

Newsletter

Green Valley Islamic College

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Thursday, 22 June

GVIC

Respect

Ownership

Caring

Knowledge

Safety

School Term Dates

Term 2

Wednesday 26th April –
Friday 30th June

Term 3

Tuesday 18th July –
Friday 22nd September

Term 4

Monday 9th October –
Friday 15th December

ACTING PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents/Guardians

Assalaamu Alaikum

Eid Holidays

Green Valley Islamic College will be closed on Monday 26th June and Tuesday 27th June for Eid-ul-Fitr celebrations. Parents and the school community are wished a blessed and a joyous Eid. School and normal classes will resume on Wednesday, 28th June.

Term Two School Holidays

The last day of school for Term Two is Friday, 30th June. Students will return to school on Tuesday, 18th July. Please note **Monday, 17th July is a pupil free day.** The Administration Office will be closed for the first week of the holidays and will re-open for the second week, from 10th – 14th July, 8.00am to 4.00pm.

2018 Term Dates

Term 1	Monday 29 th Jan – Friday 13 th Apr	11 weeks
Term 2	Monday 30 th Apr – Friday 6 th Jul	10 weeks
Term 3	Monday 23 rd Jul – Friday 28 th Sep	10 weeks
Term 4	Term 4 – Monday 15 th Oct – Friday 14 th Dec	9 weeks

Note:

1. School development days are held at the beginning of Terms One, Two and Three and

the last two days of the school year.

2. Parents – Teacher Interviews will be conducted either at the beginning or the end of each of the first three Terms for Primary and High school.

Please arrange your holidays so that your child/ren missing out on face to face class teaching is minimal.

Student Pick-ups from Drop-off Zone

The school will **strictly not allow** students to run across the road (Coronation Drive). Parents are requested to hold their child/ren's hands when crossing the road. For the safety of the students, the school urges parents to cooperate and guide students to avoid the risk of accidents.

Payment of School fees

A small number of parents who are yet to pay the fees are requested to do so immediately. We appreciate prompt payment of school fees.

School Canteen

The Canteen will reopen on Wednesday, 28th June.

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S (SECONDARY) MESSAGE

Year 12 HSC Trial

The next term will see our Year Twelve students undertaking their HSC exams. The upcoming end of the term holiday will be pivotal in their preparation for their examinations.

Please ensure your child utilises this time by preparing a revision timetable that will aid them in their pursuit to achieve well. Going through past papers under timed conditions will be beneficial in helping students understand the level of responses required by examiners. All students have been furnished with HSC examination papers from their teachers. A timetable will be handed out to students when they arrive back in Term 3.

Years 7 to 11 Assessment Tasks

Assessment tasks will be issued in their subjects during the Term Three. Teachers will provide their classes with all the support necessary for students to perform well, the onus is on students to organize their time effectively to revise and meet assignment deadlines. A two week notification will be given to students. These assignments should be worked on over a period of time and not just the night before the due date. Teachers expect to see quality detailed work and thorough preparation for examinations reflected in the student's examination paper. The deadlines for assignments will be spread across the term.

Year 7-11 Parent - Teacher Meeting

The parent - teacher evening for Years seven-eleven is being held on Wednesday, 19th July 2017. Your child's report for their half-way point of studies will be issued to you. This will also be a prime time to discuss the progress of your child in their Half-Yearly Examinations, and the next steps they need to take to ensure they achieve well for the rest of the year.

Elevate Education

Our year 12 students participated in the 'Finishing Line' a workshop held by Elevate Education. This will help them with the preparation for the upcoming trial examinations.

The feedback from students was very positive and they learned techniques to better prepare for their examinations. Students can visit the website: www.elevateeducation.com and login to the student portal via using the password (**rondo**) to access HSC resources including past questions on subjects such as

Legal Studies, Business Studies and Biology to name a few.

Mr Jay Halai

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Term Two has been a hectic yet very productive term for the students and the English Department. As this semester comes to an end, English teachers are working assiduously to ensure a smooth conclusion of the Term, through effective and consistent teaching practices that are being implemented within the classroom to engage students, especially after the close of the Half-Yearly Examination.

Students as well as parents, as such, are kindly reminded to continue engaging in the learning process, thus working diligently towards their set academic goals. The passion for reading and writing to sharpen both analytical and creative skills in English should be persistently present and students are highly encouraged to make effective use of the ICT based literacy program *WordFlyers*, which is also accessible from home. Parents and carers have been notified and instructed on how to access the program from home, via text message by the English Coordinator. While Stage Four students begin afresh next semester, Stage Five students are highly encouraged to review and apply the feedback received for the Half-Yearly Examination to achieve better results in the future.

Hence, the most significant message from the English Department, for students, is that they are to connect thoroughly to their texts and engage in explicit textual analysis so that they are able to refine their critical thinking skills, thus thinking independently while progressing towards the new HSC Curriculum. As English teachers, we also work towards imparting knowledge in such a way that each student is instilled with the required values and etiquette that relate to life skills as well as academic goals.

Ms Malik
English Department

WELFARE REPORT

Motivation for Students

Developing motivation and staying motivated as a student is one of the hardest tasks and biggest obstacles to achieving. Learning can be a challenge for many students, focusing on improving your own motivation will assist you to achieve your goals for learning.

Tips to achieve and remain motivated to succeed

Teachers can do many things but without a student's effort and positive attitude, only so much can be achieved. You, the student, need to do your part to get motivated and believe in yourself. The best teacher in the world cannot force you to learn. It is in your hands.

Plan your goals and stick to the plan.

Goal setting with a realistic, well thought out plan takes us towards success. Write out your learning target and timetable. Fit in 15 minutes to an hour for each subject every day. Do not just rely on your lessons and books; add extra learning activities to your plan.

Actions speak louder than plans.

Now that you have a plan, you need to follow it. Try it for a while; if it doesn't work change it a little. You need to do work at home to practice, consolidate and reinforce your learning.

Change your "to-do" into "been-done"

Achieving your own goals is one of the most successful motivators in the world. Making a plan of what you need to do and doing it is positive action. Staying positive can be just as easy as being negative.

Your goals are your dreams.

You are the person who needs to do the work. Make the effort to take every opportunity to practice and learn. Make small, achievable goals to increase your chance of success.

Quitters never win. Refuse to quit.

When you set your mind to learning and commit to it, you will learn something every time. You can do it. You will do it. You are doing it. You've done it. Keep going, studying, and practicing. With practice comes

improvement. Improvement leads to ability. Believe in yourself and just do it!

Procrastination can be put off until tomorrow.

Stop making excuses. Failure is easy, success takes effort.

When you reach an obstacle, always go around it

Hit a roadblock? Having trouble? Find another way. Ask for help.

Every problem is just a challenge awaiting your solution

Find solutions. Seek out help. Teachers like to help when students bring their challenges to them. It shows commitment and motivation.

Every mistake is a learning opportunity

We learn from our mistakes. Don't be afraid of making them. It shows you are trying. There is no need to apologize when you are learning. Don't be afraid to try, be brave enough to make a mistake. Only you can break your bad habits, and make good ones. Others can teach you how but only you can change your mind. The good thing about habits is that good ones turn into routine.

When you have faith in yourself, others will join in.

Believe in yourself, don't give up. Soon your attitude will show and people will be there to support you and help you stick to it.

Today, you are one step closer to the finish line.

Every step, every word; every bit of practice brings you further along. Some days, it might just be small steps, other days, it may be huge leaps, but the end is always a little bit closer. This article is general information only, if you are concerned about your or someone else's mental health, talk to your parent/carer or Welfare Coordinator.

Article Source: <https://onlinelanguagecenterblog.com>

Useful Resources / Contacts:

Mental Health Line 1800011511

Kids Helpline 1800551800

Self-Harm

What is self-harm?

Self-harm is when someone deliberately injures themselves. Some of the more common self-harming behaviours include: cutting, burning and scratching. Excessive alcohol and drug misuse does not usually come under this definition.



It is important to remember that whilst self-harm behaviour is not a suicide attempt it is still serious and risky behaviour that can have long-term consequences for a young person and therefore should always be taken seriously.

Who self-harms?

Self-harm is most common amongst 11-25 year olds, however is not limited to this age group. People who self-harm have often had past or current negative experiences such as:

Traumatic relationships
Significant loss

Relationship breakdown

Abuse (physical, sexual, emotional)

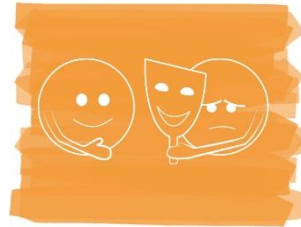
Long-term family problems, relationship problems, problems at school.

They may **Feel** overwhelmed or hopeless because of a serious illness/disability

Why do people self-harm?

There is a commonly held belief that self-harming is “attention seeking” behaviour; however this is not the case.

There are many reasons why



people self-harm. Some typically reported reasons include:

To cope with feelings of extreme emotional pain such as: helplessness, despair, anger, loneliness, shame, guilt, tension and stress.

To manage feeling disconnected and isolated from others. Some people feel that hurting themselves helps them to feel real or connected to other people.

To try and gain control. Some people feel that hurting themselves gives them a sense that they are regaining some level of control (in the short-term).

To communicate distress. Some people do not know how to verbally express their emotions, and do so through self-harm.

As self-punishment or feelings of

self-loathing. Some people believe they deserve to be punished.

What should I do if I know a Young Person self-harms?

Dealing with young people who are self-harming is a complex and sensitive issue. If you feel comfortable it is important to **speak with them and let them know of your concern**. Ideally, you should mention your concern directly to the young person first and then **support them to seek appropriate help** from school wellbeing staff or other health professionals.



The **first priority** should be to focus on the safety of the young person who is harming themselves and the potential distress for other young people around them. To try and maintain the young person’s confidentiality and dignity, it may be helpful to give the young person some privacy away from others and then guide them to seek appropriate help.

This article is general information only, if you are concerned about your or someone else’s mental health, talk to your parent/carer or Welfare Coordinator.

Useful Resources / Contacts:

-  www.headspace.org.au/schools
-  <https://www.sane.org/mental-health-and-illness/facts-and-guides/self-harm>
-  <https://www.youthbeyondblue.com/understand-what's...on/self-harm-and-self-injury>

Article Source:

Self-harm: Headspace School Support

Ms Chouman
Welfare Coordinator

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S (PRIMARY) MESSAGE

Inter-schools Public Speaking Competition

Since 2015, Years Three-Six students have been given the opportunity to compete with students from a few other schools in order to develop and enhance their public speaking skills. Last year, our students proudly stood at *first equal position* with Malek Fahd Islamic School. Other schools that had competed with us included Amity College and Unity Grammar. We are pleased to inform parents that this competition once again will be held in Term Three and students are currently training for the event during their lunch time.

Parents of students participating are requested to help with the training by encouraging the students. Closer to the event, parents will be advised about attending the session. The photograph attached below shows winners of 2016 Public Speaking Competition with the organiser.



Professor Maths Road Show

Mathematics being one of the key subject areas will be presented to the students through a motivating and engaging activity known as the above on the 30th of August and the 1st of September. This activity provides hands-on learning opportunities that develop students' skills in Mathematics and facilitates the love for the subject. Permission notes will be sent to the parents closer to the event in Term Three. Parents are requested to encourage students to participate in this activity and show their support for the subject by attending the session as audience.



NAPLAN Online Trials

Years three and five students will be required by the NAPLAN providers to sit for the above during the trial period of 14th August – 22nd September. This is a training activity to compare their pen and paper performance with the online mode. Parents are reminded that NAPLAN will move to online mode in the future, therefore the school is requesting parents to support the students by encouraging them to develop familiarity with online activities such as Mathletics, Literacy Pro (Lexile), and Bug Club on a regular basis. Current Years Three and Five students need to continue with their hard work as they did prior to NAPLAN.

Primary Parent – Teacher Interviews

Students have just completed the Half-Yearly Examinations and teachers are in the process of doing analysis to identify progress as well as areas that require attention. Due to Ramadan and the Eid festive season, teachers will be meeting with the parents within 8:00 to 4:00pm from 28th – 30th June in the classrooms. While most of the interviews will be scheduled from 3:20 – 4:00pm over the three days, teachers may advise parents regarding their availability during their Arabic release which varies from teacher to teacher. Further details have been provided through a special letter that was sent earlier this week. Prior bookings are required as teachers will interview a number of parents. Please contact the school office for further clarification.

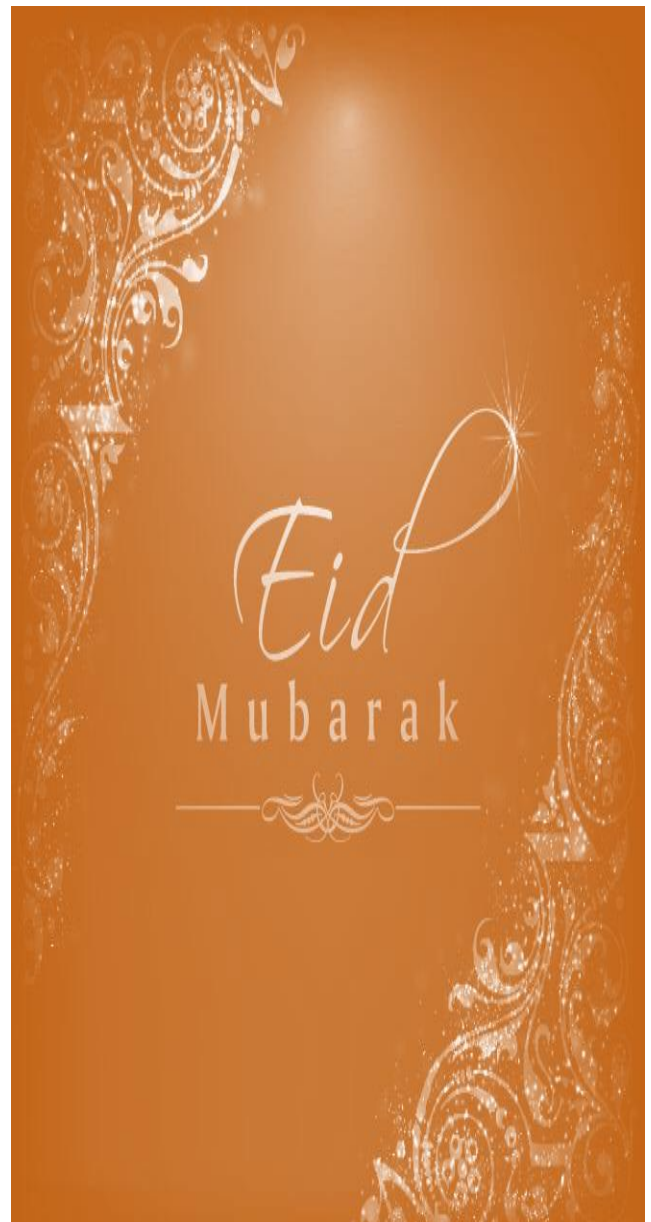
2018 Kindergarten

The school would like to kindly remind the parents that enrolments close on the 28th of June, 2017. We would also like to remind parents that the pre-kindergarten interviews will be held on Saturday, 29th July from 9:00 – 12:00 pm in the current kindergarten classrooms. We look forward to meeting the youngest group of our school.

Spelling Buzz

The effort of the following students paid off as they claimed the Spelling Buzz Champ titles and proved the fact that they are the top spellers of their grade. Essa has kept the title for the last three years while Haalah has been the winner since 2016. We are very proud of their achievements. Congratulations!

Class	2017 Spelling Buzz Champs
1B	Ammaar Rasul
2G	Haalah Khan
3B	Layelle Abdulkader
4B	Essa Hijazi
5B	Ammna Khan
6G	Nausheen Ali



After School Support

Parents are kindly reminded that After School Support sessions will commence once again on Tuesday of Week 2, Term three at the usual time 3:30 – 4:30 pm. Year six students will commence their intensive preparation for the GAT examination on the same day and we aim to target ALL Year six students as they can all benefit from additional classes to enhance their Literacy/ Numeracy skills. Parents of Year six students are encouraged to allow their children to participate in these classes so that the students can be successfully promoted to high school, with adequate Literacy/Numeracy skills. Permission slips for these classes have been sent to parents.

Mrs Samina Ali

*Mr Shamsher Ali
Acting Principal*