



WEST LEEDERVILLE
PRIMARY

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

SURVEY RESULTS

We were blown away with the number of school community members who filled out our recent survey! We had 227 responses out of approximately 400 families. This is close to 60% of our community. Congratulations West Leederville Primary School, this is the highest response rate (by a long way) that we have had in recent years!

Your feedback is greatly appreciated and has been very informative. The results indicate we are on the right track, and have made some good improvements this year. Resoundingly, our parents and carers have indicated that the word or phrase that comes to mind when you think about West Leederville is – COMMUNITY (see wordle below). I am honoured to work at a school that has this sense of community at its heart and look forward to continuing to develop new ways to promote connection between students, staff, parents and carers, and our broader community.



A summary of the results will be shared with the School Board on Tuesday 9 November, 2021 (postponed from Tuesday 26 October, 2021). The school and the Board will review the information to help with making operational and strategic decisions for 2022.

The results will also be shared with parents and carers of the school via School Stream.



Please be prepared to see a few changes, as was explained in the survey, there is new legislation that requires us to review our timetable. This legislation requires us to allocate 60 minute blocks of learning rather than 50 minute blocks. This means we will have 5 periods a day instead of 6 periods a day.

SCHOOL BOARD INFORMATION SESSION (5.15pm - 5.45pm) AND OPEN MEETING (6pm - 7.15pm)

On 9 November, our School Board will be holding its Open Meeting from 6pm - 7.15pm. A Public School Board is required to advertise at least one open meeting annually. This means that members of our school community are welcome to attend and observe the meeting. You are reminded however, that visitors are not able to contribute to the meeting or decisions.

We have decided to take this opportunity to provide a School Board Information Session prior to the Open Meeting 5.15pm – 5.45pm for parents, carers and community members that are interested in learning more about the role of a Public School Board and its members. [School Board Information Session booking](#)

This Open Meeting and Information Session was postponed due to the unexpected passing of Russell Woolf, a very much loved and respected member of our community.

PARENT AND CARER WORKSHOPS

We are excited to be offering two parent and carer workshops this term to support our community to learn more about positive ways to enhance their child's educational and social/emotional development.

- **Fearless Workshop Wednesday 24 November 5:30pm** – The development of anxiety is a growing and pressing concern for this generation of students. At this workshop you will learn how to create an environment that supports a healthy mindset to prevent anxiety, and how to support your child if they are experiencing anxiety. Bring your wine and cheese platters to this event and drag along a group of friends, this workshop is a must for any parent or carer. [Fearless Workshop booking](#)

- **Working With Your School To Get The Best Outcomes For Your Child Wednesday 8 December 9.15am** – This workshop is designed for parents and carers of students in Kindergarten, Pre Primary, Year 1 and Year 2. It will provide you with a strong knowledge of what to expect from your child's schooling experience, and how to work with the school to ensure your child gets the best start to their education. [Working with Your School workshop booking](#)

THANK YOU MR MICHAEL MCINERHENEY!

At West Leederville Primary School, we have many many many amazing staff members. I am often very grateful for the work that just happens; with each teacher, education assistant, administration and leadership team member contributing to make our school great.

In this newsletter, I would like to acknowledge some of the invisible work that is often not known or seen by our community, but is very important to the social and emotional health of our students. Mr Michael McInerhenehy is our Associate Principal who often has the role of mentoring and counselling students to learn about and display positive behaviour, to demonstrate our school values and to learn about effective social interactions. He is also the person that our parents and carers will most likely speak with if there is an incident in the playground or classroom that needs intervention.

For the most part, our students are very lucky to have very positive interactions with each other and their teachers, and receive lots of feedback and acknowledgement for this. However, sometimes there will be serious or ongoing breaches of our school rules, or disputes between students. In these situations I have seen Mr McInerhenehy take an extraordinary amount of time to investigate incidents thoroughly by talking to everyone involved, communicating to parents the outcome of his investigation, and documenting all the necessary information on the school records. His patience, questioning and relationships with all students means that consequences are put in place where necessary, issues are resolved, and friendships are rebuilt.

When there are issues in the classroom or playground, often there are multiple incidents, a number of students and bystanders involved, many contributing factors, and/or actions and reactions over a period of time. When students are relaying a situation to their parents and carers, teachers or the leadership

team, often there will be pieces of information left out, a gap in a child's memory or a selection of perspectives shared. Sometimes the information that is left out is crucial to determining the level of responsibility.

There is a saying, there are two sides to every story. In my experience in schools, there are often not just two sides, but there can be up to 10 sides to a story. Thank you Mr McInerheney for showing such care and patience, to always giving everyone the opportunity to tell their side of the story and collating this information to get to the heart of the matter.

Warm regards,

Sheri Evans
Principal

RAP Committee update

Thank you to the families who contributed to the recent survey for the Aboriginal Cultural Committee now known as the RAP committee. RAP stands for Reconciliation Action Plan.

As you are aware, the committee is currently forming the RAP for our school.

Surveys were conducted with staff, students and families with the information collated, forming the main part of the RAP.

The RAP committee consists of representatives from the staff and parents with meetings held regularly to discuss the components of the RAP.



We are currently listening to experts in the field and compiling what we trust will be a RAP that WLPS will be proud of.



We will continue to keep you informed of the progress.

YANGA (Noongar for thankyou)

KAYA (Noongar for hello)

The RAP committee

IT in Pre-primary



Information technology enhances the teaching and learning environment and prepares students for the world in which they live. The philosophy at WLPS is to embed technology into the curriculum so that it becomes a natural and integral part of students' learning experiences.

This week the students from Pre-primary had lots of fun experimenting with coding with bee-bots and Cod-a-pillars, and using different apps on the iPads.



Outdoor Classroom Day at Kindergarten

This week students from our Kindergarten classes have been celebrating Outdoor Classroom Day.

Outdoor Classroom Day is a global movement to make time outdoors part of every child's day. On two days of action each year, teachers take children outdoors to play and learn.

The Outdoor Classroom Day movement campaigns that spending time outside every day will make children happier and healthier, as well as equipping them with the skills they need for life.

The students at Kindergarten thoroughly enjoyed the activities laid out for them around their playground in the mild weather.



Dates for your Diary

17 November

**2022 Kindergarten Parent Information Session 9:30am - 10:30am
AND**

2022 Pre-primary Parent Information Session 1:30pm - 2:30pm

19 November

Perth Zoo - Year 1

22 November - 3 December

Interm Swimming - Beatty Park L/C

PP Blue & PP White

Year 2 Red and Year 1/2

22 November - 3 December

Interm Swimming - Bold Park A/C

PP Red

Year 1 Blue, Black and White

Year 2 Blue and White

24 November OR 1 December

**2022 Pre-primary Orientation visits
9am - 10:30am (meet in the
undercover area)**

10 December

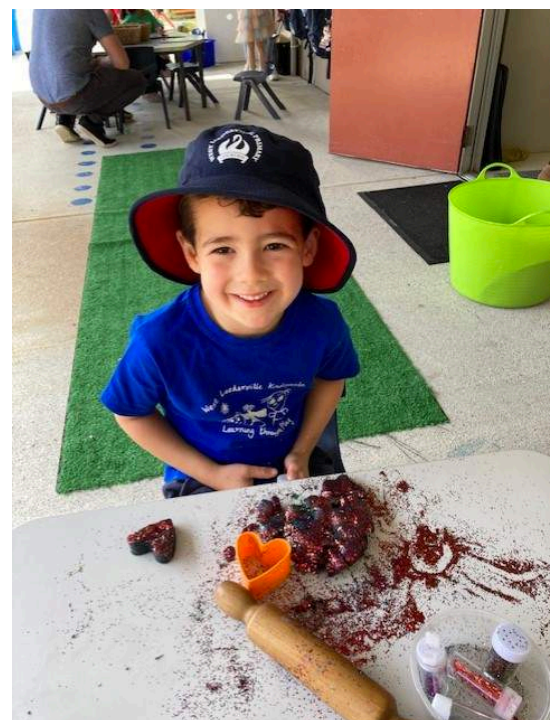
PWA Bushfire Appeal Fundraiser

Dress up as an animal or a farmer

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



Outdoor Education



Basketball Stars



Recently five of our students were selected to represent Perry Lakes Hawks in the State Basketball Championships.

Emily Flynn was selected for the Girls Under 13 Division; Bodhi Williams was selected in the Boys Under 11 Division, and June Lorimer, Scarlett Brown and Frankie Simpson Year 4, were successful in the Girls Under 11 Division.

STAR STUDENTS

The following students received Merit Certificates at the recent assembly.

Year 1

Rory O'Donnell
Vivienne Vallis
Natalia Zimarino
Harry Marchant
Juniper Gaffney
Matteo D'Orsogna

Year 2

Elijah Ashby-Cohen
Vivienne Turner
Thomas Hocking
Bethan Lewis

Mandarin

Lewis Duplock

Year 3

Akein Nawarathna
Julia Magalhaes Ward
Aaylah Dingo
Claudia McAlpine
Hunter Jones
Isla Tan

Year 4

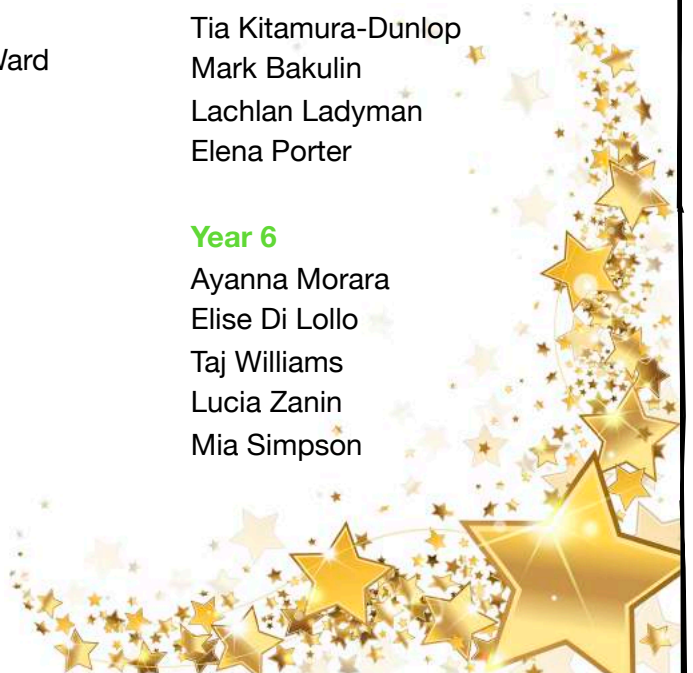
Ethan Lewis
Elijah Boyd
Scarlett Brown
Ayana Brandi
Leon Raykos
Coco Divola

Year 5

Tia Kitamura-Dunlop
Mark Bakulin
Lachlan Ladyman
Elena Porter

Year 6

Ayanna Morara
Elise Di Lollo
Taj Williams
Lucia Zanin
Mia Simpson



A Treat for Kindergarten Red

Kindy Red celebrated Diwali - The Festival of Lights. This Hindu festival celebrates the victory of light over darkness, good over evil. The Kindergarten Red children entered the classroom with sparklers alight as it is believed Lakshmi the goddess of wealth cannot enter dark houses.

The children created their own Rangoli from rice which is for good luck and joy.

The children made lanterns with jewels and battery tea lights to take home and share with their own families.

Indian treats were shared with thanks from kindergarten parents.



INSIGHTS

Helping your family manage uncertainty



Uncertainty is part of life and yet our brain, which creates our thoughts and feelings, loves certainty and predictability.

The pandemic has created more uncertainty in families, schools and communities than most people can recall in their lifetimes. With no clear end point, more stress and anxiety may well be triggered. In small doses anxiety heightens your sense of focus, giving you an increased level of energy, and increases your chances of managing a potential challenge that has appeared. In large doses, this anxiety is problematic, as it can cause feelings of being overwhelmed and even panicked.

The lesson of being real

Many fears and unexpressed emotions lie beneath the stress of navigating uncertainty. Be prepared to share your emotions with your children, especially feelings of sadness. They experience grief every time they lose the opportunity to spend time with loved ones, go on holiday or return to school to see friends.

Grief is not a sign of weakness. It shows you are human. Let your children see you cry and give them the agency to know what to do. They can grab a tissue, they can give you a hug and, if they're old enough, they can make you a cuppa.

Your children need to see that when bad things happen to adults, they can feel upset for a time. There are many ways you can help children cope with uncertainty.

Normalise uncertainty

Teach your children that nothing is permanent. Good things come and go. So will tough times. Change is a part of life and can be positive or challenging. Share stories about how your family recovered from hard times. Adaptability and flexibility are key components of resilience, which can be nurtured in childhood.

Make choices that ease fear and anxiety

Remind your children and young people that they are not powerless. Resting, reading and relaxing are great tools to ease fear and anxiety. This might include taking deep breaths, listening to music, or making others laugh. Getting outside to play or walk the dog is another simple way to ease the nervous system.

Focus on the things you can control

Simple habits and routines really make a difference. When everything is changing routines and rituals such as regular family mealtimes, bedtimes and wake up times help maintain a sense of normality. These rituals provide an important anchor helping them feel in control.

Encourage your kids to have a 'gratitude attitude'

Though times are no doubt really tough for many, you can choose to feel grateful for the things you have, and the people love, and you can model this mindset with your children.

Maintain hope

Hope is an important antidote to feeling stuck in fear. Encourage feelings of hope by sharing wonderful memories via photos or videos which can lift everyone's spirit. Plan a new experience to happen when that becomes a possibility.

Children and young people need to understand that life can be an unpredictable ride and together you can adapt and find a way through to each new day.

The greatest tool you have as a parent in these times is to remember that you are the 'safe base' for your children and young people. If you can embody that, and help them feel that no matter what, your love and support is a certainty, then the uncertainty around us all becomes a lot more manageable.



Maggie Dent

Commonly known as the 'queen of common sense', Maggie Dent has become one of Australia's favourite parenting authors and educators, with a particular interest in the early years, adolescence and resilience. She has written seven major books including the bestselling *Mothering Our Boys* and her 2020 release, *From Boys to Men*. Maggie is host of the ABC podcast, [Parental As Anything](#). She is the mother of four sons and a very grateful grandmother. For further details visit maggiedent.com

Keeping and eye out for Chickenpox

We have been notified of a case of Chickenpox in one of our students. Chickenpox is a mild and common childhood illness but highly contagious. Children usually catch chickenpox in winter and spring and is most common in children under the age of 10.

If your child has chickenpox, they may:

- have a mild fever
- feel tired and irritable
- be itchy
- have a rash.

Children showing signs of Chickenpox should be kept away from school until all their spots have crusted over, to prevent spreading the infection.

Chickenpox is infectious from 1 to 2 days before the rash starts, until all the blisters have crusted over (usually 5 to 6 days after the start of the rash).

Further information about Chickenpox is available at the following link : https://healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/A_E/Chickenpox-varicella

