What's happening…

Student Leadership…...Congratulations to all the 5/6 students who have been engaged in the selection process for both School Captains and the House Captains. It is a wonderful opportunity for students to be gaining skills in public speaking but also to be supporting their friends through this process, learning how to give positive feedback and share disappointment.

The staff looks forward to encouraging and sharing leadership opportunities across the school with the Captains and taking an active role in developing leadership qualities with all the Grade 6 students during the coming terms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Captains</th>
<th>Captains: George D and Jade L</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vice Captains:</td>
<td>Max C and Mikaila Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rucker House Captains</td>
<td>Captains: Harry S and Labanya Z</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice Captains:</td>
<td>Camille I and Liam W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerrard House Captains</td>
<td>Captains: Christian G and India W</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice Captains:</td>
<td>Jemima G and Connor H</td>
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<tr>
<td>Urquhart House Captains</td>
<td>Captains: Lachlan McK and Theora M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice Captains:</td>
<td>Inez M and Ben S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker House Captains</td>
<td>Captains: Will M and Kiri O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice Captains:</td>
<td>Will L and Grace Y</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Hearing tests....The Lions Club of Northcote in conjunction with the University of Melbourne are conducting free hearing tests for children 3-6 years old. The hearing test will be conducted at Wales St P.S on Saturday 18th April from 8.45am - 4pm. If your child is having difficulty with speech or their learning or behavior may be linked to or affected by hearing loss we recommend this free service to you. A limited number of parent application forms are available at the office. Please see Lynne if you are interested in using this service – we would require the forms filled in and returned by the end of this week.

After School Dismissal …...The students are dismissed from their classrooms at 3.30 pm and a staff member completes Yard Duty until 3.45pm. At this time of the day the staff member locks both front pedestrian gates on Brooke St, locks the toilets and checks that all students have been collected and have left the two playgrounds safely.

It is our duty of care to make sure all students have left the school safely or have lined up to go to OSHC, play equipment is put away and the school ground is available for Kelly Sports.

I would ask parents to be mindful that it is very difficult to complete the daily yard duties when there are many children still playing in the school yard after 3.45pm, often playing on equipment unsupervised and without regard for their own safety. If you could please take your children home on collection at 3.30pm, it would be appreciated. Many parents use Johnston Park for after school play. Thank you in advance for your cooperation on this matter.

Last day of term...We would like to take this opportunity to thank the many wonderful volunteers who give their time so freely to school activities and events. Your participation in the life of the school is very much appreciated by the staff and students and your input brings a richness to the programs offered at Westgarth - we thank you.

The last day of term is this Friday 27th March. The dismissal is at 2.30pm on this day with the OSHC program running as usual until 5.50pm. Please contact OSHC for bookings on 9482 3323 or email asc.westgarth.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au.

Enjoy a well- earned break and a restful holiday - it has been a very busy and productive first term. Take care

Cheers, Lynne Mackie, Assistant Principal

This Friday 27th March - Last Day of Term 1
Students dismissed at 2.30pm
**Diary Dates 2015**

Thursday 26th Mar  
Hot Cross Bun Day

Fri 27th Mar  
Last day of Term 1. Students dismissed 2.30 pm  
(please note amended time)

Mon 13th Apr  
First day Term 2

Wed 27-Fri 29th May  
Grade 6 Camp 2015

Sat 30th May  
Westgarth Idol

Wed 9th Sept-11th Sept  
Grade 4 Camp 2015

Sun 18th Oct  
Whopping Great Fete

**Meetings**

Tues 21st Apr  
Governance Working Party 7pm Resource Room  
(Please note change of date)

Wed 25th Mar  
Safe Travel Working Group  - 7.00 pm 19 Hayes St Northcote  9481 3321

Wed 25th Mar  
School Council AGM 7pm followed by 1st meeting of new council.

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**Term Dates 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>29/01/15 - 27/03/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>13/04/15 - 26/06/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>13/07/15 - 18/09/15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>05/10/15 - 18/12/15</td>
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**Assistance Sought for Hot Cross Bun Day - Thursday 26 March**

Hot Cross Bun Day will be on Thursday 26 March. By this stage you should have all put your orders in at the office.

Some volunteer ‘Bunnies’ i.e. helpers, would be great to make sure our kids get the buns! Can you spare some time on the morning (approx 9am to 11am) to bundle and distribute buns to classrooms. Let me know if you can help. Please text me on 0412 367 153 or email caroline-roberts@netspace.net.au. Many thanks, Caroline (mum of Hugo 5 Ryan and Percy 3 Leah)

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**Chocolate Drive 2015**

Chocolates will come home with the kids tonight. For those that have forgotten to get their orders in or are after something a little different there will be a pop up stall near the Clarke St entrance / Art Room. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday Morning drop offs and Afternoon pick ups. Come along and have a look!

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**Calling all Westgarth Idols**

There are a mere 69 sleeps remaining until Westgarth Idol. Rehearsals are fast approaching and Molly Meldrum has agreed to manage the paparazzi on the marble staircase at the Thornbury theatre.

Prospective Idols can call/text the Idol hotline on 0408 230 601. The Idols rehearse and sing a song with a live band. The act might be solo, duo or ensemble. The event is at the deluxe Thornbury theatre and features a six piece band, a big stage, a slashing light show and a sound system that hangs from the roof just like Bon Jovi.

To recap for new parents, this evening on Thursday 30th May is an absolutely riproaring belting affair for the grown ups; part trivia, part dining, part wining, part socializing, part real life Westgarth Idol acts, part dancing, part fundraiser but mainly an overhyped hullabaloo! More details to follow but for now if you’d like to hit the stage as a Westgarth Idol singing your favourite tune – please hit the hotline, and hurry so you don’t miss out! Don’t wait till after the holidays, places go quicker than tickets to Kylie Minogue! 😊

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**Westgarth ‘User Pays’ After School Woodwind Classes**

I am now able to open up lessons to Grade 4 students and any other interested students from Grade 5 and Grade 6. The classes are on a Wednesday and there are currently three, half hour spots available for groups of up to four students, arranged into instrument groups or mixed if necessary. The available lesson times are 4:05, 5:35 and 6:05. Students will need to source their own instruments and tutor book. Please register your interest ASAP to avoid missing out by contacting Tom Hamnett on 0401 942 299.
¡Buenas vacaciones de Pascua!
The Spanish team wish you a great Easter break!

In Science during Term 1 we worked with the whole school on using the Thinking Routine Predecir (Predict) – Observar (Observe) – Explicar (Explain). It has much wider applications, not only Science, and we encourage you to use it with your children during this break and throughout the year.

In Art we have been learning about the colours by mixing primary colours (preps), making fish mosaics and a giant colour wheel from magazine scraps (1s and 2s). Grade 3s and 4s have been having lots of fun learning the Spanish words for the feelings through a multi media collage, you can see some fabulous examples at the foyer of the school! We've also been getting our classroom and individual dictionaries ready to start adding all the words we learn for the rest of the year. The animals displayed at the foyer are some fantastic examples of what Grade 5 and 6 students have prepared for each letter in the Spanish Alphabet.

Finally if you wish to give your holidays a Mexican flavour you could take the children to the cinema and watch 'The book of Life' (PG). It features Mexican traditions (Día de los Muertos), beautiful animation and music and a healthy dose of popular culture! Esmi and Marta.

Save the Date - Whopping Great Fete 2015
Sunday 18 October 2015
GRAN FERIA MASIVA!
Mark the date on your calendar – Sunday 18 October – and keep it clear.

Hola – Welcome to the Whopping Great Fete/Feria 2015! Is it a Feria, Bazar, Fiesta or Carnivale? Either way, it will be gran, it will be masiva!! (Guaranteed to be better than my Spanish). Latin American flavours are already on the menu for this year’s Feria to add to our delicious Mediterranean/Asian/European/Aussie cuisine. It’s a school musical year and our exceptional Westgarth musical talent will (quite literally) take centre stage at this year’s fete. Prepare for an assault on your senses. Well, at least two of them.

Thanks to those who provided feedback about last year’s fete. The comments received heavily emphasise the sense of community, the quality of music (well done entertainers) and just the general atmosphere - “it’s a great day for our community”. We also received this most touching response: Question: “What did you enjoy about the day?” Answer: “Watching my wife dance.”

All together now – Aawwwwwww!!! Wowsers I knew this was a community builder, but now we’re reigniting passions! The fete certainly brings people together.

Well money can’t buy you love, but it can buy you an education. Drumroll please....our financial result for the 2014 Fete and Raffle, as at the end of financial year (31 Dec) was a profit after operating costs of $68k+ (into 2015 budget) and $25k* to come – a total of $93k to the school.

*The auction house goes under the hammer this Saturday 28 March at 12pm, so get on down to 53 Gillies Street, Fairfield to make sure it sells. A comically oversized cheque for $25k will then make it’s way to the school via Hocking Stuart.

As I said on fete night, this result is due to the dozens of people who have been committed to this event for many years. We were put in a winning position by previous fete coordinators, we had 20 experienced stall-holders, new enthusiastic parents put their hands up and we capitalised on opportunities that were not previously available to us. We succeeded simply because of great teamwork. We look forward to many more members of our wonderful Westgarth community contributing this year in whatever capacity you are able to. (There were lots of Westgarth faces at Fairfield & Wales Street – so we know there’s plenty of fete lovers among you).

Stay tuned next term for stall vacancies, and get your thinking caps on for new ideas – some traditional Spanish fare and festivity perhaps?? Imagine dancing the Tango with your beloved at this year’s fete!

Mil gracias, Fete Janine janine_oconnell@bigpond.com 0413 867 061.
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MARCH/APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS TENNIS COACHING - MAYORS PARK TENNIS, CLIFTON HILL

Clinic 1 - Dates: Monday, 30 March – Thursday, 2 April  Time: 9.00am – 12.00pm
Clinic 2 – Dates: Tuesday, 7 April – Friday, 10 April  Time: 9.00am – 12.00pm

Refreshments and loads of fun are provided. Places are limited so please call 9482 5200 or download an enrolment form from our website: www.mayorsparktennis.net. Priority will be given to students attending all four days. Term tennis coaching is also available.

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