Dear Parents, Teachers and Students,

Our students sat for their semester exams last week (week 8) with year 12 students completing their mid year exams this week. They’ve all worked hard for these semester tests, and we wish them all the best.

Last weekend our Parents and Friends Association organised a seminar on “Supporting our children in developing their identity”. The number of parents who attended the seminar was quite high. The seminar was conducted by Selmiye and Feza Foundation’s Educational Consultant Abdulgaffar Dereli. Feedback received was very positive, with parents eagerly awaiting the next session.

The Isik College Winter Carnival has been organised for Friday 22nd June, 2007. There will be lots of activities and fun on the day. We welcome all parents to come and participate at the various fun stalls set up.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, Ebru Efem from year 10 represented Australia in the Turkish Olympiads in Turkey last week. She came first in singing and performed her song live on two national television stations last Sunday night. We congratulate Ebru Efem and her teachers for this success.

On Monday we hosted Susan Pascoe from UNESCO International; she delivered a speech to our year 11 and 12 students on the topic of values. She discussed the role and importance of values in determining how human beings relate to one another and to their environment. Students received her presentation warmly and were inspired by her remarkable contribution to the Australian and world communities.

Best wishes,
Mr. M. Koca

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Dear Principals, Teachers and Fellow students,

As part of the Year 11 Psychology curriculum, we have carried out a Bystander Effect Experiment at lunchtime, in week 4 Monday to Wednesday.

In the experiment, we set up some helping scenes including bullying, arguing and an asthma attack. The purpose of the experiment was to test whether people’s tendency to offer help depended on the amount of bystanders present.

In this experiment, we have found that students in Isik College, overall, are very caring and we received a lot of help during the experiment. We may have caused some distress or inconvenience to people at the school during our experiment, for which we are sincerely sorry. However, we do thank those students who participated in our experiment and offered a “helping hand”.

Once again, we thank you all for participating, and hope you won’t be reluctant in helping anyone in need in a real life situation.

Regards,
Year 11 Psychology Group
VALUES EDUCATION

The truth needs so little rehearsal. BARBAR KINGSOLVER

It is hard to believe that a man is telling the truth when you know that you would lie if you were in his place. HENRY LOUIS MENCKEN.

Make yourself an honest man, and then you may be sure there is one less rascal in the world. THOMAS CARLYLE.

Her dedigin dogru olmali. Fakat, her dogruyu demek dogru degildir. BEDIUZZAMAN

All you say should be true, but not that you should say all that is true. BEDIUZZAMAN

ÇOCUK YALAN SöylemeYi Kimden Öğrenir ?

Year 9— “The Show Went on”

As a nice rounding off to their term 1 study of Hinton’s “The Outsiders”, a novel about how a group of juvenile delinquents try to survive in a world where they are labeled and excluded from the mainstream, some 35 year 9’s were happy to attend the musical-theatrical interpretation, performed be The Phoenix Theatre Company at Kew High School.

As the girls tell it, they loved the show, which featured musical renditions from the young cast. Other chats with girls included their own perceptive reflection on the interpretation offered by the amateur theatre group in contrast to our own class discussion … just the type of audience participation I like to hear...

Miss N

Many of us had never before seen a live theatrical performance, particularly not like this one.

The production was impressive with a lot of original songs and choreography, and the special effects added to the excitement of the play. The day was loads of fun and everybody enjoyed it. We felt it was a great performance, and if it’s ever on again, I recommend that future year 9 students grab the opportunity...

THE MANY SIDES OF THE DEBATING COIN

Armed with agile, 360 degree insight, ever more sharpened wits and a tongue to suit, the year 10, 11 and 12’s have waged deft matches —as light footed as any featherweight champ— in the art of argument, in this year’s Essendon District inter school debating comps.

A good four rounds we’ve copped so far, gave as good as we got, and come out dubbed “victor” on some 6 proud occasions

Round 5 is just around the corner, due to hit us end of July…. so stay tuned folks, and wish us well...

Some snippets from the kids so far … 

Miss N

In the 4th round of debating on 22 May, the year 10 topic was whether “Cheerleaders Should be Banned from Professional Sporting Events”\", a statement we had to support.

As our adjudicator mentioned, we presented strong arguments, which included that cheerleading advocates sexism, exacerbates already existing problems around teen body image and eating disorders, involves injury concerns and, basically, means women are turned into objects on the playing field, just as they are in other similar arenas, such as formula 1 racing, game shows, the modeling and advertising world.

Due to the opposing team being from an all-male school, we believe we did have the upper-hand. That said, the opposition did have some strong arguments, which, however, they were told needed more “expansion”.

After a heap of hard work, we won the debate. We look forward to debating in the future because we believe it’s a great chance to take part in what we consider a challenging activity.

Tugce Opoz & Serenay Kalkan (10 B)