Assalamu Alaikum

Dear Ilim College Families,

It is amazing how time flies. Term one has come to an end already and I have great pleasure in mentioning the outstanding work produced and positive behaviour exhibited by many of our students.

In Term 1, our teachers were involved in a number of professional development sessions including, CPOL (Classroom Promotion of Oral Language), Cued Articulation and an Introduction to KidsMatter Component 3.

Our Annual Prep Transition Program was a real success and involved a shared lunch, kite making incursion, a fun day with rotational activities and buddy class activities. Furthermore, the Prep Parent Workshops gave our parents and prep students an opportunity to work together to complete some enriching ‘hands on’ vocabulary building and oral language activities.

I thank all parents for attending the “Meet The Teacher/Parent” session held earlier in the term and look forward to seeing you during Parent/Teacher Interviews that will be held on Thursday, 24th March.

Please be reminded that all students are expected to wear the winter school uniform during Terms 2 and 3. If your child requires any uniform items, please ensure it is purchased from Academic Uniforms during the term break. Please make note that we have many uniform items at ‘Lost Property’ and encourage parents/guardians to search these items if their child has lost something.

I ask parents to communicate with their child’s teacher through the school diary or communication book when required. Parents can also make an appointment to see their child’s classroom or specialist teacher. Also, please do not hesitate to contact the general office to make an appointment with our Vice Principals Ms Nazan Tamturk, Ms Rukiye Kurucu or myself for any matters or concerns you wish to discuss.

I wish to remind parents that in partnership with Bankeria Gardens Community Centre, we will be conducting adult courses held at school free of charge. If interested, please fill in a simple form at the general office.

I take this opportunity to thank our Parents/Guardians for their continued support and cooperation and wish all students, parents and staff a happy, safe and restful term break.

Mr Dogan Akin
Principal
Clean Up Australia Day was the first activity by 2016 SRC members. On the 2nd of March, we got together and cleaned our school ground.

On Tuesday the 22nd of March, the students of Ilim College celebrated Cultural Diversity and Harmony Day. A Sausage Sizzle was hosted by the Primary SRC members and in addition both the teachers and students celebrated the cultural diversity by wearing Cultural Clothing from diverse cultures at our school. A donation was required for partaking in Cultural Clothing and all proceeds went towards the Royal Children’s Hospital Good Friday Appeal. With your support, we raised just over $2500 Alhamdulillah.
Ilim College was extremely happy to welcome more than 50 new students into our primary family this year, from Grade 1 to Grade 6. We held small introductory session with them in Week 1, where they were formally introduced to the primary principal, vice-principals and primary counselor. They enjoyed mingling with each other over fruit and icy poles, looking both apprehensive yet excited about what the year would hold. By the time we had the second session it was heartening to see how well they had settled in. We wish them all every success as they continue to learn and grow during their primary journey.

Ms Meera & Ms Ayse Y

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**Transition for Grade 1 to 6 students who started this Term**

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**Prep Parent Workshops**

During Term 1, the Speech Pathology and Counselling departments organised a series of workshops on Wednesday mornings for our Prep parents. The sessions looked at strategies to help our students build language, literacy, play skills and positive relationships with their parents. The atmosphere in the assembly hall was buzzing as our parents and student services team worked together to try and use different techniques, while interacting with our prep students. We would like to thank the parents who attended for being so engaging, particularly at 9 o’clock in the morning. InshAllah, these skills will help you and your child flourish at Ilim College.

Jacqui Atkins
Speech Pathologist

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**Transition for our 2016 Prep students...**

Starting school marks an important milestone in the lives of young children. Therefore, to help make the transition from the preschool setting into school as smooth as possible the Prep Team along with the counselling department organised a well thought and planned program in Term 1. The activities included:

- Buddy class activities
- Kite making incursion
- Prep Fun day
- Parent Shared Lunch

These activities helped our preps transition and adapt effortlessly into the school environment.

Thank you to the counselling department and buddy classes for their help and support during the transition program.

Prep Team
Grade 1

On Wednesday the 17th of February the Grade 1 students and teachers visited the Royal Botanic Gardens. Students began the day with a welcoming ceremony where everyone stood side by side together in a circle and watched the presenter make fire with dried leaves. Students and teachers went into small groups to explore the gardens and learnt about native plants and animals. Students enjoyed the activities that involved making paintings using rocks and water. They were also exposed to artefacts from the Indigenous culture and learnt how they were used for survival in the olden days.

It has been a delightful term for all the classes in Grade 2. Throughout the term we took part in many fun and exciting hands on activities, experiments and excursions. Here are a few highlights of the term:

First was our excursion to Yarabee Yesterday's World, which we visited as a part of our 'Past and Present' topic. The students were indulged in a day where they had firsthand experience of living in the past, such as schooling, house work, clothing and games. The students were divided into two groups. One group went to the classroom and they saw old things like toys, money, lamps etc and the other group went into the museum where they saw how toast was made in olden days, also they learnt about the jobs that kids did back then and how the telephone worked.

In the next excursion, students walked to the Dallas shopping centre to get a better idea about the local community and its diverse needs.
On the 22nd of February all the grade 3s went to the Royal Botanical Gardens to learn about Aboriginals. The educational program that we attended was about ‘Connecting to the country’.

When we got to the Gardens, we were part of a smoke ceremony first. Then we were joined with a guide who walked us around the Gardens with each grade. These people told us about the life the Aboriginals. We made bracelets from dry grass and we painted using orca rock. It was a lovely day and we had so much fun.

Grade 3 students.

“These people told us about the life the Aboriginals. We made bracelets from dry grass and we painted using orca rock.”

This term, the Grade four students took part in an interactive and hands on incursion presented by ‘The History Box’. Our inquiry topic was ‘First Contacts and Conservation’ which was about the history of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, the history of exploration in Australia and how Australia settled and became a colony of Great Britain. The children had a lot of fun doing 4 rotational activities that included feather ink writing, shell decorating necklaces, spice grinding and playing a traditional Aboriginal board game. These activities conducted to educate the children on the types of things Aborigines and explorers used to do.
In Term 1, the Grade 5s furthered their understanding of the origins of the white settlers and early colonization in Australia. They had the opportunity to explore Sovereign Hill, where they were able to pan for gold, learn more about the difficulties and consequences that come with mining for gold and the problems that Indigenous Australians faced when they were faced with the British settlers.

The students also established a clearer understanding of Federation and why it was so significant in Australian history. They learnt about democratic governments and through the SRC selections, had a taste of what Australian elections are all about.

A visit to the State Parliament in Spring Street gave the Grade 6s an opportunity to revisit history. They were taken on a tour of the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council. Whilst sitting on the very seats that Members of Ministers sit on, they listened to the tour guide explain how democracy works in Australia.

The great volumes of books on the table were testament to all the laws that have been debated and passed throughout the years. They learnt that Victoria was the first state in the world to make seatbelts mandatory for drivers and passengers. This has led to a great reduction in road fatalities and casualties.

Some students took part in a mini role play as they debated on the issue of the East West link. The discovery of Gold in Ballarat gave Victoria the means to construct a grand building. The opulence of the Legislative council is testament to the wealth of the State at that time.

The excursion enhanced the students’ learning of Government by giving them the opportunity to walk in the footsteps of those who make laws in this country.

Ms Hishama - Integrated Studies Teacher.
In Week 6 of Term 1, our Grade 5 and Grade 6 students went to Canberra for a three night and four day educational camp. Students visited The National Electoral Centre, The Parliament House, The High Court of Australia, The War Memorial, The Australian Institute of Sport and Questacon. For most of our students, it was their first experience away from home, developing their interpersonal skills under the care and supervision of our dedicated camp teachers. With the success of the Canberra Camp, we look forward to the 2017 Camp to Philip Island with the same enthusiasm from all our students.

“Questacon was amazing, especially the big fall!”

“We had fun and learnt a lot as well...”
Librarian’s message

The Premier’s Reading Challenge has commenced. Please encourage all students to participate and read over the holidays. Permission forms have been distributed to all students. If students have not received a form they can collect it from the Library. Students will receive their PRC licence next term. Thank you for your support and remember to READ READ READ!

A Focus on the ARTS

We had an exciting start to a year in Arts! This term, we were focusing on Painting and Drawing. Here are some of the highlights from each grade:

- Prep: We learned to draw self-portraits - now and in 100 years’ time.
- Grade 1: We enjoyed using oil pastels and chalks, while drawing bears and lions.
- Grade 2: We used soft pastels to draw flowers and painted boats with watercolours.
- Grade 3: We loved using watercolours to paint sunset with palm trees and mosques.
- Grade 4: We were inspired by Thiebaud’s paintings of cakes and created our own versions.
- Grade 5: We created cubist artworks and made funny parodies to “Mona Lisa”.
- Grade 6: We learned about V. Gogh and created our own version of “The starry night”.

Our students showed a great enthusiasm to the lunch-time art club, in which they were making origami and painting on canvases.

The students were also very eager about the national art competition, Young Australian Art Awards. Our grade 3A student, Yahia Zoubiri, who became a gold medallist last year, has definitely inspired us all.

We hope to carry our enthusiasm onto the next term.

Have a wonderful break, everyone!

Ms Aliya Ozgur - Art Coordinator
Art Work from our Grade 1 to 6 students...

Have a safe and restful break and we look forward to seeing you in Term 2

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