



# Newsletter

## Green Valley Islamic College

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Term 1 Issue 2, 2019

Friday 29 March 2019

## GVIC

### Respect

### Ownership

### Caring

### Knowledge

### Safety

### School Term Dates

#### Term 1

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January  
– Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April

#### Term 2

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April –  
Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July

#### Term 3

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July –  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September

#### Term 4

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October –  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>  
December

**\*Subject to change.**

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents

Assalamu Alaykum WRWB

All praises be to Allah, whose Mercy and Generosity we pray for and depend on.

As we are nearing the end of a very busy term, we can look back on all the exciting school events with satisfaction and pride, however, we have etched in our memories the tragic events of 15<sup>th</sup> March which occurred in New Zealand. We responded immediately by reviewing our security arrangements and arranging a special assembly for students and teachers. The police have been extremely supportive, patrolling the area more frequently and visiting the school to ensure that our concerns are addressed. Insofar as security arrangements are concerned, the School Board and executive staff are working together, with professional assistance, to ensure the ongoing security of the site.

On Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> March, the school, together with the Muslim League of NSW, held a commemoration ceremony which was very well attended. Distinguished guests included the Fiji High Commissioner, the Federal Member for Werriwa, the Mayor of Liverpool, Police Commander for Liverpool

and local councillors. The tents set up by our hard working staff, celebrating the diversity of our society lent colour and character to the event - as well as providing delicious food! It was a very successful event, highlighting the importance of a cohesive community that can work together for the greater good. We thank all our dedicated parents and staff who attended and contributed to the success of the event.

I would like to highlight the importance of regular school attendance and on time arrival; children are required to attend school each day it is open because education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age.

#### **Arriving at school and class on time:**

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

**Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.**

## PRIMARY DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

At GVIC we are committed to the safety and security of our students at all times. We seek your help and cooperation in maintaining safety standards and adhering to child protection laws. Here are some ways you can be of assistance:-

1. In the car park
  - Drive safely and politely in the school car park and when exiting the school grounds, keeping in mind that you cannot turn right onto Wilson Street
  - Please do NOT leave babies or young children in your cars when dropping off school aged children, it's illegal
  - Please do not park in the disabled parking bays
2. When entering the school
  - Please allow your children to remain in the care of teachers on duty after 8 am, and ensure you've left the school grounds by 8.15 am. Do not interact with children other than your own, nor use your mobile phones to take photos of children
  - Please note that adults are NOT allowed in student toilets

We look forward to your continued support and to providing quality education to our students in a safe and caring environment.

Mrs Yasmin Gamielidien

### Primary Highlights

Assalamu Alaykum

On behalf of Primary sector, I would like to thank parents for their continuous cooperation in order to enable their children to receive additional lessons in Literacy and Numeracy through the After School Support Program. In particular, Years Three and Five are having intensive sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays to "catch-up" with any concept that needs to be reinforced.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank those parents who are rigorously monitoring their child (ren)'s progress and regularly liaising with class teachers to find out better ways of supporting learning.

### ROCKS Positive Social Skills

As part of our focus on developing students' skills in caring for others, primary participated in discussions and artworks on actions that demonstrate those skills through activities such as "Random Acts of Kindness" on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February. Recognition and acknowledgement of tasks for example, "I helped my friend when he fell down" or "I gave flowers to my grandmother," will help to promote the expected behaviour and we encourage parents to regularly engage in discussions of these actions.





### Cops vs Kids Oz Tag

Upper primary students are currently training at lunch time to prepare for a competition with the local police, to be scheduled on the 11<sup>th</sup> of April, 2019. Further details regarding the competition will be provided to the parents of students involved. This event is part of the initiative organised by the Liaison Officer from the local Police Station, who also visits us annually to focus on Cyber Safety.

### After School Support Classes

The afternoon classes will continue this term until the last week (Week Eleven). However, the last sessions for Years Three and Five will be in Week Two of Term Two as NAPLAN exams will commence in Week Three of Term Two. Years Two, Four and Six will have their last session for this term in Week Eleven. Please also note that there will be no afternoon classes during Ramadan in Term Two, in particular Ramadan may tentatively commence on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May, and if it does, there will be no after school classes on the 7<sup>th</sup> of May, 2019.

### Holiday Classes for Years Three and Five

All parents are encouraged to take the opportunity to support their child's Literacy/ Numeracy development by ensuring that students participate in the holiday classes that will be held during the first week of the Term One holidays, from the 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> of April, 2019, except on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> due to the Good Friday holiday. The classes will commence at 9:00 am and finish at 1:00 pm. Students will get 15 minutes recess break to refresh. **All students will benefit from this, regardless of their ability.** Please contact the Deputy Principal for further details.

### SRC/PBS Induction

Highly motivated students enthusiastically presented speeches, nominating themselves for the roles of school captains and vice at the school assembly, followed by students voting for the captains as well as the vice-captains for the girls and boys. Selected students who have been displaying exemplary behaviour were chosen as the PBS reps. SRC/PBS students were inducted for their roles through a special ceremony observed on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February. Primary sector was pleased to welcome distinguished guests MP Anne Stanley and Councillor Nathan Hagarty, who along with our Principal and Chairman of the school badged the students. Congratulations to all the SRC/PBS reps and in particular, our School Captains Amir Khan and Hajar El Safadi. Our Vice Captains for 2019 are Fawzaan Shaheem and Maysa Abdul Kader.



## Primary Excursions

Excursions are part of teaching programs and provide a different pathway for learning. Students have been pro-actively engaged in experiential and authentic learning opportunities provided by excursions. Recent excursions include Year Four's trip to the Big Dig Archaeology Educational Centre and the Museum of Sydney, as part of their studies about British Colonisation in History and English. Year Two have visited the Australian Museum on the 7<sup>th</sup> of March to learn about the richness and diversity of Aboriginal culture. Year Five have been learning about Earth and Space, and as part of this have been developing skills in conducting scientific investigations. Year Five students have visited the Penrith Observatory at the University of Western Sydney on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March, to learn about the Solar System through the use of telescopes and make observations of sun spots and solar flares.



**State Year Level Ranking Report**

View your state ranking within your year level here.  
Select your year level and then view your ranking.

Grade 3 NSW Update

This Year			This Week		
RANK	USERNAME	PERFORMANCE SCORE	RANK	USERNAME	PERFORMANCE SCORE
1	feus91935	16371	1	vuu06300	2126
2	haha24904	16298	2	anishaachar	1584
3	salam75677	14661	3	zrah12361	1554
4	kha28337	14315	4	jmh44096	1514

## NAPLAN

Parents are reminded that the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for Years 3

and 5, are scheduled from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> of May, 2019. Please ensure that students are not absent during the assessment period. Please also note that students will be completing the assessment online, except for Year Three's Writing task.

Students will benefit from regular attendance, reading daily, completing homework and using e-learning resources such as Mathletics, Literacy Pro, etc. Students are also encouraged to continue with Excel Test Zone using the same passwords that they were provided with last year. Most importantly, Year Five students need to practice completing writing assessments by typing their persuasive or narrative texts within the allocated time. For further clarification, parents are encouraged to contact the class teacher via the school office or student diary. Congratulations to Junaid Mohmand of 3B for fourth position in Excel Test Zone State Level Ranking.

## The National Day of Action against Bullying and Harmony Day

Teachers worked with vigour to create awareness on actions against bullying as well as Harmony Day which was celebrated on the 19<sup>th</sup> of March, 2019. A special assembly which included a number of tasks such as rotational activities, scenario discussions and colourful artworks was held. A hands-on approach was undertaken by students to convey their messages to others on anti - bullying. Students also participated in a number of activities including displaying artefacts and food from different countries and assembly presentations to celebrate difference, as part of observing Harmony Day. Since studies on different cultures is part of our curriculum, we sincerely hope that we work together to teach tolerance, acceptance and respect for other cultures, and students are encouraged to demonstrate this attitude through their everyday actions.

## Parent-Teacher Interviews

Primary students are completing Term One Assessments and teachers will be doing analysis in order to provide effective feedback to the parents. Parent - Teacher interviews for Primary is scheduled for Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> of April from 4:00 – 6:00 pm in the

## **ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S (SECONDARY) MESSAGE**

Dear Parents/Guardians

Assalamu Alaykum

First and foremost, all praises be to Allah (SWT), the Creator and Sustainer of the universe. Education plays a significant role to design our future as a successful person in life and as a useful citizen in the society. Education reduces the challenges of life that one might face. An educated person will have more opportunities to accelerate their professional and personal growth in life.

Parents and families play an important role in supporting their child's education. Research has shown that when schools and families work together, children do better, stay in school longer, are more engaged with their school work, go to school more regularly, behave better, and have better social skills.

### **Some important reminders from the High School**

- Roll call begins at 8:15am. Please help us eliminate late arrivals by dropping your children to school on time. Leave home early to avoid getting caught up in traffic.
- Please provide medical certificate/explanation note to the roll call teacher if your child is absent from school. The medical certificate or absence note must be submitted the next day the child is back at school.
- Students attending afterschool NAPLAN and support classes are to be picked up from school promptly.
- For the wellbeing and safety of all children, the use of body sprays such as anti-perspirant aerosols are completely banned in school. Parents, please ensure that your child(ren) do not bring any sprays to school. Roll-On deodorants are only to be used in the bathrooms.
- Please organise your holiday travel outside of school term dates where possible to give children the opportunity to stay in school and maximise their learning.

school hall. These sessions not only provide an opportunity to celebrate the success of the students, it is a vital means of forming parent-teacher partnership to support students' areas of need that became evident from the recent exams. All parents are encouraged to support their children by attending these sessions and discussing ways of addressing the learning needs of their children.

The upcoming school holidays will provide ample time to "catch-up" with concepts and enable children to engage in wider reading, using public libraries for research on Term Two topics and visiting educational places such as museums to develop their general knowledge.

### **Primary Parents' Workshop and Tutorials**

An interactive workshop that allows parents to participate in group activities via rotational groups took place on the 28<sup>th</sup> of March, 2019. The major focus of the workshop is on how to facilitate beginning readers and what constitutes a successful start to reading. Teaching sight words and comprehension is also discussed. Parents are provided with resource packs which can be used at home to replicate some of the activities undertaken in classrooms. Parents were encouraged to participate in the workshop to explore ways of helping their children at home. Upon request from some parents, the workshop also had a "Sharing Session" which provided an opportunity for selected parents to share their experiences on how they have successfully guided their children to become outstanding students. Parents are also reminded that tutorials for parents are available on Thursdays from 3:45 – 4:30pm. These sessions are for individual parents who would like to discuss key concepts that their children are struggling with. Resources and web-links will be provided for additional support. To make a booking please contact the school office.

Mrs Samina Ali

## Support Classes

"Today I will do what others won't, so tomorrow I can accomplish what others can't."(Jerry Rice). In pursuit of changing the quote into reality, the school offers a number of FREE before and after school classes for the benefit of our students.

- Year 7 and 9 NAPLAN classes, every Tuesday and Thursday (3:30pm – 4:30pm)
- Year 12 Standard Mathematics, every Wednesday and Thursday (7:30am – 8:25am)
- Year 12 Mathematics, every Wednesday and Friday (3:25pm – 4:00pm)
- Year 12 Biology, every Tuesday (3:25pm – 4:30pm)
- Year 11 Biology starting on 12/03, every Tuesday (3:25pm – 4:30pm)

## School playground

Alhamdulillah, the Muslim League of NSW with their sheer determination and diligence were able to obtain a turf area for the school so our children can have a safe play area. Lots of work has been carried out to bring it to the beautiful grassed area it is today. The school, students, teachers and parents are excited about putting this area to great use.

### SRC Investiture Ceremony and HSC Award

Student Representative Council (SRC) investiture ceremony took place at Green Valley Islamic College on the 22nd of February 2019. The distinguished guests were Councillor Nathan Hagarty and Multicultural liaison officer from Liverpool police station, Bernadino Siry. The following students were honoured and inducted as part of the 2019 student leadership team.

School Captains: Rayyan Akhtar and Zeenat Dean

Deputy School Captains: Ertaza Arif and Shania Khan

7B – Amna Khan

7G - Nayyir Ali

7R - Sameer Rezaie

8B - Diana El-Safadi

8G - Jowad Al-Momani

8R - Joanne Ghazzawi

9B Huzaiifa Khan

9G Jamal ElSankari

9R Ali Alaubodi

10B - Fawaz Mohammed

10G - Zaid Elias

11B - Zakariya Buksh

11G- Amreen Aboo

12B- Billal Ghazzawi

12G- Monisha Ali

The ceremony was also special as our 2018 HSC distinguished achievers who scored a band 6 mark (90+) were rewarded with a monetary gift for their hard work and academic excellence.



# HSIE DEPARTMENT

Assalamu Alaykum

Term 1 of 2019 started with exciting content for the HSIE students.

Year 7 History explored the 'out of Africa theory' that about 60,000 years ago modern humans (*Homo sapiens*) began to leave that continent and gradually spread throughout the world. In 'Investigating History', students studied the nature of History using historical sources, both archaeological and written. Historians in Year 8 were mesmerised with 'Renaissance Italy', a period when Western Europe was embracing the learning of ancient Greece and Rome. This expansion of knowledge, experience and confidence heralded the Scientific Revolution and the Enlightenment which created the modern world.

Year 9 History curriculum provided a study of the history of the making of the modern world from 1750 to 1945. It was a period of industrialisation and rapid change in the ways people lived, worked and thought. It was an era of nationalism and imperialism, and the colonisation of Australia was part of the expansion of European power. Year 10 students investigated the significance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the struggle of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples for rights and freedoms.

Year 7 Geography students examined issues of landscape degradation and ways to manage and protect landscapes and landforms. Students also investigated a natural hazard associated with landscapes and people's responses to that hazard. Students in Year 8 examined water as a resource and the factors influencing water flows and availability of water resources in different places. They investigated the nature of water scarcity and assessed ways of overcoming it.

Year 9 Students examined the correlation between the world's climatic zones and spatial distributions of biomes and their capacity to support food and non-food agricultural production. Students in Year 10 developed



May Allah (SWT) continue to shower his infinite blessings upon our school and its people. I look forward to the support and cooperation from the parents to ensure our school remains a vibrant learning institution.

Mr Riaaz Ali

an understanding of the functioning of environments and the scale of human induced environmental changes challenging sustainability.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2019 the Year 10 Geographers will visit Sydney Olympic Park to gain experience as researchers and assess issues of land and water management. This field work is incorporated as part of an assessment task which will project the students to take on leadership roles in working towards maintaining the environment they live in.

The senior students of Ancient History and Studies of Religion II are focused on developing their knowledge and understanding skills to articulate sophisticated responses for their assessments tasks which are conducted at present.

Thanks to the amazing teachers in the HSIE faculty who make our students independent learners and informed citizens of this lovely country.

Mrs Saireen Hussain  
Head of Department



Assalamu Alaykum

“The English students’ writings are just like the rising sun whose pinkish golden hue warms every corner of the earth.” (Mrs Khan)

Throughout Term One, the English Department has worked together as a team to help students reach their learning goals. With NAPLAN rapidly approaching, students in Years Seven and Nine have been busy preparing for these tests through afternoon classes. The senior students have been busily preparing their first assessments of 2019 and Year Twelve will shortly begin their half-yearly examinations. Meanwhile, in years seven to ten, students have been visiting the library one lesson per week to participate in the *Renaissance Reading* program. Reading is an important part of education as it greatly assists in improving knowledge and writing, so we request parents to remind students to continue their reading at home. Also, fortunately,

students can continue their work on *Word Flyers* at home. *Word Flyers* is an online interactive learning platform that assists students with grammar and other language skills and is a part of English lessons.

It would be appreciated if parents were proactive in checking that their child’s English writing books are up to date, ensuring that they are completing their notes and classroom activities as this would help them to be organised and effectively learn English values and concepts.

Mrs Nazneen Khan  
Head of Department



### Harmony Day

Green Valley Islamic College celebrated Harmony Day on the 21st of March 2019 demonstrating the concept of multiculturalism and diversity of our school with an amazing display from 18 different countries showcasing foods and interactive activities.

The aim of ‘Everyone Belongs’ was truly demonstrated at this event when everyone worked side by side to create a collaborative environment for students and teachers. Students visited each stall and experienced being at that particular country through tasting the flavours on display, learning to write their names in different languages, taking part in games and seeking in-depth knowledge of the different cultures that make Australia home.

Mrs Saireen Hussain  
SRC Coordinator