



WEST LEEDERVILLE  
PRIMARY

## Harmony Day



Pictured above, Principal Fiona Kelly and Year 6 students seated at the 'Harmony garden'.

Harmony Day was celebrated at West Leederville Primary School on Thursday, 21st March and was an occasion to celebrate our cultural diversity as a school and as a nation. The theme for this year's Harmony Day, was *'Harmony – it's up to us'*. Students dressed in costumes or outfits to reflect another culture or in the special Harmony Day colour of orange. Different activities were undertaken at year levels and above the Year 6 students created doves bearing symbolic messages of cultural diversity and harmony and 'planted' them in one of our front gardens.



Pre-primary Red students enjoyed a lunch with foods originating from many different countries; Kindergarten Red (pictured right) discussed "how we are all different, we all belong and we can be friends with everyone", and during book borrowing in the library, each student placed a dot on a world map to indicate where their family originated from or a country that was important to them.



# From the Principal



Dear WLPS Community,

## Innovative Partnerships School

West Leederville PS has received a \$5000 grant to assist with our participation in the 2019 Innovative Partnerships project, in the areas of Digital Technologies and STEM. Ms Mim Hawgood and Mrs Rachael Swinhoe are leading this project for our school. Last week they attended a two-day conference and have joined a partnership with Bunbury and Bicton Primary Schools. In collaboration with these schools they will be undertaking an ethnographic research with the students exploring the effective and creative use of the

school's learning spaces.

## Parenting Library

As a parent of older children (four boys between the ages of 17 and 22) there has been a few books I've read over the years that have really helped me along my parenting journey, Steve Biddulf's "Raising Boys" is an obvious one! I would like to start a parenting section in our library with books of this genre for loan to our parent community. As a starting point, I thought that some of you may have books you would like to donate. If you do have a current book that you think would be good to share, please drop it into the front office, your donation will be gratefully received. I am also interested in your recommendations. These can be books you have found personally helpful, that you may use in your profession that you think would be beneficial, or books you read reviews about and would be interested in borrowing. Please email suggestions to me on [Fiona.kelly@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Fiona.kelly@education.wa.edu.au).

I look forward to your support with this community project.

## Weekend catch-up in the school yard – with coffee!

Next Monday, 1 April there will be a coffee van parked just inside the front gates so that you can buy a coffee and have a chat to your friends, and make new friends, within the school community.

This is not a fund raising event, just a chance for you to start the week in a community spirited way. Enjoy.

## Morning tea with the Leadership team

Do you want to get to know the leadership team a little bit better? Do you and a couple of your friends have the same question you would all like an answer to? Once per month the administration team are having coffee with parents. We would like to keep the groups small so that it can be a genuine two-way conversation. If it is a specific question, letting us know this in advance may help us provide you with a more comprehensive answer. To book in for next month's coffee meeting please go to:

<https://www.trybooking.com/BBWDL>

## ANZAC assembly

Our annual ANZAC assembly will be held on Tuesday 8th April at 9.15am in the covered assembly area. Each year a team of parents create wreaths from flowers donated from the gardens of our students. Thank you to everyone who has helped in the past. We look forward to receiving both flowers and parent support again this year on this significant occasion in our history. A Skoolbag SMS reminder will be sent out closer to the date.

Warm regards,

Fiona Kelly



# Question and Answer

## What are the school intake boundaries and how are they monitored?

West Leederville PS is a 'local intake only' school. This means that we can only enrol students that live within our boundaries at the time of their enrolment. If following an enrolment, a student moves from the intake area their enrolment remains in place; however families are encouraged to enrol in their local school in order to engage in their local community. Being enrolled in a primary school within the local intake area of a secondary school, does not guarantee a position in that school. Proof of residence within that school's boundary must be provided at the time of enrolment.

At enrolment, parents are required to provide proof of residence through the following means:

- The school requires a copy of the current rates bill if owner occupied OR a copy of the Rental Agreement with a minimum of 6 months tenancy (from a Registered Real Estate Agent),

AND

- Latest electricity account

PLUS

- Latest gas / water account, driver's licence, bank statement, removalist documents, or other supporting document bearing name and address.

Information regarding the new Inner City Secondary School boundaries can be found at: <https://www.education.wa.edu.au/inner-city-college/changes-to-local-intake-areas>



## Churchlands Senior High School Academic Extension Program: Year 7 in 2020

Testing date: Saturday 4 May 2019

Applications close: Thursday 4 April 2019

Further information:

T: 9441 1700

W: churchlands.wa.edu.au



# Dates for your Diary

**29 Mar**

School Photos - sibling, PP to Year 6

**1 Apr**

Interschool Swimming Carnival,  
Claremont Pool, 9.am to 12.30pm

**9 Apr**

**ANZAC Assembly -  
Undercover Area, 9.15am**

**10 Apr**

Excursion - Fremantle Literature  
Centre, Year 5

**11 Apr**

**STEM Open Day - Whole  
School showcase**

**12 Apr**

Last day of term

Free dress - gold coin donation for  
Wheelchairs for Kids

**29 Apr**

Term 2 commences

**9 May**

Assembly - Year 5 & 5/6,  
Undercover area, 2.15pm

**14 May**

Kindergarten school photos

**17 May**

Kindergarten school photos

**21 May**

Incursion - Slithers and Slides,  
Kindergarten

**22 May**

Simultaneous Reading day

**23 May**

Assembly - Year 1 Red & 1/2  
Undercover area, 2.15pm

Incursion - Slithers and Slides,  
Kindergarten

**Please check the West  
Leederville Primary School  
Website or Mobile App for  
regular updates to the  
school planner.**

# WLPS Fathering Project

## Dads Group Update

Thanks to the Dads and kids who battled the rainy but humid weather and came along to the first dads and kids kayak event held at Matilda Bay on 9 March. With nearly fifty people in attendance, we had the bay to ourselves and lined the shores with a colourful array of kayaks in between the two jetties. Everyone had a great time, which included kayak racing, a cricket game and bubble blowing to keep everyone entertained.

We also have a woodworking activity with Mr Braimbridge held this Thursday afternoon, 28 March.

Keep an eye out for the next event to be held in Term 2; a Dads and Daughters Hair Workshop! More details soon.

Dads, please remember to register your contact details at <https://thefatheringproject.org/dads-group/west-leederville-ps-dads-group/> to make sure you stay updates with the planned activities and events for the year.

Thanks



# Kings Park Naturescape



On Thursday, 21st March, the Year 2 students travelled to Kings Park Naturescape for an excursion. The students discovered how Perth had changed over time and learned about its first people and traditional custodians, the Wadjuk Nyoongar people. The education program encompassed how Nyoongar people used plants and animals for food, traditional stories, family structure, shelter and protection. On what was a mild, sunny day the students were able to engage with nature through play in the Naturescape park and used their mapping knowledge in an orienteering program. Thank you to the parents who volunteered to accompany the students on this excursion.





# Mandarin cooking



*Students from Year 2 and 4 trying their hand at making spring rolls and skewering fruit.*



Exploring the cultural side of their Mandarin LOTE classes, students from Years 2 to 6 recently had a cooking lesson making spring rolls, a traditional food eaten at Chinese New Year. The students were guided through chopping, mixing and wrapping the spring rolls along with skewing fruit by volunteer parents and grandparents. Below is a message of gratitude from Mrs Linda Williams, our LOTE teacher to all who assisted.



*“Our LOTE would like to say thank you to all parents & grand-parents who came to support and help their children and the staff, it was lovely to see you all. Your presence has meant a lot to us and our students; you*

*made the cooking lesson fun and special. It would not have been as successful without your help – supervising and guiding students through chopping ingredients, wrapping spring rolls and skewering fruit, and also cleaning, washing and cooking; you are all super stars!*

*A big thank-you to you all for your time and effort to assist us. Special thanks also to our Miss Yan for all her hard work”.*

Linda Chun Fun Williams  
LOTE (Mandarin) Teacher



## In Respect of Christchurch Tragedy



As a mark of mourning and respect for the victims of the Christchurch tragedy, the Australian National Flag at West Leederville Primary School was flown at half-mast today, Friday 29 March. New Zealand is holding a National Remembrance Service on this day at 10am (NZ local time).

## Mobile Coffee Van



Monday mornings are about to become a lot more civilised at drop off time for parents. This Monday Bill and his Billiecart Coffee Van will be parked at the double gates on Woolwich Street from just after 8am for approximately an hour. Come along and enjoy a coffee before heading off for the day. The menu of

items available from Billiecart is at the following link <http://billiecartcoffee.com.au/our-menu/>



## STAR STUDENTS

The following students received Merit Certificates at the recent assembly.

### **Year 1**

Braxton Van Hees  
Morgan Trevaskus  
Amelie Chittock  
Isla Tan

Levi Agapitos  
Olivia Wright  
Amr Alhussain

### **Year 2**

All of Year 2 Blue  
Tim Baker  
Jianing Gong  
Mia Madigan  
Zechariah Navea

### **Year 3**

Eamon Tan  
Eliza Dawson

Zakuro Show  
Lucas Suares  
Aariba Rashid  
Benji Love

### **Year 4**

Emily Flynn  
Charlie Joyce  
Brigitte Keyser  
Kai Harkess  
Ray Brodie Hall  
Alexander Thoo

### **Year 5**

Jayden Stinson  
Ruby Bellantoni  
Blake Jenkins

### **Year 6**

Yuvindie Perera

Zyan Ng

Elsa Mazza

Scout Nash

Jasper Overmeire

**Congratulations to our Star Students.**



Sunday  
7th April  
3:00—  
6:00pm

There will  
also be  
face  
painting,  
busking,  
sausage  
sizzle and  
bake stall.

WLPS

SCHOOL

DISCO

3:00pm—4:00pm for  
kindy to pp

4:00pm—5:00pm for  
yrs 1 to 3

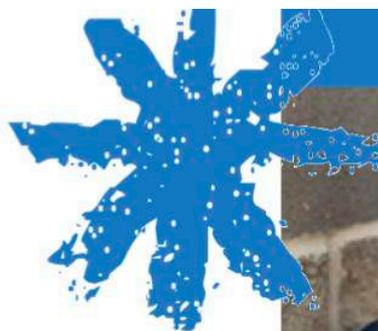
5:00pm—6:00pm for  
yrs 4 to 6

Tickets: \$5 [www.trybooking.com/BBOIM](http://www.trybooking.com/BBOIM)

For more info contact [shaegarwood@gmail.com](mailto:shaegarwood@gmail.com)

PIC•COLLAGE

# insights



## The messages all boys need to hear

by Maggie Dent

Research has shown that parents treat their boys and girls differently right from infancy.

For example, infant boys are touched more frequently and handled more roughly before the age of three months. Also physical punishment is applied more significantly for boys than girls in many Western countries. This is despite the fact that research also shows boys are more vulnerable and fragile.

Why do we do this?

The stereotypical belief that the only way to get boys to do the right thing is by shaming them, hurting them or being hard on them needs to be challenged every day because it is so deeply embedded into our society's psychology. The scars this creates in early childhood fester deep inside and are often the source of future irrational rage and aggression.

This does not mean we do not discipline our boys or make them accountable for their choices and mistakes. It means we need to consciously choose the same warm discipline and communication that we tend to use around girls. We need to take much better care of our little boys — emotionally, psychologically, physically and socially. We need to stop shouting at them, hitting them, shaming them and speaking harshly to them (“Grow up!”, “Be a man”, “What’s wrong with you?”).

### Communication for resilience building

We need to make it acceptable for boys and men to express feelings other than anger and this starts with how we speak to them day-to-day.

A good (generalised) example is how some people might respond if a child falls over. When a boy falls, he may be told by someone influenced by the old code: “You’re right mate, up you get.” A girl who’s fallen on the other hand may be greeted with: “Oh no sweetheart, are you OK? Come here. Let me make it better.” And offered a cuddle.

My issue with either approach is that neither child is being offered the opportunity to build resilience. The boy is being told he mustn’t feel anything and not to take pause at all — just get up and move on. The girl is being disempowered as it’s assumed she cannot pick herself up and brush herself off, but rather she needs help to bounce back from this hurdle. A more resilience-building response may be to say to either child: “Oops, you fell over. Are you ok or do you need my help?”

It's a subtle difference in communication but the message our children get is that we expect that they are capable, their feelings are welcome (but not dictated to them) and we are here for them if they need us.

## The trouble with boys

It seems when it comes to getting in trouble that our boys fare much worse than our girls. One reason for this may be because boys seem to be naturally more impulsive than girls from a young age and this can lead to them being poor decision-makers.

Michael Gurian, author of *Saving Our Sons* (Gurian Institute Press, 2017), writes about how males and females tend to process emotion differently in the brain. He writes that males tend to move emotions very quickly from their brains into their bodies. They also tend to sense the emotion but then shift it to areas of the brain that will work to solve the problem causing the emotion.

Females, on the other hand, tend to quickly shift emotions into the brain's limbic system and to the 'word centres' of the brain. This could explain why many girls — not all, but a significant proportion — will tend to 'talk it out' when they have an issue but boys may be more likely to spring into action, and have a physical response, hurting someone or something in the process.

It is our responsibility to help our sons realise that they need to respect those around them when they are making these decisions.

A good starting point is for every family to implement the 'three rules': 1. try not to hurt yourself; 2. try not to hurt others; and 3. try not to damage things in the world around you ... this sets an expectation for everyone in the household.

## Finally, when boys muck up...

- Try to see the world through his eyes and practise responding, not just reacting.
- Allow him time to cool down and process the situation.
- Gently ask what was his intention?
- Help with work out which of the three rules he broke and what other choices he might have made.
- Forgive him for making a poor choice.
- Reassure him you still love him — 'showing' rather than 'saying'.

Above all, our boys need us (especially we mums) to be firm, fair and fun, and to reassure them we love them unconditionally — no matter what poor choice they may have made.



### Maggie Dent

*Maggie Dent is one of Australia's favourite parenting authors, as well as an educator and resilience specialist. A mum of four sons and a former teacher and counsellor, Maggie is a passionate 'boy champion'. Her latest book, the bestselling *Mothering Our Boys* (2018) is a warm, wise and humorous guide for mums of sons everywhere. [www.maggiedent.com](http://www.maggiedent.com)*