

# ICOM INSIDER

The Official Newsletter of the Islamic College Of Melbourne



**TERM 3:** ICOM Careers Expo, Year 3 Movie Night, Foundation 100 Days Smarter, ICOM Prayer Program, Important Dates, Reminders and more!

## Principal's Message



*Assalamualaikum warahmatullah wabarakatuh.*

Welcome to Term Three! I hope you all had an enjoyable and restful three week break. As we enter the second half of the year, I look forward to witnessing the continued growth and development of our students. I trust you are all as excited as me for the opportunities and memorable moments that lie ahead.

Our Year 9 ILIAS students started the term off with a meaningful trip to Billabong Ranch in Echuca, where they spent part of their winter break. During the 4-day camp, they had the opportunity to study the Quran in tranquil surroundings. Students also took part in Sunnah activities such as horse riding and archery. It was an experience that enriched their spiritual journey and provided valuable life skills.

Week 2 of the Term saw our Year 5 students going to the Sovereign Hill camp. Students got the opportunity to delve deep into Victoria's rich history and experience life as it was during the gold rush era. The camp enhanced their understanding of historical events and allowed them to appreciate the cultural heritage of our state. It was a remarkable educational experience that brought history to life for our students.

This Term we also celebrated our Foundation students' 100th day of school, and what a delightful celebration it was! Witnessing the progress of our youngest students,

from nervous children on their first day to confident learners on their 100th day, fills me with immense pride. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to you, our parents, for entrusting ICOM with your children's lifelong educational journey, and I deeply thank our dedicated Foundation teachers for their unwavering commitment to shaping the bright futures of our youngest students.

This is the time of year when we encourage our senior students to start considering their study and career pathways for the upcoming year and beyond. In Week 3, we hosted our annual Careers Expo Day, offering students comprehensive information on various pathways. This annual event assists students and their parents to make well-informed decisions about future studies. As part of the event, Year 9 and 10 students attended subject selection workshops to guide their choices. While being exposed to so much information and thinking about the future can be both exciting and slightly overwhelming, we aimed to make the day even more enjoyable by having food trucks on site.

I would also like to take this opportunity to reassure you that, whatever your child's chosen path may be, ICOM is committed to providing full support to both you and your child in every possible way. With various pathways including VCE, VM, VCE/VET and IB Diploma, there is a path for every student. I'm proud to say that ICOM is amongst the few schools in Victoria who offer the IB Diploma. Additionally, the Diploma of Islamic Leadership which we launched this year, is exclusive to ICOM. This demonstrates our commitment to ensuring that our students have the best options available.

At the end of this term, we will be holding Parent Teacher Interviews once again. These meetings offer a valuable opportunity for parents and teachers to come together to discuss each student's progress, strengths, and areas for improvement. They allow us to develop strategies to support your child's learning journey effectively and is essential for maintaining a strong partnership between home and school. The booking portal will open on Thursday, 29th of August. Please make sure to book your preferred time.

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Earlier this term, I announced the construction of our new Admin and Wellbeing Centre, set to be completed in late 2025. I am excited to share that work on this state-of-the-art, triple-story building has officially commenced. This project reflects our commitment to providing the best facilities for our students, ensuring they have access to exceptional resources and support. I eagerly look forward to welcoming our students and parents to this new and unique hub.

With footy season well underway, this term we celebrated Footy Week. The week was packed with a variety of exciting activities designed to engage students such as the longest kick competition, pie-eating contest, and inflatable obstacle course.

Adding to the excitement, I'm proud to share that our Year 7-8 and Year 9-10 girls have qualified for the Bachar Houli Cup finals and will be playing at the MCG. We are cheering you on and are already incredibly proud of your achievements.

We have many more exciting events lined up for Term 3. To stay updated and enjoy some fantastic photos of the events and activities happening at our school, please visit our Facebook page. I eagerly anticipate witnessing the progress and achievements of our students throughout the term. Let's make this term a fantastic journey of learning and growth together.

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



## Important Dates and Reminders

- The parent's car park is closed due to the new building construction. Please utilise parking along Butterfly Boulevard and Wootten Road as well as neighbouring streets.
- Parents are reminded of the importance of attendance and punctuality. We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring your children are at school by 8.35am every morning to ensure they commence the day at homeroom on time.
- The college does not accept any items to be delivered to students during school hours. Please ensure your child arrives to school with all necessary stationary, food and uniform items.
- Please ensure that you inform the College or update your details on Seqta Engage if your personal details have changed, such as emergency contact numbers, phone numbers, address, etc.
- The uniform for Term 2 & 3 is the winter uniform. Students are expected to wear the winter uniform which 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 not the shorts.

**12-16 August 2024**

Primary Arabic Week

**2-6 September 2024**

R U OK Week

**5 September 2024**

R U OK Day

**16-20 September 2024**

STEM Week

**19 September 2024**

STEM Day  
& Last Day of Term 3  
for Students

**20 September 2024**

Parent Teacher Interview  
/STEM Fair

# Term 3 First Day Back

We are thrilled to kick off Term 3 and welcome each of you back with open arms! This term is a fresh opportunity to seek knowledge, guidance, and to challenges ourselves, and to grow academically, personally and spiritually.

As we embark on this new journey, let us keep in mind the beautiful supplication from the Quran: “Rabbi zidni ilman” (My Lord, increase me in knowledge) – Surah Ta-Ha (20:114). Let this be our guiding light as we strive for excellence and wisdom.

There are many exciting events and activities lined up for this term that promise to enrich our learning experience and build our community spirit.

Here’s to a fantastic Term 3!



# ILIAS Students at the Billabong Ranch

During the holidays, our ILIAS (Islamic Leadership and Integrated Arabic Studies) students visited the Billabong Ranch for camp, where they had the opportunity to connect deeply with their faith and embrace the sunnah of our beloved Prophet Muhammad (saws). Immersed in the beauty of nature, they strengthened their bond with the Quran and valuable life skills.

The primary goal of the camp was to focus on the Quran, with sessions dedicated to its recitation, memorisation, and interpretation. This spiritual journey was enriched by the tranquil surroundings, fostering a deeper connection to the teachings of Islam.

In Islam, both horse riding and archery are highly encouraged as they cultivate physical strength, mental ability, and strategic thinking. The Prophet Muhammad (saws) said, “Teach your children swimming, archery, and horse riding” (Sahih Muslim).

We are so proud of our students for their eagerness to learn and grow. A big thank you to everyone who made this camp possible and to the amazing students who participated. Let's continue to carry these lessons in our hearts and live by the sunnah every day.



# ICOM Secondary Careers Expo

Our recent Careers Expo was an enlightening experience for students, offering them invaluable insights as they prepare for their future careers. The event was designed to expose students to a wide range of study and career opportunities, helping them to make informed decisions about their educational and professional paths.

The Expo featured a plethora of study opportunities, with representatives from various institutions and industries on hand to provide information and guidance. Students had the chance to engage with professionals and explore different career options, gaining knowledge that will be crucial as they plan their futures.

Adding to the excitement, food trucks were on site, creating a lively and enjoyable atmosphere for all attendees. A special highlight was the presence of past graduates, who have successfully established themselves in their respective fields. These alumni shared their experiences, offering advice and inspiration to current students as they navigate their own journeys.

The Careers Expo was not only a day of learning but also a day of community, bringing together students, teachers, alumni, and professionals in a shared mission to inspire and prepare the next generation.





# Foundation 100 Days Smarter

Our students recently marked a significant milestone by celebrating Foundation 100 Day—a day filled with joy, creativity, and reflection on the incredible progress they've made. As we look back on the first 100 days of learning, we are proud to see how our students have not only grown academically but also in their friendships, resilience, confidence, and curiosity.

The classrooms were transformed into a vibrant space of creativity, with decorations that reflected the number 100. To add to the fun, students embraced the theme by dressing up as 100-year-olds, bringing plenty of smiles and laughter to the day.

Parents, teachers, and students alike shared in the happiness of this day, celebrating the many achievements made so far. The sense of pride and accomplishment was palpable as our young learners continue to grow and explore the world around them.

Here's to 100 days of learning, growth, and joy—and many more to come!





# Year 7 Prayer Program

Prayer holds a great significance in the life of a practicing Muslim, which is why ICOM held an intense Prayer Program for the Year 7's. The program was divided into two parallel parts:

## Practical Component:

**Activity:** Year 7 students engage in individual prayer at designated isolated locations.

**Supervision:** Each session is overseen by the college Imam and the Islamic Studies Teacher.

**Objective:** To provide hands-on experience in prayer, allowing students to practice in a controlled environment while receiving immediate feedback.

## Curriculum Component:

**Content:** Islamic Studies lessons are focused on perfecting prayer (Salah) and ablution (wudu), along with practical lessons related to prayer.

**Goal:** To reinforce theoretical knowledge and ensure students understand the correct procedures and the significance of each component of prayer.

The goal of the Prayer Program is to supervise and correct students' prayer practices, identify and address mistakes, helping students learn and improve and to ensure that students can perform prayers correctly and independently by the end of the program.

Upon successful completion, students received a prayer license, symbolizing their proficiency and understanding of prayer practices. This comprehensive approach ensures that students are well-prepared to perform their prayers correctly, combining both practical experience and theoretical knowledge.



# Term Values Workshop

During the week, our secondary students delved deep into discussions and activities centered around crucial life values. Each year level engaged in topics like Resilience, Contribution, Citizenship, Belonging, Service and Wisdom. Through insightful group activities, they explored how these values manifest in their lives- whether at home, in school, or within the broader community.

It was inspiring to witness their enthusiasm and commitment to understanding and applying these values in practical ways. These workshops not only foster personal growth but also strengthen our school community bonds.



# ICOM Footy Week

Footy Week at school was a huge success! Students enthusiastically participated in a variety of footy-themed activities organized by the HPE teachers throughout their PE classes during the week. The excitement continued beyond the classroom, with students engaging in recess and lunch activities that included a longest kick competition, a modified AFL tournament, handball accuracy challenges, goal kicking contests, and an AFL obstacle course. The week culminated on Friday with a Footy Dress-Up Day, where everyone proudly donned their favorite team colors, making it a memorable and fun-filled celebration of footy spirit at school.





## Year 3 Movie Night

On Friday, August 2nd, students took part in the Year Three Movie Night. The event was designed to help students enhance their social and independent skills.

Prior to the movie night, students were surveyed to choose between two pizza flavours: Margherita or BBQ chicken.

The evening featured a congregational prayer, dinner in the cafeteria, and a screening of the movie "Zootopia" with popcorn.

"Zootopia" is set in a city where various animals coexist. The story follows the first rabbit to join the police force, as she faces the challenges of enforcing the law. Determined to prove herself, she seizes the chance to solve a mysterious case, which requires her to work with a cunning fox who complicates her efforts.

This event was a novel and enjoyable experience for all students, allowing them to socialize with friends from different classes. It was a night full of pizza, popcorn and laughter for our students to enjoy a movie at our school.

### Ms Cennet Or

Year 3 Head of Faculty





# What is Material?

In general material is a substance or mixture of substances that constitutes an object. Material can be pure or impure.

Students had great fun in investigating different types of materials and their qualities. They investigated the difference between natural and man-made materials and their usages.

A natural material is something which is taken directly from nature. Natural materials come from plants, animals or the ground. An example is bamboo, wood or wool, which is directly taken from land or animal.

A processed material is one that is made by humans. This is done by adding different materials together. Paper is an example of processed material. Materials used to make is wood pulp by removing the water then pressing and drying.

**Ms Stephanie Allen**

Year 4 Student Services Coordinator



## Year 4 at the Werribee Zoo

What an adventure the year 4 students and staff had visiting the Werribee Zoo.

Our trip to the zoo had us taking a trip to the African Savannah, engaging in hands-on activities and discovering the features of African predators and their prey. We learnt what adaptations predators have to hunt successfully and how the prey have developed to give them a fighting chance. Students analysed skulls and investigated what it takes for these animals to survive. We thoroughly enjoyed our behind the scenes look at the habitat of the African wild dog.

Students enjoyed walking around the Werribee zoo and visiting the different animals and playgrounds along the way. A favourite was the safari bus, the animals were so close we could almost touch them. Overall, we had a successful excursion learning many new facts and information about animals.

**Ms Stephanie Allen**

Year 4 Student Services Coordinator



## Year 3: Earth, Sun and Moon Show

On Wednesday, July 31, and Thursday, August 1, the Year Three students attended the 'Earth, Sun, and Moon' excursion at Scienceworks. The goal of the excursion was to explain how Earth's rotation on its axis affects the day-night cycle and why we have seasons on Earth.

The day included the 'Earth, Sun, and Moon Show,' a visit to the general viewing area, and a Planetarium show.

The first part of the excursion was the "Earth, Sun, and Moon Show," a science presentation featuring visual equipment and interactive demonstrations. This show explained how Earth's rotation influences the day-night cycle and the reasons behind Earth's seasons. Students were actively engaged and enjoyed participating by answering questions and modelling parts of the session for their peers.

Next, students explored the general viewing area, which included "Sportworks" and "Think Ahead," both offering numerous hands-on activities.

Finally, they concluded the excursion with the Planetarium show 'Tilt'. This show explained how the tilt of Earth's axis, combined with its orbit around the Sun, causes the four seasons and how the length of day and seasons vary across different parts of the Earth, from the poles to the equator.

### Ms Cennet Or

Year 3 Head of Faculty





# Primary Library News

ICOM Footy week has been a wonderful start to term 3, with students participating in the library activity and colouring sheets to contribute to our display board.

Learning more about each student as they elaborate on their favourite team and players are is a highlight of the week for the primary library team.

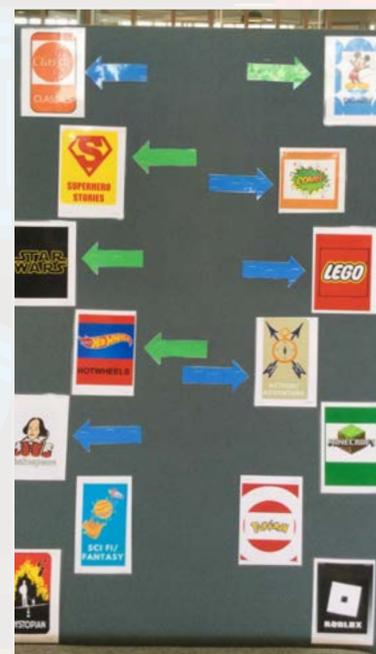
As we continue to nurture their love of reading the library team has focused on helping students to find a book they love by introducing new genres and marking these with bright and appealing images, these help students navigate through their favourite genres.

To assist the upper primary with their research projects the library team has also implement similar spine labels to specify the non-fiction subjects and provide them the steps to further understanding the Dewey Decimal system.

We look forward to Arabic and STEM week in the upcoming month.

**Ms Amie Callaghan**  
Primary Librarian

**Mr George Demetrios**  
Head Librarian



# Secondary Library News



*Asalamu Alaikum Warahmatullah Wabarakatuh,*

*The ICOM Library's integration of diverse magazine subscriptions and scholarly databases reflects its commitment to supporting a wide range of informational needs. By offering both popular magazines and academic resources, it serves as a vital hub for knowledge, research, and education.*

*By offering subscriptions to a variety of magazines, such as Time, National Geographic for Kids, and Scholastic Scope, ICOM provides students with engaging and current content that complements their classroom learning. These magazines introduce students to contemporary issues, stimulate curiosity, and offer additional perspectives on subjects studied in school.*

*Additionally, scholarly databases like JSTOR and EBSCO are invaluable resources for in-depth research. They give students access to a wide range of academic journals, articles, and reports, facilitating comprehensive research and development of critical analysis skills. These resources are essential for students needing credible and detailed information for their assignments and research projects.*

*For more information on accessing these resources, visit the ICOM Library.*

**Ms Nadia Moosa**  
Secondary Librarian

**Mr George Demetrios**  
Head Librarian

