



11 April 2019

NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Assalamu Alaykum WRWB

Term 1 has come and gone ever so quickly. During this long, eleven-week Term, so much has been undertaken and achieved. I am so grateful to all staff for their hard work and proud of their achievements to ensure the best of education for your child.

Enrolments for 2020

A letter has been posted home to all current parents who may have a child they wish to enrol in Kindergarten for a start in 2020. The cut off for enrolment of siblings is Friday, 3rd May 2019. I urge parents to submit their application by this date as, following this date, we will begin to accept non-sibling, new parents to Malek Fahd.

Reduction of class sizes for the early years of learning

I am delighted to announce the School's intention is to significantly reduce class sizes for the early years of learning. Commencing in 2020, we will be aiming for 20 per class in Kindergarten; 22 per class in Year 1 (2021); and 25 per class in Year 2 (2022). This will apply across all Campuses. For Greenacre campus there will be 5 streams in Kindergarten in 2020. We expect to maintain Teacher Aides supporting the Kindergarten classes during Term 1 as they settle into school routine. It is anticipated the smaller classes will greatly assist the teachers and students in establishing strong academic foundations in these important formative years. These class sizes may need to be slightly adjusted if the Kindergarten sibling number for Greenacre is larger number than 100 students. I am sure staff and parents will welcome this decision and direction for the School.

Scholarships

I am delighted to announce, commencing in 2019, the School will be introducing a range of Student Scholarships. Applications will be received during Term 2. The Scholarships are open for a range of academic year groups: Academic, All Rounder, Religious, Bursaries and Financial Support, Arabic Studies (new and continuous) and Open Scholarships. The process to follow in making application for a scholarship as well as the scholarship package, including the policy,

procedures, the scholarship descriptors and general conditions, will be available on the website in the coming days. It is expected the Scholarships will give incentive to the gifted students as well as provide financial support to those in need.

Umrah 2019

A small tour group of nineteen students of Years 9 to 11, under the guidance of Sheikh Fawaz, Malek Fahd Islamic School will be leaving for Umrah from 10th April to 21st of April. We wish the touring party a safe and happy spiritual journey.

Parent – Teachers Interviews

Thank you to all staff and parents who availed themselves for the Parent – Teacher interviews held across all campuses over the last two weeks.

Ms Houda Kbbar to present at the 4th Annual Australian Islamic Schooling Conference

I am delighted to announce that Ms Houda Kbbar has been invited to present at the 4th Annual Australian Islamic Schooling Conference and Forum (13-14 July 2019 at the University of Melbourne). Her topic is 'Building School Connectedness – a Whole School Approach to Wellbeing'. This is a first for the School and a wonderful achievement for Ms Kbbar. Congratulations and thank you for taking up the challenge. I know your presentation will be well received.

ShoeBox4Syria

Our school participated in the shoebox4syria fundraiser for the 3rd year, in which students and their families donated their time and effort to pack boxes of gifts to be sent to Syria. The aim of facilitating such a fundraising initiative is to raise awareness of people/communities that are less fortunate and to foster care and compassion in our students. This year just over 700 shoeboxes filled with over 5000 gifts were donated to the charity. We would like to thank all the students and their families for the generous donations of gifts and clothes. The organisers of the

donation were overwhelmed with the generosity of our school community and sent a video message thanking the students, parents and the School. A special thank you to Ms Manal Obeid and the Wellbeing team for your contribution towards the organisation and collection of all the donations from each campus.



New Zealand Fundraising Initiative

Malek Fahd Islamic School took on the initiative of fundraising for our brothers and sisters in New Zealand who were affected by the Christchurch Mosque attack. Each campus hosted fundraising events and collected donations. A total of around \$5000 was collected which will be sent to the affected New Zealand families via MATW organisation. May Allah SWT reward you for your compassion and support.

Ramadan

We will celebrate Ramadan and Eid with Iftar dinners and prayer and an Eid carnival in August to celebrate Hajj and Eid ul Adha.

Iftar Dinners

In the Spirit of Ramadan, our School will be hosting Iftar dinners at our Greenacre, Hoxton Park and Beaumont Hills campuses and bring together our students, parents and the community. We encourage you to contact the Administration Office to purchase your tickets as soon as possible due to limited sittings available.

The planned dates for the MFIS Iftars are as follows: -

Greenacre Campus

Secondary: Years 7-12 - Thursday, 9th May

(will be hosted by the MFIS SRC Team)

Primary: K-6 – Thursday, 16th May

Hoxton Park Campus – Friday, 10th May

Beaumont Hills Campus – Friday, 17th May

Early finish of School during Ramadan

To ensure students, parents and staff are home ready to break the fast, students at Greenacre will have a staggered finish in the afternoon. Lower Primary(K-2) students will be dismissed early at 1.50pm. The remainder of the School will be dismissed at 2.00pm. All buses will leave by 2.15pm. School for Beaumont Hills and Hoxton Park Campuses will end at 2.00pm during Ramadan.

NAPLAN

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN tests are just one aspect of a school’s assessment and reporting process; they do not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance. NAPLAN tests also provide schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

NAPLAN 2019 paper test timetable.

Year	Tuesday 14 May	Wednesday 15 May	Thursday 16 May
Year 3	Language conventions: 45 minutes Writing: 40 minutes	Reading: 45 minutes	Numeracy: 45 minutes
Year 5	Language conventions:45 minutes Writing:40 minutes	Reading: 50 minutes	Numeracy: 50 minutes
Year 7	Language conventions: 45 minutes Writing: 40 minutes	Reading: 65 minutes	Numeracy: 65 minutes

Year	Tuesday 14 May	Wednesday 15 May	Thursday 16 May
Year 9	Language conventions: 45 minutes Writing: 40 minutes	Reading: 65 minutes	Numeracy: 65 minutes

ANZAC Day Commemoration Service

Some of our School leaders accompanied by Mr Khoder, Mr Shameem, Mr Saddik and Ms Rahim will attend the annual RSL and Schools Remember ANZAC Commemoration Service held at ANZAC Memorial at Hyde Park, Sydney. During the services our students will lay a wreath at the top of the ANZAC Memorial steps, allowing schools to commemorate the sacrifices made by Australian servicemen and women. ANZAC Services will be held at each Campus at the commencement of Term 2.



Growth in Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

2019 has seen a significant growth in the number of students studying PDHPE in Stages 5 and 6. In Year 9 & 10 Physical Activity and Sports Studies and Year 11 & 12 PDHPE there is a 100% increase in the number of classes compared to 2018. The Stage 6 Community and Family course has also been introduced. It is pleasing to see students embracing PDHPE which offers many lifestyle and career opportunities for students. There will be a series of exciting excursions to compliment the course work covered in the classroom. Including a first aid course for Year 11 & 12 PDHPE students which will be conducted on 21st June.

Cross Country Championships 2019

The school cross country Championships were staged at Bark Huts Reserve, Strathfield on 9th April on a sunny Autumn day. The Championships involved students from all three campuses with girls and boys in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 competing. For Year 7 and 8, the Cross Country was compulsory with performance and participation contributing to their semester PDHPE

assessment. 500 students competed in an initiative which commenced last year.

There were many thrilling finishes in all age groups as students challenged themselves to achieve personal bests. All girls and Year 7 boys competed over 2 a kilometre course with the Year 8, 9 and 10 boys completing a 3 kilometre course.

The ISD Cross Country Championships will be conducted on 29th May with many of our students qualifying to represent Malek Fahd at this event. Teachers from the three campuses assisted in supervising students, on buses, at the venue and around the course. Special mention is made of the Year 11 PDHPE and CAFS students who also assisted as officials and recorders.

MFIS Cross Country Results

Year	1 st Place	2 nd Place	3 rd Place
Y7 Boys	Ahmad Elhelou	Ali Obeid	Yahya Harahap
Y7 Girls	Jayda Derbas	Mazaya Salsabil	Asiyah Afiouny
Y8 Boys	Ahmed Haddad	Mohamed Salim	Salman Shahzad
Y8 Girls	Aisha Sabouh	Amina Moubayed	Daneen Jidah
Y9 Boys	Jad Kodr	Mohamad Kurdi	Nayab Shahzad
Y9 Girls	Raeanne El-Mustapha	Sidrah Ardati	Aisha Bouthiba
Y10 Boys	Adam Alam	Hashsham Gondal	Kabeer Shah
Y10 Girls	Salma Refaat	Jamilatu Issah Isaka	Ilesha Arja
Y11 Boys	Khalid Mohammed	Mayez Hijazi	Muhammed Enes Gide
Y11 Girls	Manelle Idrees	Fatema Dib	Chaymaa Guerfi



Expectations on representing Malek Fahd Islamic School in Sport and Gala Days

It is a privilege to represent Malek Fahd in sport against other schools. Only students who are well behaved, respectful to others and engage positively in their studies will be granted permission to participate in the school's diverse sporting opportunities.

Nursing Home Visits

Senior students commenced nursing home visits to BUPA Aged Care Bankstown on 25th March. The first visit went very well. The elderly residents were so excited to see our students and made the most of the time they had to talk to them. Our students were very courteous and patient and thoroughly enjoyed spending time with the residents. The staff at the facility were very grateful to our school for facilitating the visits. At this stage, these visits will occur fortnightly and all senior students will be given the opportunity to participate. Our students will provide companionship, play board games, help with gardening and arts and crafts during future visits. Beaumont Hills Year 12 students will begin their nursing home visits in April and will visit OPAL aged care.

Elevate Education Study Skills Workshop

Over the past weeks, students across the three campuses participated in study skills workshops. The first seminar focuses on study skills and the second is on time management. The purpose of these workshops is to provide our students with effective, practical strategies to improve their confidence and results. Elevate Education use research-based methods and resources to help students of all abilities to develop habits which facilitate more effective learning, improve learning outcomes and increase overall student performance. We hope to provide a follow-up workshop next term to further prepare our students for their studies, examinations and the HSC.

Brigidine Visit

Students from the Secondary campus attended Brigidine college as part of an interfaith experience. Upon arrival, our students engaged in a meet and greet session with the Brigidine students followed by morning tea. Students then participated in a Q & A session where students from both schools asked questions regarding religious practices in order to gain a better understanding of the other religion. The questions were insightful and were answered thoroughly. Soon after, the students participated in a school tour and then a whole school assembly. In the assembly, our School-Captain Yasmine Bizri and Vice-Captain Yasmine Kheir spoke about Islam and their experience as young Muslim women growing up in

Australia. The executive staff from Brigidine were very impressed with the captains' address, remarking that their address was so heart-felt and enlightening. After assembly, we joined Brigidine staff and students for lunch. Thank you to Ms Parker for organising the visit, Ms Saddik and Ms Kbbar for accompanying our students.



MFIS Year Book

We are proud to announce that our school has produced the Year Book for 2018. Each family should receive a copy early Term 2. Malek Fahd is one school with campuses at Greenacre, Beaumont Hills and Hoxton Park. The Year Book covers the actions and activities that took place on all our three campuses.

Road safety when driving through the School

We need your help to ensure the safety of every child at the School. I ask that all parents practise safe driving and parking at the school and to be patient and not rush when dropping and picking up their children in the mornings and afternoons. It is essential that all parents follow the instructions of security and teachers in the guidance of traffic and students during the peak time of before and after school hours. At a supervised crossing, observe the directions of the school crossing supervisor and model safe and considerate behaviour for your child as they will learn from you. Remember to always give way to pedestrians, particularly when entering and leaving driveways. It is essential to use the drop-off and pick-up area.

Parents Parking

During the afternoon pick up of children I need parents to take great care in and around the school grounds and on Waterloo Road. Some cars are parking in the bus bay, double parked and holding up the flow of

traffic. I ask that all parents take special care at this time to ensure the maximum safety of our children. Managements of Chullora Market Place, Suttons Chullora and EWE Global Express Transport Group have requested that no parents block their driveway or double park whilst dropping off or picking up children in the morning or afternoon. Parents need to be aware that cars and delivery trucks need to use their driveways throughout the day and this is why it needs to remain clear. Council rangers will be notified to fine any parents parking illegally on their property.

School Uniform

Malek Fahd Islamic School Uniform Shop will close for the school holidays on Friday, 12th April at 4.00pm.

Additional Term 2 Holiday Trading Hours:

Monday, 29th April 9.00am to 4.00pm

Tuesday, 30th April 8.00am to 4.00pm

Parents are requested to make an appointment for fittings and purchase of uniforms via calling on 0498 518 916 or email malek.fahd@midford.com.au. You are also welcome to purchase uniforms online at your convenience. Your order will be filled when the store is next open.

Website : <https://schoolshop.midford.com.au/login/>

passphrase: malek1989

Update of Parent Email Addresses

In an effort to improve communication with parents, all School newsletters will be sent out to parents via email and through the Schoolbag app. If you are not receiving the Newsletter or know of someone who isn't, please contact the Administration Office to update your email contact details. Newsletters are also available on the School website.

Term One Holidays

The last day of school for Term One is Friday, 12th April. Term One holidays will be from Monday, 15th April to Monday, 29th April. Students will return to school for Term Two on Tuesday, 30th April 2019. Please note, Monday, 29th April is a pupil free day. During the holidays I encourage all students to keep in contact with their studies and reading, especially Year 12 students. A reminder that Naplan will be held early into Term 2.

Thank you Staff and Happy Holidays

A special thank you to all staff who give so much of their time before and after school assisting students in their education as we strive to improve student literacy and numeracy skills. I wish everyone a very safe and relaxing holiday with energy recharged ready to commence Term 2.

Kind regards,



Mr Bruce Rixon
Principal