



Western Grammar School
Issue 59 | Term 3 | Friday 21 August 2020

NEWSLETTER



SENIOR MANAGEMENT MESSAGE

Term 3 is progressing reasonably well given the circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic. Students are back at school for face-to-face learning with the necessary safety precautions in place. Morning assemblies are also being held as usual with students and staff collectively getting the day off to a good start. The Principal's Morning Tea has been a welcome new addition to the school's calendar of events where students are recognized for their hard work and exemplary behaviour. Our senior students also conducted a fundraising campaign for the famine in Yemen. Their spirit of compassion and concern should be applauded. The annual Quran Competition awards ceremony once again lived up to its reputation with prizes presented to all participants of the final round. Well done to all students who took part in this important competition.

Dr Zachariah Matthews, Deputy Principal

PRINCIPAL'S MORNING TEA



On the 27th of July 2020, Western Grammar School held a 'Principal's Morning Tea' to recognise the efforts and exceptional behaviour of students during Term 2 across Primary and High School. Students were selected based on two integral skill-sets: (a) Students who consistently work hard and put in a great amount of effort into class work; (b) Students who consistently display respectful behaviour in class. The school's principal, Mr Irfan Afzal and the WGS staff were honoured to host an event that celebrated the efforts of these students. Our school aims to develop students holistically, to become positive contributors to Australian communities Insha'Allah. Well done to all students. We are proud of you and you too should be proud of these efforts.

Ms Amira Kirsten, Head of Primary

VISION

"Western Grammar seeks to foster in our students understanding and respect for each other and for the diversity of multicultural communities in Australia. Students are encouraged to be innovative, creative and problem-solving individuals. Students strive to achieve their personal best in an ideal educational and Islamic environment. They will be able to take their place with pride in the community and in the world."

CONTACT US

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KNOWLEDGE IS THE ULTIMATE SOLUTION

ADMIN NOTES

Attendance & Punctuality

The school gates open at 8am. Students should only arrive at school after 8am as there is no supervision before then. Students should be dropped at the Bottles Road entrance. All students must arrive at school before 8:20am when the morning assembly commences. If a student is absent, parents are kindly requested to provide a medical certificate or a written note justifying the absence.

Early Leave

If, for a valid reason, parents wish to pick up their child/ren early, please call the office to inform them beforehand and then inform the security guard at the Cannery Rd entrance when you arrive. Early leave students must be picked up before 3pm.

Office Hours

The school office is open on weekdays from 8am to 4pm.

School Fees

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

COVID-19: Student Illness

As of 17 August, additional changes are required from schools. Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell. And if they have even minor flu-like symptoms, then they must be tested for COVID-19. They must be symptom-free and show the school a negative COVID-19 test result before they can return.

KICKBOXING PROGRAM

WGS started a new weekly kickboxing program for select Stage 3 students; which they thoroughly enjoy. The program is part of the school's holistic approach to physical activity, discipline and mental well-being.



HAJJ PRESENTATION

On Monday 2nd of August, WGS held a special Hajj presentation for the entire school. With the help of some students, a step by step guide of Umrah and Hajj was explained and a demonstration of how to put on an Ihram was shown. With Hajj lessons in Islamic Studies, Hajj themes, and the presentation, our students have gained a good amount of knowledge and insight into how to perform the pilgrimage, a fundamental pillar of Islam. May Allah bless us all to visit His house and to perform Hajj soon.



FAMINE FUNDRAISER

A student-led fundraiser saw students and staff donate \$10,500 for famine relief in Yemen. The money was given to local charity Human Appeal Australia to provide Qurban meat to needy families in Yemen. Our Year 1 and Year 10 students raised more than \$1,000 each and were recognised for their outstanding efforts. Human Appeal representatives visited the school today to receive the donation from two Year 12 students on behalf of the school and the team responsible for the fundraiser. Mr Irfan Afzal, the school's principal, thanked students and staff for their generosity and compassion shown for those less fortunate.



IMPORTANT DATES

- Week 6: Mon 24 Aug - Book Fair (for 2 weeks; students only)
- Week 6: Tue-Fri 25-28 Aug - Optometry Checks
- Week 6: Tue 25 Aug - Year 12 Parent-Teacher Interviews online
- Week 6: Thu 27 Aug - Write a Book in a Day (Select Y5-10)
- Week 7: Mon 31 Aug - HSC Trial Exams start
- Week 7: Thu 3 Sep - First Aid Course Year 11
- Week 9: Mon 14 Sep - Year 11 Final Exams start
- Week 10: Wed 23 Sep - Term 3 Reports
- Week 10: Fri 25 Sep - Year 12 Graduation
- Week 10: Fri 25 Sep - Last day of school term

QURAN COMPETITION WINNERS 2020

As we celebrated Eid Al-Adha with students beautifully dressed in their Eid clothing, WGS held a special assembly to announce the winners of the Quran Competition 2020. It was a very difficult task for the judges as all students recited tremendously well. Certificates, gift packs and cash prizes were given to all the runners up with additional trophies, medals, and higher cash prizes for the winners. We congratulate all the winners and runners up and we encourage everyone to try even harder to make it through to the final round next year. We would also like to thank the Islamic department team for organising this event and to the parent donor who donated extra cash to further increase the prize money for all participants.

Sh Abdullah Hakeem, Head of Islamic Department



PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM

Thursday 13 August 2020, marked the introduction of Western Grammar School's first ever Peer Support Program. The program is designed to develop various leadership skills in our Year 10 students, who will act as buddies to our Year 6 students. The program also allows for our Year 6 students to develop cooperation, team-building skills and enhance healthy relationships that will benefit them as they transition into High School next year.

Ms Ummu Matthews



NEW HSC AWARD

WGS is proud to announce the allocation of a new student achievement award. This award should serve as an additional incentive for students to exert extra effort in preparation for their exams.

Award Name: HSC Band 6

Any student who achieves a Band 6 in their final HSC results will be awarded \$500 for each Band 6 result that they achieve.

At Western Grammar School academic excellence is our priority. However, we aim to not only support our top learners, but work hard to make sure the entire student cohort achieves their full potential. We ask Allah (swt) to bless and guide all our students with their studies.

HADITH OF THE WEEK

