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TERM 1 | WEEK 3  
FRIDAY 21<sup>st</sup> February 2020

# Islamic School of Canberra

IN KNOWLEDGE LIES STRENGTH

*Newsletter*

*"And say, "Do [as you will], for Allah will see your work and (so will) His messenger and the believers. And you shall be brought back to the Knower of the unseen and the witnessed, and then He will inform you of what you did."*

*(At Tawbah, Verse 105)*

## Principal's Message



**Dr Mahmoud Eid**

Assalamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullah Wa Barakatuh

Dear respected parents,

I hope my message finds you and your families in good health and in the highest level of Iman Insha'a Allah.

A lot of things have happened since we issued the previous newsletter. Below is a brief summary of them to keep you updated.

### **School's PFA**

Two weeks ago, I had a very productive and positive meeting with members of the school's PFA. They are great people full of energy and came up with many excellent initiatives to support the school. I kindly ask everyone to give them full support and I would like to see more parent involvement in supporting the school.

### **School Counsellor**

We have employed a school counsellor, Sr Nik Nur Diyanah. Nur has a BSC Hons Psychology from Lancaster University (UK) and Master of Counselling from the University of Canberra. Nur will start with us as of this term Insha'a Allah. She will be offering counselling services to students and will also give special consideration to their wellbeing.

### **School Nurse**

We have also appointed a school nurse who will be starting with us later. More details to follow.

### **School Canteen**

School canteen will be open for the first time on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February for two days a week. A big thank you to Sr Mona from the school's PFA. She has put a tremendous effort in getting the canteen ready. On behalf of the school, I would like to thank Sr Mona whose work and efforts are very much appreciated.

### **School Curriculum**

All school's teachers are busy in curriculum development and they meet in their Professional Learning Team (PLT's) once a week. Our curriculum coordinator, Sr Neha, is leading these teams and she is doing an amazing job Masha'Allah. Semester one curriculum will be completely reviewed and updated before the end of

Term 1 insha'a Allah.

### **Year 10 Curriculum**

We are currently working on year 10 Curriculum for 2021 and hopefully a draft of it will be ready by the end of February.

### **Library**

Teachers have already allocated a library period per week for their students to improve their reading skills. Please encourage your children to borrow books and read them at home. Please ensure that these books are looked after, as they are used by everyone.

### **ACER Diagnosing tests in Literacy and Numeracy**

We have already subscribed to ACER's online diagnosing tests. Students will be tested in Numeracy and Literacy twice a year in Terms 1 and 3 to decide on their levels and match their ACER results with their NAPLAN results. This is essential for monitoring students learning outcomes. This will enable teachers to cater for the different needs of their students.

### **Secondary Lockers**

We have ordered 10 sets of secondary lockers so that students can keep their heavy items or textbooks in them. Students who would like to book a locker are required to pay \$25 every year for using the locker and \$25 as a bond which is refundable if they do not wish to keep the locker. Bond money is to be paid only once.

### **NAPALN Online Testing**

NAPLAN tests will be conducted online this year. On 23 March at 12.30pm, ACT schools will be participating in a nationally coordinated 45-minute practise load test session. If your children are in secondary and they have not yet purchased laptops, please take immediate action to do so as soon as possible as these tests are to be conducted at a given time for all students. Each student is to have their own laptop.

Although we encourage all students to sit for NAPLAN tests, parents who do not wish for their children to participate should request it in writing explaining the reasons behind their decision.

### **Behaviour Charts**

Please familiarise yourselves with the new behaviour charts (Behaviour charts for Yrs 2-6, and Yrs 7-9) which are uploaded on our website. They are very comprehensive, and the aim is to create a happy and safe environment for all. Behaviour charts are displayed in every classroom for students to understand the consequences if they break the rules. Parallel to behaviour charts, we also promote positive behaviour and we reward students for that. Highest class in positive points at the end of the year will be rewarded with a free excursion in Term 4.

### **Sponsoring a Student**

Few students are really going through hardship and cannot afford to pay school fees. Sincere thanks to two of the parents who sponsored 5 students by paying their school fees in full – I ask Allah SWT to reward the two parents abundantly and accept their good deeds. There are 4 more students who really cannot afford to pay school fees and I am hoping some parents will come forward to help in this regard.

### **Islamic Studies, Arabic and Quran**

In Islamic Studies, we adopted 'I love Islam' series for primary students and 'Learning Islam' for secondary students. These books are designed to address the needs of Muslim children born and brought up in non-Muslim countries. They aim to teach students the basic principles of their religion – Islam. They focus on Akhlaq, Aqida, Seerah, Tawheed and Fiqh in a very simple and practical way. As for Arabic classes, running records will be conducted for students to identify their levels in Arabic for a possible streaming of students next year. *Arabic Week* will be celebrated this year along with *Numeracy* and *Literacy* weeks. Running records will be conducted also for all students in Quran classes so that teachers can monitor the progress of their students in Iqra books or in Quran reading. Parents will also be continuously informed on the progress of their children.

**Dr Eid**

***Together we make the difference***

# Administration Staff



**SABA AI-JUBOORI**  
ENROLMENT OFFICER



**ASMAA MAHMOUD**  
ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT



**Br ABDULMANNAN**  
BUSINESS MANAGER



**BR REZA CHOUDHURY**  
ACCOUNTANT



**BR HASAN AZAM**  
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR/  
BUS DRIVER



**BR HARIS RAHMAN**  
BUS DRIVER/MAINTENANCE  
OFFICER



**BR RAFID IQBAL**  
BUS DRIVER/GROUNDS  
PERSON OFFICER



**BR SAZEDUL ISLAM**  
BUS DRIVER/LIBRARY



**SR SYEDA MUKARRAMA**  
TEACHER ASSISTANT/AFTER-  
SCHOOL CARE



**SR NIK NUR DIYANAH**  
SCHOOL COUNSELLOR

## Student Leaders & SRC

At the end of 2019, Year 5's were given their roles as school leaders. Two school captains and house captains were chosen to be a part of the Student Leadership Team for 2020. The Student Leadership Team also consists of our Student Representative Council (SRC) where students from Year 3 – 9 have been nominated and chosen.

This team is a student-based team that is designed to foster school spirit and leadership among students. Leaders have the opportunities to help create and nurture constructive ideas within the school community. They are approachable and represent our student body in a positive manner to our school and the wider community. We look forward to seeing the contributions they make this year and wish them the best of luck insha'a Allah!



*"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."*

*Helen Keller*

# Parents' Calendar

## Term 1

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb (Tue)                | After-school Netball sessions starting – all years |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> March (Sun)               | Clean Up Australia Day                             |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> March (Mon)               | Canberra Day (ACT)                                 |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> March (Sat)              | Harmony Day  |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> March (Thu)              | School Photo Day                                   |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> April (Wed)               | Last day for students                              |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> April (Thu)               | Parent Teacher Interviews                          |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> April | School Closed                                      |

## Term 3

|  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| 21 <sup>st</sup> July (Tue)              | All students return       |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> July (Fri)              | Eid Ul Adha TBA           |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug (Mon)                | Eid Ul Adha TBA           |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> Aug (Wed)               | Book Week Character Day   |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> Sept (Thu)              | Last day for students     |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> Sept (Fri)              | Parent Teacher Interviews |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept | School closed             |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct    | School closed             |

## Term 2

|   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| 24 <sup>th</sup> April (Fri)            | Ramadan TBA               |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> April (Wed)            | All students return       |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> May | NAPLAN – ONLINE           |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup> May | Eid Ul Fitr TBA           |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> June (Thu)             | Kindergarten Health Check |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> July (Thu)              | Last day for students     |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> July (Fri)              | Reports available online  |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> July  | School Closed             |

## Term 4

|   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 13 <sup>th</sup> Oct (Tue)                  | All students return               |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> Oct (Sat)                  | ISC Open Day                      |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec (Wed)                   | 2021 Kindergarten Orientation Day |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec (Fri)                   | Year 6 Graduation                 |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec (Fri)                  | Last day for students             |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec (Fri)                  | Reports available for parents     |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec – 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan | School closed                     |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> Jan                        | Admin return and school re-open   |

# Reminders

- **Nut Free Policy:** Our school encourages that parents do not send food that contains nuts as we are a nut free school (for example; nutella, nut mix, muesli bars with nuts, etc). Please be mindful of this as we have some students who are anaphylactic.
- **Assembly:** Students are expected to be early to the assembly. As of next week, we will start the assembly at 8:40am. Please make sure that your children are here at this time.
- **After School:** Please ensure that you pick up your children by 3:45pm.
- **Netball After-school sessions:** Netball ACT is initiating a NETSETGO Inclusion Program (8 sessions weekly) that is offered to our students at this school. It is a great opportunity for our students to be a part of. Please read through the attachments for more information about when, where and how to register.



## PASS TO OUR CLASS

Every newsletter, we pass the spotlight onto an ISC class to find out what has been happening.

## WELCOME TO YEAR ONE WALLABIES!

Assalamu Alaikum,

I believe a happy and motivated student populace is key to having an engaged class. My goal as a teacher is to make students feel happy and safe everyday by creating an environment for learning without boundaries.

I am Shahreen Rahman, Year 1 classroom teacher for the 2020 School year. This is my third-year teaching at Islamic School of Canberra and I am excited to make this my best year yet, InshAllah.

My journey with the Wallabies began three weeks ago. We know we have a long way to go but within this short period of time we gathered quite a few things in our bag of knowledge.

**Mathematics** is one of our most favourite subjects. We are learning to:

- Count by 2s, 5s, and 10s.



Learning gets easier when it is done through fun. Do you know why we are so engaged here? Yes, because it's fun.

### Staff Snapshot

A snapshot of ... **Ms Shahreen Rahman**



**What is your role at ISC?**

I am a Year 1 classroom teacher.

**Why did you study to become a teacher?**

I studied to become a teacher because it was my dream. My mum also wanted me to become a teacher, however she could not. I am fulfilling her dream.

**What do you like to do on weekends?**

I love spending time with family.

**What do you like about your classroom?**

I love that the students are so tiny and innocent. I love watching their interaction, especially when they are silly! Sometimes they ask questions that are funny, but I have to keep a straight face!



We are learning to write Narratives this term in **Literacy**. We are going to know more about setting, characters, problem, actions, and solution soon. We are also having our classroom NOUN chart shortly.



Learning about living and non- living things in **Science** is so enjoyable! We have collected living and non-living things from junior playground and we sorted our findings through drawings and discussions.

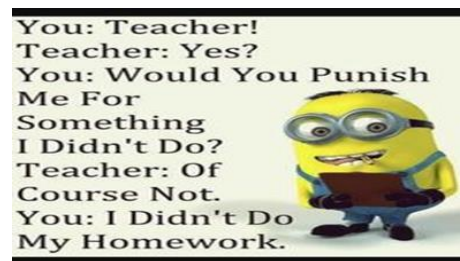


**Digital Technology** has simply been so fun-filled! We have been actively engaged in designing, creating, building and evaluating our ideas and designed solutions based on personal preferences. This might look messy, but we are having serious business here!! We are so excited and can't wait to design and create our own pencil cases, marker holders, pen holders, and so many other things!



### Important Notice for Year 1

- Monday: Weekly spelling test
- Monday: Homework Due
- Tuesday: Students attend the library to borrow books and learn about the library.
- Friday: Physical Education (Sports uniform)
- Week 7: Excursion to National Museum of Australia – more information will be provided on ClassDojo.



I am sure this school year will be jam-packed with excitement, lots of learning, and new wonderings, InshAllah.

*Ms Shahreen Rahman*