PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Taking on this new position as Principal makes me feel exceptionally proud and privileged. I believe that this year will be a successful year for all students, parents and teachers.

My overseas teaching experience includes seven years in Turkey and four years in Bosnia-Herzegovina. From 2004-2008, I was the School principal of Sule College, Illawara Campus.

We, as teachers have accepted education as an important philosophy in life. You, as parents, have handed over your children to us for safe-keeping. As educators, our primary aim is to take responsibility of your children and provide the best education possible. Whilst we aim to fulfill this goal, it is pivotal for you, our parents, to assist us by effectively communicating with teachers.

We would like all parents to assist and support our school, our teachers and our administrators. You may do this via sharing your concerns and expressing your requests. Our Isik College Secondary Girls campus has proved to be the most successful out of all the Isik Colleges’. Once again, I feel exceptionally privileged and proud to be working with such a fine team of motivated and experienced teachers and administrators. I believe we will provide the educational success which our students’ and parents’ deserve.

Mr. Ilker TEMIZKAN

I would like to warmly welcome all our students and staff to the new academic year.

We have started this year with 41 highly dedicated staff (teaching & non-teaching) and approximately 364 students. I am very proud to say that most of our students have made a pleasing start to the 2009 academic year, displaying a positive outlook and a determined effort to establish the habits that will keep them in good stead for the remainder of the year. As for our teachers, they do feel exceptionally privileged to be teaching such a motivated, well-behaved and invigorated group of students.

I would like to encourage our parents to actively take part in our school community, whether it be through communication, attending seminars and information nights or participating in upcoming events and school functions.

Kind Regards,

Ms. Nazan POLAT

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

WELCOME TO 2009

IMPORTANT DATES

11 March, Year 10B
Religious Studies
Day Trip

12 March, Year 10C
Religious Studies
Day Trip

13 March, 2008 Graduates Ceremony (All Campuses)

25 March, Yr 12 Chemistry excursion, Day Trip

25 March, Yr 7 Science Incursion

26 March, Yr 9 Cool Chemical Science Incursion

3 April, Students Finish Term 1

20 April, Curriculum Day

21 April, Students Start Term 2

24 April, Anzac Commemoration Service (Shrine of Remembrance)
SRC & Yr 10 History

28 April, Year 7-9 Parent-Teacher Interviews

30 April, Year 10-12 Parent-Teacher Interviews

THIS NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED TWICE A TERM
Welcome back to a new school year at Isik College. I hope the summer break gave you an opportunity to relax and recharge for a new school year.

The new year also signals the start of new pastoral care activities. The Pastoral Care Department is responsible for the promotion and maintenance of the social, spiritual and emotional wellbeing of both staff and students.

We have pastoral care teachers and mentors assigned for each class. A mentor is a university student — generally from among our last years’ graduates — who assists pastoral care teachers.

With the assistance of pastoral care staff, each class will be having the following activities throughout the year: excursions, sleepovers, picnics, reading camps, Interfaith Dialogue, celebrations of Holy Nights, fundraising activities, Human Appeal campaigns, interstate and overseas trips.

You will also be hearing more about our pastoral care activities aimed at parents, such as “Morning Tea”, which will start in the following weeks.

I am very pleased to see that some of the classes have already made a quick start for the new year pastoral care activities such as class lunches and discussions. Also, many classes have already arranged a class day for discussions. You will get letters relating to these activities.

I wish everyone a happy and safe 2009 educational year and hope that your expectations and dreams will be realised.

Ms. D. Oztan KABAK

Welcome back to yet another exciting year at Isik College Eastmeadows! What an eventful year we had last year! Congratulations to all students who completed their studies and are about to commence their new role as university students. We are very pleased with the fact that 92% of our 2008 graduates have enrolled into universities across Melbourne.

We have ahead of us yet another VCE journey. Year 11 students last year commenced their Year 12 studies at the end of Term 4, allowing them time for a smooth transition into a challenging year. They are already in study mode, going full speed ahead!

Our current Year 11 students also commenced their year 11 studies at the end of last year. They have started the year on a positive note and are busily trying to adjust to the altered work demands. They are currently in the process of gaining an overall impression of where each of their VCE studies will be heading throughout this year and beyond.

It is also important to note that the Senior Student Handbook is the primary source for students, outlining the rules and regulations governing the VCE. Please read this publication carefully and make careful note of any changes. Both students and parents need to familiarise themselves with the expectations of the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) and Isik College.

We’ve already had VCE Information Session for the new year 11 and 12 parents. Coming up this semester will be VCE Information Seminar for year 10 parents. Please keep an eye out for further information in upcoming editions of the Newsletter.

Parents and students are reminded that VCE has very strict rules and regulations about attendance. VCE students need to be very cautious with attending the school promptly and regularly in order to continue their VCE journey successfully. Please bear in mind that lateness also needs to be watched out in VCE since coming to class for more than 5 minutes is recorded as absence.

In the meantime, I wish all students, parents and teachers a successful onward journey.

Ms. Hatice MOHAMED

We have had a nice calm and positive start to 2009 in year 7 and 8. You all look very smart in your new uniforms. I no longer have to tell you to tuck your shirt in and if you all made a big effort to keep our hair tied up I would have nothing to moan about. (You know who you are).

I have been enjoying getting to know the year sevens and have already seen some fantastic characters and personalities shining through. I look forward to the year ahead with you.

Year eights, you have learnt well and so far had an excellent start to the year. It is a pleasure to be your coordinator. Don’t make me eat my words and make sure you continue this way.

We have a few new students to Isik this year, so a big welcome to you all. I know it must be hard to enter a new environment and adapt to new rules and procedures and I can assure you I will be here to help you in anyway I can.

On a serious note I would like to firmly announce that all our students here should feel happy and secure about attending school with no fear of bullying. So please consider the way you speak to your classmates and peers and if they look upset at your actions or words ask yourself “How would I feel if someone treated me like that”.

Treat everyone with politeness, even those who are rude to you, not because they are nice, but because you are.

Author Unknown

Ms. Helena McALOON

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In the meantime, I wish all students, parents and teachers a successful onward journey.

Ms. Hatice MOHAMED
Dear Students, Parents and Colleagues,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I am the new Year 9 and 10 coordinator; Esra Dogan. I have been working at Isik College for 7 years as a LOTE and Religion & Values teacher. For the last 3 years, I have had a position in the Isik College Primary Management Team, taking care of Pastoral Care and Specialist department. 2009 has opened a new horizon in my career and boosted my dedication towards our ultimate goal “Raising the golden generation”.

Year 9 and 10 are turning points in young people’s lives. While they try to make fundamental decisions about their future education, they will mature in character and reach a state of self awareness and confidence. As the Year 9 and 10 coordinator, I will be there to support my students, their parents and my colleagues whenever they need it.

Finally, I would like to extend my warmest welcome to the Isik College family for the 2009 school year.

Best Regards

Ms. Esra DOGAN

I am happy to welcome back students to school and wish them a productive and prosperous educational year in 2009. We are offering VCAL (The Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning) again this year. There are seven students currently enrolled in this program and the year has started off well.

VCAL is a ‘hands on’ option for students in Years 11 and 12. Like the VCE, the VCAL is a recognised senior qualification. Unlike the VCE, which is widely used by students as a pathway to university, the VCAL focuses on ‘hands on learning’. Students who do the VCAL are more likely to be interested in training at TAFE, doing an apprenticeship, or getting a job after completing Year 12.

In 2009 our students will be undertaking VCAL intermediate level. Our VCAL program will consist of the following units for 2009:

- **Literacy skills**
  - VCE Foundation English Units 1 & 2

- **Numeracy Skills**
  - VCE Foundation Maths Units 1 & 2

- **Work Related Skills**
  - ICT Units 1 & 2

- **Industry Specific Skills**
  - VET Program of student’s choice at Kangan Batman TAFE

- **Personal Development Skills**
  - Intermediate Unit 1 & 2

Ms. Ilmiya ASONOVA

Welcome to Student Wellbeing and Counseling Services:

I have commenced 2009 with the exciting role of the new School Counsellor. Firstly, I would like to mention that I have been warmly welcomed by all and that I am looking forward to working with the students and their parents. My role is to ensure motivational and emotional support is available to all students within the school environment. I would like to take the opportunity to state that this type of support is paramount in enabling all students to reach their full potential academically as well as personally. I aim to focus on attributes such as personal development, self-confidence, resilience, understanding peers, empathy and family relationships. Thus, allowing the students to potentially be more beneficial within our community. The values of the school are upheld at all times and I hope to expand the service by conducting seminars for all year levels, in collaboration with the coordinator’s, throughout this academic year. The seminars for this term are: Conflict Resolution, Stress Management & Study Techniques and Personal Development.

Ms. Gul OZLUK

**NEW STAFF**

We would like to warmly welcome our new staff:

- Ms. Aysel Temizkan, LOTE
- Ms. Derya Kucukali-Helou, Science/Envir. Studies
- Ms. Esma Kablan, Science/Health
- Ms. Esra Dogan, Level Coordinator/LOTE
- Ms. Gul Oztuk, School Counsellor
- Ms. Kim Nash, PE/Psychology
- Ms. Mary-Ellen Egawa, English
- Ms. Michelle Veith, English
- Ms. Ummugulsum Kor, English
On Sunday the 1st of March Isik College hosted a welcome BBQ for all students and their families. The day was filled with fun activates such as face painting, helium balloons and a fantastic BBQ feast. Parents were given the opportunity to meet their children’s teachers in an informal setting. It was a friendly way to be updated on their student’s progress. We would like to thank all staff and students who attended on the day.

STUDENT COMMENTS

I liked the BBQ because we all looked like a happy family feasting to celebrate a special occasion. I also liked the BBQ because it kept the siblings happy... it was fun as well.

GEHAN ANNOUS, 7C

On the 1st of March ISIK College had a welcome BBQ for all students. It was a fun and friendly BBQ. There was free face painting and there were students and teachers doing face painting. The meat was delicious.

SEDA UZEL, 7C

On Sunday 1st of March, ISIK College had their annual welcome bbq for the secondary girls. It was a nice get together so our parents could meet our teachers and know what’s going on around the school. It was a lot of fun for the kids because they could get their face painted for free and play in the park. Everyone also had a chance to eat some delicious sausages and meat. It was a wonderful day for parents, teachers and students.

AYSE SAKAR, 7A

All the kids had fun with face painting.. Our parents got to meet our teachers and learnt how well we were progressing. It was a really nice get together with families. Also our parents got to meet our friends.

PINAR KAYA, 7C
On Wednesday 25th of February, Turkish Minister, Mr Mehmet Simsek, accompanied by many VIP guests, visited our school. Mr Simsek, along with other politicians, businessmen and people from academia, toured the Main Campus, which was later followed by a breakfast in the Conference Room. Mr Simsek delivered a speech in which he said “.. My heart goes out to individuals and communities who have been adversely affected by the recent bushfires… I would also like to thank Isik College for beginning the much needed Bushfire Appeal on behalf of our Turkish citizens…the Turkish-Australian community is very fortunate to be living in such a beautiful country like Australia…”. After the meaningful speech, all guests watched a folk dancing performance organized by our Folk dancing Teacher.

ECOLINC EXCURSION

On a recent trip to Ecolinc in Bacchus Marsh, our year 10 environmental students were amazed by the sustainability features of the excursion site. Our students were shown ways to save energy and water, reuse products and reduce air and water pollution. Here’s what they had to say:

Ecolinc was an absolutely amazing place. The way everything was organised for energy efficiency and water saving. I wish people would take the time to go there and get information on how to live a more sustainable lifestyle.
Hamide Veli

Ecolinc was really fun. I learnt heaps of ways to save energy and to save water. It was very educational.
Ayse Uyanik

The only three words I have to say about ecolinc are “reduce, reuse, recycle”. Ecolinc is crazy about the environment and I love to congratulate them and thank them for making me realise my mistakes related to the environment.
Halenur Kaya

The amount of energy saving that Ecolinc does is wonderful! I had fun and I was so happy to see that there are people who care about our planet’s future.
Rabia Pesmen

Sustainable Living
Offices and houses of the future

ISIK COLLEGE NEWS
We had a fantastic experience in Food Technology. I had loads of fun. We had lots of fun because we got to express our talent in decorating cakes. I was really excited in the morning because I know we that it was going to be a great session.

We started off in the morning with Mrs. Mehmet explain to us about all the different kinds of ways to decorate a cake. The designs were absolutely wonderful. I chose one which had a letter in the middle and was outlined using icing sugar. Instead I used a silver pen (edible) to write an (L) on my cake and covered the rest of the cake with sliced almonds and chocolate flakes, that I crushed and placed on top of my vanilla frosting.

It looked marvellous, and was delicious. I hope that all the year 8 students will experience this wonderful experience. Ms. Mehmet also taught me so much about what chefs do to make their work absolutely 'perfect'

Layla Al-Saabary 8A

A selection of cakes decorated by our year 8 students (Above)