What’s happening...

Enviro Week - Last week we celebrated Enviro Week at Westgarth, with students participating in a range of environmental activities throughout the school.

The specific focus for this year’s Enviro Week was on water conservation, with students throughout the school investigating our school’s water usage and developing a range of water-saving strategies to be implemented throughout the school. Additionally, students took part in a biodiversity challenge with their buddy grades across both the Brooke and Clarke Street campuses, while some of our 2012 3/4 students completed their ‘Sustainability Passion Projects’ by potting and placing indoor plants throughout the WEB (ex-BER).

Our year 2 'Sustainability Squad' have also recently unveiled some mosaic artwork they have created by re-using an assortment of bottle-tops collected from the WPS community.

A huge thank-you to the 'Sustainability Squad', Bianca, Rosie and the Sustainability Committee for all of their efforts in making Enviro Week 2013 such a success and, more importantly, for their continued commitment to sustainability as a hallmark of Westgarth Primary School. Well done to everyone, and well done to year 3/4 (Bianca) for their contributions to this week's newsletter.

Indigenous Literacy Day - I would like to bring to your attention that Wednesday September 4th is National Indigenous Literacy Day and there are a number of Indigenous literacy awareness events being held across Australia, one of which is swapping or donating books to remote indigenous areas.

Westgarth is ahead of the September 4th National Book Swap day. As you will know, the school recently celebrated Westgarth Literacy Book Week from Monday 19th August, culminating on Friday 23rd August with a special visit from indigenous elder, Uncle Phil. As part of Uncle Phil's presentation, we have arranged for our book exchange by way of donations, generously provided by our Westgarth families. As part of the ongoing activities, teachers are also arranging for students to write to Torres Strait Islander children to promote cultural awareness and the importance of the development of literacy for life.

The Indigenous Literacy Foundation is a not-for-profit charity established with the support of the Australian Book Industry. The Foundation is aiming to raise funds to support the programme. Donations can be made at: https://secure4.ilisys.com.au/indigxi/donate.html or by calling (02) 9319 2883.

It is also International Literacy Day on Sunday 8th of September.

2014 Prep Enrolments - A reminder to all families in the Westgarth Primary School community that enrolments for 2014 Prep children are now due. Children aged 5 years and older as at 30 April 2014, and whose closest school is WPS, are eligible to enrol. Enrolment forms can be collected from the school office, and should be returned to the school office ASAP.

2014 Prep Transition - Transition dates for students starting prep at WPS in 2014 have now been confirmed. The dates for 2014 Prep Transition are Friday 08–November, Friday 15–November and Friday 22–November. More detailed information will be provided to prospective 2014 Prep parents closer to the day.

Cont’ next page...
Today we played host to 25 children from Annie Dennis Kindergarten who spent the morning “practising being preps”. Prep students and children from Annie Dennis sang each other songs they had learned, and then shared a picnic in the sunshine outside the prep classrooms on Brooke Street. A big thank-you to Kat and the Prep team for making our guests so welcome this morning.

**Jump Rope for Heart Jump-Off** - This Friday all WPS students will participate in our Jump Rope for Heart jump-off. Throughout the day, students from prep to grade 6 will take part in a rotation of skipping activities under the close supervision of our grade 6 Jump Rope for Heart Captains.

It has been pleasing to see so many children embrace skipping in the playground at recess and lunchtime all over the school. I’d like to thank Ricky for his enthusiasm, guidance and organisation with Jump Rope for Heart this term, and also our Jump Rope for Heart captains for their support.

**Art Show** - The date for the 2013 Westgarth Primary School Art Show has now been finalised. This year's Art Show will be held in the WEB (ex-BER) on Thursday 21-November between 5:00pm and 8:00pm. Further information regarding the Art Show will be available closer to the day.

**Lost Property** - Please check lost property on Brooke Street and Clarke Street for any unnamed lunch containers, drink bottles and items of clothing that your child may have misplaced during the term. We have accumulated large amounts of high-quality items which are awaiting collection. Any unclaimed items at the end of this term will be delivered to charity.

WPS students are encouraged to take personal responsibility for their belongings. At home you can support your child in taking responsibility for their personal items by ensuring that food containers, drink bottles and items of clothing are named. Teachers will support children at school by ensuring that any misplaced items with names are returned to their rightful owner, which is usually carried out in the last few weeks of each term.

**School Grounds/Student Safety** - Unfortunately, this afternoon, another tree branch came down near the farmhouse. We are lucky that no one was injured. We will be having this tree looked at by the arborist later this week.

At the last Environment Committee meeting we discussed the future of several trees that were identified with Canker and which are due to be removed in the next school holidays. These include one tree, on Clarke Street that partially came down on a neighbour’s fence during fierce storms a few weeks ago and a couple of trees on Brooke Street. We want to reassure all families that we place the safety of students and community members first when making these decisions.

**Child illness** - As is customary for this time of year, there are a high number of children in our community currently suffering from illness. I’d like to thank our school nurse Louise for her care and compassion in assisting unwell children whilst at school.

I’d also like to guide you to some important health information that Louise has provided on page 3 of this week’s newsletter.

**School Fete** - The advent of Spring serves as a reminder that the 2013 Westgarth Whopping Great Fete is just around the corner. The fete this year will be held on **Sunday, 20 October 2013**.

As ever, our committed Fete Co-ordinators would be grateful for any assistance you can offer in the lead-up, or on the day. No matter how niche your skill set, if you can help in any way please don’t hesitate to call Chloe Crawley on 0400 977 849 or Inger Pearce on 0412 703 521.

**Skooville** - Skooville is a protected social learning network for primary students, where children learn, play and talk with their school friends. It is hoped that Westgarth students will develop their skills and knowledge in CyberSafety by participating in this program.

A reminder to parents that the Skooville Parental Authorisation form is due to be returned to school no later than **this Friday, 6th September**.

I hope you were able to enjoy the Spring sunshine today. Grace Conway, Principal
**Diary Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 5th September</td>
<td>School Assembly in gym 2.40pm. Item: Gr 3/4 Ryan Gr 1/2 Arts Centre &amp; Birrarung Marr Excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 6th September</td>
<td>Jump Rope For Heart - Jump Off Day Prep In-House Activity Learning by Doing Woodwork</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 7th September</td>
<td>Election Day Sausage Sizzle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 20th September</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 3. Students dismissed at 2.00 p.m. OSHC available for care.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 20th October</td>
<td>Westgarth Fete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 4th November</td>
<td>Student Free Day. OSHC available for care.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 10th December</td>
<td>Grade 6 Orientation Day (State Secondary Schools)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 12th December</td>
<td>Grade 6 Graduation</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Meetings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>Wednesday 4th September 8.30 a.m. Grace's office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Council</td>
<td>Wednesday 11th September 7.00 p.m. in Staffroom</td>
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</tbody>
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**Term Dates 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>15/07/2013 - 20/09/2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Free Day</td>
<td>Monday 4th November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>07/10/2013 - 20/12/2013</td>
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</tbody>
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**Uniform Shop**

Open Tuesday from 3:15pm

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**Sun-Smart** - As part of our Sun-Smart policy, all students need to wear a wide brimmed hat or a legionnaire hat when outside from September through to April. If students are not wearing a hat as of next week, they will be asked to play in a sheltered area of the play-ground. The Westgarth motto is NO HAT, NO PLAY.

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

3 days left to order!

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

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**Sick Bay / Nurse Alert**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Cases of influenza are still presenting at school. Influenza can be easily spread from person to person, and we ask for your assistance to help reduce the spread of influenza at Westgarth Primary School.

A friendly reminder that hand washing is the most effective way to stop the spread of germs and by keeping your child at home if they have symptoms of influenza so we can reduce the number of fellow students who may get infected.

**Symptoms of Influenza:**

- coughing
- sore throats
- headaches
- fever of 38 degrees or above
- body aches
- runny/stuffy noses
- tiredness and sometimes vomiting and diarhoea

Cheers, Louise Green, School Nurse
Congratulations to these Students of the Week!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep Emily - Rocco S</th>
<th>1/2 Yolanda - Finbarr D &amp; Stevie S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep Heidi - Daisy T</td>
<td>3/4 Bianca - Katie M &amp; Hugo N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep Kat - Emma D</td>
<td>3/4 Hannah - Grace Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep Nadine - Kosta K</td>
<td>3/4 Holly - Andreas M &amp; Noah M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep Sarah - Kiki F</td>
<td>3/4 Ryan - Yenka S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Barbara - Jacqui B</td>
<td>3/4 Sarah - No selection this week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Betty - Scarlett T</td>
<td>3/4 Taryn - Whole Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Cameron - Luke S</td>
<td>5 Brenda - Finn L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Julia - Agnes J</td>
<td>5 Gaby - Lola A &amp; Angelica A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Kenji - Thomas S</td>
<td>5 Glenn - Olivia D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Nettie - Holly G</td>
<td>5 Mark - Asha B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Noreen - Jasmine L</td>
<td>6 Andy - Adam C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Rosie - Matilda D</td>
<td>6 Phana - Whole Class</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What’s happening in OSHC?  Term 3, Week 8. Sept 2nd – 6th

<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>Shadow Puppets</td>
<td>Sand Volcanoes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Mixed Sandwiches</td>
<td>Marbling</td>
<td>Crab Soccer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Pita Bread &amp; Vegies</td>
<td>Tissue Flowers</td>
<td>Skipping Contest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Spaghetti Napoletana</td>
<td>Paper Dragons</td>
<td>“Button” Toss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Mixed Sandwiches</td>
<td>Marbling</td>
<td>Skipping Contest</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.

Student Free Day Monday 4th November - Please call or email OSHC if care is required.

Sports Diary Dates

Term 3
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
Why we’re water lovers at Westgarth

The students at Westgarth have been studying water as our focus for Enviroweek. We have been looking at the school's water usage by using SWEP, watching short films and discussing the importance of water within our classes.

This is what some year three/four students had to say:

- To us, water is just a drink, but to kids in other countries water is LIFE! Zoe
- I think we should appreciate that we have water because people in Sudan and Africa for example, don’t have clean water; their water has mud in it and is not fresh at all. Camille
- Did you know that 97% of our Earth’s water is salt water? That’s not very good because if you drink salt water you can get very sick and possibly die. 3% of water is fresh but only 1.5% is accessible. You can reuse water for gardens and other things. You can save the world. Katie
- Do you know where all that water comes from? Almost everything contains water. All food uses water and I’ll give you some examples. This much water is required to make or grow these foods: 1 loaf of bread = 650 litres, 1 egg = 135 litres, 1 litre of milk = 200 litres, a kilo of vegetables = 13 litres
- 1 Hamburger 2,400 litres & 1 Steak 7,000 litres. This shows why you should save water. Lulu, Jeremy & Hugo
- Did you know that 70% of Earth is water and 97% of our water is salty? Only 3% is fresh water, and half of that are glaciers or icebergs. The other half is drinkable but 70% of the water is used for growing food. Torren
- I think we should be happy about the fresh water we have and how lucky we are compared to some people. 1/7 of the Earth’s population doesn’t have access to fresh water. Inez & Mira
- Water is precious. Everyone needs it to survive. 97% of the Earth’s water is salt water and only 1.5% out of the 3% left is accessible. Maria
- Did you know that more than 85% of a major mountains snow has melted in less than 80 years! Kiri
Whopping Great Fete
Sunday 20th October 2013

SOFT DRINK DRIVE !!!!
With the fete drawing closer it's time to start the fabulous WPS Soft Drink Drive! This year we are collecting soft drinks, water and/or juices for the Fete. There will be a wonderful prize for the classroom(s) with the largest donations. You can drop your donation off at the classroom or in the foyer on Brooke Street - remember to pop your child's name and class on it! If you have any queries let me know - Megan 0417 168 098.

Books - keep 'em coming!
Remember everyone, now is the time to clear those shelves and donate some books to the bookstall. There is a drop off point outside the gym where you can leave any donations or please get in touch with us to make other arrangements for drop off or we are happy to arrange collection: Belinda on 0400 947 318 or at belinda@cobwebs.id.au Thanks heaps to the people who have already started donating!

Next Jammy Cook-up, Sunday 8th September 10.30am to 2.30pm
The jammy cook-ups at the Farmhouse (on the Clarke Street campus) are a fantastic way to meet other lovely parents and contribute to the fete by cooking delicious jam! Conversations flow when hands are busy! You don’t need to be a super cook; most of the work involves chopping! If you have a favourite knife please bring it along.

We need more small and medium jars! Please if you can, leave jars, cleaned if possible, on the trolley at reception before Friday 6 September. 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 0432 413 419 or emailing mmsiemensma@gmail.com.

Children are warmly welcome to come along and play outside. See you there - Meg & Brigette.

Special Person's Day / Father's Day Stall
THANKS to EVERYONE who helped make the special person's day stall a success. There were many happy little faces on the day. And after school and on Sunday. The joy of giving!
We would like to particularly thank the following businesses and individuals for donating raffle items:
Ali Limb Jeweller, Melbourne Bicycle Centre, Yarra Bend Golf Course, Caroline Roberts and anonymous parents!
We managed to sell out of everything (!! ) and so next year will be a clean slate of goodies. We would love your feedback on what you liked or didn’t like. Or ideas for items for 2014.
Thanks, Myf Browning and Caroline Roberts Myf@netspace.net.au / Caroline-roberts@netspace.net.au 0418 122 663 / 0412 367 153.
I.O.U’s - A reminder that if your child/ren have I.O.U's from the stall that payment is now due at the office.
Music News

Yesterday, some grade 3/4 classes were lucky enough to participate in a drumming workshop run by Matt Rodd (Jackson’s dad in 3/4 Sarah). He brought in some of his special drums for us to look at and play. He taught us how to play some different African rhythms and then we played them as a group. It was a great learning experience and the students enjoyed it very much as well as learning a great deal. Thanks heaps Matt and we hope to see you again sometime.

Thanks also to Deb Prentice (Orlando in 3/4 Sarah) who ran a dance workshop. Virginia Price (Tahlia in 3/4 Taryn) who spoke to the children about how she uses music in her work as well as what an important role music has had in her life. Liz Zanella (Elliot in 3/4 Hannah) who spoke about the bands she plays in and the process of making a CD, including song writing and recording. She even treated us to a live performance of one of her very own songs!! We are still to be visited by a number of other parents and grandparents who have made music a big part of their lives. Thumbs up to all, the kids are loving the visits.

Just a note also about recorder. There’s a bit of confusion surrounding a ‘recorder book’ that the grade 3/4 students need for their music lessons. All they need is a display book, manilla folder or plastic sleeve to transport the music that I give them in class to and from school without it getting lost or damaged. It is important that the children are given some time to practise their recorder playing at home and they need their music to help them. They are producing some really great sounds and are getting really good at reading the note of the stave.

John Carr, Music Specialist

Community Advertisements

Urgently required: Kind hearted, reliable and trustworthy person to take care of my 15 month old fortnightly on a Tuesday until Childcare place becomes available. Prefer someone with Working With Children’s Check. Please contact Kim for further details on 0402 822 021 (Mum to Tallulah, Prep Heidi).

Get Active Sports run introductory sports programs for 3 - 8 year olds on weekend mornings. $80 for 6 weekly sessions and a ball, bat or racquet for you to keep! Visit www.getactivesports.com.au or call 1300 772 106 for information.

ATTENTION ALL 5-15 YEAR OLDS
“Little Bolters” Skills Development Clinics Saturday 21st & Saturday 28th Sept. 2013 8.30am at George Knott Reserve, Heidelberg Road, Clifton Hill, $10 per Little Bolters clinic. CLAC Members Cost: Free (2013/2014 registered athletes) 2013/2014 Competition Season Starts October 4th. Online Registrations are now Open. For more information go to www.collingwoodlittleathletics.org.au

Players wanted for U11 netball team to join WPS kids on their team. Training are Fridays, 4.30 - 5.30. Games are Saturday mornings. All training and games are at the Darebin Sports Centre on Plenty Rd, Reservoir. There are currently 6 kids from grade 4 and 5 from Westgarth PS in the teams, but we need a couple extra for their Lakeside teams. Please contact Monique (Laila 5 Glenn) on 0417 347 806.

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