

WESTERN GRAMMAR SCHOOL



ISSUE 51 TERM 2 TUESDAY, 11TH JUNE 2019

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“READ IN THE NAME OF YOUR LORD WHO CREATED”

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Highschool BOYS Iftar



Assalamu Alaikum,

The month of Ramadan is a time of fasting and worship. It brings families, friends, and communities together. To break their daily fast, high school boys at Western Grammar School gathered for the school's first Iftar Night on 14 May 2019.

Dates, appetisers, and drinks were set out for students to take as they waited for sunset to break their fast. A program was held that included a soccer competition and Islamic quizzes. It was an amazing program of spirituality which strengthened the social bonds between students in this blessed month of Ramadan.

Maghrib, Isha and Taraweeh prayers were performed and led by WGS high school boys. A special thanks to all the teachers who contributed to organising this program and Iftar night.



Highschool GIRLS Iftar



Assalamu Alaikum,

On 15th May 2019, our second Iftar program was organised for the High School girls of Western Grammar School. Students strengthened their bond of sisterhood by writing one positive comment in each others diaries and improved their team building skills during a Treasure Hunt organised by the female staff. In groups of 4, students found and solved clues and riddles. The night ended with Isha and Taraweeh prayers led by the high school girls of WGS.

Yara Almoosewy (Year 10):

"Alhamdulillah, the High School girls of WGS attended their annual Iftar Night. It was a night to remember! Everyone participated in the activities and we all came together for iftar and prayers. The theme of this iftar night was 'Sisterhood'.

The connection and bond was represented throughout the night and it was very heart warming. It gave us the opportunity to not only connect on a social level but on a spiritual level as well.

I want to thank everyone for their attendance and contribution. A huge thank you to all the parents who contributed in making desserts for the Iftar night. Finally, a massive thank you to everyone who contributed to making this night memorable. We appreciate your hard work!"

#blessed #iftaar2k19 #sisterhood

YARA ALMOSEWY



Primary Iftar

Alhamdulillah, for the first time at Western Grammar School, an Iftar program was organised for Years 3-6 in Primary school. This was our third annual Iftar night on 16th May 2019. The program began with sport activities including dodge ball and soccer. The penalty shoot-out between year 4 and 6 boys in the grand final soccer match was nail-biting and exciting for the cheering spectators.

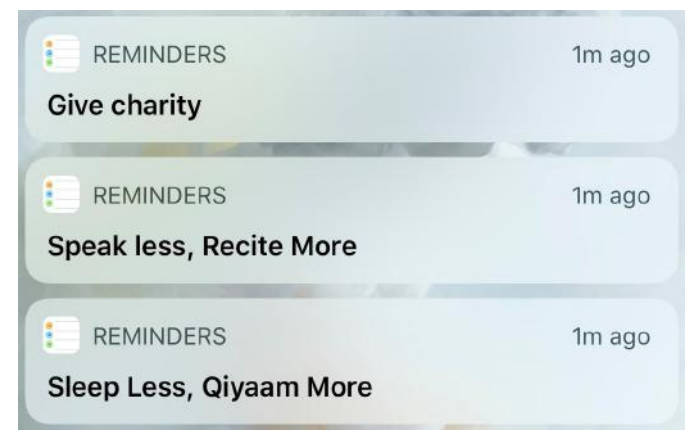
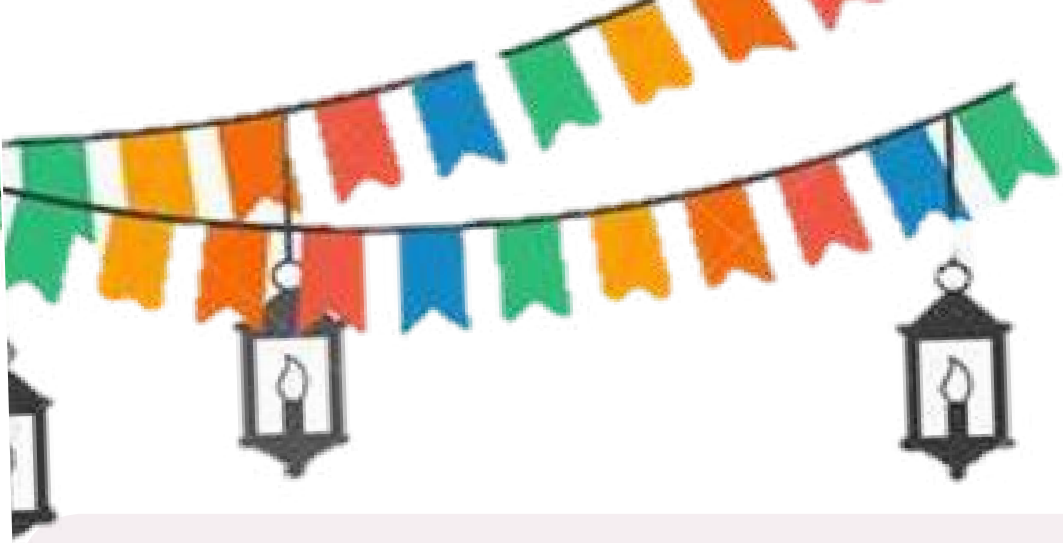
Later, all boys and girls participated in quizzes and games until the time came to break their fast. A variety of food including dates, springrolls, sandwiches, and desserts were served.

Students had an enjoyable evening sharing the company of fellow class mates.

Jazak Allah to all the staff who helped organise this Iftar event.

-DR ZACHARIAH MATTHEWS





ISLAMIC STUDIES

“Indeed, We sent the Quran down during the Night of Decree. And what can make you know what the Night of Decree is? The Night of Decree is better than a thousand months.”

(Quran 97:1-3)

Assalamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullaahi Wa Barakaatuh parents and students,

All Praise is due to Allah (swt), the Lord of the worlds, and all thanks is due to Him for the blessings He has bestowed upon us. We are currently in the last 10 nights of Ramadan and the greatest night of the year can be in any of these nights. We ask Allah to bless us with Laylatul Qadr, accept our fast, our night prayers, Quran recitation, all our good deeds, and to forgive all of our sins, Ameen!

Alhamdulillah, by the grace of Allah, this Ramadan has been jam packed with Islamic activities for the students in our school. These activities include: Charity Drive (Feed the Needy), Food Drive for welfare families, high school and upper primary Iftaar program, high school Tarawih program, Ramadan Soccer competition, Ramadan Quiz competition, high school girls Sisterhood activities, and our annual Quran competition.

We have so far completed the Charity Drive and have successfully collected \$13,250 within two weeks. This amount has exceeded last year's collection of \$10,000. We would like to thank all the parents and students involved in this drive. Your money has fed hundreds of needy families throughout Ramadan in many parts of the world. May Allah reward you all and place blessings in your wealth.

As you are all aware, we are heading towards the half yearly exams. These exams are a major part of the yearly assessments as it is very highly weighted. The Islamic department will be conducting these exams throughout week 7 (from Tuesday to Friday) for the entire school. Please ensure your child is well prepared for these exams as teachers are and will be going through extensive revision throughout week 5 and 6.

I, once again, ask Allah (swt) to bless all of us and thank you all for your continued support of Western Grammar School. We ask you, through your duas in these blessed nights, to help us achieve the vision of the school to provide quality education to our students to produce great future leaders. May Allah reward us all!

SHOUT OUTS!!

1. \$13,250 charity raised for Charity Drive 2019
2. Islamic/Arabic/Quran exams held in week 7

-MR ABDULLAH HAKEEM



FOOD DRIVE

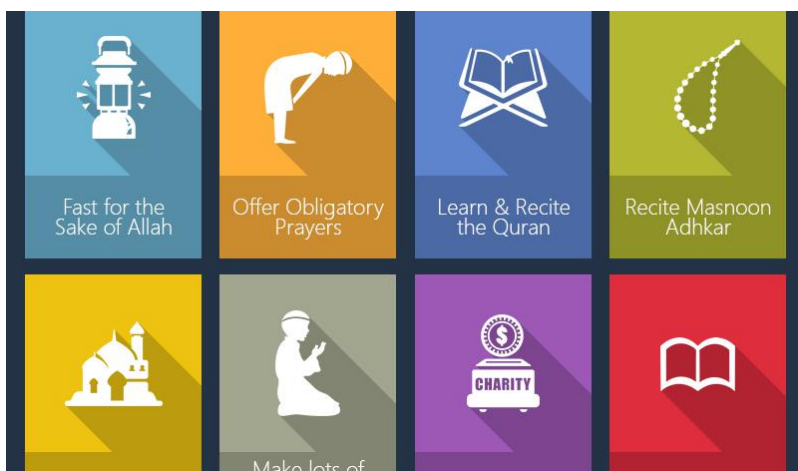
ALHAMDULILLAH!

STUDENTS WERE ABLE TO PACK 50 BOXES FOR THE CHARITY FOOD DRIVE. THESE BOXES WILL BE GIVEN TO NEEDY FAMILIES IN THE LOCAL AREAS.

MANY THANKS TO THE HIGH SCHOOL SRC AND VOLUNTEERS WHO ASSISTED WITH PACKING THESE BOXES.



WELFARE

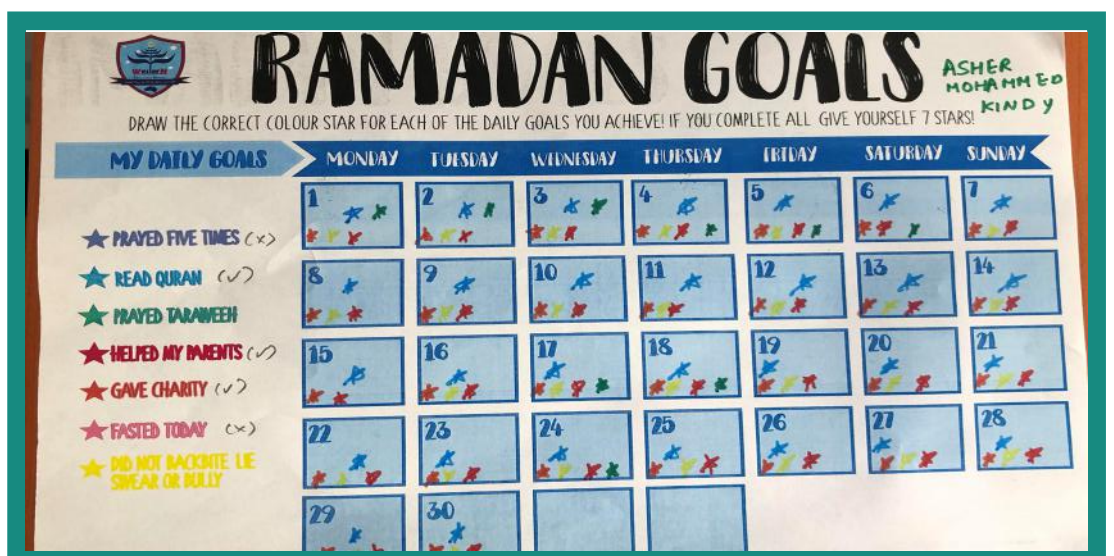


RAMADAN GOALS

PRIMARY CLASSES PARTICIPATED IN COMPLETING THE RAMADAN GOALS CHART.

EACH STUDENT NEEDED TO DRAW THE CORRECT COLOUR STAR FOR EACH OF THE DAILY GOOD DEEDS ACHIEVED.

WINNERS ON PAGE 7



SPECIAL ASSEMBLY

Alhamdulillah! On 31st May 2019, Western Grammar School held a special assembly to award the winners of the Quran Competition, Charity Fundraiser and Ramadan Goals Chart.

Masha Allah, students raised \$13,000 in the first week of Ramadan for the poor and needy. Out of all the classes, year 8 raised the most money this year. (Winners on Page 10).

Parents of students who came first, second and/or third were invited to attend. A massive thanks to all the teachers and staff who helped in hosting and organising the assembly.



iCharity Winners: Enaya Khan (Yr3), Emaan Malik (Yr2), Sana Khan (Yr10), Zeina Moheich (Yr11), Saliha Ali (Yr11), Ubaidullah Hasim (Yr3), Sajid Hasim (Yr5), Yahya Ali (Yr8) & Ali Chnadab (Yr7).



Ramadan Goals Winners: Noah Baxter (Yr5), Murium Bajwa (Yr4), Tahmeed Khan (Yr4), Ubaidullah Hasim (Yr3), Bisma Chaudary (Yr2), Lamar Abbadi (Yr1), Rafeen Ahmed (Yr1) & Mahad Eid (K).



Highest Donations:

First Prize:

Shuayb Hasim (Yr8)

Second prize:

Saaliha Khan (Yr12)

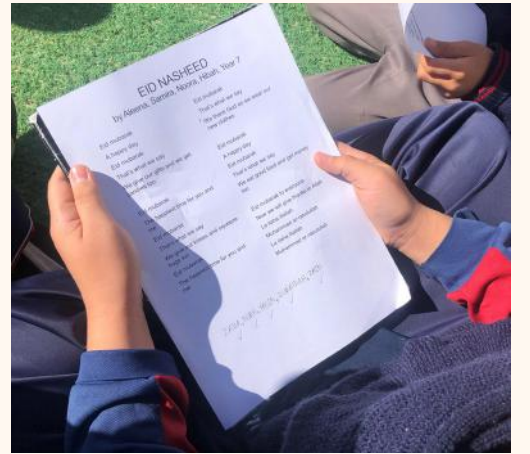
Third Prize:

Zakariya Ali (Yr4)

Nasheeds

Alhamdulillah, for Music class this Term, Year 7 and 8 performed Nasheeds to the Year 1 and 3 classes. Students created original Eid lyrics in small groups which was then revised by Ms Hajar, Year 7 and 8 Music teacher. Year 1 and 3 enjoyed their time listening to the Nasheeds.

-MS HAJAR RAFIQ



Islamic Book Fair

The annual Islamic Book Fair at Western Grammar School was held from 30th April to 10th May 2019. Both students and parents were welcome to purchase books and decorations on display. The book fair had numerous book stalls offering a large variety of Islamic books and literature to the students.



SCHOOL LOOP APP

WGS is excited to announce that we will start using the Skool Loop app to communicate with parents. The app provides the following features:

- instant messaging to individual parents or groups of parents
- a quick and easy way for parents to send an absentee note
- paperless permission slips which parents can sign electronically
- calendar of events and important dates
- all published newsletters

We encourage all parents to download the free Skool Loop app onto your phones ASAP. Already WGS events are being listed on the app for easy access by parents.

The school will shortly send parents a separate letter with passwords required to join certain groups.

For more information about the Skool Loop app visit <https://www.skoolloop.com/>



Family Zone

Assalamu Alaikum,

High School families were sent an email from Family Zone inviting you to access an app sponsored by the school for use on your child's mobile and tablet devices.

An online webinar explaining how the app helps parents control and monitor usage was held on Wednesday 1st May.

If you missed the webinar, you can watch the video at

<https://www.familyzone.com/wgs-nsw>. We encourage all families to use this app.



QURAN COMPETITION

competition

Assalamu Alaikum,
Alhamdulillah, on Friday, 24th of May 2019. the finals of the Ramadan Quran Competition were held.

All students from Kindergarten to year 12 competed. They demonstrated great abilities in memorisation, tajweed and melody.

Apart from showcasing the students beautiful and uplifting recitation and memorisation of the Quran, our main aim of having the competition was to provide inspiration to us all to strengthen our relationship with the Holy Qur'an through listening to the beautiful and soothing words that were revealed by Allah (swt).

On Friday 31st May, the winners were announced during a special assembly.

Parents of students who came first, second and third in the Quran Competition were invited to attend.



Quran Competition Winners (K - 2)

Kindergarten: Sulaiman Abdullah, Ammar Ahmed & Naeema Gardezy

Year 1: Yafi Said, Lamar Abbadi & Aaliya Saba

Year 2: Asma Bajwa, Maariya Rehman & Khadija Alikozay



Quran Competition Winners (3-6)

Year 3: Nusaibah Ahmad, Ismail Abdullah

Year 4: Loujane Abbadi, Rima El-Masri, Janat Aziz, Atika Taufiq

Year 5: Maryam Soltani, Sajid Hasim, Mustafa Alikozay, Fathurahman Saputra

Year 6: Eesa Malik



Quran Competition Winners (High School)

Year 7: Rufaidah Saputra

Year 8: Nashrah Islam, Yahya Malik, Sannan Asad

Year 9: Sabir Khan, Isaac Baxter, Taahir Mahomed

Year 10: Aysha Hamoud, Sana Khan

Year 11: Hafeza Hophyani



ABAYA DAY

Assalamu Alaikum,

As part of the Ramadan Quran Competition, students came dressed in abayas. The different colours and styles represented the beautiful mosaic of students at Western Grammar School.





Term 2 is progressing well with the fasting month of Ramadan the main focus. Students have been encouraged to utilise this valuable month to gain piety, discipline and self-restraint. The school organised a number of events for students to help support the needy – these included the charity drive and food hampers. Special Ramadan events included the Ramadan Goals chart, three separate student iftars, the Quran competition and Abaya Day.

An ongoing focus at school is bullying which unfortunately can affect students adversely. It is important to know what is considered bullying and what is not. Bullying occurs when three aspects combine: there is a misuse of power (e.g., by a physically stronger student), which is ongoing and repeated, and involves behaviours that can cause harm. Common types of bullying include: verbal (name calling, insulting, teasing, for example based on race or disability); physical (hitting, shoving, intimidating, etc.); and social (excluding, gossiping, isolating, etc.).

The following is not considered bullying: disagreements or arguments, not liking someone, a single act of social rejection, one-off acts of meanness or spite, isolated incidents of aggression, intimidation or violence. We call on parents to reiterate the message with their children that bullying is harmful and not permitted. Any student who is being bullied at school should tell a teacher as soon as possible. WGS is committed to providing a safe and supportive teaching and learning environment, where diversity is valued and all members of the school community are respected.

We take this opportunity to wish everyone a blessed Eid Mubarak - may Allah (swt) accept all your good deeds for His Sake.

ZACHARIAH MATTHEWS- DEPUTY PRINCIPAL



We are successfully into the middle of the second term of 2019. This year the School was able to organise the NAPLAN completely online, with minor hiccups. During the year we plan to focus on the IT skills of the students so they become more enabled and confident in sitting for online tests.

To improve the standard of teaching and upskilling of our teachers, professional development courses were arranged in the beginning of the term. Some teachers were also sent to the Association of Independent Schools (AIS) to complete professional development courses in their relevant faculties.

A new initiative adopted this term to enhance the active involvement of parents in their child's education saw Years 12, 11, 10 and 9 students and their parents invited for compulsory interviews with me to discuss their term 1 performance, study plans and future academic goals. This initiative was successful with near 100% attendance. The same approach was taken for students in classes Kindergarten to Year 8, but only with a select number of students and parents. We are also working to further develop the academic culture at the school by introducing weekly informal assessments in class. These informal assessments complement formal assessment tasks and allow students to improve on their academic performance.

This term and next will see increased support being given to our Year 12 students with extra classes after school and online support at home. We hope to improve our Year 12 and HSC results this year and are confident that our Year 12 students will perform to their best abilities. In Weeks 7 and 8, half-yearly exams will be held. Teachers are working hard with students in providing them with study guides and revision material. We anticipate that by supporting and guiding students now this will result in a marked improvement in students' performance overall.

We wish to thank all parents and guardians for their ongoing support that they provide at home. We pray that the month of Ramadan was a spiritually fulfilling one for you all. Eid Mubarak in advance to all of you.

ZULQARNAN MALIK - ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

**PRIMARY &
HIGHSCHOOL
ASSESSMENTS**

**17
-
21
JUN**

**DENTAL
CHECKUP**

**24
-
28
JUN**

**WRITING A
BOOK DAY**

**2
JUL**

**PARENT
TEACHER
INTERVIEWS**

**3
-
4
JUL**

**LAST DAY
OF TERM 2**

**5
JUL**