



ISC NEWSLETTER

Islamic School of Canberra



ASSALAMU ALAIKUM

APPRECIATION

NAPLAN

Please be informed that the **NAPLAN (National Assessment Program-Literacy and Numeracy) 2014** will be held from **Tuesday 13th May to Thursday 15th May 2014**. All students in Year 3, Year 5 and Year 7 are expected to participate in this National Assessment Program. The parents are expected to be reassuring and positive on the day of the NAPLAN test. The test will be conducted at school and administered by the class teachers and marked experts, independent markers.

On a personal note I would like to thank Br. Maruf Rahman the President of the Parents and Friends Executive Committee and all the P&F members for their continued support, cooperation in working together to provide the students the opportunity to achieve excellent education standards within a nurturing Islamic environment. I would like to further acknowledge the support of the school community including parents, teachers, administration and students for their continuous fund raising support for playground and sports facilities. The Board members of the ISC especially Br Mohamed Berjoui and the Chairman of the School Board Br. Hafez Kassem also need to be commended on their support regarding the ISC renovations and upgrading of facilities.

A. Mohamed
Acting Principal

This Issue

Principal's Message 1

From my Desk- A/gt. Principal

Assalamu Alaikum W.B.R.T.

We have come to the end of a busy term. Activities in getting the school ready for the school year, implementing the **Australian Curriculum**, improving and promoting our sports activities with the assistance of the **Canberra University Institute of Sports** to develop a **healthy lifestyle and healthy eating habits**. **Year 6 students** with the Acting Principal were invited to attend the **INSPIRE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM at the University of Canberra** networking with other schools in Canberra on issues related to school leadership. Students encountered an educational environment focusing their **career expectations and aspirations** to plan their future **educational goals**.

The school environment was transformed and improvements to achieve positive teaching and learning outcomes for students and teachers was reflected in **planning and expanding classroom** environment in line with the **vision and ethos of the Islamic School of Canberra**. In the same spirit the determination of the **school community to raise funds** for sports and recreation facilities has become a milestone embedded in the school culture.

Students will have a well-deserved break from Saturday 12th April to Sunday the 27th April 2014. Staff and students will return to school on Monday the 28th April. Parents teacher interviews clearly indicated the importance of establishing a **home school partnership** to further enhance student learning outcomes.

Important

End of Term 1	11 April 2014
Start of Term 2	28 April 2014
Office operating days during school holiday	14 - 18 April 2014
ICAS Test	
Computer Science	20 May
Writing	4 June
Spelling	16 June
English	17 June
Maths	29 July
	12 Aug

Hello to All Parents and Carers,

The end of Term 1 has arrived and it has been a very productive term with lots of projects, presentations and assignments completed and assessed.

Students have settled into their classes and made new friendships along the way. They have participated in our sports program and many have achieved a Good Citizen Award for demonstrating behaviour above and beyond, modeling our Islamic School values and learning to work together cooperatively with respect for all.

Thank you to those who came to the parent/teacher interviews. These interviews are an integral part of our reporting process, giving all stakeholders the opportunity to share information which assists students to attain their full potential in all areas of learning.

Many thanks to those of you who have supported and contributed to our Friday Sausage Sizzle which we hope to resume next term. Without this support we could not provide the little extras that mean so much to our students. The court markings and net posts have been installed and this will provide a great venue for PE classes and lunchtime activities.

Term 2 will be upon us before we know it and that means NAPLAN and ICAS exams. It also means the time for completion and consolidation of Semester 1 learning which will be reported to you in our Mid-Year Reports at the end of Term 2.

I wish you a calm, happy and healthy break and look forward to meeting more of you next term.

Best Regards,

Susan Christiansen-Curriculum Coordinator

Year K

What a wonderful term it has been for Kindergarten! With students beginning to read and write independently, they are developing their talents and shining more brightly every day. Each student and their parents should be incredibly proud of their efforts this term. I am looking forward to seeing what they can achieve when we return after the holidays. A very special congratulations go to the two students of the month:

- Salwa Ibrahim**, for being a polite and friendly class member.
- Awab Ezeldin**, for his hard work and great improvement.

Well done to all the Kindy students. Have a safe and happy holiday

Tessa Bailey (Kindergarten teacher).

Yr 1J

I would like to start by thanking all parents for attending an interview with me over the last two weeks. It was lovely to see some of you again, and to meet some of you for the first time.

It has been lovely to see so much parental input this term. I have been very impressed with the involvement in homework completion with students bringing in some amazing science posters; and the completion of history interviews with parents and grandparents.

We have had a huge focus on reading this term with some students making wonderful progress. This has been fantastic and I would really like it if we could keep this up.

Have a happy and safe holiday break and see you in Term 2. Please take the time to keep reading with your children.

Thank you

Peta James

Dear Parents and Guardians of Year 1R students,

Assalamualaikum,

Happy end of Term 1! I am delighted to say that your children have successfully covered many concepts and have been regularly assessed in all curriculum areas this term. Generally all students have grasped most of the concepts, but some will need further insight into real life contexts particularly Science in relation to animal habitat. On this note I would also like to thank all parents and guardians for helping the students with their Science Project on animal habitat as most of them looked really creative and well thought out. Also I would really like to thank all the parents who made an effort to come and meet me at the parent-teacher interview session that was held last week.

It is necessary to talk to your children about the importance of maintaining positive behaviours when at school or in class. Please emphasise the classroom rules that students are already aware of. Also emphasise that following the classroom rules gives everyone a fair chance to learn and enjoy their day at school. I have enjoyed teaching my students this term and I hope to maintain a very good teaching and learning experience in the class throughout the year.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns about your children at school. Have a great term break.

Nazmeen Rahman

Year 1 R Class Teacher



Year 2 News

Dear Parents/Guardians

It has been a wonderful term getting to know all the students and parents. Year two has had some fantastic learning experiences including their exciting excursion to the National Museum of Australia! All the students have worked incredibly hard over the term and I have seen some great improvements.

In science, we have been learning about lifecycles and the students have created lovely posters that reflect all their learning and hard work. They did an amazing job presenting them proudly and confidently. We have finally finished our technology projects, where students have creatively used recyclable materials to design and make a model of an animal or insect. Year two has thoroughly enjoyed participating in the academy of sports program each week where they have improved their soccer skills. We have also had fun exploring various 2D and 3D shapes in maths and further developing our writing skills through a range of creative activities.

We have had a very busy and exciting term! I hope all the parents and students have a lovely holiday and I am looking forward to another busy term after the break!

Talyn Young

Year 2 Class Teacher

Year 3 News

The students of year 3 have had a very exciting and productive time engaging in hands on learning activities throughout the term. I can see considerable improvement in Exposition writing as well as basic number facts in most of the children. The school netball/ softball program is in progress and the children are having a wonderful time learning basic skills and enjoying their time practicing the skills that they have been taught. In addition children are also playing and participating in interschool soccer matches.

This term year 3 will get some Holiday Home Work. This will help them to consolidate the concepts taught during the term. Children do not have to bring back the Holiday Home Work. Each week the children should aim for 50 minutes of homework for 4 days a week. At the end of the day's work they should turn to the answer key in the back of the book and mark their work. They should think about any mistakes that they have made so they do it right the next time. Please encourage your child to have a go on these questions even if the content may sometimes be challenging for them.

An important reminder to all that the Naplan examinations are due to be held on the 13th, 14th and 15th of May 2014.

As a general rule, library books are sent home on **Tuesdays** and must be brought back the following Tuesday, for the child to be eligible to borrow again. However, since we are close to the end of term all library books borrowed must be returned to school by next Thursday to enable us to take stock of our library books during the term holiday period.

Have a great holiday.

Thank You.

Shweta L. Chatterjee

(Year 3 Teacher)



Year 4 News

Dear parents and guardians of Year 4, after incredible hard work and combined efforts to succeed, this term has nearly come to an end. There are some challenges that the new term will bring along with itself and I am happy to inform that we have initiated working hard towards becoming successful.

The year 4 classroom is never been dull. Lessons are varied and students are encouraged to learn by doing and working collaboratively to achieve optimal learning outcomes. In term 1, year 4 students undertook physical science studies that focused on “Forces that are present in our everyday lives” and ‘How these forces affect an activity or game’. This avenue of study has provided us with numerous opportunities to explore different games and discuss about how the forces function in the given game.

This term, students also engaged themselves in creating their own Insect Sketches. We learnt different techniques and skills which we practiced through designing different pieces of art. Some excellent 2D and 3D artwork is created by students that they are extremely proud of.

The Netball in school has been a tremendous experience for all of us. The students have practised and used the skills and techniques which they can use to improve their performance in the game. It has been a great hit amongst boys and girls alike.

All the students of year 4 have shown a great enthusiasm towards their Technology projects of designing and making a play space that considers the functional and aesthetic needs of the junior students of our school. The students surveyed the current junior play ground to help them design a better way to organise the space as per the need of the students.

I am happy to inform that the Year 4 students have shown improvement in their Literacy and Numeracy skills which we aim to enhance as every term passes by. I would like to thank all the parents who have supported the school and teachers. Special thanks to all the parents who have reinforced the school rules and taken interest in the student’s homework to ensure it is completed on time to the desired standards.

I appreciate the time and efforts of all the parents who share their opinions and concerns with me and I look forward to work collaboratively in order to bring a positive change in your child.

Hope you all a happy and relaxing holiday

Kind Regards
Gurprit Sandhu

Year 5 News

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

I would like to thank all of you for meeting with me during the parent-teacher interviews and discuss your child's progress. This term has been full of learning and fun for the Year 5s. The students have been working very hard in all areas of the curriculum. A main focus in Literacy this term was to improve students' creative writing skills, especially their persuasive and narrative writing. Students did a detailed research on different animals and their adaptations and made short presentations with their groups. They enjoyed learning about perspective drawings and creating their own colourful pictures.



Years 5, 6 and 7 are currently taking part in an Anti-Bullying Program led by Ms Christiansen and have learnt valuable lessons on helping ourselves and others around us to feel safe and happy.

On Harmony Day, the whole school celebrated the diverse cultures living in such peace and harmony by asking students to wear their traditional clothing. The Year 5s also brought in traditional food from their country to share with their friends. I would like to thank all parents for their continued support during the school's fundraisers.

Looking forward for a fabulous Term 2! Happy Holidays!!

Ms Manal Fayazuddin

Year 5 Teacher



Year 6 News

Year 6 have had a great term and start to the new year. They have been working hard on various tasks throughout the term. Science was very successful, completing two different investigations with interesting results and some impressive presentations on animal and plant adaptations. Throughout history, we discovered how Australia became one and how our government works. The students researched important people of Australia's past and presented their work with pride and sophistication. We have all worked extremely hard on our guided writing to make our persuasive text strong and the best it can be, now the students will be applying their new knowledge and understanding to write a strong exposition in the holidays.

Term two will be just as exciting, new topics and much more to learn and enjoy. We will be implementing literacy groups to improve reading, spelling and writing. Later on in the term, we will be going on an excursion to Parliament House to apply our new knowledge of Australia's Government.

Thank you for the parents who have met with me this term, I deeply appreciate your time and effort. I am looking forward to next term, I hope you all have a safe and happy holiday.

Kind regards

Miss Toni. McDonald

Year 6 Teacher

Year 7 News

Dear Parents/ Guardians

We would like to congratulate our students for making such a smooth transition into high school. Many students are now very comfortable with their new environment and have a clear understanding of the rules and expectations. They have undergone academic testing and have completed common assessment tasks in various subjects. Students are also provided with NAPLAN practice test samples for the holidays and are therefore expected to complete all the booklets and return them to the school by the beginning of next term. If you have any concerns or queries, please contact the school to make an appointment to discuss any issues with the teacher.

Regards

Mr Payam Panahinejad