Deputy Principal’s Message

Dear Parents & Friend,

Welcome to the new school year. I hope you and your children had an enjoyable summer break. The College looks forward to another productive and successful year.

Last week we made a good start. Our new Prep’s had their Orientation program on Tuesday 25th January. They are now settling into a full-time 4 day week program this month. Wednesday’s have been allocated meeting and interview times.

We have a number of new staff, students and parents who have joined us this year. I hope they have settled in reasonably well. On Wednesday 2nd February we had the opportunity to meet all of them at the New Parents Information Session. Thank you to all parents who demonstrated their commitment by attending.

On Monday 7th February, we will open up our classroom for our parent visitors to ‘Meet the Teachers’. Each class teacher will inform parents of class programs, expectations and clarify any queries.

Also, we will be having a school BBQ on Sunday 13th February. I encourage all new and existing families to attend an afternoon of good food and company.

During the holiday period there has been some work around the campus. Mr Hasan Salih, our former handy man completed the beautiful tile work around the primary drinking taps. The construction of the new library and resource centre is now complete. However, at present Mrs Sonmez is working tirelessly to set-up all the internal resources. I’m sure the library will be a wonderful ‘escape’ to deepen our minds full of inquiry.

You will note that we have new bell times this year to help reduce some of the peak hours traffic issues. We have a small difference between the secondary girls’ school starting and finishing times. On this note, I wish to remind families that students are not to be at school before 8.30am, as teachers duty of care cannot be provided at that time. Before/ Afterschool care may be an option.

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Dear Prep Parents,

The prep teachers would like to warmly welcome you and your child to our college. We trust that your child’s education at Isik College would be a memorable and successful one. The Preps are very excited to start their ‘schooling journey’ and seem to be settling in very well!

This year the prep team consists of:

Mrs. Kader Akay - Prep A, Mrs. Esra Oz - Prep B, Mrs. Nazan Zengin - Prep C

**Healthy lunchboxes**

Please ensure you supply fresh fruit/vegies and a bottle of water along with your child’s lunch. We would like to minimise junk, processed and pre-packaged food. Soft drinks are not welcome in our prep classrooms. Due to allergies we ask parents not to send nuts or nut related food items.

**Naming items**

Please remember to **NAME EVERYTHING** including lunchboxes and drink bottles and to keep the names in good repair as the year proceeds.

**No Hat No Play**

It is School Policy for all children to wear a sunhat when outside during Terms 1 and 4.

**Better Buddies**

As a part of our Better Buddies program, your child would have a buddy from grade 6. The program is an initiative to create friendly and caring primary school communities. Better Buddies enables younger children to feel safe and cared for while older children feel valued and respected.

This year during February the preps will have a 4 day week and Wednesdays will be scheduled for planning, meetings and interviews.

Kind Regards,

Mrs. Nazan Zengin
Infant Dept (Prep) Co-ordinator

It is wonderful to be back to start the 2011 academic year. I would like to firstly warmly welcome all parents, students and friends to the start of another exciting year.

It is surely going to be another eventful and busy year and our highly dedicated and committed team are ready to make this year another success.

The grade 2 intensive swimming program will commence soon. It will run for eight days, starting on Wednesday 16th March. We expect that all students will attend this program as it is an important part of our Physical Education curriculum. Forms and further information will be sent to parents shortly.

Please remember to provide your child with a healthy lunch box and to limit processed foods, as we will be checking this on a daily basis. Also students must remember to wear their school hats during lunch time and recess this term.

If you have any questions at any time, please feel free to make an appointment with your child’s classroom teacher. I am also glad to be of assistance for further clarification if need be. I look forward to meeting you all in the near future.

Kind Regards,

Ms Emel Tanriverdioglu
Junior Department (Gr 1 & 2) Coordinator
Dear Parents and Students,
Welcome! We hope everyone had a wonderful summer. We are happy to be back and are ready for a great year. We would like to welcome those students who are returning and those who are starting this year. We are looking forward to working with your child and helping him/her to achieve at his/her full potential.
The parent-teacher relationship is vital to your child’s success in school. By working together, we can help your child have a very fulfilling learning experience. Throughout the year, we will communicate with the home through notes, telephone calls, progress reports, school newsletters and report cards.
Just a small reminder about HOMEWORK! Students will be given written homework Monday through Friday. The homework will be a review of the lessons that the children have been working on throughout the week, so nothing is “new.” Parents, please check your child’s homework to ensure that they have completed the assignment. If a homework assignment is not completed, the child must complete it during their free time as well as over the weekend. Homework is very important in reinforcing the day’s lessons! Students will write their homework in their diary. They will also include important weekly information such as tests and quizzes. This is provided to help you make sure that your child completes the homework listed for that day. Here are some tips on how to help your child with homework: • Help your child establish a homework time everyday. • Provide a quiet, well-lit place where there will be little interruption. Most importantly...Encourage your child to do their best work and put forth their best effort.
We would like to thank you in advance for your support and commitment throughout the year.
Best Wishes,
Mrs Goker-Kamisci
Middle Department (Gr 3&4) Coordinator

Hello Everyone!
I’d like to give a warm welcome to all our grade 5 and 6 students, teachers and parents back to school and hope 2011 would be an exciting year for all of us.
I would also like to take this opportunity to give a big welcome to our new students and parents to Isik and hope that you all have a successful year.
Students have settled into routine very quickly and are very excited about attending camp next term. Grade 5 students will be sitting NAPLAN in term 2 and are hard at work. I wish them all the luck from now and remember YOU CAN DO IT!
For any questions or concerns please see classroom teacher or myself.
Mrs Ozlem Bayram
Upper Dept (Gr 5&6) Coordinator

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<tr>
<th>Assembly (Monday)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roll Call</td>
<td>9am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Period 1</td>
<td>9.10 – 9.55am</td>
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<td>Period 2</td>
<td>9.55 – 10.40am</td>
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<td>Period 3</td>
<td>10.40 – 11.25am</td>
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<td>Eating Lunch in Class</td>
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<td>Lunch 1</td>
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<td>Period 4</td>
<td>12.15 – 1.00pm</td>
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<td>Period 5</td>
<td>1.00 – 1.45pm</td>
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<td>Recess</td>
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<td>Period 6</td>
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<td>Period 7</td>
<td>2.50 – 3.35pm</td>
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<td>Assembly (Friday)</td>
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Food Sharing Policy - Allergies & Birthdays
Due to an increasing number of students who suffer allergic reactions to certain foods, particularly nuts, parents are asked to refrain sending foods containing nuts. As a result, we do not share foods and any food related activities during school are planned accordingly by staff. Finally, birthday cakes and party bags containing foods are not encouraged.

School Hats
Please remember that we are a SunSmart school and ALL students must wear hats during recess, lunchtime and outdoor activities. We also encourage all families to apply some sun cream before school.

Early Leave Provisions
Parents who wish to collect their children from school prior to the normal dismissal time must report the Office and obtain an Early Leave Pass. This is then taken to the classroom and given to the teacher when collecting the child. No student is permitted to leave between 3-3.35pm.
An analysis of research conducted over a 35 year period demonstrates that schools that highly effective produce results that almost entirely overcome the effects of student backgrounds (Marzano, 2003). According to the work of Richard DuFour Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) are educators committed working interdependently in ongoing processes of collective inquiry and action research in order to achieve better results for the students they serve (2006). As part of our strategic plans for this year we intend to develop:

- A Prep-6 program of instruction based on the current curriculum, leading to the Australian Curriculum
- To use assessment ‘for’ learning and track achievement outcomes to provide teachers and the community clarity on real achievement indicators
- To provide teacher professional development that gives opportunity to continually improve their instructional practice through reflection
- To implement a system of accountability and development which encourages feedback and support for improvement.
- To increase student engagement and well-being.

This year we will continue our learning teams from across all Isik College campuses and meet on a cyclical period to develop existing and new programs based on student performance data.

Hi Everyone!
A huge welcome back to our teachers and parents in the new year. We had a great year in 2010 as the counselling services but planning for an even greater year in 2011. We have joined forces with our other support staff to create an even better support network for our students. The Student Support Services will now be a team of health, speech therapy and counselling services.

As the counselling department our primary goal is to improve and maintain the social, emotional and behavioural wellbeing our students. We provide assistance to parents, teachers, and students of our school. We are located in the top floor of building A.

Parents are welcome to come and see and refer their child if they have any concerns or seek advice. Referral forms can be picked up and submitted to the primary office. We recommend parents to be mindful of any changes that may have impacted your child over the summer break such as divorce, death of a loved one, and moving into a new area or school.

We will be keeping our families informed throughout the year about our wellbeing programs for our students as well as seminars we will be conducting for parents. If you have any queries please feel free to contact us.

Mrs Seda Mergen & Mrs Burcu Goksu, School Counsellors

Late in 2010, we announced the launch of the Better Buddies program in our school. The Better Buddies program is designed to help our new Prep students to settle into the school environment with the assistance and guidance of our grade 6 students. On Wednesday 2nd February, the grade 6 completed training sessions run by the school counsellors which focused on the Buddies program and taught the grade 6 students the true meaning of having a buddy. Topics such as behaviour management, social skills and ways to start conversations with the younger buddies were discussed. The older buddies also shared stories about their younger buddy with their peers, many of the comments were common and included ‘She loves talking with me’ (Arzu GulTekin 6B) and ‘She’s too attached to me, so I am teaching her to make new friends and play with others in the playground’ (Elif Calleja, 6B). During the training the grade 6 buddies wrote up poems and jingles which had to include the top three qualities they believed were important to have as a older buddy; Caring, Supportive and Responsible. Both the Prep team and the Grade 6 team are hopeful that the program will enhance the social and emotional development of our students. Not only will it teach our older students to be responsible and mature but also provide our Prep students with support and guidance from a student who will become a familiar and dependable companion throughout the first year of the schooling.

Prep team, Grade 6 team & Counselling Services

Today Mr Celal Sahin, the Independent Member of Parliament for Broadmeadows came to visit our school. He was very happy to learn about the quality of programs offered at Isik College. The grade prep students above were also excited to have photos taken with Mr Sahin. Mr Sahin also wished the best of learning for the new academic year.