



WEST LEEDERVILLE
PRIMARY

From the Principal

Dear WLPS Community

Fabulous start to the year

It has been a wonderful start to the year. As usual, we've launched straight into the swing of things by adding swimming lessons into the mix. The Year 3 to 6 students who have been attending swimming lessons have been thoroughly enjoying themselves, particularly on the very hot days we've been having. We are looking forward to settling into our regular routines now that these lessons have been concluded.

Class meetings

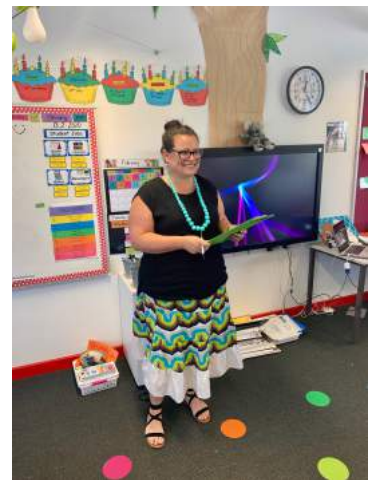
Thank you all for attending the class meetings that our teachers are currently conducting. These are important information giving sessions that help ensure the smooth running of our school. If you were unable to attend please ensure you have received all documentation provided at this meeting and that all consent forms are returned as soon as possible. As communicated at these meetings, our teachers encourage you to make appointments with them during this term and throughout the year to discuss your child's achievements, progress and any concerns you may have.

School Priorities 2020

At the beginning of each school year, the staff at WLPS reflect on our achievements of the year before, revisit our assessment data including standardised tests, such as NAPLAN, ACER (Aust. Council of Educational Research) and systems data through the Department of Education School Information System (SAIS), and review our school targets and priorities. We consider the Department of Education's expectations by reviewing documentation such as the [Strategic Direction for Public Schools 2020-2024](#) and [Focus 2020](#). Following this process, School Priorities for the year are formulated. Our [2020 School Priorities](#) are posted on our website.

Playground Update

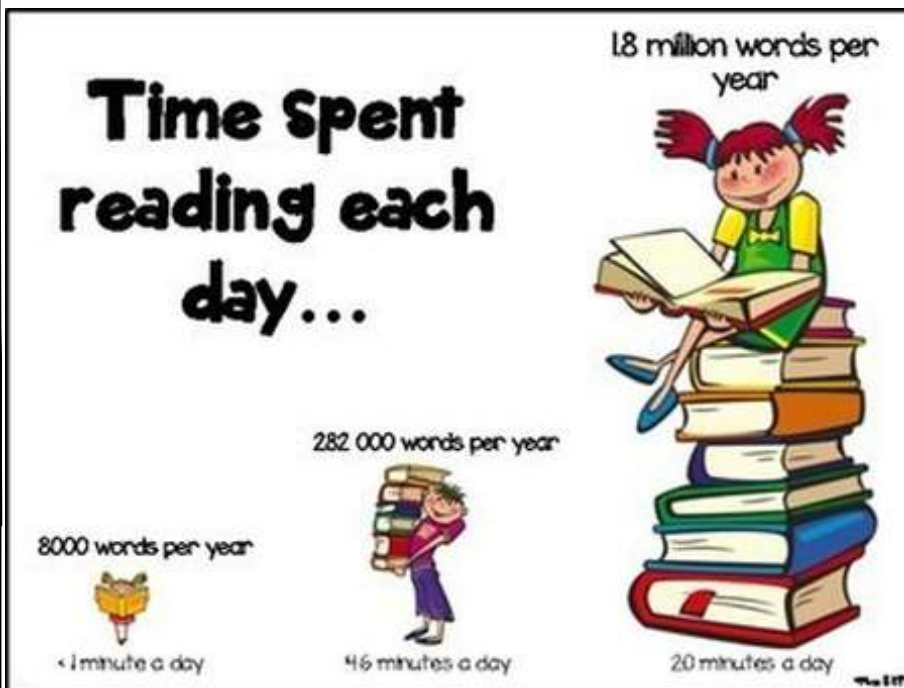
Finally, we've made some progress! After a number of meetings over the last fortnight, we have had a contractor appointed to complete our Playground Project. (Was that cheering I heard?) In addition to this, we have been allocated some additional funding by the Department of Education which will ensure we can complete the project to the standard we hoped. The contractor is available to complete our project this term and has commenced ordering the materials. Once final council approvals have been provided, it will be all systems go. The expected time required on site is three



weeks. With fingers crossed, I dare to say, the project will be completed by the end of term.

Reading at home is REALLY important!

You were your child's first teacher and taught them many important skills, including how to speak. Your child will experience the most success in reading when school and home work together. Children learn about the importance of reading as they watch family members use reading and writing for everyday purposes. Reading for pleasure, sharing a story with your child, using a recipe or reading street signs teaches them that reading is a useful skill in today's world. Reading with your child at home will help your child in all areas of school. Research shows the importance of reading on a daily basis in developing their use and understanding of vocabulary.



Dates for your Diary

6 February

Protective Behaviours incursion, Years 1 & 2

17 February

Parent meeting

Yr 5 Red & Blue, 8am

Kindergarten Red, 8.45am

18 February

Swim squad, Beatty Park

Leisure Centre, 7.20 to 8.20am

19 February

Parent meeting

• Yr 1 (all classes), 8.10am

• Pre-primary Red, 2.45pm

• Kindergarten Blue, 8.45am

20 February

Swim squad, Beatty Park

Leisure Centre, 7.20 to 8.20am

21 February

Parent meeting

• Yr 4/5, 8.00am

• Pre-primary White, 8am

25 February

Swim squad, Beatty Park

Leisure Centre, 7.20 to 8.20am

27 February

Swim squad, Beatty Park

Leisure Centre, 7.20 to 8.20am

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 friends have the same question you would like an answer to?

Each 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 in advance may help us provide you with a more comprehensive answer. To book in for next month's coffee meeting, please follow the link to: <https://www.trybooking.com/BIMOK>

Warm regards,

Fiona Kelly
Principal



New playground seating



The Year 6 students from 2019 gifted the school with a seating setting as their graduation present. The seating arrived in time for the first day of school and combined with a second setting purchased by the school, has been in great demand by the students. Pictured above are some of our senior students who are enjoying having a place to congregate in the mornings.

Student Stationery

Thank you to all those parents who ensured a smooth start to their child's learning in 2020 by providing all the educational materials as indicated in the Student Stationery lists. It is imperative that students bring all of their stationery items to school to enable them to fully participate in the education program provided by the teacher.

If there are items missing for your children, may we request you assist them and classroom teacher by bringing in those resources as soon as possible. Please note that by law, the teachers are only able to photocopy 10% of books for students without the resource.

If you are experiencing problems obtaining any items from the lists, we may be able to assist you through the office.



WLPS Swimming Squad

The before school WLPS swimming squad commences next week on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at Beatty Park Leisure Centre. The sessions are taken by a qualified swimming coach and Phys Ed teacher Mr Phil Braimbridge and are open to all students who are at level 8 or above in their interm swimming classes.

The purpose of the squad is to allow students to refine their technique and build fitness and endurance in the pool in readiness for the Faction Swimming Carnival and the Interschool Swimming Carnival. Further information is available on the Skoolbag app.

The Faction Swimming Carnival will be held on Wednesday, 18 March at Claremont Pool commencing at 9.30am, with students from Years 4 to 6 competing.



Voluntary Contributions

The Western Australian Government's priority is to ensure that all students are able to access an education program that satisfies the requirements of the Western Australian Curriculum, within the prescribed maximum contribution of \$60 for students enrolled in Kindergarten to Year 6. While the contributions are voluntary, the quality of our teaching and learning program will be maximised when all families contribute.

To date many families have already paid their voluntary contributions through Campion when purchasing their booklists for which we are very grateful. Those wishing to pay the contribution are welcome to ring or come into the office to make the payment.

Your contribution will be used to supplement school funding for the purchase of resources needed in the provision of the learning program activities.

Pay via credit card or school account by calling 9381 1655.

Updating Skoolbag App

Skoolbag have launched a new app and from the end of December last year, all users received a message to update to the new app.

Once the new app has been installed on your mobile device, we request parents to select the current classes for your child (press the swan and then 'groups').

The Skoolbag app has become one of our preferred methods of communicating to parents and in addition to one-off messages, we also send links to the newsletter; send information for excursions and incursions with a facility for digital consent and payment from student accounts and provide information about upcoming events in the Live Calendar. To ensure a smooth start to learning in the 2020 school year, it is imperative that students bring all of the items on the school requirements list for the first day of school, although many lists contain items that are to be retained from the year before.



Interm swimming



The interm swimming classes are drawing to a close for the students from Years 4 to 6. This year the first two weeks were allocated to West Leederville Primary students for their interm swimming lessons, which are funded by the State Government free of charge. The Year 3 & 4 students travelled to Beatty Park Leisure Centre each day for their lessons, whilst the students from Years 5 & 6 were lucky enough to travel to Cottesloe Beach each day. The interm swimming lessons are invaluable in helping children to develop vital swimming and water safety skills.



Tech Talk

West Leederville Primary School hosted talks by ySafe for our students, parents and teachers, in Term 4 2019. With this, came access to the ySafe cyber safe community.

Parent's Guide to Cyber Safety

You'll find access to the exclusive area of our website in the link below. This is where you can access the parent guide that summarises the information discussed during the session, as well as other useful information like digital contracts and links to social media help centres.

[Click Here to Access Parent Resources](#)

Tik Tok

We are aware that a number of our students have accounts on Tik Tok. They are public accounts and the content is not appropriate for their age. If your child has access to a phone or iPad on which they download social media apps, I would encourage you to investigate whether they have a Tik Tok account.

When discussing this with your child, it is important to be supportive and educative in your conversation. Some information that may be helpful:

- Tik Tok is rated 12+ as it is open to the world and mature content appears in the stream
- There is no system in place to verify the user's age
- You can use the parent control settings on your child's device to prevent them from downloading the app
- Reactions can be given to uploaded videos using a heart symbol which encourages positivity, however, open forum comments can be posted
- If you agree to your child using this app it is important to talk to them about appropriate online behaviour and what type of content is okay to post and what is not. Remind them that if they see something that disturbs them they should show an adult. Help them to put in place appropriate profile settings.
- Tik Tok has a screen time management mode that can activated with a passcode.

It is important to decide what is right for your family. There are [some good tips for keeping kids safe](#) online available.

If you would like any advice, please do not hesitate to contact us.



From the P&C President

Welcome West Leederville Primary School parents and families. The P&C hope you had a wonderful holiday break with your families and are ready for an exciting year of fun events with a bit of fundraising.

The P&C AGM will take place on Tuesday 18th February at 7pm in the school meeting room upstairs from the art room. The first P&C meeting for the term will follow at 7:30pm. At the AGM all positions become vacant and new committee members will be allocated. If you would like to become a member of the P&C or hold a position please come along. The P&C are a group of like minded people who want to help provide the school with extra resources and programs by fundraising and offering help when the school requires. We also create fun events for the parents to help build a strong school community.

The playground is still a top priority for the P&C and unfortunately due to tree maintenance it was unable to be completed during the holidays. However, we are following due process and will hopefully complete this project soon.

The first family event will be a movie night under the stars.

Come and join families and friends on Saturday 7th March to watch the heart warming animated feature, Abominable.

Doors open 5pm. Tickets just \$10 per person. There will be a food truck available or you can BYO a picnic. A bar will be available NO BYO . Please book at trybooking.com or www.trybooking.com/BIKH

The Fathering Project has some fun events for fathers and father figures coming up for you to add to the calendar.

FOWLs information night - Wed 4 March - from 7pm

- Presentation by The Fathering Project and from a Dad on recent challenges
- Come along to hear more about planned activities for the year - new ideas welcome.
- New dads welcome - bring a mate along
- Please rsvp to wlpsdads@gmail.com or 040325025

FOWLs Kayak and Inflatable Fest 2020 - Sat 14 March

- Dads and kids event
- Where: Matilda Bay 3pm to 5pm
- Bring a kayak, inflatable or just yourselves - plenty of kayaks around to borrow
- A very popular event from last year, come along for some fun and meet new dads
- Please rsvp to wlpsdads@gmail.com or 0403250255

This year the P&C are looking to bring together parents to form a fundraising/events committee for all the schools fundraising events. Remember all money raised go back into our school to benefit our children. These events would include special canteen days, annual quiz night, and any other events that may be organised, so If there are any passionate and creative parents out there that can spare their time, love to have fun and want to put their flare into the committee We look forward to seeing you at the P&C meeting on Tuesday or email wlpspandcprresident@gmail.com

If you have any questions please contact wlpspandcprresident@gmail.com.

Wishing you all a happy start to the school year.

Julie Metcalf,
President.

P&C Movie Night

WLPS P&C Presents

ABOMINABLE

School Movie Night

Saturday, 7 March 2020

Doors open at 5:00pm for movie at sundown in the Amphitheatre

Food Truck and Bar on the night

BYO picnic | No BYO alcohol

Tickets from [trybooking.com](https://www.trybooking.com) for \$10 per person

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



Reducing separation anxiety in young children



In the early years some clinginess, crying and tantrums are normal when a child is separating from parents. While a great deal of separation anxiety disappears with age, some young children will continue to experience anxiety when going to pre-school, child care or other care arrangements. This anxiety can be distressing for parents, and become an unnecessary source of guilt, further fuelling a child's anxiety. Many children who experience separation anxiety are biologically predisposed to anxiousness, shying away from new or novel situations. Here are some ways to support an anxious child at drop-off:

Become practised at separations

Help your child become used to separations by leaving them with caregivers for short periods at first and gradually increasing the length of separation.

Get your child separation-ready

Tired, hungry kids are generally clingy, cranky kids. Similarly, rushed kids are often stressed kids. If your child continues to cling to you when you leave them at pre-school or with carers, check your home routines. Are they going to bed early enough to get sufficient sleep? Are they waking in time to complete their morning activities without being rushed? Are they getting an energy-boosting breakfast such as porridge or an egg to provide the fuel to put them in the right mood? Sometimes simple adjustments to home routines can make a big difference to how a child reacts when leaving their parents in the morning.

Develop a regular quick goodbye ritual

Rituals, like routines, are both reassuring and personal. Develop your own special good-bye ritual, which can be simple such as a special wave or kiss. Alternatively, a fun good bye ritual such as a high five, low five, fist pump bursting into a hand explosion can be something a child enjoys. One you've said good-bye leave quickly without stalling or looking back. Avoid making leaving a bigger deal than it what it is.

Take part of you with them

If the pre-school or child care centre allows it encourage your child to bring a comforter such as a favourite soft toy, part of a blanket or even something that you've given them such as photo or toy. Taking a part of you with them can provide an added layer of security when you're not around.

Stay confident

Kids will often take their cues from their parents so a calm, reassuring approach can give your child the confidence they need that they will be okay.

Involve your child's teacher or carer in the drop-off

Discuss separation with the pre-school teacher or carer and involve them in the transition. Settle your young child with the other carer, preferably being involved in an activity before saying good bye and making a quick exit while your child is in the care of another adult.

When separation anxiety is not normal

Most separation anxiety is a normal part of your child's development. Some children will experience separation anxiety that is outside the normal range, which may require professional intervention. It can be difficult to determine whether a child's anxiety is normal or can be considered a disorder as many of the behaviours are the same. Consider seeking professional help if some or all of the following occurs:

- the intensity of the anxiety is outside the normal range for their age
- your child becomes agitated at the mention of being separated from you
- they withdraw from normal activities at home and at pre-school
- the separation anxiety continues regularly for four weeks or more

Your child's local pre-school or your general practitioner are good places to start when looking for professional assistance with separation anxiety.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation* and the best-selling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. His latest release *Anxious Kids*, was co-authored with Dr Jodi Richardson.



MARCH *Dignity* DRIVE

In 2020, West Leederville Primary School is proud to continue to support Share the Dignity.

Throughout March, the school will be an official collection point for the twice-yearly Dignity Drive. We will be accepting donations of unopened sanitary items in our front office – just look for the big, pink box. At the end of the campaign, the items will be delivered to Share the Dignity's partner charities. This will ensure that women experiencing homeless, fleeing domestic violence, or just doing it tough have a right to this simple dignity.

More information about Share the Dignity and how they support women across the country can be found at <https://sharethedignity.com.au/>

We look forward to seeing the contribution the West Leederville Community can make!