Dear Students, Parents and Staff,

We have just completed a very active and dynamic term 2. I feel exceptionally proud to be involved in a school where so many successful programs (both co-curricular and extra-curricular) have been put in place.

Throughout the term, students from years 7-12 attended many incursions, excursions and camps (year 7 & 12) to compliment their curriculum. Our SRC, PFA and individual Home Groups organized fund-raising for both the school and other external organizations, such as the Red Cross.

We ended the term with the year 12 VCE mid-year exams and Yr 7-11 exams. I would like to thank all those parents who have supported, encouraged and motivated their children during the stressful exam week(s) and assisted them in organizing their study time.

The On Track Results (for 2008 graduates) have recently been publicized. I am very proud to, once again, announce that the Eastmeadows Secondary Girls Campus has achieved fourth place amongst Victorian schools with 86% University Enrolments.

Semester 1 reports (Yr 7-12) have been mailed out with this newsletter. Parents will get the opportunity to discuss their child’s academic and behavioral progress at the Parent-Teacher Interviews which will be conducted on Tuesday, 21 July (Yr 7-9) and Thursday, 23 July, between the hours of 4.00-7.00pm. It is, however, absolutely essential for students to make appointments with their teachers by using the Parent-Teacher Appointment slip, which has been included with the reports. You will need to ask your daughter to arrange interview times with her teachers by Friday, 17th July. 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.

I would like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome back Ms. Esra Boz (Curriculum DP), who has been on maternity leave. In addition, I would like to welcome Ms Hilal Kuyruk, who is relieving our Secondary Librarian, Ms Halise Gunduz who is, also, on maternity leave.

I look forward to seeing you all next term.

Ms. Nazan POLAT
Have you ever wondered how scientists work with tiny molecules that they cannot see? Year 10 biology students were provided with opportunity to sort and measure DNA strands by running their own gel electrophoresis experiments at CSIRO. The implementation of gene technology has been a stimulating and creative experience for the students. These technologies allowed us to separate particles of different size and weight. DNA was injected into a porous agarose gel, which separated DNA according to fragment size. The gel tank allowed a current to flow through the gel to move the DNA fragments. Centrifuge machines were used to spin the microfuge tubes and separated the contents of these tubes containing DNA. Students learned correct pipetting technique using calibrated micropipettes. Students were engaged in the content as it was relevant and current. Overall, it was a fantastic session and excellent hands on activities visit.

Mr Arshad MAHMOOD, Biology Teacher
On Wednesday 29th April, Unit 3 Psychology students boarded the bus for the long trip to Amaz’n Things in Phillip Island. Luckily the bus driver had some Turkish music to keep us all awake and ready to learn! Amaze’n Things is a park full of life size illusions designed to trick our interpretation of visual images. As part of Unit 3 Psychology we study visual perception and how our eyes and brain work together to enable us to make sense of the world around us.

Throughout the day students experienced many life size illusions including an Ames (shrinking) Room, where as you walk from one side to the other you appear to shrink and grow; the Gravity Room, where water flows and balls roll uphill; the Rotating room, where it is hard to walk upright; the Mirror Maze, where many people bumped heads; Mc Guffy’s Treasure, where past experience is a key factor; and the Head on a Platter (pictured). Students then used their knowledge of visual perception principles to explain how the various illusions tricked us all. Students also participated in a trivia session based on the Psychology course content. This was held in a theatrette where students were divided into two teams, and each student had their own keypad to answer questions. The quiz revealed that Miss Nash was very knowledgeable, the bus driver was not quite so knowledgeable and some students had more revision to do than others!

Overall it was a great day where students were able to experience in real life what they study in their text books. As well as being able to apply and extend their knowledge in a unique, enjoyable environment.

Ms Kim NASH, Psychology Teacher
Our year 10 Environmental science students were visited by a PhD student from the Monash Science Centre this term. Our girls got into waterproof gear and entered our local creek to take water samples at three separate locations to check for water quality and the presence of macroinvertebrates. Back in the science lab we took measurements of temperature, turbidity, chemical constituents and biology (such as the macroinvertebrates and algae present in the water). Our students learnt many new concepts that afternoon in particular that monitoring water quality usually looks at important nutrients and the presence of pollution such as heavy metals.

Ms Derya HELOU
Environmental Science Teacher

A SCIENCE FACT
Without its lining of mucus, your stomach would digest itself.
GUEST SPEAKERS FOR VCE STUDENTS

During term 2 we had various guest speakers from various universities talking about entry requirements for their respective universities. They talked about the different faculties and studies that were offered at the universities and pathways of getting into the university course students were interested in. We had various health professionals as guest speakers talking careers in the health industry. They included a doctor, physiotherapist, psychologist, nurse and optometrist. Some of the items covered by the universities were as follows:

Deakin University-  Engineering faculty, Information Technology faculty and Law & Commerce faculty.
Melbourne University-  Melbourne Model and general talk about the university.
Latrobe University-  Health Science faculty and Arts faculty.
Monash University-  General talk about the university and its various campuses. Post graduate courses and pathways.

Overall the response from the speakers was that our students were very keen and well behaved. Students were happy with these presentations and valued the information that was given.

I will be organizing more information sessions with year 12's in term 3. We will look at VTAC application procedures, SEAS applications and Scholarship applications.

Ms Ilmiya ASANOVA
Careers Advisor
On Thursday, 23rd of April, 13 of our SRC representatives attended Legacy's Anzac Ceremony at the Shrine of Remembrance.

ANZAC Day commemorates the 1915 of Australian and New Zealand forces in Gallipoli, Turkey. During this anniversary day, we acknowledge all those who died in the war effort.

Over 4,000 students attended the commemoration ceremony which included inspirational talks, students laying wreaths, student choir groups singing national songs, and, last but not least, the moving march of the Guard of Honor.

Our involvement on the day was significant: our school assembled together 4,000 rosemary sprigs to be given out to all attendees on the day; we also acted as official bearers of the Legacy Banner on the steps of the Shrine.

We honored, reflected, remembered and paid tribute to the undying service and sacrifice of so many young Australian men and women. We also better understood and appreciated the true meaning of ANZAC Day and the importance of upholding such universal virtues as justice, peace, goodwill and selfless sacrifice.

Ms Nazan POLAT

Our official Wreath layers – Gehan (Yr7) and Noura (Yr 12)
Since 2008, the Isik College Secondary Girls Campus has been involved in Legacy’s "Operation Rosemary" which is a program aimed at assisting ageing war widows. In 2009, we were offered the privilege of assembling 4,000 rosemary sprigs in time for Legacy’s Annual Anzac Service for Students.

Assembling rosemary's for Anzac Day services is traditionally done by war widows. However, as war widows become older, their task also becomes more difficult. It is in this context that we offered a helping hand to Melbourne Legacy and made it all for them. In fact, in 2008, war widow Gwen Dunn came out to our campus to show how intricately the flag, sprig and sticker is put together.

As part of our 2009 ANZAC Day School activities, year 7-11 students got involved in assembling 4,000 sprigs together in their Humanities classes. Once they were all completed, the box loads of sprigs were taken to Legacy’s Anzac Service at the Shrine, where they were handed out and worn by the attendees. We thank all the students involved in assembling the sprigs....*You have done your school proud.....*

**LEGACY**

Legacy is a voluntary organization providing services to Australian families suffering financially or socially after the death of a spouse or parent during or after their Defence Force service. *The Badge of Legacy* symbolizes in its torch the undying flame of service and sacrifice handed to us by our comrades in war who have passed on. In its wreath of laurel, with its points inverted in remembrance, is the guerdon of honor; that is the meed of those who gave their lives for their country.
DONATION OF $13,400 TO RED CROSS

A representative group of staff and students from our Eastmeadows Girls Secondary Campus visited a Victorian Red Cross Office and handed over a cheque of $13,421.76 for the Victorian Bushfire Appeal.

In an effort to assist and ease the hardship and pain of the fire victims of the Victorian bushfires, our Student Representative Council (SRC) began a **Fire Victims Fundraising Campaign**. In early term 1. Some of the activities included organising a fruit salad and pizza day. In addition, the whole school got involved in a *Fast for Fire Victims’ campaign* in which our students were asked to donate their lunch money for the victims of the bushfires. As a sign of mourning, our flags (both Australian and Turkish) were flown at half-mast for a period of one month.

The Red Cross officials were touched by our school’s support. They expressed their gratitude and well wishes.

MOTHERS SPECIAL DAY

Our Parents and Friends Association’s “Mothers Day” program was a great success. The Mother’s day program took place at Serenity Reception on Saturday, 9 May. The night commenced with the serving of dinner from our delicious range of Turkish cuisine, followed by a visual presentation, poems, singing, student plays and novelty races. Winners were honored by receiving presents from their teachers. “Seher Vakti” (Turkish Band) played live music and entertained the 250 guests.

Everyone who has participated in the program enjoyed the very meaningful program which was both spiritually uplifting, at times emotional, yet entertaining. The program ended with ISIK College Eastmeadows Girls Campus Folk Dancing Group.

The PFA would like to thank all the people who individually assisted in making the Mothers Day Program a success.

Parents & Friends Association

TERM 2, 2009
Isik College entered three teams into the Viking Futsal Tournament this month and came out on top. The Year 9 and 10 teams were fourth in their tournament, but were joint first in their age range. They played to a high standard, only losing to the year 12 teams.

The year 7 and 8 team managed to achieve the double. They placed first in the ladder and won the grand final. They have been invited to attend the Champion of Champions Tournament in August.

Futsal training will continue on Mondays and Wednesdays. If you are hiding your talent it is not too late to join the team.

Well done to all the girls.

_Ms Helena McALOON, P.E. Teacher_

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**STAFFS’ DAY OUT!**

Our staff enjoyed their final day at school with a picnic at Williamstown Beach.

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**NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE**

Students are invited to make direct contributions to the newsletter. Please approach committee members if you are interested.

Produced by: