Camps For Years Seven and Eight

‘A Great Beginning’

On Monday, 25th February most of the Year 8 students, including me, went on a camp to Mount Morton Lodge. It took about one hour and ten minutes to get there.

Our first day at the camp site when we arrived was exciting. We unpacked our luggage and settled into our cozy cabins. There were five boys in each of the cabins. In mine there were Cihal, Toner, Omer, Fatih and last but not least, me.

Our group leader was Mr. Okan Alkin, who took us to play soccer for our first activity. It wasn’t boring and it wasn’t fun because we beat the other team too easily. After lunch we went to play volleyball and that was great. We had heaps of fun because the great competition was organized. All the activities were amazing. We had loads and loads of fun. The teamwork was excellent. After that we had dinner and it was delicious, prepared by our hard working chefs.

That night our Principal, Mr. Deniz Erdogan, The DPs, Mr. Kadir Emyinet and Mr. Suleyman Kor came to visit us at the camp. All three of them made great and outstanding speeches. After they finished we watched the movie ‘Garfield’, which was an enjoyable movie to watch. After this we went to ‘sleep’ at our cabins. We did not get much sleep because of talking until 2.30 a.m.

Eray Kurul 8A
Dear parents, students and friends of Isik College,

Welcome to the 2008 school year at the Upfield Campus. I specify 'Upfield Campus' because for the first time in the history of the school we are now a 'unique' school providing secondary education from Years 7 to 12 for boys only. We are no longer sharing the school with our primary school nor are we sharing our teachers with the Eastmeadows Campus. 'We have declared our independence in 2008.' Of course this makes the running of the school a lot simpler, less confusing and more organised - this is how we 'boys' like it. Thus, we have made a great start to the year. Our student numbers have increased to 365; we have fourteen new dedicated teachers on board; we have a new administrative team/structure; physically, our school looks much better because our corridors and classrooms have been freshly painted and the students have received new tables and chairs; there is a lot more space within the school; and the renovations are still continuing. All this has uplifted the morale, enthusiasm and behaviour of our students; which is great to see! They now have a sense of pride in their school. Needless to say, these improvements, renovations, beautification and modernisation will not stop here in 2008 - it will continue with success into the future of Isik College (Boys' Campus).

We have already had many activities at the school within the first five weeks of Term 1 and we will continue to have more activities in the remainder of this term viz: Year 7 camp; Year 8 camp; school photographs; new parents’ and VCE parents’ information nights; Year 11 biology fieldtrip; Year 12 chemistry excursion; Year 7 excursion to the cinemas to see the popular Turkish film 'Beyaz Melek'; VCAL’s handball competition; the election of School Captain; Term 1 test; Term 1 interim reports and finally, our annual welcoming BBQ.

We'd like to keep this momentum going until the end of the year and build and improve upon it in the years to come. In order to this, we must have and maintain good behaviour from our students; the commitment of our teachers; the perseverance of our co-ordinators; and the good, decisive leadership from our administration team.

Best wishes for the 2008 school year to all our Isik College family.

Mr Kadir Emniyet
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL.
Relax, socialise and spend time with Nature.
Camp at Mount Morton was great. I enjoyed making new friends and doing activities. I discovered students’ personalities and even those of some of the teachers. My favourite activity was the flying fox because it was my most frightening activity and I got to face my fears.

Zakaria Wardere, 7B

My favourite thing about the camp was doing flips on the trampoline.

Sami Sir, 7A

My favourite memory of camp was doing all the fun and exciting activities. Another thing was making new friends and getting to know everyone else.

Kassem Azzam, 7A

The best thing about the camp was that I was always near my friends and I had a lot of quality time with them. I also made some new friends and enjoyed beating some of them at billiards.

Furkan Yilmaz, 7A

The best thing about camp was when members of my cabin played cricket against members of another cabin, and our cabin won.

Ibrahim Can, 7A

Camping was a great experience for me. I had great fun with my friends and made new ones from different grades. I enjoyed it a lot and it gave me a chance to get to know my fellow campers better. The camp at Mount Morton was a lot of fun and we learnt new skills and made friends.

Taner Bodur 7A
Welcome To Our New Teachers

Name: Emmanuel Opare-Addo
Subject: Science Teacher
Background: Emmanuel joined Isik College at the beginning of 2008, after a career of teaching and research at tertiary level overseas. He is a fellow of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, Cambridge Commonwealth Society and the American Geophysical Union.Hobbies: Reading, watching nature, traveling, soccer, hiking and sharing time with people.

Name: Louie Traikovski
I began my teaching career in 1987. My teaching areas are currently Legal Studies and Business Management, although I have also taught many other subjects. I am also the Head of Humanities and I am assisting with Careers at Isik College. I am aware of the fine academic tradition at Isik College and will do my best to uphold it in my subject areas.

Mr Norman Capapas
Subjects: English Skills Building and Debating
I started my teaching career in 2001 with a business English school in Tokyo, Japan. This, however was not the direction I wanted my teaching career to go so I applied for an American University (State University of New York) that had a campus in a famous district of Tokyo, Shinjuku. I stayed in Tokyo for three years and since I returned to Australia I have worked in several public schools including Buckley Park, Essendon Keilor and Caroline Springs College. I hope my time at Isik College will be fruitful and rewarding for both myself and my students.

Hi everyone!
My name is Wesley Hall and 2008 marks my first year on the staff here at Isik College Upfield Campus. A recent graduate from Monash University I will be teaching Year Nine and Ten SOSE in 2008 along with Year Seven Sport. The first few weeks of the school year have been a great chance to get to know your sons and over the course of 2008 I look forward to not only meeting you all but also helping your children grow and develop both academically and personally at Isik College.

My name is Kazim Haksever and this is my first year teaching religion and dialogue at Isik College. I was matriculated at Isik College myself for VCE year 12 and graduated successfully within the top 5 student ENTERs in 2002. I am currently studying Law & Business (major in accounting) and enjoy reading, soccer, swimming and computer games

Hello, my name is Matthew Wakefield and I am new to Isik College. My duties include teaching year 12 History, year 10 English and year 7 SGSE. In my short time here I have been made to feel very welcome by both staff and students and I look forward to meeting more of you over the course of the year.
Hi fellow Isik readers! My name is Charmaine de Sousa and I recently graduated from the University of Melbourne after completing my post graduate diploma of Education. There are many reasons why I decided to become a teacher, but I suppose the most critical reason surrounds the influence of my parents. They are both educators and have a combined education experience of over 70 years. They always dreamed I would follow their path, and since beginning teaching I couldn’t be happier at Isik College. My current role is junior SOSE teacher, and teacher of drama at all levels. I look forward to meeting all of my students’ parents, and being a part of my students’ future success.

Why do people teach? I enjoy teaching because I get to meet so many different and interesting people, both fellow teachers and students. I also enjoy helping people learn new skills. I have taught ESL, Maths, Science, ICT and Religion in many different schools in the northern suburbs. It is a difficult job, but has times of great satisfaction.

Hello everyone. I’m Anne Mitchell and I teach English to the Year 12 boys. This is a huge change for me, as I have taught all girls for the past 21 years. In my spare time, when I am not correcting essays, writing English textbooks, or studying at University, I like to read, go fishing or bushwalking, play Bridge (a card game), or visit Carlton for a coffee and a film. I’m pleased to be here at Isik College and I look forward to the year ahead.

Hi, my name is Mr. Ilker Karagozoglu. I am a new teacher at Isik College. I specialize in teaching Mathematics. This year I have been appointed as Year 10B Homegroup teacher and also teach year 9, 10 & 11 Maths. My interests include reading and the outdoors. I hope to enjoy my time at such a vibrant new school.

The following teachers will be introduced in the next issue:

Kazanci Bunyamin, Religion and Values Teacher
PolatBehct, LOTE (Turkish) Teacher
Canbolat Muhsin, Religion and Values Teacher
Gunday Soner, Taekwondo Instructor
Peter Dos Louis, Mathematics Teacher

We Need Your Help!

A new title for the newsletter is required. See an English Teacher and maybe you will receive a reward if your title is chosen.

Humanities Department

All students are invited to participate in this Humanities-based competition: Law Week Secondary School Poster Competition: Students design a poster to celebrate Law Week 2008. Entries close 13 March 2008. Visit www.victorialw.org.au or see Mr Traikovski, Humanities Coordinator.

Cash prizes ranging up to $500 for student and $200 for the school. See also the posters in corridors.

Mr Traikovski, Humanities
For his black and white photographs. He was born February 20th 1902 and died on April 22 1984. Ansell Adams was born in San Francisco, his family was wealthy. His youth was like any other child's, but when he was 4 years old he was in the major earthquake. He suffered a broken nose and a permanent crooked nose.

His education wasn’t very productive because he disliked the education system and so he left school in 1915. It was known that he wanted to be a pianist but after he saw Paul Strands negatives he had a passion for photography. In his late teenage years he joined a club which people preserve the natural world of wonders. With the love of that he took photos of the natural environment & that led to his career.

The Tetons & Snake River → 1942.

The Clearing Winter Storm, Grand Teton National Park, Yosemite Valley → 1944

Jeffery Pine, Yosemite Valley → 1940

Ansel Adams was different to other photographers. His mission was to encourage self expression in others and to stimulate the search for beauty & creative excitement in the great world around us. Compiled by Mr. Rohan Morrison

Dear parents and guardians,

Another Isik College education year is in full swing with new energetic staff and we are almost finishing the first term!

As we did the previous years, we are trying to update and improve the curriculum in line with the latest developments. This is the third year that we are offering elective subjects to our students and they are enjoying them.

Next term we will have our usual ICAS competitions. When you receive the letter for ICAS, please fill out the form if you would like your son or sons to participate in this important international competition.

This year instead of AIM tests for year 7 and 9’s, the government introduced a new national test to be conducted in all of the states in Australia. This will be a good opportunity to compare our students' literacy and numeracy levels against the national standards.

Research suggests that involvement in extra-curricula activities actually enhances students' concentration and learning abilities. As part of our extra-curricula activities we are introducing clubs that will operate during lunchtime and after school. Some of these clubs include chess, debating, reading, homework, basketball. Please encourage your son or sons to participate in these club activities.

I wish a successful and happy year to both parents and students.

Suleyman Kor
Deputy Principal (Curriculum)

Ahmad Helou
VCAL Coordinator

Hi everyone and welcome to the 2008 academic year at Isik College. VCAL is the alternative program to VCE. Students who undertake VCAL are the students that have an admission to become tradesmen or go to TAFE.

We have four VCAL students this year, all in year 12. The students will attend school three days a week doing VCE and one specific VCAL subject. On the other two days the students will attend their apprenticeship in their area of interest. What this means is the student will finish high school with a year 12 certificate, as well as completing up to two years of their apprenticeship part time.

This year the students are undertaking the following apprenticeships:

- Building carpentry
- Electrical
- I T networking and administration
- Plumbing

The specific VCAL subject the students are doing is called Personal Development (P.D). In P.D. the students will learn, in a practical manner, leadership responsibilities, teamwork logistics, public speaking and organizational skills. The way we are teaching these skills this term is via a sporting competition, handball, which the VCAL students are organizing and managing. You will be able to read about the success of the VCAL handball competition in the next edition of the Isik College

As you may already be aware, the College is participating in the 2008 Premier’s Reading Challenge.

Many students have already signed up and we encourage other students in Years 7 to 10 to do the same.

For further information visit www.education.vic.gov.au/prc or contact Mr Adrian Verga at the College. Happy reading!
Dear Parents and Teachers,

I am very pleased to welcome everybody to the 2008 academic year. I hope that the new year will bring with it health, happiness and success for all of our students, teachers and their families.

The Pastoral Care Department (PCD) aspires to help develop and encourage the success and growth of our students - mentally, physically and spiritually - through individual attention, activities, camps and spiritual guidance. The PCD will try to inform everybody about all of our upcoming events and activities as much as possible.

All our efforts will be to enhance our students’ moral values and to shape them into valuable members of our community. To build these strong individuals we need to create a strong community. Therefore, on behalf of the PCD I would like to invite and encourage everybody to get involved, as we greatly value and appreciate the feedback and ideas from all teachers and parents.

Each class has a pastoral care teacher and a mentor. PC mentors are chosen from amongst university students who are sponsored by the Selimiye Foundation. They are able to relate better to students as they are closer in age and understanding. Students are more comfortable and can express themselves, their thoughts and their problems easier.

I would like to inform you of the members of our department and the classes to which they are allocated. We are confident that everybody involved will not only maintain this valuable and integral part of our institution, but also constantly endeavor to make it greater, by not only meeting our goals and expectations, but by exceeding them.

Here are our experienced Pastoral Care (PC) members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>P.C. MENTOR</th>
<th>P.C. TEACHER</th>
<th>HOME-GROUP TEACHER</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7A</td>
<td>Ferhat Gurkan</td>
<td>Azilda Sinik</td>
<td>Adrian Verga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7B</td>
<td>Ferhat Gurkan</td>
<td>Azilda Sinik</td>
<td>Peter Doss Louis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7C</td>
<td>Sami Hussein</td>
<td>Veli Turkmen</td>
<td>Veli Turkmen</td>
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<tr>
<td>7D</td>
<td>Sami Hussein</td>
<td>Tamer Unal</td>
<td>Andrew Coventry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8A</td>
<td>Oguzhan Yilmaz</td>
<td>Okan Alkin / Suleyman Kor</td>
<td>Rafael Garcia</td>
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<tr>
<td>8B</td>
<td>Cihad Atlihan</td>
<td>Mustafa Kabak</td>
<td>Cem Demirci</td>
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<tr>
<td>8C</td>
<td>Abdulhettah Ozkan</td>
<td>Soner Gunday</td>
<td>Charmaine De Sousa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9A</td>
<td>Abdulhamid Cicek</td>
<td>Yusuf Saka</td>
<td>Wesley Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>9B</td>
<td>Selim Ozgan</td>
<td>Bihter Altuntas</td>
<td>Ashley Clayton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9C</td>
<td>Ercument Gunduz / Kazim Haksever</td>
<td>Norman Capapas</td>
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<tr>
<td>10A</td>
<td>Sacid Cicek</td>
<td>Bunyamin Kazanci</td>
<td>Matthew Wakefield</td>
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<tr>
<td>10B</td>
<td>Sacid Cicek</td>
<td>Bunyamin Kazanci</td>
<td>Ilker Karagozoglu</td>
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<tr>
<td>11A</td>
<td>Adem Soylemez</td>
<td>Muhammed Aksu</td>
<td>Emmanuel Opare-Addo</td>
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<tr>
<td>11B</td>
<td>Adem Soylemez</td>
<td>Muhammed Aksu</td>
<td>Muhammed Aksu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12A/12B</td>
<td>Hasan Yilmaz</td>
<td>Mahir Kara</td>
<td>Ahmed Rajab (12A), Azilda Sinik (12B)</td>
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</table>

On behalf of Isik College I would like to thank all the teachers and mentors who have volunteered their valuable time, and effort to inspire our students for this academic year by joining our department.

Warmest Regards,

Mr. Mahir Kara
Pastoral Care Department
VCE COORDINATOR’S MESSAGE (MR. AHMET A HAKTAN)

TRAVELING AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT

Light travels 9,467,280,000,000,000 metres (around 9.5 trillion km) every year. A fighter plane would travel the same distance in 300,000 years. Since graduating its first students in 2002, Isik College seems to have advanced a distance of light years every year and achieved very pleasing results. Now, there are more people wanting to learn more about our school and about our education system. Thanks to our dedicated teachers whose efforts, like eternal candles, continue to illuminate and inspire those around them. Also, thanks to our parents who worked cooperatively with the College and supported their sons. Let’s not forget our valuable students who worked very hard and fulfilled their individual responsibilities.

2007 was another golden page in our successful history. We had one VCAL graduate and twenty-four VCE graduates. Out of twenty-four VCE students, twenty-two of them have received a university offer (92%) and two students have received a TAFE offer (8%). I also want to congratulate the 2007 girls, 97% of whom received a university offer. In 2007, the average (median) ENTER score for both boys and girls was 76.25, up from 72.35 the previous year. With these results, the 2007 graduates have received the second highest median scores in Isik College’s VCE history. The highest having been 86.43 in 2004.

This year, our Dandenong campus has accommodated its first year 12 classes with a total of seventeen students having enrolled. No doubt, there will now be some friendly rivalry between the three VCE Isik College campuses. We wish everyone success with their VCE exams.

In conclusion, I wish you all a successful and happy year. Please remember that in order to open the door to success, the key is to travel at the speed of Light, (Isık) until you reach your target. Unfortunately, however, you probably won’t have 300,000 years in which to reach it.

Words of wisdom: I know the price of success: dedication, hard work and an unrelenting devotion to the things you want to see happen. -Frank Lloyd Wright

REMINDERS:
PARENTS’ INFORMATION NIGHT, FOR PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN YEAR 11.
DATE: 11 March 2008, Tuesday
Venue: Isik College Upfield Campus Library
Time: 6:00-7:30 pm

Plague
Who started the first conflict? The details are very vague. One thing is for certain, conflict is a plague. From hatred it arises and through lies it begins to spread. It scourges the land until all inhabitants are dead. There are many ‘doctors’ who claim to have the cure, But their prescriptions just destroy what is innocent and pure.

Their antidotes bring only more terrible strife, And to them countless young men must forfeit their life. These ‘healers’ cause endless grief and everlasting pain, And their souls are forever tainted with the bloody mark of Cain.

Mankind I pray you, be swift in finding peace, Or life in the land will simply cease.
Saif Al-Fitlawi 12B

The Forgotten Warriors
Amongst the battlefield I heard the cry
Loud, eerie, shrivelled nothing but dry
Why do you cry little one, Say:
I have lost my only son
Look into my jagged face and tell me what you see
There I saw something I don’t ever want to be
As his eyes widened revealing to me
Mine tried to close, blocking thee
Yet terror gripped me and I saw the truth
Into his shattered heart I deepened my search
To Alas, I found it blocked and lurched
I saw their terror and many forms of error
Then he said to me why did my leaders send me to battle
While he sits on his chair
He believes he his harmless via his blood runs the heir
He never abandons his forsaken chair.
He has forgotten the true warriors

By Moustafa Moustafa 12B

Tune in for the next edition.