Dear Students, Parents and Friends of Isik College,

We had a very active and exciting term which included our Bushfire Appeals, a multitude of incursions, excursions across all the different year levels, and last, but not least, our Pastoral Care camps. The last few weeks of the term also saw a select group of students attend the National Schools Convention in Canberra and also the Australian Finals for the Turkish Olympiad, due to take place in Turkey in the upcoming months.

It is with great honour that I would like to thank our school’s ambassadors Serenay Kalkan, Sebnem Camur and Gulsah Kul in year 12 for proudly representing our school at the Convention in Canberra. A very special ‘thankyou’ also goes to our teachers Ms Gordana Janev and Ms Arzu Demircan, whom chaperoned and spent quality time with our students over the 3 days.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the students whom competed at the Turkish Olympiad, Australian Finals. I would like to congratulate Ceren Erdem (year 10) and Kevser Aysel (year 10) for receiving second place in their category of competition.

I would like to welcome Ms. Hilal Kuyruk into her new position as Secondary Librarian; she is replacing Ms Halise Gunduz who is on maternity leave for the remainder of the year.

Term 1 Student Reports

In the secondary school, it is standard practice for all student reports to be mailed out the first week of the school holiday period. It is therefore, absolutely essential for parent’s to notify the school of any changes to their postal address.

Parent –Teacher Interviews

The Parent-Teacher Interviews for all secondary girls, will be held on Tuesday, 27th of April and Thursday 30th of April, between 4pm and 7.00pm at the Eastmeadows Campus.

These interview sessions will be a formal opportunity for you to meet with staff to discuss your child’s academic and behavioural progress.

In order to meet the increased number of parents’ requests this year, we will have these Interviews by appointment only. You will need to ask your child to arrange interview times with her teachers by Friday, 24th April 2009. We have provided an interview sheet for you to conveniently record each of the requested interview times.

As always, 5 minutes is allocated for each meeting. We ask for your co-operation in complying with the 5 minutes limitation and in being punctual to each of the interviews.

First Day of Term Two

The first day of term two is Tuesday 21st of April. Students will be required to wear their school blazers during term 2 and 3.

Ms. Nazan POLAT

Isik College OPEN DAY

Sunday, 24 May, 1- 4 pm

TERM 1, 2009
Dear fellow students,

On Tuesday 17th of March, three excited Isik college students and two teachers went to Canberra as Delegates and Chaperones for the 14th Annual National Schools Constitutional Convention. Gulsah Kul, Sebnem Camur and Serenay Kalkan, of 12B were selected as delegates for this convention after entering essays. They were among 120 students from all over Australia. The students were to spend the next two days discussing and debating the topic; ‘A new Constitutional Preamble for Australia?’.

Subsequent to arriving in Canberra the students and chaperones were escorted to the Commonwealth Parliament of Australia for some sight seeing. Once all the delegates arrived from each of the states and territories of Australia we were assembled in a hall at Parliament House and served lunch. Following lunch we attended question time in the House of Representatives where the Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, put on quite a show as he challenged the opposition to ask questions about his generous stimulus package. After some childish name calling amongst the ministers we were off to visit the Senate for some more questioning. During the question time break some of the ministers happily posed for photos and answered the student’s questions, to mention a few; The Hon Maxine McKew, Harry Jenkins and Peter Garret (of Midnight Oil fame). Finally, it was 5pm, the chaperones were exhausted, it was time to head to the 4 star resort for some dinner and shut eye.

Day 2, Wednesday 18th March began early, breakfast at 7am, after all there were 120 students to feed. This day we were destined for the Old Parliament House where the convention was to begin formally. The Hon Julia Gillard (Deputy PM) officially opened the convention with an inspirational speech addressing the topic. Before her departure there was an official photo session with Ms Gillard and a delegate from each state and territory. Fortunately, I was asked to nominate the delegate from Victoria, so I nominated Sebnem, who was proud to be photographed with the Deputy PM. Guest speakers for and against the constitutional topic followed. Then the students went in their working groups for some more discussion and consideration of a possible preamble. The day came to an end with the soap box session, where the students had the opportunity to express their views on the topic. Wednesday evening we visited the National Press Club for a formal dinner and a speech from the 2008 ACT Young Australian of the Year Xian-Zhi Soon.

The final day of the convention we were back at Old Parliament House to view and discuss further the draft preamble. We also squeezed in a visit to the National Archives and a background briefing on the history of the Constitution. The National Constitutional Convention was an amazing experience for students and staff. It was an opportunity for students to meet with like minds from all over Australia. I was proud of our three students in particular, as they conducted themselves respectfully at all times. Serenay approached her role as reporter for the convention with absolute professionalism and dedication. Congratulations, Gulsah, Sebnem and Serenay on an amazing achievement.

Finally, I would like to thank my colleague and friend Miss Demircan, who accompanied us as part of her pastoral care duties. Not only was she there for the girls, she was also a great support to me in my role as chaperone.

Mrs Gordana Janev

On Tuesday 17th March, we attended the 14th annual National Schools Convention in Canberra. It was a unique and extraordinary experience for us. We were involved with 120 other students from different states in Australia. At the convention there was a lot of debating amongst the students. Two of the most memorable moments were meeting and posing for a photo with the Deputy PM Julia Gillard and seeing the PM Kevin Rudd in action in the House of Representatives. Overall, it was an unforgettable experience that has created within us an interest for politics. We recommend participation in this annual event to any other interested students.

Gulsah Kul, Sebnem Camur, 12B

Serenay, Sebnem & Gulsah at the new Parliament House

Sebnem and Gulsah with Vic Delegates from Lalor North Secondary

Dear fellow students,

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Gulsah Kul, Sebnem Camur, 12B

Serenay eagerly walking to Parliament House

ISIK COLLEGE NEWS
Attending the 14th annual National Schools Convention in Canberra was irrefutably one of the best experiences in my life. Not only was it mentally stimulating, it gave me insight into the challenging world of politics and the opportunity to meet some politicians, Julia Gillard, Maxine McKew and Harry Jenkins to name a few. It was also inspiring to witness the Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd debating in the House of Representatives. For anyone who is considering a career in Politics or Law, I advise you to pursue this opportunity, as it is truly fantastic. Involvement in the convention includes an all expenses paid three day stay in our capital, in a 4 star resort and all food and drinks provided.

Serenay Kalkan, 12B
Year 8 science students were asked to “think scientifically” at a recent CSIRO incursion held at Isik College on Friday the 6th of March. All students participated in a variety of activities in which they designed their own experiments in order to answer a specific question. The various experiments allowed students to:

- produce electricity using different metals and fruit
- measure the speed of powered cars and the effect of adding weights
- investigate which factors influence the time for the swing of a pendulum
- investigate which of two different health salts will release the most gas

The incursion allowed students to reinforce their knowledge of fair testing and scientific skills whilst having fun in the process.

Mrs Adele Agha-Masri

An Interesting Science Fact!

A quarter of the world’s plants are threatened with extinction by the year 2010.
YEAR 9 SCIENCE CSIRO INCURSION

As part of our innovative approach to science, we are always looking for new and exciting ways to introduce scientific concepts to our students at Isik college. Our college hosted Mick Moylan from the Victorian Institute for Chemical Sciences who presented “Caveman Chemistry”. Students learnt how extracting metals, making alloys and using non-metallic tools helped prehistoric humans move out of caves. Students also made, examined and tested properties of some of the ancient and some more modern materials in the hand-on engaging program.

Mrs Derya Kucukali-Helou

YEAR 12 CHEMISTRY LA TROBE UNIVERSITY EXCURSION

On the 25th of March Year 12 Chemistry Students visited Latrobe University in Bundoora. The purpose of the visit was for students to undertake four analyses using high performance liquid chromatography, gas chromatography, ultraviolet spectroscopy and atomic absorption spectroscopy. They were able to determine the amount of caffeine in a common analgesic tablet and soft drinks including V, Mother and Red Bull. They also measured the amount of zinc in sunscreen.

Mrs Selda Mehmet

I found the excursion to Latrobe University to be very educational as well as enjoyable. The experiment conducted helped me to understand the basic concepts we were studying.

Betul Tok Year 12
New Library Books

New fiction books

- Dragon Dawn (WIL)
- Wars End (BOW)
- Dragon Moon (WIL)
- At the house of the Magician (HOO)
- Chains (AND)
- Witch Child (REE)
- Criss Cross (PER)
- Because of Winn-Dixie (DIC)
- Ashling (CAR)
- The fever and the Flame (HOO)
- Tamburlaine’s Elephants (MCC)
- Throwaway Daughter (THR)
- Captain Cook’s Apprentice (HIL)
- Wind Rider (WIL)
- The goat who sailed the world (FRE)
- Go and come back (ABE)
- A ghost in my suitcase (WAN)
- Here lies Arthur (REE)
- Sorceress (REE)
- To kill a Queen (WIL)
- Titanic (WHI)
- The Merrybegot (HEA)
- Hungry Ghosts (HEI)
- Under the same stars (STA)
- I have a bed made of buttermilk pancakes (MOR)
- The farseekers (CAR)
- Mahtab’s Story (GLE)
- Night of the fifth moon (CID)
- Off to war (ELL)
- The hand of glory (MAS)
- In the shadow of the palace (SIM)

All Books are now available to be borrowed from the library.

Book of the Month!

Twilight
by Stephenie Meyer

Twilight, the first in the series, is the addictive story of two teenagers, Bella, a regular girl, and Edward, a perfect gentleman and a vampire. This is the type of book you might read in just a few sittings, becoming engrossed in its fantastical world and oblivious to your physical surroundings. It's a fun and great book to read over the school holidays.
In an effort to meet as many new parents as possible, the Eastmeadows Girls Parents and Friends Association organized a breakfast for all parents year 7-12 on the 1st of April. The turn-out was high with approximately 80 mothers attending. In previous years parent breakfasts had been organized separately for each year level, this often took up to one month to get through all the year levels. Combining the breakfasts (this year) has enabled the PFA to meet up with interested parents quickly and efficiently.

The purpose of the PFA breakfasts was to provide a venue where parents, friends, and teachers could socialize in an informal setting. Parents were not only introduced to the 2009 PFA Committee members, but also met some of the Level Coordinators and Administrators. Some of the activities the PFA has organized includes regular meetings, lunchtime burger sales at school and a special Mothers Day program.

If you would like to be an active parent in the PFA, please contact the school.
The RAIN MAKES ME SCARED

It’s raining softly,
It is gaining speed.
Thunderstorms make me scared,
Loneliness makes me scared.
I’m like a bird that has lost his nest.
Looking around and looking for them.
But can’t find any of them.
Then I cry out loud.
“Where are you my loved ones?
Turkey, my beautiful country!”;
But my tears mix with raindrops.
Rain makes me scared,
I cry, fearing that it will take me so far away,
As it did before.

Dilek Güçlü, 8C

Dilek Güçlü, 8C