

ICOM INSIDER

The Official Newsletter of the Islamic College Of Melbourne



TERM 2: Eid Festival, Debating & Public Speaking, Leadership, Careers & Pastoral Care, Annual Quran Competition, Important Dates, Reminders and more!

Principal's Message



Assalamualaikum warahmatullah wabarakatuh.

Dear parents, guardians and students,

I would like to start by thanking all parents who attended the Parent Teacher Interviews at the beginning of Term 2. These interviews provide an excellent opportunity for parents and teachers to better work together for the best interest of our students, your children.

Parent Teacher Interviews Days are very important days on the ICOM calendar and they are associated with our popular Multicultural Fair and STEM Fair. For Term 1 PTIs, parents thoroughly enjoyed the displays, performances and stalls prepared for Multicultural Fair.

At ICOM's Annual Multicultural Day, held on the last day of Term 1, we saw culture come alive, as we celebrated all our rich differences with acceptance and unity. It was incredible to see our students representing both their traditional cultures and chosen Wonder Countries – Greece, Egypt, Turkey, Iraq, Mexico, China and Jordan.

The day started off with a College assembly, that brought together our Primary and Secondary Schools. As part of the Multicultural Day Assembly, a group of selected Year 12 students and I put together a performance that was thoroughly enjoyed by the whole school.

Bey Coronation, was the title of the performance which is inspired by the Ertugrul series and the Kayi tribe which

led to the establishment of the Ottoman Empire.

With performances, speeches and competitions, it was great to see our students celebrating this fantastic day together and it was an amazing way to end the term, Alhamdulillah.

On the first Friday of Term 2, we celebrated one of the most anticipated and exciting days of the year, our annual Eid Festival. Marking the end of Ramadan and the start to Term 2, the College was turned into a thrilling, action-packed theme park, bringing both our Primary and Secondary schools together to celebrate Eid the ICOM way.

ICOM Eid festival included tens of thrilling rides, inflatable attractions, food stalls, pony rides and a petting zoo that included many baby animals such as alpacas, rabbits & chickens for students to care for and enjoy.

Teachers and students shared the day, with smiles from ear to ear, bellies full of delicious food and great memories created, that will be remembered for years to come inshallah.

The Annual Quran Competition was a great success alhamdulillah. The final rounds of the competition in all categories concluded where both Primary and Secondary school students competing have truly been astonishing in all rounds of Recitation, Memorisation, Azan and Short Speech categories.

Students of the book of Allah SWT are all winners, regardless of how they perform in the Competition. I look forward to the magnificent Annual Quran Awards night in early June where we acknowledge and recognise students' immense effort and hard work.

Continue on page 3

Principal's Message (Continued)

Our students continue to achieve impressive wins in extracurricular activities. In inter school debating, our students represent our College with pride and showcase their impressive debating skills. In interschool sports, our incredible senior girls' team were crowned the Wyndham champions in outdoor soccer. Our talented students displayed exceptional skills and teamwork, securing victories in all areas.

I look forward to another successful term, insha'Allah.

Dr Abdul M. Kamareddine
College Principal



Important Reminders

- Parents are reminded to install SEQTA Engage to access important messages sent from the College.
- Parents are asked to keep their details, including email address updated with the College. You may do this through SEQTA Engage.
- Parents must advise the College of any medical conditions their child may have, whether it is severe or just a mild condition.
- The College cannot provide medication to students unless it has been prescribed to them. This includes hay fever tablets and paracetamol. If your child requires medication your child's name and directions must be on the label before handing any medication to the College nurse.
- The uniform for Term 2 & 3 is the winter uniform. All students are expected to wear the winter uniform, this includes the dark grey winter skirt or tunic and dark grey leggings/tights. This also means boys in Foundation to Year 4 must wear the long Charcoal pleated trousers and no longer the shorts.

Important Dates

26 May 2023

National Sorry Day

5 June 2023

2024 Re-Enrollment
Forms Distributed

9 June 2023

Quran Awards Night

12 June 2023

King's Birthday
Public Holiday

13-16 June 2023

Hajj Week

14 June 2023

Hajj Day

19-22 June 2023

Primary Literacy Week

22 June 2023

Primary Character Day

22 June 2023

Last Day of Term 2
for Students

29 June 2023

Eidul Adha
(TBC)

18 July 2023

First Day of Term 3
for Students

2-4 August 2023

Year 5 Camp

4 August 2023

Careers Expo

7-11 August 2023

Primary Arabic Week

14-18 August 2023

Secondary Literacy/
Humanities Week

Eid Festival

On Friday the 28th of April, we celebrated one of the most anticipated and exciting days of the year, our annual Eid Festival!

Marking the end of Ramadan and the start to Term 2, the college was turned into a thrilling, action-packed theme park, bringing both our Primary and Secondary schools together to celebrate Eid the ICOM way.

Teachers and students shared the day, with smiles from ear to ear, bellies full of delicious food and great memories created, that will be remembered for years to come!







Zanna and the Lost Code

During Week 3 of the Term Brainstorm Productions performed Zanna and the Lost Code to our Year 4 and 5 students. The performance aimed to empower students to build healthy and positive relationships, and thrive in the digital world.

The students engaged in healthy conversations with the performers, James and Bailee, around values, respect and responsibility to inspire them to build safer and more positive experiences, online and otherwise.

Students were able to watch the “Zanna” and “Eddie” navigate through a cyber-world and experience the power of empathy, respect, kindness, and resilience. Important messages that we deliver here at ICOM and a key focus for the Wellbeing Department.

We are confident students were able to take key messages away and implement them in their daily lives. I highly encourage having a conversation with the students and discuss the performance. We look forward to sharing all wellbeing events with you in the future.

Mr Omar Abdo

Head of Primary Student Services



Debating & Public Speaking

On the 2nd of May, the Islamic College of Melbourne participated in the Wynspeak Public Speaking Competition at Good News Lutheran College. The competition was an excellent opportunity for our students to showcase their public speaking skills and engage with students from other schools.

The Debating and Public Speaking Coordinator, Jarrod Carrington, accompanied our students to the competition. We had four students who competed in the junior and senior divisions. Muhammad Umer Leghari and Albaraa Aljibaly from Year 8 competed in the junior division, while Nosayba Aljibaly and Khadra Alhawli from Year 11 competed in the senior division.

The competition had two components: the prepared speech and the short notice speech. Our students worked hard to prepare their speeches and delivered them with confidence and clarity. It was a proud moment for the Islamic College of Melbourne to see our students excel in the competition.

In the short notice speech competition, Nosayba Aljibaly impressed the judges and took out first place. Her efforts earned her a handy cash prize, and we congratulate her on this fantastic achievement.

We are eagerly awaiting news on whether a wildcard place may be afforded to an ICOM student in the final for the prepared speech section. There was a strong suggestion that this might be the case, and we are hopeful that our students will have the opportunity to compete again in the final.

Overall, the Wynspeak Public Speaking Competition was a great success, and the students should be very proud of their hard work and dedication in supporting one another throughout the competition. We look forward to participating in similar events in the future and continuing to provide opportunities for our students to develop their public speaking skills.



We are pleased to announce that our school's debating teams had an excellent performance in the 3rd round at Williamstown High School. Seven teams competed, and we came away with five wins. Our students represented our school with pride and showcased their impressive debating skills.

Here are the results for each grade:

A Grade

ICOM Team 1 (227 Points) defeated Emmanuel College 1 (225 Points)

B Grade

ICOM Team 1 and ICOM Team 2 had a bye.

ICOM Team 3 (227 Points) defeated Emmanuel College 1 (223 Points)

C Grade

ICOM Team 1 (222 Points) defeated Werribee Secondary College 3 (220 Points)

ICOM Team 2 (218 Points) lost to Williamstown High School 2 (227 Points)

ICOM Team 3 (222 Points) lost to Werribee Secondary College 1 (223 Points)

ICOM Team 4 had a bye.

D Grade

ICOM Team 1 (223 Points) defeated Caroline Chisholm Catholic College 1 (221 Points)

ICOM Team 2 (226 Points) defeated Westbourne Grammar School 4 (224 Points)

Congratulations to all our teams for their hard work and dedication in preparing for this event.

Special congratulations go to our best speakers of the night: Fatimah Adnan of Year 9, Adam Yahia of Year 10, Zainab Raza of Year 11, and Warresha Akhtar of Year 12. These students demonstrated exceptional communication skills and critical thinking abilities in their respective debates.

Mr Jarrod Carrington

Debating and Public Speaking Coordinator



Leadership, Careers and Pastoral Care

On the 3rd of May, our College Captains, Imran Hussien and Sumaiyya Baloch, represented our College at the Joanne Ryan SRC Forum.

The forum brought together student leaders from our district to converse on issues our schools are facing. The SRC Forum took place at Werribee Primary School where a dozen schools gathered for the event.

Wyndham has taken the reigns in being the fastest growing region in all of Australia, with it coming unprecedented challenges and opportunities for our young leaders. The Forum gave our Captains the opportunity to learn more about the leadership structures that other schools implement in their schools, and an opportunity for other schools to learn from our Captains.

The schools that participated in the forum and the MP were impressed with our College's SRC structure, in addition to the voice and agency our students have in implementing new school initiatives and practices. Our College Captains were also posed with a challenging scenario, and with it an Action Plan framework they can utilise moving forward to tackle school issues with.

Our Captains benefitted from the Forum and continue to look forward to learning new leadership skills that may be used in creating an even better school culture for all students.



Alhamdulillah, Allah has permitted further gain in knowledge and success in our Years 10 to 7 Peer-Support Mentoring. Up to this point of the semester, the mentors worked with their mentees on completing the Time Capsules, the capsules were then sealed away safely with the ICOM wax seal and will be returned to them in 2028, at their Year 12 Graduation, In Shaa Allah.

On Wednesday the 10th of May, the Year 10 mentors completed Part 2 of their all-day training. The training incursion focused on the practical aspects of facilitating mentoring sessions. After reflecting on the role of a leader and various leadership experiences they observed, the mentors learnt the aspects of interaction styles, various communication elements, and empathy. They then practiced the skills of speaking which included the correct use of open questions, closed questions and assertiveness, as well as the methods of co-leading and facilitating mentoring sessions.

In addition to the mentors now being ready to deliver mentoring sessions, students thoroughly enjoyed the activities including teamwork, secret handshakes and of course the pizza! We look forward to what the rest of the year will bring upon us.

Mr Omar Dennaoui

SRC Coordinator and AD of Student Service



Senior Girls: Outdoor Soccer

Congratulations to our incredible ICOM senior girls' team! They were crowned the Wyndham champions in outdoor soccer on Tuesday, May 16th.

Our talented girls displayed exceptional skills and teamwork, securing victories in all three matches. They demonstrated their prowess on the field, scoring an impressive 18 goals while maintaining an impeccable defence and not conceding a single goal.

We are thrilled to announce that our victorious team will now represent the Wyndham district at the regional finals later this year.

Mr Salih Hasanacevic

Head of Health and P.E Faculty



Annual Quran Competition

ICOM's Annual Quran Competition is underway, with the final rounds of the competition in all categories taking place during week 4 of the Term.

Both Primary and Secondary school students competing have truly been astonishing in all rounds of Recitation, Memorisation, Azan and Short Speech categories.

Students of the book of Allah SWT are all winners, regardless of how they perform in the Competition.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our dear parents for their support and our dear Quran teachers for their hard work and dedication.





Kryal Castle Excursion

Our Year 8 students recently embarked on an exciting excursion to Kryal Castle, immersing themselves in the captivating history of medieval Europe. This engaging outing was linked to the Humanities Curriculum, providing a unique opportunity for students to delve into the rich heritage of the Middle Ages.

As the students arrived at Kryal Castle, their anticipation was palpable. The castle's magnificent architecture and captivating ambiance instantly transported them back in time to an era of knights, castles, and chivalry. The excursion aimed to cultivate an appreciation for history while providing an immersive experience for the young minds.

One of the highlights of the day was the exploration of the Apothecary, where students discovered the medicinal practices of the medieval period. They were fascinated by the knowledge of herbs and remedies used by apothecaries to treat various ailments. This hands-on experience enabled students to appreciate the importance of natural remedies in the absence of modern medicine.

Another enthralling aspect of the excursion was the Heraldry workshop. Students learned about the significance of coats of arms and symbols in medieval society. They had the opportunity to design their own personalized coat of arms, each symbolising their unique traits and aspirations. This activity allowed them to express their creativity while understanding the importance of personal identity and heritage.

The Siege demonstration provided an exciting experience for the students. They witnessed firsthand the techniques and strategies employed during sieges, gaining a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by both attackers and defenders. The interactive nature of the demonstration made it a memorable and engaging activity.

The Arms & Armour exhibit allowed students to closely examine the weaponry used by medieval knights. They marveled at the craftsmanship and understood the purpose of each weapon. This exhibit reinforced the importance of resilience, skill, and strategy in medieval warfare.

The pinnacle of the excursion was the recreation of the Battle of Hastings, a pivotal event in medieval European history. Students participated in a reenactment of the battle, complete with knights and armour. They were captivated by the intensity and spectacle of the battle, gaining an appreciation for the courage and sacrifice displayed by those who fought in such conflicts.





Overall, the Year 8 excursion to Kryal Castle was an awesome experience. It successfully brought the history of medieval Europe to life, allowing students to engage with the curriculum in a tangible and meaningful way. The interactive workshops and demonstrations provided a deeper understanding of the historical period while fostering a sense of curiosity and appreciation for the past.

The Islamic College of Melbourne is committed to providing students with enriching educational experiences that broaden their horizons and cultivate a love for learning. The Year 8 excursion to Kryal Castle exemplified this commitment, leaving the students with cherished memories and a newfound appreciation for the history of medieval Europe.



Outdoors and Physical Education

Over the last 2 Mondays the Year 9 boys and girls taking the elective in Outdoor Education have been participating in Camp cooking and went on a hike to Werribee Gorge.

During the Camp cooking students prepared their snack on a camp fire with their teacher's guidance. Students roasted Chocolate Smores with Biscuits and ate them with the understanding that we can utilize camp fire in an outdoors expedition adventure for warmth and cooking meals.

Students discussed the variety of foods they could cook on a camp fire, including desserts using non perishable food products. They got to experience the delight of cooking dessert which they thoroughly enjoyed.

The following Monday afternoon students and several teachers went on a half day excursion to the Werribee Gorge, just past Bacchus Marsh for a hike. Both the boys and girls participated in the Circuit hike at their own pace with teachers scattered with groups of students. Students hiked up and down hilly, uneven terrain and down through the gorge to the water's edge where we had lunch and prayer before heading back up the huge hill at the end before coming back to where we started the hike.

We were very lucky with the weather as it was absolutely beautiful on the Monday after midday and we managed to complete the whole hike within 2 hours with a half an hour stop for lunch under the sunshine peering through the clouds.

The students who participated in the hike should be commended for enduring on some very challenging, uneven grounds and hills while hiking. All students that attended completed the hike in their own time and should be so proud that they completed the hike from start to finish. Students experienced a wonderful day outdoors in nature, walking away with more understanding about hiking and the outdoors.

Thanks to Mr Salih, Mr Pablo and Ms Ibadete for attending the hike.

We endeavour to hopefully run more hiking and outdoor adventures next term and in the future at ICOM.

Ms Nicole Lewis-Jacobs

P.E Teacher





Library News

Asalamu Alaikum Warahmatullah Wabarakatuh,

Welcome to Term 2 at ICOM library. The library staff are working on developing, enriching, and supporting the curriculum and personal interests of our staff and students. This includes selecting books that take into consideration the diverse interests, abilities, socio economic background, and cognitive levels of our students.

In other news, we are continuing to improve the library's function by procuring more new books for take-home readers to enhance the literacy and numeracy levels of our students.

We continue to present the library as a place for students to explore their inquisitiveness and engage in reading and gaining knowledge. To stay across these new additions, we encourage students to explore and find opportunities to pass on their experience.

During recess and lunch time we encourage students to become library monitors to gain experience from the library staff. Library monitors take pride in discharging the duties responsibly and teach and share their knowledge and experience with their peers.

Mr George Demetrios
Head Librarian

Ms KhurrathulAin Syeda
Librarian

