



Wominjeka

WESTGROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Thames Boulevard, Werribee 3030
 Email: westgrove.ps@education.vic.gov.au
 Phone: (03) 9749 8233

CALENDAR OF EVENTS – IMPORTANT DATES

Term 3, 2022

Tuesday 19 th July	Curriculum Day – No Students at School
Wednesday 10 th – 12 th August	Year 5 Camp
Monday 15 th August	Years 3&4 Author Visit
Friday 22 nd August	Year 4 Camp Deposit Due
Each Monday this term	Year 3 Swimming
Each Wednesday this term	Year 1 Swimming
Each Friday this term	Prep Swimming

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL TEAM

Chris Gatt, Kerrie Slaymaker & Susan Richardson

STAFFING NEWS

We would like to welcome our new PE teacher, Mr. Jack Rhodes to Westgrove Primary School. Jack has a wealth of knowledge and experience in teaching and leading a PE department and we are thrilled to have him as part of our team.

At the end of next week we will be farewelling Mrs. Annie Stewart as she transfers to Bannockburn P-12 College. We thank Annie for her work and contributions to the Westgrove community. We wish her all the best at her new school and may see her back in 2023.

This term we will also be farewelling Renae Strand our Student Counsellor. Even though Renae has been with us for a short time, she has had a positive impact on our school community. We are currently in the process to recruit a suitable replacement.

BABY NEWS

Congratulations to Mr. Langdon and his wife on the arrival of their son Coen and to Marium and her husband on the arrival of their daughter Laila. Both families are excited about their new arrivals and are doing well. We can't wait to meet both of them!

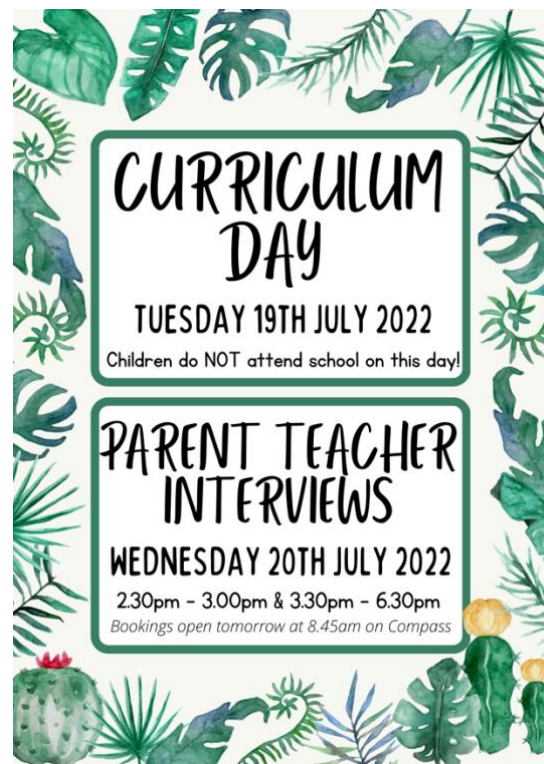
CURRICULUM DAY – TUESDAY 19TH JULY

As a staff we will be working with Marissa Cashmore to develop our collective understanding of the teaching and learning of Fractions and Decimals concepts in Mathematics concepts. This learning will support our school improvement focus on Mathematics this year. **Children do not attend school on this day.**

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS – WED 20TH JULY

Parent/ Teacher Interviews will be face-to-face this semester. Families are required to book a 10-minute appointment via Compass.

If your child has a Student Support Group Meeting or you received a letter with a specific interview time you do not need to book a parent/ teacher interview.



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SCHOOL REVIEW

This term we have our school review, which evaluates the school's progress against its previous Strategic Plan and sets the future direction of Westgrove PS. Throughout the process we will be working with our School Reviewer (Julie Myers), Senior Education Improvement Leader (Brent Richards), Challenge Partners (Anne-Maree Kliman & Raquel Tweedy), School Council President (Karlie Miles), staff and student and parent representatives.

The following four days have been scheduled for our school review:

- Tuesday 23rd August: Validation Day
- Monday 29th August: Fieldwork Day 1
- Wednesday 31st August: Fieldwork Day 2
- Tuesday 6th September: Panel Day

Over the next couple of weeks, you will see staff in the school yard on some afternoons collecting parent feedback.

CANTEEN NEWS

Unfortunately, with the increased costs of goods we have had to put up some prices at the canteen this term. We have worked hard to keep these to a minimum but ask that you now refer to the new price list (July 2022) available at the office, on the website or the Qkr app.

With the cooler weather some of our wonderful volunteers have been unable to help out in the canteen. If you have a few hours and would enjoy spending some time in the canteen please call Leanne at the school – ph: 9749 8233 its easy, fun and you get a free lunch and cuppa!

TEACHING AND LEARNING UPDATE

Literacy at Westgrove:

Helping your Child to Write

Learning to write begins with scribbling and drawing. This is an important first step and should be encouraged. The next step is to encourage your child to write letter-like shapes, before moving on to practise writing the alphabet – both capitals and lower case letters. After this, encourage your child to write sentences containing short words.

If your child cannot write yet, you could write for them. Here is a strategy:

- Ask your child to talk about an experience or something that interests them.
- Ask your child what part of the conversation they would like you to write down.
- As your child is talking, write down their ideas. Use their language.
- Ask your child to describe back to you what you wrote down, or ask them to read back the writing.
- Your child may want to draw a picture or create something to match the writing.

Encourage your child to take over some or all of the writing when they feel confident. When your child starts writing, try the following:

- Discuss the topic to give your child some ideas to explore. This gives them confidence to begin writing.
- Teach your child any vocabulary they might need.
- You can encourage your child by writing on a similar topic alongside them. Then you can share your writing with each other and discuss the differences.

Here are some general tips to help your child when writing:

- Make sure you give your child the necessary resources, such as pens, pencils, paper or notebook, and a desk. Creating a special 'writing box' to store your child's pens and pencils helps them see writing as an important activity.
- Support your child to read their writing aloud.
- Encourage your child to create a picture, drawing or collage that visually represents their ideas.

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- Always proudly display your child's work in a prominent position in your house. This will give them confidence, and demonstrates the importance of writing.
- Create an 'ideas bag' or 'ideas folder' to use as a writing prompt. To inspire writing ideas, collect objects such as photographs, pictures cut from magazines, brochures, movie tickets, or any other found item.

Sudoku 4 x 4 Puzzles

Each row and column contains all the digits 1 to 4.

4			3
3	1		
2			1
		2	

	1		2
2		1	4
1	4	2	
	2		

Mathematics at Westgrove:

Maths Puzzles- Sudoku

Sudoku is a logic and problem-solving puzzle that can be used at home or at school. You may like to start with a simple 3X3 grid and work up to a 9X9 grid. Try out this one with your children:

You can draw-up your own, however there are many available online, ranging from simple to challenging. Fun for the family and for all abilities.

ENGAGEMENT AND WELLBEING UPDATE

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Student attendance continues to be a focus and our goal is for all students to attend school at least 90% of the time. Some interesting data so far...

	Term 1	Term 2
100% attendance	96 students	36 students
91-99% attendance	244 students	210 students
0-89% attendance	295 students	389 students

We understand that children and families have had illnesses this year and some absences are unavoidable. We ask that all absences are explained. This can easily be done via COMPASS, by phone call to school or a message to the teacher.

All students have received a term summary showing their attendance for term 1 and term 2.

CYBER SAFETY

A number of online issues have been brought to our attention at school in recent weeks. These issues are generally happening outside of school and then the friendship problems are coming into to school and are impacting on the students involved and those not directly involved also.

Parents/carers are encouraged to ensure that supervision of online activity is adequate. Most of the social media apps that our children are accessing are actually made for children 13 years and older. So, if you allow your child to use these apps, please make sure you supervise them.

The link below takes you to the government's eSafety website.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents>

I would encourage you to go to the DOWNLOADABLE RSOURCES section.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/resources>

This is a wonderful resource to gain more information about:

- Placing parental controls on specific apps
- Digital tech and mental health
- Helping kids thrive online

And many more topics.

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