



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 2, 2022	
Wednesday 8 th June	Professional Practice Day – No students at school
Friday 10 th June	Term 3 Swimming Payment and Consent Due (Years Prep, 1 & 3)
Monday 13 th June	Public Holiday – No students at school Prep History Box Incursion Payment Due
Monday 20 th June	Prep History Box Incursion
Each Monday this term	Year 2 Swimming
Each Friday this term	Year 4 Swimming
Friday 24 th June	Term 2 Finishes – 2.15 Finish
Monday 11 th July	Term 3 Starts
Tuesday 19 th July	Curriculum Day – No students at school

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL TEAM

Chris Gatt, Kerrie Slaymaker & Susan Richardson

School Review

In Term 3 we will be having our School Review. This occurs every four years to evaluate the schools progress against the goals set out in the School Strategic Plan and to set the direction of the school for the next four years. In order to prepare for the review in the coming weeks we will be seeking specific feedback from staff, students and parents. We will communicate when this is set to occur via Compass and Class Dojo.

Staffing Update

We would like to congratulate both Joshua Fairey and Mick Armstrong on their successful appointment to positions at other schools. Mr Fairey will be leaving us on Friday 10th June as he moves to Truganina P-9 College. Mr. Armstrong will be transferring to Ocean Grove Primary School at the start of next term. We look forward to welcoming Mr. Armstrong back in 2023. We are currently in the process to recruit suitable teachers to teach 2J and PE.

Education Week

Thank you to all who participated in our Education Week activities last week. It was great to see so many parents and carers visit our classrooms and share in the learning that has happened this term. The children across the school were proud to share their work and excited to have their loved ones visiting.



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Prep 2023 enrolments

A reminder that we are accepting Prep enrolments for 2023. If you have a child that will be 5 years old by the 30th April 2023, please contact the office for an enrolment form.

Robotics Team with Ms Morton

Westgrove has chosen a team of ten Year 6 students to participate in the Wyndham schools 2022 REAL (Robotics Enhanced Applied Learning) Robotics project. Our students are learning to be problem solvers, work as a team and use the Westgrove values. They are also developing skills in coding, designing, building and programming EV3 Lego robots.

Last Thursday, 26th May our Year 6 Robotics Team participated in Day 2 of the Wyndham Primary schools R.E.A.L Robotics competition. They worked together to build the Lego for their new Cargo Connect challenge. They will compete with local schools in the Term 3 robotics competition, in the lead up to the Australian First Lego League Competition in Term 4.

Canteen News

Thank-you to everyone who supported our canteen during Canteen Week, we hope you enjoyed the different menu. The winner of the lucky ticket and a free lunch order was Giselle in 2A. The winner of the colouring competition and an ice-cream voucher was Bon in Prep R. Congratulations to you both. If you would like to use the Qkr app to order from the canteen, but are not sure how, please contact the office for support.



TEACHING AND LEARNING UPDATE

Literacy at Westgrove

Oral storytelling

Storytelling is a great way to extend your child's speaking and listening skills, and to expand their memory and imagination. You can either tell the story, or you can encourage your child to tell the story.

Storytelling might be about:

- your child's favourite toy
- another family member
- a pet
- a favourite fictional character from a book or television program
- a famous person
- the work of people from different professions, such as astronauts, firefighters, nurses and teachers
- an imaginary world with imaginary characters
- an imaginary animal that can speak.

Here are some tips to start your storytelling:

- Make it exciting, with different voices, puppets, or a finger play.
- Have a dress-up box for your child to use for storytelling and imaginative play.
- Start with what interests your child.
- Start by creating a character and a setting.

Mathematics at Westgrove

Measuring Height: This is a Maths at home family classic!

1. Find a wall and some long paper (e.g. a roll of baking paper or paper towel).

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2. Mark on the paper the height of your children, you, and the family pets (plants and animals can be included).
3. Repeat your measurements... a month, 6 months, a year, or even 10 years later!

What is the Maths thinking?

By recording heights, we are using direct comparison. It is not essential for standard units (metres and centimetres) for students in Foundation to Year 2. However, you might notice during your conversation that your chart does not reveal enough information about the heights marked on the wall. It is from here, that you can introduce the need for a standard unit of measurement.

We introduce **standard units of measurement** (meters and centimetres) when we need to communicate our mathematics with someone. Students in Year 3 to Year 6 become familiar with their use.

What Maths vocabulary can be built?

There is a lot of mathematical vocabulary that can be explored through charting height at home. The conversation is one about size, and about height. Your conversation might use language like **taller, shorter, difference, fast, slow, more, less, the same, and equal.**

Extending the learning?

When comparing heights using your charting, you may consider the impact of time, the seasons and months. It may be interesting to ask: Who is growing the fastest? Is this the same rate all year round?

What other questions could you explore together?

ENGAGEMENT AND WELLBEING UPDATE

Westgrove Primary School Well Being Hub

We have established a dedicated wellbeing hub at Westgrove PS in room 32 (beside the gym). This room is open to specific students at recess for social skills support and wellbeing support. The room is also open for parents to access support from Renae Strand, our new Family Support Worker. Renae is at Westgrove on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please contact the office if you wish to connect with her or need further support with a concern.

School Uniform

As we move into the colder months, we encourage all families to ensure that students have adequate clothing on to keep warm when they are outside. We will encourage students to wear coats and hats outside, but they are asked to wear school uniform inside. If you need uniform support please make contact with Miss Slaymaker via the office.

Parent Support

We recently ran a series of information sessions for parents in relation to managing anxiety in children, accessing support services in the community and the Zones of Regulation. Keep an eye out for future parent sessions that may be of interest to you.

Attendance

Why going to school is important

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day. Attending and participating in school will help your child develop:

- important skills and knowledge to help them learn
- social and emotional skills such as good communication, resilience and team work.

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Children who attend school every day and complete year 12 have:

- better health
- better job opportunities
- higher income across their lives.

There is no safe number of days for missing school. Each day a student misses puts them behind.

What to do if your child can't go to school

Let the school know as soon as possible and explain why your child can't come to school.

You can notify the school as soon as possible **on the day of absence** using one of the following methods:

1. **Online:** log the absence directly using Compass (see 'How to' guides)
2. **Telephone:** the school office and let the staff know your child's name, class, date of absences and reason.
3. **Email:** the school and provide the staff with your child's name, class, date of absences and reason.

Please let the school know if your child needs to take an extended period of time off. There might be flexible options to keep your child from falling behind.



OFFICE NEWS

Compass Login Details

Last week we sent home Compass login details to families that have yet to log in. As this is our main communication tool it is extremely important that all families have access. If you have trouble logging in to Compass, please contact the office.

Swimming

The Year 2s and Year 4s have enjoyed being back in the swimming pool throughout this term. Just a reminder to Year P, Year 1 and Year 3s that your swimming programs are next term and information has gone out on COMPASS already.

Camps

The Year 4s will have their regular camp in term 4 at The Ranch in Cape Schanck. Notes have been given out to students already about this.

The Year 5s are fortunate to have a camp next term which is fully funded by the government as a response to them missing out due to lockdowns last year. The camp will be at Arrabri Lodge in Warburton. Notes will come home shortly with further information.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?



During Social and Emotional learning students across the school have been working on themes such as goal setting, showing perseverance and understanding how focussed breathing supports your mental wellbeing.

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The Student Wellbeing Hub is a place where you can find information and advice about important topics like bullying, online safety, communicating with your child and the school, and much more, to help you make your child's learning journey a safe and positive one.

You can access the free site and resources here: <https://studentwellbeinghub.edu.au/parents/>

Wellbeing: What's it all about?

What are some of the factors that make up wellbeing?

- Being involved in supportive relationships
- Feeling that your life has meaning and purpose
- Feeling connected to others in your community
- Feeling a sense of control of your emotions
- Engaging in activities that are important to you

Wellbeing and your child

As a parent you want your child to be safe and happy throughout their time at school, and beyond. Here are some ways you can lay the foundations for your child's wellbeing and, at the same time, support the school to build on and enhance these vital skills.

- Build strong, healthy and trusting family relationships.
- Make time for open communication to build close family ties.
- Get involved in your child's education to show you value learning.

Research tells us that young people who feel safe, connected and secure, and have loving and trusting relationships, are more likely to be active participants in their learning and to achieve better physical, emotional, social and educational outcomes.

Wellbeing is linked to improved learning outcomes. When children experience learning success, their wellbeing is further enhanced – so wellbeing and learning go hand in hand!

Your role as a parent

As a parent your role is fundamental to the health, safety and wellbeing of your child. While there are different parenting styles, some features of parenting are associated with higher levels of children's wellbeing and success at school.

- Showing warmth to your child via expressions of affection, love and support
- Setting limits and boundaries to encourage your child's self-control
- Encouraging your children to share and talk about their worries
- Sharing your own concerns and worries with your children in a sensitive way

Websites

Parents and schools work together to promote the wellbeing of children and young people. Learn more from these websites.

- [Child protection, health and safety services](https://raisingchildren.net.au/grown-ups/services-support/services-families/child-health-services) (Raising Children Network)
- [Sleep for children's health and wellbeing](https://www.mcric.edu.au/users/anna-price/blog/sleep-children%E2%80%99s-health-and-wellbeing) (Murdoch Children's Research Institute)
- [The move to high school](#) (Murdoch Children's Research Institute)

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<https://www.mcri.edu.au/users/dr-lisa-mundy/blog/move-high-school-%E2%80%93-opportunity-improve-health-and-wellbeing>

Podcasts

These podcasts have some good tips for promoting family wellbeing. Find them by searching in your podcast app.

- Australian Institute of Family Studies
- Emerging Minds
- *Happy families* with Dr Justin Coulson



Education Services Australia

Quantin Binnah

Vacation Care Program– Term 2 2022

Mon 27 th June	Brickworks Incursion Beading, Music, Dance, Drama, Board games, Construction blocks, Team sports, Outdoor play etc 	TOONWORLD – MOBL MAKING INCURSION Beading, Music, Dance, Drama, Board games, Construction blocks, Team sports, Outdoor play etc 	Mon 4 th July
Tue 28 th June	Werribee Cinemas Lightyear Excursion Beading, Music, Dance, Drama, Board games, Construction blocks, Team sports, Outdoor play etc 	SCIENCE WORKS Excursion Beading, Music, Dance, Drama, Board games, Construction blocks, Team sports, Outdoor play etc 	Tue 5 th July
Wed 29 th June	FUNDAY MULTI ACTIVITY DAY INCURSION Beading, Music, Dance, Drama, Board games, Construction blocks, Team sports, Outdoor play etc 	Fun Day Multi Activity Day Incursion Beading, Music, Dance, Drama, Board games, Construction blocks, Team sports, Outdoor play etc 	Wed 6 th July
Thu 30 th June	Bowling Excursion to Wyncity Beading, Music, Dance, Drama, Board games, Construction blocks, Team sports, Outdoor play etc 	Werribee Cinema Minions Rise of Gru Excursion Beading, Music, Dance, Drama, Board games, Construction blocks, Team sports, Outdoor play etc 	Thu 7 th July
Fri 1 st July	TO BE CONFIRMED INCURSION Beading, Music, Dance, Drama, Board games, Construction blocks, Team sports, Outdoor play etc 	Ninja Obstacle Course Incursion Beading, Music, Dance, Drama, Board games, Construction blocks, Team sports, Outdoor play etc 	Fri 8 th July
For the Snack of the day - Ask our amazing educators what is on the menu! Vacation Care cost: \$70 per child per day for incursions and \$80 per child per day for excursions. Activities as listed above are subject to change. See Terms and Conditions when applying online.			

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