



ISC Newsletter

Islamic School of Canberra

'In Knowledge Lies Strength'

Dear Parent/Carer

"The Truth is from your Lord, so be not at all in doubt"

(Al Baqarah 2: 147)

We are fast approaching the middle of the term and I thank staff and students for the continued hard work. It is pleasing to see great learning taking place together with student enthusiasm and hard work.

Next week parents/carers will receive NAPLAN results and I hope that you will provide the time to look through this with your child.

Please understand that the information presented in the NAPLAN results are a tool which can be used to determine how a child is progressing in Literacy and Numeracy through comparing standards of student achievement locally and across Australia.

Our school will use the results along with other data in developing individual learning programmes to best assist our students in achieving potential. NAPLAN is a national testing programme that provides a snapshot of student performance and need not be seen as a definitive statement of an individual student's level of ability. It provides information that creates conversation at a school level and hopefully opens up discussion with parents/carers and the school.



We are very proud that many of our students take part in the ICAS competitions. Below are the results we have received:

Digital Technologies	Yr 3	Inaaya Kamran	Merit
	Yr 5	Manaal Kamran	Merit
Science	Yr 2	Rebab Mohammed	Credit
	Yr 6	Aklamash Shafiq	Credit
	Yr 7	Riyadh Haque	Credit
Spelling	Yr 3	Inaaya Kamran	Merit
	Yr 5	Manaal Kamran	Credit
	Yr 7	Riyadh Haque	Credit



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I congratulate all the students who were involved and those who achieved the above awards. I hope students continue their interest in taking part in these competitions as they provide great learning experiences through engaging with challenging questions that they otherwise may not have experienced.

This week I commenced my classroom visits and I had the pleasure of watching our Kindergarten and Year 1 classes in action. Ms Mariam was teaching about subtraction and Ms Madeleine was working on measurement. Both lessons were great and the level of student engagement and interest in helping one another was most pleasing. I continue to be proud of my staff and the quality work they do- your children are in very safe hands!

Last week I mentioned that we received a voucher from Mecure for one nights' accommodation with breakfast.

It was suggested that this may be used to raise money for the JEANS for GENE'S charity that our SRC is supporting. I have spoken to members of our community and wish to clarify the schools approach to this process. We would like to provide an opportunity for families to **donate** \$30 to this cause. We have given ourselves a target for our community to receive 30- \$30 donations that would total- \$900! It would be a great target to reach and I feel this money would go to a very worthy cause. Once the target is reached we will then be able to **release** the accommodation voucher to a worthy recipient. The school is thinking that our community could put in suggestions of who we could give the voucher to. We may decide to give the voucher to a family who may be experiencing hardship or illness. The voucher may be given to a member of our community who has done a lot for our school and this is a way of saying thank you. I will leave this up to our community to consider.

If you are able to donate to this cause please do this through the front office and hopefully we will be able to reach our \$900 goal very quickly. All money raised will go to the Jeans of Genes CHARITY.

Could I also take the opportunity to remind families that if you intend to take your child to their class you need to mention this to the staff at the front office. This is a Work, Health and Safety regulation as the school needs to know if there are additional people on school grounds. Even though it would be for a short time, it is best that the school is aware.

Over the next few weeks we will be commencing our ENROLMENT PERIOD FOR 2018. I would ask that you communicate this to the general community so families can have a tour of the school, meet myself and other members of the school community. Our viability as a school is very much dependant on enrolments. I ask that you do all you can to encourage families to consider the Islamic School of Canberra in 2018. I am available to meet with prospective families at any time, even over the weekend if this is preferred. Please work with me in securing solid student numbers in 2018.





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Student/Staff Illness

This year has been particularly hard on sickness for both Students and Staff. You may have noticed that we have had to split a number of classes due to staff illness and this may have created a degree of anxiety and confusion for our students. I apologise for this but we have very little scope for replacement teachers as they are in extremely short supply across Canberra. All students continue to have work provided to them when their teacher is absent and is followed up by their class teacher on their return from illness.

If your child is ill I would ask that you consider carefully whether they should come to school. Often by students attending school when they are ill, they expose other student to infection and often get more ill as a result. Please consider this as there are a number of nasty viruses getting around Canberra currently.

Bus

You would have been recently informed that our school bus has broken down. At this stage it would appear that it is a gearbox issue and we are currently getting a mechanic to look over it to determine what should be done. I am very aware that the bus is a very important facility for many families who are unable to get their children to and from school. We will endeavour to get the bus up and working again as soon as possible and will keep you informed as we progress through this.

I can only imagine how challenging it would be to reorganise the working day to transport your children. Please be aware that families will be provided with bus 'credit' for the days that the bus is unavailable.

Staff movements

Please note that the following staff have adjusted their work arrangements until the end of this term

Br Imad AISmadi-	Will not be working on Tuesdays
Sr Mai Shouman-	Will not be working on Wednesdays and Fridays

I thank Gurprit Sandhu who has worked supporting the school through overseeing the day to day activities as well as taking care of Ms Chabina's Year 3 class due to continued illness. It is hoped that Ms Chabina will return from illness early next week as she has been missed by the students and staff at the school.





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

As our school grows we need to ensure that lines of communication and processes are followed to provide best possible care for our students. After meeting with staff and talking with families it has been decided that we will trial **Community coordinators** for the remainder of this term. The staff members who are our **Community Coordinators** will work with class teachers around students behaviours in and out of the classroom. Rather than student being directed to see the Principal, the students will first speak with their teacher and if an issue is not adequately resolved the student will go to the **Community Coordinator** who will work through the issue with the teacher/student and if necessary the family. If the issue is ongoing, the matter is then passed onto the Principal for follow up. I have spoken to staff and have invited the following staff to be our **Community Coordinators** for the remainder of term:

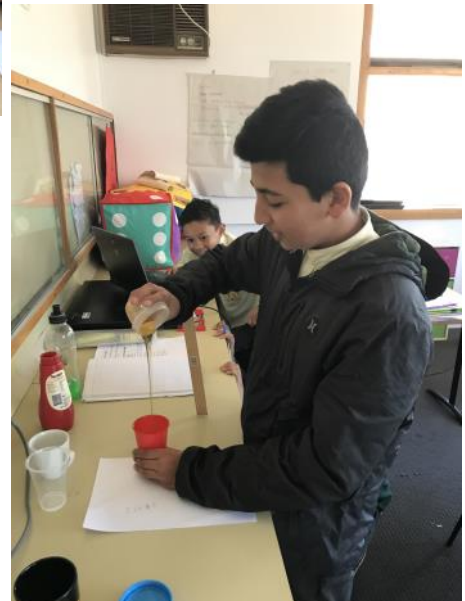
Br Imad AISmadi and **Ms Toni Brammal** - Both are experienced and have the confidence of the students/staff and families. I am excited they have accepted this additional responsibility and I look forward to seeing how this new role develops across the remaining weeks of term. If successful, it is hoped that we can formalise the position and staff will then be able to submit an Expression of Interest.

Blessing to you all for a relaxing weekend with family and friends - InShallah!

David Johns
Principal



In Science, Year 7 designed and executed an experiment to compare and rank liquids according to their viscosity.



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Year 6 and Year 7 on their Excursion to Science in Action



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