



WEST LEEDERVILLE
PRIMARY

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been a crazy year. However, through the challenges we have faced, I believe that the West Leederville community has shown true perseverance and kindness. You have recognised what is important in life and really rallied together to help our school be a happy and safe place. Thank you.

I am really proud of West Leederville Primary School. We have amazing teachers, education assistants and support staff, all working together to make this a wonderful place for our students to learn. However, this would not be possible without the support of our P&C and School Board. Thank you to members of these two groups, and all of you who support their endeavours, for being advocates of the saying 'It takes a village to raise a child'.

It's been a very busy term, in particular the last couple of weeks, and we've made it to the end still smiling. You have your children's reports, the 2021 class lists will come out later today, the graduation and book award assemblies are done and dusted, it's now time to relax (unless of course you are like me and still have all of your Christmas shopping to do!).

I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy holiday. My new position does not start until later Term 1 or early Term 2 so I will see you all back here, ready and raring to go for another amazing year at West Leederville Primary School in 2021.

Warm regards,

Fiona Kelly



Graduation gift



Traditionally, each year the graduating class of students fundraise to present a gift to the school. This year the Year 6 students presented a well needed bike rack, which is pictured being assembled by Henry and Riley.

Dates for your Diary

17 December 2020
Last day of school year

25 January 2021
School office opens

28 January
Uniform shop opens between 9am and 12pm in school hall.

28 & 29 January
School Development Days-students do not attend

1 February
Term 1 of 2021 school year commences.

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

P&C Update

As 2020 draws to an end, we would like to thank the school community, teaching and administration staff for all of your support in raising funds for the school and our kids.

We hope you enjoy a well-deserved break over the holiday season.

The first P&C meeting for 2021 will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 16 February 2021 in the WLPS staffroom (or the room next door). We would love to hear from you if you have some new and exciting ideas for next year. At this first P&C meeting the school will present the curriculum support funding for funding approval. The P&C AGM will be held at 7pm just before this first P&C meeting (16 February). All Executive positions on the P&C will be up for grabs so please come along if you want to nominate for a position.

CANTEEN

Thank you to the school community for supporting the canteen through this tough year. The support has been amazing. From Barb, Lydia, Julie and Cath

FOWLs

In an unusual year, the FOWLs managed to get together for a few events which included: kayaking at Matilda Bay, the annual camp out at Lake Leschenaultia and starting up a regular footy night under lights at Subiaco Oval.

Thanks to all the Dads and Father figures for all your support. Enjoy spending time with your kids over the festive period and hope to see you all back for more events in 2021! To find out more about FOWLs events, please email wpsdads@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list.

Graduation 2020



At the conclusion of each school year we celebrate the final year of primary school for our Year 6 students at Graduation. This year 64 students took part in the graduation ceremony in front of their family and friends. In attendance at the ceremony to present awards were Mr Sean L'Estrange MLA; Chair of the WLPS Board, Mr Andrew Porter; P&C President Mr Andrew Faragher, and from the Cambridge Musicians who sponsored the Instrumental music award, Mr Tom Eyres. The students reflected on their time at WLPS and presented their gift to the school, which was a new bike rack to be placed in the playground.

In keeping with tradition in each graduating student received their Graduation Certificate from the Principal and took turns to ring the original school bell which hangs in the hall, this being the only time that the bell is rung. The students joined their families and staff in the library for a morning tea hosted by the Year 5 parents, and then set off for a day of fun at the Maze.

The recipients of the Graduation Prizes were as follows:

Academic award - Katrina Yang

Citizenship award - Sofia Stinton & Felix Cooley

Endeavour award - Zara Stevens

Commitment to Excellence - Riley Pawlowitsch

English award - Clancy Choo

Mathematics award - Titan Tran

Science award - Oliver Stavreski

Technologies award - Gabriel Williams

Instrumental Music award - Rachel Sparrow

Music award - Charlie Joyce

Sport award- Jack Smitheringale

Drama award - Keira Warren

Art award - Manuela D'Addona

Languages award - Kohaku Seow

Our congratulations go to these students and all of our 2020 graduates. The staff and students of WLPS hope that your career at secondary school and thereafter will be happy and rewarding.

Book Award Assembly

At the conclusion of the school year, we acknowledge students for exceptional effort and achievement. From each class a student was chosen to receive an Endeavour award and a Citizenship award. Each specialist teacher presented an award and an Academic award was presented to a girl and boy from Year 3 to 5. Congratulations to the following students who received awards at today's assembly:

Pre-primary White Citizenship award - Frances Buckley
Endeavour award - Dallan Corcoran

Pre-primary Red Citizenship award - Emma Hawkins
Endeavour award - Freya Anderson

Pre-primary Blue Citizenship award - Alexandra Linton
Endeavour award - Jack Nelson

Year 1 White Citizenship award- Isabella Spivey
Endeavour award- Lachlan Cooper

Year 1 Blue Citizenship award- Vivienne Turner
Endeavour award- Elsie Brodie Hall

Year 1 Black Citizenship award- Ellie Bandarage
Endeavour award- Peter Reilly-King

Year 2 White Citizenship award- Bethany Callaghan
Endeavour award- Alexandra Woods

Year 2 Red Citizenship award- Summer Jorgenson-Oates
Endeavour award- Nikitha Balram

Year 2 Blue Citizenship award- Elsie Brodie-Hall
Endeavour award- Zac Moyle

Year 3 White Citizenship award- Harrison Stinton
Endeavour award- Katelyn Kailis

Year 3 Red Citizenship award- Phoenix Ravine
Endeavour award- Indee Marr

Year 3 Blue Citizenship award- Timothy Baker
Endeavour award- Realltin Melia

Year 3 Black Citizenship award- Sarah Osmond
Endeavour award- Brayden Saunt

Year 4 Red Citizenship award- Lena Pawlowitsch
Endeavour award- Stanley Guntrip

Year 4 Blue Citizenship award- Einan Healy
Endeavour award- Charlotte Andrews

Year 4/5 Citizenship award- Zakuro Seow
Endeavour award- Emily Rae

Year 5 Red Citizenship award- William Hayes
Endeavour award- Sophia Fechner

Year 5 Blue Citizenship award- Winter Freeman
Endeavour award- Kai Harkess (Fradd)

Service to school award - Evie Hughes

ACADEMIC AWARDS

Year 3- Clarissa Tejaya
Leah Choi

Year 4- Aurora Pontre-Gibson
James Sommerfield

Year 5- Anu Sathe
Alexander Thoo

SPECIALIST SUBJECT AWARDS

Art award- Lena Pawlowitsch

Drama award- Sofia Stinton

Languages award- Alistair Bishop

Sport award- Josephine Constantine

Music award- Charlie Joyce

Planting our new Memorial Garden



When our 120 year old tree on the Woolwich Street border fell during a storm in February this year, the heritage listed shelter shed was not the only casualty, but also our Memorial Garden. Last week, our replacement garden was finally replanted and the plaques placed at the end of the purpose built garden bed.

Students Zac and Zara Moyle, Molly and Timothy Baker along with their older sister, former student Isabelle, planted lemon trees and 'Early Sunrise' perennials. They were ably assisted by their fathers Richard Moyle and Michael Baker, along with our Chaplain Corali Sala Tenna, Principal Fiona Kelly, Associate Principal Michael McInerheney and gardener Abdollah Mostafavipour.

Rewarding their combined effort this week, the first yellow flowers appeared.



End of Year concert



The end-of-year concert held on Thursday evening proved to be a very popular event once again with our school community, with not only parents coming along to see the show, but also many grandparents.

Commencing the program was a traditional Chinese dance featuring students from the middle and upper years who have been learning the steps to the dance all this term.

Following this the students from each year group took the audience through the decades, with each item featuring songs going back to the 1950's.

The final item on the program was the staff singing their very own version of 'I'm still Standing', to reflect a most unusual and challenging school year with the COVID pandemic.

We would like to thank all the parents and extended family who came along to support the students and join in the fun.

Super Choir at the SING festival



This term, the WLPS Super Choir participated in the SING festival. This festival was a great opportunity for students to get together with choirs from other metropolitan schools, to sing the repertoire from the Massed Choir festival that was cancelled earlier in the year. Held outside the Perth Concert Hall, the surrounding buildings of St George's Terrace were lit up by the voices of the 32 schools singing together as one. A recording of the performance is available at the following link:

[SING](#)

'Ringing the bell' in PP



Yesterday, the students from Pre-primary took turns to ring the original school bell to signify the end of the first year of their compulsory school years. We hope to see most of these students ringing the large bell in the school hall at their graduation in Year 6 in 2026.

Congratulations Sasha

Sasha Thoo, a West Leederville Primary School Year 5 student was recently the youngest person to audition for a Cello placement in the prestigious Western Australian Youth Orchestra's Philharmonic Orchestra. The WAYO Philharmonic Orchestra is "a full symphony orchestra dedicated to developing orchestral technique and musicianship" of young musicians.

We are proud to announce that he was successful in his audition, securing a placement and making him, currently, the youngest Cello player. Sasha succeeded against older more experienced players. This is a huge achievement for such a young musician, and we are so proud to celebrate his success. Well done Sasha!



Back to school

January 25, 2021 - office staff return to school.

January 28, 2021 - teachers return (professional development days).

January 28, 2021 - uniform shop open, 9am to 12pm, Heritage building.

February 1, 2021 - Students commence school year.



Uniform shop



Due to the high demand for uniforms at the beginning of the new school year the uniform shop will open before school commences in 2021.

We will open:

Thursday 28 January from 9am - 12pm.

On this day parents can collect any online orders they have placed during the school holidays and also buy directly from us.

Student reports



The 2020 Semester 2 formal student reports were made available via Connect last Friday 11 December. Please use your parent access to Connect to login and view your children's reports

A quick guide to Connect for parents can be found at the following link : [Connect for Parents](#)

Booklists

Stationery requirements for the students in 2021 were emailed out to parents at the end of Term 3.

Students will require all of the items listed, although many items can be carried over from the previous year. Please ensure that your child commences the year with a complete list of their stationery

requirements to ensure a smooth start to their learning. Some consumable items may need to be topped up during the year.



Lost property



Please take the time to look through the Lost Property at the back of the hall if you are missing items of your child's uniform. All unclaimed

pieces will be disposed of at the end of the school year.

Dental van

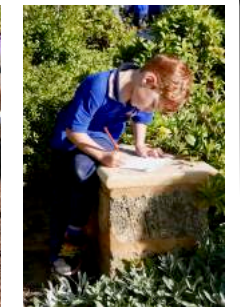


In the case of an emergency, please contact mobile 0408 926 794.

2020 in pictures









INSIGHTS

Technology holiday guide for parents



As holidays approach, the role that screens and devices will play becomes an increasing concern for parents. Days when kids are usually tied up with school and activities make way for many an idle hour and, as such, parents fear those hours will be spent largely engaged with a screen or gaming console. While there is certainly no harm in some well-balanced screen time and developmentally appropriate online activities, we must remember that, as parents, we have an important role in helping our kids manage and balance that screen time. Here are a few things we can do:

Understand the battle

It is important parents know the beast they are dealing with. It is easy to shout from another room to get off a screen or whinge to our friends that 'kids of today' are all addicted to their phones, but we need to recognise the pull that many of these devices have. The social networks are designed to keep us liking, commenting and sharing. The games cajole us into having 'just one more' turn at being the last man standing. These technologies tempt us to reach just one more level, or to scroll for just a few minutes more. Our brains experience a dopamine release and a sense of insufficiency when we use a device. There is always something else to do or something else to scroll through, or one more YouTube video to watch. So our kids are up against it when trying to control their time on a device. We need to help them with that.

Get outside

We can complain that kids never go outside and play anymore, but sometimes we have to physically get out there with them or offer opportunities in which being outside and active play are appealing. We have to work a little harder at this today because we are competing with a device that answers many of our kids' perceived needs. We need them to know that their needs are greater and more varied than what their screens can offer.

Have some rules

Despite their apparent dislike of rules around technology, kids will (one day) appreciate having boundaries to help them manage their screen time. Rules can be established regarding time limits, devices in bedrooms, device-free meal times, etc. Whatever you decide is important, be sure that you have those discussions with your kids. And any discussion around rules or consequences should happen away from the screens so they are clear on the expectations. (Talking about their screen-time habits while they are just about to be the last man standing on Fortnite is probably not going to make for engaging conversation.)

One console on one television...outside the bedroom

Having only one television that is connected to a gaming console or to Netflix is a good way of ensuring that the device gets shared and one child doesn't monopolise the screen. And leave consoles out of bedrooms where the appeal of just one more quick game can very quickly rob them of important sleep time.

Role model

Make sure you are showing your kids how you want them to be. Have times when the devices are put away and you give full attention to the people around you. Don't answer calls or emails at the dinner table. Don't fall asleep with a device landing on your forehead. Take time to get outside and do things active and in nature. Don't ever use a phone while driving. Use the Screen Time feature on iOS products to monitor just how you are using your technology and whether you could be making some changes. Kids learn more from what we do than what we say.

parenting * ideas

We know the technology isn't going anywhere, and we know there are many wonderful benefits that screens provide. But ensure that holidays and downtime hours can be filled with many different experiences and in ways that leave your kids in control, even if you have to work a little harder to give them that.



Martine Oglethorpe

Martine is a parent educator and a youth and family counsellor who speaks, writes and consults on the challenges faced by families in the modern world. Martine has a Masters in Counselling and a background in secondary education. Through her personal and professional work with families raising children, she recognises the important role technology plays in the social and emotional wellbeing of young people. Martine is an accredited speaker with the Office of the eSafety Commissioner.