What's happening...

Information Nights...All sessions will be held on Clarke St.

Tuesday 24th February 6.30pm - 7.30pm
- Grades 2 - WEB Library Space
- Grade 4 - Gym Clarke St
- Grade 6 - 6S & 6B classrooms - entry from northern doors at the rear of WEB, Newmarket St end

Wednesday 25th February 6.30pm - 7.30pm
- Preps - WEB Library Space
- Grades 1 - Gr 6 rooms (6S & 6B) - entry from northern doors rear of WEB, Newmarket St end.
- Grades 3 - Gym
- Grades 5 - Gr 5 rooms 5H & 5K, entry through northern doors rear of Kitchen Garden end of WEB.

These information sessions have been organised early in the term so parents and carers are able to come together to meet the teachers in the team and to learn about the content across the year level, how the learning will take place and the pedagogy behind the teaching and learning at W.P.S. The presentations will be approximately 30 minutes with time for questions. We look forward to seeing you at these sessions.

As these sessions are for parents and carers and space around the school will be tight I would ask parents to try to organise child care, as we are unable to provide care on the night.

In the coming weeks the parent teacher interviews will also take place with a more focused look at your child’s learning and goals for the year in a 10 minute interview time with your child’s teacher. Keep a watch for next week’s newsletter for information regarding booking times for these meetings using the online booking system.

Morning Assemblies...This week we commenced trialling the 5/6 students entering the WEB building anytime after 8.45am. As a Middle Years of Schooling initiative, we believe that the 5/6 students entering the school independently prior to the bell, gives the older students time to get organised, mingle with their friends, develop those important relationships with their peers and to practise managing this time independently, so they are fully prepared and ready for learning once the bell rings.

It is important in Grade 5 & 6 that the students are learning to move safely around the school, knowing what is on for the week, using their diaries efficiently and reading the daily timetable so they know what is required of them each day. Students may wish to stay inside the middle area of the WEB or go back outside once they have organised their work space in the classroom. The Grade 5/6 staff will be taking the roll as usual each morning at 9.00am in the classrooms. As with all students, a late pass is required from the office before any student may enter their classrooms after the 9.00am bell. This term staff will be reviewing all the morning assembly routines across all year levels.

We look forward to gaining feedback from both staff and 5/6 students about the change to their morning assembly routines.

Have a good week everyone,
Cheers,
Lynne Mackie
Assistant Principal
School Council......Please see below the timeline for the School Council Elections. If you are interested in finding out about how the School Council functions, prior to the call for nominations opening next Monday, there are two information sessions being held this Thursday 19th February. Please see School Council report in this newsletter for more details. We look forward to seeing you there.

All parents are welcome to pick up a nomination form during normal business hours from the school office from Monday 23rd February.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notice of Election and call for nominations</th>
<th>23/02/2015</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Closing date for nominations</td>
<td>02/03/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date by which the list of candidates and Nominators will be posted</td>
<td>04/03/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed</td>
<td>10/03/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Close of ballot (4.00 p.m. 18/3/14)</td>
<td>18/03/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vote count</td>
<td>18/03/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Declaration of ballot</td>
<td>19/03/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special council meeting to co-opt Community members (Principal will preside) First meeting of new school council</td>
<td>25/03/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First council meeting to elect office bearers (Principal will preside) First meeting of new school council</td>
<td>25/03/2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As well as speaking to other school council members or staff, you may also wish to visit the Education Department Website to find out more: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/involve/Pages/default.aspx

On this website you will find a document "Introduction to School Councils: A guide for Prospective Members". A copy of the document will also be kept at the school office from the 23rd February. We have also provided some points from the document for your information.

**There are 3 categories of membership:**
- Parent members (8)
- DET employee members (4)
- Community (co-opted) members (optional) (2)

School councillors are elected for a two-year term

School Council establishes the broad direction and vision of the school within the school's community and generally stimulates interest in the school in the wider community.

**Clarke Street / Brooke Street Update**

Following the significant damage to windows during the holiday break the school has had external DET employees working in the school to ensure all areas have been made safe for students.

We are currently waiting on DET to authorise the installation of the replacement glass which is following an external tendering process. As soon as this process is completed the window repairs will be undertaken.

We are also waiting for parts to arrive for the damaged sound system.

The Prep/1/2 students are delighted to be using the two refurbished rotundas which are providing additional shade in the playground, they are enjoying the passive playing area.

Carolyn Shiels, Assistant Principal
**Diary Dates 2015**

- **Thurs 19th Feb**  
  The workings of School Council Information Sessions  
  9am & 7pm Brooke St Site  
  Gr 1 Melbourne Aquarium Excursion

- **Tues 24th Feb**  
  Parent Information Night Gr 2, 4 & 6 6.30pm - 7.30pm  
  Gr 2 Melbourne Aquarian Excursion

- **Wed 25th Feb**  
  Parent Information Night Prep & Gr 1,3 & 5  
  6.30pm to 7.30pm

- **Fri 27th Feb**  
  Welcome Picnic 6-8pm.

- **Mon 9th Mar**  
  Labour Day Public Holiday

- **Tues 10th & 11th Mar**  
  Parent Teacher Interviews 3.45pm - 7.30pm  
  Preps start full week

- **Sun 22nd Mar**  
  Working Bee 10am - 12 noon Brooke St

- **Wed 27th - Fri 29th May**  
  Grade 6 Camp 2015

- **Wed 9th Sept**  
  Grade 4 Camp 2015

**Meetings**

- **Wed 18th Feb**  
  Finance 8.30am Resource Room

- **Wed 25th Feb**  
  School Council 7pm Resource Room

**Term Dates 2015**

- **Term 1**  
  29/01/15 - 27/03/15

- **Term 2**  
  13/04/15 - 26/06/15

- **Term 3**  
  13/07/15 - 18/09/15

- **Term 4**  
  05/10/15 - 18/12/15

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**Kitchen Garden Program**

After a valuable crossover week with Betty, we are now excited and ready for our first week in the program’s next phase.

This is a garden week so we will be out in the fresh, warm air and have a chance to wander around the plots to see what is ready for harvesting and which jobs need to be done.

Thank you to the volunteers who attended the induction morning with Betty and ourselves. If anyone is still able to volunteer it is not too late. You can either drop into The Farmhouse or send your contact details including email to the school with your child.

We welcome the volunteers from week 5, starting Monday 23rd February. This will be a kitchen week. Please arrive at 8.55am or 10.55 am respectively for a pre class briefing and preparation time.

Thank you to those who have welcomed us and we look forward to being part of all the digging, planting, chopping, cooking and sharing of the children’s food creations. Truda and Mary

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**What’s happening in After School Care?**

**Term 1, Week 4.16th – 20th February**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Inside Menu</th>
<th>Inside Activity</th>
<th>Outdoor Activity</th>
<th>Raining gym?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>3.30pm Pita &amp; vegies</td>
<td>Rainbows (Lucy)</td>
<td>Leaf Printing (Kerri-Ann)</td>
<td>Skittles</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.00pm Scones</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>3.30pm Mixed Sandwiches</td>
<td>Monogrammed letters (Kat)</td>
<td>Nature Wind Catchers (Holly)</td>
<td>Capture the flag</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.00pm Chicken Noodles</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>3.30pm Mixed Sandwiches</td>
<td>Butterflies (Jacinta)</td>
<td>Sack Racing (David)</td>
<td>Block Soccer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.00pm Banana Bread</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>3.30pm Bruschetta</td>
<td>Collages (Kathryn)</td>
<td>Cricket (Edina)</td>
<td>Pony Express</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.00pm Yogurt &amp; Fruit</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>3.30pm Pita &amp; vegies</td>
<td>Paper Plate Penguins (Edina)</td>
<td>Free Play</td>
<td>Children’s Choice</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.00pm Raisin Toast</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Reminder:** Please notify OSHC either by phone 9482 3323 or email asc.westgarth.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au if your child is absent or has been collected from sickbay during the day and will not be attending the program. This Tuesday will be Kerri-Ann’s last day working in OSHC. We wish her all the very best for the future and welcome David into the team the following day. Please take the time to say “goodbye” and “hello” if you can!
School Council Report

School Council Information Sessions - Thursday 19th February at 9am & 7pm

Please come and join us at the School Council Information Session this coming Thursday 19 February on the Brooke St campus. We are running two sessions, one at 9.00am and one at 7.00pm.

Nominations for School Council open on Monday 23 February 2015 so this is a good time to learn more about Council’s role, how it functions and what’s involved in being a school councillor.

We will spend about 10 minutes running through the objectives, functions and powers of School Council and the subcommittee structure. Then you will have the opportunity to ask current parent and staff members of School Council any questions you may have. The session will run for 20-30 minutes.

If you are unable to attend but have questions, please feel free to email me on ullmerkel@hotmail.com.

Note, enquiries about the nomination and election process should be directed to the office.

Please tear off the slip below and return it to the school office noting your preferred session time.

Ully Merkel, President

Language News

¡Hola!
We are very excited to be part of the Spanish Program at Westgarth Primary this year and we hope the whole school community will catch our enthusiasm.

In Spanish/Science we are currently working on building functional language with our students: learning how to introduce ourselves and expressing how we feel. Our science focus this Term is ‘La ciencia nos rodea’ so that students appreciate that ‘Science is all around us’.

In Spanish/Art we are exploring the visual arts through the Spanish language. Our art focus this term is Identity. We are expanding our Spanish vocabulary by learning how to introduce and describe ourselves and how we feel. Along the way, we are learning the Spanish names for the colours, numbers and materials in the art room. We have also started creating a big dictionary with each grade where we will record the new words we learn in each session.

We also ask for parent volunteers to join our Art and Science classes. Whether you are a native speaker, are currently learning Spanish or are simply interested in the Spanish Language, Art or Science, we would love to see you in our classes! Please let us know if you are interested. All welcome! If you have any other questions about the Spanish program, please come and speak to us.

Here are some tips on how you can support your children in learning Spanish:
- Put up a word list in the bedroom, the fridge or another frequently visited place
- Practise speaking the words they have learnt at school
- Check out these great websites and apps:
  - Duolingo (App)
  - http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primarylanguages/spanish/

¡Adiós!
The Spanish Team (Esni and Marta)
Sports News

Northcote District Swimming Competition Grade 3-6
I was really pleased to see so many enthusiastic students trying out for the swimming team. We have so many incredible swimmers at our school! Well done to everyone that tried out. Thanks very much to the teachers who helped out after school at the trials last week and a big thank you to parent extraordinaire, Tim Jenkins, for helping out at the trials on Tuesday. Below is a list of the students who will be representing Westgarth at the District Swimming Carnival on Tuesday 24th February. Good luck to all the students!

| Jonah A | Seb T |
| Nathan M | Zac I |
| Kala B | Jasmine L |
| Catherine M | Siena Y |
| Isabelle M | Torren A |
| Caeden Y | Thomas T |
| Henry HM | Camille I |
| Sophie H | India W |
| Imogen A | Kyra J |
| Calvin C | Dominic H |
| Ben S | Max B |
| Grace Y | Jade L |
| Mikaila Y | Charlotte S |

Thanks, Go Pies! Rushe Lynch

Sport Diary Dates

Grade 6 Interschool sport
Friday 20th February  BYE
Friday 27th February  Away game - Thornbury Primary (cricket at Oulton Reserve)
Friday 6th March  Away game - Bell Primary (No bat tennis. Cricket/softball at Capp Reserve)
Friday 13th March  Away game - Preston South Primary (No softball or bat tennis. Cricket Oulton Res’)

Swimming (selected students only)
Tuesday 24th February  District Swimming 9.30am-1pm Northcote Aquatic Centre
Tuesday 3rd March  Division Swimming 9:30am-2:30pm Northcote Aquatic Centre
Wednesday 11th March  Regional Swimming 9:30am-2:30pm Northcote Aquatic Centre

Westgarth Safe Travel to School Survey

Now that School has been back for a few weeks the Safe Travel Working Group would like to know how you are travelling to school and what you perceive as the barriers to walking, bike riding or scooting to School. Over the next few weeks the Safe Travel Working Group (a group of parents) will be sending out an on-line survey for parents and students to complete. The working group will collate the responses and present the results to School Council for consideration and from there we also hope to approach Darebin City Council's Transport Department to explore ways we can work together to make travelling to school by bike, foot or scooter as easy and as safe as we can.

If you have any questions or want to know more please email: sallymoxham@hotmail.com<mailto:sallymoxham@hotmail.com>
Parents & Friends Welcome Picnic 2015  
Friday 27th February 6.00pm - 8.00pm

Usher in the new school year listening to fabulous band the Idle Fates and enjoying a hot snag and a cold drink! Yes, it’s only 10 days until our Westgarth Welcome Picnic!

**When:** 6-8pm, Friday 27 February  
**BYO:** rug, drinks, including reusable water bottles, the family, coins for snags.

We’ll provide: cheap snags, borek and icy poles for sale, tiger turf, great tunes, fab vibe, cool peeps, and toilets up until 7.45pm.

The kids love catching up with their friends and being at school after hours so don’t miss this iconic family event!

Particular welcome to prep parents, we’d love to see you all there!

This is a low-waste event so plan to take your gear home with you.

I would still love some volunteer sausage sellers, so if you can help for an hour, please email Jessamy at marceljessamy@yahoo.com

Don’t forget to follow us on twitter: @WestgarthPandF

Jessamy, Emma and Jacqueline, Westgarth Parents and Friends Club
Fitzroy Junior Football Club – New Registrations

For new players who wish to play in 2015, you must register online via this link [https://reg.sportingpulse.com/v6/regoform.cgi?aiD=51658pKeyre3a384bf76da4d7fa17f4aeec8668f3&cID=11766&formID=36056]. Please note players need to turn 9 in their first year of football at Fitzroy thus born in 2006. Once registered your registration will be pending until you provide the club with proof of birth. You can do this on Registration Day at the Brunswick Street Oval Community Rooms on Sunday February 22nd, 2015 from 8.30 am until 10.30 am. For any new player wanting to transfer to Fitzroy they must email registration@fitzroyjuniorfc.com.au with the player’s full name and date of birth. A transfer will be requested and further details will be sent to you directly. The fee for 2015 will be $250 per player. Players wishing to receive a subsidy should contact the club via our web site email address, or ring one of the Committee members as listed on our site. Information on training days and teams will be available on our website in due course. Most Games are played on a Sunday. Registration Fees do not include Shorts or Socks, these may be purchased from Northcote Sportsmart. If you have any questions please contact registration@fitzroyjuniorfc.com.au.

Interested in playing Saturday basketball?

Girls & Boys Under 9 – Under 19,

Register online at: [www.collingwood.basketball.net.au](http://www.collingwood.basketball.net.au) or attend Registration Day Saturday 14th February Collingwood College gym, McCutcheon Way, Collingwood 10.30am – 3.00pm.

New players welcome.

Players must register and pay by 22nd February to ensure a place in a Winter team. Enquiries: Megan Rouse 0417 106 490 manager@collingwoodbasketball.com.au

Gorgeous 2br townhouse for rent in Fairfield. Polished floor boards and full of light, split system heating and cooling. Caesar stone kitchen bench tops and awesome dishwasher. Gorgeous new bathroom. Secret gate access to oval behind, good sized yard and keyless entry garage. Heaps of storage including Harry Potter cupboard under the stairs and walk in robe in master bedroom. Walking distance to Fairfield shops, Fairfield train station and Northcote gym/aquatic centre. Very well laid out, easy to live in and super low maintenance. Low rent for the area $475 per week. This house is gorgeous and I absolutely love it!! Regrettably I am having to break the lease for personal reasons. I’m looking for someone to take over from March/April. If you are interested call Claire on 0412 512 247.

The Westgarth Primary School Council does not endorse any of its sponsors or advertisers, but we do acknowledge their support.

Community Advertisements

Whole School Partners

Tech and Play for Parents

Join the growing number of adults wanting to catch up to their techie kids!

Workshops each Tuesday from 10 - 12noon starts March 3

Venue: Learning Lab @ Richmond/West P8
25 Lennox St, Richmond

Bring along your own device and be guided through the many creative apps and software available to your child at primary school. It's a parent play date!

Contact lou@wholeschoolpartners.com or
Book online: [http://www.trybooking.com/122037](http://www.trybooking.com/122037)
$35 adult or $20 concession
[wholeschoolpartners.com](http://www.wholeschoolpartners.com)

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