Dear Parents and Caregivers

Last week we celebrated National Science Week. The theme was Game Changers and Change Makers. I enjoyed speaking with students about what they were learning. Global trends tell us that the jobs of the future will increasingly require science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) skills, with an estimated 75 per cent of today’s fastest growing occupations related to STEM. I would like to acknowledge our Science Committee; Ms Winter, Ms Zhang and Ms Tassell and all staff for designing and delivering the program last week.

NAPLAN Online – School Readiness Test

You may have heard that NAPLAN Online was introduced in 2018, with 274 schools in Western Australia participating. Our school will be transitioning to NAPLAN Online in 2019. NAPLAN online will provide better assessment, more precise results and faster turnaround of information. Your child’s results will be returned to the school faster, within a few weeks rather than a few months. On Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th September our students in Years 3 will participate in a trial of the assessment platform, by undertaking an online readiness test that includes examples of the new NAPLAN online questions. Participating in this trial is important as it will help us ensure we have adequate internet connectivity, and whether students have access to sufficient number of devices for NAPLAN Online testing. During the trial, our teachers will have the opportunity to practice managing the classroom logistics for an online assessment and the new test administration processes. The readiness test has not been constructed to assess curriculum knowledge, but rather to provide students with an opportunity to experience the types of questions that will be included in the new online assessments. As such, reports will not be provided. Participation in the readiness test is a key step to ensuring a successful NAPLAN online experience in 2019.

Negative Effects of Some Video Games

I am concerned about the possible negative effects of some video games on younger children. **Fortnite** is the latest video game played by some of our students. It has been classified M by the Australian Classification Board. Films and video games classified M (Mature) contain content of a moderate impact (violence and online interactivity) and are recommended for teenagers aged 15 years and over. I would encourage parents to find out about the game and in fact any game before it is played. As the game is played online there is an opportunity for your child to connect with strangers in the game, and there is minimal monitoring of who is online and what is being said in the chat.

Upcoming Events

Throughout Weeks 6 and 7 we are celebrating Australian children’s literature. The theme is “find your treasure.” This Wednesday a Multi-Cultural lunch will be hosted for all Pre Primary families. In Week 7 of this term we will be hosting our Athletics Carnival. Jumps and Throws and Distance Running events will be on Tuesday 28th August. **Due to unforeseen circumstances the Athletics Carnival will be on Wednesday 29th August.** Our P&C are running a disco this Friday from 5.00-6.30pm in the under-covered area. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

Ms Andrea White
Principal
**TEACHER TIPS**

**Literacy Tips**

It’s great to tell and read favourite stories over and over again. Repetition helps your child learn. Each time your child hears a story he or she notices new things. They also become more and more familiar with the structure and sequence of stories.

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**DO YOU NEED TO LET THE SCHOOL KNOW IF YOUR CHILD WILL BE AWAY FROM SCHOOL?**

Yes, you need to let the teacher and front office know the reason why your child is going to be, or has been, absent from school as soon as possible. Where possible, please discuss any upcoming absences in advance so we can let you know of important learning or activities your child will miss out on.

This requires a responsible person, usually a parent, to provide a reason for the absence within three school days.

Having information about why your child is missing school helps us plan for their return to school and work out whether we can provide any further help to you.

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**STUDENTS LEAVING WESTMINSTER JPS IN TERM 4 AND 2019**

In order for the school to plan for 2019 we need to know the student enrolment numbers. If your child is leaving Westminster JPS and transferring to another school in Term 4 or in 2019, can you please inform the office.

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**INTERM SWIMMING 2018**

Interm Swimming Lessons are from **Monday 10th September to Friday 21st September** and will cost $45 per student. Interm Swimming Enrolment Forms have been sent home and are to be completed and returned to the classroom teacher as soon as possible.
SCIENCE WEEK

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Maths) in the Art Room: As part of science week, some of our Year 3 children explored diffusion and chromatography to make the petals of their 'flowers' look pretty. They then had the challenge of creating their own electrical circuit to make the flowers light up, and had to work out how to make the flowers stand up in their jars using materials around them. They did a great job!

PARENT AND CHILD ART CLUB
Westminster Junior Primary Running Club is held on Wednesday Mornings from 8.15am-8.35am. Students enjoy a variety of running activities and go at their own pace. All students and parents are welcome to participate.

Mr Micevski
Phys Ed Teacher

A friendly reminder to choir students that choir rehearsals are now on:

Thursdays at 8.15am — 9am
(Before school)

Thank you to those that came along despite the cold and rain to choir last week!

Enrolments are now open for 2019 Kindergarten and Pre-Primary.

Please come into the office for an enrolment package.

Kindergarten: Children born between 1st July 2014 to 30th June 2015
Pre-Primary: Children born between 1st July 2013 to 30th June 2014

Please advise any parents of students not currently attending our Kindergarten, we are now accepting new enrolments.