Westgarth
Primary School
Safe, Fair & Friendly

Principal News – November 2026

Spring Fair

We would like to extend a **huge thank you to all our wonderful families** for your generous contributions, support and enthusiasm in making our Spring Fair such a fantastic success!

From donating raffle prizes and baked goods to contributing items, volunteering your time and helping with the preparations, every contribution made a real difference. Your generosity and willingness to get involved helped create a wonderful day filled with fun, laughter and a fantastic sense of community.

It was lovely to see so many families, children and staff coming together to enjoy the celebrations and make special memories. Events like these would not be possible without the continued support and dedication of our school community.

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who helped behind the scenes, supported the stalls, donated items or simply came along to enjoy the day. Your kindness, hard work and school spirit are truly appreciated.

Thank you for helping make our Spring Fair such a memorable and successful event! We are so proud to be part of such a caring and supportive school community.

Thanks to:

Main Sponsor:

- Jellis Craig Inner North

Ride, Stall and Activity Sponsors:

- Hannah Fox
- Phil's Bakehouse
- July
- Trav's Trees
- Lavazza
- F&F
- Sheet Society
- Aquila
- Bakers Delight
- Northcote Electrical
- Origin
- Sessions
- Supagroup Extensions
- Northcote Electrical



NB: For the full list of donors and supporters see the attached Sponsors Poster.

What's coming up?

As we approach the end of the school year, there are many exciting events and special moments to look forward to! From celebrating our students' achievements to enjoying fun activities and end-of-year celebrations, the coming weeks will be filled with opportunities to reflect on a wonderful year of learning, growth, and friendship. We look forward to sharing these memorable moments with our school community as we finish the year on a positive note.

Important dates to remember:

- World Kindness Day 13 Nov
- Prep – Year 2 House tabloid sports 25 Nov

- Year 6 STOMP sessions 10, 17, 24 Nov; 1, 10 Dec.
- Regional Softball 11 Nov
- Prep excursion – Botanical Garden 18 Nov
- Year 3 Healesville Sanctuary excursion 19 Nov
- Year 1 Zoo excursion 26 Nov
- Year 6 literacy celebration 2.30pm 26 Nov
- Westgarth swimming trials for 2027 comp years 3 – 5, 27 Nov
- 2027 Prep Orientation 13 & 27 Nov
- 2027 Prep Parent information session – 17 Nov (online)
- 2027 Prep Playdate & OSHC open afternoon – 8 Dec
- Year 6 – 7 Orientation Day (State Schools) 8/12
- Student reports available on Compass 11 Dec
- Open classroom morning – Monday 14 Dec 8.45am
- Year 6 Graduation – 14 Dec (pm)
- Year 6 – Funfields excursion 16 Dec
- Year 6 – special lunch 17 Dec
- Final assembly Friday 18 Dec 9am
- Friday 18 Dec – final day of school **1.30pm finish**



Preventing Racism at school

At Westgarth PS we value the diversity of culture, ethnicity, and faith of all our students. We are proud of our diversity, and everyone is welcome at our school.
Celebrating the diversity of our community makes us stronger, kinder and more innovative. We are committed to making sure that students from all backgrounds feel accepted, supported and able to learn.
We teach all students according to our school values and teach the respectful relationships framework. This includes education around diversity and inclusion.
To achieve our values and aims, everyone at Westgarth PS plays an important role.
This week, we have reminded students of our values of Westgarth PS and the importance of using these in everything we do.
To help us make Westgarth PS a place where everyone feels welcome, respected and supported, we encourage you to also speak to your child about these values, as well as the importance of:

- understanding that we celebrate diversity and multicultural inclusion
- understanding the importance of everyone at school being treated with respect.

For more information, please see Racism: talking with children and teens, Raising Children Network.
We expect families to also display our school values when dealing with other members of our school community.

Cam Macklin



It occurred to me at the Spring Fair while enjoying the music that we were losing another of our valuable band members at the end of the year. I would like to acknowledge and celebrate the significant contribution of **parent Cam Macklin**, our Idol Band lead singer and a pivotal member of the band, as he prepares to leave the school at the end of the year. Throughout their time with us, Cam has played an integral role in shaping the band's identity, bringing talent, passion, dedication and a unique presence to every performance. Their leadership, musicality and commitment have helped create memorable experiences and lasting connections within our community. We are deeply grateful for the energy, creativity and spirit he has shared with us, and for the important part he has played in the band. While his departure marks the end of a valued chapter, the impact of his contribution will continue to resonate. We thank Cam sincerely for everything he has given to the Idol band and the Westgarth Primary school community and wish him every success, happiness and fulfilment into the future.

Safety reminders

As sent out recently on Compass, this is a friendly reminder that on Monday mornings, students are expected to head straight to assembly on Brooke St upon arriving at school rather than waiting for their class to return. This is particularly important if they are late to school because they would be unsupervised if they wait on Clarke St. This is important to ensure the safety and supervision of all students and to help the school day start in an organised and positive way. We appreciate your support in reminding your children of this expectation and reinforcing the importance of following school routines.

For the safety of all students, we kindly ask that children, parents and staff do not ride their bikes or scooters within the school grounds.

We understand that bikes and scooters are a popular way for children to travel to and from school and we encourage active travel; however, riding in busy school areas can pose a safety risk to other students, families and staff.

Please ensure that bikes and scooters are walked, rather than ridden, while on school grounds.

Thank you for your understanding, cooperation and support in helping us maintain a safe environment for everyone in our school community.



School Council Report – Jason van Grieken (School Council President)

The last School Council meeting was held onsite at 7pm on Wednesday 14 October.

Principal's Report – Topics discussed: Staffing changes, Permissions for the 2027 Camps (The year six to Cave Hill Creek Raglan 24– 26 February, 2027 and year 4 camp to Phillip Island from 8 – 10 September, 2027). Student Voice newspaper and World Teacher's Day Friday 30 October.

Finance – The Finance Committee meet monthly to discuss the previous month's financials. Detailed financial reports are provided to committee members for review and discussion. The committee is happy to report that our positive cash flow allows us to meet our financial budget commitments for both revenue and expenditure. The committee also discussed changes to the Department's Policy on parent payments, and OSHC fee increases for 2026 to cover the staff costs.

Environment – no meeting, however we discussed the new sheds that were installed over the holidays from funds raised by our community.

OSHC – Fees from the start of 2027 are: Before care $21.50, After care $36, Casual Care Fee $37, Permanent Care fee $35, and Curriculum Day Fee $80.

Fun & Fundraising – It was all about the Spring Fair!

Next meeting dates: (last for 2026)

OSHC	Thursday 12 Nov @ 10am WebEx
Finance	Friday 6 Nov @ 10am WebEx
Environment	Wednesday 28 Oct 8am Jo's Office
Fun & Fundraising	TBC 8pm online
School Council	Wednesday 25 Nov @ 7pm staffroom

If you would like to join a sub-committee, please contact the office so we can pass on your details to the convenors of the sub-committees so you can receive the correspondence and meeting invites.

Jo Wheeler
Principal