I would like to start by wishing 2010 to be a prosperous year for all our staff, students and parents.

We have installed Interactive White Boards (Active board) in each of our Home Rooms, to enhance students’ learning experiences. I would like to acknowledge the hard work of our Parents & Friends Association (PFA) and extend my deepest gratitude to them, for their effort and generous monetary contribution they have made towards the purchase of the Active boards.

I believe that students’ learning will be enhanced once teachers have fully incorporated the active boards into their teaching repertoire. Many of our VCE teachers are fully engaged with the Interactive Whiteboard Technology. This will have a positive impact on their learning, outcomes and their overall performance. I anticipate that our 2009 VCE results will be mirrored in 2010.

The ‘Learning Centre’ construction will be finalized and ready for the school community to use in semester two. In addition, the ‘Dormitory’ construction (opposite the school) is well under way and will be complete by the end of the year.

On the staff front there are some significant appointments. Ms Adele Agha Masri has joined the College Leadership; she is now the Year 7 and 8 Level Coordinator. Mr Alper Ciftci has also taken on the VCE Coordinating position. I would also like to welcome Mr Zeki Dengiz to our school; he has been appointed as the Daily Organiser.

I extend my best wishes and blessings for this New Year. May it be one in which the ’Isik’ spirit of learning, family and fullness of life abounds.

Mr. Ilker TEMIZKAN

I would like to warmly welcome all of you to the 2010 academic year. I anticipate that the wave of positive changes introduced this year will nestle an effective learning and teaching environment coupled with increased accountability for the whole school community.

I am very proud to say that most of our students have made a pleasing start to the 2010 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.

A letter was posted out to parents several weeks ago outlining the significant changes introduced this year. One of the most exciting changes includes the introduction of the Interactive Whiteboard Technology (IWT) to all of our Home Rooms and the soon to be used Electronic Roll Marking System. The latter, and not so much the former, has major ramifications for the student, parent and the teacher.

In essence, it is a lesson-by-lesson roll marking system whereby parents are promptly notified (via sms) of their daughter’s absenteeism. Alerts are also automatically generated to the Level Coordinators’ and Deputy Principal informing them of any student that may be truanting. It is therefore very important for parents to update contact details with the secondary office.

I hope you enjoy reading the contents of this newsletter as much as I have.

Ms. Nazan POLAT
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: class days, excursions, sleepovers, picnics, reading camps, Interfaith Dialogue, celebrations of Holy Nights, fundraising activities, Human Appeal campaigns, interstate and overseas trips. In 2010, Year 11s will go to Turkey in Semester 1 holiday and Year 12s will go to Turkey and Europe at the end of the year. As Pastoral Care Department one of our aim is to visit our all parents until the end of the year.

I am very pleased to see that all of the classes have already made a quick start in organising activities. The Class Days have also been finalised. Parents will receive letters relating to these activities.

CLASS DAYS:
7B: Monday after school (3:45-5:30)
7PY: Friday after school (3:45-5:30)
Y8s: Monday After school (3:45-5:30)
Y9s: Wednesday After school (3:45-5:30)
Y10s: Wednesday After school (3:45-5:30)
Y11s: Thursday after school (3:45-5:30)
Y12s: Thursday lunch time (1:15-2:00)

I wish everyone a happy and safe 2010 educational year and hope that your expectations and dreams will be realised.

Ms. Derya Oztan KABAK
Welcome back to another exciting year at Isik College. Taking on this new position as Year 7 and 8 Coordinator makes me feel exceptionally proud and privileged. The year has started well, and I have enjoyed getting to know the year 7 students both at school and on camp. I am very proud of you all and hope that your team work and dedication are traits that will remain with you throughout your academic years.

Year 8 students, I am also enjoying getting to get to know you. This being your second year, you should all be familiar with the school rules and regulations, particularly regarding correct school uniform and behaviour. To our new year 8 students, I would like to say 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 that I will be here to help you in any way that I can.

Years 7 and 8 are very important for students. In these early years of secondary school, students need to build strong foundations for the future. My role as year 7 and 8 coordinator is to help students through these years in any way that I can. I would like to take this opportunity to remind all year 7 and 8 students that I am there for you throughout this important journey.

Ms Adele Agha-Masri

Dear Students, Parents and Colleagues,

First of all, I would like to warmly welcome our Isik College family to the 2010 academic year.

I am very proud to be a member of the positive and dedicated management team of Isik College for another year. Our ultimate goal is to provide the best possible environment for education and character development of our students. Our dedicated staff and our commitment to maintain cutting edge resources make this mission possible. We are always open to the ideas so that we can facilitate our students to achieve their full potential.

Years 9 and 10 are turning points in young peoples' 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.

My door is always open. Let’s work together to make the most important transition time a good and productive life experience.

Ms Esra DOGAN

It gives me great pleasure to start VCAL program for year 12’s in 2010. There are a lot of activities organised for students and the year has started off well. Students are keen to complete their VCAL Senior certificate this year and are working quite hard. The program this year is as follows:

Mondays: school from 8.45 to 3.30
Tuesdays: school from 8.45 to 3.30
Wednesdays: school from 8.45 to 3.30
Thursdays: Kangan Batman TAFE from 9.00 to 12.00
Fridays: They work in various industries which they and myself have organised by myself

The subjects studied this year are: Senior Numeracy, Senior Literacy, Senior Personal Development Skills (PDS), Senior work Related Skills (WRS), VET I.T. – Certificate II -Units 1-4, Certificate II in Business Administration – Unit 3 & 4

Parents need to ensure that their child attends school and work placements on time and regularly, to ensure that they get the most benefit for their education.

Ms Ilmiya ASANOVA

Ms Adele Agha-Masri

Ms Esra DOGAN

ISIK COLLEGE NEWS
On Sunday the 7th of March, Isik College hosted a welcome BBQ for all students, families, staff and friends.

Although storms were forecasted for the day, approximately 300 parents, students and staff attended this annual event.

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 daughter’s progress.

A very special ‘Thankyou’ to our Parents & Friends Association (PFA), our staff and students who attended and assisted on the day.
Some of the significant changes introduced by the Management Team:

**Changes in the number of periods**
In 2009, students were timetabled to have 6 x 50 minute periods in one day. This year, we have reduced each lesson by 5 minutes, and hence, increased the number of periods from 6 to 7. Students now have 7 periods in a day.

**Removal of accelerated Home Groups**
At the end of each year, students were academically ranked according to their End of Year (EOY) results. The highest performing students were placed in an accelerated class (ie, in the “A” class) and the remaining students placed into the “B” and “C” classes.

For the 2010 academic year, accelerated Home Group classes have been removed. Students of different abilities have been equally distributed in all Home Groups. Hence, all Home Groups now include students of mixed abilities.

**Introduction of Colours as Home Groups**
We have replaced “A,B,C” Home Groups with “colours”. The three Home Group colours include purple, blue and yellow.

**Electronic Roll Call System**
Before the end of the term, we will be introducing an Electronic Roll Call System which will automatically generate sms messages to parents. It is therefore very important for parents to update their contact details with our Secondary Office.

**Introduction of advanced English & Maths classes in year 9 and 10**
We will be providing advanced English & Maths classes to our Yr 9 & 10 students. Students’ eligibility for the advanced class will be based on their End of Year mark (EOY) in English and Maths. Places will be limited in the advanced classes.

If students originally registered in the advanced classes are unable to cope academically with the challenge and/or do not fulfil the expectations of the course, they will, unfortunately, be transferred to the mainstream class.

**Interactive White Boards**
In order to enhance teaching and learning, we have mounted Smart/active boards in all of our classrooms. Teachers have started to actively use this technology.

**VICAL classes in year 11**
Due to low student numbers, we will not be offering VICAL classes to our year 11 students. Students interested in completing VICAL will need to find an alternative school.

**Monies for Excursions/ Incursions / Camps/ Subject levies / Tests**
Payment of monies for incursions, excursions, levies and the like, will no longer be collected by the subject teacher. Once a parent has consented to an excursion/ incursion, the payment will be invoiced to the students school account.

**NEW STAFF**

We would like to warmly welcome our new staff:

- Ms. Esra ALVER—Mathematics
- Ms. Inass FAYAD—Humanities & VCE Psychology
- Ms. Jenny MANGAN—English
- Mr. Zeki DENGIZ—VCE Biology

**ISIK COLLEGE NEWS**
Year 7 students enjoyed camping at the Stringybark Lodge in Emerald from the 17th to the 19th of February. Students participated in a wide range of fun activities including flying fox, archery and trampolining. Students also enjoyed a wide range of indoor activities such as movie night with popcorn and play performances.

Ms Adele Agha-Masri

**Thankyou Camp Teachers**
Ms Adele Agha MASRI
Ms Esra ALVER, Ms Esra DOGAN
Ms Ummugulsom KOR
Ms Azu DEMIRCAN, Ms Esma KABLAN
MEDIA RELEASE

ISIK College ICT Department Calling all year 7-10 students in Hume to step up to a multimedia challenge!

Hume students could win up to $5600 in total prize money in Hume City Council and Isik College’s inaugural Hume i-tech Challenge.

The Hume i-tech Challenge, proudly sponsored by Westpac and the Selimiye Foundation, will bring students from across Hume together to test their skills and showcase their talents through the use of multimedia technology.

Hume Mayor, Cr Geoff Porter said “This exciting competition encourage Hume students to put their thinking caps on, get creative and step up to the challenge against their peers.”

Year 7 and 8 students can participate in the digital storytelling category, while year 9 and 10 students can test their website design skills:

“Students will be judged on their ability to demonstrate the most creative and effective use of mixed multimedia technologies, with the lucky overall winner taking home $1000 for themselves and $1000 for their school,” said Cr Porter.

Entries will be judged by an independent panel in July and the winners will be announced at an awards ceremony on Friday 6 August 2010 at the Hume Global Learning Centre.

Runners-up will also win cash prizes for themselves and their school and all finalists will be presented with a certificate and trophy.

SCHOOL COUNSELLOR

I would like to warmly welcome back the girls for another intense and exciting 2010 academic year. Last year I had the pleasure of meeting many of the girls and likewise, I hope this continues throughout this year. My role is to provide continued motivational and emotional support to all students and staff at our College to enable all to reach their full potential academically as well as personally. Also, this year, we have formed ‘Student Support Services’, which incorporates Counseling Services and Speech Pathology. We come under the one umbrella to ensure all students have the maximum opportunity to reach out for support.

My focus for 2010 will be awareness on important areas such as; body image, self-confidence, resilience, empathy and maintaining healthy family relationships bearing in mind the values of the school which are upheld at all times. I hope to conduct seminars for all year levels throughout this academic year. The focus of topics for this year are: Cyber bullying, Conflict Resolution, Relaxation & Stress Management and Study Techniques. We have had the pleasure of seeing our students graduating with excellence and I wish all the girls success this year.

Parents’ and students’ please note: ‘If something seems far too big for you to cope with, maybe it’s because you’re meant to share the load with someone else.’ And that’s ok too, you only need to reach out… thank you.

Ms Gul OZLUK