



# Newsletter

## Green Valley Islamic College

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## GVIC

Respect

Ownership

Caring

Knowledge

Safety

### School Term Dates

#### Term 1

Friday 27th January –  
Friday 7th April

#### Term 2

Monday 24th April –  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June

#### Term 3

Monday 10th July –  
Friday 22nd September

#### Term 4

Monday 9th October –  
Tuesday 12th December

### DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S (SECONDARY) MESSAGE

Welcome back to a new school year at GVIC. Year seven students have joined High School and are ready to begin the new academic year. Our year seven students have made a great start to their high school and have fully settled into their learning, this was helped by the successful year six to seven transition lessons held throughout Term four.

#### New Staff

A warm welcome to our new secondary teachers: Ms Danielle Kalaizis, Coordinator for Year seven and eight boys welfare and discipline and in the PDHPE Department, Mr Mukesh Chand in the Maths and Science Department, Ms Houda El Daou in the English Department and Ms Abir Saman in the Commerce and Maths Department.

#### Roll Call

Students are required to attend roll call every morning at **8.15am** in the sports hall. Students will also be taking part in a daily Taleem session during this time. This will give students a positive start to the day and ensure they are ready for learning. This will also provide teachers the opportunity to check school diaries and ensure all students are in the correct uniform. Students who arrive later than 8.25am will be given a recess detention for 10 minutes. If students are late twice in a week they will receive a 30 minute detention after school the following week.

#### HSC 2016

Congratulations to our 2016 Year 12 students who have produced outstanding results in their HSC. Our largest Year 12 cohort to date, and 75% of the examinations the students sat for HSC were between Bands 4-6 which is a fantastic achievement for students and staff, and an acknowledgement to the staff for the hard work they put into guiding students to their successes. Our DUX 2016 title was awarded to Nadia Mukhaiber who received Band 6 for all her subjects.

Some of the degree courses students are going to study include: Business and Law, Business, Engineering, Radiography, Dentistry, Teaching, Advanced Medical Science, Arts and Law, Nursing and Applied Science to name a few...

#### Vaccination

All Year seven students will be receiving the first round of vaccination on Monday, 6th March. Information packs for parents and students have been distributed to the students.

Important notes regarding the 2017 School Vaccination Program from the Public Health Unit Immunisation Team:

- Year seven students may commence the course of vaccinations at any of the 3 visits (any outstanding doses of HPV will be completed at school when the students are in Year eight).

## WELFARE REPORT

- If a Year seven 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 seven 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).

### Calendar of Events

For Term calendar of events please visit our website: [www.gvic.nsw.edu.au](http://www.gvic.nsw.edu.au)

Mr Jay Halai

## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

This Term, the English Department welcomes back all the students to the new academic year. While it may seem to be a tedious task to embrace the hectic beginning, the English teachers are ensuring a smooth transition, by helping and catering for the students' academic needs. Simultaneously, specific English skills; Reading, Writing, Listening, Viewing and Representing, are being emphasised and embedded in their learning programs so that they are able to develop and refine the required skills in order to achieve higher grades.

*WordFlyers* will also be part of the English programs for Years Seven to Ten and will be accessible from home as well. Therefore, students are highly encouraged to make effective use of their lesson time as well as classroom resources to work to the best of their abilities, thus producing the expected results. Lastly, we would also like to advise all parents to continue engaging with their children regularly so as to assist them at home to enhance both their reading and writing skills as "*education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learned in school*". – Albert Einstein

Ms Malik  
English Department

### Year Seven and Ten Camp

Year 7 and 10 students have been chosen to visit Camp Yarramundi, the YMCA of Sydney's Outdoor Education Centre 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 students have experienced a jam packed fun-filled day of team building and adrenalin rush activities such as the giant swing, high ropes, kayaking and the alpine rescue. I strongly recommend all students experience Camp Yarramundi as it helps build friendship, independence, team building and communication skills plus much more.

### Program dates:

01/05/2017 to 02/05/2017 for Years 7 and 10 boys – 1 night 2 days

27/04/2017 to 28/04/2017 for Years 7 and 10 girls– 1 night 2 days

Departure time: 8.45am (Immediately after roll call students are to assemble in Undercover B for announcements)

Return time: Approximately 3.30pm

**Cost: \$190**                      **Please pay by 27 March 2017**

Payment is to be made at the front office.

NO ELECTRONIC GADGETS will be permitted, if seen they will be confiscated and the mobile phone/electronic gadgets policy will be implemented. Vegetarian food will be provided and prayer facilities will be available.

The Medical and Consent form attached to the note given last week must be completed and returned as soon as possible to Mrs Chouman. In addition, please read the Camp Guidelines and Gear Checklist to ensure all students have everything they need for camp.

Whilst challenge and enjoyment are integral components of the programs, student safety is our first priority. Hence, it is essential that you read with your child/ward, and consent to, the guidelines outlined herein. To ensure the safety and enjoyment of all involved, any student putting themselves or their peers at risk of injury through a breach of these guidelines will be required to be picked up and return home.

We look forward to providing your child with a valuable and enjoyable, lifetime experience.

### **Girls' Uniform**

Being in full school uniform demonstrates a students' commitment to being a positive member of the school community and enhances the good image of our school. It is school policy that all students wear full school uniform. If for some reason an item of school uniform cannot be worn the student is required to have a note of explanation and she is to see the Welfare coordinator (Ms Chouman) before school to obtain an Out of Uniform Pass.

We request that all parents ensure that their child comes to school with the correct:

- shoes (leather)
- socks (white, grey or black)
- school hijab

In addition students should not have the following:

- brooches (white safety pin is sufficient)
- jewellery (except a watch) – RINGS ARE NOT ALLOWED
- nail polish
- makeup

Studies have found that students who are well groomed have a better attitude towards learning. This expectation of our school is based on developing the value of respect in our children.

### **Welfare Incursion – Year Seven and Year Eight**

On Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 Brainstorm Productions will be presenting their student wellbeing program 'Sticks & Stones' for Years Seven and Eight students.

Seen and enjoyed by over 1.7 million students, Sticks and Stones is a fearless exploration of violence and aggression and its devastating consequences. The play is confronting and performed by two highly-trained actors, who as young role models, can genuinely connect with the audience and make it clear that masculinity and violence are NOT one and the same. The production encourages teenagers to re-think their views about violence, abuse and controlling behaviour. The performance is followed by an after-show discussion that examines students' attitudes, challenges stereotypes and aims to breakdown any pre-conceived ideas about violence being acceptable.

Sticks and Stones is part of our student wellbeing curriculum and the program has been developed in consultation with teachers, psychologists, as well as real-life student experiences. The methodology of the program is safe, supportive and non-judgmental and designed to provide students with positive and useful tools that they can use in their everyday lives.

Brainstorm Productions is Australia's largest educational touring theatre company. Their programs cater to the specific wellbeing needs of students, helping to create a healthy and harmonious school environment.

The \$10 payment and the signed permission note must be returned to Mrs Chouman or Mr Shiraz by Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2017.

### **Welfare Incursion – Year Nine and Year Ten**

On Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> March 2017 Brainstorm Productions will be presenting their student wellbeing program 'Cyberia' for Years Nine and Ten.

Powerful, compelling, Cyberia is an unflinching live theatre experience about cyber-bullying and its devastating repercussions. Cyberia depicts two teen characters that are increasingly using texting, tweeting, online gaming, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, MSN and (embarrassing) selfies to express themselves. In time this takes a nasty twist leading to cyber-bullying and the spreading of hurtful rumours online. The characters suddenly realise they can't just press the "undo" button to save their relationships, reputation or their dignity. Cyberia will encourage students to think carefully before they 'post', 'tweet' or 'snap' and to stop, think and reboot.

Cyberia is part of our student wellbeing curriculum and the program has been developed in consultation with teachers, psychologists, as well as real-life student experiences. The methodology of the program is safe, supportive and non-judgmental and designed to provide students with positive and useful tools that they can use in their everyday lives.

More than 350,000 Australian students have already benefited from Brainstorm Productions Multi Award-winning Educational Theatre programs over the past twelve months. Their programs cater to the specific wellbeing needs of students, helping to create a healthy and harmonious school environment. The \$10 payment and the signed permission note must be returned to Mrs Chouman or Mr Shiraz by Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017.

Mrs Chouman  
Welfare Coordinator

## LIBRARY REPORT

### Welcome back!

Welcome back to our new school year. We are very excited to share our school year with you. At Green Valley Islamic College, our students are challenged academically to reach their full potential, as well as to be successful 21<sup>st</sup> Century citizens and life long, self-directed learners.

Our library will accomplish this goal throughout the year by conducting daily classes for each grade level, promoting children's literacy and sponsoring special events like Book Fair.

Please encourage your child/children to read 15-20 minutes every night. Reading to your child/children every night can make a huge difference in their learning. Parents who read to their children and are seen reading by their children, send important messages about the value of literacy. There are two steps to reading; firstly, being able to read the words on the page. Secondly, being able to understand, comprehend or make meaning from what you read. The more you read and engage your imagination, the higher your levels of comprehension. Let's start reading and achieve highly literate students.

### Super Readers

Congratulation to the following students who are our Super Readers for Semester Two 2016(Terms Three and Four);

Kindergarten – Rafaan Ali  
Grade One – Ella Rustom  
Grade Two – Mohamme Kashif, Layla Hamdash and Zaineab Shah  
Grade Three – Amir Khan  
Grade Four – Jana Ismail  
Grade Five – Jawyria Ishaque  
Grade Six – Naairah Bi  
Grade Seven – Bilal Shah  
Grade Eight – Shaza Achrafi  
Grade Nine – Badia Rima and Zachariah Rafei  
Grade Ten – Sana Bakfalouni  
Grade Eleven – Zahir Hussain

Ms Fareesha Mohammed

## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S (PRIMARY) MESSAGE

Assalaamu Alaikum

On behalf of Primary, I would like to welcome our students and their parents to the 2017 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 staff work collaboratively to address any concern. Parents are urged to see the Deputy Principal immediately regarding a concern. Alternatively, please voice your issues through the grievance form from the school office, and the matter will be dealt with as soon as possible.

### Calendar of Events for Term 1

Date/ Week	Event
Weeks 3 – 11 Tuesdays & Thursdays	Years 3 and 5 After School Support Classes
Weeks 3 – 11 Tuesdays	Years 1, 2, 4 and 6 After School Support Classes
Week 3 - Wed. 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	Kindergarten and Years 3 and 5 Parent Information Sessions 4:30-6:00pm
Week 3 - Thurs. 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	Years 1, 2, 4 and 6 Parent Information Sessions 4:30-6:30 pm
Week 5 – Wed. 21 <sup>st</sup> Feb.	Primary School Photo Day
Week 5 – Wed. 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb.	PBS and SRC (Prefects) Induction
Week 7 – Wed. 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Primary Health and Safety Session
Week 8 – Fri. 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Harmony Day
Week 9	Primary Term One Assessments
Week 10-Thurs. 30 March	Oz Tag - Cops vs Kids
Week 11 – Wed. 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Primary Parent- Teacher Interviews



### School Hours

Please note that the first bell in the morning is now scheduled to ring at **8:15am** rather than 8:20am in order to accommodate the following:

- Extra five minutes to unpack and complete other routine tasks such as placing lunch orders
- Introduction of Values Education (ROCKS – Respect, Ownership, Caring, Knowledge and Safety) – explicit lessons on these social skills every Monday morning. These concepts will be revisited during the week.
- Additional time for two sessions of DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) and two sessions of DEAW (Drop Everything and Write) per week.
- Introduction of “Crunch and Sip” program for Years Three - Six and continuation for K - Two.

Parents are also reminded that cut – off time for late arrival still remains at 8:25 am and the school humbly requests parents to support the school in teaching our students about the importance of punctuality.

### Tutorials for Primary Parents

For parents who would like to explore better ways of supporting students with certain concepts in any key learning area such as Maths, English, Science, History/Geography, PDHPE, etc. tutorials will be available on Thursdays from 3:45 - 4:30pm, in the Primary Support Room. The first session will commence on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February. Parents are requested to contact the Primary Deputy for Tutorial

forms. These sessions will be available until the 4<sup>th</sup> of May, 2017.

### **“Crunch & Sip”**

Just a reminder that now students from K - Six will participate in this program, which provides the opportunity for the students to have a five minute fruit break between periods one and two. This program requires students to bring fruit slices in a container which is placed on their table in the morning until consumed at the suggested time. The main objective of this program is to develop healthy eating habits and at the same time it allows students to re-refresh, particularly those who do not have a proper breakfast, despite reminders. The school anticipates parental support for the well-being of our students.

### **Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC)**

K - Six students will participate in PRC, which requires students to read selected books written by renowned authors. While lower grades have the option of these books being read to them by their class teacher, Years Two - Six will be expected to take these books home as part of the Reading program. Year two students also have the option of having these books read to them by the parents as well. The school anticipates parents’ support in guiding our students to develop their reading skills.

### **After School Support Program**

Years One, Two, Four and Six will have access to the support classes that commenced on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> February (Week 3). The lessons will be for an hour (3:30 – 4:30pm). Years Three and Five will have Literacy classes on Tuesdays and Numeracy sessions on Thursdays, starting from Week 3 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 – 3:30 pm) 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 3:45 pm after school. Students enrolled in support classes need to be picked up at 4:30 pm. **It is crucial that students are provided clear instructions by parents regarding the pick-up time and**

**arrangement, and in particular the school is to be informed of any changes with this. Additionally it would be appreciated if a simple letter is sent to the class teacher.**

Please be prompt and encourage students to participate. 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 20<sup>th</sup> of March 2017. Assessment timetable and a brief description of areas to be tested have been submitted to parents. 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 sports. 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 avoid disturbance during learning time. Parents are kindly requested to ensure that **boys do not have undercuts**. Teachers anticipate parental cooperation 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, 21<sup>st</sup> February.

### **Health and Safety Day**

K – Six students will have an interactive and highly motivating learning experience during the Health and Safety Day scheduled for the 8<sup>th</sup> of March. 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:

- Guest Speaker – Hazem El Masri
- Sessions on Healthy Lunch Boxes

- 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 \$15.00 for their child while the school contributes \$21 per student.

Mathletics, combined with the effort of our teachers, has helped the students. In 2015 and 2016 external examination Mathematics result has shown an outstanding record compared over the last five years. The school is seeking parental cooperation as we work towards academic improvement. Please ensure that your child submits the payment to the class teacher by the 24<sup>th</sup> of February, 2017.

### **Kindergarten Enrolments for 2018**

Parents seeking enrolment for their children in 2018 kindergarten are requested to contact the school office for enrolment forms. Please inform friends and family about the enrolments being open as well. The completed application forms need to be submitted as soon as possible as limited places are available and enrolment will close by Term Two which is when student interviews will be held. 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 iPad, classroom computers and access to modern state of the art library managed by a full time library 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 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



### **Payment of School Fees**

Schools fees for Term 1 are as follows:

Primary - \$350

Junior Secondary - \$420

Senior Secondary - \$555

School fees are due by Friday, 17 February and we appreciate prompt payment of school fees. School fees can be paid by cash, EFT (in person or over the phone) and BPAY. A fee statement will be sent to you shortly which will include your unique Reference Number and our Biller Code which is 255943. Please enter this Reference Number to ensure that the payment is correctly allocated to your child's account.

### **School Photos**

MSP Photography will be visiting the school for school photos on 21<sup>st</sup> February for Primary and 23<sup>rd</sup> February for Secondary students.

Photo envelopes will be sent home to you soon. The school prefers that payments are made online before the photo date.