Council prevent this horrible disease.

We are also encouraging everyone to dress in yellow on Friday 23rd August and bring a gold coin donation. Cancer is a deadly growth that can be anywhere in or outside your body. It causes the death of 7.6 million people around the world every year. Many families are affected by it so you can help by wearing yellow on the 23rd of August and bringing a gold coin donation to grow hope. Thanks Jess & Sadie, On behalf of the Junior School Council.

Hi Kids! How are your skipping tricks going? Can you do double-unders and criss-cross yet? It’s not long until your Jump Off day on Friday 6th September, so keep practising.

So far students have raised $950 in total for the Heart Foundation! If you would like to raise money please log on to: www.heartfoundation.org.au/sites/jumpropeforheart and follow the directions! It’s great to see so many students skipping! Keep up the good work. Ricky Davis P.E.

Special Person’s Day / Father’s Day Stall – seeking wrappers to help with bling

EXTRA DATE DUE TO BLACK OUT

The Special Person’s/Father’s Day Stall will be held on Thursday 29 August from 9am. Myf and Caroline are organising the stall again this year and could do with some help to ‘bling up’ the goodies for the kids to buy. Come along to the bling gigs on either one or all of these dates. We’ll supply the bubbles, cheese & nibbles if you can bring along nimble fingers and conversation!

Monday 12 Aug from 8pm – CANCELLED due to the black-out

New Date: Wednesday 14th August from 8.00 p.m. at Caroline’s 6 Wastell Street Northcote

RSVP: Caroline-roberts@netspace.net.au or 0412367153

Plant packing ‘bling up’ on Tuesday 27 Aug in the CANTEEN at school 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

ALSO if you have any Men’s Gifts you could donate for the raffle – please drop them into the box in the Brooke Street foyer. Hope to see you there!

More information plus raffle tickets are coming home tonight.

Cheers Caroline (Hugo 3/4 Bianca & Percy 1/2 Rosie) and Myf (Harry 3/4 Hannah Akira 1/2 Cameron)

Sales of Entertainment Books winding up this Friday – great Father’s Day gift idea

We will wrap up selling Entertainment Books at the end of this week. So, if you’ve left it until now don’t wait any longer. The books cost $65 with $13 going towards the school. It doesn’t take long to recoup the cost of the book, in particular with the 5% off Coles and Safeway shopping, as well as the hundreds of 2 for 1 and 25% - 50% off offers on a huge range of attractions, activities, cafes, sports and much more all across Melbourne (many local businesses). With Fathers’ Day just around the corner, treat dad to some AFL tickets, rugby tickets, a supercar driving experience or a defensive driving course, winery tour, golf, discounted liquor from Dan Murphys, Liquorland etc..many more ideas.

If you purchase the book online you can have it delivered to your home for free. Otherwise you can come by the office and purchase one. If you have any questions feel free to contact me, Mary Skarpetis on 0423 195 001 or mskarpmetis@optusnet.com.au. Thank you to all who have purchased a book and supported the school’s fundraising. Enjoy your savings!
Spotlight on Sustainability
Seeking Donations of Pot Plant Holders & Potting Mix

We are seeking donations of any unwanted indoor plant holders or potting mix you may have at home. Ideally self-watering pot plant holders would be great but any regular pot plant holder with saucer would be suitable.

Some year four & five students proposed that we put plants into classrooms as a part of their Sustainability Passion Projects. The school will purchase some indoor plants and pots but any donations will be well received.

We will be looking at planting some plants such as Peace Lilies due to their resiliency and forgiving nature; clearly necessary in a classroom environment. If you feel you could offer any expertise in this area please see Bianca. Pots and potting mix can be left in the crate outside Brooke St Office.

The Sustainability Team

Whopping Great Fete
Sunday 20th October 2013

Home Produce Stall
After some holiday respite we have lots of energy for a bumper session cooking up some berry jams. Meet at The Farmhouse this Sunday 18 August around 10.30am.

Everyone is welcome and there is lots of space to bring your kids.
Please email Angie angiebruce@mac.com if you can lend a hand.
Thanks, The Jammy Ladies and Lads

Book Stall
Yes it’s that time of year again - WE WANT YOUR BOOKS!
We had a fantastic collection of books to sell at last year’s fete, let’s see if we can do even better this year. Books of any kind welcome.

There will be a marked area outside the gym where you can start dropping off books from next week, or for other drop off/pick up arrangements, you can contact Belinda on 0400 947 318 or at belinda@cobwebs.id.au.

Thanks, Belinda and Sebastian

FETE SILENT AUCTION - PLEASE HELP!
We need donated goods for the SILENT AUCTION
We need unused stuff for the silent auction. Perhaps you have been given something that you have never used that someone else may love? Perhaps you have children’s toys bought on a whim but are still sitting on top of a wardrobe? What about that vase that is lovely but just doesn’t suit your house? Maybe you have clothes that you bought by mistake in the wrong size? We can auction all these things in the SILENT AUCTION. Doesn't matter what...now is the time to get it out of your home!.. if you haven’t used it someone else may want to! Please call TAMSIN FRANKLIN on 0428878066, or email me on tamsin.franklin@turnthecorner.com.au to donate or just drop your goodies off to the Brooke Street office. THANKS.