



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, 2023

Mondays throughout Term 3	Year 1 Swimming
Wednesdays throughout Term 3	Year 3 Swimming
Friday's throughout Term 3	Prep Swimming
Thursday 17 th August	Prep to Year 2 Author Visit (please pay by 14 th August)
Tuesday 22 nd August	Years 3 & 4 Author Visit (please pay by 18 th August)
Thursday 24 th August	Book Week Parade
Monday 28 th August	Year 5 & 6 Author Visit (please pay by 23 rd August)
Thursday 31 st August	Fathers Day Stall
Tuesday 5 th September	Prep to Year 3 Footy Lunch day – Order by 31 st August
Wednesday 6 th September	Year 4 to Year 6 Footy Lunch – Order by 31 st August
Friday 8 th September	2024 Year 6 Camp Expression of Interest and Deposit Due
Friday 15 th September	End of Term 3 - 2.15pm Finish

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL TEAM

Chris Gatt, Kerrie Slaymaker & Susan Richardson

2023 PARENT/ CAREGIVER/ GUARDIAN SURVEY

Monday 7th August to
Friday 8 September 2023.



PARENT/ CAREGIVER/ GUARDIAN OPINION SURVEY

This week the link for the Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey has gone to the community via both Class Dojo and Compass.

This survey is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behaviour, and student engagement. Our school will use the survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies.

The Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey will be open from Monday 7 August to Friday 8 September 2023.

We would like to thank the 6% (25 families) who have already completed the survey! Let's try and better our family participation from last year (62 responses were received).

Please note: Only one person per family is to complete the survey.

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MATHEMATICS UPDATE

Over the next fortnight our Mathematics Consultant, Michael Minas will be spending two days in our classrooms demonstrating lessons for students to engage in and for teachers to observe to improve practice in our classrooms! We are looking forward to the further learning that will be occurring in this space.

HELMETS! HELMETS! HELMETS!

This is a reminder that children need to be wearing helmets when riding bikes and scooters to school and in the community. This is to prevent any long-term damage that could be caused if they come off their bike or scooter and hit their head. Please ensure your child has a helmet if they are riding to or from school.



FATHER'S DAY STALL

We are having our Father's Day Stall on Thursday 31st August. If you would like to help on the day, please contact the office to put your name down. Please note: You will require a Working With Children's Check.

STAY WELL THIS WINTER – SOME ADVICE FROM THE DEPARTMENT AROUND FLU AND RESPIRATORY ILLNESSES.

In Victoria, influenza (flu) and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) infection numbers are high among children aged 5 to 11 years, particularly in those in their first few years of school. The Victorian Department of Health expects more respiratory infections over Term 3.

Most children with flu or RSV have a mild fever, runny nose or cough. Some children, particularly babies and children with underlying medical conditions, may have more severe illness.

Stay Well guide to Colds & Flu



Parents, carers and students are encouraged to:

- wash and sanitise their hands regularly
- avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- cover their nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing
- stay at home if unwell and consult a general practitioner (GP) or NURSE-ON-CALL as needed
- stay up to date with flu and COVID-19 vaccinations.

Our school has masks for staff, students and visitors if they want to wear them.

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PREP ENROLMENTS 2024

We are currently organising our Prep transition program for students enrolled in Prep for 2024, to support the newest members of our community have a positive start to their schooling life.

If you and your friends or neighbours have a child who will be 5 years old before the end of April, 2024, please encourage them to enrol at their local neighbourhood school as soon as possible.



Please contact our school office via phone (97498233) or email (westgrove.ps@education.vic.gov.au) with any of your enrolment queries.



CANTEEN NEWS

The Canteen is celebrating Footy Day in Week 9. Students will have the opportunity to purchase a lunch pack of Hot Dog/Four 'n' Twenty Meat Pie or Herbert Adams Vegie Pastie, a juice or water and a freddo frog for \$8.00. Tomato sauce is included. The Hot Dog is Halal certified.

All orders are on Compass or by sending your order and money to the office by Thursday 31st August. Unfortunately, we cannot accept orders after this.

TEACHING AND LEARNING UPDATE

LITERACY

Book Fair - Lamont will be back to host our Book Fair once again. Students will be able to browse the wonderful books on offer on Monday 21st or Tuesday 22nd

August and complete a wish list. This year Lamont are processing payments via an online payment portal, instructions will be on the back of the wish list students will bring home. Of course, students can still pay by cash if they wish on Wednesday 23rd August during their allocated book buying time.

**The Book Fair will be open for parents on Wednesday 23rd August from 3:15pm to purchase books.

Book Parade - The Book Parade for students in Prep – Year 6 will be held on **Thursday 24th August**.

Students are encouraged to dress up as a character from their favourite book. There are lots of easy Book Week costume ideas online, but here are a few that have been popular over the years – Harry Potter, Where's Wally, Disney Princess, Super Heroes, pirates, policemen and various animals. The theme for book week in 2023 is 'Read, Grow and Inspire.'

Author Visits - Students in all classes will have the opportunity to meet with a visiting author. Prior to the visits students will be reading their books and learning about the author and how they go about writing books. Please look for details on Compass.

Years P-2 will be meeting Author Coral Vass on Thursday 17th August 2023

Years 3-4 will be meeting Author Heath McKenzie on Tuesday 22nd August 2023

Years 5-6 will be meeting Author George Ivanoff on Monday 28th August 2023



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NUMERACY

Five Golden Rules for enjoying maths at home

1. **Maths is everywhere.** Cooking, shopping, packing things into bags and boxes, planning a journey... even the buildings all around you. The more you look, the more you will see.
2. **Being wrong is OK.** Don't feel bad about mistakes – they are part of learning. If you, or someone else, gets to the wrong answer, then talk about it. How did you get there? See if you can come up with a better way to work it out.
3. **Believe in your own ability.** Everyone has the potential to understand and enjoy maths. One of Australia's biggest problems in maths education is children 'catching' their parents' own low confidence in maths. If you don't feel confident, this is more likely to have come from your life experience than your genes. You have the ability: you've just not had the chance to develop it. You probably use maths more than you give yourself credit for. So avoid suggesting that people in your family aren't good at maths. Your children will believe it, and make it come true.
4. **Struggling is normal and healthy.** If you can't figure something out straight away, then you're not alone. In fact, you are sharing an experience with professional mathematicians. It's their job to get stuck on hard problems – sometimes for years! Some hints for getting unstuck include: Keep trying, try different methods, and try explaining what you don't understand to someone else.
5. **Talking about how is interesting.** Different people bring different talents to maths – and solve problems in different ways. If you ask someone else how they worked something out, you'll learn something – even if you were both right.

