From the Principal

At the risk of sounding patronising, I would like to express how incredibly proud of the Westgarth PS community I am. It is so gratifying to see so many people contribute to providing our students with a supportive and educationally engaging learning environment. We have so many people contributing to the many facets of our teaching and extra-curricular programs and our sincere ‘thanks’ go out to you all.

On the weekend (and a few other occasions) a crew of parents were laminating, cutting and assembling maths wheels for our students to use in class to support their addition, subtraction, multiplication and division understandings. Another group (some of the same people, I might add) gave up last Wednesday night to ‘dance the night away’ at the year 5/6 disco, where approximately half of the year 5/6 student body attended. We had another group help our wonderful kitchen/garden staff, Mary and Virginia, organise the graduating lunch for our year 6 students who graduated from the program this week and last. We also held training for the new recruits yesterday.

Grandmother of five Westgarth PS students, Cath Pearn, ran three parent information nights about mathematics teaching and learning. Cath, who works for Melbourne University, is an expert in mathematics education so we were so pleased she was able to run these sessions. Of course these types of sessions are only successful if people come along and participate, so ‘thanks’ to the 150 parents and carers who attended over the three nights.

We have had a large number of parents and staff contribute to the fundraising efforts this term and another team start the preparations for our 2016 Whopping Great fete. This work will be built on next term and we look forward to many more families becoming involved.

I would particularly like to acknowledge the work of parent, Mark Dinning, in relation to his work on the environment committee (although his moves on the stage at Idol are also worth a mention!) He has been leading the development of our Master Plan including the buildings and playground. Mark has also been pivotal in organising the installation of new LED lighting and solar panels on our Clarke Street site which have been funded by the generous donations of families through our Building Fund.

Our teaching and education support staff take great pride in their work and go above and beyond to create a wonderful learning environment for our students and a welcoming place for our community. Schools are busy places and it is always challenging to do all that we would like, however I am so incredibly pleased to be leading this community as we work towards being the best we can be. I hope everyone has a wonderful winter holiday and I look forward to seeing you back in term 3.

Staffing news

It is with mixed feelings that we inform you that our wonderful year 5 teacher, Ryan Sterling, has informed us that he is planning to leave Westgarth PS at the end of this term. A wonderful opportunity has become available for Ryan’s family which requires him to leave. Ryan has been such a valuable staff member and I’m sure he will be greatly missed by the entire school community. We would like to acknowledge and thank him for his wonderful work and the contributions he has made to Westgarth PS for the 3½ years that he has worked here. As Ryan and his family embrace these new opportunities I am sure you will join us in wishing him the very best for the future.
Maths Help
As mentioned earlier, a group of parents, organised through the Parents and Friends club, have been working hard to make some maths wheels to support our students. They have made several thousand and we don’t want to take any more advantage of their generosity, so to complete this job we need some help from more volunteers. All you need to be able to do is fold, glue and cut some circles. If you can help us with this job, please speak to Assistant Principal, Donald Eddington.

Late arrivals
I would like to remind parents and carers that an adult needs to accompany a child to fill in a late pass when a student comes to school late.

Northcote High
On Monday 20 June 2016 The Age online reported misleading information in regard to Northcote High program planning and the allocation of resources. The report stated that Northcote High School has "saved" $100,000 by operating a daily program (57 min periods x 5 and 11 min Tutorials - 4 x p/wk) and that teachers are teaching an extra period.

The Age reporter Henrietta Cook inaccurately wrote:

"It is understood this has saved the school up to $100,000 a year in teaching costs, with many staff now required to teach an extra period a week."

Northcote High School expends all money allocated by government on resourcing the program for students; there is no "saved" money.

All secondary school teachers in Victoria teach a maximum of 20 hours face-to-face. This is no different at Northcote High. No teacher is required to teach an extra period per week and all teachers’ work within the Victorian Government School Agreement 2013.

NHS will be asking The Age to retract this misleading information, as it is factually incorrect.

NHS will continue to work together as a community (parents, staff and student) to ensure it continues to be an excellent and highly regarded neighbourhood school.

Meet the principal
I am aware that some members of our school community are unsure about whom to ask or talk to about issues related to school programs, their child, general educational issues etc. so would like to make myself available for parents and carers to come and chat with me once or twice a term. I will host two of these next term in the staffroom after Monday morning assembly on July 25 and August 29 (Last Monday of the month). Feel free to come along and bring a friend to this informal morning tea.

Cheers,
Jo Wheeler
Principal
Agenda items for Education Sub Committee Meeting

All parents and carers are welcome to attend our next meeting which will be on Tuesday 19 July at 7pm in the staffroom.

The agenda items are:
1. Sister School Program
2. Homework
3. Human Development Education (Deferred to late in the year)

Agenda items for future meetings can be email to me at westgarth.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au.

Regards,
Donald Eddington, Assistant Principal.

Museum of Me

This term 20 year five students were chosen to participate in a program called Museum of Me. That meant every Monday afternoon we walked to the Westgarth Aged Care. Our focus over these eleven weeks was to create an ideal and imaginary world. We created signs, jobs, anthems, plays and videos for our world. We had an amazing time learning about the elders and their past lives.

When we signed up for Museum of Me, we all had very different ideas of what I would be like? Many people thought it would be a fun and creative experience, but it was much more than that! It was so awesome to get to know the elders as friends.

We all found it great and recommend it to the future year five students. It was a fantastic experience and we really enjoyed the program.

Written by: Mahala L, Bell L-A, Dulcie C-F, ZOE C, Francis I and Samuel C.

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
OSHC News
As we enter the final week of the term we reflect back on all the wonderful experiences the children have enjoyed. It has been a action packed time and we have lots of new equipment, exciting activities and fabulous resources. We have enjoyed listening to the children’s tales of holidays, birthdays and sleepovers while establishing some new innovative programs within OSHC. Penpal club has arrived and we are writing letters to other students at a neighbouring school (we have lots of eager children waiting to hear from ourt students).

Our menu has been varied and designed to give all children a taste of something new and exciting. This week we are adding asian couscous, chicken and sweet corn soup as well as oatmeal slice (which the children will help prepare).

Don’t forget the early school dismissal on Friday 24 June, we are taking bookings and are open until 5.50 p.m. on this day.

It would be appreciated if all outstanding accounts could be finalised prior to the end of term.

The OSHC Team.

3 Andy/Phana are looking at themes of positivity and optimism.

We made some positivity-glasses that let us ‘look on the bright side of life’. We made them with our buddies too!

School Council President’s Report - June
School Council met on Wednesday 15 June. The two key items of business were:
- Approval of an agreement - “Being a high performing school council”
- Review of Stage 1 of the masterplan.

The purpose of the “Being a high performing school council - Agreement” is to ensure school council focusses its attention on matters of most importance to the future of the school; and conducts discussions and makes decisions efficiently and effectively. The agreement will be appended to the existing Standing Orders and is also reproduced in this newsletter (Refer next page).

One of the key points in the agreement is the importance of input from the whole school community. So I’d like to take the opportunity to remind everyone that:
- School Council meetings are open for any parent or carer to attend as an observer
- Subcommittee meetings are open for any parent or carer to join or to attend from time to time. The details of upcoming meetings are in this newsletter.
- You can raise matters to the attention of School Council by writing an email to the Principal or dropping a note in at the office. All such matters will be tabled as correspondence at the next school council meeting.

Mark Dinning walked us through plans stage 1 of the master plan including the music and science centre, storage reallocation and improvements to the grounds. These plans will now be reviewed with staff.

Ian MacLean
President
Being a high performing School Council - Agreement

The School Council Standing Orders describe the role, functions and operations of School Council and form the basis for the effective functioning of School Council. This agreement builds on the Standing Orders to outline how we agree to work together to maximise the value of our contribution as School Councillors.

Prioritising what we'll discuss:

- We want to discuss matters of importance to the future of the school and the school community.
- We want to discuss matters School Council has the power to decide, or at least influence.
- We want to surface and discuss matters of philosophy, culture and values that underpin our perspectives in order to support good decisions we can stand by.
- We want to encourage correspondence from the school community regarding matters of concern to the school community.
- The Principal and President will call for input to the Agenda prior to the agenda meeting, and set the agenda and timings to ensure sufficient time for the most important matters. They will communicate any matters that were suggested for the agenda but not included, and the reasons for this.

Conducting discussions and making decisions:

- To ensure our discussions are well informed, new matters/concerns arising from Councillors and from correspondence will be discussed at the relevant subcommittee before coming to School Council.
- Subcommittees will aim to bring decision/action based recommendations to School Council. However, recommendations may include seeking input from other subcommittees or setting up a special meeting to explore a matter further.
- In relation to subcommittee recommendations, all options are on the table. School Council may approve, refer back to the subcommittee, or call a special meeting, or a working party. There is no shame in not getting a recommendation endorsed.
- Where we don’t easily reach agreement on a matter we will seek to reach an agreement on a process to follow to reach a decision, and then follow that process. All councillors will support the ultimate decision reached in this way.
- All Councillors are assumed to have to read all reports prior to School Council meetings. Because of this assumption, subcommittee reports will be taken as read (convenors will not talk to them) and the floor will be opened for questions or comments.
- The Principal and President will plan ahead to ensure Councillors have sufficient time to review substantial documents (such as the Annual Implementation Plan) and to discuss them fully at the meeting.
- When reviewing substantial documents, councillors will advise the document owner in advance of the meeting if they have any significant concerns (so the owner can prepare a response), and focus their input on matters of substance (it is generally not our role to point out typos or suggestions regarding written expression).
- All school council decisions should be governed by common sense and practicality, bearing in mind limitations such as resources and time, and other priorities.

The President will chair School Council meetings in accordance with this agreement and the Standing Orders in order to help us as a group to focus our time where we can be of most value to the school. Everyone is welcome to remind the President when that’s not happening.
Kitchen Garden News

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

Recently we celebrated the kitchen garden journey of all the Year 6’s with a special final session where we also acknowledged the volunteers from 2016 and previous years. Many of you would have been involved in earlier years. Thus, we also would like to say a big thank you for contributing to the opportunities the students have had and the considerable skills they have gained during their kitchen garden experience.

The Year 3s are excited to start next term and we thank everyone who has already volunteered to support them. Our Induction was on Monday but anyone who wasn’t able to make it is still welcome to volunteer. Simply fill out the form your child brought home or send an email to Mary or Virginia at the above addresses.

Winter is the time when gardeners sometimes need to retreat indoors and make preparations for the busier times of Spring and Summer. With the Winter equinox on 20th June, we know that the longer days are coming and the workload in the garden will increase. In the garden we have had been putting some of the rainy days to good use by making garden related gift cards, collecting and storing seeds, storing herbs for drying, sewing exclusion bags to protect our summer and winter fruit crops, and caring for our tools.

This photograph shows Vanya and Darcy from 5C servicing some of the secateurs. This is a tricky job and so only two students work under the supervision of a staff member. First the secateurs must be taken apart, all parts are scrubbed with steel wool and oil to remove dirt and rust. Then the cutting blade is sharpened with a stone and finally the tools are reassembled and tightened. Darcy W and Vanya were amazed at the difference that the service made to the sharpness and ease of use of the secateurs. Two pairs fixed – only ten more pairs to go, well done!

Our most recent menu included Pumpkin Gnocchi using our pumpkins, potatoes and sage. Here is the simple recipe below. The whole family can have fun making this. Just clear your kitchen bench and everyone can be involved!

**Pumpkin Gnocchi with Sage Butter Sauce** (Serves 4-6)

**Ingredients**
- 300 g potatoes, Pinch of salt
- 300 g pumpkin, 160 g plain flour
- 100 g butter and 25 plus fresh sage leaves

**Method**

Peel the potatoes and cut into quarters. Place in saucepan with salt and enough water to cover generously. Cook 15 min on high heat or until soft. Drain well in a strainer. Peel, deseed and weigh pumpkin. Then cut into approx 5 cm pieces. Steam the pumpkin for 10-15 min until nearly tender and drain well. Mash pumpkin and potato well. Flour the bench and place the pumpkin and potato on the flour. Add a little salt and the plain flour. Lightly combine the flour and vegetables using a pastry scraper to assist. Knead briefly and gently until the dough is smooth using more flour only if necessary. (The gnocchi will be become heavy with too much flour). Cut the dough into 4 pieces. Using your fingers, roll each piece into a thin sausage 2-3 cm wide. Cut each sausage about 2cm long and transfer to a floured baking tray. Fill a pot with water, add 1/2 tsp salt and bring to the boil. Drop in as many gnocchi as will easily fit in one layer. Adjust the heat so the water is at a simmer. When the gnocchi rise to the surface (about 3 min), lift out with a slotted spoon and slip into a bowl or strainer. Melt the butter in a frying pan. Cut the sage leaves with scissors into 3 or 4 pieces and add to butter. Let butter and sage gently sizzle until butter just becomes brown. Add the gnocchi to the sage and butter sauce and warm before serving. ENJOY with a fresh green salad!
Sport News
Term 2 Winter Interschool Sports Grade 5/6 Students

All our interschool sports games competed really well this term. There were many highlights and all our teams showed great improvement, resilience and sportsmanship. Apart from all the fun we had each week we also finished with some great results. Both our AFL and soccer teams finished top of the district ladder which means they will go through to division next term. Our mixed netball team came equal 1st on the ladder but had a slightly lower percentage. Congratulations to all our teams!

District Cross Country Grade 3 - 6
Wow, our 48 students who competed in district cross country ran extremely well. Once again, our students tried their best, were great sports and showed exemplary behaviour. We had some amazing results with many placings. We had 12 students (see below) who qualified to compete at division, which was held on Wednesday 8th June.

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<th>Emily P</th>
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<td>Felix C</td>
<td>Isaac B</td>
<td>Kyle M</td>
<td>Darcy W</td>
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<td>Jules P</td>
<td>Asha D</td>
<td>Neave M-P</td>
<td>Harry E</td>
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Division & Regional Cross Country Grade 3 - 6
We had another week of incredible cross country running by our 12 Westgarth students. All students ran so well and finished in the top 15 of each age group with approximately 80 competitors in each event. Students who finished in the top 10 of their event progressed through to cross country regionals. We had 6 students who made it through (please see below)! All 6 students ran to the best of their ability and had fun (I think) doing so. Regionals is a very high standard and Sophie, Neave, Asha, Felix, Isaac and Emily should be very proud of themselves.

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<tr>
<th>Sophie A</th>
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<td>Felix C</td>
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<td>Neave M-P</td>
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State Cross Country Finals
Emily won both district and division and then went on to come 2nd at regionals (only being beaten by 2 seconds). She was awarded with a medal and has gained a spot to compete against Victoria’s best cross country runners. What an incredible effort Emily – good luck at States!

Thanks, Rushe
**Sport News from the Students**

**Newcomb**
Hi, I’m Kate, and I was the Captain of the Newcomb team on Friday.
Hello, I’m Mira, and I was the Vice Captain of the Newcomb team. On Friday we played Penders Grove Primary School.
It was a fun and fair game and the scores were 11-30 our way, which was our very first win.
Our whole team played really well and some of the highlights were Lily’s amazing catching, Oscar’s great spotting and Lewis’s awesome backing up and grabbing.
Penders played very well also and everyone had a good time. Go Westgarth.
From Kate and Mira.

**Soccer**
Hi my name is Will, last Friday I was the Captain of the soccer team. We played Penders Grove Primary School. Some of the highlights were Callum’s great defending and Koh’s great shooting. It was a fun fair game, we lost 2-1 there way.
From Will.

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**Parents & Friends Westgarth Primary School**

Bring your friends, family and neighbours down to the WPS Polling Booth on Saturday 2 July. The Booth will be open from 8am-6pm. We will be running a Sausage Sizzle from 9am and Westgarth Kindergarten will have a delicious cake and preserves stall. Come for lunch! Volunteers needed!

**Your School**

Join the WPS Catering Corps for the Election BBQ
Saturday 2 July.
Enlist with: Michael Horacek 0412 889 853
Nerida Weller 0421 356 854
Come and do your Wurst!

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**Entertainment™ Memberships**

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, holiday attractions, travel and more, all for only $65. The offers include: 25% off Sovereign Hill - Try Christmas in July for a great family day out, Timezone, AFL tickets, Mt Buller & Thredbo 3 day Lift Pass, Melbourne Aquarium, Old Melbourne Gaol & Polly Woodside, Luna Park, Puffing Billy, AMF, Strike & Kingpin Bowling. 10% off David Jones vouchers. 5% off Wish Card - Woolworths/Safeway, Dan Murphy’s & Caltex, Village, Hoyts & Westgarth Palace Cinemas Bounce Inc, Red Door Café and Grill’d
Check out the Whopping Great Fete’s new look!!

The pinwheels have retired and whopping great animals have stepped up to the challenge of being the fete’s new look. A huge thank you to Matt Clare (Scarlett 3BP) of monodesign.com.au for our fantastic new look. We can’t wait to see this fabulous new design around the neighbourhood on ad boards, posters, flyers etc.

We will be working hard to bring you the latest updates on Facebook & Instagram so make sure you like us www.facebook.com/WGFete/ and follow @wgfete on Instagram. Plus there is a new fete website in development that will give you all the details on the rides, stalls and activities on the day. We’ll let you know when it launches so the kids can get planning their day.

17 Weeks to GO!
Already into the teens of fete countdown and here’s where we are up to:

Fete Committee kick-off meeting - Great bunch of talented people with a mix of fete experience and newbies met for the first time a couple of weeks ago. We spent some time talking about the goals for the fete. Yes it’s about raising funds but we really want to make sure it’s a great day for our community and an awesome day for our kids. There are some fantastic new kid’s activities and ideas for this year’s fete, we really want to make sure they have the best day ever!

Fete stalls for 2016, last call – we are heading into the final stages of planning so if you have a great idea for the fete, now is the time to speak up! My contact details below, drop me a line.

Finally, what’s the one thing fete stallholders keep mentioning to me? They need lots of helpers to make the fete whopping and great! So get thinking about how you can contribute. Could be set-up on the Saturday or Sunday morning before kick-off, or you may be a bbq king who can work the hotplates or are you more a produce stall kinda person? How about pack-down? Have you got the muscle and staying power to get the school back in shape for Monday…?

Whatever your skill, the fete needs it. So make sure you’ve marked Sunday 16th October in your diary.

Any questions, comments, suggestions don’t hesitate to contact me juliakellytravel@hotmail.com or 0400 067 758.
Community Advertisements

Real Men Wear Pink - Andrew Belli
How much would you donate to see me spend June 24 wearing a pink tutu – everywhere I go? I’ve signed up to Real Men Wear Pink, and on that day I’ll be taking on the challenge to go Pink and raise funds for life-saving breast cancer research. Every dollar will help National Breast Cancer Foundation reach its goal of zero deaths from breast cancer by 2030 – so your donation will be doing good, as well as giving you the opportunity to see me strut my (pink) stuff everywhere I go! The more you donate, the pinker I’ll get! You can really help me get to my goal of $3000 by donating to my fundraising page here: http://my.realmenwearpink.org.au/AndrewBelli

FOR SALE - Yamaha DTX 430K drum kit and stool including Snare (7.5” pad), Tom (7.5” pad), Floor Tom (7.5” pad), Bass with FP6110A real kick pedal, Hi-Hat 10” pad with controlling unit, Crash Cymbal (10” pad) and Ride Cymbal (10” pad). In addition to being upgradeable and expandable, the unit has 10 play along songs, 10 interactive training modes and you can plug in a USB for your own music. We are also selling a ROLAND PM10 Amp, including all leads. Rock it out with the amp or plug your headphones in and be a rockstar in your own mind without annoying the rest of the family! All bought new in 2014 for just over $1100, barely used since (kids!). $900 for the set, all inclusive. You too can feel like a rockstar!!! Email Bec at redchilli@optusnet.com.au.

Lakeside Netball Club is looking for both girls & boys to join our junior netball teams. We train Friday afternoons (4.00-5.30pm) and play Saturday mornings at Darebin Community Sports Stadium, 857 Plenty Road, Reservoir. Contact us at: wplakesidenetballclub@gmail.com or call Sharyn on 0430 460 898.

Programs for mothers of children with autism or other additional needs
Mindful Wellbeing For Carers 9 week course Thursdays 11 – 12.30
Mindful Art Project 8 week course Wednesdays 10.30 – 12.00
Support and information Wednesday & Thursday during school terms.
See our website for more details www.heartsinmindproject.com

Mayors Park Tennis, Clifton Hill School Holiday Program
Enrolments for our fun and exciting School Holiday Program are now open for the following dates:
Clinic 1 Monday, 27 June 2016 - Thursday, 30 June 2016
Clinic 2 Monday, 4 July 2016 - Thursday, 7 July 2016
9.00am – 12.00pm, $140.00 per week (or $45.00 per day)
Racquets, Morning Tea and drinks supplied. As a Special
For information, please call or text Jeff Baldassarre on 0418 359 791.

Home needed for rabbit - We are looking for a family who would like to adopt our rabbit as we are moving overseas mid July. She is very easy to look after and not to mention very cute. Hutch included. If you are interested please call Melina 0408 354 430 (Amelie 3L & Jordi PrepS).

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