



Western Grammar School

NEWSLETTER

Issue 56 Term 1 Tuesday 7th April 2020

Assalamu Alaikum,

I pray to Allah swt that you and your families are in good health and safe. Western Grammar School staff are trying their best to assist your child/ren in maintaining their learning through the online classes. I would like to thank you for your support and assistance to your child/ren at home during these classes. InshaAllah we are working on improving the learning online standards for Term 2 with the help of your feedback and the school teaching staff. We have sent out a parent and student survey. Your feedback will be highly appreciated. Due to the current circumstances, Kindergarten to Year 11 will not be given term reports. The only reports that will be given out are the Half Yearly reports to Year 12 that will be posted out. You are most welcome to contact teachers via email about your child's performance. Stay safe and may Allah (swt) protect us all.

- Zulqarnan Malik, Assistant Principal



SRC 2020:

Captains - Year 12: Kaamil Malik and Saliha Ali

Vice Captains - Year 11: AbdulWasay Khan and Sana Khan

Year 10: Pious Agyeman and Amar El Mohtadi

Year 9: Sa'd Mahomed and Zariyah Azeezah

Year 8: Ali Chandab and Rufaidah Saputra

Year 7: Shaafay Mohammed and Rumaisha Saputra

Year 6 Captains: Ashaf Mohammed and Shanun Nisa

Year 6 Vice Captains: Zoha Jaffery and Noah Baxter

Year 5: Adam Khodr and Loujane Abbadi

Year 4: Enaya Khan and Ismail Abdullah

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ADMIN NOTES

Attendance and Punctuality

With the transition to online schooling, all students must abide with the following rules:

- Students should be logged on and attend the zoom session at 8:30 for the school assembly.
- Student attendance is taken at 8:40am. In any event, if your child is sick or unable to participate in an online class, please inform the class teacher through Google classroom, school Dojo or the roll call teacher in high school.
- All parents are reminded to ensure that students respond to the daily roll marking thread on Google Classrooms, stating present or your full name.

Google Classroom Accounts

Parents are reminded to please ensure that your child is logging in to every class and attending all zoom sessions. Students must abide and act in accordance to the online school rules and regulations.

Students must remember:

- All online activity is monitored
- Zero tolerance on all forms of bullying or online harassment
- Study hard and take advantage of this flexible learning opportunity
- Do not change settings, account password or use this as an online social chatting platform. This will result in suspension of your account.
- Feedback is highly appreciated



Dental Checkups and Vaccinations

Due to Covid-19, dental checkups and vaccinations for all students have been postponed until further notice.

Term 1 Holidays

Last day of school for all students is Thursday, 9th of April 2020. Term 1 holidays begin on the 10th of April and end on the 27th of April 2020. We wish all students a safe and happy holiday.

Office Hours

During school holidays the office will be open from 9-3pm on the 15th - 21st of April (exc. weekends)

During Ramadan the office will be open from 8:30 - 3:00pm.

Term 2 - First day back

First day back for students will be on Tuesday, 28th of April 2020. Most likely online, at this stage.

Ramadan Timings

Online school hours will be from 8:30 - 2:30pm.

School Fees

All fees paid by parents play a major role in enabling WGS to meet its operating costs. Therefore, prompt payment every term is highly appreciated.

Uniform Shop Timings

Due to Covid-19, uniform shop timings have changed. WGS uniforms can be bought from school on Mondays and Thursdays from 9:00 - 12 pm.





Harmony Week

16-20th March 2020



“O people! Indeed, We created you from a male and a female and We made you nations and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed, (the) most noble of you near Allah (is the) most righteous of you Indeed, Allah (is) All-Knower, All-Aware.” Q49:13

Asalamu Alaikum,

Harmony Week at WGS included multi-lingual activities and cultural dress day and allowed students to share their differences in culture, languages and art. A Harmony day video, created by Mr Hakeem, portrayed students from different backgrounds sharing lessons in their language. Well done to all the students involved!

On 19th March 2020, Multicultural Dress Day was celebrated at Western Grammar. There was a range of vibrant colours and styles celebrating diversity. Students represented their unique cultures and backgrounds through fun and exciting activities. We had an absolute blast!

[Find our Harmony Day video on Western Grammar School's facebook page](#)



Guests at Western Grammar



Dr Imran Lum

On 12th March 2020, we were fortunate to host Dr Imran Lum at school. Dr Lum is director of Islamic Finance at NAB. He spoke with our Year 9-12 students about his career journey, learning the Arabic language and the discipline associated with kick-boxing. The key messages to students were time is short therefore make the most of it, getting back up when life knocks you over (trusting in Allah), perseverance and discipline.



Professor Hafeez Ur-Rehman

We were extremely honoured to host Professor Hafeez Ur-Rehman at school on the 12th of February 2020. He delivered a captivating and inspiring presentation to our Year 9-12 students about planning and dreaming big in the service of humanity.

Prof. Rehman is currently the head of the Ophthalmology Department at Peshawar Medical College, executive director of the Federation of Islamic Medical Associations (FIMA) and vice-chairman of Alkhidmat Health Foundation.

He was accompanied by Dr Saadiyah Haroun and Dr Wali Muhammad, distinguished medical doctors from Pakistan. The guests shared lunch with our Year 12 students and discussed their plans for life after school. The principal, Mr Irfan Afzal thanked them for their visit.

Kindergarten Makes Butter

In science this term, Kindergarten learnt fun facts about Farm animals and products they make. One main product they learnt about was milk. Kindy learnt that from milk you can make many things including yoghurt, cream and butter. They decided to try and make some butter for themselves.

Using some cream, they took turns shaking the cream in a jar. After five minutes kindergarten had created some yummy butter. They enjoyed eating it with some crackers. It was a very fun day for them
Alhamdulillah.



My Home Disability Services Centre

Year 10 students visited the My Home Disability Services Centre in Birrong on the 3rd of March 2020. The students gained valuable insight on various types of physical and intellectual disabilities and common causes. It was an eye-opening experience for the students, who enjoyed much conversation and laughs with members of the centre, staff and volunteers.

The school raised \$2,000 from students and staff to donate to the centre for the purchase of much-needed equipment. The donation was presented to centre manager Ms Maha, on behalf of WGS by Mr Siddiq Buckley, Head of High School. The visit by the school was coordinated by the charity Brothers In Need.



Orchard Hills Sydney Water Educational Centre

On the 4th of March 2020, Year 12 Chemistry students attended the Sydney Water educational workshop in Orchard Hills. They explored the methods Sydney Water uses to provide clean, safe and healthy drinking water to our taps.

Our students participated in a range of practical, hands-on activities related to key chemistry principles they had learnt in class.

Students assessed ideas that held misconceptions regarding water. This inspired them to change the focus of their depth study and share the findings with their peers.

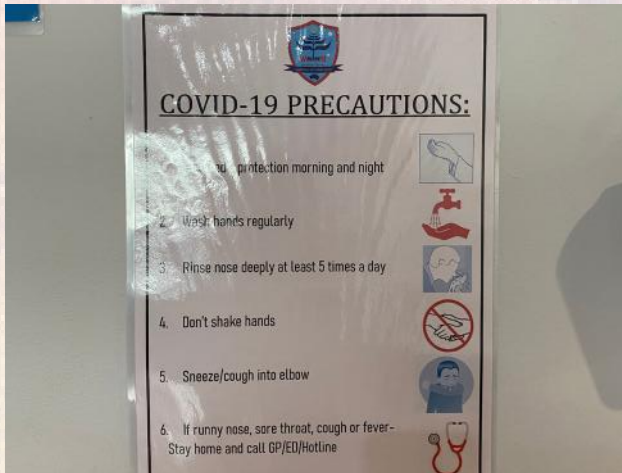
It was an inspiring and enlightening experience Alhamdulillah.



COVID-19 UPDATE

Coronavirus/Covid-19 is a respiratory illness. The World Health Organization (WHO) announced that COVID-19 is a pandemic and therefore Western Grammar implemented certain procedures to slow and prevent the spread of Covid-19.

1. Promotion of good hygiene, frequently washing hands, using face masks and the correct etiquette for sneezing and coughing was instructed. Covid-19 safety precaution posters were placed all around school.



2. Social Distancing procedures were put into place for students and staff to help curb the spread of the coronavirus. This means that close contact between students were limited wherever possible. As a result, morning assemblies, excursions and after-school classes were cancelled.



3. Temperatures of staff and students were taken every morning. This measure added to the school's efforts to curb the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19).





ONLINE SCHOOLING

In a matter of weeks, coronavirus (COVID-19) has changed how students are being educated around the world. During this educational transformation, Western Grammar staff aim to display courage to our students in this challenging time. We want to thank parents for all their support and efforts during this difficult time. We are also grateful to the staff at Western Grammar who have taken up the responsibility to ensure no child is left behind in this trying time. May Allah swt protect us all and our families.

Covid-19 Update

As the school continues to receive updates from the government and health authorities, Western Grammar will keep you informed and updated on the schools operation.

Online Learning and Safety

With the transition to online schooling, it is important that parents help their children use the internet safely. We recommend parents take the time to read up on the following advice to ensure students can avoid unnecessary online advertisements, cyberbullying and be safe in their home learning environment.

- Follow instructions of teachers on Class Dojo/ Google classrooms - this will ensure students focus and complete assigned tasks.
- Student wellbeing - crucial to take breaks from electronic devices.
- Parental Controls and Safe search options - helps to block your child from accessing specific websites, apps or functions.
- Unwanted contact and grooming - can be avoided by making sure accounts are private and encouraging them to delete requests from strangers.
- Knowing signs of cyberbullying - your child appearing upset after using their device or being secretive about their online activities.
- Utilise available tools to protect your children online for e.g. Family Zone.

Coping during Covid-19

With the Covid-19 Pandemic, we understand that it is an overwhelming time. Looking after your child/childrens health is important!

There are creative ways to stay connected and make the most of working/studying from home experience.

- Limit access to media to prevent feeling overwhelmed
- Give your thought patterns a 'reality check'
- Know that its normal and okay to be concerned
- Stay connected through messages and video calls with family and friends
- Remind yourself to be in the present moment
- Focus on what you can control - e.g. practise good hygiene



Week 6

KNOWING YOUR CREATOR

قال النبي ﷺ
«إِنَّ لِلَّهِ تِسْعَةً
وَتِسْعِينَ اسْمًا،
مَنْ أَحْصَاهَا
دَخَلَ الْجَنَّةَ»
(البخاري)



The Prophet ﷺ said:
"Indeed Allah has 99 names, whoever
memorises and lives by them will enter
paradise" (Al-Bukhari)

Week 7

SUPPORT



قال النبي ﷺ
«الْمُؤْمِنُ لِلْمُؤْمِنِ كَالْبُنْيَانِ يَشُدُّ بَعْضُهُ بَعْضًا»
(متفق عليه)

The Prophet ﷺ said:
"A believer to another is like a building, each
part supporting the other"
(Agreed upon)

Week 8

ANTI-BULLYING



قال النبي ﷺ
«أَنْصُرْ أَخَاكَ
ظَالِمًا أَوْ مَظْهُومًا»
(البخاري)

The Prophet ﷺ said:
"Help your brother, whether he is the
oppressor or the oppressed"
(Bukhari)