



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, 2023	
Mondays throughout Term 2 Year 4 Swimming	Year 4 Swimming
Fridays throughout Term 2 Year 2 Swimming	Year 2 Swimming
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Kings Birthday – No students at school
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 Camp Expression of Interest and Deposit Due
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Werribee/Wyndham District Girls Footy Day
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	CSEF Applications Close for 2023 Last Day Term 2 – 2.15 finish
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	First Day Term 3 – Curriculum Day – No Students at School

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL TEAM

*Chris Gatt, Kerrie Slaymaker & Susan Richardson*

### **RECONCILIATION WEEK**

The week is National Reconciliation Week. The theme for 2023 is 'Be a voice for generations.' This theme encourages all Australians to be a voice for reconciliation in tangible ways in our everyday lives – where we live, work and play. This week students have engaged in a variety of lessons exploring and celebrating First Nations culture and history. Additionally, Ms. Gordon has led the start of our assemblies over the last couple of weeks with Indigenous welcoming and gathering songs. Yesterday we had 'Wear It Yellow' Day where we raised approximately \$400 for Children's Ground. We would like to thank our Indigenous student group, led by Miss. Spehr & Marium for not only their organisation of this week's events but in the work that they do within the school community.



### **ANNUAL REPORT**

Each year schools are required to prepare, publish and share with the school community an Annual Report outlining the school's performance and explaining the impact of school improvement efforts on student outcomes for the previous year. Our Annual Report for the 2022 calendar year has recently been completed and presented to our school council for feedback and approval. This report can be found on our school website or by following this link: [2022 Annual Report - Westgrove PS.](#)

### **STAFFING UPDATE**

Last week we farewelled Miss. Jessica Moore as she now embarks on a once in a lifetime opportunity to teach in remote locations and communities in the far north of Australia. At this stage Ms. Venuto (5/6 Instructional Leader) and Ms. Chizari (CRT) will be teaching 5M for the remainder of this term as we work to recruit a suitable replacement.

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## **COVID-19 SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT**

As we move into the winter season, there are many colds and flus moving through our community. These viruses have similar or identical symptoms as COVID-19, so it is imperative that as a community we ensure the following: Students who report a positive result are recommended to isolate for a minimum of 5 days and not attend school until their symptoms have resolved.

Students or visitors who are 'symptomatic' should undergo testing for COVID-19. Parents of students who are symptomatic will be asked to collect their child from school and to keep them home until they are no longer symptomatic.

Staff and students who wish to wear a face mask should be supported to do so, and Westgrove will continue to make face masks available for staff, students and visitors.

The Department of Health recommends that masks should be worn by a person who is a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 when leaving home.

## **ATTITUDES TO SCHOOL SURVEY**

We value student voice as a means to improving student engagement, wellbeing and quality instruction and are conducting a survey to find out what your child thinks of our school., so over the next week our Year 4-6 students will be participating in the Attitudes to School Survey (AtoSS).

The AtoSS is an annual student survey offered by the Department of Education to assist schools to gain an understanding of students' perceptions and experience of school. Students will be asked about their thoughts and feelings in relation to their school, their learning, peer relationships, resilience, bullying, health and wellbeing, physical activity, and life in general.

Participation in this survey is voluntary. If you do not wish for your child to do the survey, please opt out via email to westgrove.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

## **STUDENT LEADERSHIP**

This year we have been working with our student leaders to develop their leadership capacity and presence in our Westgrove community. Recently, we have had:

- our Year 6 student leaders led a Question & Answer session with the Principal team regarding the school-based Attitudes to School Survey that they completed at the end of last term. Together we unpacked what fairness and safety looked like and gathered ideas of further adjustments that could be made at the school.
- our House Captains took part in developing house team chants for the 4-6 Athletics Day and lead their houses on the day. Just in case you were wondering...Murray house won the chant!
- our student leadership team prepare to visit Heathglen Retirement Village next Friday. They will be meeting residents of the village and discussing ways we can form links within our community.



We would like to thank Miss. Lawless for her work with our student leaders so far this year!

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## YEAR 4-6 ATHLETICS CARNIVAL



This week we held our Year 4-6 Athletics Carnival at the VU Sporting Track in Werribee. Despite the weather, the students really enjoyed the day and engaged in all the events. It was great to see the students and staff dressed up in their house colours and cheering their respective houses!

Events such as these would not be the success they are without our wonderful staff, so a big thank you needs to go out to them for all they did in the lead up to and on the day and to Mr. Armstrong for his organisation.

## YEAR 3-6 SANDPIT UPDATE

Great news...since our last newsletter and reviewing our playground expectations for the sandpit at our recent assemblies we have seen improvement in student behaviour in this space. Thank you for supporting these expectations by reminding your child/ren of them at home.

## TEACHING AND LEARNING UPDATE

### Literacy

**MAKING THE MOST OF SCREEN TIME**

You can use the same questions you might ask your child during Book Chat as mentioned in the previous newsletter to discuss TV programs (such as cartoons) or films that you watch together. Understanding visual media is a key element of your child's literacy.

There are also a number of great games on the internet to help engage your child in reading.

These games include:

- Phonics games that improve reading and letter sound awareness. Phonics involves sounding out individual sounds in a word, and then putting these sounds together to make the word.
- Grammar, punctuation and spelling games.
- Vocabulary games.

Here is a short list of good websites to help begin your online search for games and other resources:

- Home Page - FUSE - Department of Education & Training (select Early Childhood or Primary Students tabs)
- ABC Education
- ACMI Story Monster
- Play School Story Time ABC TV
- Taking Small Bytes (Taking Small BYTES Card Deck - FUSE - Department of Education & Training) is also an excellent resource. It contains 100 digital technology activities for you to do and discuss with your child. It also contains tips about using digital technologies wisely and safely.

### Numeracy

## MATHS FOR THE FUN OF IT ....

### Let's Play Store

Grades K-5

#### What you'll need

Empty containers (cartons or boxes), old magazines, books, newspapers, calculator, pencil or crayon, and paper

#### What to do

- Help your child collect empty containers so that you can play as if you were shopping at the grocery store. Gather the items and put them on a table.
- Help your child think of a price for each item. Mark the prices on the containers. You can even mark some items on sale.
- Pretend to be the customer while your child is the cashier.
- Teach your child the difference between the math symbols (+, -, ÷, x, and =) and how they are used when using the calculator. Help your child add the prices of each item on the calculator and total the amount using the (=) symbol. Have your child write the total on a piece of paper, which will be your receipt.
- While you and your child play store, you can ask questions like how much would it cost to buy three cartons of eggs? How much does 1 box of soap cost, if they are 2 for \$5.00? How much is my bill, if I don't buy the cereal? How much more will it cost if I buy this magazine? Have your child estimate the amounts of the items you are buying. Check to see if the estimation is correct on the calculator.

## OFFICE NEWS

## CSEF – CAMPS SPORTS AND EXCURSION FUND

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We are currently accepting applications for CSEF

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

**Quantin Binnah Community Centre**

**GETTING READY for QB's VACATION CARE**

- 01 BOOK VACATION CARE ON OWNA APP**
- 02 CHECK YOUR CHILD CARE SUBSIDY ELIGIBILITY**
- 03 SERVICE TIMINGS**  
6:30 Am till 6 PM  
On excursion day be arrive by 9AM
- 04 UPDATE THE MEDICAL INFORMATION**
- 05 WHAT TO WEAR**
- 06 LUNCH AND SNACKS**

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES CONTACT  
 ADMIN @ 03 97425040 OR  
 YOUR SERVICE LEADER