

# NEWSLETTER ISSUE 83



## Letter from the Principal

Dear Students, Parents, and Staff,

As we reach the end of Term 2 of the 2024 school year, I want to take a moment to reflect on our accomplishments and express my heartfelt gratitude to our entire school community.

This term has been filled with hard work, dedication, and numerous achievements. Our students have shown remarkable growth both academically and personally. Their enthusiasm for learning and commitment to excellence have been truly inspiring. I extend my deepest thanks to our teachers and staff for their unwavering dedication and tireless efforts in providing high-quality education and support to our students. Your passion and professionalism are the foundations of our school's success.

As we look forward to a well-deserved break, I encourage everyone to take this time to rest, recharge, and enjoy time with family and friends. Let's return for Term 3 with renewed energy and enthusiasm, ready to tackle new challenges and seize new opportunities.

Thank you once again for a fantastic Term 2. Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Mr. Irfan Afzal  
Principal

## Hadith

'Umar ibn Al-Khattab said:

حاسبو أنفسكم قبل أن تحاسبوا

"Hold yourselves to account (in the world) before you are held to account (in the hereafter)"

As we approach the end of the Islamic year 1445 and prepare to welcome the new Hijri

year, it is an opportune moment for reflection and self-accountability. In Islam, we are

reminded to hold ourselves accountable before we are held to account on the Day of

Judgement. This period offers a valuable chance to evaluate our actions over the past year,

identify areas for improvement, and set intentions for becoming better Muslims.

Let us all take this time especially in this term break to sincerely assess our deeds, seek

forgiveness for our shortcomings, and make firm resolutions to enhance our character,

faith, and devotion in the coming year.

Wishing you a blessed and introspective end to this Hijri year and a spiritually rewarding

start to the new Hijri year.

Abdullah Hakeem

Head of Islamic Affairs

## Sponsor

DEP  
SCHOOLS DISTRICT - ISD - INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS DISTRICT - ISD - INDEPE

INTRODUCING WESTERN GRAMMAR SCHOOL'S

# ISD SPONSORS 2024

**AAA RAPID HOMES PTY LTD**  
Finding Your Dream Here

**PLUS PHARMACY**  
CRANEBROOK

**ELITE**  
ELECTRICAL AND COMMUNICATIONS

**human initiative**  
Australia

**HUMAN INITIATIVE AUSTRALIA CHARITY ORGANISATION**



# Refugee Week



Refugee week came to an amazing peak on Thursday. We were honored to have guests who had recently arrived from Gaza, come to the school to share their stories. Heartfelt and emotional stories left us all contemplating the strength and patience of our brothers and sisters in Palestine.

It also allowed us to reflect on what we can do to help those who have recently come to Australia. It truly was a wonderful experience for all students and staff.

May Allah give them ease and contentment and free Palestine. Ameen.

## Eid Gifts for the Palestinian Refugees

Alhamdulillah!

We cannot thank Allah Azzawajal enough for the beautiful experience of celebrating Eid with some very special people.

Not only did we get to bring joy to the children from Gaza on behalf of all of WGS, we got to speak to parents, sponsors and NZF staff to hear the reality of what's been happening and what it's like for the refugees now.

Subhanallah, we have so much to be grateful for. It truly was an eye-opener when we got to speak to some parents.

May Allah keep us steadfast in continuing to do whatever we can for the people of Palestine. Ameen.

JazakumAllahu khairan to all families for donating an Eid gift, for all you have done in the past and continue to do for the people of Palestine.

Ms Ummu  
Leadership and PDHPE Teacher

# Eid Party

Western Grammar School hosted its annual Eid Party on Friday, June 21st, transforming the campus into a vibrant celebration of happiness and joy.

The festivities of Eid ul Adha were marked with a delightful array of activities, including games, a petting zoo, pony rides, jumping castles, food stalls, face painting, henna art, and friendly competitions.

Both students and teachers immersed themselves in these enjoyable experiences throughout the day.

The event provided a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the spirit of unity and gratitude. A heartfelt thank you to all students and staff who contributed to making this day memorable.

Jazakumullah Khair to all involved.

Ms Saamiyah  
Islamic Studies Teacher



## Year 2 Archaeologists

At the Big Archaeology Centre in Sydney, year 2 students eagerly participate in a range of engaging activities designed to ignite their curiosity about history and archaeology.

These young learners delight in hands-on excavation simulations, where they uncover ancient artifacts buried beneath layers of soil, and they enthusiastically participate in interactive workshops focused on artifact preservation and restoration techniques.

Guided tours of the centre's impressive collection captivate their imaginations as they learn about the lives of past civilizations.

These enriching experiences not only educate the students about the importance of preserving cultural heritage but also inspire a lifelong passion for unraveling the mysteries of the past.

Ms Aisha  
Year 2 teacher



# History and Heritage Tours- The Rocks

Our Stage 3 students had an amazing time on their recent excursion to The Rocks in Sydney! The walking tour provided a perfect opportunity for our Year 5 and Year 6 students to consolidate the topics they had been studying in History.

Year 5 delved into the Australian Colonies and life in the 1800s, while Year 6 explored the events that led to Federation and the history and contributions of migrants in Australia.

The excursion allowed our students to gain firsthand insights into some of the historic and heritage places in The Rocks, giving them a deeper understanding of Australia's past.

It was a fantastic day filled with learning and exploration, and we are so proud of how our Stage 3 children engaged with the history around them. Here's to more enriching excursions in the future!

Mr Ifraz  
Year 5 Teacher





# Trip to Canberra



This term, Year 9 and 10 students had the opportunity to go to Canberra to consolidate their learnings in History. It was an exciting day that started very early and had us take a three-hour bus ride to the nation's capital.

Firstly, we visited the Australian War Memorial where students were able to take a guided tour to see where the Australians fought and the type of conditions they faced. Guided tours by knowledgeable staff enriched our understanding, highlighting key artefacts and offering insights into significant historical events. The students were particularly moved by the Last Post Ceremony, which added a powerful, emotional conclusion to our visit.

Following this, we went to the Canberra Mall where students had their lunch. Students had an incredibly enjoyable experience there as they explored diverse shops and engaged in various activities.

To round off the day, we visited Questacon, the National Science and Technology Centre. The "Free Fall" slide was the highlight for this visit. It was thrilling to watch the students muster their courage to take the plunge, learning about gravity and friction in the process. The adrenaline rush was palpable, and the joy on their faces was priceless. It's activities like these that transform abstract scientific principles into tangible, unforgettable experiences.

We returned safely back to school that same evening with students sure to have great memories of the day for years to come Insha'Allah.

Mr Hamid  
Highschool Teacher

# Museum of Human Disease

Accompanied by their teachers, Ms. Yasmin and Mr. Hakeem, a group of Year 12 biology students took an exciting trip to the Museum of Human Disease at UNSW.

Inside the museum, they explored various exhibits that showcased both infectious and non-infectious diseases and their effects on the human body. From seeing real organs up close to interactive displays explaining different diseases, the students gained a deeper understanding of health issues.

Students engaged in discussions that connected what the students had learned in class to what they saw in the museum.

By the end of the day, the students left with a newfound interest in medical science, their minds buzzing with new ideas and questions sparked by this hands-on learning experience.





# Mindfulness Sessions

At the beginning of 2 nd Term 2024, our school counsellor Ms Kaukab Nagi introduced ten-minutes 'Whole Class Mindfulness Sessions' and organised them on regular bases for primary classes.

Some key benefits of incorporating mindfulness in classes are:

- Focus on talk at hand
- Self - Control
- Emotional Regulation
- Stress Management
- Compassion and Empathy
- Enhance Resilience
- Improve Cognitive Skills
- Academic Performance
- Physical Health
- Develop a positive outlook on life

Ms Kuakub  
School Psychologist







# Alumni Message



My name is Aiesha Faytrouni, and I graduated from Western Grammar School in 2018. Since leaving WGS, my journey has been both exciting and rewarding.

Immediately after graduation, I started working at a tutoring centre and then joined the administration team at Western Grammar School. It was during this time that I discovered my passion for teaching and helping students become confident learners. This realisation led me to pursue a Bachelor of Arts and Education at the University of Technology Sydney, which I began in 2019.

Although I initially aimed to become a high school business and HSIE teacher, my interests shifted in the third year of my degree. During my time at university, I also launched two businesses: a home-based tutoring centre and a labelling and design business. I still manage the labelling and design business today.

In addition to my degree, I earned a Diploma in Early Childhood and a Certificate IV in Education Support. These qualifications allowed me to start working as a learning support teacher in kindergarten alongside Ms. Dean, an experience I found incredibly fulfilling. After completing my third year of university, I received my teaching number and began co-teaching with Ms. Dean.

Alhamdulillah, this year I finally completed my Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Technology Sydney. During my degree, and currently during school holidays, I also work as a support worker to assist elderly and disabled people in Western Sydney. Additionally, I completed a graduate certificate in therapy, where I studied child behaviour.

I am thrilled to have achieved my dream of becoming a full-time teacher. I currently teach a wonderful class of 30 kindergarten children. While I have taught students from kindergarten to year 12, I find the most joy in working with the youngest learners, watching them grow and become independent by the end of the school year.

I am deeply grateful for the foundation Western Grammar School provided me and look forward to continuing to inspire and nurture young minds.



# Hadith of the Week

THE PROPHET ﷺ SAID

**"NO GOOD DEEDS ARE BETTER THAN WHAT IS DONE IN THESE FIRST TEN DAYS OF DHUL HIJJAH"**

(AL-BUKHARI)

قال النبي ﷺ  
مَا الْعَمَلُ فِي أَيَّامِ أَفْضَلِ مِنْهَا  
فِي هَذِهِ الْأَيَّامِ الْعَشْرِ ذِي الْحِجَّةِ

البخاري



THE PROPHET ﷺ SAID

**"AN ACCEPTED HAJJ BRINGS NO REWARDS BUT PARADISE"**

(AL-BUKHARI)

قال النبي ﷺ  
الْحَجُّ الْمَبْرُورُ لَيْسَ لَهُ جَزَاءٌ إِلَّا الْجَنَّةُ

البخاري



THE PROPHET ﷺ SAID

**"STICK TO MY SUNNAH, AND THE SUNNAH OF THE RIGHTLY GUIDED CALIPHS AFTER ME"**

(IBN MAAJAH)

قال النبي ﷺ  
عَلَيْكُمْ بِسُنَّتِي وَسُنَّةِ الْخُلَفَاءِ  
الرَّاشِدِينَ الْمُهْتَدِينَ بَعْدِي

ابن ماجه

## Upcoming Events & Reminders

### Upcoming:

- Last date of Term 3:  
- 5th July 2024
- Start date of Term 3:  
- 23rd July 2024
- Athletics Carnival:  
- 26th July 2024
- Photo Day:  
- 7th August 2024

### Reminders:

- Uniform shop open times:  
- Tuesday and Friday : 10am to 2pm

## Info about Photo Day

Photo Day will be held on the 26th of June 2024. Group and portrait photographs can be purchased by following the QR Code provided above or return the order envelopes with your payment.

Students must wear their full Winter school uniform.

Jazak Allah

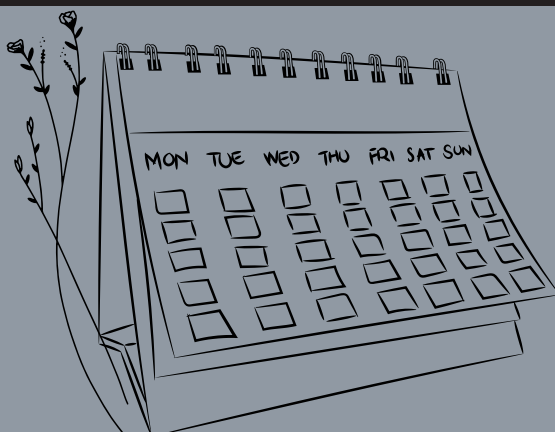
**order your school photos now**

to order visit: [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au)  
enter code: 5G4 V9F J93

scan to order

or collect a cash order envelope

## Term Dates 2024



Term 1 Start: 31st Jan End: 9th Apr	Term 2 Start: 30th Apr End: 5th Jul
Term 3 Start: 23rd Jul End: 27th Sep	Term 4 Start: 14th Oct End: 11th Dec