What’s happening...

WPS CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW SCHOOL CAPTAINS AND VICE CAPTAINS... Last Friday I listened to the School Captain candidates make their campaign speeches. All candidates demonstrated a willingness and ability to carry out the role of School Captain in a responsible manner. We were all impressed with the speeches, well done to all the candidates. Graham from the Australian Electoral Commission conducted the School Captain elections, explaining to the students the preferential voting system. The 5/6 students participated enthusiastically and learnt first-hand how the election process works. Thanks to all 5/6 students for the part they played in the election process, whether it was coming forward as a candidate, assisting friends with election campaigns or making an informed vote at the polling booths after listening to the impressive speeches. The School Captains will be presented with their badges at our first assembly in Term Two (date to be advised). Congratulations to our newly elected School Captains, Charlie M and Jessica B-M and Vice Captains, James D and Sadie G.

WEEKLY SCHOOL ASSEMBLY... We have had some interest in and some questions about when the school assembly will begin. We are still in the process of researching the best way of organising the weekly assembly with the larger number of students. The WPS gymnasium is not “full size” which means we have a few challenges to work through. Note these are just two options being considered and not in any preferred order.

- Conducting an assembly on a 3 week rotation i.e. P-2 assembly one week followed by a 3-6 assembly the following week and in the third week holding a P-6 assembly (providing we all fit!).
- Conduct a weekly P-2 assembly, followed immediately by a 3-6 assembly-this format would mean a 20 minute assembly for each group each Thursday.

Once we work through some occupational health and safety issues and determine the best format, we will hold the assembly on Thursday afternoons, 2.30 to 3.20 approximately, depending on the option selected.

In the meantime, thank you for your understanding and we will keep you informed about the start date early in term two, at this stage we do not envisage commencing assembly prior to week 3 term two.

SCHOOL COUNCIL... Welcome to our new School Councillors -Ully Merkel President, Bettina De Chateau-bourg, Fiona Glenn (Westgarth Kindergarten Rep), and Anita Hannaford & Carolyn Shiels as the staff representatives. Other members of the School Council completing their 2nd year of office are - Liza Mihailidis Vice President, Mary Skarpetis, Bec Yule, Melissa Officer, Belinda Johnston, Annette Williams, Emma Savage (Parents and Friends Rep) and the staff reps Lynne Mackie (AP) and Betty Mihailidis. My role as Principal is as the Executive Officer of the School Council each year. It was also terrific to have a visitor or 2 at the AGM and first School Council meeting. Thank you also to Kate Copping, leading teacher, who presented the Annual Report and Induction Program on the night.

PARENT SURVEY... We are very appreciative of the number of surveys that have been returned to the office. The surveys provide valuable information to the school on a number of different levels. We are currently looking at the information and plan to pick up on many of your ideas as well as identify the main topics. Once the main topics have been identified we will let you know the next step of the parent survey process through the Newsletter, in the first week of term one hopefully. One of the things coming through the survey is giving early notice of coming events and dates. Please note that NAPLAN testing is scheduled for Tuesday 14th, Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th May for students in years 3 and 5. Further information about NAPLAN will be published first week of term two. Education Week starts on Monday 13th May, during that week the school will be organising an Open-Day proposed for Wednesday 15th May. Cont. next page...
HARMONY DAY... Thank you to all the students who contributed to the Harmony Day Tree on display in the office foyer. The tones and patterns highlighted in the coloured Mandala’s attached to the tree highlight the diversity of our community and our global world. Students enjoyed the opportunity to meet with their buddy class to complete this and other activities. Thank you to the Harmony Day team, parents and everyone who helped out.

RIDE2SCHOOL... A superb effort from all the students, staff & parents/carers who left the car at home last Friday and rode, scooted or walked to school or maybe even car-pooled as one student mentioned to me. It certainly decreased congestion in the street and children were arriving to school happy and ready to focus on their learning. If you intend to ride to school with your child in the future please remember that we have a covered bike shed on Clarke St site - entry from Newmarket St. You may notice a new yellow woven sign highlighting the bike shed on the fence, thank you to all of the Ride2School Committee for your organisation of this extra-curricular activity.

HOT CROSS BUNS... Thank you to Emma and the band of parent helpers and friends who organised and delivered the hot cross buns to students at playtime today. Orders of half dozen packs of Hot Cross Buns were also delivered to classrooms today.

LOST PROPERTY... Please check the lost property this week if you have misplaced containers, hats or any bits of clothing. Both Brooke & Clarke St will have the lost property out on display in the corridors.

LAST DAY OF TERM 1 THIS THURSDAY... Please note the school dismissal time for Thursday 28th March will be at 2.00pm. OSHC will be operating from this time if you need to use this service. Bookings are essential. Please call Mike on 9482 3323.

TERM BREAK... Once again it has been a rewarding term with lots of exciting events taking place. On behalf of the staff I take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and relaxing holiday.

Regards,
Grace Conway, Principal

School Council Report

Welcome to the first School Council Report for 2013! The new School Council met last Wednesday to work out its membership and sub-committees for 2013. There are 15 of us.

The parent representatives are:
Ully Merkel (President),
Mary Skarpetis (Vice President),
Bettina De Chateaubourg, Belinda Johnston, Liza Mihailidis, Melissa Officer, Annette Williams and Bec Yule.

We have two co-opted members:
Fiona Glenn (Kinder) and Emma Savage (Parents & Friends).

Then there are our five staff representatives: Grace Conway (Principal, Executive Officer), Carolyn Shiels (Secretary), Anita Hannaford, Lynne Mackie and Betty Mihailidis.

In the next newsletter, we will give you some information about the work of the School Council’s various sub-committees (these committees perform a range of tasks and report back to the School Council). You may be interested to join in, so stay tuned for the details. We will also provide a list with the names and contact details for each school council member, with a bit of a guide about the best person to get in touch with for different matters.

We look forward to working with you all this year,
Ully (President)
Diary Dates

Thurs 28th March  Last Day of Term 1. Students Dismissed at 2pm.
OSHÇ available from 2pm.
Easter Raffle Drawn
Mon 15th April  Term 2 commences
Fri 19th April  Icy Pole Day
Fri 26th April  Pupil Free Day. OSHÇ available.
Tues 28th May  School Photos
Sat 1st June  Westgarth Idol
Thurs 12th Dec  Grade 6 Graduation

Meetings (Proposed Dates only)
Environment  Tuesday 23rd April 4.30pm
OSHÇ  Thursday 2nd May 2pm
Policy  Friday 3rd May 8.30am
Finance  Thursday 9th May 8.30am
School Council  Wednesday 15th May 7pm (Confirmed Date)

Term Dates 2013

Term 1  Ends 28/03/2013
Term 2 15/04/2013 - 28/06/2013
Term 3 15/07/2013 - 20/09/2013
Term 4 07/10/2013 - 20/12/2013

Easter Raffle

A reminder that the Easter Raffle will be drawn on Thursday. Tickets are 50 cents each. Prizes are on display in the school foyer.

♦ First Prize: A magnificent Cadbury hamper
♦ Second Prize: A yummy Hilliers Ultimate Egg
♦ Third Prize: A Cadbury Rabbit and Egg boxed set
♦ Fourth - Tenth Prizes: A Red Tulip Elegant Rabbit each

Please return your tickets and money to the School Office by Thursday morning, 28th March to ensure you go into the draw!

Westgarth Newsletter Emailed to all Families

Email Nella at bordin.nella.n@edumail.vic.gov.au with your children’s name and grade to receive the newsletter electronically. This email is for newsletter correspondence.

A reminder that paper copies will be sent home until the end of Term 1. Cheers, Nella

EMA Cheques have arrived. Please collect from the School Office.

Sports Diary Dates Term 2

Cross Country
Wednesday 29th May  District Cross Country 10.00 - 12.00 (Bundoora Park- selected students only)
Wednesday 12th June Division Cross Country 10.00 - 12.00 (Bundoora Park- selected students only)
Wednesday 19th June Regional Cross Country 10:00-12:00 (Bundoora Park- selected students only)

Term 3
Tuesday August 13th  District Basketball tournament (selected students only)
Friday September 13th District Athletics (selected students only)
Monday September 16th District Athletics Reserve Day

Term 4
Tuesday October 8th Division Athletics (selected students only)
Wednesday October 16th Regional Athletics (selected students only)
Friday November 15th Grade 3-6 Team Triathlon (optional)
Friday November 22nd Triathlon Reserve Day
Westgarth Idol: Vital Information

Westgarth Idol is on June 1st. Here is a haiku about it:

Slow rain early winter
Fast food late night
Nimble monkey steep bannister

Westgarth Idol is on June 1st. Here is an entry to put in a diary about it:

“I am going to go to Westgarth Idol. Oh yes I am.”

Westgarth Idol is on June 1st. Here is a limerick about it:

There once was a singer called Macca
Rode to Thornbury atop an alpaca
His outfit was baubled,
All swooned while he warbled,
If you see him he took our maraca

Westgarth Idol is on June 1st. Here is a hashtag about it:

#OverblownFiasco

Westgarth Idol is on June 1st. Here is a message for new parents about it:

A glittering night at spectacular Thornbury Theatre comprising trivia, song, dance, dim sims and bonhomie writ large. Idols perform breathtaking songs with a live band. Most get recording contracts and/or an audition at Dracula’s Cabaret. New parents ridiculously welcome as attendees or idols. More details next term.

Westgarth Idol is on June 1st. Here is some hotline information about it:

The Idol Hotline (IH) will open early term two. With time slightly tighter this year the Vague Enquiry Hotline (VEH) is now open. While the VEH is open the IH will be closed and the VEH will be closed once the IH is open. Callers to a closed IH will be referred to the open VEH and vice versa. The number for the VEH is 0417 158 235. The number for the IH will be advised next term. It might be the same.

What’s happening in OSHC? Term 1, Week 10 18th to 22nd March

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<th>Inside</th>
<th>Outdoor</th>
<th>Raining (gym)?</th>
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<tr>
<td>Temp</td>
<td>Menu</td>
<td>Indoor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Sandwiches &amp;</td>
<td>Soccer</td>
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<td>Fruit</td>
<td>Fruit</td>
<td>Tournament</td>
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<td>Pita Bread &amp; Vegies</td>
<td>TBC</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>Sandwiches &amp;</td>
<td>Commando Ball</td>
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<td>Fruit</td>
<td>Fruit</td>
<td>Capture the flag.</td>
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<td>Easter Cookies</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Sandwiches &amp;</td>
<td>Easter Egg Hunt</td>
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<td>Fruit</td>
<td>Spaghetti</td>
<td>Block Soccer</td>
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<td>Napolitana</td>
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<td>TBC</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>Sandwiches &amp;</td>
<td>Basketball</td>
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<td>Fruit</td>
<td>Pizza</td>
<td>Golden Child</td>
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<td>Fabric origami</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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<td>served at 5pm in addition to 3.30pm snack</td>
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Please note: Term 1 is a SunSmart term and hats are compulsory in OSHC.
Westgarth Primary School - Parents & Friends Association

Requests for Assistance

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event:</th>
<th>Position Description:</th>
<th>Contact:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fete</td>
<td>Entertainment Co-ordinator</td>
<td>Chloe or Inger</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mothers Day Stall</td>
<td>Crafting gift cards - supplies provided for those</td>
<td>Emma Savage</td>
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<td>without any on hand.</td>
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We now have a Fete Kids Activities Coordinator and an Assistant Raffle Booklet Production Coordinator - thank you so much to the lovely people who put up their hands. You're both stars. In fact our Fete Committee is coming along nicely with 7 people on board so far. We still need another person though!

Now we are looking for a **Fete Entertainment Coordinator**. We all enjoyed the various performances put on last year. Lots have people have put their hands up to perform again, we just need some lovely person to be their contact point!

You will be:
- Liaising with our performers to work out what they will need on the day, and what they will bring themselves
- Either sourcing what they need, or bringing back requirements to other members of the Fete Committee to source
- Putting together newsletter notices calling for assistance etc.
- Considering any additional ideas people put forward for entertainment and whether they can be incorporated into the grand plan of things
- Timetabling the acts for the various performance arenas

You are allowed to call for assistant co-ordinators once you've put your hand up for the job!

If you are interested in the above role, please contact either Chloe 0400 977 849 chloe@parca.com.au or Inger 0412 703 521.

The **Mothers (and Special Persons) Day Stall** preparations are now underway with goods being ordered and delivered. However some of our offerings need a little something to pretty them up. So if you can wield a glue stick and feel like spending a few hours crafting some gift tags, please let me know! I have left a few starter packs of pretty papers, ribbon and sparkly rhinestones at the school office for those who would love to help but don’t feel they have the correct craft supplies on hand. If you miss out on one of these but still want to help out I’m happy to make up more. And of course if you have your own craft supplies and want to make up some gift tags - feel free!

Your completed tags are due back to the school in the first week of Term 2.

Helpers please either contact me on the details below, or leave your name and contact details at the office when you collect a supplies pack.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to collect, pack and deliver **hot cross buns** today. Your assistance made it a breeze!

I hope everyone out there has a lovely time over the holidays, and I’ll be back with further calls for assistance next term! Stay safe until then.

If you have any queries about WPS Parents & Friends, please contact Emma Savage on emma@weller.id.au or 0413 185 350.
Westgarth Primary School

Community Advertisements

Yarralea Children’s Centre Holiday Program April 2013 - The Holiday Program is open to children up to the age of 8. Long day care is available (9am to 5pm). Bookings can be made by contacting the Yarralea centre on 03 9499 2251 or visit http://www.yarralea.com.au/.

Clifton Hill Presbyterian Kindergarten is Turning 70. Come and celebrate the milestone and join us for a picnic in the park on Sunday 28th April 2013, 12noon to 3pm. Cake cutting at 2pm at The Rotunda at Darling Gardens. Bring a picnic rug, food, drink and thing to entertain the kids. Any old photos from your time at Kinder would be great. Call Sue or Penny 9481 5557.

NORTHCOTE/THORNBURY AUSKICK 2013 McDonell Park, Clifton Street, Northcote Season starts Saturday 20th April 2013 and ends Saturday 15th August 2013 Saturdays 9am-10.30am, Register & pay online now at aflauskick.com.au. Cost: $65.00 per child. Backpack Collection Day is Saturday 13th April 2013 at McDonell Park, Northcote, 9.00am to 11.00am. Bring online receipt to collect Backpack full of footy stuff and enjoy a Free Sausage Sizzle! Volunteers needed: coach, coaches assistant, canteen helper, general helper and first aider. Email: Northcote.auskick@gmail.com or visit website: http://www.sportingpulse.com.

Lost Scooter I am Adam C (6A) and William C (PK) mum. Early March we lost William’s Yellow Micro scooter, with his name on the underside, and a shark badge under the handle. We accidentally left it at the Palmer Street end of Johnson’s Park at about 10.15 a.m. on Wednesday 6th March 2013. Contact Julie on 0423 775 922 if found.

Pure Tennis Easter Holiday Program - Dates Tuesday 2nd April - Friday 5th April contact Danny Fuge 0409 514 940 for details or download an enrolment form at http://puretennis.net.au/holiday-clinics/ Pure Tennis Junior Tennis Lessons - Term 2 starting Mon 15th April - taking bookings now. puretennis@hotmail.com

Songwriting workshops for children with award winning local musician Eva Popov The Songmaking Workshop provides creative and inspiring classes to people of all ages. You will learn about composition, songwriting, singing, performing, as well as developing knowledge of the musical elements. Classes for Primary School aged children will be held on Saturday mornings at Chalice - Northcote Uniting Church, 251 High St, Northcote. For more information email thesongmakingworkshop@gmail.com, visit www.thesongmakingworkshop.com or call Eva on 0417 161 340.

Basketball Clinics April School Holidays Beginners and Experienced 8th - 11th April, 7 years+ Beginner Programs Saturdays starting 20th April, Aussie Hoops 5 - 8 years at 9am, Mini Ball 7 - 10 years at 10am & 12.30pm Tuesdays commencing 23rd April, All Star Hoops grades prep – 3 at 4.30pm, Mini Ball grades 3 - 6 at 5.30pm Access for All Abilities Saturdays commencing 20th April, 11.15am – 12.30pm. For children 6 – 16 with special needs. For more information and to register go to www.collingwood.basketball.net.au Enquiries: Megan Rouse 0417 106 490

The Westgarth Primary School Council does not endorse any of its sponsors or advertisers, but we do acknowledge their support.
Chess Kids - Lunchtime Chess Club Term 2 2013
Grade 2 – Grade 6 Students

Dear Parents/Carers,

In Term 2, we are once again offering a lunchtime chess club for students in Grade 2 to Grade 6, organised by the company Chess Kids (www.chesskids.com.au).

The classes will be on a Monday and commence in the second week of Term 2 on Monday 22nd April in the Computer Room on Brooke St. (Chess Kids were not available on Tuesday’s) The cost for the term is $60.00. A classroom teacher will assist during each session.

Due to the limited spaces of 25 in the group, you are asked to return the permission slip together with payment as soon as possible to secure a spot. It will be on a first in basis. Please forward $60.00 in cash/cheque or credit card (slip below) and return it directly to the school office as soon as possible and not their classroom teacher. Please note all cheques are to be made payable to Westgarth Primary School.

Regards.

Chess Kids - Lunch Time Chess Club Term 2 2013
Grade 2 - 6 Students

My child__________________________________________ Grade___________________ would like to participate in Lunchtime Chess Club.

I have forwarded $60.00 cash/cheque/credit card (please circle). Please complete details below.

Parent/Guardian Signature____________________________________________________

Phone Number_________________________________________ Date ___ / ___ / ______

CHESS PAYMENT METHOD - Term 2 2013

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<th>Cash</th>
<th>Cheque</th>
<th>Card</th>
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<td>Visa</td>
<td>Mastercard</td>
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AMOUNT: $………………………………….

Students Name:…………………………………………..

Expiry Date: □ □ / □ □

Cardholder’s Name: ……………………………………………….………………. (Please Print)

Cardholder’s Signature: ……………………………………….. ………………..Date:…….../………../……..

Westgarth Primary School 7
Happy Holidays