



13 March 2019

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Guardians

Assalamu Alaykum WRWB

Umrah 2019

It gives me great pleasure to announce that the Islamic Studies Department is organising the annual Umrah trip for the students from the **10th of April till 22nd of April 2019**. This will be the third Umrah for Malek Fahd students. Through the Lebanese Muslim Association, we have been able to secure a reduced cost of \$3800 per person. This is an all-inclusive amount covering airfares, accommodation, transfers and complimentary breakfast. For bookings and further enquiries please contact Sheikh Fawaz via email: fawaz@mfis.nsw.edu.au or 0415 533 515.

John Coutis Visit

We were fortunate to host John Coutis with a dynamic and captivating, motivational presentation to all Secondary students, from all three campuses, at the Greenacre campus. John is a remarkable Australian who was born with a severe physical disability in which doctors gave him little chance of survival. John has not only defied medical opinion, he has thrived and is acknowledged as one of the world's most inspirational speakers.



Without the lower part of his body, John embraces a full and positive life. He rolls around on his custom skateboard and uses humour to communicate some of life's most important lessons. John's message includes diversity, anti-bullying, resilience, self-determination, goal setting, motivation, inclusion and courage. These themes are consistent with the personal and social capabilities that are outlined in the Australian Curriculum and the 'Elements' in the MFIS Wellbeing Framework.

John commented that this was the first time he had been invited to present at an Islamic School. Our students were thoroughly immersed in the presentation and were moved by John's recount of his childhood experiences. The feedback from students and teachers was very positive. Students commented that, after the presentation they felt a greater sense of self-determination and gratitude. Such a presentation will remain embedded in the memory of students and teachers for a long time.

2018 VALID 8 High Achiever

Last year, 56,997 students across NSW sat VALID 8. I am delighted to inform you that our Greenacre Secondary student, Sidratul Islam of 9B1, achieved the fifth highest score in the State. Congratulations to Sidratul and a special thank you to the Science faculty.

School Leaders Awards 2019

On Monday, 4th March, our 2019 senior School leaders Ahmed Abid and Yasmine Bizri (School Captains), Yahya Eid and Yasmine Kheir (Vice Captains) were presented with the School Leaders Awards in recognition of their successful nomination. This presentation was held at Wiley Park Girls High School and the Hon. Tony Burke presented our leaders with their certificates. Thank you to our School leader's parents who also joined us for the presentation followed by morning tea.

Annual Academic Awards

The Year 12 Muslim Achievement Awards (hosted by Human Appeal Australia) presentation was held on

Sunday, 10th March at Highline venue, Bankstown. Sheikh Fawaz, Mr Ahmed and I joined our Year 12 students and their families at this prestigious award. It was inspirational to have so many Malek Fahd students acknowledged for their achievements. Bayt Al Zakat Education Awards ceremony will be held on Saturday, 16th March at Orion Function Centre, Campsie. At these two special ceremonies students with an ATAR of 90 or more are invited and presented with a certificate and a valuable gift.

Parent – Teachers Interviews

Letters have been sent to families advising them of the planned parent-teacher interviews across the school in the coming weeks of this Term. I do hope that all parents take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to meet with your child's teachers to gain a further insight on how parents and school can best assist the academic growth of your child.

Commencement of 2020 Kindergarten Enrolment

We are now commencing the process of Kindergarten enrolments for 2020. The first offers for a Kindergarten position will be for parents who currently have children at Malek Fahd. An Expression of Interest form for existing MFIS parents will be posted home later this week. I ask that you have this form completed and **returned to the school by Friday, 3rd of May** so we can commence the process for interviews. The cut-off date for enrolment of Kindergarten children who have siblings at the school, will be 30th of May. After this date we will open applications for new students to the school, and as such, current parents will not be able to have automatic sibling rights.

If you have a child who will turn 5 years old by 31st July 2020, and you would like to enrol them at MFIS, please complete this form and submit to the Administration Office. Kindergarten interviews will be held in Term 2 and early Term 3 this year. To help prepare your child for Kindergarten, get them to practice Surah Al-Fatiha and one other short Surah, their letters and numbers, colours and shapes and they must be able to sit still and follow instructions. Please note that in 2020 Greenacre Campus will only take up to 150 Kindergarten students, and not 180 as has been the case for the last two years.

Clean Up Australia Day

MFIS students across all three campuses participated in "Clean Up Australia Day". The HSIE Department hosted activities throughout the day. Islam puts a great emphasis on the protection of the environment. Islamic and Quranic teachings highly stress the protection and maintenance of the environment in which we live in. We are blessed to call Australia home

and as such, the least we can do is show gratitude by keeping it clean.

Physical Wellbeing Workshops

We have an outstanding SRC who are leading the students with distinction with their leadership in the assemblies, in the yard and leading Prayer. The recent presentation to Years 7 and 8, titled "Physical Wellbeing Workshop" was developed and delivered by the School Captains and Vice Captains. This workshop elaborated on puberty, health, hygiene and cleanliness. The Year 7 students were also provided with hygiene packs.

International Women's Day School Assembly

The School marked this special day with assemblies across the three Campuses. At Greenacre Secondary, the School leaders delivered speeches on this year's theme which is #BalanceforBetter. This theme focuses on celebrating women's achievements, raising awareness against bias, taking action for equality as well as innovation. The special guest for this occasion was local legal professional, Ms Ramia Abdo Sultan. At this assembly I spoke of the extraordinary women parents and board members, who lead our School highlighting their contribution to our School.



National Day of Action Against Bullying (Friday, 15th March)

All secondary students will receive a ribbon which they are encouraged to wear during Week 7 to help raise awareness of this important issue. There will be murals set up in both quadrangles in Greenacre secondary and students will be encouraged to contribute to the mural by writing messages or leaving artwork or poems based on the theme of 'Bullying No Way'.

Harmony Day

Harmony Day celebrates Australia's cultural diversity. The message of Harmony Day is 'everyone belongs', the Day aims to engage people to participate in their community, respect cultural and religious diversity and foster sense of belonging for everyone. Each of our campuses are hosting a Harmony Day celebration.

Hoxton Park Campus – 20th March 2019

Greenacre Primary Campus – 21st March 2019

Greenacre High Campus – 21st March 2019

Beaumont Hills Campus – 22nd March 2019

Careers

In early August, our school will be running its annual Careers Day. This is an excellent opportunity for our students at all three campuses – Greenacre, Beaumont Hills and Hoxton Park to come together and engage in conversations regarding their future endeavours. It is a prospect for our senior students to explore their interests and future career paths with the help and guidance of many representatives from several leading Australian Universities, TAFE, MFIS alumni and major organisations.

Our Careers Day focuses on University studies, TAFE courses, apprenticeships, employment and voluntary work experience. This event will focus not only on University entry but other career pathways such as TAFE courses, traineeships and Apprenticeships to help students achieve their vision to their chosen career. Students will also be provided with information to alternative pathways to their chosen careers such as which course to choose, where to study their course in terms of University, TAFE or college and training required to fulfil the requirements of their course.

VET Course

This year our school began offering VET courses to Year 11 Greenacre students. VET courses form part of recognised pathways to further education and training. Currently eight students have enrolled in VET – Construction. This is a hands-on course giving students a practical introduction to the construction industry, showcasing the broad range of career opportunities available. Similar to other Stage 6 courses, students will sit an HSC exam and are eligible for an ATAR. In addition to the 240-hour course time over the 2-year course, there is a 70-hour component for mandatory work placement.

The delivery of VET – Construction is by TAFE NSW Western Sydney Region located at the Macarthur Building Industry Skills Centre at Ingleburn. The School has arranged transport for all students from the School to the venue every Tuesday afternoon at 1pm to attend class from 2pm to 6pm.

The School looks forward to introducing other external VET courses in the coming years to meet the increasingly diverse needs of students.

Greenacre Primary Student Representative Council 2019

Congratulations to the students who were elected by their peers to be in the SRC. These students have a big responsibility which they are fulfilling so well. They have demonstrated a great deal of maturity and responsibility thus far, and regularly meet to discuss ideas and initiatives for their school. So far this year the SRC have given presentations at the School assembly on topics such as anti-bullying and Clean Up Australia Day. The SRC also attended the GRIP Leadership Workshop on 5th March. There, they were able to meet school leaders from other schools, and had the opportunity to gather some innovative ideas as to how to tackle litter.

Following are the Student Representatives of 2019;

Campus Captains: Rihanna Osman and Huzefa Matloob

Vice-Captains: Aisyah Yustika and Azzah Bhuiyan

Prefects: Anika Khan, Ali Khan, Safa Samrout, Rachid El Sayadi, Mona Elmir, Ramon Kabir, Nurunnahar Uddin and Abdullah Shahzad



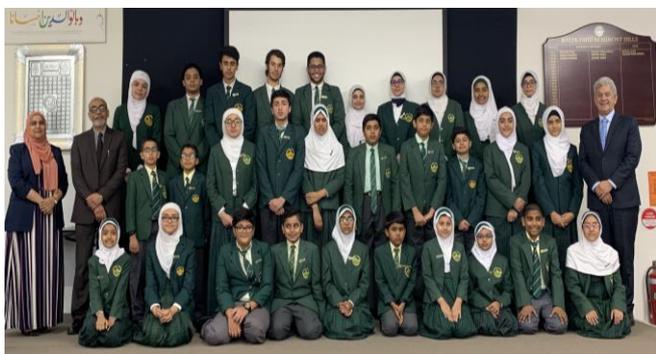
Beaumont Hills Student Representative Council 2019

Malek Fahd Beaumont Hills Prefects Investiture Ceremony was held on Monday, 18th February to present the democratically elected student leaders with their captain's badges. Congratulations to the following Student Representatives of Beaumont Hills campus:

Campus Captains: Ayesha Rajwani and Medhat Omer

Vice-Captains: Maryam Athar and Mohamed Taha

Prefects: Zahra Dastyar, Ruhab Hasan, Aliya Ali, Mikail Khan, Fateema Azom, Zarif Amin, Yusra Ashraf, Danial Farooq, Simone Sharif, Erhan Ahmed, Ayesha Binteali, Kareem Omar, Aimen Hamid, Kamran Abdul, Sana Qayum, Ibrahim Barula, Amiya Hasan, Ali Khan, Bareen Popal, Shehriyaar Nasir, Mishaal Nasir, Hashsham Gondal, Manelle Idrees, Mohamed Omer, Rawan Abdel Salam and Kaveri Talukder.



Hoxton Park Campus will have their SRC presentation assembly later in the month and we will advise parents of the elected team in the next Newsletter.

“Shoebbox4Syria”

Malek Fahd Islamic School will be participating in the charity collection facilitated by “Shoebbox4Syria”. Students are encouraged to demonstrate care and compassion for others by donating a shoe box filled with gifts for orphaned children in Syria. Boxes can be donated starting next week. The deadline for the donations is 25th of March, 2019. Please do not wrap or seal the box

“LETS GET SHOEBOXING”

All toys, accessories, books, pencils and clothing is to be BRAND NEW as it is a gift. No sharp objects, food, chocolate or second hand clothing is acceptable. This project is a great cause and a way to bond with your children, family and friends. It will bring us benefit as a community through awareness of the less fortunate.

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact the Heads of Wellbeing, Mrs Kbbar and Mr Khoder.

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. Management of Suttons Chullora and EWE Global Express Transport Group have requested that no parents block their driveway 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 Fee Reminder

A reminder to our parents and carers that School fees for Term 1 are due and payable. Shortly you will receive a letter outlining how you can pay any outstanding fees, we appreciate your prompt attention to this matter.

School Uniform Shop Appointments

Parents are requested to make an appointment for back-to-school 2019 and new enrolment uniform fittings. Call the Uniform Shop now on 0498 518 916 or email malek.fahd@midford.com.au to arrange an appointment. 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

Students travelling via Bus

Punchbowl Bus Services have requested that I inform parents and students of the significant change created by the introduction of the School Opal card. Students need to tap on and off when they travel to and from school. Opal data gathered by tapping on and off is used to determine demand for bus services. If students do not tap on and tap off, services may be cancelled due the lack of recorded patronage.

If your child does not have a School Opal card or their details have changed then please visit www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students/. Damaged or lost School Opal cards can be replaced by completing the form found at <https://ssts-apply.transport.nsw.gov.au/ApplySSTS/ReplaceCard.html>

Yours sincerely

Mr Bruce Rixon
Principal