



ISC NEWSLETTER

Islamic School of Canberra



Salam Alikum

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Important Dates

End Term 1	8/4/16
First day Term 2	26/4/16

Dear Friends and Families.

Welcome back to school !!!!

Sadly ISC has been presented with some very difficult challenges this year , which we are all pulling together to work through.

I do not want to dwell on these issues but rather celebrate the ongoing extraordinary teaching and learning community that we are developing at the school.

ISC students amaze me every day with their tenacity and their application of new skills, knowledge and critical thinking.

We are indeed creating leaders of tomorrow!!!

This term our grade 3,4,5,6 and 7 are learning about cyber safety and bullying from the AFP, issues that ISC staff take very seriously. Please feel free to talk with your children , their teachers and myself around these topics and any others that may be effecting your child's wellbeing.

Teachers across the school are organising excursions for this term and next which will provide enriching experiences for students that bring the real world and their classroom learning closer together.

HOMEWORK TIPS

Parents are often guilty of helping their child a bit too much with their homework. Sometimes the homework battle can be made that little bit easier if you just tell your child what to do, or simply do it for them. At least it's been done, you think. But research shows that giving your child too much help could actually hinder their skills development and lead them to feel incompetent. Help with homework can be filled with tension or create pressure to succeed for the child. That's not to say that parents shouldn't get involved, as research shows this is an important factor in academic success. But parents need to know when it's appropriate to do this, and when to step back.

- Show an interest in your child's schooling but avoid being more interested in their schoolwork than they are – or it risks making it "your thing" and not "their thing".
- Set rules about homework (when and where it should be done), particularly in their younger years.
- Try not to offer your help before they ask; let them ask you. This will boost their confidence in completing schoolwork without constant adult help.
- Make sure you are coaching and not doing. Don't fix every mistake or act as an editor. Get older children to ask you specific questions only, like, for example: "Is my conclusion clear?"
- In junior school, get homework done before fun things. Then prompt rather than remind them, eg: "What needs to be done before you watch TV?"
- Every year, reassess what you do for your child and whether your actions stop them developing important skills, such as responsibility and autonomy. For example, you should start to withdraw your reminders for homework early in their schooling, including gentle reminders such as, "Do you have much homework?"
- With this must come the child accepting responsibility for homework and teacher-delivered consequences should they forget to do homework or to bring it to school. Remember these remain a reflection of your child's current organisation and motivation, not your parenting.

Finally, remember a golden rule – your actions as a parent should not be primarily about making them successful now, but about building the life skills that will enable them to be successful in the future without your help.

Susan Christiansen

Principal

Year K NewsletterYear 1/2 Newsletter

Welcome to Kindergarten 2016. We have a lovely class of 12 boys and 11 girls. We are also very lucky to have Miss Marwa assisting in our class this year. The Kindy Koalas are already working hard on learning to read and write, as well as count, solve simple addition and subtraction problems, and learn lots of information about 2D shapes! We have a busy term ahead, but are making sure we have lots of fun as well. The students have taken part in a AFL workshop this week, learning some new ball and gross motor skills. We also have Healthy Harold coming up, where the students will learn about choosing healthy food options and the benefit of physical activity; this ties in with our school healthy eating initiative, as well as the exercise component of our weekly homework. You can help by continuing to pack those healthy lunchboxes! As part of our science unit we are growing and observing different plants – we are hoping to plant a vegetable patch this year for the students to look after and enjoy. I would like to thank all parents and carers in advance for supporting their child's education; together we can help them shine

I look forward to meeting you all throughout the year!

Tessa Bailey (Kindergarten teacher)

2016 is off to an eventful start!

We are all adjusting fast to the new arrangement of being in composite classes. We as a team would like to assure all parents that your children, our students, are still following their respective grade curriculum and outcomes. Those students that require additional support are still receiving it accordingly; and those that can be extended in their learning are still being given that support.

This week, students have begun engaging in sport sessions with representatives from AFL ACT. The students are participating in sporting activities run by the representatives that will further develop their catching, throwing and kicking skills. It has been both fun and engaging. Our students are enjoying it greatly.

Next week, all three 1/2 classes will be heading off to the Australian War Memorial for an excursion. Year Two will be focusing on the historical building while the Year One students will be focusing on how daily life has changed over time. The students are very excited about this.

In week 9, the Life Education van, along with Healthy Harold, will be making an appearance. For those of you who don't know who he is, Healthy Harold is a (puppet) giraffe that puts on an educational and engaging show for the students. This year they will be learning about 4 topics: ways to seek help from trusted adults, the benefits of physical activity, how to spot safe and unsafe behaviours and environments, and choosing healthy food options. This last topic really ties in with our healthy eating program.

Thank you for your ongoing support. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us.

Kind Regards,

The 1/2 Team

Talyn Young, Katherine Stevenson & Peta James

Year 3/4 Newsletter

We are already halfway through Term 1 of an exciting year of teaching and learning at the Islamic School of Canberra! Our students have settled into their Year 3/4 classes and have made new friendships along the way. They are busy learning new concepts in all subjects and it's great to see their hard work and enthusiasm every day. They are enjoying authentic learning experiences as they learn through hands-on activities and collaboration. In Science, they are experimenting with materials and exploring their properties. They are using this knowledge in Design & Technologies to make their own marble run by following production steps. Sustainability is a focus as students learn the importance of protecting the world we live in. We recommend that students read a book of their choice on a daily basis. The benefits of reading extend to all subjects and give young readers the opportunity to develop creativity and critical thinking.

The term overview we provided earlier communicated the concepts being taught in all learning areas. Homework is handed out on Monday and due on Friday. Please help your children with homework and encourage them to complete it to the best of their ability. The usernames and passwords for Mathletics and Reading Eggs have been issued. These websites give students access to resources and activities that reinforce the topics covered in the classroom. As our students are engaged through ICT, they are encouraged to practise various concepts online. At ISC, we promote a healthy mind in a healthy body. Students are encouraged to have fruits and vegetables in their lunchboxes and make healthy food choices. We look forward to the rest of our learning journey and thank you all for your support.

Regards,

Year 3/4 Teachers