



Valley Voice

Green Valley Islamic College

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents/Guardians

Assalaamu Alaikum

On behalf of the School I extend to you all a very warm welcome for 2016. We look forward to your continued support and understanding in educating our children. GVIC aims to ensure that the School life is a positive, rewarding and a meaningful experience for our students and the School Community. Insha Allah we will do our best to nurture a holistic development of our students. To achieve this we need the full support and cooperation of parents and carers.

Uniform

It is pleasing to see that most of the students wear the approved uniform appropriately and with pride. Unfortunately, there are a few students, who continue to flout the school's uniform expectations. It is disappointing that a few students affect the good order and reputation of the school in this way. I urge all parents to please support us in this matter. A copy of the School's Uniform Policy can be obtained from the Administration Office.

Before/After School

A few parents drop off their child/ren to school as early as 7.30am. This is not only risky, but also against the established procedures. Teacher supervision commences at 8.00am and therefore no student is allowed on the school grounds before 8.00am. Parents who accompany their child/ren to school should wait with their child/ren in the waiting area (in front of the

Ladies' wing). Similarly, parents are to remain in the waiting area when they come to pick up their children in the afternoon. Any student who arrives after 8.30am is deemed late and will only be permitted in the classroom with a late note. Parents please ensure that your child/ren arrive by 8.25am and are picked promptly from school no later than 3.45pm. No supervision is provided after 3.45pm.

Parents/Carers Notice:

- Please note that if your child is absent for any reason you must inform the school on 87839188. If for some reason you do not inform us, a school text message may be sent to you. Please respond to this.
- Students are not allowed to bring any electronic gadgets to school. In case of emergencies students are advised to use the school phone from the office. Should you allow your child to carry a mobile phone, it **must** be deposited in the office, before 8.25am and promptly picked up at the end of the day.
- If you wish your child to be signed out, please write a note with the student's name, date, time out and your signature which is to be handed into the office in the morning so that student passes can be arranged. Any early leave must be justified and where possible pre-arranged.
- If you require to see a teacher, please leave a message with the school office for the teacher to call you when they are available or make an appointment. Unexpected visits by parents are inconvenient and may result in long waiting periods.

GVIC

Respect

Ownership

Caring

Knowledge

Safety

REMINDERS

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Term Dates for Students

TERM 1 Thu 28th Jan –
Fri 8th Apr

TERM 2 Tue 26th Apr –
Fri 1st Jul

TERM 3 Mon 18th Jul –
Fri 23rd Sep

TERM 4 Mon 10th Oct –
Tue 20th Dec

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S (SECONDARY) MESSAGE

- Whilst interaction between students can be unruly it is not appropriate to discipline another parents' child whilst on school grounds. Physical contact can be an assault and is a serious matter. Parents with concerns about the interaction between students on school grounds must address their concerns to their child's class teacher.

Parents with concerns regarding their child's learning are encouraged to schedule a meeting with their child's teacher so concerns can be given the attention they deserve. Collection, drop off and while on duty is when staff are busiest, and at these times, staff may not be able to give your concerns their full attention.

- Parents are expected to interact civilly with staff, students and other parents at all times. Abusive language, raising your voice, insulting or violent behaviour to **anyone** on School grounds is inappropriate.
- As role models parents are expected to follow traffic rules around the School and directions from teachers on duty on School grounds. It is our duty to educate our children to use the roads safely. Double parking, stopping in no stopping zones, not using the pedestrian crossing where provided, etc is a display of inappropriate behaviour which compromises the safety of our children.

School Photos

MSP Photography will be visiting the school on:

- Thursday, 18th February (ID 7-12)
- Tuesday, 1st March (Primary)
- Thursday, 3rd March (High)

Welcome

Welcome back to a new school year at Green Valley Islamic College. We would like to extend a special welcome to all our new Year 7 students and parents and other students who have joined our High School this year for the first time. Our capable Year 7 students have settled into their new routines enjoying their new subjects and activities. We have been impressed with Year 7 students and their transition into High School. Well done Year 7 and keep up the great effort! On that note, all other students have settled well into their classes.

We acknowledge the following staff that have joined our High School teaching team: Mr Riaaz Ali in the Science Department, Ms Samira Sara, Ms Houda El-Daou, Ms Nicola Brough and Ms Iman Ladkani in English/HSIE.

All students are required to have their text books and necessary equipment as soon as possible so that their learning is not hindered.

It is important that the school has the continuous support of all parents to achieve it's next milestone. We request parents to plan their holidays paying special consideration to their **child's Examination and learning requirements. All holidays must be taken in the school breaks.**

HSC 2015

Congratulations to our 2015 Year 12 students for their success in HSC Examination, gaining an ATAR score for entry into the Tertiary Institution of their choice and enrolling into the Degree courses in Design and Architecture, Civil Engineering, Surveying, Medical Science, Commerce & law, Occupational Therapist, Bachelor of Business Administration, Journalism, Psychology, Health Science, Bachelor of Primary Teaching, Secondary Teaching, Dentistry, Social Sciences and Sports Science.

Congratulations to Nubaisha Ali for attaining the highest ATAR and earning the title of "Dux 2015". 89% of the examinations sat for the HSC were between Bands 4-6, only 11% were Band 3 or below.

Vaccination

All Year 7 students will be receiving the first round of vaccination on Monday, 15th February. Information packs for parents and students have been distributed to the students.

Important notes regarding the 2016 School Vaccination Program from the Public Health Unit Immunisation Team:

- Year 7 students may commence the course of vaccinations at any of the 3 visits (any outstanding doses of HPV will be completed at school in when the students are in Year 8).
- If a Year 7 parent would prefer their child to be vaccinated at the GP instead of the school program, they may do so (PLEASE NOTE: vaccines are only available for free while the child is in Year 7 and a GP consultation fee may apply).
- Any parents wishing to withdraw consent for their child's vaccinations at school are required to provide a letter in writing to the school (to be provided to the Team leader at the next vaccination clinic or faxed to the Public Health Unit 'Attention: School Vaccination Team' Fax: 8778 0838).
- As per the 2015 school vaccination program, the Public Health Unit will continue to offer catch-up doses of HPV to year 8 students who commenced the course of HPV in Year 7 and did not complete it (the Public Health Unit has these student's consent forms and will bring them to each visit. The Health Unit will SMS the parent/s of these students to remind them about this catch-up arrangement.

Should parents have any enquiries about the School Vaccination Program, please contact the **SWSLHD Public Health Unit Immunisation Team via 8778 0855.**

Calendar of Events

For Term calendar of events please visit our website: www.gvic.nsw.edu.au.

Mrs Sameema Ali

FROM THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

The English Faculty would like to welcome all students to a busy and productive 2016. Each class has been given their book lists and assessment schedules for the year to assist in organisation. Students are reminded to ensure that all homework and assessments are submitted on time in adherence with the Board of Studies requirements.

The English Faculty will continue to enter our talented and enthusiastic students in Writing, Debating and Public Speaking competitions throughout the year. Students are encouraged to check the English notice board regularly for upcoming events and to liaise with the coordinating teachers.

Students are reminded of the benefits of reading widely a variety of texts to support their learning and enjoyment of English. Please ask your English teacher or the Librarian for recommendations.

Ms Brough
English Department

FROM THE MATHS DEPARTMENT

The Mathematics Faculty welcomes students to another exciting year at Green Valley Islamic College. We hope everyone had an enjoyable break and had an opportunity to relax for a while.

Our special welcome to Year 7 students and so far their first couple of weeks at the High School has been impressive with a smooth transition to their new classes.

All classes have settled quickly and the teachers are on their way into teaching the syllabus.

A gentle reminder to all students:

- Students are advised to have a grid book for their Mathematics course and it is a requirement that all students own a calculator.
- Quizzes would be conducted on a weekly basis.

- Students are expected to be organised and bring all their equipment including the text books to all lessons.

We look forward to another productive year of teaching and learning, working together with our school community to ensure our students achieve their personal best.

Mr Shiraz
Mathematics Department

WELFARE REPORT

Firstly, we would like to welcome all our students to yet another exciting year at Green Valley Islamic College. We must mention that our newest members to our High School have shown great excitement and enthusiasm into their transition from Primary to Secondary School. So far the student behaviour has been nothing short of impressive. We encourage students to continue with their interest and positivity.

A reminder to all the boys:

- All boys must wear a tie and a black belt along with the other requirements to the school every day except on Wednesdays.
- Only black leather school shoes with grips on the sole are allowed – no dress shoes or shoes with hard heels.
- The hair has to be cut to an acceptable length and combed neatly – haircuts with levels or anything shorter than number 2 on the side would not be accepted.

Once again, we welcome all students and advise them to have a very organised and disciplined approach to their studies and their school life to be successful.

Green Valley Islamic College has chosen to visit Camp Yarramundi again as it has become part of our tradition. The YMCA of Sydney's outdoor Education Centre is located near Richmond. The YMCA has been running camps and Outdoor Education Programs for over 35 years and maintains a progressive approach to providing opportunities for children to have fun and

develop skills and personal qualities through interaction and challenge in the outdoors.

This is achieved through sequenced programming, and by matching adventure and challenge to the skill and ability levels of children of all ages. By utilising the very best facilities along with qualified and enthusiastic staff, YMCA and the supervising teachers are committed to ensuring that every child attending the camp has an enjoyable and valuable experience in a safe and caring environment. All the programs are run in line with YMCA's core values of honesty, caring, respect and responsibility.

The dates are:

28/4/16 to 29/4/16 for Year 7 girls – 1 night 2 days
2/5/16 to 3/5/16 for Year 7 boys – 1 night 2 days

Departure time: 8.45am (after Roll Call)
Return time: Approximately 3.30pm

NO ELECTRONIC GADGETS will be permitted, if seen they will be confiscated and the mobile phone/electronic gadgets policy will be implemented. The student may not be allowed to attend any future excursions.

Vegetarian food will be provided and prayer facilities will be available. Students will be receiving the note by next week containing more details about the trip.

Should you require any further information, please call Mrs Chouman.

Diaries

Each student owns a school diary to help them manage their time effectively and organise their work/studies appropriately. The diary is an effective communication medium between teachers and parents as parents can write in the diary and teachers are expected to respond. All students are expected to bring their diary to every lesson. Positive and negative incidents are to be included in the diary. Teachers need to sign the diary if a student needs to step out of the class, for example, the restroom, sickbay, front office. Parents are required to sign the diary every week and the welfare

coordinators will be notified if a student does not bring their diary or have three missing parent/carer signatures.

Mr Shiraz and Mrs Chouman
Discipline and Welfare Coordinators

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S (PRIMARY) HIGHLIGHTS

Assalaam Alaikum

On behalf of Primary, I would like to welcome our students and their parents to the 2016 academic year. We would also like to extend a very special warm welcome to our kindergarten students, who have settled in remarkably well. Insha Allah, with parental support we will ensure that each student is given every opportunity to attain quality education. We urge parents to regularly remind students about the need to follow study routines and engage in not only homework but explore other motivating resources such as Mathletics, Study Ladder, Literacy Pro (Lexile) and Bug Club. To cater for a safe and supportive learning environment, it is vital that the parents and teachers work collaboratively to address any concern. Please voice your issues through the grievance form from the school office and the matter will be dealt with ASAP.

Calendar of Events for Term 1

Date/ Week	Event
Weeks 2 – 11 Tuesdays & Thursdays	Years 3 and 5 After School Support Classes
Weeks 2 – 11 Tuesdays	Years 1, 2, 4 and 6 After School Support Classes
Week 4 – Wed. 17 th Feb.	Primary Health and Safety Day
Week 5 – Wed. 24 th Feb.	PBS and SRC (Prefects) Induction
Week 6 – Tues. 1 st March	Primary School Photo Day
Week 8 – Fri. 18 th March	Harmony Day
Week 9	Primary Term One Assessments
Week 11 – Mon. 4 th April	Primary Portfolios submitted to parents



After School Support Program

Years 1, 2, 4 and 6 will have access to the support classes that commenced on Tuesday, 2nd February (Week 2). The lessons will be for an hour (3:30 – 4:30pm). Years 3 and 5 will have Literacy classes on Tuesdays and Numeracy sessions on Thursdays, starting from Week 2 as well. Parents are requested to include extra sandwiches or fruit slices in their child's lunch boxes as students will be allowed 10 minutes (3:20 – 3:30pm) to eat and refresh. Parents are also requested to adhere to the guidelines of the program and siblings who are not participating need to be picked up by 3:45pm after school. Students enrolled in support classes need to be picked up at 4:30pm. Please encourage students to participate and be prompt to ensure the safety of students. For further queries, please contact the class teacher through the school office.

Term One Assessment

Parents are reminded that exams are scheduled for Week 9, commencing on 21st of March 2016. Assessment timetable and a brief description of areas to be tested will be submitted to parents by Week 3. Students will benefit with regular reading and using e-learning resources such as Mathletics, Bug Club and Literacy Pro (Lexile). Students are also provided reading folders and Premier's Reading Challenge books to develop reading skills. Please liaise with your child's class teacher if you have further queries regarding examinations.

Uniform/ Dress Code

Proper uniform does not only instil a sense of pride and belonging, it is designed to cater for safety requirements around daily school activities, especially

sport. Please ensure that students are in black leather school shoes and use sport shoes for sports days only. K-2 girls are expected to plait and tie the hair properly so as to keep the hair neat and to avoid disturbance during learning time. Parents are kindly requested to ensure that **boys do not have undercuts**. Teachers expect parental cooperation in order to ensure students adhere to the dress code. Parents are kindly reminded that students will be expected to be in proper school uniform for the school photos on Tuesday, 1st March.

Health and Safety Day

K – 6 students will have an interactive and highly motivating learning experience during the Health and Safety Day scheduled for the 17th of February. This day has been organised by the school's Sports Coordinator Mr Dannaoui and will be supported by the Primary Staff. Activities for the day include:

- Presentation on Student Well-being by West Tigers Players.
- Sessions on Healthy Lunch Boxes.
- Guest Speakers from Netball Providers.
- Games and Sporting Activities.
- Promoting Health and Safety through Posters and Writing Competition.

Mathletics

Recently students were provided with permission notes to enrol or renew their Mathletics subscription. Parents are kindly requested to support the school by providing \$13.00 for their child while the school contributes \$17 per student.

Combined with the effort of our teachers, Mathletics has helped the students. 2015 Year 3 NAPLAN Mathematics result has shown an outstanding record when compared over the last five years. The school is seeking parental cooperation as we work towards academic improvement.

Kindergarten Enrolments for 2017

Parents seeking enrolment for their children in 2017 kindergarten are requested to contact the school office for enrolment forms. Please inform friends and family about the enrolment being open as well. The completed application needs to be submitted ASAP as limited places are available and the enrolment will close by Term 2 as student interviews will be held at this time. Newly enrolled siblings of our current students will also be expected to have certain requirements such as school readiness including basic literacy/ numeracy and social skills for safety around other students.

Currently, the school has three streams of kindergarten classes and each class is supported by a full time teacher aide. Each classroom is fully equipped with interactive smart board, class set of ipads, classroom computers and access to modern state of the art library served by a full time librarian and an assistant. The students have a fully qualified Sports teacher and access to a well -equipped hall for Sports.

GVIC as Nut Free Zone

Parents are requested to abide by our Nut Free Zone Policy. Under *Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA)* and the *Disability Standards for Education 2005 (DSE)*, our school is obliged to ensure that some of our Primary students who are anaphylactic are not in contact with students who have had peanut butter or nutella sandwiches. Over the next few weeks this will be monitored and students who turn up with such sandwiches will be given reminders. We humbly seek parental cooperation in this matter.

Mrs Samina Ali



*Dr Mohammed Jafar
Principal*