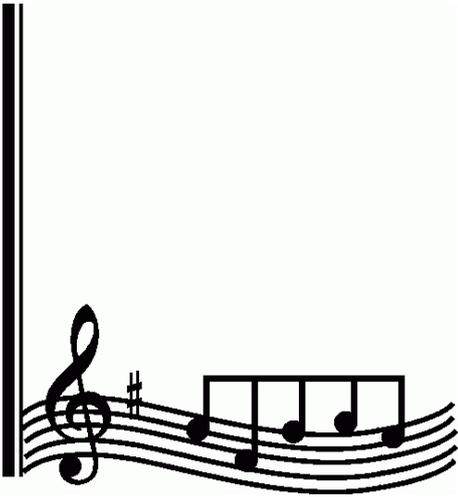




Westgarth
Primary School
Safe, Fair & Friendly

Year level news

Year 6 Teaching and Learning – Term 4



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL INVOLVED IN THE WONDERFUL PRODUCTION 'RADERS OF THE LOST DECADES'.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Yes, it is finally here! Your child's last term at Westgarth Primary School! The excitement is building and the planning for graduation, preparing year books, public speaking competitions, completion of the curriculum and finally the last farewells to all will be the focus for term 4. This year has been full of exciting and memorable experiences for our outgoing cohort of students. As their teachers, we know that they will be ready and prepared for the challenges and excitement of secondary school.

To kick this preparation off, we are having Amanda Lecaude attending the school to work with the students and parents in readiness for transition to secondary school. These workshops will go for an hour for each class and an additional workshop will be held for parents in the evening. Please look at the calendar for dates and time.

Please do not hesitate in contacting your child's teacher if the need arises as we are here to assist their welfare and educational needs.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your ongoing support in 2017.

Sarah, Nettie, Tess and Mhairi

Important dates /Upcoming events

Tuesday, 10 October	Division Athletics
Tuesday, 17 October	Visit from David Vincent – a refugee who has worked towards great success in Australia
Thursday, 19 October	Public speaking competition at Northcote High School – Topic: <i>Art is Essential to Life</i>
Monday, 23 October	Day workshop with Amanda Lecaude – <i>Organising Students for Secondary School</i> Parents evening talk - 6:45pm – 7:45pm
Friday, 17 November	Footsteps Dance Company workshops begin
Friday, 24 November	Cyber safety talk with Jo Parissis from Darebin Police
Friday, 14 December	Year 6 Graduation

What we are learning this term in the classroom

English

The Year 6 English program this term will continue to develop, challenge and extend students' skills and knowledge in all areas of literacy, namely reading, writing and speaking & listening.

Reading and Viewing: Teaching Reading at Level 6 places an emphasis on students using comprehension strategies to make inferences and draw conclusions, language patterns, bias and prejudice, figurative language, comparing and contrasting.

Writing: Students will continue to explore the writing genres in procedures and explanations this term, as well as developing their understanding of grammar and spelling.

Speaking and Listening: Students will be engaged in many opportunities to enhance their speaking and listening confidence. The students will be reciting their poems and organising a speech for the Public Speaking Competition. The topic this year is 'Art is essential to life'. All students are given the opportunity to write and perform in front of their class and two students will be selected to represent our school at the final at Northcote High School to showcase their skills. We came 1st and 2nd in this competition last year and we are sure our students will give it 100% again this year.

Mathematics

Number and Algebra: teaching and learning in Number will focus on consolidating our student's understanding of **place value** and the **four operations**. They will also explore the use of **brackets** and **order of operations** to write number sentences.

Measurement and Geometry: Students will be investigating ways to measure **area**, **volume** and **capacity**. They will also interpret and use **timetables**. They will calculate and compare **elapsed time**.

Statistics and Probability: Students will **describe probabilities** using fractions, decimals and percentages.

In connection with using digital technologies in teaching mathematical concepts, students will be supported to apply **coding skills** to solve problems. This will include using sequences, repetition and branches ('IF' statements) in programming.

As ever, our focus in Mathematics is about developing problem-solving capabilities within our students. Teachers will help students develop a range of strategies to solve authentic problems, to choose the appropriate strategy for a given situation, to justify their choice of strategy, and to consider whether the problem could be solved in another way.

Sexuality Education

Sexuality Education will be taught in term 4 by the classroom teacher. There will be a focus on investigating resources to manage changes and transitions associated with puberty and looking at misconceptions and challenges. These include:

- Misinformation about conception
- Misinformation about puberty and rates of change
- Gender stereotypes and gender diversity
- Lack of vocabulary to talk about growing and changing in a normalised and positive way
- Uncertainty of how to seek help and resources relating to growing and changing

For more information, please see the Department's [website](#).

Inquiry – Welcome to Australia

During term 4 the year 6 students will be learning from the Community and Engagement domains of the Victorian Curriculum. Our unit of inquiry is 'Welcome to Australia'. This will entail unpacking the concept of Australia's diverse culture through rich questions, such as:

- What is culture?
- What does identity mean to you?
- What does diversity mean to you?
- Where does culture come from?
- How do we as a country celebrate culture?
- What are some cultural ceremonies that we/you celebrate?
- What limits us from understanding others cultures?

What we are learning this term in specialist classes

Specialist timetable					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Physical Education			6Nettie, 6Sarah 6Tessa	6Mhairi	All grade 6 students (two sessions)
Music	Choir		6Nettie, 6Mhairi	6Tessa	6Sarah
Science/Spanish	6Sarah		6Tessa, Mhairi	6Nettie	
Art/Spanish	6Nettie	6Mhairi	6Sarah 6Tessa		

Physical Education

This term is filled to the brim with fun events! The year 6s will be completing units on gymnastics, orienteering and outdoor ball sports (rugby & Frisbee). Our extra-curricular event this term is the district team triathlon event, which will be held on Wednesday, 22 November at the Northcote pool. Year 6s will be strengthening their leadership skills through interschool sports. Students will also create their own games that they will run with a group of classmates.

Music

In term 4, year 6 students will be focussing on some of the elements of music (tempo, dynamics, structure and silence) and discovering how composers use them to communicate ideas and moods. In small groups, students will use both tuned and untuned percussion instruments to compose and document a piece of music that demonstrates a practical understanding of these musical elements. We will be performing these pieces for peers with a focus on accuracy and expression. Performances will be filmed and analysed. Preparations for graduation will also be taking place in term 4.

Spanish/Science

Students will do hands on activities to identify the differences between reversible and irreversible changes to materials. Students will investigate different types of irreversible changes and relate these to their everyday lives. Through these activities students will be able to increase their vocabulary of everyday objects and food. They will also construct sentences in Spanish to express their ideas and explain individual stages in a process.

Spanish/Art

In term 4 we are going to be very busy in the art room finishing up projects and making a collaborative mural for the entrance of the school. We will be working with clay and mosaic on this project and involve students from the whole school. Students in year 6 are going to make a lino print to represent an Australian landscape. They are also going to finish their clay vases by painting and glazing them. Along the way students are going to learn how to describe landscape features using the verbs to be (there is / there are), to give directions and describe location.

To find out more about what we are doing in the Spanish classrooms you can visit the Spanish website <http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish>