From the Principal

**Tax Refundable Building Trust**
The Building Fund is used to ensure our school facilities are maintained to the appropriate standards and are used on larger scale capital works projects linked to our Masterplan. We are very excited to have recently ordered solar panels to be installed on the WEB and a LED lighting upgrade on both sites to make us more sustainable, all from the donations made to our building trust. We would like to thank and acknowledge all the contributions made by families this and last year which have enabled us to do this.

With tax time approaching we invite you to donate an amount into our Buildings Fund so that we can continue to improve our facilities. Plans are currently being developed for the implementation of phase one of the Master Plan and the playground. Any contribution to the building trust will go towards this exciting project.

**Qkr Step by Step Guide**

**Tax Deductible Building Fund**

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**Year six leaders**

Our year six leaders do an amazing job supporting the many programs and activities throughout our school. These wonderful year six students, along with a team of others, have been volunteering to help keep our library in order during their lunch breaks. It is great to see our students taking pride in their school and giving up their own time to contribute.

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**Out-of-School-Hours-Care**

It is essential that children who need to be at school prior to 8.45 am are booked into OSHC. From 8.45 am a teacher is on duty however prior to this time teachers are busy preparing for the day and cannot look after students. Moreover students must be booked into OSHC prior to the day rather than just turning up on the morning care is required. We are required by law to have a specific student to adult ratio, which is impossible to maintain if students just turn up unannounced. Please follow the processes in place to ensure your child is safe and looked after from the time they arrive at school to the time they go home.

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**Westgarth Idol**

What another fantastic night we all had at Westgarth Idol this year. A huge ‘THANKS’ to the parents and staff who organised the event or who performed on the night. It was such a fun event and although it is touted by our illustrious MC as the most fun but worst fundraiser on the Westgarth PS calendar, I beg to differ, considering the team raised a whopping $12,416. Thanks to everyone who contributed to and supported this event.
Lost Property
We have a new system for the enormous amount of lost property. All unnamed items on Clarke St will be placed on coat hangers in the corridor near the art room. All named items will be returned to the students’ classroom once a week. We are working towards a similar process for Brooke St. Please take the time to name any removable clothing items to ensure they come home.

Kitchen/Garden training
As our year six students are almost graduating from our kitchen/garden program we are preparing for the year 3’s who will start after the upcoming school holidays. Any parent, carer, grandparent or volunteer who would like to be trained to help out as part of our program are invited to an induction day on Monday 20th June at 9.30am. It would be great to see new people joining the program. (A reminder that any volunteer must have a working with children’s check). We would also like to say ‘thank you’ to any parents/carers of year six students who will also be leaving the program, for your contribution over the years. You are more than welcome to continue to volunteer if you so desire.

Liberty Meatworks
To our knowledge, there has been no further works happening on the meat works. We are monitoring the progress (or lack thereof) on site and will notify the authorities and families when the demolition continues again.

Preps 2017
We have been taking tours for parents of prospective preps each week this term. With a burgeoning waiting list we remind families to enrol any sibling who will be starting in prep next year, as soon as possible. Likewise if you have a neighbour who has a prep child for 2017, who hasn’t put an enrolment form in, please remind them to complete and return the enrolment form. Enrolments are due by 31 July.

KidsMatter
Teachers have started the training for component 2 of the KidsMatter framework. This component delves into the social and emotional teaching and learning programs and nuances which are both planned for or simply happen through our daily interactions. We will attach articles with the newsletter which we hope you find useful. The first is on friendships and helping children through the ups and downs of relationships.

Jo Wheeler
Principal
Proposed changes to Darebin Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten Centralised Waiting List Process

Darebin Council is proposing changes to the 3 year old and 4 year old kindergarten centralised waiting list process. Council is proposing that from 2018, priority no longer be given to the fact that a kindergarten is closest to a child’s home, or that siblings attended a particular kindergarten. This could potentially affect Westgarth families planning to send younger children to Westgarth Kindergarten. Darebin is seeking feedback on the proposal by 17 June 2016. See [http://surveys.darebin.vic.gov.au/s3/Proposed-changes-to-Pre-Kindergarten-and-Kindergarten-application-forms](http://surveys.darebin.vic.gov.au/s3/Proposed-changes-to-Pre-Kindergarten-and-Kindergarten-application-forms). Rucker Ward councillors can also be contacted at Trent-McCarthy@cr.darebin.org, steven-tsitas@cr.darebin.org and Oliver-Walsh@cr.darebin.org

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Permission Slips being sent home this week

Permission slips will be coming home this week for parents and carers to read and discuss with your children about Acceptable Use Agreement for Internet and Digital Technologies. Each child will be receiving a copy. Attached to this permission slip are 3 other permission slips which consist of the following:

- Permission to View Media
- Permission to use Photos and Video
- Permission to use Photos and Video to External Publication.

All 4 parts require your attention. Please read and record your child’s name, sign and circle if you agree to give your permission or not.

Please sign and return a copy for each of your children to the school office. Due to department regulations your permission is required each year for all sections. Notes will be sent out annually.

Mothers’ Day / Special Persons’ Day Stall

This year the stall made a profit of $2,166-85. Thank you all everyone to helped on the stall, your time and dedication to put a smile on children’s faces purchasing items was wonderful.

Last Day of Term 2 - Friday 24 June 2016 Students will be dismissed at 2:30 p.m.

OSHC will be available for care. For bookings please call 9482 3323 or email asc.westgarth.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Diary Dates 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 8 Jun</td>
<td>Super Science Microscopy Demonstration 3.40pm - 4.40pm Science Room Brooke St</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 13 Jun</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 15 Jun</td>
<td>P &amp; F Gr 5/6 Disco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 24 Jun</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 2 - students dismissed at 2.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 7 - Fri 9 Sept</td>
<td>Gr 4 Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 31 Oct</td>
<td>Curriculum Day - Pupil Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 6 Dec</td>
<td>State Secondary School Orientation Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 15 Dec</td>
<td>Gr 6 Graduation</td>
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Meetings 2016

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Wed 15 June</td>
<td>7.00pm</td>
<td>Staffroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>Wed 8 June</td>
<td>8.30am</td>
<td>Jo’s office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Council</td>
<td>Wed 15 June</td>
<td>7.00pm</td>
<td>Staffroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy</td>
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<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School Council 2016 Dates:

- Wed 15 June
- Wed 27 July
- Wed 31 August
- Wed 26 October
- Wed 30 November

Westgarth Primary School
Parent education program - Mathematics

Over 150 parents and carers attended the parent education program (mathematics) over the last fortnight. A big thank you go to Cath Pearn who presented to our parent/carer community over three evenings. Cath is a Teaching Fellow with ACER Institute, lecturer in Mathematics Education at the University of Melbourne and grandmother of Westgarth PS students. It was great to see so many parents and carers in attendance especially given the chilly conditions. The feedback from those who attended has been overwhelmingly positive. Thanks also to Jo Wheeler (Principal) who provided child minding so that parents and carers could attend the evening sessions.

For those who were unable to attend, the sessions focussed on using materials and building students’ conceptual understanding. Conceptual understanding is about knowing more than isolated facts and methods. It is about being able to demonstrate and articulate mathematical ideas, having the ability to transfer knowledge into new situations and apply this knowledge to new contexts. Deep conceptual understanding is fundamental to the teaching and learning of mathematics at Westgarth Primary School.

We have recently added to the school website a number of online resources, games, ‘how to guides’ for the four operations as well as things parents and carers can do to support your child’s numeracy skills at home. These resources, together with some short articles about the teaching and learning of mathematics, and handouts for each of the nights are located at: http://www.wgps.vic.edu.au/page/171/Mathematics

Donald Eddington, Assistant Principal

The Sewing Society

As part of the ‘Reaching for the Stars’ after school program, The Sewing Society members has been extremely busy cutting out patterns, pinning and sewing up fabulous creations. We thought we would share some of the most recent ‘ready to wear’ headbands modelled by some very proud sewers. The students have been doing an impressive job and at this rate we will manufacturing ‘Sewing Society Couture’ by the end of next term! Thank you to those of you who have loaned sewing machines and spare fabric, as these pictures show, we are putting them to good use!

Aimee ‘Unpicking’ Murphy, Physical Education Teacher
**Kitchen Garden News**

Mary - kitchen.westgarth@gmail.com    Virginia - garden.westgarth@gmail.com

Volunteers please note that there are no kitchen garden classes during the last week of this term.

Using knot tying skills to create a T pea frame for the snow peas to climb.

There is always so much to do in the kitchen and garden. We have been very lucky to have our Year Six cooks and gardeners for the past three years, and we are sad to see their time come to an end. We hope they enjoy their special “graduation” sessions and keep cooking and keep gardening. It is the first time that I had the opportunity to eat something from the garden. I tried a pumpkin and rocket pizza – WOW the delight in knowing that those pumpkins and rocket had been grown and picked by our students was truly amazing and only solidified my belief that our students are so fortunate to have this wonderful program. We are also very grateful to our volunteers who help in the Year Six classes, some of you don’t even have students in these grades – we pay homage to your commitment, enthusiasm and patience. Don’t be strangers – you are welcome to volunteer for any classes in the kitchen/garden at any time. On behalf of all the Year Six students, I’d like to thank Mary for her hard work in preparing the menu, certificates and decorations for the celebrations.

**Induction Session – Year 3 Volunteers**- plus any others who would like to join The Induction session for second semester is on Monday 20 June after assembly. It will begin at 9.30 a.m. It will go for an hour and include morning tea. Look out for the note that all Year 3 students will be bringing home with the day and time of kitchen Garden sessions for their class. The sessions will alternate weekly between a kitchen and a garden.

If you would like to be part of this dynamic and rewarding program, please contact Mary, Virginia or your classroom teacher. We would love to welcome new volunteers whether you have time every week or only a couple of times a term. Maybe you can’t come to classes but would still like to help out in the garden. If so, please contact Virginia to express your interest in garden working bees.

Here the students are making seed packets for the sunflower seeds with recycled brown paper.

**Are you wondering what to do over the Winter school holidays?** You might be interested in checking out this website [https://natureplaysa.org.au/](https://natureplaysa.org.au/). It is a wonderful initiative from South Australia and all the ideas can be transferred to Melbourne. If you try some, please share them with Mary and I – we’d love to put together our own list of outdoor ideas for our school community. How about geocaching? Have you tried it? [https://www.geocaching.com/play](https://www.geocaching.com/play) It is a great ways to get kids outside.
Chess Kids - Lunchtime Chess Club Term 3 2016
Grade 2 – 6 Students

Dear Parents/Carers,

In Term 3, we are once again offering a lunchtime chess club which is an extra curricular activity for students in Grade 2 to 6, organised by the school and run by the company Chess Kids (www.chesskids.com.au).

The classes will be on a Tuesday and commence in the first week of Term 3 on Tuesday 12 July in the Resource Room on Brooke St. The cost for the term is $65.00. Thank you to teachers, Nettie Heron and Terri-Anne McCrink for giving up their lunch break to assist during each session.

Due to the limited spaces of 24 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 $65.00 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 or fax to 9489 2518. Cheques are to be made payable to Westgarth Primary School. Please complete the slip below and return it by Friday 17 June to the school office.

Please note we require 20 students to run this program.

Regards,

Nella Bordin

Chess Kids - Lunch Time Chess Club Term 3 2016
Grade 2 – 6 Students

My child_____________________________________________________ Class Teacher________________________________
would like to participate in Lunchtime Chess Club.

I have forwarded $65.00 cash/cheque/credit card (please circle). Please complete details below.

Parent/Guardian Signature_______________________________________ Phone Number_______________________

CHESS PAYMENT METHOD

☐ Cash ☐ Cheque ☐ Card ☐ AMOUNT: $…………………………………

Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐

Expiry Date: ☐ ☐ / ☐ ☐

Cardholder’s Name: _______________________________(Please Print)
Cardholder’s Signature: ___________________________________________ Date: ______/_____/______

Westgarth Primary School 6
Sport News

School visit from elite athlete Kelly Hetherington
Thank you to all the students, families and staff who participated in ‘The Premiers Active April Challenge’, because of your participation WPS won a visit from an elite athlete. Kelly Hetherington, 800m runner, came out to talk to all the grade 3 and 4 students last Tuesday. She shared her rigorous training schedule; spoke about mentally preparing yourself for competition and healthy lifestyle choices. It reinforced what we have been discussing as part of our ‘fitness’ unit this term and got many students even more excited for the upcoming athletics carnival.

Kelly shared some of her warm up drills before a race and the whole cohort (there was a lot of us) played a game of ‘Octopus’ outside. It was informative, a lot of fun and the grade 3/4 students came away with a greater understanding of how an elite athlete trains to perform at their best.
Aimee Murphy,
Physical Education Teacher

Here are some photos from Cross Country.

Asha D. coming 2nd for u/11 girls

relaxing before the big race

Harry E. finishing in the top 10 and gaining a spot in the division cross country
OSHC News

We have had a very busy fortnight at OSHC. The children have been enjoying the outdoor play despite the colder temperatures with lots of games and activities. Paper planes and games of ‘Helicopter’ have been extremely popular whilst our activities have us working with pasta, making bird feeders and bath salts. Our menu has seen the return of some favourites with raisin toast, nachos, chicken noodle soup featured as returning favourites. Due to the program being heavily accessed we would appreciate parents giving advance notice of casual bookings and cancellations as this assists us with both staffing and catering. Please call 9482 3323 and if the office is unattended please leave a message. You can also send an email to asc.westgarth.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Qkr payment method: This is to assist you with further information about our preferred payment system. Hoping to see you and the children in OSHC soon.

The OSHC Team.

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### What’s happening in Before School Care This Week?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Inside</th>
<th>Outdoor/Gym</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
<td>7.30am - 8.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Toast, muffins, cereal, fruit, yogurt, juice, water</td>
<td>Finger Knitting</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday</strong></td>
<td>7.30am - 8.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Toast, muffins, cereal, fruit, yogurt, juice, water</td>
<td>Jurassic Play/show</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>7.30am - 8.30am</td>
<td>Garden Scarecrows</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Toast, muffins, ceramic, fruit, yogurt, juice, water</td>
<td>Scarecrow Tiggy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday</strong></td>
<td>7.30am - 8.30am</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Toast, muffins, cereal, fruit, yogurt, juice, water</td>
<td>Chess Club</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday</strong></td>
<td>7.30am - 8.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Toast, muffins, cereal, fruit, yogurt, juice, water</td>
<td>FREE PLAY FRIDAY</td>
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</tbody>
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### What’s happening in After School Care This Week?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Inside</th>
<th>Outdoor/Gym</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
<td>3.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fresh Sandwiches</td>
<td>Nebula Jars</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5.00pm</td>
<td>Menagerie</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday</strong></td>
<td>3.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tiger Toast</td>
<td>Dying Pasta</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5.00pm</td>
<td>Beanbag Cross Challenge</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>3.30pm</td>
<td>Pesto Pasta</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Saladas</td>
<td>Make your own Bird Feeder</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.00pm</td>
<td>Bath Salts</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday</strong></td>
<td>3.30pm</td>
<td>Team Tic Tac Toe</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rice Cakes</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday</strong></td>
<td>3.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Herb Bread</td>
<td>FREE PLAY FRIDAY</td>
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**Westgarth Idol Wrap**

Some parting words from me on what lived up to be the best Idol yet.

Firstly, a massive thanks to all of you who bought tickets and donated so much money on the night. No doubt the total figure will be announced, but we estimate that we smashed last year’s profit contribution to the school.

There were so many Idol highlights, but let’s start with the twelve stellar acts.

First up - **Jungle Boogie** (Travis, Nicole, Jack, Natalie, Myf and Karina) opened the night with the almighty crash of a metaphorical gong. And get down, get down, we did. Ape and all. Next, a classy act brought 1940s jazz to the Thornbury Theatre (Natasha, Trudy, Liz D and Nerida) – sublime vocals and brass from the Rita Hayworth song *Put the Blame on Mame*. Next was new Idol Jutta, with an amazing performance of *Dog Days Are Over*, with backing from Kate and Liz. Apparently Jutta had never sung in public before – well what a way to start. Ending set one was Michael Lemaire on recorder, clarinet and vocals singing *Belfast Child*. As usual – he was hypnotic and outstandingly talented.

Set two opened blue. Liz, Sharon and Caroline smoldered in a rendition of *All That Jazz*. While Liz delivered an amazing vocal, the troupe performed Idol’s first ever MA 15+ rated performance. The next act dressed as WPS girls, took us back to innocence on a journey through Miley Cyrus’ *Party in the USA* with a Westgarth Idol twist. Ingenious. Next, Liz Dean, another Idol virgin, produced an outstanding vocal to the country ballad *Side of the Road*. And closing the second set was a trio split from last year’s winning Rock Lobster act, featuring Simon, Tracy and Katrina. The song, *Video Killed the Radio Star* delivered in droves: the groove, the costumes, the video and the vocals – all top drawer.

The **Suspended Animators** rocked the interval yet again. Three great tunes with Liz Zanella taking to guitar and vocals, Mike Paterson with his great rock star stance on guitar and vocals – and Nigel and Phil denied their break from the Idol band.

The third act brought us back to the late great 80s with Matt as Robert Palmer looking like he was *Addicted To Love*, complete with the sassy band featuring Fiona, Katrina, Clare and Helen. A great great vocal. Next, what was to become the winning act. The Midnight Oils of last year morphed from political men to *Everybody*'s boys. Entering the stage like they’d been thrown through the summer collection of Country Road, The Brooke Street Boys told us exactly how we could rock our bodies. All right. Well done to Cam, Mark, Andrew, Ian and Tom. Next were past winners Guy, Graham and Matt swapped Kiss for Dis’ – AKA The Beastie Boys. *Sabotage* dropped from the sky like a giant beatbox - a brilliant rap with the guys delivering a hilarious pastiche of the video. Concluding the acts were eight non-Egyptians simulating a *Walk Like an Egyptian* featuring Dana, Ruth, Lis, Nikki, Samone, Michelle, Claire and Amanda. While the screens showed staff from local pubs cafes and shops plus a great cameo from Jo, Carolyn & Donald – The Westgarth Bangles (Wangles), rocked it. Worthy runners up.

Thanks to all our Idol acts and congratulations to The Brooke Street Boys.

Our stunning MC was Tony Wilson, AKA Piggy Pop (his words not mine!). On top form, Iggy superbly hosted the whole night bringing both *Lust* and *Life* to the proceedings - even an impromptu recorder performance. The band – hotter than a glass blower’s bum, were exceptional this year. The effort these guys put in makes it seem effortless – so big thanks to the time and talent of: John Carr who played keyboards to the power of four. Cameron Lobb for trombone, for transposing all the horn charts and conducting all of the endings! Legend Tom Williams on trombone, tuba (have you seen my Vodka?) and vocals. Matt Rodd in his rightful place on lead guitar - chops and licks ahoy. Thanks also for letting us practice in your studio. Ed Farrar was amazing on trumpet.

Dave Major and Nigel took joint honours on drums and percussion – watch out for the drum-cam this year.

[Continue next page...]
And finally, Kate Price. Many Idols Kate has performed in and managed! It’s her last year, although I hope that the rumours are true that she may perform next year. Yeah! Thanks for all your help, patience and talent!
The band delivered a stunning band-set again. While Tom, John and Dave delivered some great posthumous hits – they were joined by some special guests. Pete Pellegrino delivered a superb homage to Prince with the child friendly classic – Sexy MF. Kate Radford channeled Stevie (Wonder, not Nicks) to a brilliant closing number. Signed Sealed Delivered. I’m Yours. Liz delivered as always on backing vocals.
A big special thanks goes to Jason McGann.
Jason has the daunting task of designing and producing a great sounding stage. It’s a huge task and a huge day – seamlessly recording the performances, running the AV and with Sam – operating the wonderful lighting show.
**OK, nearly there now.**
A huge thanks to Caroline Clow who did a super job in arranging the tickets, the tables, the bar at rehearsals, vote counting and in short, anything that needed getting done. Like Tina observed, She’s Simply the Best.
Big thanks to David Oakley and his main man, Tim, who organised filming on the night – a thankless task but one of the most important!
Thanks to Marcel Aucar and Dan Tyrell for the wonderful photos and Mike for extra filming on the night. It’s a full night’s work – donated for free. Thanks also to Janine for organising everyone backstage.
Thanks to Amanda for looking after food and drinks at rehearsals; thanks to Nella, Janine and Susan in the office who were ever willing to assist, and thanks to The Thornbury Theatre for the organisation this year and a new paint job.
Heartfelt thanks and respect to all involved in singing, playing, dancing, coordinating, helping out, cheering, voting and generally having a good time. We really do have something unique and special that says a lot about the community and the school.
Much love. Jonny x.

**PS Next year is already booked for June 3rd 2017.**

Photos from the night can be found on [Facebook/westgarthidol](http://Facebook/westgarthidol).

The final thank you for Westgarth Idol goes to Jonny Clow.
Who better to 'market' Idol than you?
You have taken it a new level....the website, the Facebook page...just amazing!
It truly is now a 'brand' in its own right.
The posters, the AV, the videos...the editing, the printing, the updates, the communicating, organising the band, the acts, juggling metaphorical balls (and dice) plus all the other stuff you do that nobody else sees.
You are fantastic and we all thank you.
Caroline Clow

**Reading glass and other items found at Idol**
A pair of Alex Perry reading glasses, items of clothing and umbrellas were found at Idol. Please collect from the school office.
DIARY DATES 2016

Wednesday 8 June: Microscopy Afternoon from 3.40-4.40pm in Science Room, Brooke Street
Wednesday 15 June: Grade 5/6 Disco from 6.30-8.00pm, in the Gym
Sunday 19 June Makers Group from 2.30pm Farmhouse
Saturday 2 July Election Day BBQ, Clarke Street, all day

Super Science Club - Microscope Demonstration
Wednesday 8th June 3.40pm to 4.40pm in the Science Room, Brooke Street campus (towards the rear of the old library / Resource Room).

Ever wondered what blood looks under a microscope? Or head lice, puddle water or mould? Drop in to the science room and find out. Lots of microscopes and slides to examine. As an out-of-hours activity, parental supervision is required. Thank you to John Marty and our wonderful Science Teacher Pilar for making this event possible.

GLOW DISCO on Wednesday 15 June from 6.30pm in the Gym
Time to get funky with the fives and sixes. Bop till you Drop will be running the disco, with tickets on sale from 6.15pm. Tickets are $5.00 each, plus there will be chips for sale, and iced water for free. Please return the note if your child will be attending, and note that parental supervision is required. Parent helpers also welcome to keep order and sell tickets/chips and dispense water. Email westgarthpandf@gmail.com

Makers Group on Sunday 19 June at the Farmhouse from 2.30pm
We will be making maths aids for use in the school, plus gifts for the next Special Persons Stall. All welcome, bring a snack to share. Kids welcome too.

Election Day BBQ Saturday 2 July
We need you! Not just your vote but your sausage turning skills! WPS Gym is a polling booth on election day. This is a great fundraising opportunity for our school. If you can help out for an hour, please email westgarthpandf@gmail.com or text Nerida on 0421 350 854.

Finally…thank you to all who donated, and those who took away second hand uniforms at our Term 2 FURS stall. A big thank you to Nicole Guest for coordinating! There will be another stall next term, so hold on to any old uniforms till our next call for donations.

Entertainment™ Memberships
This year Westgarth Primary School are raising funds by selling Entertainment™ Memberships to support our School. Buy a NEW 2016 | 2017 Entertainment™ Membership from us today to help us reach our fundraising goal, while receiving over 12 months of great value on everything you love to do!
With the new 2016 | 2017 Entertainment™ Book or Digital Membership you receive over $20,000 worth of valuable offers you can use straight away and up until 1 June 2017. Your Membership features hundreds of up to 50% OFF and 2-for-1 offers for some of the best local restaurants, cafés, attractions, hotel accommodation, travel and more, all for only $65.
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Everyone needs a friend

"Those girls at school are mean. I told them about this great game but they wouldn’t play it. They said I couldn’t play with them."

Rebecca, who is seven, plays happily at home with her four year-old sister Samantha. Samantha adores her big sister and will do anything she says. But with school friends it’s not so easy.

Rebecca’s mother wonders whether the other children really are mean or whether Rebecca may be too pushy.

When children come over to visit it seems to go well as long as they are doing what Rebecca wants. But if the other child wants to do something different, Rebecca often sulks or goes off in a huff.

Children’s friendships often have their ups and downs. When friendships are going well they support children’s emotional wellbeing and confidence, as well as providing someone to play with.

Positive friendships help children have fun, and also help them cope during periods of stress and change. This is why having friends at school is so important for children.

Helping children with the ups and downs of friendships

It is not always easy for children to know how to manage friendships. Problems with friends can affect how children feel about themselves and their enthusiasm for activities that involve others. Parents and carers can help children learn the kinds of friendship skills they will need as they grow and develop.

Learning how to make and keep friends involves a number of skills. Children learn more and more complex social skills from those around them as they develop.

Home life has an effect on the development of social skills. A child who has an adoring little sister is likely to have more leadership skills. A child who is the little sister may be more used to fitting in with what others want to do. These children are likely to react differently when they go to school and meet other children with different life experiences and social skills.

Core friendship skills for children

Cooperation
- How to share, how to take turns, how to work together towards a common goal.

Communication
- Using words to explain what you want and listening to others respectfully.
- Paying attention to body language (eg making eye contact, smiling, being able to read others’ nonverbal reactions).

Understanding and managing feelings
- Being able to express feelings in ways that help others understand you.
- Recognising and responding to others’ feelings.

Accepting and including others
- Recognising others’ needs for respect and friendship.
Solving friendship problems

Children develop friendship skills through playing with other children. Because they are learning, they are sure to have times when things do not go as they would like. Sometimes they blame themselves for what has happened.

They may say, “Nobody likes me ‘coz I can’t run as fast as they can.” Sometimes they blame everyone else for the problem and, like Rebecca, say, “The girls are all mean to me.” Even though they blame the other children they may still think of it as a problem they cannot change.

How parents and carers can help

First and foremost you can help children by listening to them talk about the everyday joys and troubles that arise out of their friendships. Asking what might have led to others’ reactions can help the child, with your assistance, to think of possible solutions.

Try a problem-solving approach

When problems arise in friendships it is important not to blame children but to show them how to find a solution. A problem-solving approach is often helpful.

1. Encourage the child to describe what has happened.
2. Ask about how they felt.
3. Ask them how they think the other person might see it and how they might be feeling.
4. Get them to think of ways they could do things differently next time.
5. Encourage them to try the new approach – get them to practise with you so they feel more confident.
6. Check back with your child to see how things turned out.

This resource is part of a range of KidsMatter Primary information sheets for families and school staff. View them all online at www.kidsmatter.edu.au

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Community Advertisements

Darebin Giant Junior Basketball Club
Players wanted for all age groups, boys and girls welcome. If you would like your child to play in a team sport at a family friendly club then we are the club for you. New season is starting in July after the school holidays. Games are played on Saturdays.
If you would like more information or have any enquiries please contact: Christine: 0431 012 425 or Tina : tepees1@gmail.com

Thornbury Art and Craft Market - 18 June at 99 Leinster Grove Thornbury
Stallholder applications welcome. For information contact Cate Thompson 9481 0466 or Linda Finger 9489 9360.

Holiday fun and entertainment primary school aged children! Monday 27 June – Friday 8 July
Leapki’s holiday programs are full of fun and interactive hands-on activities, incursions and exciting excursions that will provide children with wonderful entertainment and memorable experiences. Click on the links below to see what’s on!
Wales Street Primary School Holiday Program
Preston South Primary School Holiday Program
Book online at www.leapkids.com.au or contact us on 1300 366 235

Bright Sparks Holiday Program - July 2016
Bright Sparks is a creative arts program designed to help children learn about themselves and develop a sense of inner strength, promoting confidence, resilience and general wellbeing. Sessions are run by an Art Therapist and are beneficial for all children from Prep to Grade 3.
10.30am - 2.30pm on July 5, 6 & 7 $160 / $140 for a 3 day course or $60 per session Jika Jika Community Centre, Northcote. Bookings essential. Contact Naomi on 0421 914 220 or email: naomi@brightsparks.id.au

Ladies Solo Salsa at Jika Jika Community Centre
Escape for an hour on Sundays at 12.45 with Footluce Salsa for a Ladies class that will keep you warm through Winter! Danced solo, this salsa class is low impact, and certainly works your muscles as we learn basic footwork and arm styling. No partner or dance experience needed. Come dance with us, and tone body and mind alike!

More details at www.footlucesalsa.com

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