What’s happening…..at W.P.S

Parent Teacher Interviews... The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development requires schools to develop two student reports per year and at least one formal interview with your child’s teacher. Westgarth organised an initial Meet the Teacher session early in term one and the next, formal, parent teacher interviews will be held on Wednesday 26th June. Interviews will commence at approximately 2.00 p.m. and continue through to 7.00 p.m. Classroom teachers may have additional times during the week beginning Monday 24th June. Further information will be available in future newsletters. There will be an on-line booking system with a choice of times. Students attend school on this day however from 2.00 p.m. the normal school program will be suspended and students will participate in an alternative program. So that we can accommodate all parents, a ten minute time slot will be allocated for the interview. Parents requiring a longer interview time may organise a follow up meeting with the classroom teacher.

Parents may like to speak with a specialist teacher on the P.T interview day. Specialists would be available between 4.00 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. and an appointment would need to be made by phone or in person (on line system not available for specialist interview appointments). Please note that times would be limited as specialist teachers teach almost 600 students.

This will be an opportunity to find out about how your child is progressing academically and socially. There will be samples of your child’s work that you may like to discuss or work samples contained in your child’s portfolio. These are an excellent springboard for discussing progress. Speaking with your child about school and finding out the things your child enjoys prior to the interviews will assist in starting off the parent teacher discussion. If you are unable to meet with your child’s teacher/s on the 26th June, please feel free to make another mutually convenient time.

Junior School Council (J.S.C)... This week I met with the School Captains and Vice Captains to share ideas about their leadership role in the school. The School Captains and Vice Captains work with members of the J.S.C. Two students are elected from each classroom in years 3 to 6 to represent their class and be part of the student voice and student leadership. So far, there have been discussions about holding a special activity day that will raise funds for students in need. Other discussions have focused on ideas for rides and activities to be included on the calendar of events at this year’s fete, these discussions have been held with Carolyn (A.P.), Chloe Crawley (Market Stall Coordinator) and Janine O’Connell (Children’s Activity Coordinator) at the annual fete. Thank you to all the JSC members, staff and parents for helping this process. The J.S.C are also organising a student competition to rename the BER building. We look forward to hearing their ideas.

School Fete... Thank you to the enthusiastic committee who have volunteered to coordinate the 2013 fete. Don’t forget to save the date, SUNDAY 20th OCTOBER. Our school community is fortunate in having another team of talented parents to lead the 2013 fete. Please contact Chloe 0400 977 849 or Inger 0412 703 521 if you want to know more about how you can help out or take on one of the various roles yet to be filled. All welcome.

Parent Information Night-Numeracy... This session is being held during Education Week, Wednesday 22nd May. Kath Pearn will be presenting information on how to assist your child at home in developing mathematical concepts and also speaking about maths in the classroom. Please let your child’s teacher know if you are able to attend.

Staff Leave... Gaby, one of the year 5 teachers, is taking leave commencing next Monday 20th May and will be replaced by Nicole. Many of you will know Nicole who has previously worked at the school. I will be taking some leave too. This is in order to undergo surgery for a broken bone sustained last year, unfortunately it has not healed. It is possible I will be on leave until the end of this term. Lynne Mackie will be acting in the Principals’ role supported by Carolyn Shiels, Assistant Principal, the leadership team, and all our very capable teachers and staff. I look forward to returning once the arm has had enough time to mend.

Kind regards,

Grace
Grace Conway