



WEST LEEDERVILLE
PRIMARY

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday. The staff and students have all come back refreshed and ready for another fabulous term of learning.

Playground

On the last day of last term, the new playground was opened for business. The children are loving all of the equipment and having a wonderful time exploring and discovering. Thank you P&C and our whole community for your fund raising efforts that made this possible.

As with many new things there have been some unforeseen issues and we are working through these with the students. Please remember if you are staying with your children to play after school you must supervise them closely. The hammocks should have no more than two children (see photo overleaf) in them at any one time and are for relaxing not high swinging. Also, the lids of the stage boxes (now secured) are not to be opened. If you are unsure of the rules, ask your children, they will know.

Please see details of the official playground opening on August 21, hosted by the P&C, inside this newsletter.

Are your children coming back to WLPS in 2021?

I know you can hardly believe I am asking you this question! However, for planning purposes we need to provide anticipated numbers to the Department of Education by mid-August. And, more importantly at a local level we need accurate numbers to plan for classes, teachers and education assistants. If you know that you are leaving, please call or email the office: **08 9366 9750** / westleederville.ps@education.wa.edu.au If this information is confidential we will ensure that it remains this way. Kindergarten and Pre-primary enrolments 2021 are underway. All applications for kindergarten were due last week with notification of allocated places within the fortnight. Could any of our current kindergarten parents whose child is not continuing at WLPS, please inform us via the methods above? Pre-primary enrolment packages will be distributed within the next two weeks.

COVID-19 update

No news is good news for Western Australia. As you are aware, we have not moved into Phase 5 of COVID-19 recovery, due to the unfortunate situation in the eastern states. For West Leederville Primary School this means:

- Additional cleaning throughout the day continues.
- Students are reminded and encouraged to wash and sanitise their hands regularly, and not to share food.



- Although parents are welcome on site, we encourage you whenever possible, to continue to drop off and pick up from outside the gates and to please make appointments to meet with teachers.
- Whenever on site, all visitors are asked to physically distance and practise good hygiene. Signage and sanitiser is provided throughout the school for this purpose.

Thank you for your continuing support in our endeavour to keep WLPS safe. The community's response and support throughout this pandemic has been heartwarming.

Other works around the school

Over the last few years, renovations and maintenance around our school has seen our environment continually improve. One of the last jobs remaining was the children's toilet block. I am pleased to say these have now been upgraded and are light, bright and not smelly!

Small maintenance jobs continue in the Heritage building with old heaters being removed, walls with rising damp being repaired and some carpets being listed for replacement.

Warm regards,

Fiona Kelly



Learning About The Weather

Kindergarten Red have been learning about the weather this week through their classroom activities and play. Here are a few photos reflecting the fun they had.



Painting the raindrops and sunlight



Playing under the umbrella



Reading the big book: "Paint a Rainbow"

Dates for your Diary

13 August
Assembly - 2:15pm

21 August
Playground Opening
3:05pm - 5:30pm

28 August
Daffodil Day - Gold Coin Donation

2 September
Faction Athletics Carnival

16 September
Inter-school Athletics Carnival

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

STAR STUDENTS

The following students received Merit Certificates at the recent assembly.

Year 1

Xavier Coombe
Harriet Joyce
Chloe Park
Adrian Greenock

Year 2

Emilia Taheri
Elis Samanta

Mandarin

Juan D'Addona
Yu Fei (Phoebe) Yan

Year 3

Juan D'Addona
Yassin Ahmed Megebry
Lucas Stavreski
Stella Jedenov
Elijah Boyd
Amelia Guntrip

Year 4

Sibella Kelly
Joelle Clet

Year 5

Ella O'Sullivan
Kai Fradd
Lucy Mackay
Mia Clark
Ethan Soh
Ayanna Morara

Year 6

Felix Cooley
April McCallum
Kyuss Napper
Titan Tran



Animal Ark



The Pre-primary classes enjoyed close encounters with some minibeasts and frogs on Wednesday 29 July. The presenters from Animal Ark talked to the students about the habitats and features of these small creatures. The children were able to touch and hold frogs, snails, stick insects, lizards and more.



Pre-primary Pyjama Day



On Thursday, 2 July, the students in Pre-primary came to school dressed in their pyjamas. The students celebrated the winter solstice which occurred a few days earlier.

The day commenced with a parade and dance followed by class activities. The students wrote about pyjama day and drew pictures.

Everyone enjoyed making toast and spreading it with butter and jam/honey/vegemite and drinking a warm cup of milo.

A happy day was had by all. Even the teachers enjoyed wearing their pyjamas to school.



Westoz Wildlife Visits Kindy Red



This week the Kindy were very excited as we had some Australian animals visit from Westoz Wildlife. We saw and touched a dingo, koala, two snakes and a bobtail lizard. The koala slept nearly the whole time, at at one stage it did put its head up, look at us, gave a big scratch and then went back to sleep. We were allowed to touch the snakes and some of us were very brave and put the snake around our neck.



Playground Grand Opening

FRIDAY, 21 AUGUST FROM 3:05 - 5:30PM

WLPS P&C

INVITES YOU TO



NEW PLAYGROUND OPENING



FREE ENTRY



Come join in the celebration of the new playground!

Bring a picnic blanket and settle in for the afternoon with friends and family

There'll be a sausage sizzle, some sweet tunes playing, and a bar set up

VacSwim Enrolments

With swimming pools and beaches a part of our Western Australian lifestyle, it is vital that every child has the opportunity to learn essential swimming and water safety skills.

VacSwim provides children aged five to 17 years with the opportunity to learn to swim during the school holidays at many locations across the State.

Enrolments for VacSwim are now open and families can enrol online. Further information and details of fees, locations and how to enrol are on their website.



Department of
Education

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VACSWIM 2020

Get ready
for summer

**Help your child stay
safe and be confident
in the water.**

Enrol now for October holiday swimming lessons. Perfect for beginner, intermediate and advanced swimmers.

5 days – child \$16, family \$41*

9 days – child \$30, family \$81*

*Concessions available.

Enrolments close 23 August 2020

Visit education.wa.edu.au/vacswim

INSIGHTS

Standing behind difficult decisions



Johan and Harry were both suspended from school for a day after willingly watching a schoolyard fight. Their school had a zero-tolerance policy toward fighting and believed that those who watched a fight were as complicit in the conflict as those engaged in the fighting.

The reactions of both sets of parents to the boys' suspensions differed greatly. Johan's parents supported the school's actions and made the necessary changes to their work schedules to accommodate the suspension. Privately, they thought that the suspension may have been harsh, but as they agreed with the school's zero tolerance approach to violence, they knew they had no option but to accept the suspension. They counselled their son against similar behaviour in future and made sure his time away from school was spent doing schoolwork.

Harry's parents weren't quite so supportive. Thinking that their son's suspension was unfair, they contacted the school's principal asking to have the suspension removed. The principal listened to their concerns however she didn't remove the suspension. She reminded Harry's parents of the reasons behind the school's zero tolerance approach to fighting and urged them to support of their policy. Disappointed but obviously not deterred, Harry's father took time off work to take his son on a fishing trip on the day of the suspension. This action showed little regard for the school's efforts to encourage a culture of respectful relationships, as well as scant respect for the principal's authority.

Make the most of learning moments

Both sets of parents thought that the suspension of their sons was harsh. However, only one set saw the situation as a learning experience for the son. Johan's parents discussed with their son the place that bystanders play when violence breaks out. They reinforced the message that although it may take courage to stop a fight or bring it to the attention of teachers, it's these sorts of actions that constitute positive leadership.

Harry's parents couldn't see past the injustice of the suspension and missed a great opportunity to teach their son any number of lessons. These include what he may do next time a similar incident occurs, how he might respond when he sees someone being bullied or even how to nip conflict between peers in the bud before it escalates. There are many discussions they could have had with their son due to the suspension. From an educative perspective, this was an opportunity missed.

Trust the process

Arguably, the bigger issue in this story is that just as Johan's parents did, we parents need to trust the processes that teachers put in place at school, even when we don't always agree. Family-school partnerships are strongest when parents stand behind the difficult decisions that teachers make, even though the wisdom behind them may not be immediately evident. Sometimes, we all have to stand back and trust a process that's been in place, particularly when it's been implemented after a great deal of thought and diligence.