

# ICOM INSIDER

*The Official Newsletter of Islamic College Of Melbourne*



**OUR MID-YEAR ISSUE:** Library Grand Opening Ceremony, Year 5 Sovereign Hill Camp, PESA Public Speaking Awards, Literacy Week, Character Day, 2021 Eid Festival & more!

## Principal's Message



*Assalamualaikum warahmatullah wabarakatuh.*

Dear parents and students,

Mashallah how time flies when you are kept busy and engaged. We are now half way through 2021 and what an eventful term we have had.

Earlier this term, we celebrated a very special event, with the Grand Opening of the new ICOM Library. Sadly, the College had to minimise the number of attendees due to the restrictions that came with the second wave of covid cases. Since its opening, the library has been abuzz with excited students and staff, exceedingly using the facilities and resources the new library has offered.

The Annual ICOM Quran competition is progressing well. All rounds of testing has concluded for Primary School while Secondary School students will have their final round of testing in week 1 of Term 3. I look forward to the Annual IOCM Quran Awards Night to celebrate with our students the love for the Quran, the book of Allah SWT.

Unfortunately, due to the increase in numbers of positive covid cases, Victoria was once again in lockdown. Alhamdulillah, even with the short notice from the Acting Premier, the College was able to quickly implement the E-Learning Policy for both Primary and Secondary schools.

While the students have been busy at school, our work behind the scenes never ends. Parents would have recently received the log in details for the new parent portal, SEQTA Engage.

SEQTA Engage is a powerful portal providing parents an overview of their child's learning and progress. It will also provide another means of communications between parents and teachers. Parents can access the portal either through the Parent Portal website or by downloading the app on your smart device.

Enrolments for 2022 have now closed, and due to the overwhelming demand in enrolments, the College have had to close Year 1 to 6 enrolments for 2023.

For more information, please visit the College website. I remind our dear parents who would have received the re-enrolment form for 2022 to pay the fee, fill the form and return it by the due date to confirm your child's place for next year.

The last day of Term 2 was met with the celebration of Character Day in Primary. Both students and staff dressed up as their favourite book characters and enjoyed the ending of Literacy Week. The week was filled with a number of book readings, fun activities relating to Literacy and a special assembly and Character Day Parade to end the week.

Finally, I would like to wish all students, parents and staff a safe term break and Eidul Adha. I hope to see all students return from the break ready for another busy term at ICOM.

**Dr Abdul M. Kamareddine**  
*College Principal*

## Important Reminders

- Please note that the College has introduced the new Parent Portal “Seqta Engage”.
- All students are expected to be at the College by 8:35am. Gates 1 and 4 will close at 8:45am sharp. Parents/carers dropping children off after 8:45am can only do so at gate 3 (near the Admin. Office) where students will need to obtain a late pass.
- To ensure the safety of students, parents and carers at dismissal time after school, when the main parents car park is full (around 3:15 pm), the College maintenance team will close this car park.
- Parents and carers arriving after 3:15pm can park along Butterfly Boulevard or nearby streets, please ensure you follow all traffic and parking rules including not making a U-turn on Butterfly Boulevard.
- As the weather gets colder, PSW now has ICOM neck scarfs and beanies available instore and online.
- A reminder that in Term 2 and Term 3, students are to wear the winter uniform, this include the dark grey and maroon winter tunic/skirt.
- The due date for re-enrolment forms and fees for 2022 is Monday, 26 July 2021.

## Lost Property

We have many uniform items in Lost Property at the College.

Parents can access the ICOM lost property area before or after school during gate opening times via Gate 3.



# Important Dates

**2 July 2021**

College Admin  
Office closed for  
Midyear break

**19 July 2021**

College Admin  
Office opens for  
Term 3

**20-21 July 2021**

Eid Al-Adha Break  
(College closed)

**22 July 2021**

First Day of  
Term 3 for Students

**26-30 July 2021**

Hajj Week

**11 Aug 2021**

Quran Competition  
Awards Night  
5:30-7:30pm

**16-20 Aug 2021**

Secondary Literacy  
& Humanities Week

**17 Sept 2021**

Primary  
Footy Day

**20-23 Sept 2021**

STEM Week

**23 Sept 2021**

Last day of Term 3  
for all students

**24 Sept 2021**

Parent Teacher  
Interviews

**24 Sept 2021**

STEM Fair



# ICOM Enrolment Information

Unfortunately, due to the number of students currently enrolled at the Islamic College of Melbourne, the College will only be accepting expressions of interest for students wishing to enrol in Years 1–12.

Parents who submit an expression of interest form will be contacted as soon as possible if a place becomes available.

## **Foundation Enrolments**

2021/2022 Foundation Enrolments are now closed (closed 20/5/2021).

2023 Foundation Enrolments are now open (closing 6/5/2022).

## **Year 1–6 Enrolments**

2021, 2022 & 2023 Expressions of Interest for Year 1–6 are closed. (closed 20/5/2021)

2024 Year 2–6 Enrolments will open on 7/5/2022. (closing on 5/5/2023)

## **Year 7–12 Enrolments**

2021 & 2022 Expressions of Interest for Year 7–12 are closed (closed 20/5/2021).

2023 Expressions of Interest for Year 7–12 are now open (closing 6/5/2022).

## **Year 11 IB Diploma Programme Enrolments**

2021 & 2022 Expressions of Interest for International Baccalaureate® Diploma Programme Enrolments are closed (closed 20/5/2021).

2023 Expressions of Interest for International Baccalaureate® Diploma Programme Enrolments are now open (closing 6/5/2022).

## **Secondary Accelerated Program (SAP) Enrolments**

2021 & 2022 Expressions of Interest for Secondary Accelerated Program (SAP) Enrolments are closed (closed 20/5/2021).

2023 Expressions of Interest for Secondary Accelerated Program (SAP) Enrolments are now open (closing 6/5/2022).



## Year 8: Kryal Castle Excursion

On Thursday, the 20th of May, the Year 8 students went to an excursion to Kryal Castle near Ballarat as part of their learning of the Medieval Period.

During the excursion, students participated in a range of activities that facilitated their understanding of medieval warfare, medieval life and medieval society.

Students were actively involved in sword training, had fun trying to use a battering ram to siege castle walls and also deconstructed the life of a peasant. Additionally, students explored the evolution of medieval weapons and armour, with the emphasis on how they were tailored to nullify a critical hit.

To cap off the day, students participated in a 'mock' re-enactment of the Battle of Hastings, a decisive event in history, which culminated in the capturing of England by the Normans. Students were able to reflect on why the Normans won the battle and how their strategies were a key component for their victory.

Overall, the excursion to Kryal Castle gave students a different insight into medieval life and provided students with a solid understanding of the value and importance of the middle ages in the history curriculum.

**Mr Adam Yassin**

*Secondary Humanities Coordinator*



Year 8 students exploring the grounds of Kryal Castle during their excursion.

## Covid-19 Resources & Helpful Links

Latest Federal Updates on Covid-19 *(Updated regularly)*:

<https://www.health.gov.au/>

Victorian Government DHHS Twitter page *(Updated regularly)*:

<https://www.twitter.com/vicgovdhhs>

Covid-19 Government Home Safety Plan

<https://t2m.io/home-safety-plan>

ICOM COVID-19 Wellbeing Pack:

<https://www.t2mio.com/icomwellbeing>

Mental Health Support for those in Isolation:

<https://www.t2mio.com/covid-mentalhealth>

Official Victorian Government Key Updates and support:

<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/>

Covid-19 Information for older Australians:

<https://www.t2mio.com/covid-elderly>

Information on Covid-19 Vaccines for Australians

<https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines>

Covid-19 Vaccine Eligibility Checker

<https://covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au/eligibility>

FIND YOUR PLACE IN THE PUZZLE – WITH ICOM

# ICOM CAREERS EXPO

29/7/2021 @ ICOM Gymnasium 83 Wooten Road, Tarneit VIC 3029

12:00–3:20pm: **Y9–12 ICOM Secondary Students**

3:30–5:00pm: **Parents & School Community**

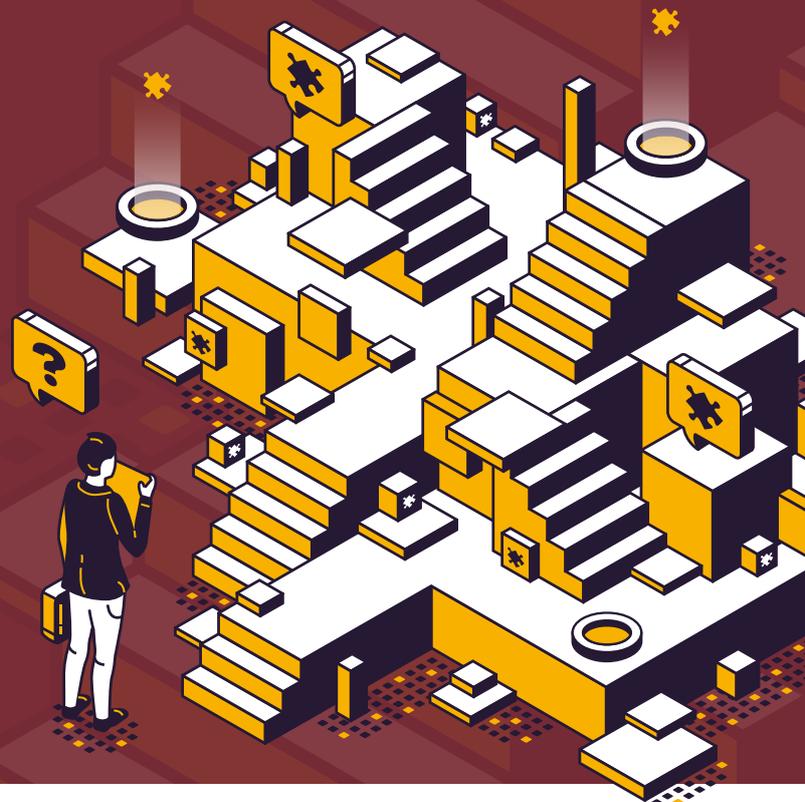
## SECONDARY INFORMATION SESSIONS

5:30–6:30pm: *VCE, VET & IB Diploma Information Session*

6:30–7:00pm: *2022 Y9 Information Session*

6:30–7:00pm: *2022 Y10 Program & Subject Selection Information Session*

**Food trucks and  
Helicopter landing!**



## 2021 ICOM Eid Festival

On Friday the 21st of May we were absolutely thrilled to be able to host one of the College's most anticipated annual events, the ICOM Eid Festival, for both Primary and Secondary students.

Marking the end of Ramadan, our Eid Festival provides students with an exciting & action-packed day to commemorate and celebrate Eid.

Alongside the many carnival rides and activities, our Primary & Secondary SRC teams were hard at work organising multiple fundraising efforts with all funds going towards building water wells for disadvantaged people through Human Appeal Australia's Build a Water Well Appeal, selling donuts, cupcakes, muffins, popcorn, a sausage sizzle and subway sandwiches while also holding competitions amongst students where a gold coin donation was needed.

An enormous responsibility for our Primary & Secondary SRC students, the rewards were also great as their meticulous planning and running of these events raised thousands of much-needed dollars to help those in need.



Foundation students enjoyed rides specifically designed for younger children.

# Photos: 2021 ICOM Eid Festival



Face painting, henna stalls and some larger rides meant that everyone had something exciting to do.

# Photos: 2021 ICOM Eid Festival



Our 2021 Eid Festival was extremely successful with everything going to plan. Thank you to all involved!

# ICOM Library News



As-salamu Alaikum Warahmatullah Wabarakatuh,

Ma'sha'Allah and al-hamdu'Allah all the primary and secondary students have visited the ICOM Library.

It was wonderful to see students and staff borrowing books again.

We have recently arranged the fiction books into 8 fantastic genres. These include:

- Action/Adventure
- Global Literature
- Humour/Graphic novels
- Relationships
- General Literature
- Historical Fiction
- Mystery/Thriller
- Sci-Fi/Fantasy

Students can locate it via the Destiny Discover catalogue and find the image stickers on the spine labels on each fiction book.

We had the grand opening as we witnessed the cutting of the ribbon. There were presentations in the library with 30 special guests. We would like to thank everyone for this amazing event.

Feel free to give your suggestions and feedback to the library e-mail: [library@icom.vic.edu.au](mailto:library@icom.vic.edu.au)



*Jazak'Allah Kheiraan from the Library Team.*

**Mr George Demetrios, Ms Haifa Atatreh, Ms Humairaa Suliman and Mr Abdelbaset Nazzal.**

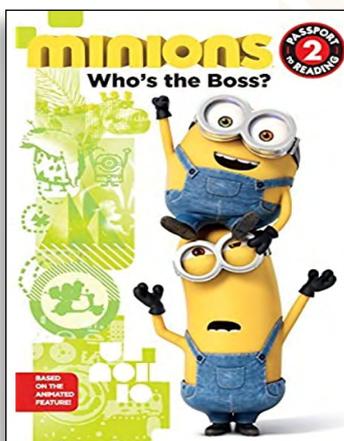


# Primary Library News

It has been amazing to see the primary students read their favourite books and research information for their assignments. To see the vibrant smiles full of excitement during library lessons is truly remarkable and rewarding. Our first primary teacher that came in was Ms. Allen. Our first primary student was Taseen from Year 5D Ma'sha'Allah. Well done to everyone who came in and borrowed their first library book for 2021.



As Term 2 is nearly ending all books need to be returned. For the primary students the due date is the 18/06/2021. All books borrowed out from the library and the take home reader books must be all returned.



## Featured Book

### Who's the boss? (Minions series)

**Author:** Lucy Rosen

**Date published:** 2015

The wonderful adventures of the minions.

[Watch it online to listen/ read the book](#) and find out what happens in the story.

In which section would you find this book in the ICOM Library? Come to the ICOM Library and find out.

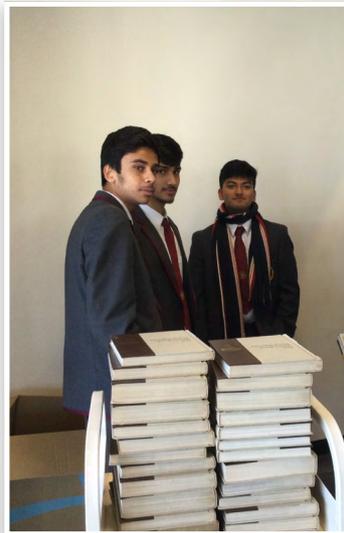
# Secondary Library News



It has been wonderful in seeing the secondary students printing and photocopying their work. Students have been reading their favourite books and studying in their assigned segregated (girls/boys) areas. A friendly reminder not to eat or drink in the ICOM Library.

As the term is nearly ending all books from the secondary students all library books must be returned by the 18/06/2021.

The first secondary student that came to the ICOM library was Nyeema from Year 8A. Thank you to all the CAS students who helped us setup the new ICOM Library. You all have done an amazing job. This is much appreciated.



Wyndham Library patrons can access a wide range of eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines, movies and TV shows for free!

[Find out more at eBooks, Audio and Video | Wyndham City](#)

## Lockdown Khutbah

The Islamic college of Melbourne, like all schools in Victoria, underwent a one week period of distanced e-learning during the most recent May/June covid outbreak this year.

As an Islamic initiative, the College's Assistant Principal/Head of Secondary, Mr Fadi Koubar, delivered an online Khutbah on Friday, 28th of May about the love of the Prophet PBUH.

The speech was about how the Companions, may Allah SWT be pleased with them, loved the Prophet PBUH and how they modelled for us this love.

The sermon was attended by more than 135 students. We thank Mr Koubar and all the students who attended, asking Allah SWT to accept our deeds and lift this pandemic away.

**Mr Mohammad Hijazi**

*Secondary Quran and Islamic Studies Coordinator*

## Year 3: Matter of Matter Science Incursion

On the 27th of May 2021 Year 3 students attended an incursion to reiterate learning about matter. This was an excellent inclusion, which complemented a term of learning about the topic. Students were intrigued when they touched and experimented using different matter.

This hands on incursion proved to be very popular among students especially when dry ice was involved!

**Ms Meleknur Yilmaz**

*Year 3 Teacher*



Year 3 is when many science based tasks and incursions are introduced to our students.

# Primary: Literacy Week Activities

On Monday, 21st of June we kicked off Primary Literacy week at ICOM with a number of extra activities for our Primary students with Lunch-time story telling taking place in the Foundation area while competitions, quizzes and games were being held in our brand new library club rooms.

Literacy week grants us an opportunity to make an extra effort and truly emphasise the importance of this key area of study as both literacy and numeracy are at the forefront of our Primary curriculum. Activities similar to these were taking place all through the week, culminating with our Character Day Parade that took place on Thursday, 24th of June.



Our brand new Library building took center stage during Literacy Week, an accessible location where many activities took place.

## Foundation: Bookmark Colouring-in Competition

On Wednesday, 23rd of June as part of ICOM's Primary Literacy Week activities many of our Foundation students took part in a bookmark colouring-in competition which they all whole heartedly enjoyed.

Our creative Foundation students were engaged from start to finish as they compared bookmarks with their peers, giving each other feedback while scrambling to find their favourite coloured pencil or crayon!



Students from all 5 of our Foundation classes were extremely excited to take part and colour-in alongside their classmates.

## Primary: Character Day

On Thursday, 24th of June to mark the conclusion of Literacy Week and the final day of student attendance for Term 2, our Primary students gathered to participate in one of the most anticipated events of the year, Character Day.

This year's theme was Wonderland and our students didn't disappoint, with every character (and more!) being thoroughly represented.

We look forward to seeing our students return for another successful term in Term 3.



With the theme being Wonderland for Character Day this year the student's had many different character's to chose from.

## Primary: Character Day Parade

To mark the end of Literacy Week, Foundation to Year 6 students at the Islamic College of Melbourne participated in the Character Day Assembly and Parade. Both students and teachers were invited to dress up as a book character and share their love of books.

Our SRC students, Albaraa Aljibaly and Eshaal Naumaan, took up the role of MC in this fun-filled event. They hyped the crowd with a tongue twister challenge. Fatima Mian and Areej Ahsan shared the importance of Iqra' with their Quran recitation of Surah Al'-Alaq. Excitement filled the air as students and teachers shared poetry, stories and riddles.

Students and staff were surprised to see our Principal, Dr. Abdul M. Kamareddine, reading Night Noises written by Mem Fox and illustrated by Terry Denton. His captivating performance demonstrated how stories come to life and mesmerised listeners.

Reading for enjoyment was reinforced by spectacular teacher performances from Ms Eptisam, Ms Zeinub, Ms Allen, Ms Jessica, Ms McConnell and the P.E Department.

The parade saw a wonderful end to a week of fun activities.

Thank you to all staff and student volunteers who worked diligently to ensure a successful week.

**Ms Sabiha Sahin**  
TLC



Characters greeted our students at the College gates when they arrived.

# Photos: Character Day Parade



The parade was full of literacy related content such as poems, stories and riddles!

# Photos: Character Day Parade



Before the parade started Ms Lamia decorated the gymnasium with wonderful, amazing art.

# ICOM Library: Grand Opening Ceremony

Wednesday the 26th of May marked a monumental day in the history of Islamic College of Melbourne. During our 11th year of operation we were blessed to be able to unveil our recently completed, state of the art Library and Cafeteria building during our Official Grand Opening Ceremony.

The centrepiece of the College, featuring many new spaces for our students such as club rooms, study facilities and incursion areas, our new Library and Cafeteria building is aesthetically a perfect fit, connecting with the gymnasium via a footbridge while overlooking the courtyard area and admin building.



Members of the community, past and present staff and students gathered to celebrate and commemorate the grand opening.

# ICOM Library Grand Opening: Photos



The ICOM Library and Cafeteria grand opening ceremony, a truly momentous day in the history of Islamic College of Melbourne.

## Secondary: Interschool Girls Football

On Friday, 21st of May our Junior Secondary Girls Interschool Football team were engaged in fierce competition. They faced a strong team of girls from The Grange Secondary College and finished the match with even scores, after both teams went into a 10 minute overtime the ICOM girls ended up losing by only 1 point.

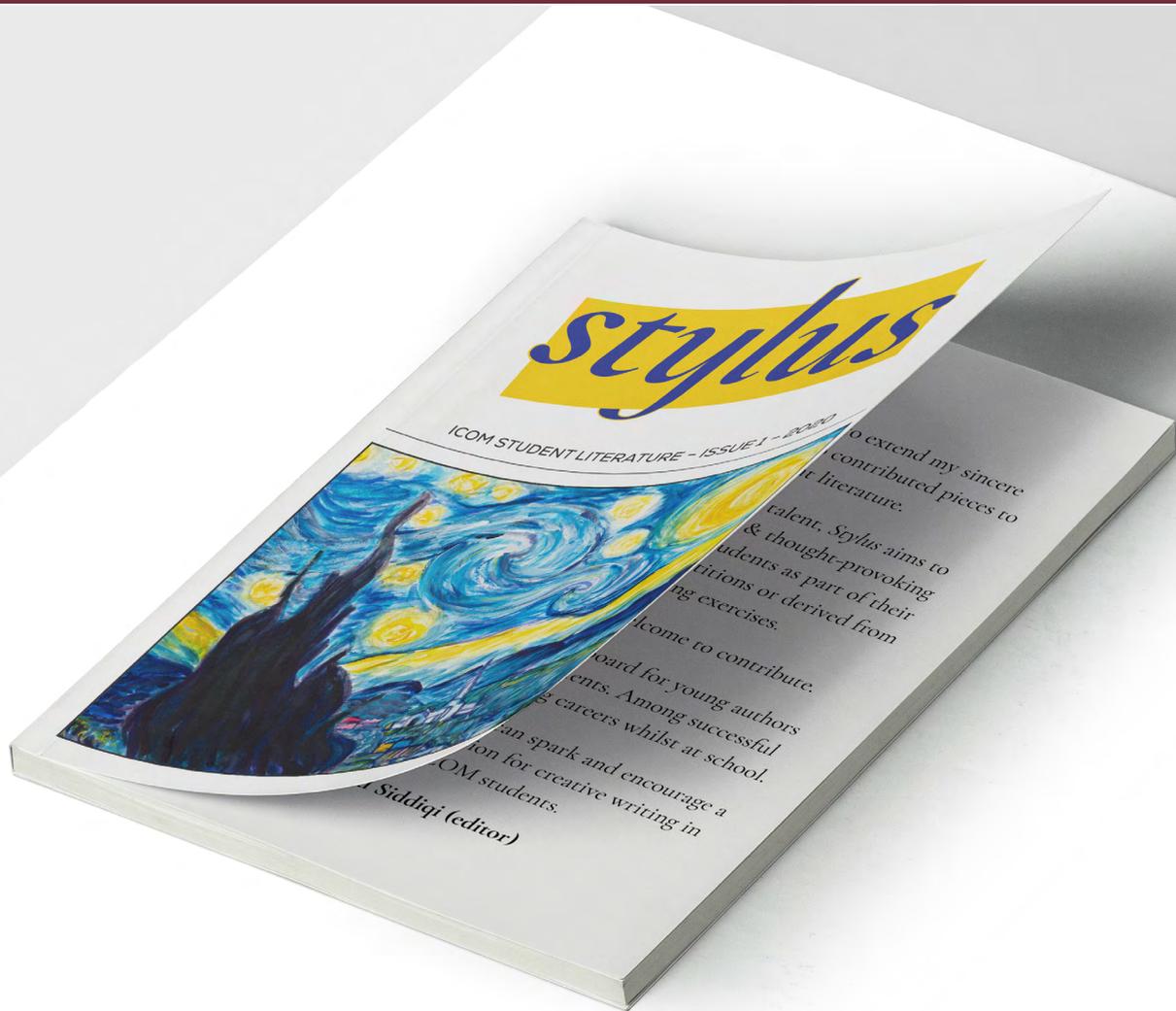
None the less, a spectacular effort by our Junior Secondary Girls Interschool Football Team as they continuously improve and look to deliver their best performance at every opportunity.



Our Secondary girls interschool sports teams are receiving more interest, driven by our current teams hard work and success.



Hessa, Lina, Jenaeen and Mariam Taha, 4 girls from the same family who have all played for ICOM on an interschool level.



## ICOM's annual Student Literature magazine, *Stylus*.

Available digitally via [issuu.com](https://issuu.com) or collect a printed copy from the ICOM Admin Office.

**READ IT HERE**

# ICOM YouTube Channel

Click here to subscribe to the Islamic College of Melbourne YouTube Channel or feel free to browse through 9 of our most recent YouTube videos below, click the images to view the videos through YouTube directly.

*Subscribing to the ICOM YouTube channel with notifications on will allow you to receive helpful notifications from YouTube whenever we upload a new Islamic College of Melbourne Video.*



ICOMTalks Podcast #1 - Faith, Knowledge and Success during the lockdown



Ramadan Reminder 2021  
Secondary Quran and Islamic Studies Dept



ICOMTalks Episode 4  
Obstacles at school & the right Mindset



ICOM Primary Arabic Week



Welcome Back to our Primary students for Term 4!



2020 ICOM Quran Competition  
Secondary Highlights & Winners



ICOM Wellbeing Department T-Shirt Design Competition Winners



ICOMTalks Episode 3  
Students and Covid-19 Lockdowns



ICOMTalks Episode 2: Dismantling Discrimination Discussion

## Year 9: Macbeth Performance Incursion

On Wednesday, 16th of June members of the Eagle's Nest Theatre performed an abridged version of William Shakespeare's play 'Macbeth' to our Year 9 English students followed by a workshop run by the performers, discussing key ideas, themes, and characterisation present in the play.

Macbeth is a studied text for all Year 9 students, this opportunity has allowed our students a chance to deepen their understanding not only of the core concepts of the play, but also the structures, limitations, and key elements present in performing such texts in front of an audience.

The performers' different experiences with 'Macbeth' gave students insight into the differing interpretation of a text, as well as a stronger understanding of the characters and overall plot of the story in a way that is not present in other media such as film.

We thank the Eagle's Nest Theatre performers for visiting ICOM and putting on such an impressive performance for our Year 9 students.

**Mr Josh Hughes**

*Secondary English Coordinator*



Our Year 9 students were engaged by the amazing performance given by Eagle's Nest Theatre.

## Secondary: PESA Public Speaking Awards

On Tuesday, 25th May our Senior Secondary students Huzaifa Qidwai and Maryam Al-Gburi attended the Plain English Speaking Award State Heats at Suzanne Cory High School.

Both students delivered inspiring speeches that were well received by the judges and audience. Competitors were required to deliver a 5-6 minute speech on a topic of their choosing and a 2-3 minute impromptu speech for which they only had four minutes to prepare.

Maryam placed second out of 14 students and has been selected to proceed to the regional finals taking place at Melbourne University on the 17th of June. This is testament to the amazing amount of effort Maryam has put in to prepare.

Well done, Huzaifa and Maryam!

**Mr Jarrod Carrington**

Public Speaking Coordinator



*On Thursday the 24th of June, I had the pleasure of representing the Islamic college of Melbourne in the Plain English Public Speaking Competition Semi-finals.*

*I was excited to present my speech in front of a fresh new audience.*

*Even though I was speaking about a sensitive topic – mental health- I felt ironically comfortable on stage and confident that the audience will be swayed by such a cordial matter. The semi-finals presented amazing public speakers that delivered each meaningful and unique speeches.*

*Watching them portray their speech with such passion inspired and motivated me to learn and develop my own public speaking skills and others around me. Even though, I will not proceed to the following round, coming this far and getting the opportunity to represent my school was an enjoyable experience.*

*I look forward to enhancing my speaking skills and taking the win next year InshAllah!*

**Maryam Al-Gburi**

Year 11

## Year 5: Sovereign Hill Camp

On Wednesday 26th May Year 5 headed off by bus to Ballarat for our Sovereign Hill Camp. Our first destination was of course Sovereign Hill.

Sovereign Hill gives students one of the best gold rush era experiences in Australia. Sovereign Hill is a living open-air museum replicating the 1850's Ballarat gold fields. The students observed and interacted with costumed characters going about daily life in the recreated town. Students watched a gold pouring demonstration, saw how candles and sweets were made in the olden days, panned for gold, experienced a Red Hill Mine tour and experienced Sovereign Hill's new night time show Aura- Gold Changes Everything. AURA is a multi-sensory experience that combines 3D cinema, world-class projections and experiential storytelling to reveal how gold revolutionised Australia.

After a busy day at Sovereign Hill, we returned to our cabins at the Big 4 Ballarat Goldfields Holiday Park. On Thursday we returned to Sovereign Hill to participate and experience more fun activities, but unfortunately had to return to school a day early due to the lockdown.

Even though our camp was cut short, we all had an amazing time! It was action packed and we all got to experience what life would be like in the gold rush era.

### The Year 5 Team



Year 5 students panning for gold and learning how the famous Sovereign Hill boiled lollies are made.

## Foundation: Foost Incursion

On Wednesday, 26th of May our Foundation students participated in an incursion with the team from Foost where they learnt all about healthy eating.

This incursion allowed Foundation students to try new foods and encouraged all involved to eat adventurously. They learnt facts about food, nutrition and the importance of eating colourful foods. They made a delicious Mexican wrap which they could keep for lunch and a chocolate date ball for dessert!

**Ms Stephanie Gibbons**  
Foundation Teacher



Foundation students were also able to eat their colourful and healthy culinary creations.

Feedback? Suggestions? **Contact us!** [newsletter@icom.vic.edu.au](mailto:newsletter@icom.vic.edu.au)

 [@IslamicCollegeMelbourne](https://www.facebook.com/IslamicCollegeMelbourne)