Dear Parents & Friends,

Welcome back to school! I hope everyone spent the holidays to relax and recharge. I wish I did! Term 3 is one of my favourite periods of the year. Our events calendar is huge. Entrance Exams, Athletics Carnival, National Science Week, Literacy & Numeracy Week, Book Week and Ramadan too! Start thinking about your costumes for this year's character parade. Yes, it's on again! All classes this term will have a science based unit focus. 2009 is the International Year of Astronomy and I imagine the grade 2's will have a most engaging and interesting learning adventure. We all know that 'reading is to the mind, what exercise is to the body.' Last week on Curriculum day the primary staff participated in the Brain Gym program with Mrs Julie Gunstone, an educational kinesiologist. You may note some children talking about 'catching a brain-wave' or doing lazy 8's. It is an energising program that includes movement to coordinate the brain and body for greater productivity and learning. Mid year reports not collected on Friday 13th June have all been sent home by post. The reports have an A-E rating as prescribed by state requirements and provide a map highlighting the learning on track. The reports provide an in-depth written statement of the current learning standards for each individual. Some interviews by teachers and the speech pathologist were held on a needs basis. Like some of our students travelling overseas, we have some staff members on holiday enjoying the Mediterranean summer. Some of our regular emergency teachers are here to work with students and teachers. I wish to welcome Mrs Goker-Kamisci back from maternity leave. She will replace Mrs Nirmal Alexiou who is on personal leave and continue coordinating the Middle department (gr 3/4). I'd like to thank Mrs Gunyesu for assisting in coordination duties in the Middle department last term. 2B parent prayers have been answered! Ms Akay will continue working with 2B this year because she has made some magic :) How does she seem to know so much about 2B in such little time?

Finally, it appears that this week students are now back into school mode. However, there are some students in holiday mode and will need to visit the hairdresser & the uniform shop very soon!

Regards,
Ms Evla Han

Learning how to Learn

This term students and teachers will all be working towards setting and meeting new personal goals. Students will demonstrate their achievements to date in a 'portfolio'. We will also introduce and trial student-led conferences, as well as continue our traditional parent teacher interviews. Student-led conferences provide the opportunity for students to be actively involved in their own learning. They enable students to assume responsibility for their performances with the process of self-evaluation and critical thinking. These conferences are aimed at celebrating achievement and building confidence in a three-way dialogue (student-parent-teacher).

Before/After School Care

Please be reminded of the procedures. Regular students attending Before/After School Care are required to submit an enrolment form. However, Prep-2 students that have not been collected from class by 3.45pm, will be escorted to the Multi-Purpose room for the After school care program. You will also receive an invoice for this.

Dear Parents,

My name is Fatma Alkan. I am a Turkish teacher at your school but I am currently on maternity leave as you may be aware. During my leave I am conducting a study for my doctorate degree. I will explore English-Turkish proficiency levels of Turkish-English bilinguals studying in Melbourne. My research is looking at the development of language competence in English and Turkish among students with Turkish speaking parents. My focus is on whether the students’ development in their Turkish language competence helps their English language competence and their general academic performance in school.

I am also looking at how the efforts of their teachers and their parents help in their development in both languages and their academic performance. This study will be a whole school study from prep to grade 6. It involves the students, parents and teachers. I would like to invite parents to participate in this study. The parents that wish to participate will complete a questionnaire and it will take no longer than an hour. The questionnaire will be about you and your child’s language usage within the family. If you are willing to participate please contact Fatma Alkan from the school office.
Dear Prep Parents,
Welcome back to Term 3. We are looking forward to a very exciting term. This term the grade prep students will be learning about the Seasons/Weather. You can encourage and assist your child at home by extending their knowledge on the topic when the need arises. Later on in the term, the grade prep students will be visiting Science works. The students will be given the opportunity to visit and explore Nitty Gritty Super City, as an extension we will view Tycho to the Moon in the Planetarium. We are looking forward to another educational and busy term.

Grade Prep Team

Welcome to back to the best term ever! Our Focus within the Religion & Values subject this term is based on the 5 Pillars of Islam for all Primary students.

Students will be provided with activity booklets full of educational lessons to support learning and creativity.

The order of learning this term will be:

- The Shahadah- declaration of Faith- Memorise and recite the Arabic and English versions.
- Prayers- Teach students ablution and the basic requirements and practices of prayers.
- Fasting- With the month of Ramadan, students will be experiencing daily the topics taught and discussed in class.
- Zakah- Charity to help those in need.
- Hajj- The visit to the Kabah.

Students will be taught each section of the five pillars according to their level of understanding and need.

Feel free to book an appointment to see the Religion & Values Education staff if you have any concerns.

Regards,
Religion & Values Ed. Team

|| PA | Bilal Khan | Settling into a new school very confidently |
|----|-----------|-------------------------------------------|
| PB | Ali Yukus | Settling confidently into semester 2 |
| 1  | Mehmet Ali Doganay | Trying hard and succeeding in all his work |
| 2  | Pinar Geyik | Is organized & completes all her work on time |
| 2  | Eray Cekic | Completes all work each time and completes extra work too :) |
| 2  | Zeynep Aydin Enis Bagec | Completing their work and trying hard to improve |
| 3  | Talha Tasbasi | For his regularity in completing and handing in his homework assignments |
| 4  | Aydin Sonmez | For always checking over his work |
| 4  | Aleyna Mimi Berrin Bektas | For showing organizational skills in completing homework |
| 5  | Fatih Hakmoun | Great oral presentation of a biography report |
| 5  | Batuhan Ozdemir | Persistence: Making the footy team! |
| 5  | Yusuf Sahin | Great oral presentation skills |
| 6  | Kerim Demir | Showing amazing organization skills and persistence in his school work |

Above & left: Prep’s illustrate their love for Allah

Chess Tutors Wanted!

We are looking at providing more Clubs programs for our students. We hope to have a Chess Club operating soon and are in much need of a volunteer Chess expert. If you love Chess and can teach some strategies please see or leave a message for Mrs. Ozlem Bayram.
Dear Parents,

Welcome back for Term 3 - students returned back to school with great enthusiasm on Tuesday with lots of time for sharing holiday stories! I hope Term 3 will be a rewarding term for everyone in our school community. I am also back from maternity leave and will be working with fantastic Grade 2 team as well as continue coordinating the middle department. In Term 4 students in grade 3 and 4 will be attending their school camp, which is often the first time away from home. I encourage all students to attend to experience the camp excitement. Students learn new skills, engage in challenging activities, develop teamwork, and it's also an opportunity to learn a little more about being independent. Please inform your child about the cold season and its effect on their health. Remind them to keep themselves warm. Due to the cold weather, many students are falling ill and missing out on school work due to absences. Wishing everyone a great term.

Mrs Safak Goker Kamisci
Department Coordinator

From the Library

Reading Makes you Feel Good by Todd Parr
Reading makes you feel good because...
You can imagine you are a scary dinosaur,
You can make someone feel better when they are sick,
And you can do it anywhere!

‘Big Earth, little Me’ by Thom Wiley
I can help. I can recycle. I can turn off the water. I can turn off the lights. Printed with organic-soy-based ink, this simple picture book with flaps is made for young readers. From the adorable cut paper collage illustrations to the simple text, BIG EARTH, LITTLE ME is a book that thinks globally, but focuses locally.

‘I Do it’ by Jonathan Bentley
A little girl decides she can do everything - and she doesn’t need help from anyone. This charming picture book for the very young perfectly captures a child’s determination to be independent - at all costs. Andrew Daddo’s beautiful story, coupled with Jonathan Bentley’s delightful illustrations, will touch the hearts of all.

‘Two Tough Teddies’ by Kilmeny Niland
They practice being loud so that they will be noticed, but they only frighten away some cats. They practice being brave and bold, but they scare away a dog… Then, just at the point of giving up, a little girl discovers them home. Niland’s warm affectionate story explores a theme familiar to all - sometimes we get what we want only when we stop trying so hard.

On the 18th of June grades Prep to 3 participated in a JUMP OFF to help raise money for the Heart Foundation. Isik College raised a total of $1,356 and would like to thanks all the students and parents for their support and contribution. We would like to give a special thanks to Grade 3B for raising a total of $240 and another thanks to Semih Aslankoc in Prep C who raised a total of $152.65. Thank you for all your efforts in helping us support this important cause.—Mrs N. Tasci & Ms. M. Cilek
Primary Pastoral Care

Education Week was undoubtedly a great success last term, providing many fun & engaging activities and catering for students of all ages and learning capabilities within our school.

The Pastoral Care Team was very busy throughout the week also with fundraising events. We sold Fairy Floss and Smencils throughout the week- combined raising a total of $2265. This money will be forwarded to the Selimiye Foundation Scholarship fund to help students succeed in their educational careers. We would like to thank all Pastoral Care staff and Grade 6 students who took part in this meaningful event.

Regards,
Primary Pastoral Care Department

Football Gala

On Friday the 17th of July boys from Grade 5 & 6 were involved in a football gala which was held at Jacana Reserve. The boys played against Gladstone Park, Gladstone Views and Westmeadows P.S. The results were as follows, overall our boys came in third place. 1st place - Westmeadows P.S. 2nd place - Gladstone Park P.S 3rd place - Isik College 4th place - Gladstone Views. We are proud of their achievement and the great sportsmanship they showed towards other players. Talha Cokoglu and Ebu Bekir Capal each received awards for their efforts throughout the matches and Ebu Bekir was awarded a medal for best on field for our school.

Ms. Medine

The Epilepsy Trivia Challenge runs every year at Isik College. Students in grades 3-6 in April took the opportunity to take the Epilepsy Foundation Trivia Challenge. Students worked in teams to complete 100 questions in less than an hour. The aims of the Challenge is to increase students' understanding of epilepsy and also do a bit of brain gym. Students were also encouraged to make a gold coin donation for further research at the Epilepsy Foundation of Victoria. Thank you to the children and families for their support, we collected just over $200. A very special thank-you for the Sirhan family for donating $50.

Mrs. Ozlem Bayram
Upper Dept.