



ISC Newsletter

Islamic School of Canberra

'In Knowledge Lies Strength'

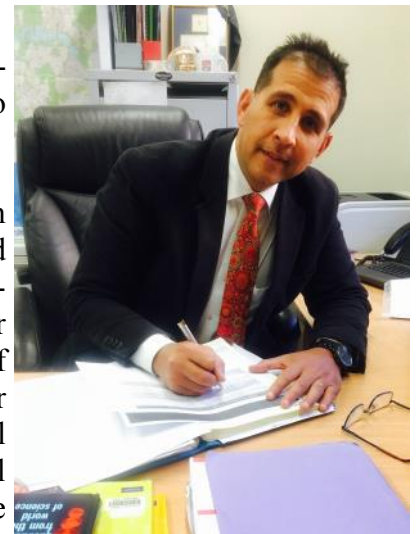
Dear Parent/Carer

But God does call to the Home of Peace. HE does guide whom HE pleases to a way that is straight"

(Chpt 10 Yunus: v. 25)

As we continue meetings and complete paperwork associated with the exchanging of lease on which the school is located I feel that it is appropriate to remind our families of issues associated with funding and school fees.

As you are all aware, we continue to wait for DET (Department of Education and Training) to make a final decision associated with the Internal Review and our school funding. While I am very confident that the result will be favourable, we need to prepare for all possible outcomes as best we can. What is clear is that we as a community need to do what we can to ensure the survival of this school. The school Board decided to increase school fees across the year to accommodate an increase in utilities as well as decrease the debt the school was carrying from previous funding freezes and other additional operational costs. While this increase was unfortunate it was the only way we could place the school in a better financial position.



Across the year the school has needed to find funds for:

- Servicing of the school bus/which included rental bus.
- Servicing of the air conditioning system.
- Electricity, gas and water increases.
- Accountancy support in the development of monthly financial statements for DET Compliance.
- Legal counsel in the submitted documentation supporting an Internal Review of funding decision.
- Support a number of our families who have limited income and are in the need of assistance with the academic progress of their child/ren.

- Along with other operational costs including teaching and learning resources.

It is understood that some families may be challenged by the increase in school fees and may need support. It is critical that ALL FAMILIES understand that **no one will be denied an opportunity to be a student at the Islamic School of Canberra because of an inability to pay school fees.** If the increase in fees is a problem I encourage you to contact school administration so an appointment can be made with the Principal to discuss options. Considering to move your child/ren without a discussion with the Principal would not be in the best interest of the student nor supportive of the values and ideal of our school. Please give this careful consideration. We continue to be one of the most affordable private schools and at this stage one of the lowest funded schools in the Canberra region.



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 thank all community members who commented on our Educational Philosophy statement. All thoughts are being considered as we finalise the document for final presentation to the school Board.

We have our CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL next Friday 22nd September and there is information that you will receive today regarding this enjoyable sporting event. Families are invited to attend and it is hoped that we will see all our students taking part in the activity! I thank the PFA for their interest in supporting this event and I look forward to seeing you all.

I welcome back our Sr Ghada who has returned safely from Hajj. She has contributed some photos and comments of her travels in this newsletter and I recommend this to you all.

Miss Ghada's reflection on Hajj

Words truly cannot do justice to Hajj, the myriad of feelings, flavours and landscapes of Hajj. From the serenity, peace and constancy of Madinah and Masjid Al Nabawi where you really and truly fall in love, to the electricity of Makkah, the majesty and magnetism of the Kaaba, and the beauty and expanse of Masjid Al Haram. From the austerity of Mina to the intensely hot plains of Arafat. The Hajj is all at once a place of solitude and reflection as well as an intense communal experience, pressed shoulder to shoulder, hand in hand and soul to soul with millions of other pilgrims. It tests your physical and mental strength, your patience - it levels you with your fellow brother and sister, and that we are ultimately privileged. It's hard to describe what it's like completing rituals in 45 degrees heat, walking kilometres on end - it wasn't easy but that's what made it so precious. The sweat, the blisters, the elation of completing a commandment. Even in the madness there was beauty. What was most special to me was being one amongst millions of pilgrims, all with different skin colour, cultures, languages and values, converged in unison to say Here I am O Lord, here I am."

Alhamdulillah. May we all be blessed to visit Makkah and Madinah in our lifetimes.

Next week is our last week of term and the staff will be very busy finalising assessments and tidying up administrative items leading up to our 2-week break. We will be commencing school again on Monday 9th October for all staff and students, for what will be a very exciting and enjoyable term.

Blessing to you all for a safe and relaxing weekend - Inshallah

Kind Regards

David Johns

Principal

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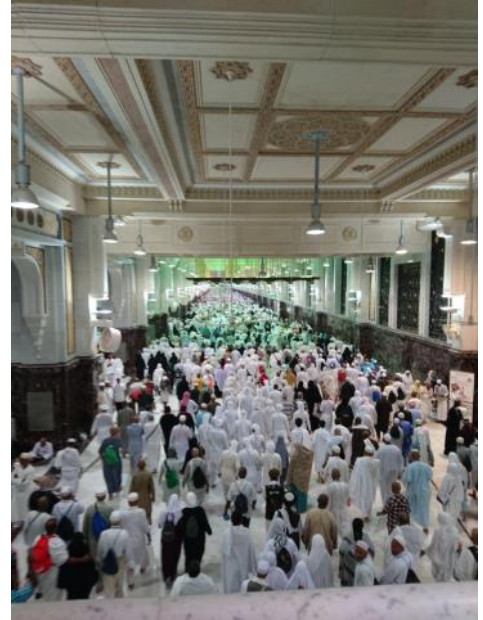


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Year 1 Excursion to the Zoo



Alhumdulillah...our bus is fixed!!!! 😊



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