



# MALEK FAHD ISLAMIC SCHOOL

ABN: 41003 864 891

KNOWLEDGE IS LIGHT & WORK IS WORSHIP

[www.mfis.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mfis.nsw.edu.au)

**1<sup>st</sup> May, 2017**

Welcome to Term 2. It was wonderful to see refreshed and energised students and staff back in the classroom and eager to learn and teach. Term 2 is always a busy term, especially with NAPLAN, assessments and semester examinations, and I am very confident students will continue to lift to the expected standard to reach their potential. We welcome back Sheikh Fawaz and Mr Hleis from their very powerful and spiritual experience at Mecca. We welcome the return of Sheikh Khaled Bouchafaa and Ms Vivian Gastos who have been on leave. Congratulations to Mrs Fatma Mehana on the wonderful news of the birth of their baby girl, Madina and to Mrs Basmah Hamdoun on the birth of a baby boy, Mohammad.



## **ANZAC Day**

A number of ANZAC Day services marked the beginning of the term across the campuses to commemorate the extra-ordinary sacrifice of our brave men and women, including the many who made the ultimate sacrifice to ensure our family and children have a wonderful life. I extend my thanks and gratitude to the many teachers and students for their preparation and involvement in each of the five services. At each service, I spoke to students of my personal experiences at Gallipoli in Turkey and Long Tan and Nui Dat where Australians served in Vietnam. Late last Term our Year 10 leaders, accompanied by Mr Singh, represented the School at a wreath laying ceremony at Hyde Park.



## **Enrolment for Kindergarten and Year 7 2018**

Enrolment for Kindergarten and Year 7 2018 for all three campuses begins this week. Parents are encouraged to go to the office of Greenacre, Beaumont Hills or Hoxton Park, depending on the campus your child will attend to fill the request for admission form. It is important for enrolling your child for Kindergarten to bring your child's birth certificate at the time of completing the form. There is much parent interest in our wonderful school, so I encourage you to enrol as soon as possible.

## **Ramadan**

Ramadan will commence on, or about 27<sup>th</sup> May. We will celebrate Ramadan and Eid with Iftar dinners and prayer; fund raising activities including a chocolate drive; a gala dinner and a two-day carnival in September to celebrate Eid ul Adha – The Haj.

**Early finish of school during Ramadan:** To ensure students, parents and staff are home ready to break the fast, school for each Campus will end at 1.55pm during Ramadan. **Buses will leave at 2.00pm.** Due to the number of students at Greenacre, there will be a staggered finish in the afternoon and Primary students will be dismissed early. Secondary students will finish at 1.55pm in time to catch their bus at 2.00pm.

**Iftar Dinners:** Each campus will hold an Iftar dinner. Some campuses will have two dinners. Cost of each Iftar dinner will be kept as low as possible, and affordable to enable all families to attend. Tickets for the dinner will be presold. Details of the dinners will be sent out to parents. The aim is for dinner at 5.30pm followed by Prayer Tarawi at school of the local Mosques from 7.00pm. The planned dates are

**Greenacre** (on site):

Primary: Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May and Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> of June

Secondary: Years 7- 9: Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May; Years 10 – 12: Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June – hosted by the SRC

**Beaumont Hills** (on site): Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June

**Hoxton Park** (at a restaurant near school): Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June

### **Girls' Camp 2017– Tea Gardens**

Year 7 to 10 girls accompanied by **Mrs Parker, Ms Assaaf** and **Ms Mitchell**, attended a customised camp at Tea Gardens for 3 days in Week 1 this term. It incorporated teambuilding, peer support, anti-bullying, self-defence and recreation. Girls were eager to participate in a range of exciting and challenging activities such as flying fox, orienteering, archery, commando, kayaking and catapult challenge plus rock-climbing. Our program at camp was customised to include a daily component called ROCK and WATER focusing on self-defence techniques and the importance of being able to deal with bullying. The camp was a great opportunity for girls to build relationships with students other than their close companions. The girls gained a lot of confidence and came out of their comfort zone by trying different and new activities, which they would otherwise not have an opportunity to try. This goes a long way in improving self-esteem and goal setting which they will apply back at school. Hearty halal food was served daily with a good serving of snow cones! Students were also delighted to spot a family of kangaroos nearby!

The staff and instructors at camp complimented on the manner and respect they received from our students, which was great to hear. Parents are encouraged to send their children on camp. They will benefit from the wide range of activities and to be out in the great outdoors (with free stargazing!).

A special thank you to **Mrs Parker, Ms Assaaf** and **Ms Mitchell** for their company and assistance at camp.



### **NAPLAN**

NAPLAN commences on the 9<sup>th</sup> May for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students. Students must have a good sleep to ensure that they are fresh to give their very best.

## MALEK FAHD ISLAMIC SCHOOL UMRAH TRIP 2017

... a reflection by Sheikh Fawaz

Our Umrah trip began on Wednesday the 12<sup>th</sup> of April 2017. We farewelled our loved ones and boarded our long flight to Medina, Saudi Arabia. We arrived 17 hours later in beautiful Madinah to the melodious sounds of fajr Adan echoing throughout the city. We prayed our first fard in the blessed city before making our way to our hotel. Exhausted and sleep deprived, we were keen to visit Masjid Al Nabawi (The Prophet's Mosque). We were immediately taken aback with the beautiful architecture and the sheer magnitude of the masjid. We were fortunate enough to pray in the Rawada. The feeling of inner peace and tranquillity experienced here was indescribable. We spent the next few days in Madinah visiting a number of historical sites such as Mount Uhud (where the famous battle of Uhud took place), Qiblatain and Qubba Mosques, and Al Bacqui (the resting place of many companions and martyrs). Unfortunately, our time in Madinah came to a swift end. Before we knew it we were farewelling Madinah bound for the holy city of Mecca.

With our modern day comforts, we began our journey to Mecca. Along the way we witnessed the rugged landscape and mountainous terrain and contemplated the hardships and struggles our beloved prophet must have endured whilst he made this journey on foot. We arrived six hours later in the holy city of Mecca keen to finally see the Kaaba and complete our first Umrah. The Kaaba was majestic and enchanting. We managed to battle our way through the crowds to perform our tawaf and Saiy between Safa and Marwa, emulating the actions of Hajar (the prophet Ibrahim's wife). We finished our first Umra by shaving our hair- a Sunnah of the prophet.

We spent the remainder of our time in Mecca praying our five daily prayers in the Grand Mosque and visiting a number of historical sites. This included the cave of Hira (where prophet Muhammad SAW received the first revelation) the cave of Thor (where the prophet SAW and Abu Bakr AS sought refuge in during their migration to Madinah) and Mount Arafat (Adam and Eve's first meeting place on Earth). We ended our time in Mecca with a second Umrah.

Our Umrah trip was a great success thanks to the exceptional behaviour and Islamic morals and values upheld by all participants from years 9-12. We ask that Allah (SWT) accepts our Umrah and grants us the opportunity to visit Madinah and Mecca once again in the near future.

I am so grateful to **Sheikh Fawaz** and **Mr Hleis** for leading this spiritual journey.



This Sunday will be Mother's Day, a special day to honour all mothers who do so much for us. It is my hope that all mums have a wonderful and enjoyable day.

I look forward to a full and wonderful term of learning.

Wasalaam

Mr Bruce Rixon  
Principal