

# Western Grammar School

KNOWLEDGE IS THE ULTIMATE SOLUTION

## Highlights

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Term 3, Issue 13, 2013

Dhul Qa'da 1434 H

## Hadith:

Narrated Masruq: 'The best among you are the best in character (having good manners).'  
Sahih Al-Bukhari – Book 73 Hadith 61

## Words Of Wisdom:

"He, who opens a school door, closes a prison" (Victor Hugo)







# Our Progress & Our Future

Alhamdulillah I have been involved in the education industry over a long period of time in the capacity of infrastructure, planning and facilities management. I am also well experienced with the school governance role as I have been Board chairperson in two other Islamic schools.

I understand the importance of proper facilities within the learning environment for students and at the same time excellent facilities for staff. 2014 is just around the corner and we are experiencing a huge increase in enrolments for next year. We have in excess of 60 applications already for 2014. It is clear that we need facilities for growth. Initially we decided that Western Grammar will grow gradually. Gradual progress is more natural and rewarding and needs to be sustained. But it seems to be extremely difficult to refuse many applicants and not prepare ourselves to cater the demand of community. In the meantime I have advised the staff not to promise or confirm admission to any parents at this stage. We have limited capacity for 2014 and we will not be able to cater all the applications. To be fair with each applicant we need to set up some additional criteria for admission. The general consensus is to start taking entry tests immediately after the start of next term to conclude the 2014 admissions allowing unsuccessful applications to find other alternatives. However siblings will always have a priority and after, entry tests will be our next most important criteria for admissions.

Insha- Allah by the middle of next year we will have more capacity and we are waiting for the kind assistance of BGA to assist us in building a new 2 storey building which will provide us with relief from the current enrolment pressures.

I promise that we will strive our very best to meet the demand of the local community of Western Sydney.

At the start of 2013, we predicted we will have more than 100 students in 2014, but the real number is well above my anticipation. Finally I look forward to the future of Western Grammar as a dream becoming a reality Insha-Allah. This year our school has achieved many targets and I can see lots of activities taking place, especially in term 3, which appears full with exciting educational and extracurricular activities. I am proud of our staff members and the cohesive and caring team of Western Grammar School. I have full confidence in the teaching and support team serving the community of Western Sydney and hopefully the community of Australia to the best of our expectations and abilities. Well done Western Grammar team and thank you.

*Subhan Ali*



# Behaviour Management & Parents' Role



Dear parents and guardians,

Behaviour management is one of the most important issues for almost each and every school in the world. All schools will come across students who are disruptive, disorderly and in some cases psychologically and physically vulnerable. At times this problematic behaviour escalates when other students within the classroom are affected and consequently having a negative effect on the entire classroom environment. Managing these students is one of the challenges for all teachers and eventually for the school to deal with such cases.

At WGS our educational approach is motivational and all staff members are encouraged to use positive reinforcement. Teachers motivate our students by using a variety of award systems in the classrooms; teachers ensure they build self-esteem and confidence in our students. Our behaviour policies and procedures aim to create a peaceful, comfortable and pleasant educational environment. WGS have designed many awards including student of the week, student of the term and student of year in addition to best behaviour, merit awards and so on. We are convinced that the most effective method and approach for behaviour management is motivational approach. But in rare cases it does not work and implementation of detentions is inevitable. Alhumdolillah we are fully aware of this issue at our school.

It is important to mention that parents have very important role in the behaviour management of their children and they should be mindful about the following 10 aspects of behaviour management.

1. Be part of the school community and create a triangle (parent, teacher & student) relationship.
2. If any incident or complaint is reported by the child, investigate, analyse and contact the teacher or school admin for more information. Use a balanced approach to form an independent and impartial opinion.
3. Never include emotional feelings in reporting any incident or complaint.
4. Always think positively and try to enhance the respect of the teacher and the school.
5. Must provide a proper and fair feedback about the performance of your child and his/her behaviour at home. Both extremes which include no feedback or incorrect constant nagging are not helpful to manage the behaviour of any student and rather are detrimental and damaging for students.
6. Have a strong communication with the school and prepare a strategic plan with the teacher for the benefit of your child if necessary.
7. Create an environment of complete confidence and trust about the teacher and the school.
8. Be part of the parent body and assist the school by participating in the school activities.
9. Never give negative remarks or show any hostile feelings about other students, teachers or school which often causes bitterness and confusion for students.
10. Encourage your child in achieving higher goals set for them.

Ensure that peaceful, comfortable and pleasant educational environment is extremely important and essential for learning of each and every student. It is important that we all work together to achieve the noble cause of building a brighter future for our next generation.

*Irfan Afzal.*



# Ramadan Competition & Eid Fun Day



Students are happy to receive their awards for the Ramadan Competition, in which student learned about Art & Craft and enhanced their skills in this area of learning.



Eid Fun Day proved to be another very exciting day for all students. Student attended in their cultural dresses. During the first half of the day they attended their regular classes and in the remaining half day they had lots of FUN.



On this day were also given to those students who collected the most money to help the needy and poor. A trophy was given to year 1 & 2 by the president of National Zakat Foundation (NZF) for being winner and No. 1 donor. Year 1 & 2 have collected the most donations for poor and needy people in the school.





# Book Fair 2013



Book week was conducted in week 6 from the 19<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> of August 2013. Kindergarten to year 6 were involved in many activities during Book Week. We also had a book fair on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> of August.



**Students showed a lot of interest in books and they bought many books for their own libraries**

A big thank you to all students and parents who purchased books from the Scholastic's Book Fair, which exceeded \$850. We purchased many resources including reading books for our school's library from Scholastics in reward.

Other activities which were conducted during Book Week included students creating their own story books in class, writing narratives and reading many different story books throughout the day.

Book Week was a great way to encourage students to develop the love for reading books. Many students had the opportunity to explore story books in different contexts. Well done Western Grammar Students!

*Ms. Qadan*





# SPORTS

'Do not run!' 'Settle down!' 'Play time is over!' these are some exclamations which are all too familiar for students. But on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September, students had the opportunity to run all they wanted and exert as much energy they had without the fear of being asked to stop.



**Long jump was an exciting event which students enjoyed immensely.**



**In the 50 metre, 100 metre and 400 metre relays, everyone was so delighted and parents & teachers participated too**



**It's not the age that matters but the determination. Even Kindergarten students were jumping high.**

This is because Western Grammar conducted its annual athletics carnival at Charlie Bali Reserve. Despite being a small school with limited students, we were flat-out all day conducting close to a total of 50 individual events, ranging from novelty activities such as three legged races, to track and field such as high jump and shot put.



# CARNIVAL 2013



No game event is complete without the spectators... here the red and blue houses are cheering to encourage their teams.



Shot Put: It was so exciting that our Principal (in the middle) could not hold himself back from taking part in the event



Egg & Spoon



Sack Race



Three Legged Race

Congratulations to the Red house for coming 1<sup>st</sup> amongst their competitors - the Blue and Green houses. Thank you to all of our students who displayed great enthusiasm and of course allowed us to witness some exceptional athletic performances. Thank you also to all parents who came along and not only enjoyed the day, but helped in the day's proceedings and organisation. It was a wonderful day. *Noman Malik*





Students at Western Grammar participated in Science Week this term. Proceedings were held right throughout Australia and offered an array of activities with everything from science festivals, open days to online activities. *Contd...*





# IGNITE YOUR IMAGINATION



Students at Western Grammar made great preparations to make this event exciting, educational and inspiring for all. Students through K to 6 demonstrated many fun and exciting experiments. A special thanks to Sameed Ahmed and Rabiul Hossain from year 5 who closed science week 2013 with a special presentation on 'Science and the Qur'an'.



## TESTIMONIALS

1. I think Science week was awesome. I would give it 10 out of 10. It's an experience you will have once in a year. The experiments were so cool, everyone enjoyed it (Umar Asad yr 6)
2. I strongly believe that Science Week was one of the best weeks of the year. The week of creativity: the week of science. Experimental knowledge was gained by people and kids who hated science and now love science. My favourite part was the experiments, especially the making of slime (Amir Zraika yr 6)
3. The Science Week was fantastic. It was extra fun and exciting. We learnt how to do experiments, as well as a lot of new science things like how to make an egg float, how to blow a balloon with baking soda and vinegar, how to make an egg bounce and lots more. It was great! (Eaman Zaman Yr 5)
4. I think Science Week was a great week because we were shown lots of cool experiments. We also learnt how to do those experiments and they were interesting; for example the foamy fountain and the bouncy egg. It was a great week because it had amazing experiments and they told us the scientific facts behind the experiments. (Rabiul Hossain Yr 5)
5. I think Science Week was amazing! There were lots of activities and amazing experiments from the students. My favourite was the volcano (Mariam Drame Yr 5)
6. Science Week was really exciting for me and others. There were a lot of cool experiments and presentations that we learnt. (Sameed Ahmed Yr 5)
7. I personally liked Science Week. The projects were amazing. I also learnt a lot from them. They were very cool. Hopefully we will have it next term (Zainab Khan Yr 6)



# Character Parade

Students were given a character profile to fill out and bring in on Friday for their character parade. Students had the opportunity to bring a book character to life by dressing up as their favourite book character and parading their outfit to all parents. One of my favourite character outfits was by Mikhail Maulana in kindergarten who came dressed up as Mr. Crocodile in the book 'Never Smile at a Crocodile' by Jack Lawrence & Frank Churchill. *Ms. Galloway*





Dear parents and guardians,

We have reached the end of term 3 tabarakullah. It was as if I was welcoming all students, parents and staff not that long ago. Term 3 has been a very busy one for Western Grammar students. We had many exciting activities and events planned for this term which all were a great success. Students were involved in the Ramadan competitions, the Eid fun day, science and book week, the character parade, the book fair, the sports carnival, writing competitions and the Premier's Reading Challenge.

All students should be extremely proud of the hard work they achieved in these events, class work and competitions. Students were able to show off their great achievements to their parents during the parent teacher interviews. All classroom teachers had many positive things to talk about with the parents about their child. Well done to all students.

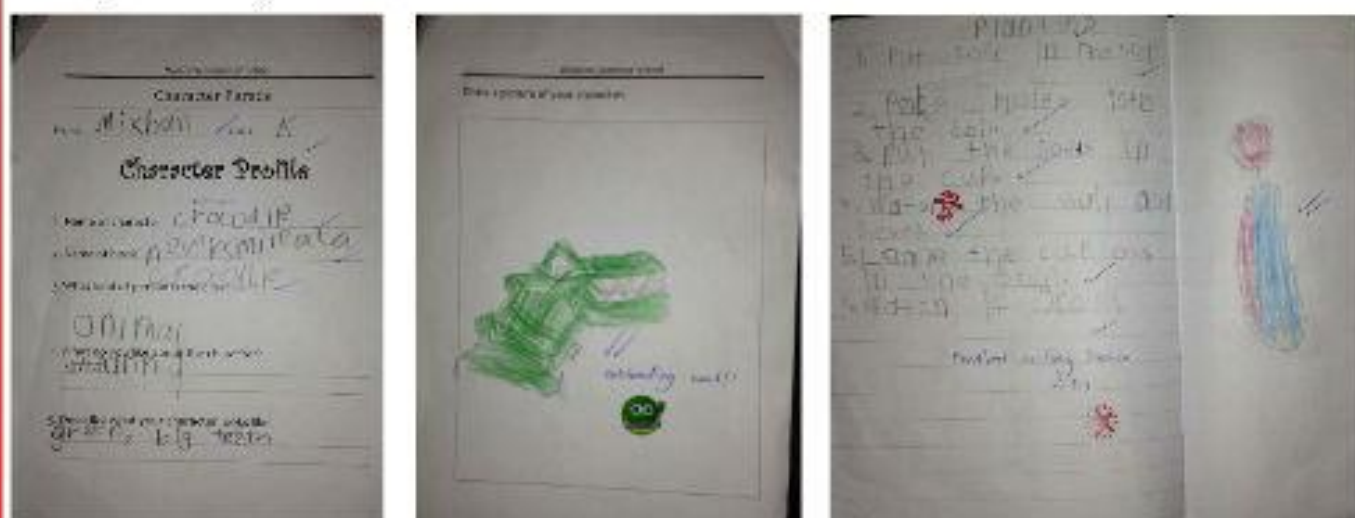
End of the term marks the accumulated 20 merit awards from students which they received at school. Students are then given either their Bronze, Silver, or Gold awards. Many students in Western Grammar have received their Bronze or Silver, Tabarakullah!!!

Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 went on an exciting excursion to Auburn Japanese Gardens on Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup> of September, 2013. They observed different living and non-living things in the garden and walked through the beautiful Japanese inspired gardens. All of the students were full of excitement as soon as they boarded the big bus.

Year 3 to Year 6 had an incursion on Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup> of September, 2013. They had local Police Officers visit the school and talk about safety around our community. Students also listened to a short talk about what Police Officers do during their daily patrol. The most exciting part of their incursion was when they got to look at the Police Officers vehicle. Some students experienced sitting inside the vehicle with the siren on.

I would like to thank the parents who worked hard with their children in order for them to excel in their academic work for this term. Have a safe and enjoyable holiday and see you next term!!!

Ms. Qadan-Primary Coordinator



Kindergarten Student's work Samples

"An education isn't how much you have committed to memory, or even how much you know. It's being able to differentiate between what you know and what you don't." *Aristotle Francis*





## Administration

### *Memos*

# Go4Fun

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Health  
Western Sydney  
Local Health District

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- |                                     |                |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| • Last day of Term 3                | 20 Sep, 13     |
| • First day of Term 4               | 8 Oct, 13      |
| • Eid ul Adha (tentative)           | 15-16 Oct, 13  |
| • Entry test for 2014               | 8 Oct – 25 Oct |
| • Orientation for Kindi (tentative) | 9 Nov, 13      |
| • Recycling Week                    | 11-15 Nov, 13  |
| • Revision Week                     | 18-22 Nov, 13  |
| • Excursion week                    | 2-6 Dec, 13    |
| • Special Assembly/Graduation       | 12 Dec, 13     |
| • Last Day of the year              | 13 Dec, 13     |

### SCHOOL RESOURCES

Western Grammar is committed to providing a quality educational environment to its students. This cannot be achieved without quality teaching staff and resources. Alhamdulillah, quality teaching staff and our resources are gradually growing. We have installed centralised PA systems and Smart Boards. The School has also acquired expensive teaching resources for science which include basic electricity kits, DC motor Kits and basic electronic kits. These resources will help our students develop their interest in science and will also enhance their learning abilities.



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