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TERM 1 | WEEK 7
FRIDAY 20th March 2020

Islamic School of Canberra

IN KNOWLEDGE LIES STRENGTH

Newsletter

"Never will we be struck except by what Allah has decreed for us; He is our protector." And upon Allah let the believers rely.
(Surah At-Tauba, Verse 51)

Principal's Message



Dr Mahmoud Eid
ISC - PRINCIPAL

Assalamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullah Wa Barakatuh

Dear Staff, Parents and Students,

Unfortunately, due to the current issue of COVID-19, I have to mainly address you in this regard for the safety of everyone.

As per the notifications from the AISACT and the Education Directorate's plans for ACT schools to respond to the potential spread of the COVID-19 in school communities, the school has adopted the following measures:

1. Teachers to educate students about hygiene practices such as hand washing and covering the mouth when coughing and sneezing.
2. Hand sanitisers have been purchased by the school and distributed to all classes and are to be used by all students and staff.
3. The following will be our response if there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 at the ISC:
 - If a student or staff member tests positive to the virus, we may close the school for a short period while ACT Health investigates the incident.
 - Those students and staff identified as close contacts of a case will need to self-quarantine at home for 14 days.
 - Parents will be notified by emails and SMS if the school is to be closed.
4. Advice for parents with sick children: if your child develops any symptoms such as a fever, cough, sore throat or shortness of breath, do not send them to school. Please, do the following:
 - Call your GPs and inform them of the case before arriving at their clinic so that they can take appropriate infection control measures. It usually takes about 24 - 48 hours for the test results to be returned.
 - If you can't see your GP, the preferred Walk-in Centre (WiC) for assessment is in Weston Creek WiC.
 - Call the school immediately to let us know.

- The school then will work closely with the concerned parents, AISACT, ACT Education Directorate and ACT Health to follow up and take appropriate public health action in line with national guidelines and established processes.
 - Once your child is well again, they can return to school with a medical certificate stating they are safe and fit to come back to school.
5. Students and staff identified as close contacts of a case of COVID-19 will need to self-quarantine at home for 14 days. Being quarantined at home means that you, or your children, need to stay at home, except if you are unwell and need medical attention. You cannot go to work, school, or public areas (such as shops or cafes/restaurants) and should not use public transport. You also need to tell people not to visit you while you are in self-quarantine.
 6. Provision of online resources if school is closed: All teachers will use Google classroom or Class Dojo on daily basis to communicate with their students to ensure their education is not interrupted if we are to close the school. This is applied to all teachers in primary and secondary including specialist teachers. This is necessary to ensure that flexible learning options are available for all students.
 7. The following activities /events will be cancelled or adjusted in our school as of Monday 16th March as the case with all ACT schools:
 - Upcoming school or regional/ACT swimming, athletics and other sporting events where there would be large gatherings of students will be cancelled. However, this does not affect our sport classes.
 - School assemblies will be cancelled until further notice
 - Parent/teacher night will be cancelled. We will revisit this issue towards the end of term 1.
 - School open days/nights will be cancelled
 - Local and interstate school excursions, including camps will be cancelled
 - Prayer is to be conducted only for Years 4-6 in one hall and for Years 7-9 in the other hall. As for Years K-3, they are not required to pray for their safety and to minimise the number of students in prayer halls, they will remain in class until lunch time.
 - PLT's are to be conducted individually. Teachers are to remain in their classrooms working on curriculum, lesson planning and learning activities.
 - Leadership team meetings will be conducted in the ICT lab to ensure enough distance is kept between the leadership team members for their safety.
 - Tuesdays' staff meetings will be cancelled until further notice. Any important issues will be communicated with staff by emails.
 8. In general, in an attempt to prevent the spread of COVID-19, please be mindful of the following:
 - Avoid shaking hands with others
 - Avoid hugging and kissing
 - Parents do not drop students before 8:30 am
 - All students to go straight to the classes at 8:40 am
 - Parents will be allowed to access the school only after 3:25 pm to pick up their children at 3:30 sharp
 - No parents to knock or access any classrooms before 3:30pm. Parents to wait for their children to come out from their classroom to pick them up.
 - Everyone to keep a reasonable distance from others and to minimise socialising

Everyone's cooperation in these circumstances is very much appreciated. I ask Allah (SWT) to protect all our staff, students, parents, larger community and Australia from this calamity – "...But Allah is the best guardian, and He is the most merciful of the merciful." (Yusuf 12: 64).

NAPLAN Update

On another issue kindly be informed that the Education Council has decided today, 20th March to cancel NAPLAN for 2020 due to potential impact of the COVID-19 virus on the administration of NAPALN for schools. potential lower participation rates and the impact on centralised marking centres. We will keep you updated on this issue insha'a Allah.

Dr Eid

Together we make the difference

HARMONY DAY



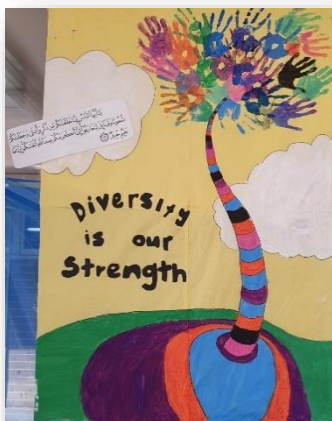
Harmony Week celebrates Australia's cultural diversity. It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone.

Islamic School of Canberra was proud to showcase our diversity on the 17th March 2020! The day was about inclusiveness, respect and belonging, regardless of cultural or linguistic background.



Sarah Berjaoui, our female school captain, says Harmony Day is important to her because it brings everybody together and it's an opportunity for her to learn about other people's culture and background.

Dawoud Ould Mohameden, our male school captain, also shared with us the last words of the Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W); *All mankind is from Adam and Eve, an Arab has no superiority over a non-arab nor a non-arab over an Arab, also a white person has no superiority over a black nor a black over a white except by religion and good actions."*



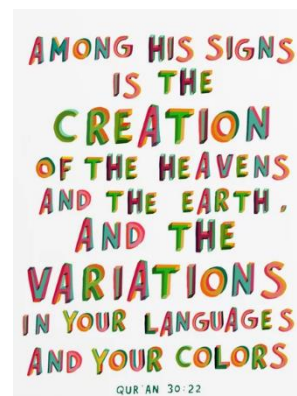
Harmony Day Display by Student Leadership Team

Everyone Belongs

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S N A P S H O T O F T H E D A Y



Term 1

23 rd March (Mon)	NAPLAN CANCELLED
26 th March (Thu)	School Photo Day
8 th April (Wed)	Cross Country + Last day for students
14 th – 17 th April	School Closed
TBA	Parent Teacher Interviews

Term 2

24 th April (Fri)	Ramadan TBA
29 th April (Wed)	All students return
12 th – 22 nd May	NAPLAN CANCELLED
24 th – 26 th May	Eid Ul Fitr TBA
18 th June (Thu)	Kindergarten Health Check
2 nd July (Thu)	Last day for students
3 rd July (Fri)	Reports available online
6 th – 8 th July	School Closed

Term 3

21 st July (Tue)	All students return
31 st July (Fri)	Eid Ul Adha TBA
3 rd Aug (Mon)	Eid Ul Adha TBA
19 th Aug (Wed)	Book Week Character Day
24 th Sept (Thu)	Last day for students
25 th Sept (Fri)	Parent Teacher Interviews
29 th – 30 th Sept	School closed
1 st – 2 nd Oct	School closed

Term 4

13 th Oct (Tue)	All students return
31 st Oct (Sat)	ISC Open Day
2 nd Dec (Wed)	2021 Kindergarten Orientation Day
4 th Dec (Fri)	Year 6 Graduation
11 th Dec (Fri)	Last day for students
11 th Dec (Fri)	Reports available for parents
21 st Dec – 15 th Jan	School closed
18 th Jan	Admin return and school re-open

Reminders

- **Nut Free Policy:** Our school encourages that parents do not send food that contains nuts as we are a nut free school (for example; nutella, nut mix, muesli bars with nuts, etc). Please be mindful of this as we have some students who are anaphylactic.
- **Cancellation of Parent Teacher Interviews:** Schools have been instructed to cancel parent/teacher meetings and excursions due to the fear of COVID-19 spreading. The scheduled time (9th April) for PTI's will be cancelled until further notice.

PASS TO OUR CLASS

Every newsletter, we pass the spotlight onto an ISC class to find out what has been happening.

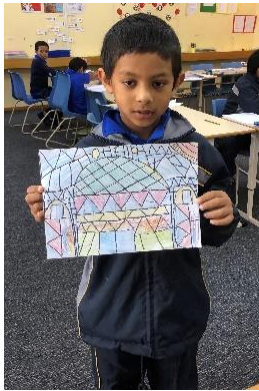




WELCOME TO YEAR 2 OWLS!



In Year 2 Owls, we have had a very busy and exciting term. We have been working very well together to learn a wide variety of topics and skills. Our class enjoys doing lots of hands-on activities and learning about the world around us. I am very happy with how the Owls have been developing their skills and abilities when learning.



Visual Arts

In Visual Arts, the Owls have been looking at various types of Islamic art. After examining different artworks, we also looked at skylines. They looked at how the lines intersect to create the buildings that make up the skylines. The Owls created their own skyline using designs and colours they had seen.



We have also looked at Uluru and what it means to Australia. We examined pictures of Uluru and talked about the variety of colours that you can see at different times of the day. We learned how to create a horizon line and we also used water colour paints to create our pictures.



Mathematics

Using our developing art skills, we talked about and examined different types of 2D shapes such as rectangles, circles, squares, and triangles. We used pencils, oil pastels, crayons, water colours and textas to create our artworks. We will be looking at 2D shapes in Mathematics in the future.

In Mathematics, the Owls have been learning about multiplication arrays. We have been learning to skip count by twos, fives and tens. Skip counting helps make counting easier because we are counting using patterns. The Owls have used a class shop to practise buying items in groups of five cent pieces. We have investigated how many items we can buy for 20, 30, 40 cents. The Owls love to play 'Buzz' which is a counting game that helps us to learn our times tables.

Science

In Science, the Owls have been learning about life cycles. We have learned about the life cycle of a butterfly. We read 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle. We learned about the different stages of life that a butterfly goes through from an egg, to a caterpillar to finally a butterfly. We also learned a number of new words including cocoon, chrysalis and metamorphosis.

STAFF SNAPSHOT

A snapshot of ... Ms Kylie Jenkins



What is your role at ISC?

I am a classroom teacher for Year 2 Owls.

Why did you study to become a teacher?

I studied to be a teacher because I enjoy working with children and seeing them learn and grow as confident individuals.

What do you like to do on weekends?

On the weekends, I like to read, go for walks around the lake and cook for my family.

What do you like about your classroom?

I love that my classroom is a place of learning where all of my students feel welcome and engaged in their learning.

Kylie Jenkins

Year 2 Owls Teacher



HAPPY HARMONY DAY!

~ Year 2 Owls