

WESTERN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Newsletter

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Supporting Senior Students Through Exam Season

YOUSEF ALKARNAZ

As our Year 11 and 12 students approach a critical phase in their academic journey, the support of parents and caregivers plays a vital role in helping them manage the pressures of exams. This period can be both rewarding and challenging, and a steady presence at home can make all the difference.

One of the most effective ways parents can assist is by helping students maintain a healthy routine. Encouraging balanced study blocks, regular breaks, nutritious meals, and adequate sleep can significantly improve concentration and wellbeing. Creating a quiet, distraction-free space for study also signals the importance of focused effort.

Equally important is emotional support. Exam anxiety is real, and students benefit from being reminded that their worth isn't defined by a single result. Listening

without judgement, offering encouragement, and helping them keep perspective are powerful ways to reduce any mental pressure. Furthermore, parents and caregivers can always reach out to the Wellbeing team at the school or myself for further support and/or advice.

Please also stay engaged with key school dates and ensure you and your child are aware of support options, including teacher consultations, after-school sessions, and wellbeing resources.

On that note, I'd like to commend our incredible Year 12 students for the initiative and teamwork they've demonstrated in recent weeks. Many have taken the lead in organising collaborative study groups and after-school sessions, showing not only academic drive but also a strong sense of community.

Their willingness to learn with and from each other is a testament to their maturity and commitment.

We are proud of their efforts and encourage all students to continue supporting one another as we head into the exam period.

Together, with teachers, families, and peers behind them, our students are well-placed to succeed insha'Allah.

Patiently grateful,
Yousef Alkarnaz

The Opportunity of Charity

SH ABDULLAH HAKEEM

ظِلُّ الْمُؤْمِنِ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ صَدَقَتُهُ

The Prophet ﷺ said, "The believer's shade on the Day of Resurrection will be his charity."
(At-Tirmidhi).

Assalaam Alaikum dear parents, guardians and students.

As we have approached the midway point of Term 3, we take a moment to reflect on one of Islam's most cherished values; charity (sadaqah). This term, our school has been actively participating in three major charity campaigns: Orphan Sponsorship, Support for the Disability Centre, and the Homeless Drive. Each initiative was a chance for students and families to engage in the spirit of giving, empathy, and service.

In Islam, charity is not seen as a burden but a beautiful opportunity, one that carries immense reward and is beloved to Allah. The Prophet ﷺ taught us that charity provides shade on the Day of Judgement, a powerful reminder of its lasting benefit. When we give to others, we are in fact giving to ourselves by storing rewards for a day when we will need them most.

Allah says "The example of those who spend their wealth in the way of Allah is like a seed [of grain] which grows seven spikes; in each spike is a hundred grains..." (2:261). Every small act of giving; a coin, a blanket, a

kind word, is multiplied in reward. Our students are being nurtured to see charity as not just a transaction, but an act of worship and compassion.

Through these campaigns, our students have not only learned about the needs of others but have also developed gratitude, empathy, and responsibility. These are lifelong qualities we hope to instil through action, not just words.

We sincerely thank all parents and students who contributed generously, and we encourage everyone to continue giving for the sake of Allah and to nurture in our hearts a love for charity. May Allah reward your efforts, purify your wealth, and accept every act of giving. May He raise our children to be among those who give regularly with sincerity, joy, and trust in His promise.

Let us continue to encourage our children to see charity as a blessing, and not a burden. Together, we can raise a generation that gives for the sake of Allah willingly, wholeheartedly, and consistently.

SRC Visit Disability Centre

UMMU MATTHEWS

On Wednesday, 20th August, our High School Student Representative Council members from Years 9–12 had the privilege of visiting My Home Disability Services Centre as part of our ongoing support for their incredible work in advancing the development, care and well-being of individuals with intellectual disabilities. This visit also gives our students an insight into ways they can serve the community, regardless of paths they may be thinking and planning for.

The visit began with a warm welcome from the centre's Director, Maha, who shared valuable insights into the centre's history, mission, programs, and the life-changing impact of community support and engagement. Our students participated in a range of activities alongside the centre's clients, fostering connection, understanding, and mutual respect.

Following the activities, everyone came together to share a delicious lunch sponsored by WGS and served by our students, giving our students an opportunity to further interact with the clients and staff in a relaxed and friendly setting. The visit left our SRC members inspired, with a deeper appreciation of the importance of inclusion, compassion, and active citizenship.

We had the added benefit of sharing the visit and engaging with staff and young learners from Arkana College, who very generously provided waffles and ice cream for all.

We are proud of our students for representing Western Grammar School with kindness and enthusiasm, and we look forward to continuing our partnership with My Home Disability Services Centre to make a positive difference in our community.





Student Representative Council

SAAMIYA HUSSAIN

Western Grammar School proudly hosted the Semester 2 SRC Presentation for our Primary students at the beginning of this term. This special event marked the handover of responsibilities from our Semester 1 SRC members to the newly elected Semester 2 representatives.

At WGS, we value student voice and leadership. By operating the SRC on a semesterly basis, we provide more students with the opportunity to develop important skills such as communication, responsibility, and service. Students are selected through a democratic process involving nominations, speeches, peer voting and teachers selection based on school values- Respect, Responsible and Resilience.

During the ceremony, our Semester 1 SRC members were warmly thanked for their dedication and hard work. We then welcomed the new Semester 2 SRC members, who were presented with their official badges and leadership contracts outlining their roles and responsibilities.

May Allah bless them, grant them success, help them fulfil their responsibilities excellence, fill their hearts with sincerity and truthfulness, and make them excellent role models for their peers – Ameen. We are excited to see the positive contributions our new SRC leaders will make this semester, inshaAllah.

Islamic Public Speaking

FATEN OSTA

Students from Stage 2 & 3 proudly represented Western Grammar School at the Islamic Public Speaking Competition at Arkana College. Competing against students from over 10 Islamic schools, our participants showcased dedication, confidence and strong Islamic values.

Issa Farooqi (Year 4), Ibrahim Khan (Year 5) and Fatima Norman (Year 6) worked diligently, giving up time at school and home to prepare their speeches. Through peer feedback and structured practice, they developed clarity, confidence and effective speaking skills.

Issa spoke on "Why Good Character Matters in Today's World," reflecting on the noble traits of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. Ibrahim presented "My Islamic Hero: Lessons for Building Tomorrow," focusing on Ertugrul's faith, perseverance and justice. Fatima delivered "Building Bridges: How Can Young Muslims Be Good Ambassadors of Faith," highlighting the importance of respect, knowledge-sharing and character. All speakers incorporated relevant hadiths from our morning assemblies.

They were supported by Ayman Ali, Hakim Alikozay, and Khadija Soltani, who played an important role in their preparation. Despite tough competition, our students performed excellently, with Ibrahim and Fatima delivering note-free speeches. In the impromptu round, Fatima delivered a standout speech on "The Best Thing About My Age", winning FIRST PLACE in the Year 6 category.

Congratulations to all our participants on their courage and achievement. We are proud of how they represented Western Grammar School with honour and heart.



Bullying, NO WAY!

SAAMIYA HUSSAIN



This week, our school proudly participated in the Bullying, No Way! National Week of Action, focusing on raising awareness about bullying and promoting a culture of respect, empathy, and safety for everyone.

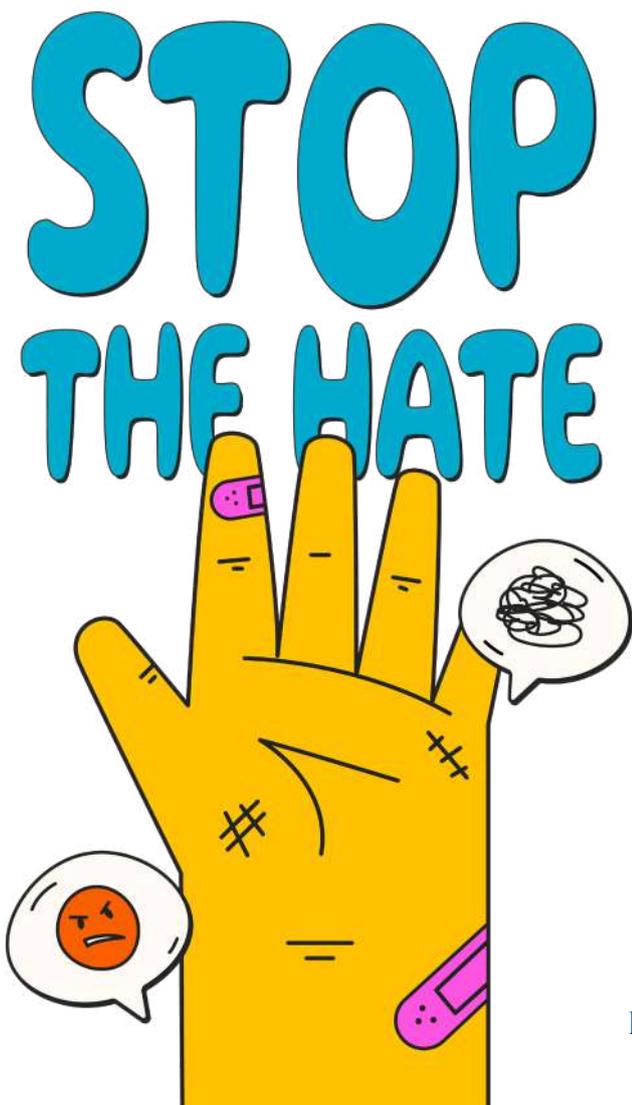
We began with interactive anti-bullying workshops for all students, exploring different types of bullying—physical, verbal, social, and cyber—and strategies to stand up for what is right. Students were encouraged to BE BOLD, BE KIND, and SPEAK UP by recognising harmful behaviours and seeking help when needed.

Both primary and high school students took part in a range of meaningful activities and discussion throughout the week. Primary students engaged in kindness challenges, recording positive actions, and enjoyed workshops aimed at replacing negative behaviours with respectful ones. In addition, our Year 5–6 and high school students participated in AFP-led Anti-Bullying and Cyber Safety sessions, where Youth Liaison Officers highlighted safe online practices, the impact of digital footprints, responding to cyberbullying, respectful relationships, social media responsibility, and how to report unsafe behaviour.

As Muslims, we are reminded by the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ who said:

“A Muslim is the one from whose tongue and hand other Muslims are safe.” (Sahih al-Bukhari & Sahih Muslim)

This hadith guides us to ensure our words and actions never cause harm to others. As a school, we remain committed to a bully-free environment, ensuring our community continues to be a safe, supportive, and happy place for all students and staff.



Athletics Carnival

ZOHEB KHAN

Alhamdulillah, our 2025 Athletics Carnival was an incredible success! The day was blessed with perfect weather—clear skies and cool temperatures set the stage for an amazing turnout from students, staff, and parents.

The carnival kicked off with a bang as the boys' 100m sprint set the tone for an exciting day of competition. Our youngest students in K–2 joined in the fun with a variety of activities, including sprints, sack races, and the always-entertaining egg-and-spoon race.

A beautiful highlight of the day was gathering together for Jummah prayer on the track, followed by the crowd-favourite chanting competition, which was won in style by the Green Bears. The afternoon wrapped up with the big-ticket events—the relays—which had everyone on their feet cheering.

The final results saw the Blue Wolves in 4th, Red Lions in 3rd, Green Bears in 2nd, and for the first time ever, the Yellow Eagles taking home 1st place with their incredible participation and effort throughout the day.

A heartfelt thank you to all students, staff, and parents for making the day such a success—and above all, thanks to Allah for blessing us with such a wonderful event.



Subject Selection

YOUSEF ALKARNAZ

On Tuesday the 19th of August after school, Western Grammar School proudly hosted its annual Year 10 Subject Selection Expo in partnership with 5 Before 5 Solutions, an event designed to help students and families make informed decisions about their HSC senior studies. The Expo brought together teachers, parents, and students in an engaging environment where each subject was showcased

through creative and interactive stalls.

From Science experiments and Maths problem-solving challenges to thought-provoking History discussions and insights into Business Studies, the stalls gave students a real taste of what lies ahead in Years 11 and 12. Teachers were on hand to answer questions honestly, helping students weigh up the opportunities and challenges of each subject. Parents also

had the chance to explore options with their children, ensuring that decisions were made with both interest and future goals in mind.

The Expo was more than just an information session; it was a celebration of learning and future pathways. Students left feeling inspired, equipped with greater clarity about their choices, and motivated to set strong foundations for their senior years and beyond insha Allah.



Last Tuesday, our Year 9 students set off for the Treetop Adventure in Western Sydney Parklands for a day of challenge, courage, and teamwork. Although the weather was a little uncertain at times, the students showed determination to embrace the experience and make the most of the day.

The course tested both body and mind, with obstacles including rope crossings, balance challenges, and high climbs. To cap it off, students soared

across long-distance zip lines, an exhilarating reward after the tough physical tests.

There were plenty of moments where the challenges felt overwhelming—students hesitated at heights or struggled with balance—but what stood out most was the incredible peer support on display. From cheering each other on to offering encouragement through the more difficult sections, the spirit of teamwork and resilience was inspiring.

Most importantly, every single student managed to complete the course. The sense of pride and accomplishment at the end of the day was clear, with students leaving not only physically tired but also uplifted by the achievement.

It was a day of growth, confidence-building, and unity—an experience that Year 9 will remember for years to come

Treetop Adventure

ZOHEB KHAN



UPDATED WGS CANTEEN MENU

-- MONDAY --

ZATAAR	\$3.00
ZATAAR ROLL (WITH VEGETABLES)	\$5.00
LAHAM-BI-AGEEN	\$4.50

-- TUESDAY --

CHEESE PIZZA (SLICE)	\$4.00
VEGETARIAN PIZZA (SLICE)	\$4.00
GARLIC BREAD - FULL	\$5.00
GARLIC BREAD - HALF	\$3.00

-- WEDNESDAY --

CHICKEN WRAP	\$7.00
CHICKEN BURGER	\$5.00

-- THURSDAY --

SAUSAGE SIZZLE	\$4.00
BUTTER CHICKEN AND RICE	\$7.00

-- FRIDAY --

NUGGETS & CHIPS	\$6.00
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-- DAILY MENU --

* MUST ORDER BEFORE RECESS *

SO HALAL MEAT PIE	\$5.00
SO HALAL CHICKEN MORNAY PIE	\$5.50
SO HALAL SAUSAGE ROLL	\$4.00
SO HALAL CHEESE & SPINACH ROLL	\$5.00
VILLIS MEAT PIE	\$6.00
NOODLES CUP	\$4.00
5PCS NUGGETS IN A CUP	\$4.00
TOMATO, BBQ & CHILLI SAUCE	\$0.50

-- SNACKS --

KETTLE CHIPS 45G	\$4.00
MUFFIN	\$3.50
LAMINGTON	\$2.50
FINNI ROLL UP	\$2.00
ICE BLOCK	\$1.00
NOODLE SNACKS	\$1.00
SMALL CHIPS	\$1.00
WICKED FIZZ	\$0.50

-- DRINKS --

ALOE VERA 500ML	\$4.00
JUICE BOX (APPLE AND ORANGE)	\$2.50
NIPPYS FLAVOURED	\$4.00
MILK 250ML	
WATERFORDS FLAV.	\$4.00
DRINKS 475ML	
GLEE SPARKLING FRUIT DRINKS 250ML	\$3.00
SPRING WATER 600ML	\$2.00

-- NOTE --

- All orders from K-6 must have their name and class labelled, and handed to their class teacher before recess.
- All orders must have the correct amount of money.
- The canteen is not responsible for any loss of change.
- For any specific dietary needs please inform the canteen staff before ordering.
- All items are subject to availability. Where a menu item is unavailable a similar product will be offered.

CANTEEN DOES NOT OFFER CREDIT