Reminders!

**Term 3 dates:** Mon 18/7 to Fri 23/9

**Ramadan:** Mon 1/8 to Mon 29/8

**Ramadan Bayrami (EID-UL FITR) holiday:** Tues 30/8 to Wed 31/8
Principal’s Message

I pray that this Holy Month of Ramadan will bring blessings for Muslims and for all humanity. As we try to discipline ourselves both physically and spiritually by fasting during this month, we get a taste of what people suffering from poverty and hunger are going through.

At Isik College Meadow Fair Campus the excitement of Ramadan is being felt through the Iftar dinner programs organised by our Pastoral Care Department. These iftar programs, which are organised by pastoral care teachers and mentors, (abis for each year level) is an opportunity for parents and students to get together and share a meal at the same table. I would like to thank everyone who contributed to these events.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who participated and contributed towards our traditional staff iftar program. I strongly believe that success can be achieved by unity and solidarity. We can establish this unity not only just in this month but every month and opportunity should be used.

The Footy Match Outing that was organised by our Staff Wellbeing Committee and the Snow Trip by the PFA; they were all intended to establish unity and positive relationships within our school.

I would like to remind our parents of one important issue for this term. If your son’s academic progress is less than desired, you need to enable him to start a rigorous study program. Otherwise, the last term of the year may be too late and you may see unwanted results at the end of the year. We are always open to dialogue and ready to assist you in any way as administration and teaching staff. Please see your son’s teachers and seek assistance.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to the disasters that are happening right now in Africa; drought, famine and hunger. I would like to urge you strongly to participate to the aid campaign that was launched by our foundation and school.

Best wishes,

Mr. Ilker Temizkan
Principal
Ramadan: A prolific time and school for transformation of the self

O Lord!
The month of Ramadan has arrived, and You have required us to fast during it and revealed the Qur'an as guidance to people and a clear distinction of the guidance and the right criteria.
O Lord! Help us observe its fast; accept the same from us; receive our fast from and safeguard the same for us in an ease from You and good health; surely You can do everything.

The holy nights and months are great opportunities to renew ourselves, to review our past and to plan our future in order to strengthen our belief, our consciousness of worship and our ability to think. The month of Ramadan is a golden opportunity for a believer to think about both the responsibilities and the rewards that this great pillar of Islam offers. It is a school of iman (faith) and a ‘stop to recharge his spiritual batteries’ - to get his provision for the rest of the year. This month is a true school of transformation in which one can change his actions, habits and manners that are in variance with the Law of Allah.

Fasting in the month of Ramadan is one of the five pillars of Islam. It is obligatory upon every adult sane Muslim male and female who has reached the age of puberty. Fasting is only between the person and God since no one else knows for sure if this person is actually fasting. Allah says in a hadith al-qudsi, “Fasting is for Me and I only will reward it.” Fasting is a form of worship that transforms humans into angelic beings.

Fasting begins before sunrise (imsak) and continues until sunset, during which one is supposed to refrain from food, drink and bodily pleasures. In fact, thirst and hunger is a physical issue but it allows the spirit to gain strength and it teaches one to control unwanted desires. Fasting reminds us of the reunion with our Lord, teaches us to be a loyal and trustable person, protects us from evil deeds, develops the feeling of unselfishness and social welfare, brings great benefits to our health and is a form of self-discipline. It trains the body to submit to lofty spiritual impulses. It safeguards the body’s health by protecting it against extravagance. It grants its organs a respite so that they may be ready to resume their activities. As medical science has proved, it is a medicine for many bodily and nervous ailments. It is a moral education, a nourishment of supreme virtues.

In brief, even though the real purpose of the dynamic institution of fasting is to discipline our soul and moral behaviour and to develop sympathy for the less fortunate, it is a multi-functional and comprehensive tool for change in various spheres of our lives, including social and economic, intellectual and humanitarian, spiritual and physical, private and public, personal and common, and inner and outer -all in one. All kinds of benefits of fasting are interrelated, each affecting the other. They purify the soul, cleanse the intention, and bring about an abundance of good from the Almighty Who is ever-watching over us and Who desires nothing but good for His sincere servants.

The month of Ramadan is a time of unity and collectiveness. It promotes the spirit of unity among members of the fasting community; it teaches them humility and humbleness and instills within them the feeling of equality before Allah. The rich have to observe it as well as the poor, the influential and powerful as well as the weak and downtrodden: they all have to observe the fast. It promotes the spirit of charity and compassion towards the poor and the needy, and it reminds each believer of the needs of other believers. Muslims share with each other Allah's blessings unto them. Muslims are encouraged in this month more than at any other times to share their wealth and food with others, in particular with their neighbours. The rights of neighbours are something that is strongly emphasised in Islam.

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When some of the companions of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said to him: “O Messenger of God, we eat but are not satisfied,” he replied: “Perhaps you eat by yourselves?” They replied: “Yes!” He then answered: “Eat collectively and mention the name of God. There will then be blessings for you in it.” He always encouraged his companions, Whenever you cook some stew, add extra water to it, then look to some household in your neighbourhood and give it to them in kindness.”

Particularly, the (pre-dawn –sahur or breaking fast –iftar) meals of Ramadan are a unifying force for humanity.

The rights of neighbours are something that is strongly emphasised in Islam. When some of the companions of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said to him: “O Messenger of God, we eat but are not satisfied,” he replied: “Perhaps you eat by yourselves?” They replied: “Yes!” He then answered: “Eat collectively and mention the name of God. There will then be blessings for you in it.” He always encouraged his companions, “Whenever you cook some stew, add extra water to it, then look to some household in your neighbourhood and give it to them in kindness.” Particularly, the (pre-dawn –sahur or breaking fast –iftar) meals of Ramadan are a unifying force for humanity.

The word ‘neighbour’ in Islam refers to both Muslims and non-Muslims, those whose houses are nearby as well as those who are further away. Mutual relationship between neighbours is encouraged in Islam through many means other than the sharing food, including the exchange of gifts and greetings, and the sharing of happiness and sorrow. In fact, Ramadan is a prolific time to promote unity, peace, and understanding among neighbours, either Muslims or non-Muslims.

Ramadan is a very special time for Muslims, but the feelings and lessons we experience should stay with us throughout the year. In the Qur'an, Muslims are commanded to fast so that they may “learn self-restraint” (Qur'an, 2:183). This restraint and devotion is especially felt during Ramadan, but we all must strive to make the feelings and attitudes stay with us during our “normal” lives. That is the true objective of fasting and the month of Ramadan, in general.

Mr Sadik Kirazli
Head of Religion and Values Department
LAKE MOUNTAIN SNOW TRIP

On Saturday 30th July our Parents and Friends Association Members arranged a day trip to Lake Mountain. We began the day with a light breakfast in our staffroom and hit the road at approximately 8:00am. We had twenty eight people attend this trip which consisted of parents, students and staff.

We hired our snow gear at Marysville and made our way up to Lake Mountain. At first we had our doubts about whether there would be snow because it was a perfectly sunny day. However, when we reached the top we realised it was going to be a day to remember.

Everyone enjoyed tobogganing down the slopes and racing each other down the hill. The occasional snow fight was also on everyone’s agenda. After having fun on the slopes between 11am and 2pm we had a barbeque which consisted of sausages, sucuk and kofte with salad and drinks. The hearty barbeque was welcomed by all and then we had another round of fun in the snow before departing at 4:30pm. This was a memorable day for all who attended and I’m sure we will return to Lake Mountain.

PFA
On Wednesday the 27th of July, we went to the Chinese museum which was in Chinatown.

When we arrived, we went inside the museum and were excited to see a ship that moved around just like a real one. This demonstrated the hardships the Chinese have been through migrating to Australia.

We also saw the Qin emperor statue which is discussed in our textbook for Ancient China.

Taylan Akyildiz Year 7

I found it really interesting to see the Chinese dragon. This dragon is 63 metres long and has a head that weighs 200kg.

I’ve never seen something like this. I learnt that the mirrors on the dragon reflect the evil spirits. This dragon comes out on the Chinese New Year and at the Moomba festival.

I have also seen the Seismograph which is an instrument for automatically detecting and recording the direction of a movement of the ground such as earthquakes.

Yilmaz Akbulut Year 7

On Tuesday and Wednesday 26-27 July Year 7 went to the Chinese Museum to learn about Ancient China. It was relevant to the topic they were studying in class to see real artefacts from this period of history. Students will be able to relate their observations and discoveries to the text. Special thanks to the teacher’s for their assistance.

Asir Mustafa Tutuncu, Humanities Teacher

The excursion that we had for Humanities at the Chinese Museum was very interesting. Our tour guide informed us that rich girls had their feet bound. They used to break all the bones of the toes and then wrap them up. This was seen as a form of attraction to the emperor. I thought it was very painful. The tour guide also showed us some herbs which doctors used to cure the sick. We had a good chance to see some of the inventions that the Chinese created. I really enjoyed the trip to the Chinese Museum.

Hussein Shiday Year 7
Pastoral Care Ramadan Message

The blessed month of Ramadan is upon us again. We would like to take this opportunity as the Pastoral Care Department and wish all parents and friends a happy, peaceful and blessed Ramadan.

Fasting helps us to see the true face of favours and blessings, the value of which we are often unaware. The fasting believer is a person who experiences what poverty looks like. He is hungry and keeps himself from eating until iftar dinner, yet there is food in the home. The believer understands that one drop of water or one slice of bread is a bounty. Fasting is a form of prayer that helps us to understand what true thanksgiving to God is. Ramadan is a time when families gather and share iftar dinners. But this is also a time of more prayer and reflection.

Unfortunately, in some parts of the world especially people East Africa are prone to famine, and drought has resulted in severe scarcities of food and water. Every day as we hear that a great number of people are being seriously affected by the worst famine in 60 years in Africa. Millions of people including children are starving. So as Isik College we have already organised some fund raising activities to help people in need. We encourage students and parents to participate in those activities as much as they can if they wish to help.

During Ramadan pastoral care teachers organised various activities, some of them were; year level iftar dinners, family visits, intensive VCE study for Year 12 students, and recitation of the Quran during lunch time and after school PC activities.

It is a tradition to have year level iftar dinners which gather parents, teachers and students from Year 7 to 12. The dinners were organised on different dates as indicated in the letter sent home. Dinners were held in the school conference room where parents shared their food with others. Afterwards, short programs were held by PC teachers and students.

As in previous years, Year 12 students welcomed Ramadan at school from Monday to Thursday. VCE and PC departments organised a special program which started with an iftar dinner and continued with study sessions until 10:00pm under the supervision of VCE teachers.

PC teachers also organised small student groups to visit families for iftar dinners. This was an opportunity for classmates to strengthen their friendships.

As I conclude my message, I would like to wish that your prayers will be answered at this time of the blessed month of prayer; hoping your families and communities are strengthened and that this Ramadan may bring you peace, happiness and every blessing.

Mr Ahmet A Haktan
Pastoral Care DP
ISIK STAFF @ THE MCG TO WATCH

CARLTON (the blues) verse COLLINGWOOD (The Mighty Magpies)

On Saturday, July 16th our Staff Well-Being Co-ordinator, Mr Atilla Sinik organised a trip to the MCG to watch the match between Collingwood and Carlton – two traditional rivals. These two teams have always drawn in the crowds and as expected all tickets were sold out two weeks prior to the match – there were 80,000 plus spectators at the ground.

It was an exciting experience for some of our staff, as it was their FIRST time at the “G” (MCG-Melbourne Cricket Ground) and the FIRST time watching a live AFL match. About 20 staff members together with their spouses and children attended this match where Collingwood; as expected, absolutely thrashed (beat) Carlton.

The day was an unforgettable experience, especially for our Collingwood supporting staff members (majority). As for our Carlton supporting staff members (minority), it was a day they would rather forget. 😐

Carn’ da PIES!!!
PASTORAL CARE CAMP-Yr 11

On 4th of July 2011, six Isik College Year 11 students arrived at the Keysborough Campus to begin their three day long reading and activity camp. The students included, Taha Sisman, Ahmet Alpay, Imran Aysel, Ali Celik and Hubeyb Terzi and me.

As usual, with everyone’s input we created a plan that mapped out everything that we were to do over the next three days. It consisted of reading, free time, activity time and movie time. It also outlined who would be responsible for the food and cleanliness of the kitchen for each day.

After settling in we commenced with reading. For lunch we ate a delicious spaghetti Bolognese prepared by our mentors, Mustafa Alkan and Guner Hussein. It felt like time had flown by and before we knew it we were watching a movie as part of the last activity for the day.

We were very excited because we had been promised a football match with the Isik College Keysborough Campus that day by our teachers. Rain began to fall and we were beginning to wonder if we could play or not. Thankfully Guner Hoca booked an indoor sports arena and the game was on.

We arrived at the arena pumped and ready to play. It was not much of a challenge as we beat them; 17-3. We were very tired after the game and had a brilliant barbeque before watching a movie and going to bed.

Without a doubt the most enjoyable day was the last. On Wednesday we decided to go to a trout farm to fish. It took a long time to get there and when we did, our fishing skills proved to be very amateur. We still caught some though and had them cleaned to be brought home and eaten.

Two hours passed and we were still trying to cook them. After some time we cooked them to perfection and ate them. They were delicious.

This camp was one that I will remember and cherish for years to come because of the newfound closeness I have with my friends and teachers.

Hamza Akyurt, 11 C
Careers ‘Insight into Professionalism’ seminar series – Ilhan Demet

On Monday 8th of August we were honoured to host Mr Ilhan Demet who is an Aeronautical Engineer. His enthusiasm and passion for his job was immediately evident from his demeanour and engagement with the students. He began his talk by discussing his career changes over the years and the many times he was forced to move between Turkey and Australia, because of constant family relocation. Students learned that it took Ilhan over two years to eventually settle into a job he enjoyed.

He began his career at the Turkish Aerospace Industries as a Design Engineer for a year, then moving to the Turkish Ministry of National Defence as Second Lieutenant Aerospace Engineer for another year. Despite having the job title he dreamed of after finishing university, he felt that he was buried in paper work rather than the technical work.

Ilhan Demet moved into the tyre sector, interestingly enough, as a Passenger Tyre Development and Mould Engineer at Bridgestone Sabanci (Brisa) in Turkey. We all looked greatly puzzled by how an Aerospace Engineer ended up in the tyre industry or how they fit into the tyre picture. It was fascinating to see how aeronautical engineering works in the design of tyre products.

He has since worked for Goodyear and Dunlop as a manager in Melbourne working his way up the ranks as the Manager of Tyre Technology and Product Development.

In his presentation to the students, he gave them a glimpse into some of the interesting work he is involved in, such as designing and testing out the tyres in testing labs. Videos of never seen technology were also viewed.

A video of an aquaplane was screened to show us its abilities to make contact with water and stay afloat while in motion.

The opportunity to travel was emphasised with photos of him in various parts of the world. Students were also given ‘the heads up’ on the general competencies necessary for success in any type of work. He promised to buy anyone a drink if they learned another language and wasn’t able to break the ice when speaking in the same language as his trading partner. This concluded another interesting pathway story.

Guner Hussein
Careers Advisor
Afrika’da 1.5 milyon insan ölmek üzere..!

Afrika’da son 60 yılın en büyük kuraklık felaketi yaşanıyor

Su ve gıda yardımı zamanında ulaşmadığı takdirde, 10 milyon insan açık felaketi ile karşı karşıya kalacak

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