



ISC Newsletter

Islamic School of Canberra

'In Knowledge Lies Strength'

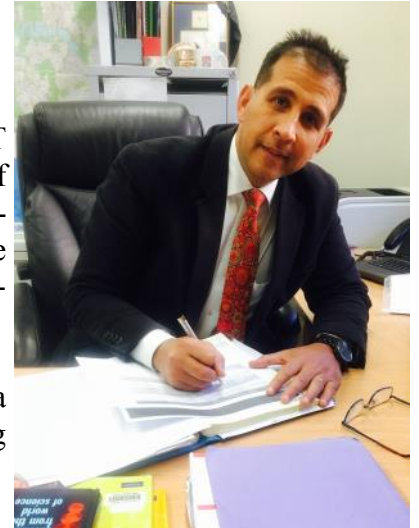
Dear Parent/Carer

Whoever submits his whole self to God, and is a doer of good, has grasped indeed the most trustworthy handhold."

(Luqman 31: 22)

This week (Friday) I will be gathering with other Board members, the ACT Government and the new lease owners to work through a smooth transition of ownership. All stakeholders will be present at this meeting and it will be an excellent opportunity to work through required paperwork and develop a timeline around complete transition of ownership and how our school may further progress over the remainder of the year and into 2018.

It is an exciting time for our school and with our future secured we are in a position to plan its growth and further strengthen its reputation as a leading independent Primary and Lower Secondary school in the ACT.



I NEED YOUR HELP

What is now needed from this community is open communication around the type of school you want the Islamic School of Canberra to be. Over the next few months we will be asking our families to comment on:

- * What is great about our school?
- * What resources we need at our school?
- * What can be improved at our school?

It is critical that we commence the development of a school strategic plan that is connected to a strong business plan. This can only be achieved through ongoing community consultation and a Board that understands community needs and the limitations that exist within our school currently.

For you to be a part of this community at this moment is very powerful. You will all be involved in developing a strategic plan and direction for our school as it moves into what will be a very promising future. This would be a wonderful legacy you will leave behind.

We have an active PFA who continue to seek new members and their thoughts and concerns are directly fed into the School Board through the Parents Advisory Committee (PAC)- sub-committee. I cannot emphasise enough to you all the importance of your involvement in developing a strong, sustainable strategic plan for our school. When the opportunity presents itself, please get involved and take part. We ALL value the teaching of the Australian National Curriculum within the Islamic tradition- it is worth working hard to preserve this!



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 s l a m i c S c h o o l o f C a n b e r r a
' I n K n o w l e d g e L i e s S t r e n g t h '

CROSS COUNTRY

The **Cross Country Event** that was scheduled for this week has been postponed as a result of the cold weather. We will be moving this event to **FRIDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER, 2017**. This is our last day of term and we hope to have a number of other activities taking place at this time to make it a very enjoyable day for the students and hopefully for the families who attend. We will be sending information out about this Cross Country event next week.

INTERIM REPORTS

The school will be releasing Interim Reports on Monday 11th September, 2017 to ALL STUDENTS. These will be delivered via the students on Monday afternoon. Please take the time to look through this report as it provides information on student progress across this term in Academic and Pastoral areas. If further information is required I would encourage contact with the class teacher.

BEHAVIOUR POLICY

Over the last few weeks we have been working with students in the development of a BEHAVIOUR POLICY that ensures that our school continues to be a safe and enjoyable place to be. Our Community Coordinators, Ms Toni and Br. Imad, together with Imam Konda have developed a Behaviour consequence document that will provide clarity to our community around expected behaviours. This document identifies behaviours that are community 'building' as well as community 'breaking' and school responses to these. Once staff have agreed to this, the families will be provided with this information and feedback encouraged. We expect to have this BEHAVIOUR PROGRAM in place for the beginning of next term. I have been very excited about how our staff and students have engaged in this process and again demonstrates what an outstanding community we are.

HAT POLICY

A reminder that students are expected to wear their hats when on the playground. Please ensure that your child has a hat to wear during the school day.

NO HAT NO PLAY!!

STUDENT LATENESS

The lateness of some students continues to be a problem and the amount of teaching and learning time that is lost is significant. Some children regularly do not arrive until 9.20am! While there are at times, unavoidable reasons for lateness, to be consistently late limits learning. As of next week, students who are late will be required to make up for lost learning time during recess break. This is to ensure that students do not fall behind on work as a result of lateness.



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HEADSPACE

It was with pleasure that we welcomed representatives of Headspace to our school to accept our fundraising money for their organisation. You will remember that our Year 4 students held a Food Stall and raised over \$300 for Headspace. The representatives of Headspace brought additional resources and wrist bands for our students as a display of appreciation for the money raised. The money will go toward the development of resources and the training of staff in the area of Mental Health support. A very worthwhile cause that affects so many within our community.

SCHOOL FEES

As we approach the end of term can I remind families that any outstanding school fees need to be paid in full as soon as possible. Please note that our school fees for next term will be clearly set out in a fee structure letter that will be received with the Interim report early next week. While there is no increase in fees for next term it is important for the community to be aware that the spike in Electricity, Gas and Water has created a degree of financial pressure for the school. I would ask your continued understanding and support in the fees we charge.

SCHOOL BANKING PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

Islamic School of Canberra is excited to offer the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program to all students. School Banking is a fun, interactive and engaging way for young Australians to learn about money and develop good savings habits. Children who deposit money into their Youthsaver account through School Banking earn Dollarmites tokens, which they can save up and redeem for exciting rewards.

Joanna Whatman from the Commonwealth bank is holding a parent information session on Wednesday 13th September, 2017 in the Computer Lab at 3.30pm. This is an opportunity for parents and carers to gain information regarding the school banking process and how your child/ren can participate and benefit from it. Br. Adam has approved the program as Commonwealth Bank have multiple offers for Muslims regarding the gaining of interest. Joanna Whatman has contacted various Islamic Schools in Sydney to follow the same processes here in Canberra.

Wish you all a peaceful weekend - Inshallah!!

David Johns
Principal



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