



## WESTERN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER

Issue 40 Term 3 Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2017

**"AND WHOEVER DRAWS NEAR ME AN ARM'S LENGTH, I WILL DRAW NEAR HIM A FATHOM'S LENGTH. AND WHOEVER COMES TO ME WALKING, I WILL GO TO HIM RUNNING."**

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# KINDERGARTEN

Assalamu Alaikum,

That's Term 3 done...Alhamdulillah we've celebrated Ramadan, Eid ul Fitr and Eid ul Adha so far. Everything is happening so fast. We've starting practicing for our graduation and end of year presentation already! Another term has finished and we've accomplished so much. Currently in the Kindergarten classroom we're learning about number lines and how to use them in Maths. For Geography, we're learning about the different places we belong to and Science and Technology is about the different seasons in a year and how to recognise them. PDH is teaching us about safe places and people and English is filled with heaps of reading, writing, speaking, listening, sight words, grammar and punctuation. We're currently learning about procedures and how to write them. So far as a class we have written ten procedures and have followed them perfectly.

Now for some acknowledgments – Congratulations to Yassmin and Bilal Ahmed for winning best dressed characters from our character book parade and congratulations to Khadija for winning the science competition for Kindergarten. Well done to everyone who participated in these events, your participation in itself is a great victory.

Have a safe holiday and see you in Term 4!

-Ms Rana



Assalamu Alaikum Parents,

What wonderful writers and remarkable readers Year 1 have become. Science and Technology has been a highlight this term as students have incorporated their knowledge of materials into making their own lunchboxes out of cardboard. They thoroughly enjoyed making these and I was impressed with their ideas and designs. Drama has also been very fun this term. Students have improved their acting skills and they enjoy their weekly drama games and activities. We have been rehearsing and busy practicing for a Little Red Riding Hood play. Our class is enjoying it and are excited for their final performance with costumes and props. In Mathematics, students have extended their knowledge of fractions, time, and patterns and have improved their addition and subtraction skills. In Writing, students have explored poetry and have written great rhyming animal poems. This term we also had multiple fun events. The character parade was awesome and Year 1 impressed me with their creative costumes. Science week was also fantastic with great projects entering in the competition. Well done to the competition winners!

Overall we've had a blast! I wish all families a great holiday and look forward to a fun filled busy Term 4.

-Ms. Yusofzai

# YEAR 1

# YEAR 1 & 2

Assalamu Alaikum,

This term we have been practicing writing recounts, narratives and poems. It was amazing to see some excellent writers coming up with marvellous pieces of writing. We have some brilliant writers in our class. Year 1&2 enjoyed the character parade during book week, everyone in the class was dressed up and looking wonderful. For PDH we studied relationships and friendship. This was reinforced in a fun way with the Healthy Harold incursion. Furthermore, in Mathematics we covered a lot of new topics such as mass, time, fractions and chance. For time, the pupils learnt about the calendar and the seasons which were quite interesting for them. For Geography, we learnt about natural, human and managed features. To reinforce this we had an excursion to the rainforest and the students had a very good educational experience outside of the classroom. For Science, everyone enjoyed planning, designing and making their lunch boxes and not forgetting to recycle things. It was incredible for students to bring fantastic recycled things from home for the Science Week Competition. In Creative Arts, we have been doing role-plays, creating scenes in groups. There have been a lot of activities this term which kept everyone occupied. This was all made possible and successful with the support of the parents.

-Ms Shabnam



# YEAR 2

Assalamu Alaikum,

We have had a fabulous term and our students have put in great effort, Masha'Allah. We have made leaps and bounds in our learning this term and we celebrate the dedication Year 2 has to their studies. They have overcome many challenges this term and have shown a positive attitude. Our excursion to Brewongle was a thrilling day- everyone was captivated by the serenity of nature and the amazing activities, especially the indigenous seasons sticks. Science Week was an amazing week where we showed our creativity in the Science Fair. We participated in science experiments and focused on rubbish in the ocean and how it pollutes the earth. Following that busy week was Book Week! We did book reports, discussed our favourite genre of literature and wrote our own stories and the adventures of 'A week with Worm', a bookworm who tells a tale of adventure and excitement. We had a Karate worm, Fairy worm, Super worm, worms flushed down toilets and other book inspired stories. We made our own book worms with pipe cleaner and eyes to celebrate our successful authors.

Eid ul-Adha Mubarak! We immensely enjoyed our days off to come back refreshed and ready to learn. One of our favourite things to do in Year 2 is provide for charity and wow, we have been busy. We donated non-perishable food for the food drive and got all dressed up for Footy Colours day to support the Fight Cancer Foundation. Thanks for following our journey, it was amazing!

-Ms Boyd



# Year 3

Assalamu Alaikum,

Welcome back to our classroom! Year 3 has enjoyed this term thus far as it has been an eventful 11 weeks! Science Week enlightened the students' understanding of how to sustain the environment in the future. Our class created some amazing concepts that could be used in the coming years. The students were excited to complete their own ice melting experiment as they timed how long it took for ice to melt under varied heat conditions. In English, the students have been learning about procedural writing. They have been

creating instructions for their peers and writing detailed steps for their friends to follow. It's great to see the students use more verbs in their sentences as they continue to write more comprehensive pieces. In PDH the students have been making healthy choices about their lifestyle. They have been creating exercise regimes, healthy lunchboxes and food schedules that they believe would benefit young students like themselves. Year 3 thoroughly enjoyed literacy week and they looked amazing in their book character costumes. Well done Maleek and Zakia on winning best dressed in our class.

-Ms. Abbas



Assalamu Alaikum,

# Year 3&4

What a wonderful term it has been. This term was filled with extracurricular activities and we found ourselves exploring all aspects of the KLAs. This term, Year 3&4 participated in science week where they enjoyed science experiments while exploring various concepts. I was very pleased by the participation in book week as it was enjoyed by all and it was great to see Year 3/4 incorporate drama in front of the parents. In English, the students have been learning about procedural writing. They have been creating recipes for their peers and writing detailed steps for their friends to follow. It's great to see the students use more adjectives in their sentences as they continue to write more comprehensive pieces. In PDH the students have been making healthy choices about their lifestyle. They have been creating exercise regimes, healthy lunchboxes and food schedules that they believe would benefit young students like themselves. We also visited Healthy Harold this term where the students learned about different medicines and diseases.



-Ms. Pinar

Assalamu Alaikum,

Alhamdulillah, this term has ended positively in the Year 4 classroom. Assessment results have been impressive and I am extremely proud of the students' hard work.

It has been a productive term for Year 4 students. Our class has become confident in writing excellent exposition letters and using accurate grammatical features and structures. They are selecting appropriate vocabulary in their writing to engage readers. Year 4 has also continued to build their mathematics skills. They were exposed to difficult concepts such as using algorithms to multiply large numbers and working out the area and perimeter of various shapes. It is great to witness academic growth in each of my students.

Year 4 has also been busy participating in many exciting events. We had a lot of fun viewing projects and experiments during science week. This gave students the opportunity to enhance their skills and knowledge about scientific concepts. The character parade has been most enjoyable for us. We dressed up as our favourite book characters and saw many fabulous costumes. I wish all students an enjoyable break and look forward to seeing everyone in Term 4.

**-Ms. Afshar**

# YEAR 4



# Year 5

Assalamu Alaikum,

Alhamdulillah. How time flies. Before you know it, Term 3 is over and the last term is just around the corner. So much has happened over the last eleven weeks. My third term with the Year 5s has been as exciting and productive as other terms. Let me use this opportunity to update you on some of the activities that we completed this term. For Geography, the Year 5s were tasked to explore the effects of people on the Australian natural environment. I was pleasantly surprised with the work that was produced. They really enjoyed working in pairs and put in a lot of effort in their work. In Week 8, we went for an excursion to North Head Manly with the Year 6s. We participated in exploring the area and its environment. I am sure the students benefited from the experience. Students also participated in an educational excursion, Healthy Harold, where they learned about making good choices in life. Apart from this, Year 5 enjoyed participating the character parade and Malika and Adnan won the best dressed characters from Year 5. They won vouchers for the Scholastic Book Fair and bought some great books. The upcoming term break is a wonderful opportunity for all of us to recharge our mind and body. I hope all of you will have a good break. Happy Holidays to the Year 5s and their families.

**-Ms. Asad**



# YEAR 6

Assalamu Alaikum,

What a busy Term 3 it has been. We've had an exciting Science Week, an excursion to Manly, we've celebrated Eid-ul-Adha, dressed up for our character parade and enjoyed our last Healthy Harold incursion. Year 6 used a hands on approach to learning about animal adaptations by building their very own animal sanctuaries. Students needed to think about the ideal environment, materials and design that would accommodate their animal's survival. Great work Year 6!

Anyone want to make slime? Well, Year 6 could show you... making a range of slime with different textures and colours. Our excursion to North Head Sanctuary was also great! Students saw a range of native plants and even built their own bandicoot shelter. Year 6 walked in style in what was their last character parade. Like-wise students said their good byes to Harold, who had come to teach students about making good choices. Drawing closer to the end of the year, Year 6 is definitely making memories that will stay with them right through their high school years ahead...

-Ms Rukiye



## THAT'S SCIENCE

MS. NAZMUN

Assalamu Alaikum

Alhamdulillah we had a great Term 3, 2017. It has been a busy term for both teachers and the students in terms of teaching and learning.

This term, Year 7 has been studying Earth's day and night, seasons and eclipse, as well as comparing current and historical models of the solar system. Students had lot of prior knowledge on this topic and I am pleased to report that they showed a lot of interest.

In Year 8, we have been studying about elements, compounds and mixtures. This topic introduces students to the Chemistry side of

Science. Students learned about the periodic table and described the properties of some common elements including metals and non-metals.

Year 9 students learned about electromagnetic radiation and electrical energy. This topic is of great interest to students as they had hands-on experiences with simple circuits, measuring electricity, practical circuits, electromagnets, motors and generators.

Students also participated in the Science Week this term. Opportunities were provided for

all students to participate in events and activities that showcase Science. They were all excited and showed great confidence and stamina.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the parents for their support for helping students achieve their goals and wish all the students the very best for the next term. Jazak'Allah

Mathematics is an important aspect of a child's education that needs to be valued and utilised properly. Over the years, I have observed a few common issues that students face. These are:

**Basic concepts:** If a student's foundation in primary were not developed properly, then their lack of understanding makes it difficult for them to learn new concepts.

**Repetition:** An integral part of learning mathematical concepts is through repetition. However, it is this important aspect that students find "boring" and "a waste of time."

**Homework:** This again is a practice

of 'repetition and mastery' beyond the classroom. Homework is only an extension of the content that has already been taught in class and therefore shouldn't take long to complete.

**Parental involvement:** First and foremost it is at home where a child needs and should receive encouragement regarding their academics, schooling and other endeavours. Parental guidance and involvement shows a child that their parents care about their learning.

**Note taking:** Students need to understand that Maths is best understood through writing, not reading.

**Patience:** Learning new things in life requires patience. This is especially true with Mathematics. Students generally lose patience in learning when they question where they would be using mathematics in their lives.

**Dedication:** Students who are dedicated to learning the subject, no matter how difficult it is, are more organised and have a high level of commitment.

**Misinterpretation of concepts:** If a student misunderstands concepts in class, it can significantly affect the way they learn new content when they carry it forward in upper grades.

## Work of Art

MS. SUZAN

When we talk about creativity, we think of imagination, creation, design, colour, expression, passion, language, freedom and the list goes on! Creativity, as Dorothy Parker says, "Is a wild mind and a disciplined eye", and this is exactly what the Year 7 & 8 students of Western Grammar displayed in Visual Arts this term.

**YEAR 7** Students focused on one of the many beauties of Africa: masks. An exciting opportunity to take a close look into the culture, colour meanings, patterns, beliefs, rituals and crafts in Africa. By using the content learnt in class this term, students were put to the challenge of creating their own African masks. Four intense weeks of planning, sculpting, painting and decorating lead to an amazing outcome with very distinct and beautiful art pieces! Masha'Allah and well done to all the students of year 7 for such a great result!

**YEAR 8** Welcome to our cartoon world! Comic strips and cartoons have been a part of our lives at one stage or another. Now, we have the luxury and technology to transform ourselves into one. Looking at the basic structure, art style, influences and techniques used in comics and cartoons, students worked very hard to create their own comic narrative. Students wrote a story featuring themselves as the main character. They then presented the story as a comic strip and also illustrated a feature of the story on a 3D letter. It was a fun and exciting experience. Excellent work Year 8!



# ATHLETICS CARNIVAL



Our athletics carnival was an absolutely brilliant day. After a week of windy cold weather, Tuesday the 19th dawned bright and sunny for the excited students of WGS. Held at Blacktown International Sportspark, our athletics carnival was attended by a sea of colourful students, parents and teachers. Every event was met with cheers and enthusiasm. As a growing school, the increased number of students meant more heats for more races and more fun!

Our K-2 students kicked off the day with a 50 meter sprint, followed by 100 meter sprints and long jumps by middle school students. We had novelty activities like an egg and spoon race and competitive events like the High School's long jump. Our students outdid themselves with an amazing display of sportsmanship and skill, with some students outshining the rest by earning first place in every competition they took part in. We also enjoyed a sausage sizzle and some yummy treats from the food stall. After a day of calculating, the results came in- RED TEAM WON! Congratulations everyone!





# -Book Week-



Term 3 brings excitement, lots of fun and enjoyable moments for students. Every week the school does different fun activities, and the Book Fair was, by far, the largest activity yet. Parents and students were invited to attend the Scholastic Book Fair. There were so many wonderful and attractive things at the fair! Scholastic Books supplied us with a large selection of books and parents purchased these books for students. The school receives a commission, which helps with purchasing books for the library. As a result of student interest, we extended the book fair event.

As in previous years, the school held a Book Parade, where the students and staff dressed up as a character related to the theme using ideas from one of the students' favourite books. Parents were encouraged to think and plan creatively when choosing a costume, considering which book allows the students to escape, to forget the world around them and to use their imagination.



# SCIENCE WEEK



What do you think the Earth will be like in the future? How will we live? Western Grammar students explored the topic of Future Earth and Sustainability during Science Week.

Throughout the week, students were surprised by the variety of experiments/activities. The week began with a poster competition and a Science museum. We had some superb inventions on display celebrating this year's theme. Students brainstormed, researched and designed a home air conditioner and air compressor which took into consideration ideas such as waste, costs, energy alternatives and more. We had a paper plane competition and CSI lab experience.

Our Year 11 students designed a criminal investigation scenario to determine the effectiveness of old and current forensic investigation techniques. The workshop was run by Year 10 students and presented to primary and high school students. It was a huge success and the science laboratory was filled to the brim with the eager participants.

Another big event was the outdoor experiments where students had hands on experience and lots of interesting activities. The whole school enjoyed a thought provoking talk on the relationship between Science and Islam from our guest speaker. The week ended with the CSI case closed and students getting special recognition in terms of awards and prizes. Thank you everyone for making the science week a success. It was indeed phenomenal! Western Grammar definitely has definitely got some inspiring and innovative scientists that are bursting to explore the world.



# FOOTY COLOURS



Footy colours day showed just how much we can all get together to create awareness and raise funds for such a worthy cause. We raised close to \$700 for the Fight Cancer Foundation, and we would like to thank all the parents, staff and students for their contributions.

National Rugby League trainers came to teach our students ball skills and to help your kids move their muscles and develop skills to better their lifestyles. The day was full of fun and sun and the kids thoroughly enjoyed the session at the park. To help the fundraising along, we had a cake stall for both primary and high school students. The entire day was sponsored by staff and parents, and goes to show how committed and passionate some members are about the health of our community. All students and staff looked amazing in their jerseys! We look forward to continuing this in 2018 insha'Allah.



# HEALTHY HAROLD



Healthy Harold came to Western Grammar School again to teach us all about interesting facts. Kindergarten enjoyed about learning more about how to be safe and having a healthy body. They all know how to take care of themselves to promote good health. This was a very exciting day as they were introduced to Harold for the first time. Year 1 and Year 1/2 shared with Harold the skills of friendship. They now know how to be a good friend and care for others. How exciting! Keep an eye out for them showing off their new skills in the playground. Year 2 investigated safety rules and how to seek out safe spaces. We know how friends can care for and support each other in an emergency situation. Years 3-6 showed their inner Sherlock Holmes by investigating the dangers of tobacco, drugs and medicine. They learned about how these chemicals affect the body. Sounds like 3-6 have the knowledge to help themselves and others make the right choices.

Harold was a very cheeky giraffe! He was throwing stickers as students left the van, as he was very excited to see us again and I suspect that next year he will be just as cheeky. A big Mashaallah to Ms Shabnam for organising Harold to visit us this term

A message from Harold:

“Dear Western Grammar Students, Wow! What fun I have had this week, I’ve loved having you stop by my home and help me learn about important things. You were all amazing listeners, Masha’Allah! I’ve worked so hard this week I need a holiday, I think I will go camping with Sam. See you all next year, I’ve already written it in my diary. Thank you for letting me visit, I can’t wait till next year!!!!”

-Love Harold



# WORD Find



Q	E	C	N	E	I	C	S	T	U	D	Y	I	N	G	A
M	L	S	K	R	Y	R	O	T	C	I	V	Q	Y	H	L
A	W	S	Q	A	C	C	E	L	E	R	A	T	E	R	A
C	H	E	E	R	I	N	G	O	B	I	I	J	K	W	E
L	A	C	N	S	N	I	O	C	N	V	Z	I	B	Z	N
F	C	N	O	E	X	P	E	R	I	M	E	N	T	S	J
Y	H	I	I	B	N	O	I	T	A	C	U	D	E	C	O
C	I	R	T	N	Y	P	A	H	O	U	S	E	S	A	Y
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- ACCELERATE
- ACHIEVEMENT
- ATHLETICS
- BAKE
- BOOKS
- BREAK
- CARNIVAL
- CHAMPION
- CHARACTER
- CHEERING
- CHOCOLATE
- COINS
- COLOURS
- COOKIES
- CREATIVITY
- CUPCAKES
- DAY
- DONATION
- EDUCATION
- ENJOYMENT
- EVENTS
- EXPERIMENTS
- FOOTY
- FUN
- GIRAFFE
- HAROLD
- HEALTHY
- HOLIDAYS
- HOUSES
- JUMPING
- LEARNING
- LIFE
- MEDALS
- MONEY
- PAGES
- PARADE
- PRINCESS
- RUNNING
- SALE
- SCIENCE
- SPORTS
- STUDYING
- SUPERMAN
- TERM
- TESTS
- TIRAMISU
- VAN
- VICTORY
- WEEK
- WINNING

# GAME TIME



- Each opponent secretly positions 5 ships on the ocean grid by drawing them in vertically or horizontally.
- Players take turns firing shots by calling out coordinates (eg. A10) to attack enemy ships.
- Your opponent checks that space on his ocean grid and responds “miss” if there is no ship or “hit” if you guessed a space that contained a ship.
- All enemy ships must be sunk for the game to be won. If a ship covers five squares, all five must be hit for it to sink.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
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## YOUR SHIPS

- Carrier with 5 squares
- Battleship with 4 squares
- Cruise with 3 squares
- Submarine with 3 squares
- Destroyer with 2 squares

# Islamic Studies Department

# SHOUT OUT

**The Prophet Muhammad sallallaahu ‘alayhi wa sallam said:  
“For an accepted Hajj, there is no reward for it except Paradise”**

Assalaamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullaahi wa Barakaatuh parents and students,

Alhamdulillah, we would like to take this opportunity to welcome back all the Hujjaj from Hajj and a Hajj Mabroor from everyone in the Islamic department. We ask Allah (swt) to grant all pilgrims an accepted Hajj and may Allah bless us all to attend His house for the pilgrimage very soon. Ameen.

Allhamdulillah, by the Grace of Allah, this term has been jam packed with many activities for the students to learn and enjoy. One such event that was organised by the Islamic department was the Mock Hajj day. Students have been studying the theory of Hajj for two to three weeks and we decided to create a scene of Makkah in our playground at school for the students to practise what they have learnt. Class by class, students came to the ground and completed the practical lesson of Hajj where they first had to pass by the Meeqaat, followed by Umrah, and then complete all the rituals of Hajj. The rituals of Hajj include; going to Mina, Arafah, Muzdalifah, stoning of the big Jamarat, Tawaf, drinking of the Zamzam water, Sa’y, staying in Mina, stoning of all Jamarat, and finally finishing in Makkah. The students had an amazing experience and they were rewarded with lolly bags at the end of the lesson. I would like to thank all staff who participated being in all different stations educating the students throughout the day.

As term three has come to a close, we would like to remind students and parents that yearly exams are just around the corner. Take this holiday as a time to rest, recover, and short revision of term 3 preparing for yearly exams. Please encourage your children to spend some time daily to revise their work throughout the holidays and during Term 4. No one plans to fail but many fail to plan, therefore plan now to acquire great marks in the yearly exams Insha’Allah.

May Allah bless our students, parents, and teachers with success of this world and the hereafter. Ameen!

**Jazzakumullahu khayr  
Islamic Department**

The students of WGS had an amazing Hajj experience this term, without ever leaving the school. Our primary classes now know the important parts of Hajj and when we complete them...

**Day 8:** Pilgrims get ready for Hajj and travel to Mina, where they stay the night.

**Day 9:** The main day of Hajj, students go to Arafat, listen to a khutbah, and make duah. They travel to Muzdalifah and stay night, gathering pebbles for the next stage.

**Day 10:** Students went to jamarat and threw stones at the biggest pillar. They performed tawaf and sa’ee and drank zam zam,

**Next 2-3 day:** Students continued to go to Jamarat.





# OUR HAJJ. IN THE MIDDLE OF OUR SCHOOL



MUSLIM UMMAH



SA'EE AT SAFA & MARWA



LAST SERMON AT ARAFAT



LAST SERMON AT ARAFAT



PELTING JAMARAT



EID GIFTS



NIGHT AT MUZDALIFAH



DRINKING ZAMZAM



DUAH AT ARAFAT



MUSLIM SISTERHOOD

# UP To Date

## 22 September Last day

The end of the eventful third term. Enjoy the break everyone!

## 03 October: First day Term 4

Students return to school on Tuesday after a long break. Get ready to learn!

## 8 November: Kindy Orientation

Our 2018 Kindy class will join us for the first time to get a taste of school.

## 17-19 November Girls Camp

Are you ready? High School girls are off for another action packed weekend

## 24-26 November Boys Camp

Pack your bags! High School boys head out on a camping adventure.

# Message

From the Vice Principal



Assalamu Alaikum,

It gives me great pleasure and delight to be the newly appointed Assistant Principal at Western Grammar School. I am humbled and honoured to take on this role and to usher in a new era for our growing institution. I wish to inform parents, teachers and students about my qualifications and a bit of a background about myself so that I can instill

your confidence in WGS and the direction the school is moving towards.

Firstly, I am a former Senior Mathematics Coordinator from Unity Grammar College and also the former Head of Mathematics at Alpha Omega Senior College. My expertise lies in the growth and development of students undertaking the HSC and helping students realise their full potential. Under my tutelage, hundreds of students have gone through the systems I helped develop with a band 6 result across all levels of mathematics and hundreds of students have achieved an ATAR above 90. I will be bringing these skills to WGS and implementing similar strategies that will insha'Allah allow us to see successful graduates who are satisfied with their time here with us.

As we wrap up Term 3, I extend my thanks to the staff of WGS for having made it through another term of teaching. Alhamdulillah, we've ended this term on a high with a successful athletics carnival. Congratulations to the victorious Red team for their outstanding performance and to the rest of the teams and staff members involved for making it a day to remember. Insha'Allah in 2018, further measures will be taken to accommodate students who displayed fantastic athletic prowess and who can potentially compete at state and national levels.

As we move in to the end of 2017, we must acknowledge that we are sending through our first group of Year 12 students to the HSC. By this time next year, they will be preparing for their final exams and it is our Islamic duty to make dua for them and to ask Allah to grant them every success in this world and in the next. Furthermore, students will be given opportunities to excel academically in 2018 so our primary focus in Term 4 will be to highlight potential candidates, especially in Years 9 and 10, who can undertake an accelerated courses. In addition, we hope to find candidates in Year 10 who can undertake extension 1 mathematics in 2018/2019 and potentially extension 2 mathematics in 2019. We have several academic plans we wish to implement and which will unfold throughout 2018, insha'Allah.

I wish to leave you with a quote relevant to our school at this stage: "Don't be afraid of change – it is leading you to a new beginning"

**Mr Naziry**  
**Assistant Principal**