Dear Parents and Carers,

With the year 4 camp leading us to the finish line of term 3 and the exhaustion levels at a maximum, you’ve all no doubt had a restful break!

It’s hard to believe that term 4 has already come around. We have plenty of learning and fun planned for this term, including a scientific study about states of matter, with plenty of experiments to spark curiosity and thinking.

We look forward to another term full of learning alongside each other, and enjoying one another’s company for one final term.

Student Wellbeing

This term students will be engaged in multiple explicit wellbeing classes over the term, beginning in week one with the introduction of a wellbeing journal that students can use for creative writing, poetry, drawing etc. that will be used for students to express themselves in any which way they like throughout term 4.

During the term students will begin their sexuality education with Kylie, one of Westgarth’s own year 5 teachers. Kylie comes with experience in teaching Sexuality education. This program is modelled on ‘Catching on Early’, a resource that has been developed by the Education Department and addresses the Victorian Curriculum standards expected for levels 3 and 4.

During weeks 6-10 students will be participating in Martial Art Therapy Skills for 1 session each Tuesday morning for 4 weeks. This program will centre on improving our ability to focus, follow instructions, resilience, cooperation, taking responsibility for our own actions and much more.

Students will also be participating year 4 sport on Friday afternoons. Throughout this time teachers will ensure to emphasise resilience, working as a team, following instructions and having fun!

Regards,

Year 4 teaching team : Christine, Dorothy, Glenn, Tom and Rosie
What we are learning this term in the classroom

ENGLISH

Reading and Viewing
In term 4, students will be revisiting the comprehension strategies that have been focused on throughout the year and consolidating their knowledge through Reading Groups. Students will begin and continue to read in Literature Circles on a regular basis with each member taking on specific roles. With the completion of the term 3 text, ‘Out of my Mind’, students will be working from a rubric of questions that requires them to make inferences about the text and to gain a deeper understanding of the characters from the novel.

Writing
To compliment the experiments that come out of our inquiry unit ‘What’s the Matter?’ students will be building on their understanding of procedural writing from previous years whilst enhancing their scientific skills. The other text types that students will be revisiting are explanation reports. After seeing the students engage with poetry with such enthusiasm over term 3, we will be encouraging students to revisit creative writing in journal writing time.

Speaking and Listening
Over the term students will be working towards designing and presenting a science experiment to an audience. Following on from term 3’s oral language focus and term 2’s Mind Body and Emotion Masterclass, students will continually be given opportunities to speak in front of their peers and teachers to encourage confidence in this form of communication.

MATHEMATICS

Number and Algebra
After a very successful unit on multiplication in term 3, students will be learning about division and revisiting multiplication. Students are always encouraged to practice their multiplication facts at home. Teachers will support students to apply their knowledge of the four operations throughout other areas of maths, including measurement tasks.

Measurement and Geometry
In term 4 students will continue to build their knowledge of shape and space by developing an understanding of angles, volume and capacity. Following on from 2D and 3D shapes, students will aim to enhance their understanding of how mathematical knowledge can be applied in different contexts and make connections between these sets of skills. This unit will see lots of hands-on learning and problem solving.

Statistics and Probability
Over the term students will be focusing on describing the possibility of everyday events and order their chances of occurring. They will identify everyday events that cannot happen if another happens. They will identify events where the chance of one will not be affected by the occurrence of the other.

INQUIRY - What’s the Matter?
This term we will be investigating the central idea that the world around us is composed of matter which can go through various change. In order to assist students in developing an understanding of the concept of ‘change’, we are encouraging them to bring in an item that represents or symbolizes change to them. This can be anything from a photograph, to a toy or even an article of clothing. It would be great if your child could bring such items to place on the class Artefact Table for other students to view. With this knowledge in mind, students will investigate the concept of change in relation to chemical science through several lines of inquiry, including characteristics and properties of solids, liquids and gases and completing experiments to determine why matter changes state. As well attending an incursion by Hands on Science, students will move to different classrooms throughout the term and work with other teachers on their journey to scientific discovery.
What we are learning this term in specialist classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialist timetable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science/Spanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art/Spanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitchen/Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performing Arts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Physical Education with Rushe and Aimee
This term is full with fun skill based activities. The year 4 students will be completing units on gymnastics, orienteering and outdoor ball sports focusing on strike (rounders and tee-ball). Westgarth offers many extracurricular sporting events for interested students to sign up to. This term we have a district team triathlon event on Friday, 11 November at the Northcote pool, Orienteering Primary School Championships on Friday, 18 November at Hanging Rock and we have swimming trials for our 2017 Westgarth team on Friday, 25 November at the Northcote pool. All three events are optional but lots of fun!

Music with John and Clare
Year 4 students will be composing their own original works in many different forms. They will use iPads to create orchestral pieces on GarageBand and compose melodic and chordal arrangements on various instruments. Students will continue to read scores, sing and play songs from different genres on instruments such as bass, drum kit, piano and guitar.

Science / Spanish with Pilar
Students will learn about the different materials and their properties. They will explore the properties of different materials and the uses of each in their everyday life. While exploring these concepts, they will develop their Spanish vocabulary about classroom objects and clothes and learn different adjectives to describe each material. Students will also be supported to make short sentences in Spanish to present their ideas.

Art / Spanish with Marta
In term 4 we are going to be very busy finishing and framing all our beautiful art in preparation for the Westgarth Art Show on Thursday, 1 December. Students in year 4 are going to finish their project on daily routines and the Amazon Rainforest. They are also going to explore the work of Spanish artists Picasso and Dalí. Along the way students will continue to develop their Spanish vocabulary to be able to communicate in the Spanish / Art classroom. To find out more about what we are doing in the Spanish classrooms you can visit the Spanish website [http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish](http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish)

Performing Arts / Spanish with Esmi
In Term 4 students will continue exploring the world of performing arts in Spanish. They will experience how ideas and stories can be imagined and communicated through drama. Students will be performing in front of the class and watching the performances of others. They will also be introduced to dances from Spain and South America.