Dear Parents & Friends,

Welcome back to Term 3!

It was wonderful to see the bright smiles of the students and teachers returning back to school after the semester break. I trust that you shared some special time with the family. Perhaps, the winter weather is just the time for catching up with family and friends. Some of us obviously are still having trouble to get back into routine as I noticed many latecomers arriving to school after 9am. Parents, please try to ensure students are on time to school (8.45am is perfectly fine). We know habits are formed early in life and we need to model the importance of punctuality to our children, otherwise lateness can have a very negative effect on them as they grow up and become members of workforce.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Many parents and teachers have provided some positive reports and feedback regarding student progress at school. Such meetings provide a valuable means of communication between the school and families. Some staff members were unable to be present at our reporting day and therefore have arranged alternative times. If you were unable to meet with any of your teachers, please contact the College for an appointment.

2009 Enrolments & Re-enrolments

Last term we conducted the Entrance Examination for new students. It is always wonderful to see the growing interest of the College in the community. Results have now been finalised and enrolments have begun. Please be advised that there will only be three groups of grade Prep next year.

Please be aware, that all existing students must now have returned their re-enrolment forms if they wish to continue schooling at Isik College.

Staff News

As you are aware, Mrs. Halide Atasay is taking her long service leave now in sunny Cyprus. I’d like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Meryem Yalciner, who is back with us and working with the Prep team. Also, thank you to Ms. Nesibe Serbetci for taking care of our Prep D class, as we wait for Mrs. Nazan Zengin’s return from her trip.

Computers & the Internet

I am pleased to inform all our students and families that our ICT room is now in operation. The lab has 28 PC’s with Internet access and a printer. We are also expecting a projector to complete our Interactive Whiteboard setup as well. I'd like to also thank everyone for their patience, as we have had endure considerable time regarding all the technicalities.

Do you know what your children are doing when using the computer at home? How long do they spend on the computer? Are you able to monitor the sites they visit and who they have conversations with on chat sites? What types of games do they play?

For your information, NetAlert is the Australian Government’s online safety program, setup to protect families. It provides practical advice, parental control and filters. I would strongly advise all families to refer to www.netalert.gov.au.

Primary Parents Club

It is fantastic to see our parents also excited about making a contribution to help develop the amenities at our school through fundraising and events. Some parents have also expressed that they were interested in seminars to provide them with a better understanding at helping their children with school and homework.

Our Literacy coordinator, Mrs. Pulic, will be providing parents a seminar to help parents when listening and reading books at home.

Finally, many of our community members will know of the sad news regarding our high school student, Mukaddes Yildirim, who passed away. By the grace of Allah, who gave us the privilege to teach or to be friends, our sympathy and dua’s are with you. May Allah give patience and strength to all the family.

With kind regards and peace.

Ms Evla Han
Dear Parents,

This semester we have introduced 'Making Up Lost Time in Literacy' (or MULTILIT) for our students in Gr 1 and 2. The MULTILIT Reading Tutor Program is the product of a continuing program of research and development by a specialist team of academic researchers and special educators into more effective ways of teaching low-progress students who are experiencing difficulties in learning literacy skills. The MULTILIT Program caters for students who have not acquired the basic skills needed to become functional readers. The program will be used with individual students, on a one-to-one basis, by support teachers.

Research shows that the most effective programs of reading instruction for low-progress readers involve intensive, systematic and explicit instruction in three main areas:

- phonics (or word attack skills);
- sight words recognition; and
- Supported book reading.

The MULTILIT Reading Tutor Program incorporates all three of these key features:

- MULTILIT Word Attack Skills
- MULTILIT Sight Words
- MULTILIT Reinforced Reading

We anticipate that all our parents will be supportive with this program and assist their child in making progress by working with them at least 10 minutes every night and completing the required homework tasks.

Mrs. Huriye Pulic & Mrs. Sevgi Turkmen

There are many simple ways to help your child develop confidence with maths. The best way is to increase your appreciation of the importance of numeracy by showing your children how to apply skills in daily situations. For example, shopping with children can help them learn how to work with a budget, measurement as well as basic number facts and operations. You can also talk to the teacher to clarify teaching methods if your child says 'we don’t do it this way in class'. Nowadays, there are also some wonderful interactive maths websites available online (some are free, some require membership). This is a great way to reinforce skills and develop speech and accuracy. Here are some websites we would encourage you to explore with your family. Have fun!

- www.rainforestmaths.com
- www.funschool.kaboose.com/formula-
- www.auntymath.com
- www.funbrain.com

Good luck to all our students.

Mrs. Safak Goker-Kamisci
A MESSAGE FROM THE NURSE

It’s that time of the year where winter has arrived with it unfortunately comes the cold & flu’s, and Gastroenteritis which is evident in the community and hospitals at present. Please do not send your children to school if they are unwell or you suspect they have the Gastro bug.

What is Gastroenteritis?
Gastroenteritis (gastro) is an inflammation of the stomach and bowel. Most often it is caused by infection with germs such as viruses. Norovirus is the most common cause of outbreaks of gastro in hospitals.

What are the signs and Symptoms?
Gastro symptoms typically include nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Some people experience stomach aches and fever. The illness often begins suddenly and infected people may feel very sick. The infection is most common in the winter months.

When do symptoms appear?
Usually 24 to 48 hours after virus enters the mouth, but symptoms can appear as early as 10 hours after exposure.

Is gastro infectious?
Viral gastroenteritis is highly infectious and very easily spread from person to person. Both faeces and vomit are infectious. People are infectious as soon as they become ill and for up to 2 days after diarrhea or vomiting have stopped.

Is gastro harmful?
Most people recover in 2 to 3 days without any further problems. It can however be a serious illness for students who are already unwell and in school. An outbreak in the school may also occur if parents are not vigilant and send their children to school with the virus.

How do you get gastro?
Gastro occurs when germs such as norovirus enter the mouth and this may happen in any of the following ways:
From person to person this may occur by touching a person infected with gastro or being nearby when someone is vomiting. You can also be infected by touching contaminated surfaces such as taps, toilet flush handles, children’s toys and nappies; eating contaminated food; drinking contaminated water.

How do I stop the spread?
Preventing gastro is best achieved by following these simple rules:
Clean your hands with soap before and after meals and going to the toilet.
Please do not use toilets inappropriately
Educate your child not to pee on floors and encourage them to leave toilets clean. Report toilet accidents if they have occurred.
Keep your hands away from your mouth.
Finally, I urge all families to keep the College up to date with any student medical details, as this is vital in case of an emergency.
Thank you.
Mrs. Nurdan Ors, School Nurse

Dear Parents,
We have just come to the end of our Inter-school sports winter season. In term 4, the summer season will commence again.
I am also very happy to inform our parents that the College has recently purchased new special sports equipment for PMP (perceptual motor skills program), for our infant and junior department.
This term our gr 4-6 students will be involved in the Annual Athletics Carnival. The day will not only serve as a celebration to the Olympics Games which will be held soon, but from here on, some of our students will also take a step further and will be selected to represent the College in district sports. This week the students had house meetings and had the opportunity to select events they wished to participate in and we also elected house team captains.
No, we haven’t forgotten the junior and middle department! We will also be organising a Mini Olympics for them soon.
Parents are invited to attend to cheer on their children. We also request the assistance of parents for the smooth running of the day, in particular the assistance of parents with experience / skills in athletics. Please contact or leave a message at the primary office.
Remember:
Gr 4-6 Athletics Carnival
Thursday 14th August
9am-2.30pm
Meadowglen Athletics Track, Epping
Stay active!
Ms. Medine Cilek,
Sports Coordinator

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Sports Coordinator

Health & Sports News

Sports Alive
Welcome Back! The PPC team would like to warmly welcome back all staff and students to term 3 at Isik College. We trust all our families had a relaxing time over the long winter break. Our group of regular parents who attend our meetings are now on our email list and receive updates of events. We have decided to also make some announcements in the College newsletter as of this term, to keep everyone well informed. We are looking forward to a busy term 3 with fundraisers and other events. Firstly, we will be putting on our sports shoes to help out at the annual Athletics Carnival on the 14th August. Parents are welcome to come along on the day and support this fun day. Who knows some day we may have our own Olympians!

Feel free to come along and be a part of this small group of very dedicated parents.

Coming Events:
- 12th August—Next PPC meeting at 2pm
- 14th August—Athletics Carnival
- 18th August—‘Reading is Succeeding’
  Parent session 4:30-5:30pm in the Library
- 8th September—Father’s Day stall

This year selected students will take part in the spelling bee competition as advertised below, which will occur after our Literacy Week Spelling Bee.

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<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Weather—Rain, Hail or Shine</td>
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<td>Grade 1</td>
<td>The House that Ali Built</td>
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<td>Grade 2</td>
<td>Space</td>
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<td>Grade 3</td>
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<td>Kitchen Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade 6</td>
<td>Energy - Power Up!</td>
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10 Questions to Ask Your Child about their Day at School

Do you find it difficult to get a clear response from your child about their day at school? Does your son/daughter just elicit one worded response? The trick is to ask about things that are specific but open-ended and invite your child to describe his/her world. It's also great to start the conversation with an anecdote from your own day. Try one of these conversation starters:

1. Tell me about the best part of your day.
2. What was the hardest thing you had to do today?
3. Did any of your classmates do anything funny?
4. Tell me about what you read in class.
5. Who did you play with today? What did you play?
6. Do you think math [or any subject] is too easy or too hard?
7. What’s the biggest difference between this year and last year?
8. What rules are different at school than our rules at home? Do you think they’re fair?
9. Who did you sit with at lunch?
10. Can you show me something you learned (or did) today?

Every child receives a personalised certificate and ribbon!

Trophies up to 3rd place and Cash Prizes of up to $150:

Places are strictly limited

- Grade 2 — 30 entrants $50 cash prize
- Grade 3 — 30 entrants $50 cash prize
- Grade 4 — 50 entrants $100 cash prize
- Grade 5 — 50 entrants $100 cash prize
- Grade 6 — 60 entrants $150 cash prize

To be held on the first Saturday of September school holidays, Sat 27th September.
Registration is a must. Entries will not be accepted on the day.

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