



11 April 2018

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Guardians

Assalamu Alaykum WRWB

A special thank you to all staff who give so much of their time before and after school and Saturdays assisting students in their education and in particular the Primary as we strive to improve student literacy and numeracy skills. We have achieved a fantastic Term 1.

Umrah 2018

Sheik Fawaz will be accompanying sixteen students of Years 9 to 11 for Umrah from 11th April to 22nd of April. We wish them a safe and prosperous journey.

Head of Languages

I have the pleasure to announce that I have appointed Mr Albert Wehbe as Acting Head of Languages for 2018. His role will cover the three Campuses. Mr Wehbe is the lead HSC marker for Arabic and has been the lead syllabus Kindergarten to Year 12 writer, for NESA. His programming skills will be a wonderful assistance to our School. He is also focused on introducing Arabic as a HSC subject for Year 11 and 12 students.

I have appointed Ms Boraida Sakr as Co-ordinator of Arabic in Primary. She will remain teaching Arabic and French. Her extensive programming skills will be of great assistance to further expand our programs. Please join me in congratulating Mr Wehbe and Ms Sakr on these significant appointments.

Year Advisors and Wellbeing

I am very grateful with the way in which Welfare team consisting of Year Advisors, Welfare Co-ordinators and Heads of Wellbeing are undertaking this important role to support the wellbeing of our students. This additional twelve positions in Secondary Greenacre Campus to support students, has been a new initiative operating since the beginning of Term 1. Notable improvements include the greater support for students with welfare and wellbeing needs, general behaviour, wearing of uniform, oversight of the use of mobile phones, weekly assemblies, the singing of the national



anthem and discussion of mini pastoral programs, including the anti-bullying program. Parents are reminded that the first point of contact are the class teacher and the Head of Department who should be spoken to in regards to classroom and academic matters.

Ms Mona Kassem

We welcome back Ms Kassem into her former role of Head of Hoxton Park after a year's Maternity Leave. During the final week of Term 1 Ms Kassem will have hand-over session with Mr Lord, walking through any key matters that may have occurred during 2017 and Term 1 of this year. I thank Mr Lord for his outstanding role as Acting-Head of Campus.

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 best parents and the school can assist the academic growth of your child collaboratively.

Term One Holidays

The last day of school for Term One is **Friday, 13th April**. Term One holidays will be from Monday, 16th April to Monday, 30th April. Students will return to school for Term Two on **Tuesday, 1st May 2018**. Please note, Monday, 30th April is a Staff Development Day.

Community Meeting Tuesday, 8th May at Greenacre Secondary Hall, commencing at 6.00pm.

I also wanted to place an announcement for a Community Meeting Tuesday, 8th May at Greenacre Secondary Hall, commencing at 6.00pm. The meeting will enable the Board Chairman, Dr John Bennett and Mr Rixon to discuss the directions of the School as it moves forward.

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 2018 Paper Test Timetable

	Tuesday 15 May 2018	Wednesday 16 May 2018	Thursday 17 May 2018
Yr 3	Language conventions 40 minutes Writing 40 minutes	Reading 45 minutes	Numeracy 45 minutes
Yr 5	Language conventions 40 minutes Writing 40 minutes	Reading 50 minutes	Numeracy 50 minutes
Yr 7	Language conventions 45 minutes Writing 40 minutes	Reading 65 minutes	Numeracy 60 minutes
Yr 9	Language conventions 45 minutes Writing 40 minutes	Reading 65 minutes	Numeracy 60 minutes

Ramadan

We will celebrate Ramadan and Eid with Iftar dinners and prayer; an Eid carnival in August to celebrate Eid ul Adha and a Gala dinner in September.

Iftar Dinners

Invitations have gone to all parents for Iftar dinners. The cost for each Iftar dinner is \$15 for children and \$25 for adults. *Tickets for each Iftar will be presold to aid in organising and catering.* Please be sure to complete the form and return to the respective office. Iftar and dinner will be at about 5.30pm (Includes Maghrib Salah and Taraweeh Salah. We encourage our families to attend. The planned dates for the MFIS Iftars are as follows:

1) Greenacre Campus – (on site)

Primary: K-6 - Tuesday, 22nd May

Secondary: 7-12 – Thursday, 24th May

Years 10-12: Wednesday, 30th May (will be hosted by the MFIS SRC)

2) Beaumont Hills Campus – Wednesday, 23rd May

Early finish of school during Ramadan

To ensure students, parents and staff are home ready to break their fast, students at Greenacre will have a staggered finish in the afternoon. Lower Primary(K-2) students will be dismissed early at 1.35pm. Upper Primary(3-6) will finish at 1.40pm. Secondary students will finish school at 1.45pm in time to catch their buses.

The first bus from Greenacre will be departing at 1.50pm. All buses will leave by 2.00pm. The School day for Beaumont Hills and Hoxton Park Campuses will end at 2.00pm during Ramadan.

ANZAC Day Commemoration Service

Some of our School leaders accompanied by Mr Khoder, Mr Shameem and Mr Saddik attended the annual RSL and Schools Remember ANZAC Commemoration Service on Monday, 9th April.



The Service was held at ANZAC Memorial at Hyde Park, Sydney. During the services, our students were invited to lay a wreath at the top of the ANZAC Memorial steps, allowing schools to commemorate the sacrifices made by Australian servicemen and women.



Elevate Education Study Skills Workshop

Our Year 12 Students will participate in a two-hour study skills workshop on Friday, 13th April. 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 and 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 HSC.

MFIS Year Book

We are proud to announce that our school has produced the Year Book for 2017. Each family should have received a copy last week. It captures some of the memorable moments the students took part in, both curricular and extra-curricular. These memorable moments will be treasured and cherished by all teachers, parents and students. We would like to thank our Head of Campuses, their teachers and the SRC for organising the variety of activities and learning experiences. We would like to acknowledge the efforts of Ms Nasheen Parker who spent tireless hours during the whole process in bringing the Year Book to realisation.

Brigidine Visit

Malek Fahd Islamic School hosted an interfaith dialogue with Brigidine Girl's College St Ives, an Independent Catholic School as part of the Studies of

Religion Curriculum. During the two days, the student's from Malek Fahd and from Brigidine were able to discuss the similarities and differences between their religions.



The student's discussed the importance and benefits of the interfaith programs as they make us more tolerant and open minded towards each other. Oyesie Reza from the Year 12 Studies of Religion class, created an enlightening video addressing some of the misconceptions about Muslims and what it is like living as an Australian Muslim. Our Year 12 and 11 Studies of Religion students put in an exceptional effort in making the day a great success. These enabled students from both schools to learn about each other and create religious cohesion.



The girls were given a tour of our beautiful mosque where Sheik Fawaz greeted them with a huge smile and gave a talk about what it means to be an Australian Muslim and the importance of prayer. The girls from Brigidine were given an opportunity to ask Sheik Fawaz a range of questions. It is imperative as Muslims that we spread a positive representation of Islam and promote mutual understanding and respect despite our differences. The day was quite busy as the girls enjoyed a well-deserved lunch together. The henna station was a great success as the girls from Brigidine were able to get henna designs on their hands and also partake in an impromptu talent show.

We hope that we will be able to expand our religious dialogue with other schools and venture into the community to show a true reflection of our Islamic faith.

New MFIS Interschool Sports Uniform

The Year 7-12 students at Malek Fahd had decided that they should have a new sports uniform to wear to Gala days to represent their school. Some girls took the time in designing the many different types of uniforms. Rayanne Bizri of 9G3 designed the winning uniform. Students look forward to wearing this new uniform which is super comfortable and will definitely stand out in the crowd. These new uniform will be available to parents from the School Office next Term.



Year 6 Students takes a trip to the Labs

Over the course of 2 weeks, our Year 6 classes were able to come down to the high school labs and become little scientists for the day. Organised by our very own Mrs. Hamid and Primary's Mrs. Merheb, the students were able to look at various microorganisms through a microscope. Accompanied by an information booklet,

which they filled out with the help of Year 11 and 12 Biology students, they gained a larger understanding of what they had been studying in science this Term.

Equipped with lab coats, the students were more than eager to explore the properties of various microbes and complete a drawing activity of what they saw through the lens of a microscope. Throughout the lesson students showed great enthusiasm about the topic at hand by constantly attempting to answer various questions and at times even expanding their knowledge by asking a range of questions. Within each Year 6 classes a few students were able to walk away with an award while eagerly discussing their time spent in the labs back in their classrooms with their respective teachers. It is safe to say through the buzz and smiles painted on the students' faces that they had a great time and this activity was a great success.



NSW Cancer Council Mufti Day – Beaumont Hills

The SRC at Malek Fahd Beaumont Hills held a Mufti day on Friday, 6th of April in support of the NSW Cancer Council and encouraged students to donate a gold coin to raise funds for this worthy cause.

Each year the NSW Cancer Council provides approximately \$15 million to support cancer research across Australia. The Campus SRC, staff and students are proud of being part of this great mission. The main aim and objective of holding this mufti day was to create awareness among our future generation about how this deadly disease affects people around them and ways to keep themselves and others safe.

The Campus Captain briefed students, parents and staff about the dangers of cancer and the Cancer Council's support in the field of research and education. Another objective of holding this event was to instil the habit of taking part in charity work which is also an integral part of Islamic values. It was a successful event where students and staff

enthusiastically contributed and raised \$475.20 for this cause.



Quran Competition – Beaumont Hills

Our K-10 students from the Beaumont Hills campus participated in a Quran competition. Students are commended for their outstanding effort and eagerness to recite the Quran and therefore attaining reward in this life and the hereafter. Students were tested amongst a panel of three judges (Sheikh Aslam, Sheikh Yousef and our guest Sheikh Abu Obaidah).

The judges were impressed by the beautiful and melodious voices of the participants and their efforts in the adherence of Tajweed rules. Congratulations to our 1st and runner up finalists who will be awarded and are expected to move on to the Malek Fahd inter-campus Quran Competition next term. All students are encouraged to continue in committing themselves to the memorisation of the Holy Quran. The aim of such a competition was to build the competitiveness in pleasing our creator. May Allah accept our students efforts and increase them in goodness.



1st and Runner Up Award Recipients:

Kindergarten - 1st: Raneem Taha, Runner up: Ahmad Mehran Zullmay, **Year 1** - 1st: Yahya Haroon, Runner up: Hajra Bilal, **Year 2** - 1st: Saadia Khan, Runner up: Raghad Albassiouny, **Year 3** - 1st: Aiesha Khelwaty, Runner up: Elyas Nazari, **Year 4** - 1st: Sana Kaleem, Runner up: Zain El-Mustapha, **Year 5** - 1st: Ammar Waseem-Mian, Runner up: Ehsan Nazari, **Year 6** - 1st: Rayhan Hedae, Runner up: Obaidullah Ibrahim, **Year 7** - 1st: Ayah Saleh, Runner up: Ali Khan, **Year 8** - 1st: Ziyad Ashraf, Runner up: Zohair Ashraf, **Year 9** - 1st: Ahmad Hafza, Runner up: Sara Saleh, **Year 10** - 1st: Aaliya Asghar, Runner up: Naisha Khan.

School Uniform Shop

Malek Fahd Islamic School Uniform Shop will close for the school holidays on Friday, 13th April at 4.00pm. Stock for the School Jumpers and Blazers has arrived. Samples sizes will be available at each of the campuses.

Additional Term 2 Holiday Trading Hours:

Thursday, 26th April 9.00am to 3.00pm

Friday, 27th April 9.00am to 3.00pm

Monday, 30th April 9.00am to 3.00pm

The Uniform shop will return to normal hours of 8.00am to 4.00pm on Tuesday, 1st May. You are welcome to purchase uniform online at your convenience and your order will be filled when the store is next open.

Happy Holidays

Thank you all staff and students for a terrific Term. I wish everyone a very safe and relaxing holiday with energy recharged ready to commence Term 2.

Yours sincerely

Mr Bruce Rixon
Principal