Dear students and parents,

Our school community is ecstatic about the many academic achievements since the start of the term which I would like to share and acknowledge. Firstly, we were delighted with the Isik Colleges’ outstanding success with the release of the Department of Education’s On Track results. The On Track survey tallies the destinations of all 2008 VCE graduates. Our Eastmeadows campus has obtained fourth place in Victoria with 86% university enrolments. I would like to congratulate the whole school community on this remarkable success. I would like to extend my gratitude to our 2008 graduates for their hard work, their parents for their support, VCE teachers for their dedication and commitment, and our VCE Coordinator for coordinating and orchestrating the students, teachers, staff and the whole VCE program. Well done and Congratulations! Secondly, many students received Academic Excellence Awards (90% and over) and Achievement Awards (80-89%) as an acknowledgment of their high grades at the end of semester 1. It requires a lot of dedication, hard work, motivation and fortitude to be able to maintain high results. I would like to congratulate all those students who received these awards.

Thirdly, the University of New South Wales ICAS Science competition results have been released. We have had many students achieve Distinctions and Credits. I would like to congratulate our students, parents and science teachers on that achievement as well.

We have had an exceptionally hectic start to term 3. Over the last few weeks, a myriad of wonderful and engaging programs have been organized, of which many have been showcased in this newsletter. Please take time to read through. Our VCE Coordinator and Year 9/10 Level Coordinator have collaborated their efforts and are currently busy with 2010 subject selections for our current Year 9, 10 and 11 students. Student surveys are in the process of being filled out, and hence, 2010 subjects will soon be finalized.

Since the start of term 3, our Year Level Coordinators have been in close dialogue with parents of students who are under-achieving. They have been contacting parents/guardians and arranging individual appointments to discuss not only their daughter’s progress but come up with additional ways of supporting the student.

In recent weeks our campus received an injection of government funding which will be used for a number of different projects. Our library has been renovated with the assembly of a large workstation with 30 new computers for staff and students to use. In addition, we are looking forward to the construction of a mega “Learning Centre” (on the soccer field), which should soon commence.

I would also like to take this opportunity to farewell Ms Rukiye Bulut, our Science Lab Technician, and wish her all the best in her future pursuits. Mr Shahid Javed, our new Lab Technician, has nestled in with ease.

It is in the spirit of our SRC’s “Welcome Ramadan” festivities this week that I wish all students, parents and staff a happy and blissful holy month of Ramadan. I hope that this month will bring peace, harmony and blessings and promote goodwill, understanding, tolerance and dialogue.

My sincere regards,

Mr. Ilker TEMIZKAN

IMPORTANT DATES

24 August, Yr 12 Physics Arts Centre Melbourne,

24 August, Yr 9 Interfaith Iftar with ‘Star of the Sea College’, (Dialogue students) 5:00pm-7:00pm

7 August, 9B Interfaith Dialogue Incursion (Melbourne Girls Grammar visiting)

28 August, Year 10 Interfaith Visit to Penleigh Essendon Grammar

30 August ‘Mother-Daughter’ Iftar Dinner, Year 7-12

10 September, Year 7 Indigenous Art- NGV (Fed. Square)

14 September, Eastmeadows Campus Alumni Iftar Dinner,

18 September, Students Finish Term 3

18 September, Staff Iftar Dinner

20 September, Ramadan (Eid-ul Fitr)-
Once again Isik College’s success became clear with the release of the On Track 2008 data compiled by the Department of Education which tallies the pathways taken by Year 12 completers from each school. Our school had eighty six percent of its students enrolling into university in 2008. According to this data, released in June each year, ISIK College Eastmeadows campus is ranked fourth in the State.

These results are due to the unrelenting effort of our conscientious students and dedicated teachers. Our teachers have sacrificed their afternoons, weekends and holidays to assist and motivate our students to achieve their personal best. We also shouldn’t forget the importance of the parents’ support. The parents were always there for us and the level of their enormous sacrifice was astonishing to the extent that bringing lunch for Saturday classes.

I’m very pleased with the results our students achieved. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the encouraging and supporting parents, our committed teachers and hard-working students for this stunning success. I strongly believe this is only the beginning and our accomplishments will continue to extend in the coming years as our students become role models and representatives of our community.

Ms Hatice Mohamed
VCE COORDINATOR
Year 11 Snowy Mountain Trip

Year 11 students went along with their Pastoral Care Teacher, Ms Derya Kabak, on a day trip to Mount Buller. They left Melbourne in the early hours of the morning and arrived there approximately 4 hours later. For some, it was the first time they had seen snow. They played snow fights, tobogganed on the runs, had lunch and enjoyed each other's company.
On the 16th of July, Iour Isik College Dialogue students attended the ‘International Gulen Conference’ which was held at the ‘Australian Catholic University’. The theme of the conference was ‘From Dialogue to Collaboration: The Vision of Gulen and Muslim- Christian Relations’.

A selection of students from years 9 to 11 participated in the panel sessions that ran in the morning discussing interfaith and intercultural dialogue in Australia. The panels were conducted serving the purpose to contribute towards the understanding of respect, tolerance and commitment in our multicultural society. Attendee’s of the conference was individuals from numerous faith backgrounds, and a diverse range of professions. Students had first-hand experience of tertiary life visiting the Catholic University. The participants of the conference included academics, journalists, leaders of different faith traditions, community leaders and students. The Conference was organized and presented by the Australian Intercultural Society (AIS), the Australian Catholic University (ACU) and Monash University.

Ms Sureyya CICEK

Our tolerance should be so broad that we can close our eye’s to others faults, show respect for different ideas, and forgive everything that is forgivable. Even when our inalienable rights are violated, we should respect human values and try to establish justice.....

M. Fethullah GULEN, Islamic Scholar
**Youth Leadership Program at the MCG**

The Youth Leadership Program was one of the best excursions I’ve been to. Jason McCartney, one of the many victims of the Bali bombings expressed his hardships and the pain he went through during his healing process. Not only was he funny and genuine, but he was inspiring and very helpful in aiding us to set goals for our future. Even though the program had an AFL theme (as it was set in the MCG, and as Jason McCartney was a renowned AFL player), the advice that he gave was applicable to all facets of life. There were many other schools that attended, and some have been attending consecutively for five years. I would like to thank Ms. Nash for giving us the opportunity to attend such a rewarding program. I know that it taught us a lot about life, what to expect from it and how we can live it to a higher standard.

*Serenay Kalkan, Year 12*

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**VCE Biology visit to Melbourne University**

Year 12 biology students visited the Melbourne University on 15th July. They worked on unit 4 activities and investigated the copper tolerance in bacteria. They have also carried out a practical activity to investigate Mendelian patterns of inheritance in Drosophila melanogaster. These activities helped them to review the basic concepts of Mendelian genetics. It consisted of two main experiments:

- Analyzing genetic crosses
- DNA gel electrophoresis and analysis of the data

The first experiment guided students through the analyses for a number of genetic crosses. In each case, the modes of inheritance for the genes involved were unknown to them.

In the second experiment, they analysed and interpreted the data from electrophoresis.

These activities enhanced student's ability to solve genetics problems in their daily life or on exams and promoted laboratory skills.

*Dr Arshad Mahmood*
The Old Melbourne Gaol was the most thrilling experience we have had in all our time at Isik College. The activity we enjoyed most was the watch house experience. We were shaken by the sergeant and were surprised when we got locked in the cell. This was the very real watch house experience. During the gaol tour we heard the stories of prisoners who were hanged regardless if they were actually guilty. We saw the place where Ned Kelly was hanged and learned that Chopper spent time in the Old Melbourne Gaol.

Finally, we re-enacted a court case and I was the defence lawyer. I really enjoyed playing a snoozing barrister who was not really doing a good job defending his client. It was a fun filled day I would love to repeat in the future.

Hayrunnisa Okur 9A

The Old Melbourne Gaol was the most thrilling experience we have had in all our time at Isik College. The activity we enjoyed most was the watch house experience. We were shaken by the sergeant and were surprised when we got locked in the cell. The court room drama was interesting and we enjoyed experiencing firsthand how trials are run. The Gaol tour was a great insight on the sad life prisoners led during the olden days in poor conditions and tiny cells.

Ann Mian and Aziza El Helou, Year 9C
**Watch house experience**

The Old Melbourne Gaol was a very interesting experience. Firstly we participated in a court room drama, where students had roles such as lawyers, judge and defendant. We had to act our parts according to the script provided. The court room drama was interesting as we got an insight on how the court system works. The case was that of Elizabeth Scott, the first woman to be hanged in Melbourne.

Later we went on a tour of the gaol and got some insight on how the prisoners lived and the types of crimes that landed people in prison in the early days, such as stealing some fruit.

Finally, we experienced the watch house. I found this to be a terrifying experience because the sergeant was almost brutal as she treated us like common criminals, she screamed at us what to expect as criminals about to be locked in prison cells. She was a good actor because we didn't know if she was serious. Overall, it was a good experience and I learned a lot about our legal system.

*Meena Amiry, 9C*

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**Watch house experience**

We felt like we were actually in jail because the sergeant was screaming in our face. She later locked us up in a cell and switched the lights off.

**Gaol Tour**

The gaol tour was my favourite because Peter the tour guide showed us around the whole jail. He talked about the lady who killed children, Ned Kelly and the whipping area. We saw the face sculptures of the prisoners and the hanging area.

**Court room drama**

In the court room drama everyone got to act out a real life case about Elizabeth Scott, the first woman to be hanged in Victoria. Unfortunately, the evidence did not convince me that she was guilty of murder, but she was found guilty and hanged anyway. I am glad we no longer have capital punishment.

*Melek Aktepe, 9B*
As part of the careers program 20 Year 12 students took part in the Hands on Heath Careers Program offered by RMIT Bundoora Campus. Students participated in a number of activities showcasing the different courses available to them. This was an informative day.

Ms Selda Mehmet

Student Reflections

Our excursion to the RMIT Bundoora campus was a very enjoyable and informative expensive. The Hands on Health program was organised by the university, aimed especially for VCE students provided us with an insight into potential courses in the health sciences field. This was especially beneficial for me, as I was introduced to the chiropractic course and has produced a newfound goal for me this year. Many, many thanks to Ms. Asanova who organised this for us, and Mrs Mehmet who accompanied us, playing a significant part in our win in the trivial competition.

Ezgi Akar, Year 12

Chinese medicine and acupuncture was really interesting because it showed other methods of treating illnesses that were totally different from western procedures. Our supervisor taught us how to make an acne herbal cleanser out of different herbs that we would normally never even consider.

Kubra Koch, Year 12

As part of the excursion, all the school’s that attended had to take part in a Trivia Game. We competed with other schools and we came first. Coming first in the Trivial Game was awesome. It felt great working as a team and knowing all the answers. I really enjoyed this excursion.... it was fantastic!!

Serenay Kalkan, Year 12

The disability session was excellent and gave us the opportunity to understand the disadvantage. We participated in an activity where we had to open a packet of chips with only one hand and no other assistance. This was quite difficult and frustrating. We also participated in other activities where we had to mime and move around in a wheel chair. It was an enjoyable day.

Elif Bardan, Year 12
Our much awaited government-funded computers have finally arrived! Our library now has a workstation with thirty computers. Teachers will be able to book the computers for their classroom. Students will also be able to use the computers during recess and lunch.

NEW BOOKS

- Faerie Heart by Livi Michael
- The Princess Plot by Kirsten Boie
- The Well Between The Worlds by Sam Llewellyn
- Lion’s head four happiness by Xiaomei Martell
- The Tin Princess by Philip Pullman
- The Ruby in the Smoke by Philip Pullman
- A Brief History of Montmaray by Michelle
For their camp, the year sevens spent three days at Stringybark Lodge in Gembrook. We took part in a variety of activities such as rock climbing and abseiling, flying fox, orienteering, low ropes, volleyball and trampolining. Our theme was Ancient Egypt and the girls had to design banners to represent their group’s names. They had to put on a fashion show and dress a group member up as a mummy using toilet rolls. The girls let the whole neighbourhood know they had arrived on the first night during our night bush walk.

All the activities were worth points and over the course of the camp we had many leaders, but we could only have one winning group. This year it was Sphinx. Well done!

Ms Helena McAloon

OUR WINNING CAMP TEAM
Year 7 Camp at Stringybark Lodge

TEAM CHALLENGE - TO MAKE MASKS OUT OF BUSH INGREDIENTS

TERM 3 - 2009
Senior Biology Students visit the Zoo

As part of National Science Week activities, the biology students from year 10 & 11 visited the Melbourne Zoo on 11th August. The program addressed the key knowledge related to Biology unit 2, with particular emphasis on thermoregulation and water balance in animals. The students completed a SAC component for outcome 1 (practical activity). They identified some of the structural, physiological and behavioural adaptations of animals that were related to thermoregulation and water balance and developed an understanding of the survival advantages conferred by these adaptations. In their teaching and supervised sessions, they explored the zoo and discovered more about the variety of animals.

Dr Arshad Mahmood

Student’s response

On Tuesday, the year 10 and 11 Biology classes visited the Melbourne Zoo to investigate some aspects of the Unit 2 coursework. As well as simple amusement, we were engaged by the captivating facts of animal structure, functions and behaviour. We then were able to link these adaptations of animals to thermoregulation and water balance, as well as the effects they have on survival in the wild. Homeostasis in ectothermic and endothermic creatures isn’t all that we students were able to focus on: another program within the zoo was to familiarise students with the animals themselves using applied learning. These activities combined formulated an enjoyable trip as well as an educational enlightening for all of the girls.

Rabia Gencer, Year 11

CSIRO Forensic Frenzy

Our year 9A, 9B and 9C students took part in the CSIRO’s forensic frenzy program as part of their studies in Forensic Science. Students had to analyze various pieces of physical evidence left at the crime scene in order to determine the culprit from amongst four suspects presented to them. They had the opportunity to examine blood stained shirts, fingerprints, tyre impressions and carry out chromatography and use facial recognition software.

Ms Derya Helou

TERM 3 - 2009
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:

It was a great place to enable not only me but my classmates to understand and also evaluate environmentally friendly features. We also had a very educational and enlightening tour of the sustainable building. **Mihrisah Yuksel**

The design of the building was very interesting and we learnt many things which helped to increase our knowledge of our environment. **Sena Senbay**

Ecolinc was a very educational experience. We learnt about global warming/climate change and how to be more energy efficient in our daily lives. **Fatima Ayache**

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**Year 8 Math Games Day**

On the 22nd of July, a select group of our year 8 students took part in the Mathematics Games Day at Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School. It was organised by both the Mathematics Association of Victoria (MAV) and Penleigh and Essendon Grammar school in which hundreds of students participated. Our girls bravely took part in these competitions and completed all sorts of puzzles and mathematic games that lasted for the whole day. By the end of the day, our girls were exhausted but still had a great learning experience and really enjoyed themselves. Well done girls!!

**Ms Menekse POLAT**
Once again, our annual Open Day proved to be a great success! Our staff and students combined forces to showcase all that our school had to offer. Our Open Day provided both current and prospective students and parents an opportunity to get in-depth information regarding what our school has to offer. In addition, it gave the attendees an opportunity to take part in live/interactive sessions (including science demonstrations). Prospective parents also had the chance to chat with current students and teachers and discover the exciting academic, sporting and cultural facilities our school had to offer. Some of the highlights of the day have been included below:

Our delightful SRC reps acting as tour guides

Science in action!

SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR OPEN DAY

TERM 3 - 2009
OPEN DAY

TERM 3 - 2009

Party Food!

Greetings from Shrek & Fiona in the English Department

HIGHLIGHTS
Gym work

During Term 3, Year 9 and 10 students travelled to Vie Fitness Centre in Roxburgh Park for their weekly sport classes. This enabled the girls to experience a variety of instructor led classes, including powerbar, step, core strength, boxing, hip hop and circuit training.

As well as instructor led group classes the girls were educated on the cardio and weight machines on the gym floor, so they could take ownership of their own work-out. The students were enthusiastic about experiencing different forms of exercise every week and each student discovered at least one new way to participate in a form of physical activity that they enjoyed. Hopefully this has effectively prepared the girls to make healthy and informed choices about their participation in physical activity throughout their lives.

Ms Kim Nash

FUTSAL Team

We entered our second Futsal tournament of the year during the school holidays in Bendigo. All the girls put up an amazing fight to some extremely good teams. We endured some losses and some success. The girls improved in their skills and tactics greatly throughout the day. Well done girls!

Ms Helena McAloon

Newsletter Committee

STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Produced by:

TERM 3 - 2009