Deputy Principal’s Message

Dear Parents & Friends,

I trust that everybody enjoyed the Eid festivities at school last Friday and during the weekend with families. I’d like to personally thank all the volunteers and staff for all their efforts during the College Qurban Carnival. It gives me immense joy to see so many people working hard all for a good cause.

It’s that time of the year again when we know the end is far too close. This means that there will be an array of things on the agenda including assessments, concerts and reporting. Mrs Arman, the Arts team leader, will soon be providing details of all the concerts and graduations. Be sure to keep a look out for that notice. If you wish to offer some help with your child’s class performance feel free to talk to the teacher.

I feel quite privileged to have the opportunity to meet and talk to lots of different people in my role. I’d like to share two such stories. At a recent ICT training session, I met a very bubbly person who stated she was dyslexic as a student. Despite, the fact that she came across some people in her life who assumed she would ‘not get very far in life’ I can assure you she is an amazing robotics trainer (who ventured in many different pathways before that)! I am confident that any person who has a can-do attitude will succeed no matter what difficulties they might have. Naturally, I also have the chance to talk to some parents, sometimes in the corridors or my office, sometimes a quick note or reminder and at other times a more lengthy open discussion. If you do have concerns, please take the time to meet with the right person – it might be the class, teacher LOTE, REV or pastoral care, therapists and staff for all their efforts during the College Qurban Carnival. It gives me immense joy to see so many people working hard all for a good cause.

I’m also very excited about the Parent Workshops running over the next 4 weeks. The sessions are aimed to enable parents and build positive partnerships between home and school life. Each session is from 9am-10am and childcare will be available. Please join us in the library after you drop off the kids at school.

Kind regards,
Ms Evla Han

Financial Assistance for Families

- EMA - The Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is an allowance for low income families to help with educational costs provided to families who hold a Pension or Health Care card. The allowance is split in between two – for the school and family and is paid in two instalments. In 2012, the total allowance is $235 for primary and $470 for secondary students.
- School Start Bonus - The Victorian government provides low income families support with the cost of starting Prep and Year 7. This is a one off payment of $300. For more information visit www.education.vic.gov.au/aboutschool/financial
- Education Tax Refund - This is a Commonwealth government initiative to help parents with educational costs such as computers, software, textbooks and stationery. Eligible parents can be reimbursed half the costs of such items. For more information visit www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au

Happy World Teachers Day (28 Oct)

“A hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in or the kind of car I drove...but the world may be different because I was involved in the life of a child.” –K. Davis

Important Dates

- Mon 7 Nov : Eid-ul Adha Holiday
- Tues 8 Nov : Gr 4 @ IMAX
- Thurs 10 Nov : Parent Partnership Workshop part 1 9am-10am
- Mon 14 Nov : 2012 Prep Transition day 1
- Mon 14 Nov : Gr 3 @ Toolongi Forest
- Wed 16 Nov : Gr 2 @ AMF
- Thurs 17 Nov : Parent Partnership Workshop part 2, 9-10am
- Fri 18 Nov : 2012 Prep Transition day 2

For those who like to plan ahead...

- Thurs 24 Nov : Parent Partnership Workshop part 3, 9-10am
- Thurs 1 Dec : Prep-2 Concert
- Fri 2nd Dec : Parent Partnership Workshop part 4, 9-10am

Q. Why did the jellybean go to school? A. To become a smartie!
Q. What did the maths book say to the other maths book? A. “I’ve got problems.”
Last week some students in grades 3-6 had a special morning tea with Mr Goru and Ms Evla. We had orange juice, donuts, toast and of course the typical Turkish olives & cheese! The morning tea was to celebrate the achievements of some our very talented students in the UNSW International Competitions & Assessments for Schools (ICAS).
Grade 4’s last week have been on camp to the Melbourne Zoo. What an experience they’ve had! Sleeping in tents, going on a night walk observing animals and staying up late enjoying each other’s company. Thanks to all the teachers who have helped make it possible and accompanied the students.
On Friday 4th November we celebrated Eid-ul Adha with our friends, teachers and families. Some students dressed in traditional clothes while others opted for sportswear. The sun came out eventually and everybody appeared to have a good time according to the smiles. There were art and craft activities, sports games, toys & gifts, face painting, henna and lots of food. We couldn’t have done it without our kind teachers and our generous volunteers...some who were in so much demand that they didn’t have the chance for lunch! We raised over $5,600. A big thanks to everybody who helped us before, after and on the day.

Eid means a feast or a festival. It mainly refers to religious holidays, most primarily Eid-ul-Adha and Eid-ul-Fitr.

Eid is generally characterized by special prayers and sermons, family gatherings, visits of extended family and friends, special charitable acts and distribution of Eid gifts and sweets.

Eid-ul Adha is celebrated at the end of the pilgrimage to Mecca on the 10th day of Dhu al-Hijjah.

Unblemished animals are sacrificed in commemoration of the ram substituted by God when Abraham was commanded to sacrifice his son, Ishmael, as a test of faith. Only a portion, usually one-third, of this animal’s meat is to be consumed by the family offering the sacrifice. The rest should be given to others or to the poor as Eid gifts. For those not on pilgrimages, the celebration includes visits to the mosques and to the graves of relatives. It lasts for three days and includes the distribution of sweets as well as receiving and visiting extended family.

Eid is generally greeted by saying two words that is ‘Eid Mubarak.’ These two words bring joy and excitement to kids and adults.