Deputy Principal’s Message

Dear Parents & Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to observe students looking presentable in school uniform and settling quite well into school routine. During yard duty or classroom visits I often talk to students about good health and hygiene. Sleeping well, breakfast before school, keeping hands and nails clean, brushing hair and teeth are all on the agenda. You might have noticed along the hallway displays and in some rooms students have established their ‘goal fish’. Setting goals each year all our existing and new families are invited to attend a school BBQ. On Sunday 26th February, it was great to see the school grounds with many children, parents and staff. It’s always a great opportunity to meet and chat with new people.

2012 School Direction –

Our focus this year is to:
- Unpack the new Australian Curriculum
- Develop differentiation practices
- Continue to improve student achievement in literacy and numeracy
- Continue to develop being practices that build healthy relationships

Classroom Helpers

If you are interested in attending and supporting teachers with reading, maths, sport or art programs please inform your child’s class teacher. A Working With Children’s Check (WWCC) is a must for any parent helper in the school. Remember to always sign-in at the office when volunteering.

Carpark & Safety

We understand that parking can be difficult at peak times but ask for your cooperation. It is important that parents park cars in designated areas before ‘dropping off’ their children. Please note that council officers will issue fines for any area before ‘dropping off’ their children. Please do not wait in the hall or near rooms.

The Right People

If you have any queries, concerns or questions its always best to know the right people to speak to. The first point of contact is always the classroom teacher. The table below provides a list of leaders within the school and a brief outline of their responsibilities.

Regards,

Ms Evla Han

From the Office:

- Correspondence Days - The school Correspondence Days are Monday & Friday. Please check your child’s bag for any notices. Note that, sometimes some notices might be provided due to other reasons or needs.
- Lost Property - Please check the Lost Property cupboard regularly as summer hats and jumpers are overflowing!
- Change of Details – Parents are reminded to contact the school office if personal details such as phone numbers and addresses change. It is important that we can contact you if a need occurs.

Important Dates

- Mon 27 Feb; Better Buddies Teddy Bear Picnic
- Fri 2 Mar; Clean Up day
- Tues 6 Mar; Gr 2 Swimming commences
- Mon 12 Mar; Labour day
- Mon 19 Mar; Gr 5 Camp
- Wed 21 Mar; Harmony day
- Fri 30 Mar; Parent-Teacher Interview day (PTI)

For those who like to plan ahead...

- Mon 16 Apr; Curriculum day
- Tues 17 Apr; Students start Term 2
- Wed 25 Apr; ANZAC day
*15-17 May; NAPLAN days

* All parents & visitors are to report to the office during school hours.
* Parents are advised not to wait in the hallway to minimise crowd and noise levels, as junior students do easily get distracted.
Most children in Prep have adjusted to school. We have a total of 65 students. The Prep Team are delighted to see the students work wonderfully and develop school routine. Prep students will commence a full time program as of Mon 27 February.

### Outside School Hours Care (OSHC)

Do you have to work late and find it difficult getting on time to pick up the children after school? Or have to start work early and can’t leave the children anywhere? Why not enrol them to before and after school care. It is a convenient service for such families and we are located in the Multi-Purpose room.

Children are provided with breakfast and afternoon tea, and lots of fun games and activities, both indoors and outdoors. It is also a great opportunity for the children to socialize and make new friends, and finish off homework. Cooking, arts and crafts, competitions are just a few of the activities we provide.

Outside school hours care is lots of fun and laughter! We haven’t had a child that hasn’t loved this place, so why not give your child this opportunity.

Come and speak to one of our friendly staff for more information. Availability is limited so don’t miss out.

Mrs Fadime Veli

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>In recognition of ...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PA</td>
<td>Zain Atif</td>
<td>For settling in well to Prep.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PB</td>
<td>Dilara Vildirim</td>
<td>For settling in well to Prep.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PC</td>
<td>Erca Yasan</td>
<td>For being a role model and excellent behaviour. Trying his best always.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>Fida Hamdani</td>
<td>For showing confidence in class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>Nesibe Yalim</td>
<td>For showing excellent work habits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1C</td>
<td>Dilara Dincer</td>
<td>For showing pleasing work habits in class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2A</td>
<td>Mariam Elboucha &amp; Ameera Ghelem</td>
<td>For settling in well to a new school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B</td>
<td>Arif Altundal</td>
<td>For being a role model and excellent behavior.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2C</td>
<td>Dilara Golbadi</td>
<td>For never giving up and always attempting the set task.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3A</td>
<td>Aydin Nedjip</td>
<td>For role model behaviour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B</td>
<td>Serap Duygu Tercan</td>
<td>For showing confidence in class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3C</td>
<td>Kayra Ulku</td>
<td>For being confident as a new student.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4A</td>
<td>Yasemin Sezer</td>
<td>For being a role model and completing work on time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4B</td>
<td>Aleyna Orhan</td>
<td>For settling in well in her new school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4C</td>
<td>Simay Cobanoglu</td>
<td>Displaying confidence during class discussions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4D</td>
<td>Emre Uzuncakmak</td>
<td>For showing confidence on every set task in class and discussions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5A</td>
<td>Maya El-Chami</td>
<td>For showing confidence and persistence in her new school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Derya Atasever</td>
<td>For listening to the teacher and being a good role model at all times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5C</td>
<td>Sefanur Erciyas</td>
<td>For settling well in her new school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6A</td>
<td>Irfan Hassain</td>
<td>For settling well in his new school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6B</td>
<td>Emran Sahan</td>
<td>For showing confidence in his speech.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6C</td>
<td>Talha Gurkan</td>
<td>For showing confidence in his speech.</td>
</tr>
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Middle Department : Grade 3 & 4

Grade 4 students have recently discovered different soil types and are at the stage of investigating the components of soil. Students enjoyed working outdoors and getting their hands a bit dirty! At the same time, students are learning this bilingually. The grade 4 LOTE class with Mrs Nuray Ali, have had the opportunity to consolidate their understanding in Turkish.

Turkish : Toprak cesitleri kumlu, killi ve dogal.

**STAFF BRIEFINGS**

There is an all staff briefing every Monday & Thursday at 8:35am, and depending on the amount of information, it can run to 8:50am. If you need to catch class teachers, please see them before 8:35am or write a note in your child’s College diary. Teachers read and sign them often, if not daily.

**Assembly (Monday & Friday)** | 8.45am
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Roll Call | 8.45am
Period 1 | 8.50 - 9.35am
Period 2 | 9.35 - 10.20am
Period 3 | 10.20 - 11.05am
Eating Lunch in Class | 11.05 - 11.15am
Lunch 1 | 11.15 - 11.45am
Lunch 2 | 11.45 - 12.15pm
Period 4 | 12.15 - 1.00pm
Period 5 | 1.00 - 1.45pm
Recess | 1.45 - 2.15pm
Period 6 | 2.15 - 3.00pm
Period 7 | 3.00 - 3.40pm

*Effective 20th February, 2012

**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.

Hello Parents and Students!

This year Music has been introduced into the curriculum at Isik College for grades 4, 5 and 6!

In class, students will be exploring the elements of music, as well as creating and performing in ensembles.

We are currently asking for parents to donate any instruments they may have at home which are not being used to add to our resources!

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at the College.

Looking forward to a very exciting year ahead!

Mrs Anna Prociw-Charalambous
Music Teacher.
My name is Sueda Polat and I am here to tell you why I should be voted as school captain. I believe that I will do a wonderful job as school captain. I have the patience to attend to the younger kids. I would also be a marvellous role model. I know that I can support any of the younger kids at school.

As John Maxwell has said, “a leader is one who knows the way, goes the way and shows the way”. I am that person. I know the way because I have taken a role of responsibility before (YCDI), I go the way because I am confident, kind and trustworthy and last of all I show the way because I would help other people. I hope that my words have made a good impression on you. If you vote for me you would be giving me the chance to help this school.

Sueda Polat, School Captain

Hi everyone,

Today I will explain why you should vote for me in being a school captain.

To tell you a bit about me, I am a very intelligent person. I have many skills, for example I can juggle 3 balls and do many other stuff too. Anyway, let’s get to the important parts. I have been in Isik College for 5 years. I have entered 95% of the competitions against other grades and came 1st in most of them. I have got a distinction in mathematics on the ICAS test and have been very successful in most of my other tests. I really like representing my school and I have done it a lot like in cross-country. I made it into the districts twice and I represent the school by playing sports against other school in every term. I also represented Isik College when I won a Victoria wide Isik College competition with 2 other friends.

I have qualities you need to be a good leader (responsible, persistent, confident and most importantly I get along well with others). If I get chosen, I guarantee you that I would do whatever it takes to be a school captain. So it’s your choice, vote or not? I promise I will be the best!

Kerem Albayrak, Vice School Captain

Hello friends! I really want to be sports vice captain, because I believe in myself that I do good in sports. I’m very confident in sports and I really like sports.

I’m very sure I could make everybody happy in sports. I will never give up sports because I want to be an athlete when I grow up. I believe myself that I can do good in sports vice captain because I really want to be a sports vice captain. Thank you.

Defne Alkan, Sports Captain

The 2012 Student Representative Council (SRC) members

What is an SRC?

An SRC is a group of students in a school elected by their fellow students to represent all students in the school and who organise ways for students to participate in school life. SRCs work democratically to represent the student body in school decision-making. Students work together, with help from the SRC teacher, Mrs Sevde, to improve school life and to contribute students’ ideas.

What makes a great leader?

Many leaders have certain traits, qualities and skills that enable them to do what they do successfully. Keep the following in mind:

- Know your strengths
- Listen and work well with different people
- Gain experience
- Be optimistic
- Be willing to take action
One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day—and gets there on time.

It sounds simple, but it’s true.

The correlation between school attendance and children’s achievement levels is well-established. The more time kids spend at school, the more likely they are to experience school success.

Conversely, according to a report from the Victorian Auditor General, students who are regularly absent from school are at the greatest risk of dropping out of school early, and of experiencing long-term unemployment.

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem. Also, many teachers tell me, it’s often the kids who can least afford to take time off school who are most likely to be serial absentees.

Of course, most people know this intuitively, yet school absenteeism is a huge problem in Australian schools—and much of it is parent-condoned.

It’s hard to get an accurate picture across the country but it would appear that Australian students miss an average of between 12 and 15 days per school year, with parent-condoned absenteeism highest among young primary-aged children.

That adds up to a year’s lost schooling over the school-life of a child.

In today’s highly competitive world, this rate of absenteeism is alarming, putting our kids at a distinct disadvantage.

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It’s not okay to be away ... nor to be late to school

Commit to sending kids to school every day.
Make sure kids arrive at school and class on time.
Inform the school when they are away, sending medical certificates and other evidence of genuine absence.
Consider catching-up on missed work.
Make kids who are away stay in their bedroom – that is where ill kids should be.

Being late is not okay either

Missing a few minutes each day may not seem like a big deal but your child may be missing more than you realise if he or she is continually late.

Current research shows that mornings for most children are the most productive time of the day, with 10.00am the peak period for productivity. When children arrive late and take time to settle as they inevitably do, valuable learning time is lost.

It takes strong parenting...

As a parent myself I know how persuasive children of all ages can be when it comes to taking a day off school. It takes a strong will to resist the persistent pressure that kids can bring to bear, particularly if they play the guilt card with comments such as “It’s not fair that I have to go school today because Aunty is coming to visit!”

Nice try. But the answer should be “No!”.

As parents we need to make a commitment that our kids make the most of their precious time at school. That means that we send them to school every day, on time and ready to make the most of the school day.

Of course, there will be times, such as illness or genuinely extenuating family circumstances, when kids should be away. But these need to be a rarity rather than the norm.

It’s reassuring to know that you increase their chances of future success just by making sure they turn up to school every day. And of course regular school attendance also helps kids prepare for the workforce, where it will be expected that they turn up each day work-ready. The real world is unforgiving of those who stay away with NO EXCUSE.