



22 March 2019

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Assalamu Alaykum WRWB

It is exactly one week after the atrocity of the killing of our Muslim brothers and sisters in New Zealand. The School is still feeling the impact however we are a strong and resilient community and we are focused on rebuilding and building bridges. Harmony Day activities this week have been pivotal in this process.

At our School, we embrace unity, harmony, care and compassion through prayer and in our actions. We value harmony and cultural diversity, both in our School and in the wider community. We have received many words of support, care and compassion from a range of community groups. William Clarke College and Kellyville High School have visited Beaumont Hills for engagements with our senior students.



Staff and students from Quirindi Public School (near Tamworth) travelled over 5 hours to visit our assembly and present 360 (the number of students in their school) heart shaped cards with the message from each student of the school "Harmony not Hate". Greenacre and Beaumont Hills have held inter-faith dialogue with Sheikh Fawaz, Rabbi Zalman Kastel and Father Patrick McInerney for Harmony Day engagements with the senior students.



During the week I had the pleasure of joining Hoxton Park on Tuesday, Greenacre (Primary and Secondary) on Thursday and today at Beaumont Hills for their Harmony Day activities. The depth of the messages conveyed by the student leaders at each Assembly was significant and inspirational. The colour of the pageant cultural dress was wonderful.

Our four School Counsellors Ms Abdulwahed, Ms Masri, Ms Al-Jamal, and Ms Jamal, and former Counsellor Ms Khalaf, have been proactive to ensure the best of support for students, staff and parents. Primary Counsellor, Ms Masri has arranged with prominent Muslim psychologist Hanan Dover (Psych Central) and Death and Dying Crisis Counsellor, Mariam Ardari from Muslim Aid and Nasreen Hanifi, from Mission of Hope, Hayat House and founder of 13 Branches have agreed to offer a session to parents, teachers and students at MFIS Greenacre.

On Thursday afternoon there was a session for Year 6 students on trauma and grief post the tragic events in New Zealand. A series of counselling sessions have been planned for the coming week for the Greenacre Campus. These include; Year 12 Girls (Friday and Monday); Middle Primary students (Monday); Parents (Monday 25th from 9.15am in the Secondary School Hall); Staff (Tuesday); Year 3 (Wednesday); Years 7 & 8 Girls (Wednesday); Years 7 & 8 Boys (Thursday); Years 9 & 10 Girls (Friday). We are working through planning times for Years 9 and 10 Boys as well as similar sessions at Beaumont Hills and Hoxton Park.

Parents Support Session Invitation

All Malek Fahd parents and guardians are invited to attend the free parenting support session as mentioned above on **Monday, 25th March from 9.15am to 10.30am**. A letter containing further details was sent to all parents yesterday via email. This will be an opportunity to debrief and discuss strategies for assisting children following the acts of violence in New Zealand.

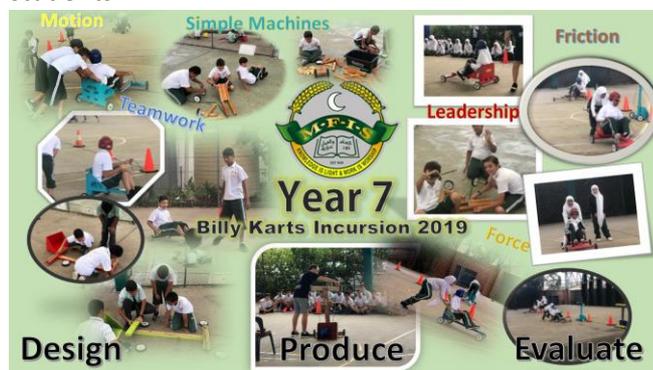
Year 11 CAFS Cake Stall

On Monday, 18th of March, the Year 11 CAFS students hosted a cake stall as part of their assessment task. After the sad tragedy that happened in New Zealand, the students wanted to help the Muslim community and donate all profits towards the MATW New Zealand Emergency Appeal. It was a very successful event, as students raised just over \$1000. Thank you to the CAFS students on their tremendous efforts, to Ms Haddad for facilitating this event and to all staff and students who helped out on the day.



Year 7 Billy Karts Incursion

During Week 7, Year 7 across all three campuses participated in the Billy Karts incursion. The incursion, as part of the stage 4, Mandatory Technology course, provided students with an opportunity to build essential skills for Leadership and Teamwork. The incursion also incorporated subject specific material relating to the Technological and Scientific concepts of "Forces, Motion and Simple Machines". Using a range of tools, students had to design and create their own vehicles and were then provided with an opportunity to take them for a ride. Students performed admirably and we look forward to hosting this event in future years. Thank you Mr Oubani and the Technology team for organising this exciting incursion for all our Year 7 students.



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.

Kind regards,

Mr Bruce Rixon
Principal