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)
- Vicky (admin team leader)
- Sophie
- Rose
- Taryn
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 lessons will be run on a ‘whole-part-whole’ concept, with students working in small groups on activities targeted to their learning needs.
Reading

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

- Reading lessons will be run on a ‘whole- part- whole’ concept, with students working in small groups on activities targeted to their learning needs (guided reading teaching group, spelling, ICT, comprehension, grammar)

- Early Years: is broken up into four different components:
  
  Modelled reading  
  Shared reading  
  Independent reading  
  Home reading  

- Library sessions - fortnightly
Writing

Writing genres

Students will develop their expertise in various genres including information reports, recounts, poetry, descriptive.

Explicit teaching of sentence formation, verbs, adjectives, contractions and editing techniques 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.

- Weekly spelling words are individualised to students’ point of need using the SWST (Single word spelling test). It identifies letter, letter combinations and blends that students need to work on to improve spelling.

- Words are selected from the appropriate level and regularly tested. It is important to practise spelling words each night with your child.
Numeracy

- Our Numeracy program will explore topics from the domains Number and Algebra, Statistics and Probability, Measurement and Geometry.

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

- The emphasis during numeracy 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. The topics are taught during inquiry time and where possible integrated into our Early years Rotations and Maths activities.

- ‘Our Term One inquiry topic is ‘Our Sunburnt Land’

- We ask students to bring along things that they can share with the class about the inquiry topic including photos, books and stories. Students will be involved in some scientific experiments throughout the topics also.

- Each Inquiry Unit will include some sort of in-school activity or excursion to help in extending their engagement.
Communication

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

- Our Early Years Reading program runs every morning and we look forward to your support in listening to students read and assist with literacy activities.

- 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 on Reading.
How you can 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 either before or after school.
Student Wellbeing

- Social skills are explicitly taught
- These skills include…
  - making friends
  - problem solving
  - positive mindsets
  - building resilience
  - conflict resolution
- Safe, fair and friendly
- Rights and responsibilities
- KIDS MATTER
Specialist Programs

- Performing Arts (Term 3)
- Science Spanish
- Art Spanish
- PE
- Music
- ICT – Computer Lab (weekly)
- Library (fortnightly)
Performing Arts

- **PREP TO 2**

  - Performing Arts are delivered in the Spanish language in one 50 min session per week in Term 3 for Grades 1 & 2 and Term 4 for Preps.
  
  - Students explore ideas and improvise with ways to represent them, develop an understanding of performing arts practices and share their work through performance.

  - Students’ functional language is constantly developed to enable increasingly sophisticated communication in the Spanish Language.

  - The Performing Arts, Art and Science programs are planned and delivered so that Spanish language introduced in one is recycled, consolidated and expanded in the others.
Science/Spanish

Prep to Grade 4

- Science is delivered in the Spanish language in a 50 minute session each 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

- 55 minute sessions 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
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

- **PREP - 2**
- All students in the school participate in a 50 minute music session per week.
- Prep – Grade 2 work within the AusVels dimension “Creating and Making.”
- Although AusVels doesn’t have a great deal formal music theory making up the content, the music program at WPS does incorporate elements of theory so by the end of grade 6 the students have a solid grounding of the more formal elements of music.
- The students sing, dance, move, listen and play instruments as they learn.
Questions