



## WESTERN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER

Issue 41      Term 4      Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2017

AND WE WILL HAVE REMOVED WHATEVER IS WITHIN THEIR BREASTS OF RESENTMENT, (WHILE) FLOWING BENEATH THEM ARE RIVERS. AND THEY WILL SAY, "PRAISE TO ALLAH, WHO HAS GUIDED US TO THIS". (AL-A' RAF 7:43)

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# KINDERGARTEN

Assalamu Alaikum,

Yup... we've done it! We've finished our final term of Kindergarten with a B A N G! So, now that we've learnt to count and read, to respect and love, to be patient and brave, we are learning all about Year 1! We're done with the assessments and exams, and we're now preparing ourselves for our journey ahead. Our Kindergarten class of 2017 has made many unforgettable memories that will always be cherished...

Asma, Maariya, Khadija, Sara and Leen, the smiles on your dials will be missed

Bisma, Maab, Manha, Gina and Aisha, your laughter will echo in the Kindergarten classrooms forever.

Huda, Aasyah, Yassmin, Laaibah, Emaan and Zahra, your sense of humour and cheeky moments will be remembered.

Mubaarak, Saeed, Haisam and Adam, your car and motorbike talks will never be forgotten

Omar, Ayaan, Yasser and Saad, your calm and collected personalities will always bring a smile to our faces.

Bilal Akl, Mohammed, Noman, and Ali Mohammed, your curious questions and mischievous moments will be missed.

Bilal Ahmed, Ali Asad and Issa, your enthusiasm and helpfulness will not be forgotten.

It has been a great pleasure teaching Kindergarten this year! We've all had a blast and I'm sure we'll remember it for many years to come. **-Ms Rana**



Assalamu Alaikum Parents,

SubhanAllah how the year has gone by. The once emergent learners have transformed into independent students capable of completing tasks on their own. This term our class has been focusing on persuasive writing and convincing others of their opinion. They have become quite good at this and even convinced Mr Naziry to sell more healthy food at the canteen!

In Mathematics we have been exploring volume and capacity and have learnt different addition and subtraction strategies such as bridging to ten, equivalent sentences and have grasped rounding very well. Students will impress you with their time skills as they can now tell half past on both digital and analogue time. Our focus in Geography has been on connections to special places. We have explored the importance of Aboriginal culture and people and their special connection to Australia. Students also discussed their own special connection they have to a place. Learning in Science has been focused on push and pull forces. They were given the opportunity to make their own push and pull toy which was great fun.

We have come so far since Term 1 and I am very proud of all their accomplishments. Insha'Allah I wish your families an enjoyable summer break!

**-Ms. Yusofzai**

# YEAR 1



# YEAR 1 & 2

Assalamu Alaikum,

It is the end of the year and alhamdulillah, we have achieved many milestones throughout 2017.

There has been significant improvement in the pupils' performance especially in Mathematics. There has been immense improvement in the students' reading levels as well. It was amazing to observe them being able to write so much on a new topic of exposition.

More so, in Science, we designed and made a model of a lunch box in class while for Geography we made maps of our local area and studied places to visit around Australia. Gymnastics was the highlight of this term where the students were exposed to various exercises which were very stimulating.

For Physical Educational theory we're looking at preventative measures such as 'Slip, Slop, Slap', medicines, hygiene and more.

Finally, for Creative Arts we listened to nasheeds and made xylophones and paper cup drums. With this I would like to wish everyone all the best for next year.

-Ms Shabnam



# YEAR 2

Assalamu Alaikum,

The 2017 school year is ending and Year 2 is graduating Stage One as enthusiastic learners and kind and considerate students.

In Literacy this term, there has been a focus on procedure writing in different forms. We have followed our written procedures to decorate biscuits with smiley faces and to decorate sticks with paint, feathers and twine. We enjoyed hands-on activities exploring grammar, especially with our 'contraction eating animals'. In numeracy this term, we have compared and measured the capacity of water using different sized containers and we have investigated multiplication and division strategies with cutting and pasting tasks.

We have been engaged in many activities over the term that have excited us! Students have shown great skill as gymnastic stars over the 6 week unit, developing their skills in tumbling, balance and coordination. A special parent guest came to share her knowledge of Jordanian dancing for CAPA and the Assistant Principal, Mr Naziry, came to visit us for our Speaking and Listening presentations for the 'School Playground Designs for Science' project. We have a passion for conservation by reducing pollution with litter in the environment, at school and home. TabarakAllah on a fantastic year!

-Ms Boyd





# Year 3

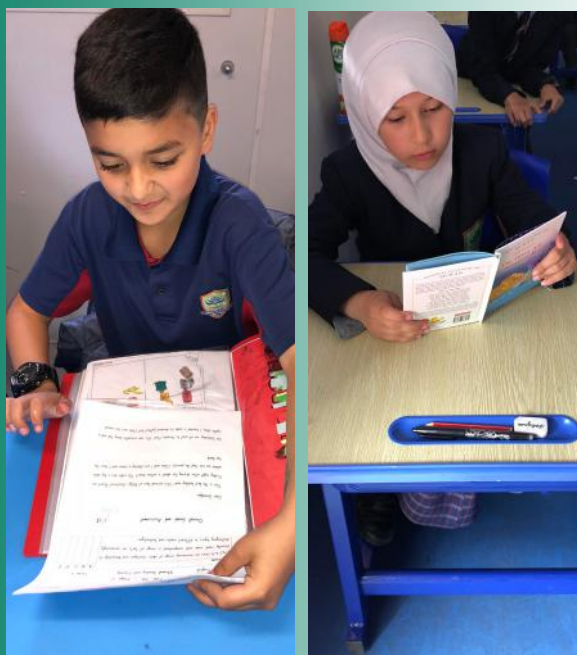
Assalamu Alaikum,

Welcome to Year 3, Term 4. We have had a short, yet occupied term full of hands on activities and exciting experiences. This term students have been engaged in reading a variety of novels, from 'Wonder' to 'Short stories for children'. Students thoroughly enjoyed all aspects of literacy and have become more confident when reading aloud in front of their peers. Our class has also been learning about plants and how they grow. Students now know what plants need to grow, survive and reproduce and this knowledge will go a long

way in helping to create a more sustainable future.

In Maths, students have been exploring more complex problems in various topics. It is great to see Year 3 exploring a variety of mathematical problems through the use of concrete materials and ICT. With the term coming to an end, I have been so proud to see the achievements of all my students. Each child in Year 3 has flourished both socially and academically. Insha'Allah, each of my students will continue to thrive in their studies and remain the eager and ambitious individuals you see before you.

-Mr. Diab



Assalamu Alaikum,

# Year 3&4

It has been an absolute joy and pleasure working with my beautiful class this year. 2017 has come to an end and it's an exciting yet sad moment watching my class graduate and move on to the next stage of their life; it will be very hard letting go of my brilliant bunch. The journey has been amazing, each student has grown tremendously in terms of academics, behaviour, confidence and maturity. Year 3/4 students have had the opportunity to study a wide variety of subjects, through a wide range of pedagogical activities within the classroom. From New Zealand to Indonesia, it has truly been an epic journey. Students have been engaged in reading a variety of novels, from 'Rowan of Rin' to 'Diary of a Wimpy Kid'. Our class has also been learning about recycling over the past few weeks and how it can help the environment and this knowledge will go a long way in helping them create a more sustainable future.

It's been an immense pleasure to teach my lovely and extremely delightful Year 3&4 students this year. I anticipate seeing them all succeed in the future and graduate as capable, well-informed and professional young Australian Muslims, Insha'Allah.

-Ms. Pinar



Assalamu Alaikum,

What a fantastic term it has been. Year 4 continued their good efforts and were engaged in many exciting topics and hands on activities. As usual, it has been a busy term for our class, particularly as we have completed our final assessments for the year. We did plenty of revision and scored excellent results. Well done Year 4!

This term, students have been analysing literary techniques that were used in the novel 'Rowan of Rin'. We utilised these techniques when composing our descriptive texts. We are now writing more comprehensive pieces. In Maths, we are covering number skills whilst integrating patterns and algebra, measurement, chance and data. Year 4 have also enhanced their critical thinking and problem solving skills. They were exposed to more complex multiplication and division problems.

It has been a pleasure getting to know each of my students this year and I am extremely proud of their accomplishments and hard work. I pray they continue to thrive in the future. Have a wonderful holiday!

-Ms. Afshar

# YEAR 4



# Year 5

Assalamu Alaikum,

I had a thoroughly enjoyable and interesting time teaching Year 5 this term. Here are some highlights from our class:

**Saad M:** I enjoyed my excursion this year.

**Malikah:** Ms Asad is a very fun teacher.

**Saad A:** The work we have done in class is very fun.

**Noora:** I enjoyed every single thing from the whole year.

**Aleena:** We learned a lot in English and I loved it.

**Zakaria:** I love all the work we have done.

**Zuhaira:** I had fun with all the subjects and sports.

**M. Zraika:** I enjoyed playing sports.

**Rufaidah:** I really enjoyed the athletics carnival as we get to compete with one another and win ribbons.

**Daniel:** I loved going to the park, sports and gymnastics.

**Samira:** I really enjoyed gymnastics and all the excursions.

**Adnan:** I learned so many things in this class.

**Hibah:** I enjoyed the character parade and the excursions.

**Muawiyya:** I enjoyed learning gymnastic skills.

**Mohamed Ali:** I really enjoyed the excursions.

**Armoan:** This year I liked how we did different things like dancing, going to the park and excursions. It was a fun year.

**Sa'd:** I enjoyed all incursions and excursions.

I am extremely proud of my Year 5 students, particularly as they have shown great maturity. Farewell Year 5, I wish you all the best in your future endeavours! I will miss each and every single one of you.

-Ms. Asad



# YEAR 6

Assalamu Alaikum,

Year 6 has worked very hard to complete exams, portfolio tasks and projects this term. I congratulate each student on their hard work and effort. Year 6 students have definitely proven themselves to be kind, mature and responsible as the year comes to an end. This term has definitely been memorable with our PDH classes. We learnt about the emergency response procedure DRSABCD. Students re-enacted situations where CPR would be needed to save a life. We also learnt about the first aid procedures for allergic reactions and asthma. All very fun and educational. What's the chance of rain today? Chance and probability was another exciting concept taught this term. Students made their own chance spinners and used it to calculate the chance of the spinner landing on a chosen preference. This was a great way to get students busy talking about chance. Our Science projects were also a highlight this term. Students demonstrated what happens during condensation and precipitation of the rain cycle using shaving cream and dye- very clever! We also experimented with the density of liquids including oil, salt solution and water. All in all, another successful term with plenty of learning, fun and memories.

-Ms Rukiye



## MAZE-ING

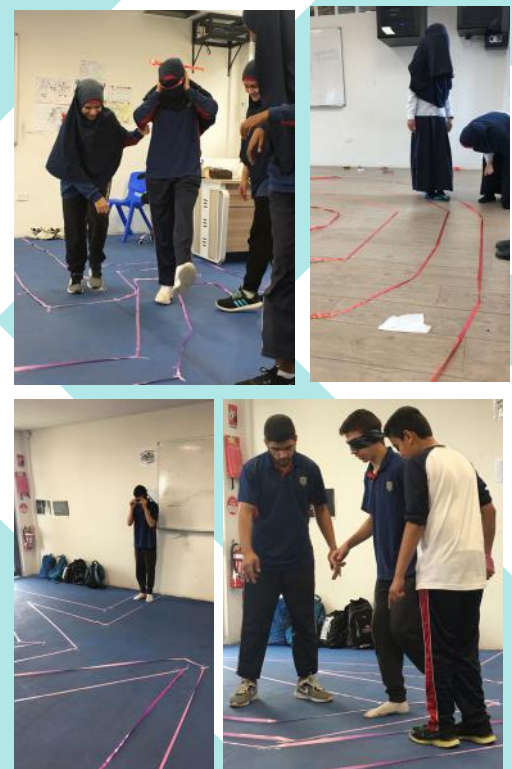
MS. YASMIN

Imagine you having to travel through a maze blind folded with only a voice of a friend to guide you, who would that friend be? Researchers have commented that when one of our senses are not active the other senses heighten to fill the absence. Furthermore, when a sense like sight is hindered individuals feel a sense of uncertainty and discomfort.

In order to test the aforementioned ideas, Year 10 designed three mazes that lead to a common destination. Students were teamed in groups of two and were asked to complete the maze with one person instructing and the other person completing the maze blind folded. There were three main rules that were applied to the activity;

1. Only one person can be on the path at a time and only one person could guide the blind folded individual
2. The person completing the maze is not allowed to step outside the maze, if they do they must return to the beginning of the maze regardless of how close they are to finish line
3. The person can't to go backwards.

Students really enjoyed designing the activity and practicing it with one another. The activity was a means of reminding students about the importance of their senses and the value of trust. This world is nothing but a test with a straight clear path. May Allah (swt) always guide us to the straight path and surround us with good company always Amin







### Ask Your Teen's Opinion

Encourage discussion as much as possible in your house. Ask your child for their opinion about political and social issues, or about books, movies, and TV shows. Listen carefully and prompt them to express their ideas thoughtfully, backing up their claims with evidence. Having dinner together as a family may be harder to do as your child gets older and there are more demands on their time, but this is one of the best ways to stimulate these kinds of conversations.

### Discuss the News

Encourage your child to become a more discerning consumer of news and information. Have an ongoing discussion with them about how you get your news and how you decide which sources to trust. Point out examples of misleading information you see, such as in ads, so that your child learns to be sceptical of some sources. Bookmark some Internet sites that you consider to be reliable and that they can use as reference for information sources.

### Help Develop a Homework Routine

Help your child develop a consistent homework routine. Make sure that they review what was covered in school that day and help them learn how to keep track of long-term assignments as well as revise previous topics weekly. They should have a system for managing their workload, but continue to help them. Revising previous content is of the utmost importance too, as you don't want your child to re-learn concepts by themselves the night before the exam.

Source (and for more tips): <http://www.parenttoolkit.com/> - Minor modifications by Mr Shagir.

## Words Work

MR SHARAN

To be a teacher is the most rewarding profession, though, being an English teacher is the most satisfying. This year, at Western Grammar School, I have been given the privilege of observing students advance in both curricular and extra-curricular activities while maintaining their Islamic ethos.

I enjoy teaching new concepts and am excited to teach my students how to write an eloquent essay for their assignments and exams. I'm happy to provide literature for them to read and for them to expand their horizons by learning about the experiences of others through different perspectives. I wouldn't be able to do that in another career, so education is definitely the career for me.

I enjoy giving constructive criticism when I edit papers. Being able to write in a clear manner is so important in today's society. I'm thrilled to help my students prepare for their futures by teaching them how to write professionally. I'm even more excited about recommending classic novels that have been written throughout the years to students who are eager to read. Literature can inspire you to use your own voice and most importantly, expand your vocabulary.

Some of the best conversations I have ever had, have been in an English classroom. One of my teachers used the concept of Lord of the Flies to separate our classroom into groups and discuss how our group would

survive on a desert island. It was so much fun, and we didn't want to leave our class until we settled on one way to survive. Bringing your own ideas to a discussion is a great way to learn about yourself and a great way to learn about others. I'm looking forward and spearheading the revolution that is taking shape in the Western Grammar English Department, and can't wait to see students grow both academically and in to mature adults that will contribute to our community.



[illegible]

Kayaking, swimming, indoor soccer, footy, archery and giant swing... a perfect recipe for a perfect camp. On Friday, 24th of November, 2017, a bunch of excited Western Grammar School students hopped on a transport and made their way to Milson Island for a three day camp filled with fun activities and exciting experiences that challenged them and helped them improve in many areas.

Students had the time of their lives as they swam their way through team building activities which involved working together, problem solving and critical thinking. Team spirited games of indoor soccer, long tennis, kayaking and lots of other exciting games were enjoyed on their fun-filled, spectacular trip. We took full advantage of all the excellent facilities available to us, such as the pool, archery range and recreation hall.





**MILSON ISLAND**

NSW Sport and Recreation Centre  
**Milson Island**

Some of the other highlights of the trip were the chilli challenge and scary stories by teachers and students especially the baby crying part. We gathered around the camp fire that we helped build and really enjoyed the spooky atmosphere created by the darkness and the scary stories.

Alhamdulillah, the camp was a huge success and all of us, teachers and students alike, not only had a fun, enjoyable time but we also learned valuable life skills and experiences.

We are all looking forward to another exciting camp next year. Onwards campers!

A collage of 12 hexagonal images arranged in a grid-like pattern. The images depict various activities and settings: a bonfire, a tray of food, a boy sitting by a lake, a boy playing video games, a boy ziplining, a boy swimming, two boys smiling, a boy kayaking, a boy ziplining, a boy gaming, a boy ziplining, and a boy ziplining. The collage is set against a white background with a teal geometric pattern in the top right corner.



# GYM-TASTIC



This term K-6 have been fortunate enough to participate in gymnastics! We had two amazing gymnasts come to our school from 'FitFutures' to teach us things we could never have thought to have done before.

Our first session consisted of us learning specific moves and positions like 'Pencil' where we needed to stand straight and reach for the sky and 'Motorbike' where we needed to bend our legs a little and stretch our arms out to the front. It was so much fun! We were allowed to run up to trampolines and jump off them doing fantastic stunts and we learnt how to walk on an obstacle beam doing the 'Chocolate Dip'.

The best thing to come out of gymnastics this term was the confidence boost, and self-assurance: we knew we were going to try new things and succeed! Majority of the activities we participated in were in a circuit which meant we had to work as a team and display great measures of patience, support and enthusiasm.





# AHOY! PIRATES



Ahoy mates! In week 9 Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 1/2 and Year 2 went all aboard at The National Maritime Museum for the ultimate pirate experience. The day began with a mighty greeting from Captain Jack Flash and Big Belly Bam and his rascally crew.

The Pirate Classroom was a unique learning experience, to be a legitimate pirate, we need to speak pirate phrases... Arrh- when you don't know what to say, Avast- stop, shiver me timbers- what a surprise. Followed by rat and spoon races, peg leg races and pretend sword fighting.

The Treasure Hunt had these little sea urchins looking high and low throughout the museum and out to the 'James Craig' ship. They explored the vessel until the treasure was found, the chest was overflowing with rubies, jewels and diamonds.

The Vampire, a battle ship docked in Darling Harbour was a great place to take a photo in front of the cannons. The Action Station museum for the Vampire and HMAS Onslow Submarine included interactive games and activities.

The bus trip home was long but time was passed by endless riddles, jokes and games. Many students were sad to leave and tired enough to sleep on the bus.





# Library News

This year has seen important changes in the library, we've got more than 3,000 different collections in our library and it's made a big difference from 2016. This year, our student's unique visits increased and this has positively affected literacy levels at school. Now we have more than 5,000 books ranging from non-fiction, academic, religious, fiction, young-adult, picture books and more. Our students have been using the library as a safe space to study and read during their break times and this has further reinforced the library's importance at WGS.

Every week the school and library does different fun activities, and the Book Fair was by far the best activity yet. It was full of excitement, lots of fun and enjoyable moments for students. Parents and students were invited to attend and find new reads at the fair. Scholastic Books supplied us with a large selection of books and parents purchased these books for students. The school receives a commission, which helps with purchasing books for the library. By popular demand, we extended the book fair date so that students could buy even more books.

There were so many wonderful and attractive things at the fair.

As in previous years, the school held a book parade, where the students and staff dressed up as characters from their favourite books. Parents were encouraged to think and plan creatively when choosing a costume, considering which book allows the students to escape, to forget the world around them and to use their imagination.

**-Ms Rozina Qaza**





# WORD Find



Achievements  
Adventure  
Arabesque  
Archery  
Awards  
Backbend  
Balance  
Beam  
Bonfire  
Bunkbed  
Bushwalk  
Campground  
Canoeing  
Canteen  
Cartwheel  
Compete  
Crowd  
Exercise  
Fishing  
Flashlight  
Gifts  
Graduation  
Grip  
Handstand  
Hiking

Insect  
Jumping  
Kayak  
Lake  
Leap  
Lunge  
Medals  
Nature  
Paddle  
Path  
Performance  
Presentation  
Presentations  
Prize  
Rings  
River  
Speeches  
Stars  
Students  
Swimming  
Tassels  
Trail  
Trampoline  
Trees  
Trophies

## GAME TIME

## CODE CRACKER

THE STEAMSHIP, S.S.WESTERN GRAMMAR, HAS JUST SENT THROUGH AN URGENT MESSAGE TO YOUR CONTROL ROOM. THE ONLY PROBLEM IS THAT IT'S IN MORSE CODE! USE THE KEY TO DECODE THE MESSAGE BELOW AND BECOME A CODE CRACKER!

•••• •- •--- •--- •---

••• ••- -- -- •••

•••• --- •-•• •• -•• •- -•--- •••

### MORSE CODE KEY

A •-•	F ••••	K •-•	P •---•	U •••
B -•••	G -••	L •-••	Q ---•-	V ••••
C -•-•	H ••••	M --	R •-•	W •-•
D -••	I ••	N -•	S •••	X -•••
E •	J •---	O ---	T -	Y -•-•
				Z --••



# Islamic Studies Department

SHOUT OUT

***"When the victory of Allah comes and the conquest, and you see the people coming into Islam in multitudes, then glorify and praise your Lord and ask forgiveness from Him, verily He is the One Who forgives."***  
***(Surah An-Nasr)***

Assalaam 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. By Allah's Will, we have reached the end of the year 2017, and due to this, we should glorify and praise Allah and ask forgiveness from Him, as quoted in the above verse. The Prophet was commanded to do so when he became victorious in the conquest of Makkah and people were accepting Islam in multitudes. Therefore, due to the success of our school, the students, and the staff this year, we Praise and Thank Allah for this success and may He forgive us in all our shortcomings.

Alhamdulillah, the students of WGS have completed their yearly exams and we are very pleased with the results of many students. We congratulate all the students who have achieved top marks in their exams and for all those who have tried their best. May Allah reward them all and we hope they can do even better next year. We also want to congratulate our special kindy students who have performed an exceptional job in their exams scoring an average of 87% in Islam and 75% in Quran. They have all tried really hard and have adjusted to this school really well.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to remind all the students to continue with their regular daily prayers during the holidays, revise all the surah's memorised, and keep up with reading their Iqra books. We would also like to thank you, the parents, for believing in us, and for supporting us in taking the school towards success. May Allah reward you all and we ask Allah (swt) to help us achieve the vision of the school in providing quality Islamic and secular education to our students to produce great future leaders. May Allah bless us all, and enjoy the holidays!!!

**-Islamic Studies Department**

**Top Islamic Studies yearly exam class average for the entire school is Year 2 at 92%**

**Top Arabic Studies yearly exam class average for the entire school is Year 4 at 88%**

**Top Hifth yearly exam class average for the entire school is Year 4 at 82%**





Assalamu Alaikum,

This term the students had a good time doing physical activity outside as well with the weather on our side. The Kindergartens have been running, jumping, sprinting, catching, throwing and doing relays. The relays included Baton Shuttle relay and Rock bridge tree relays. While the Year 1s with the Year 1/2s have been practicing flexible coordinating body movements including transferring weight, running, jumping, leaping and landing on one or two feet, animal walks, toes and nose tag, running with heels high, rotations and spatial and body awareness.

In addition, the Year 2s have also been doing flexible body coordination including Toes and Nose Tag, Animal walks, transferring weights and so forth. The Year 3s have been practicing locomotor and non-locomotor skills, manipulative skills involving rolling, throwing, catching, fielding, dribbling, striking, kicking and trapping. More so, the Year 4s have also been doing manipulative skills, running, sprinting, jumping, landing and other games. The Year 5s and 6s have been practicing different skills, elements of movement and composition, movement with an object like a ball, rope and hoop. The above activities have been very beneficial for pupils to be physical active and it also has given them a change of environment.

# SPORTS



## KIDS KORNER

A CATEGORIC COLLECTION OF CREATIVE, CRAZY, CAPTIVATING AND CLASSY KID-CREATIONS





# UP To Date

## 5 December Last day

The end of the eventful fourth term and the 2017 year. Enjoy the summer break everyone!

## 06 December: Annual Assembly

Certificates, awards and more- the end of year assembly is filled with fun. Don't forget to pick up a copy of our yearbook on the day!

## 30 January: Back to School

Our 2018 school year will begin on the 30th of January. Get ready by buying your books and resources from [fivesenseseducation.com.au](http://fivesenseseducation.com.au)

## 20 January: Admin Back to School

WGS will be open for parents to purchase uniforms.

# Message

From the Principal



Dear Parents, guardians and students,

As we are getting close to the end of another successful year for the Western Grammar School I would like to give a message to my students and their parents for persistent and ongoing efforts towards achieving the major tasks of the life. A good life is a life which is full of contentment and peace of mind, which are

connected to success and achievement. This year many students have achieved great results and they will be rewarded with medals and trophies. There could be some who did not perform well academically for one reason or another, but they must not think that any kind of lacking in performance or failure is permanent or cannot be altered to a great success with effort. It is Almighty's way of giving people the success and achievements and generally, He gives success to those who work hard with utmost sincerity and honesty. These are the basic two conditions for success in this world and in the hereafter. It very rarely happens that success is not granted by Allah swt despite the sincere effort and this is an exception or special exemption given by the Creator with His own will and wisdom.

Persistent and ongoing sincere efforts are required and one must be prepared to put their maximum in order to achieve high targets of life. Alhamdulillah, we have been striving with same passion and mindset. Another year of achievements is being concluded and this year was also challenging with some hurdles towards the rapidly embracing success. Together we have faced many new challenges and trials and have exceeded all expectations in persevering through them. By the will of Allah, we shall continue to confidently face these challenges in the future and your support is imperative for our success in this endeavour.

Since everyone is going for a good break I wish everybody's safe and pleasant holidays and I anticipate that everyone will return with more energy, passion and motivation. During these holidays, besides having a lot of fun and relaxation, please work on your will and determination in addition to the spiritual power that is required for persistent efforts in order to achieve important targets of life.

I would like to extend my warm thanks to the teachers and staff who have worked with us and helped create a positive and pleasant learning environment within our school. I would also like to show my appreciation for the parents and members of the wider community who have supported us throughout our journey over the past five years. Together, our determination and combined efforts have been instrumental in the shaping of the young minds who study at WGS. As we look forward to another year, I wish you safe and happy holidays.

Wassalam,