Welcome to
Westgarth Primary School
Grade 1 Information Night

Our Values at WPS
Respect, Integrity, Excellence, Working Together, Responsibility

Be Safe, Be Fair, Be Friendly
Team Members

- Sharon (curriculum team leader)
- Sophie (admin team leader)
- Rose
- Vicky
- Kat
Literacy

- We will continue to develop students’ skills in **reading, writing, speaking and listening**.

- Every morning students will be involved in a range of Early Years literacy activities.

- Literacy sessions will be run on a ‘whole-part-whole’ concept, with students working in small groups on activities targeted to their learning needs.
We will continue implementing the Little Learners Love Literacy program started in Prep which builds phonemic awareness.

When reading we will be developing the High Reliability Reading Strategies including connecting, questioning, visualizing and inferring.
Writing

Writing genres

Students will develop their expertise in writing for specific purposes and using various genres; beginning with narrative in Term 1.

Grammar

Explicit teaching of sentence formation and punctuation will be features of the writing sessions this term.

VCOP and Big Write

Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation

Handwriting

Handwriting is taught explicitly through weekly tasks. Handwriting is also practised throughout the day in all curriculum areas.
Spelling

- Spelling is taught through letter-sound combinations and blends. Each week there will be a particular phonemic focus, e.g. ‘oo’.

- Spelling activities from the Little Learners Love Literacy program are incorporated in our spelling program.

- Optional spelling activities will be sent home throughout the term to support the program.
Our Maths program will explore topics from the domains Number, Statistics and Probability, Measurement and Geometry.

- Number fluency will form a major component to launch our Maths lessons.

- The emphasis during Maths sessions will be to develop sound understandings using concrete materials. Students will be able to explain strategies and explore alternative methods to problem solve.
Inquiry

- We aim to engage students with topics that are designed to inspire learning. Inquiry sessions are integrated across the curriculum.

- Term 1 topic

- We ask students to bring along things that they can share with the class about the inquiry topic, such as photos, books and stories.

- Each Inquiry Unit will include some form of in-school activity or excursion to enrich and extend students’ engagement.
Communication

- Communication is two way
- Tiqbiz
- Home Reading Diaries
- Making appointments – email, phone or drop in before or after school
- School Newsletters - fortnightly
- Grade 1 Newsletters – every term
How can you help?

- Please make sure your child is at school on time every day.
- Ensure that ‘take home reader folders’ are placed into your child’s bag every night in preparation for the next day’s learning.
- Parent support in the classroom is valued and we look forward to your assistance.
- If you have a particular skill or area of interest, please discuss with your child’s teacher as parent helpers are encouraged across all areas of learning.
- Parent Helpers in classrooms will begin after the information session.

Thank you!
How can you help?

- Read to, and with your child each night.
- Help your child learn their spelling words.
- Students work hard at school each day so homework at Year 1 would be no more than 15-20 minutes each day. Establishing a regular routine helps students to develop a positive approach to learning and will benefit them as they progress through their schooling.
- Ensure your child’s belongings are clearly labelled. This includes clothing, drink bottles and lunchboxes (lids too).
- If you have any concerns or queries about your child please speak first to the classroom teacher. You will need to organise a mutual meeting time.
Student Wellbeing

- Making Friends
- Problem Solving
- Growth Mindsets
- Building Resilience
- Conflict Resolution
- KIDS MATTER
Specialist Programs

- Performing Arts/Spanish (Term 1)
- Science/Spanish
- Art/Spanish
- P.E.
- Music
- ICT – Computer Lab
- Library
Performing Arts

- In term 1 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.
Science/Spanish

- Science is delivered in the Spanish language in one 50 minute session per week.

- Students are involved in hands on activities, where they will be encouraged to question, research, experiment, observe and communicate findings using the knowledge, skills and behaviours relevant to the Spanish language.

- We will be working together with Art and Performing Arts to consolidate and expand their knowledge of Spanish.
Art/Spanish

Prep-6

- One 50 minute session every week
- Following the CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning) methodology: learning content through a foreign language. Learning Spanish in a contextualised, authentic, relevant, engaging way.
- Learning Spanish through classroom communication
- Learning Spanish through art projects
- Learning about Spanish and South American art and cultures

- Support your child learning Spanish:
  - Revisit the language they have been learning at school
  - Watch movies or listen to Spanish songs.
  - Label your class

- Website: [http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish](http://wgpspanish.wix.com/westgarthspanish)
Physical Education

The Physical Education program helps students develop a broad range of motor skills and movement patterns, using different sporting equipment in a range of environments.

We will be encouraging fair play, good sportsmanship and participation throughout the program. Most importantly we will be having lots of fun while keeping fit and active.
Music

- All students in the school participate in a 50 minute music session per week.
- Prep – Grade 2 work within the Victorian Curriculum dimension “Creating and Making.”
- The students sing, dance, move, listen and play instruments as they learn.
# Specialist Timetable

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