Dear Parents and Friends,

We have started term 2 with a very busy agenda. First of all we had Parent-Teacher Night at the start of the term. Our ‘concerned’ parents turned up and had the opportunity to discuss their son’s progress with teachers. If you could not make it on Parent-Teacher Night and you would like to see teachers during term time, you will need to ring the secretaries to make appointments.

Secondly, during a general meeting with members, and after much preparation and encouragement, we have established our first ever Parents and Friends’ Association of the boys’ school. We greatly appreciate the interest and support shown by the Parents and Friends’ Committee. We wish them a very successful and supportive school year. Parents and Friends are organising their very first activity for Mothers’ Day. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Parents and Friends’ Association and hope the Mothers’ Day activity is a success.

This week, we have started extra curricular activities in: Taekwondo, Wrestling, Chess, Table Tennis, Cricket, Guitar and Baglama. We highly recommend for our boys to take part in one of these activities, as they are a complementary part of our students’ social wellbeing.

The Isik College Debating teams started competing at Mercy College in week 2 of term 2. We wish them a very successful result this year.

With the majority of our students coming from a Turkish background, I believe Anzac Day has a special meaning for our school. This is our second year of participating in the Anzac Day Commemoration at the Shrine of Remembrance. The article in The Age highlighted our special involvement in, and the significance of the occasion. I congratulate our Humanities Department and the students for their involvement.

One of the most fascinating and pleasing events this term has been the 1st Australian Turkish Contest, held in Sydney at Sule College. Our boys’ performances were extremely well rehearsed and they were successful in many different areas. The full details of the competition can be found in a report later in the newsletter. Congratulations to all our students and Turkish language teachers for their dedication.

VCAL students have resumed their work experience on Mondays, and Mr Helou has resumed his workplace visits.

We have four new teachers who started this term. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome: Mr Muhammed Aksu, Humanities; Mr Mural Sevil, Maths/Physics; Mr Atilla Sinik, Chemistry/Science; and Mr Yusuf Saka, Maths. I wish them a very successful time and long service in the Isik College Family.

Enjoy your newsletter.

Kindest Regards,

Mr. Deniz Erdogan
Anzac Commemorations for Students

It was the 24th of April, it was just another school day to many; but for a handful of Victorian students, it was a day to commemorate all human sacrifices on battle grounds from all over the world, whether it be our fellow Australians, the Anzacs, the Turks, or the Japanese who were ready to give their lives up in the fight for their country, their land and their people.

Just as many were to attend the Dawn Service that was to be held the following morning, we Victorian school children gathered under the warm Sun and clear skies to memorialise what many have gone through. We sat there in awe as the great monument towered over us, carrying its history, its importance in Australian life and the message that it forever carries in our hearts and souls.

The ceremony began with a formal welcome from the Minister of Ceremony who addressed us about what we would be expecting that morning and welcomed Professor David de Kretser AC, Governor of Victoria and Mrs de Kretser. Following this, the Guard of Honour arrived accompanied the President of Melbourne Legacy, legatee Bill Rogers. Mr Rogers explained that Legacy is the unique Australian organisation, established in 1923 by ex-servicemen who were dedicated to the esteemed task of caring for the widows and dependants of their comrades.

Following his speech and extended welcome, the MC invited all to join the choir in singing “We Are Australians”, which preceded the RAAF flypast of three wartime aeroplanes. The Governor was then invited on stage to address us children, the future of the country and the world. Then entertainer Mike Brady was called to the front to perform to us his newly written song “Road of Honour”.

The assembly then stood up in respect for Waltzing Matilda, and we joined the choir and sang just as these war heroes would have once sung. This ended with the Governor and Legacy President laying wreaths at the Cenotaph as the bugler played a lament which he finished with the final “G” note as the final wreaths were put into place. Simultaneously, flags were lowered to half mast and the one minute of silence began. The President of Legacy then ended this saddened silence with the three famous words “Lest We Forget”.

The bugler then played the “Last Post” as the students who were to recite “In Flanders Field” and “We Shall Keep Faith” gathered onto the stage. Once these miraculous poems were recited, the bugler sounded the Reveille and the commentator invited all to end this Ceremony by the singing of the National Anthem, “Advance Australia Fair”.

All in all, it was a wonderful day for everyone, whether they are Australian or not. We all must look back on the fighting spirit of all soldiers who even today are fighting for our freedom, or land, our culture and our lives. We must not turn our backs on these worthy souls, these righteous men and women alike who were ready to spill every last drop of their blood and those mothers who shed countless tears as they sent away their children to battle fields across the globe to fight for a freer and better world… lest we forget.

Ani Yaşar Zirek 9B

Turkish Language and Culture

For the first time in Australia a national Turkish competition has been held. Mostly attended by youths of Turkish origin, the contest, which took place at Sule College’s Prestons Campus, was organized by the Feza and Selimye foundations for the purpose of increasing interest in Turkish language, culture and society. We left by bus on Thursday morning, on 26th of April, from the Upfield campus. In all, we were 37 students, made up of students from our campuses in: Dandenong, Geelong, Eastmeadows, and Upfield. We had the competition on Saturday evening on 28th of April from 7 pm to midnight. Our students performed very well. We are really proud of them. I would like to thank all our Turkish teachers who supported our students. We came back to Melbourne on Sunday night 29th of April. Furthermore, I would like to thank all parents who came to Sydney to support us. Next year’s competition will be held in Melbourne. We hope that it will be a good opportunity for more students to compete. Finally, I would like to thank Sule college for their incredible support and hospitality.

Ercan SAKARYA
Head Teacher of Turkish Department

Turkish Competition Results

POEM- 3rd PLACE: ISIK College - Upfield with Anıl Zirek

SONG—1st PLACE: ISIK College - Eastmeadows with Ebru Efem

STORY DRAMATISATION- 2nd PLACE: ISIK College - Upfield with Anıl Arslan

SKETCH- 3rd PLACE: ISIK College - Upfield with Kinali Hasan Cast Members

NON-TURKISH CATEGORY- 1st PLACE : ISIK College – Upfield with Abdülhai Abdu

FOLK DANCE- 1st PLACE: ISIK College – Upfield Primary

TURKISH WRITTEN EXAM- 2nd PLACE: ISIK College - Upfield with Muhammed Bagci
**Waste Wise**

There is a new program being introduced within the school community designed to help preserve what is pictured above plus much, much more.

Isik College Upfield will be incorporating a new system of environmental awareness in our students, teachers and staff. This will involve a number of different aspects of preservation, recycling and regrowth principles.

Students will gain a hands on perspective into this highly valuable area of our planet’s ecology. After all, this is the only planet we have and our students are an integral part of the future of this world.

Here is just a small sample of some of the aspects of the Waste Wise program:

- Recycling bins along with all normal bins in classrooms.
- Incentive system for classes who recycle the most paper.
- Collection of all used paper handouts and worksheets for recycling.
- Having ‘fruit only breaks/non plastic paper breaks’ in all Year 7-10 classes during Period Two each day.
- Responsibility for a section of the school for each Homeroom to care for.
- Decorated area unique to your homeroom in the school yard...Plus a whole lot more.

We have a responsibility to protect more of this by doing more of this.

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**ENGLISH**

**Victorian Premier’s Reading Challenge**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In 2007 Isik College is again encouraging students in Years 7 to 9 to participate in the Victorian Premier’s Reading Challenge.

Your son was recently given a letter from the Premier of Victoria inviting him to take the Challenge. A Consent Form was also supplied for your attention.

To register your son in the Challenge, simply complete the Consent Form and return it to the college as soon as possible.

Remember, students will have until 17 August 2007 to complete the Challenge.

If you would like further information, please visit the Challenge website at www.education.vic.gov.au/prc, or contact Mr Adrian Verga at the College.

Start reading and good luck!!

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**Debating**

Last week, on Wednesday night, four Isik College teams took part in the second round of the Victorian Debater’s Association School’s competition, which was held at Mercy College. which was held at Mercy College.

There was a mixture of experienced debaters and newcomers representing the school. Our D grade teams debated the issue ‘that we should ban all examinations at school’. A topic they felt quite passionate about. Despite speaking convincingly and with a deal of confidence, our two teams were narrowly defeated; however, Mohammed Erylimaz (8A) was awarded equal best speaker. At the B and C grade level, our boys suffered similar results, though not without putting up their best defences. The C grade team of Danish Syed, Ilhan Uysal, and Ali Said Ozcelik debated very well, but were defeated by a stronger side. All of the boys will have learnt from this experience and are all determined to increase their efforts for the next round later this term.

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**Mothers Day – 13th of May 2007**

The School Committee (Parents & Friends Association) has organised their first event ‘Mothers Day’ Sunday 13th of May.

The committee member’s first challenge was to organise mothers day – in less than one months time. The committee was so overwhelmed and full of energy that they did not see this as a daunting task. We worked as ‘one’ team but also took on tasks individually to action and accomplish the following; - invitations, hire/book function, gifts/prizes for mothers, organise a folklore group and a DJ.

Moving forward the committee members have lots of great ideas for upcoming events that we will be communicating back to the school/parents. We would also like to encourage and invite any other ideas or suggestion that any one would like to share.

On behalf of Isik College, the Parents & Friends Association would like to wish every mother a very Happy Mothers Day.
Term 2 has contained many excursions that have inspired our students in their study endeavours.

Year 7 & 8 Art students went out to the TOP ARTS Exhibition at the International Gallery on St.Kilda Rd, on Thursday 10th May. Because we arrived before our speech, we had time to explore and view the Antiquities sections of the gallery. There were artefacts 5,000 years old relating to the students' SOSE studies on Egypt and South America. At 11 am we went to a tutorial room where the students voiced their opinions on the selected award winning year 12 students' works. I found this to be a proactive way of learning rather than completing exercises from a book. The holder of the seminar praised many of the boys for their intelligent comments.

After this, we were treated to a folio viewing and we had to wear white gloves so as not to damage the students' work. I heard the boys comment on the huge amount of work they were doing in VCE. I can explain to them now that for these VCE students, Art is a passion, love or outlet for them and an important part of their lives.

In the end the quality of the Art works was top notch and I hope it inspired students into thinking creatively in whatever job or activity in which they participate.

**Year 8 ‘IMAX’ English Excursion**

On Friday 27 April, Year Eight students at Upfield Campus went to visit the IMAX theatre to watch 'Fighter Pilot'. This was part of their ongoing studies in English. Students were able to grasp the intricate skills and technological marvels associated with being a

The documentary film featured a war game involving 26 countries, including Australia. Students learned through the study of the novel, 'No Guns For Asmir' that war is tragic and we need to work hard to ensure that it never happens. This opinion was also discussed in 'Fighter Pilot.'

**Firewalls** Muhammed Khalid Mehmood

If you have been using the Internet for any length of time, and especially if you work at a larger company and browse the Web while you are at work, you have probably heard the term firewall used. For example, you often hear people in companies say things like, "I can't use that site because they won't let it through the firewall." If you have a fast Internet connection into your home (either a DSL connection or a cable modem), you may have found yourself hearing about firewalls for your home network as well. It turns out that a small home network has many of the same security issues that a large corporate network does. You can use a firewall to protect your home network and family from offensive Web sites and potential hackers. Basically, a firewall is a barrier to keep destructive forces away from your property. In fact, that's why it's called a firewall. Its job is similar to a physical firewall that keeps a fire from spreading from one area to the next. As you read through this article, you will learn more about firewalls, how they work and what kinds of threats they can protect you from.