Dear Parents & Friends,

I’d like to welcome all our students, teachers and parents to a very exciting new year in 2008. I hope everyone is well rested and looking forward to a whole new campus at Eastmeadows. Every new year, we meet new faces. This year we have an additional grade prep class, some more new students in our other year levels and of course some new teaching staff. I am always happy to be working with an enthusiastic team of professionals and families. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone to Isik College and trust that your experience will be a positive and enriching one. We are now continuing the process of settling into the new building and finding our place again. Many of the children are adjusting to the new learning environment and playgrounds. In general, our families have been very supportive of all the changes we have to accommodate for throughout the building and transition stages. As a whole school community, we certainly have had to face some obstacles along the course, but your patience has been highly appreciated.

Our focus this year is to deliver high quality teaching programs to improve student performance, both academically and socially. The introduction of Learning Teams provides staff the opportunity to focus on the delivery of the teaching programs so that children can reach their potential. A fortnight ago we had our Parent Information sessions and I was certainly impressed with the attendances. Parents were informed of some of the issues relating to personal, social and academic development. There were also some parents with genuine concerns who raised important topics during the question and answer time. Parents also received a copy of the Parent & Student Handbook which provides important references to the structure and organisation of our school. If you would like to receive a copy of this handbook, please visit the primary office.

The newsletter is an important means of communication between the college and families. It is distributed once a month and is also available online. Although this term is relatively short, you will find in this issue some of the events to date and other important matters.

I look forward to meeting all of you during one of the many school events throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Mr. Omer Ayvaz.

2008 Staffing Appointments

We are pleased to have a highly dedicated and committed team of staff at the college. There are some new staff, as well as former staff who have joined us this year. Please note parents are advised to make an appointment to meet with staff.

Prep A—Ms. Nirmal Ranjit
Prep B—Mrs. Halide Atasay
Prep C—Mrs. Ozlem Oflay
Prep D—Mrs. Nazan Zengin
1A—Mrs. Gul Hanim Aslan
1B—Mrs. Kevser Kilic
1C—Ms. Dunia El-Haouli
2A—Ms. Ilkay Yagcioglu
2B—Mrs. Seldan Kirmaci
2C—Ms. Sirin Yazar
3A—Mrs. Eser Arman
3B—Mrs. Sevde Serbetci
3C—Mrs. Ozlem Bayram
4A—Mrs. Guldem Gumus
4B—Ms. Demet Latifoglu / Ms. Shifa Irdem
4C—Mrs. Mukaddes Gunayusu

5A—Ms. Medine Cilek
5B—Ms. Meleknur Yilmaz
5C—Mrs. Saide Gungor
6A—Mrs. Arzu Bardiz
6B—Mrs. Safak Goker-Kamisci / Ms. Evla Han
6C—Ms. Filiz Cansiz

Religious Studies—Mrs. E. Dogan, Mrs. H. Gungor, Mrs. G. Ayvaz
LOTE—Mr. M. Kus, Mrs. E. Demet, Mrs. F. Alkan
Sport—Mr. Mehmet Yilmaz
Art—Mrs. Gulcan Ayvaz

Literacy & ESB—Mrs. Huriye Pulic
Counselor—Mrs. Nurdan Ayvaz
Teacher Aides—Mrs. S. Turkmen, Ms. M. Seymen, Mrs. I. Pak, Ms. B. Ulukan

Library—Ms. S. Okten, Mr. P. DeSilva
Speech Therapy—Mrs. M. Testsis & Mr. D. Tarpis

Important Dates -

- 29 February: School Clean Up Day
- 10 March: Labour Day (Public Holiday)
- 17–19 March: Harmony Week
- 19 March: Term 1 ends
- 20 March: Parent Teacher Interviews
- 21 March: Good Friday (Public Holiday)
- April 7: Curriculum Day (Student Free)
- April 8: Term 2 Commences
Grade 2’s-

Late start, great effort!

We are all happy to be back at school and have started the year with a new building and new classrooms. Staff and students have been working together to ensure that both learning and contentment is achieved. The grade two’s were very excited to meet their new teachers and friends. 2A and 2B welcomed 2C into their classrooms; they worked together experiencing the values of sharing, responsibility and caring for others.

Our focus this term is on sea animals, and we are looking forward to our first excursion to the Melbourne Aquarium at the end of the term. Thank you for all your support during this time and we look forward to meeting and working with all of you.

Junior Department Teachers

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all the Prep students and their families this year. After a busy few weeks we have moved into our own rooms which are looking bright and colourful. The Prep students have settled in quite well. We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead of us!

Regards,

Grade Prep Team

VISITORS

All visitors including parents must report to the college office during school hours.

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT— Grades 1&2

Grade 2’s-

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Junior Department Teachers

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT— Grade Prep

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Regards,

Grade Prep Team
Dear Parents,

Welcome to Isik College in 2008! It sure has been a hectic term with many changes that we had to adapt to. We are all very pleased to be back together and on the same campus as the primary school. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank parents on their patience and support during the first few weeks of term.

I believe the grade 3/4 teachers and students have established a comfortable classroom environment which is essential in creating a positive attitude towards learning.

The Grade 3’s are working on our ‘School Values’ this term which include happiness, responsibility, respect, compassion, honesty, life-long learning, etc. It is wonderful to see our children comprehending these values and putting them into practice in their everyday lives.

The Grade 4 unit of work this term is ‘Melbourne, then and now’. The children are learning and researching lots of fascinating facts about the city in which we live.

The classroom rules in 3/4 have developed with students input so the responsibility for the rules is shared. Students are encouraged to become responsible for their own behaviour and develop strategies for dealing with unwanted behaviour from others.

It is pleasing to see children completing their homework as homework reflects and reinforces the work that the children are learning in class. Homework also develops good study habits and provides parents with opportunities to be aware of their children’s learning.

I’m proud that most children are remembering to eat a healthy and filling breakfast before coming to school. Please remember that a healthy and nutritious breakfast assists learning as children are more alert and able to concentrate.

Last of all, I hope that all of you have a happy and healthy 2008!

Yours Faithfully,

Mrs. Eser Arman

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School Entrant Health Questionnaire

The Primary School Nursing Program offers a health assessment to children in their first year of school. Every Prep child received a SEHQ on Orientation Day. It is required that you fill in the information about your child, if they are attending prep for the first time.

The questionnaire covers information about student health, including dental, speech and language, hearing, vision, general development and behaviour and emotional well being. Please complete the questionnaire and return it to school. A school nurse will be in touch with you when she sees your child and the school will be in touch with you when the school nurse arranges her main school visit.

In the interest and well being of our school community it is essential that all and parents use the school crossing during drop off and pick up times. As traffic is heavily congested, students are not permitted to ‘step out’ of cars on the road. Council now enforces strict fines. Parents are kindly requested to take this matter seriously and help comply with rules.
Dear Parents,
Once again this year we are excited to have the opportunity to attend a national capital camp. Taking part in an educational tour of Canberra and its attractions will complement our curriculum based studies of Civics and Citizenship, assisting students to gain a better understanding of our history, culture, heritage and democracy.

We have made every effort to ensure the best possible facilities and programs with the assistance of the Australian Government contribution funding programme (PACER).

Thank you very much to all the parents who attended the Information Session held on the 12th February, with Ms. Emma Tabone of G.E.T Educational Tours. She shared her experiences and provided answers to some concerns. Naturally, the grade 6 camp is entirely different to the grade 5.

Our students had a jam packed program absorbing all the must see sights and programs in Canberra. It was certainly amazing to see parliament house—then & now. Our students took part in dress ups, role plays and other programs. Did anyone get a snap of Mr. Rudd?

Gr 6 Teachers

Gr. 6 Canberra Camp

The official opening of the Primary school Library was performed on Friday the 22nd of February by Mr. Turgay Avci the Foreign Affairs Minister of Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

The occasion reminded us all about the importance of books and gaining knowledge while glamorous photos were taken to commemorate this important event.