



WEST LEEDERVILLE  
PRIMARY

## From the Principal

Dear WLPS Community,

### **Parent meetings**

Thank you to everyone who has attended the year group meetings to date. There has been very positive feedback from those in attendance and the contributions to the Work Worked Well and Even Better If activity have been very informative. Once the meetings have all been concluded this information will be compiled and shared. For those who have not been able to attend, the Powerpoint presentations will also be posted on our website. There are two remaining meetings, Year 5, 2020 on Monday 25 November and Year 6, 2020 on Tuesday 26 November. The meetings commence at 8.15am. Please note, the majority of the information shared at these meetings is duplicated, with the exception of details regarding the proposed teaching team and predicted class structure.

### **The gift of giving**

This is an important time of year for giving and for sharing with your children the joy of helping those less fortunate.

At WLPS we have two charities we are supporting over the Christmas period and we would love your support. The Smith Family Christmas appeal and Share the Dignity and two wonderful charities that support less fortunate people at a time of year that can often difficult for those in need.

*Smith Family Christmas Appeal:* We are asking our families to support The Smith Family Christmas Toy & Book Appeal. This year The Smith Family hope to deliver 27,000 brand new toy & book packs to children living in disadvantage across Australia. We have a Christmas tree in our school office area and any donations of new toys and books (unwrapped) can be placed under it. We encourage everyone to participate in this worthy cause.

*Share the Dignity:* co-ordinate and distribute donations of personal care items to women that are experiencing homelessness/living in poverty or with domestic violence. The donations are distributed to organisations, such as women's shelters to make sure that women never have to go without and never have to choose between buying food and buying personal care items. At Christmas, Share the Dignity's appeal is 'It's in the bag' - where people donate a handbag (new or used in good condition) and fill it with sanitary and personal care items.

Presents for the Christmas appeal and handbags for 'It's in the bag', can both be delivered to the front office. Thank you for your generosity.



## Our end of year concert

Date: December 12

Time: The concert will start promptly at 5.15pm.

Please be seated by 5pm.

All children are required to be in their classrooms at 4.45pm.

This year our concert is the culmination of our dance program, with each class from Pre-Primary to Year 6 performing an item they have been learning and rehearsing throughout the term. To help parents at this hectic time of year, with the assistance of the P&C and Fathers of West Leederville School (FOWLS), we have arranged a few things to assist with your food and hydration needs.

By pre-order you will be able to:

- Purchase a pre-concert kids sausage sizzle. These will be ready to go from 4.15pm.
- Buy a picnic hamper that includes a cooked chicken, bread rolls, a large coleslaw and chocolate for dessert.
- pre-order wine to go in your hamper, or to purchase a range of beverages on the night.

Ice-poles will be available for purchase after the concert concludes.

A link for pre-ordering will be distributed early next week. Please help us help you, by getting your orders in early. We're looking forward to a great end of year event.

## The playground

Next Tuesday some pavement painting will take place, refreshing our handball courts and adding a splash of colour. The tender process for our adventure playground has closed and we should receive an update soon. I'll keep you posted!

## Moreton Bay Fig tree

Three independent reports from qualified arborists, who conducted comprehensive assessments of our Moreton Bay Fig tree, have been received this week. These reports will be reviewed by the Department of Education Facilities Management Team this coming Tuesday. I look forward to hearing their assessment and will keep you informed.

Warm regards,

Fiona Kelly



## Dates for your Diary

**25 November**

**Year 5 2020 Parent Information meeting, Library, 8.15am**

**26 November**

**Year 6 2020 Parent Information meeting, Library, 8.15am**

**25 November**

**In term swimming - Years 1 & 2, Beatty Park Leisure Centre, 12.30pm**

**25 November**

**In term swimming - Pre-primary, Bold Park Aquatic Centre, 11.45pm**

**27 November**

**Pre-primary orientation for current K Red & Blue groups, 9am to 10.20am**

**4 December**

**Pre-primary orientation for current K Green & Yellow groups, 9am to 10.20am**

**5 December**

**Choir Assembly, Undercover Area, 2.15pm**

**12 December**

**Dance till you Drop concert, PP to Year 6 students, amphitheatre, 5pm for 5.15pm start**

**17 December**

**Graduation Ceremony, Year 6 students, Undercover area, 9.15am. Morning tea to follow at approx. 10.45am**

**17 December**

**Excursion, Year 6, Outback Splashdown and Maze, 11am to 4pm**

**17 December**

**Book Awards Assembly, Undercover area, 9am**

**19 December**

**Last day of 2019 School Year for students**

Please check the West Leederville Primary School Website or Mobile App for regular updates to the live calendar.

# Getting to know our teachers

## Interview with Mrs Sussovich



### How long did it take you to become a teacher?

BS: How long? There was a bit of a change over when I was at uni. It used to only take three years, but when I went to uni they changed it and you had to study for four. I was a child care worker before I was a teacher so they recognised I had prior experience with children and I didn't have to do that extra year .

### What inspired you to become a teacher?

BS: You know what? I always wanted to be one ever since I was very little. I just remember playing dress-ups. I always wanted to be the teacher (giggling). I just find children really interesting, I love the way they see things. They see things through really fresh eyes. As you get older you become less excited about things and I love the excitement that children find when they discover something new. It's really exciting.

### What job did you want to have as a child if you weren't a teacher?

BS: I had three. I wanted to be a teacher, a ballerina or a fire fighter.

### What school did you first teach at?

BS: I taught up in Karratha, that's a mining town up in the north west of Western Australia. Do you want to know the NAME of the school!?

### Yes, please.

BS: It was called Tambahraey. T A M B R A E Y

Do you prefer teaching the older kids or the Pre-primary?

BS: (whispering) I prefer the little ones more than the older ones!

### Why do you enjoy teaching?

BS: I enjoy teaching because you don't know what's going to happen on any day. Every day is a new day and you don't know what's going to happen.

### Who was your favourite teacher in primary school?

BS: I loved my Year 3 teacher, Mrs Marsovitch, then I also loved Mr Blechendon. I loved all my teachers in primary school!

*Interviews conducted by Year 5 & 5/6 students.*

## Interview with Miss Ballantine



### How long have you been teaching for?

JB: 42 years.

### What was your first day of teaching like?

JB: I didn't really know what to do.

### In your childhood did you want to be a teacher?

JB: Yes, when I was a little girl I used to play schools with my friends and my sister.

### When your first student came in how did you greet them?

JB: I really can't remember but I think I would've said, "Hello, come inside." They were Year 2 at Balga Junior Primary School.

### What inspired you to be a teacher?

JB: I've just always wanted to be one. I like to organise, I like children and I like to educate.

### What is your favourite part of teaching?

JB: Coming to school everyday and living my day with lots of children.

### If you had to have another job what would it be?

JB: Someone who worked with nature, Kings Park Wildlife Centre, for example.

### What do you do in your spare time?

JB: Walk, go for long drives in the country, cafés and mainly long drives in the country. I like looking at farms and the big trees, the sheep, wheat, piglets.

**Thank you for your time!**

## The police visit Pre-primary



Continuing on with their theme for this term 'Communities and people who help us', the students from Pre-primary had a visit from Isabella's father Jeremy, who is a police officer. Jeremy spoke to all the Pre-primary students about what his role as a police officer is and to explain the various items of equipment he carries each day. The students had a great time looking at the inside of a police car, the riot shield and helmet.

Thank you to Jeremy and all the parents of Pre-primary who have volunteered their time and resources to expand the learning opportunities of the students.



## Colour Blindness – from the School Nurse

Colour blindness means that a person cannot distinguish some colours or sees the colours differently to other people. Very few people who are colour blind are 'blind' to all colours. Commonly, the colours seen differently are greens, yellows, oranges and reds. Colour blindness is usually inherited and there is a higher incidence in boys.



A pamphlet on colour blindness was distributed to all Year 6 students earlier in the year (along with a Scoliosis and Health information for parents of upper primary school students pamphlets). As of 2020, instead of Year 6 students receiving the pamphlet, all Pre-Primary students will receive a hard copy of the Colour Blindness pamphlet, as most children in Pre-Primary can identify colours. Early identification of colour blindness means strategies can be put in place sooner to help children who are colour blind.

Therefore, as parents of Pre-primary to Year 5 students in 2019 will not receive a hard copy of the Colour Blindness pamphlet in future years, please view the information via the attachment.

Ophthalmologists (eye specialists) and optometrists (opticians) can test for colour vision. Some General Practitioners can also test children's colour vision.

If you need support see the Colour Blind Awareness and Support Group on:

<http://www.members.optusnet.com.au/~doverton/>.

# Dodgeball



In Monday 4 November, the Lions and the Koalas played in the Dodgeball Tournament Grand Final to decide the 2019 champions. It was a very close match but in the end the Koalas won! At the beginning, it looked as though the Lions were in a strong position, racing out of the blocks for a great start. That was until Tamim, a first year player from the Koalas who is only in Year 3, put an end to all of that, defeating three year 6 students from the Lions and winning them the game. This inspiring comeback instilled belief into the Koalas, who went on to win the rest of the matches to become the new dodgeball champions, 3-1.

At the next assembly, hopes were high for many dodgeball players in the grand final, as the coveted Karagania Award

was to be presented to the Most Important Player in the Grand Final. No surprises were evident as Tamim went on to win the award for his valiant effort. Congratulations to all 88 competitors who gave it their all for their team. A special congratulations to the Lions who played bravely in the Grand Final. The Champions, the Koalas, challenged the teachers' team, the Guinea Pigs, to a match on 11 November, in which they would go on to destroy the Guinea Pigs...

Until next year...

## STAR STUDENTS

The following students received Merit Certificates at the recent assembly.

### PRE- PRIMARY

Phoebe Falloon  
Ved Agrawal  
Abbie Divola  
Qi-Jun Gao  
Felicia Tejaya  
Lochlan Cooper

### YEAR 2

Amelia Guntrip  
Mossab El Misallati  
Stella Jedenov  
Hayden Strika

### YEAR 3

Kilian Beniak-Regan  
Tamim El Misallati  
Mackenzie Decent  
Jackson Coombe  
Eamon Tan  
Josephine Constantine

### YEAR 4

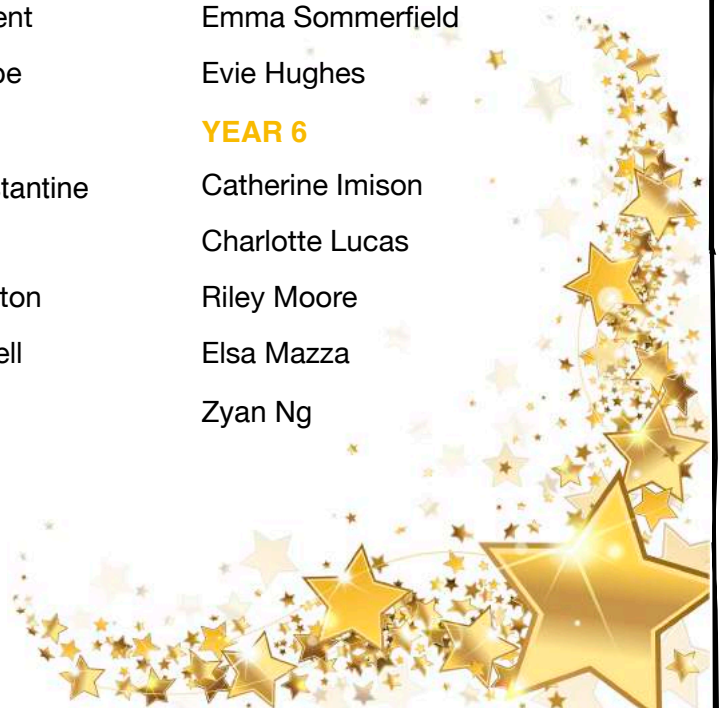
Sophie Etherington  
Leilani McDonnell  
Molly Baker  
Elise Di Lollo  
Cooper Stinson  
Dolcie Slieker  
Ewa Kroluk

### YEAR 5

Clancy Choo  
Ruby Ballantoni  
Emma Sommerfield  
Evie Hughes

### YEAR 6

Catherine Imison  
Charlotte Lucas  
Riley Moore  
Elsa Mazza  
Zyan Ng



## Year 2 White debate Outdoor Education

The students from Year 2 White took their work outside for Outdoor Classroom Day on November 7. They discussed the advantages and disadvantages of outdoor classrooms and created persuasive texts on the topic to convince other students to agree with them.

### Hayden

I know you will agree with me that indoor classrooms are better than outdoor classrooms because your work doesn't get wet, it even doesn't blow away and when it gets cold you have air conditioning. Firstly, don't you hate it when your work gets all soggy and wet? Well when you're inside you don't need to worry about that. Your classroom is under cover!

In addition, outside is all windy and cold and your work blows away. When you're inside it doesn't get blown away so you can work peacefully and quietly.

Finally when you are inside you can have air conditioning if it is hot or cold, yay!

In conclusion you should work inside because your work doesn't get wet or blown away and you have air conditioning so you don't have to get hot or cold. After you have read my writing I know you will agree with me.

### Hudson

I strongly disagree that outdoor is better than indoor.

Firstly, you would get soaked because of the rain, do you really want that?

Secondly, a family of magpies will come and swoop you and that would hurt.

Lastly, you would get burnt and look as red as a lobster and get skin cancer. That definitely wouldn't be good.

In conclusion I agree that indoor classrooms are better than outdoor classrooms.

### Alexys

I strongly agree that outdoor classrooms are better than indoor classrooms. I am sure that when I am finished with this you will agree as well so listen up.

Firstly, you can get more vitamin D if you work outside.

In addition, if you need to go to the toilet it will be really quick because you don't need to open doors.

Finally, it is more fun than inside. You will always do morning fitness because you are already outside so your teacher has to let you do morning fitness.

In conclusion, I know outdoor classrooms are better than indoor classrooms because outdoor classrooms are healthy, quicker toilet breaks and more fun.

### Shiloh

I strongly agree that outdoor classrooms are better than indoor classrooms.

Firstly, you can get fresh and natural air outdoors and not much air indoors.

In addition I can concentrate more. You would want to do your best work, right?

Thirdly, you can go on pillows and cushions instead of chairs. Who would want to sit on boring, old and hard chairs?

In conclusion I strongly agree that outdoor classrooms are better than indoor classrooms and I definitely know you will agree with me.



# insights



## Spending time with kids: How much is enough?

by Dr Jodi Richardson

The need to spend time with their parents differs for different kids. For some, there's no end to the time they'd spend with you. However, other kids feel differently. There's no right answer.

I'm fortunate to have the flexibility that allows me to spend a great deal of time with my children. However, my nine year old daughter wants to spend more time with me. My eleven year old son, on the other hand, is content either way.

### Australia ranks first

According to a recent study Australian parents rank number one among OECD countries (including most of Europe, North America, the UK and Finland) when it comes to spending time with their kids. The lion's share of this time is still invested by mums, but Australian dads are ahead of those from many other countries, averaging around 70 minutes a day with their children.

### The source of misplaced parental guilt

According to research published in the Journal of Marriage and Family, not spending enough time with children is the biggest source of parental guilt in Australia.

The researchers also found that it's quality, not quantity of time children spend with parents that's important for their emotional wellbeing, achievement and behaviour for kids aged 3-11 years. The researchers concluded that volume of time doesn't matter. It's much more important how time is spent with your children when you are together. This in no way advocates for absentee parenting. It's about making the most of the family time you have and reducing feelings of stress for you if you can't be around as much as you'd like to be.

Here are some ideas to help make sure you optimise the time you spend with your kids:

- Create a tradition of one-on-one time with each of your kids around an activity that you both enjoy, such as a cafe catch up over a milkshake, shooting hoops or playing a favourite board game
- Read regularly to each other, as these are special times of connection, especially in bed at night
- Eat meals together as a family so you can all catch up and connect – this is worth its weight in gold when it comes to quality time
- Pay attention to your children, watching for cues that they're in need of extra time with you
- Adolescents benefit from spending extra time with their parents. Through interactions with their parents

teenagers can learn to make better decisions about their health, improve their academic achievement and experience better wellbeing

- Take an interest in their interests. Connect with your children through the activities that they value such as music, sport or games, even if they aren't hobbies you don't normally enjoy. Your kids will appreciate you making the effort and will respond accordingly
- Be present when you're with your kids. Research shows our minds can wander up to 47% of the time when we are with our loved ones. If you're present with our kids, you won't miss out on nearly half of that precious time.

Be mindful of the importance of unstructured time for kids. That is, time they spend playing alone or with siblings and friends. Play is essential for our kids' wellbeing and development. Play changes as our kids grow up but as long as whatever they're doing is child-led, it's play. This is the time to leave them to it.



### **Dr Jodi Richardson**

Jodi is a happiness and wellbeing speaker and writer, and is mum to two primary school aged kids who light her up. For more great ideas on flourishing mental health for the whole family, subscribe to her newsletter at [drjodirichardson.com.au](http://drjodirichardson.com.au) and say hello on [facebook.com/DrJodiRichardson](https://www.facebook.com/DrJodiRichardson). Enquiries to [jodi@drjodirichardson.com.au](mailto:jodi@drjodirichardson.com.au)