



ISC Newsletter

I s l a m i c S c h o o l o f C a n b e r r a

'In Knowledge Lies Strength'

Dear Parent/Carer

"Overlook any human faults with gracious forgiveness"

Al-Hijr 15: 85

It was great to see so many Parents/Carers visiting teachers across our Parent/Teacher interviews held this week. Many parents/carers spoke of the benefit of having an Interim Report and being able to refer to this when speaking with teachers. It is hoped that the Interim report and interviews will assist families in supporting their children across next term as work is completed and reports finalised.

We commence our Swimming Programme again on Monday and a reminder that it will be the **girls** turn for lessons! I am excited about how much they have learnt across these lessons. I am enormously proud of how our students have engaged with the lessons to further develop confidence in the water.

Enclosed in this Newsletter is the complete Semester one calendar for 2017. You will notice the holidays and staff days clearly marked. A few dates that will be important for you to be aware of



1. School commences in Term 2 for students on 26th April, 2017
2. NAPLAN (3,5,7) takes place from the 9th-11th May
3. 22nd -25th May is the **Islamic School of Canberra Celebration Week (Information to follow)**
4. Last day of classes for students in Term 2 will be 23rd June, 2017
5. Please note Student last day for TERM 4 will be Friday 8th December, 2017 with THURSDAY 7th December, 2017 our **Twilight Formal Awards Assembly**.

We are fast approaching our FUNDRAISING DINNER and I am very proud of our PFA and the enormous work that has gone into this event. We are expecting well over 200 guests and it is set to be a very enjoyable evening. It is not too late to donate to this event and/or purchase a ticket. Please contact Kalam on 0411959386 if you are keen on contributing in some way. We are a school that relies heavily on community support. I hope we are all getting behind the PFA in some way. They continue to do great work for our school.

As we approach the end of term I would like to mention to you all the importance of consistency when dropping off and picking up your child from school. Most children especially our younger ones should now be comfortable with you dropping them off at school without concern. We need to make the effort to ensure that saying goodbye to children is consistent, quick and 'light on emotion'.



We, The Islamic School of Canberra acknowledges the traditional custodians of the ACT and surrounding region. We respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.



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' I n K n o w l e d g e L i e s S t r e n g t h '

Students come to school to learn and need to feel safe and understand that having time away from family is a natural part of growing up. This of course varies between children but I would certainly encourage developing further independence as we approach the end of term.

I am sure for many of you this will not be a concern. If parents/carers need support with this, I would invite you to make contact with your child's class teacher.

We continue to have some children consistently late to school. I cannot emphasise enough how being late distracts the teacher, other students and takes valuable time away from teaching. If a child is 10 minutes late everyday across a term they may lose as much as 8 hours of teaching time! Please keep in mind the value of getting your child to school on time.

At this time I would like to inform the school community that I have received a letter of resignation from Ms Amira Hawwash (Year 2- Reading Owls) effective immediately. You would all be aware that Amira was required to travel interstate to support an ill family member. This has now resulted in Amira requiring to move interstate for an extended period of time and as a result is unable to continue her position at our school. Amira joined us in Term 4, 2016 and is a highly regarded teacher with significant skill. Amira will be missed and this community wishes her every blessing into the future.

We have arranged for Ms Nazmeen Rahman to take over this class. Ms Nazmeen is an excellent teacher who has been a part of the Islamic School of Canberra for a number of years. We are very fortunate that she can take over from Amira and I expect that our Year 2 students will value her contribution to their learning. As a result of this Mr Callum Vaughn-Floyd will continue teaching Year 4 fulltime which will be a great outcome for our students.

If parents/carers have any concerns associated to these teacher movements please make contact with the school.

As many parents/carers would be aware, the school was visited by the Police last Friday in search of some individuals from outside our community who may have been involved in stealing. While the individual were not found on site, some of our students were quite alarmed at the sight of Police moving around the school grounds.

I have been in contact with the Police to mention concerns around their presence at the school and they were most receptive. It has been arranged for the Police to come and speak with our school community within the next two weeks about what they were doing at the school and what their job generally involves. I think this would be a great opportunity for our students to better understand the role of the Police and how fortunate we are to have them in our community.





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Finally I wish to draw your attention to the following

Within the administration block you will find a suggestion box for families. Please make comment by placing these into the box. This will be checked every week and a response provided if/when appropriate.

You will also locate a COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD near the entrance of the administration block. Information about the school and any help or assistance required will be placed on this noticeboard. If you wish to make use of this I would ask that you speak with administration as required.

Also please communicate to your child on the importance of cleanliness and looking after property. A number of our students have been seen dropping rubbish and not looking after school equipment. Our community has a responsibility to keep everything clean and in order so everyone can enjoy our school. This is an important message to share both at school and at home.

I look forward to seeing you all at our FUND RAISING DINNER and I hope you have a safe and relaxing weekend with family and friends

Inshallah

David Johns- Principal



Year 6 & year 7 on their excursion to Questacon!!





BETWEEN THE MINARETS- *What we are learning..*



In the **Kindy Kangas and Kindy Koala's** we have been learning all about the school and have been getting into a daily routine. Every morning the Kindy students participate in Fine and Gross motor skill development. The kids love cutting and pasting and

they love using their bodies to move in different ways and learn new skills.

In English, the students have been working hard to learn the letters and sounds in the alphabet and also have been learning to read!

In Maths, we have focused on the core numbers 0-10 and have been exploring the quantities of those numbers with physical manipulatives such as playdough, blocks and paper chains. The Kindies have been working hard to learn the concepts of addition and subtraction too.

In Science we have been learning all about ourselves, plants and animals. We are currently exploring what plants need to survive and are growing our own alfalfa sprouts! The kids are so excited to see them grow and observe the changes.

The students have come so far in 7 weeks and we are immensely proud of them and their effort to transition into Kindergarten. We look forward to a busy next few weeks and an exciting Term 2.



— The **Year 1 Emus** are currently focusing on the following:

English: We have been practicing our reading and comprehension; exploring the spelling sound 'i'; learning about nouns (both common and proper); and discovering how characters are developed by an author in narrative texts.

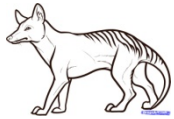
Maths: We have been looking at time to the half hour on both digital and analogue clocks. We will be soon moving on to the topic of Subtraction.

Science: We have been conducting experiments to investigate the properties of different materials and to see how these can change under different conditions. So far we have experimented with dissolving and mixing.

History: Looking at timelines and how they work.

Arts: This term we are doing both Visual Art and Media Arts. In Visual Art, students are experimenting with different mediums to express themselves. In Media Arts we have been looking at some advertisements and communicating about these media artworks - how and why they have been made.

PE: We have been continuing with the swimming program. While the swimming lessons have been happening, the remaining students have been doing sporting activities run by the year 6 students.



Our **Year 2 Tigers and Year 2 Reading Owls** over this week had looked at telling the time and the months of the calendar in Numeracy. Literacy has been fun with lots of reading, enjoying online stories, brainstorming adjectives, and doing handwriting. The Text-type (narrative) writing lesson was even more fun because it was incorporated with digital technology where students got the opportunity to type in their own narratives on the computer and they also learnt how to attach relevant pictures to their stories. Science was equally enjoyable where students got some in-depth knowledge of Earth's resources found underground and how the resources can be used sensibly. In Visual Arts students explored the art of Eric Carle and read one of his e-books on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cIzCdSM7BBU>. From the reading students learnt that Eric Carle created his own papers by painting them and scratching textures into the wet paint. It was discussed that in our next lesson we would be painting different colours onto construction paper in order to create our own animal. Overall it has been a busy and exciting week and I am looking forward to many more of the same nature.



Our **Year 3 Iguanas**, are busy doing creative writing in WOW workshops. They are exploring the concept of identity and identifying personal qualities that make them special. In Visual Arts classes, they are excitedly working on a collage artwork inspired by children's author Jeannie Baker. They will soon share their research on the significance of celebrations and commemorations in Australia. Every day is a learning adventure!



In **Year 4 Wallabies** are continuing our work on procedures, how to write and use procedures in their everyday life. We are also moving forward in History and Science with both topics. The First Fleet has now arrived in Australia and the people are beginning to

interact with the Indigenous population and we are looking at the different factors which impact living things, specifically humans, within their individual habitats.



Year **5 Eagles** have been busy preparing their presentations in Humanities and Social Sciences. In Mathematics, students have been applying what they learnt about the four operations to solve number lines and patterns. In English we have looked at a variety of different text structures and are now delving into essays. It has been an exciting term in Science having conducted experiments to explore the properties of matter. Student creativity has been showcased in their Indigenous Australian inspired artworks.



As we near the end of the Term, **Year 6 Cool Crocs** are hard at work on a couple of assignments. The first, a research assignment for English / History, has become surprisingly topical in light of recent news, as part of the task focuses on the Snowy Hydro Scheme. Building a physical arcade game for Technology and Design was exciting from the start, but students are particularly enthusiastic after visiting Questacon's Maker Space on Wednesday morning.



Within our **Year 7 Peacocks**, we have been really busy- Just completed 2 examinations in science and maths and racing to complete assessments in English and History. We are loving using Bunsen Burners in our labs and looking into experimental design. This week we went to Questacon and did an investigation into creating prototypes- Really great!!