



# GMIC

ISSUE 007  
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THE WORLD BOOK ATLAS

GREEN VALLEY ISLAMIC COLLEGE

Oh Lord  
Increase  
My  
Knowledge

RABIH ZIDNI ILMA

AUSTRALIA'S  
FIRST  
MUSLIM

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF  
KNOWLEDGE

ANIMAL  
WORLDWIDE

# GVIC Voice

*Green Valley Islamic College Newsletter*

## *In This Issue*

**Principal's Foreword: Mr Jay Halai**

**Secondary School Report: Mrs Saireen Hussain**

**Primary School Report: Mrs Samina Ali**

**ICT Report: Mr Issam Ibrahim**

**Alumni Report: Ms Soussan Raad & Mr Faraaz Aboo**

## Principal's Foreword

**Mr Jay Halai**

Assalamu Alaykum

The doors to Green Valley Islamic College have been opened again and it has been brilliant to see the smiling faces on our young and enthusiastic students as they returned once again to face to face learning. The likes of Nelson Mandela have touted education as *"the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world"* and there is no doubting that face to face education is our most effective means of conveying this paradigm. Yet nevertheless, I think it is necessary to acknowledge and applaud all out staff, parents and students for the hard work, dedication and perseverance demonstrated throughout the period of remote learning. The events of the last term were unexpected and unfolded in a short time frame and so I cannot thank the community enough for working with us to deliver an unparalleled remote learning experience to our students.

COVID-19 nevertheless remains of paramount concern and the College continues to put in place a plethora of measures to limit the spread of the virus amongst staff and students. The development of a risk assessment has sought to identify any potential risks associated with COVID-19 transmission at the College and has allowed it to put in place measures to hinder/thwart potential risks.

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Additionally, the College is continuing with its robust digital transformation and is progressing full steam ahead. All rooms have now been equipped with Interactive Flat Panels (IFP's) which will revolutionise the way teaching takes place; facilitating the provision of deep learning initiatives and improving the teaching and learning at the College. The deployment of the Interactive Flat Panels addresses another step in the digital transformation taking place at the College with the view to transform the way our students learn and provide them with the opportunities that they may have never had before. A big thanks goes out to our IT team who have been a central element in this digital transformation and who continue to strive to improve the use of technology in teaching and learning at Green Valley Islamic College.

The Year 12 exam season is also upon us and I would like to wish our Year 12 students the best of luck in their upcoming HSC exams. The hard work, effort and determination that you have put in over the last 13 years of education will ultimately come to a conclusion over the next 3 weeks and I have full trust that you will give it your all and achieve the best that you can. You have had to endure what has undoubtedly been one of the toughest HSC experiences to date and I know that the courage and perseverance that you have demonstrated over the past year will put you in good stead going into this HSC period and post HSC, in your tertiary/vocational education. Best of luck!

The College is also proud to announce that the long awaited name change to Minarah College will occur as of January 1, 2022, whilst the new uniform will be introduced at the start of 2023. We hope you will join us in welcoming this new era.

I would like to extend my thanks once again to all the Green Valley Islamic College stakeholders for their ongoing support and remind all stakeholders; staff, parents and students, that the College remains open and is here to attend to any queries or questions you may have.



# Secondary Report

**Ms Saireen Hussain**

**Deputy Principal Teaching and Learning**

Dear Parents/Guardians

Assalamu Alaykum

Alhumdulillah! team GVIC is back on the school grounds. Although great effort, hard work, and dedication were put in place for online teaching and learning, the school experience of the chatter and smiles of students and the interaction in the classroom demonstrates the real passion and vibrancy of teaching and learning.

As we embark on the process of completing our syllabus and preparing for the end of the year examination, we salute the resilience of parents, teachers, and students in withstanding the pressures of testing times and supporting each other to stand united for the return to face-to-face teaching. Together we joined hands in shaping the future of the students.

Students have transitioned well to the school environment and we are keen to see them through this year and hopefully without any disruptions. Year 10 will be sitting their Yearly Examinations starting on the 8th of November, followed by Year 7-9 commencing on the 15th of November. Please ensure your child/ren is revising and preparing for their examination.



Year 12 students have been on study break this week and will be sitting their HSC next week. We pray that each student is successful in excelling in their examinations and getting entry into university courses of their choice. Insha Allah, we hope to see all Year 12 parents and students attending the graduation ceremony on the 15th December. Further details will be emailed next week.

It is heartening to see that even in the events of hard times, we have inspirational and dedicated people in our institution who donated generously on Pink Ribbon Day; \$1234 was raised for the National Breast Cancer Foundation.

On another note, I encourage students, teachers, and parents to become more avid readers. Read literature books that interest you. Many biographies are out which provide a glimpse of the lives of famous people and portray their experiences, struggles, and demonstration of resilience which has moulded them to be the person they are today. Reading is one tool that improves your vocabulary, literacy, and command of knowledge and language that you will need in all facets of life. As stated by Emilie Buchwald; a teacher and award-winning author “Children are made readers on the laps of their parents.” Thus, the passion for reading has to be developed at a very young age and I urge you all to bring back the culture of reading.



# Primary Report

**Ms Samina Ali**  
**Deputy Principal Primary**



Dear Parents/Guardians







Assalamu Alaykum

Alhamdulillah, GVIC's playgrounds are once again filled with the laughter of students happily playing and learning together, reflecting the conducive and supportive environment that we are keen on providing. The transition from remote to face-to-face delivery of lessons has been very smooth so far and we are very grateful to the parents who have helped their children to settle in remarkably well. In terms of how the learning was being facilitated by the parents during remote learning, once again I sincerely thank parents for doing a great job as the learning gaps observed so far are not that alarming and with the wonderful team of Learning Enrichment Aides and through the enhanced teaching by the dedicated class teachers, the intervention will ensure learning gaps are adequately addressed.

The school has undertaken a new approach for conducting assessments which are now not restricted to one week and are rather spread out over several weeks, commencing from Week 5. Therefore, Assessment Planner has been submitted to parents to keep a track of key dates. Please contact your child's class teacher if you have any concerns regarding the assessment. As parents, if you are planning to guide your children in getting ready for the assessment, the Assessment Planner will help you to develop a timeline. Students will be allowed to take their notes and work samples home to revise.

Students of all ages require a strong foundation of Literacy skills as English is the medium of instruction for all key learning areas. Parents are being encouraged to ensure students engage in Reading tasks on a daily basis and lower primary will benefit from parents reading to their children. Most of our students are currently enrolled in Reading Eggs which provides opportunities for students to develop the following Super Six Comprehension Strategies, which parents can also use to guide their children:



	Predictions – students use graphics, cover, title, and other cues to anticipate what will be read		Making Connections – text to text (another book), text to self (similar experience), and text to the world
	Questioning – pose and answer questions that clarify meaning and promote a deeper understanding of the text		Monitoring – students learn to stop and think about the text and know what to do when the meaning is disrupted
	Visualising – create mental images from the text they read, view, or hear		Summarising – extract key ideas from the text

We can motivate students to enjoy engaging in mathematical learning experiences by using the following tips that have been adapted from NESAs guide to parents:

- Solve mathematical problems with your child, discussing and comparing different strategies. Remember that there may be several ways to solve the same problem
- Encourage your child to try different strategies when solving problems, including the use of diagrams, and to check solutions for accuracy
- Provide opportunities for your child to investigate mathematical ideas such as estimating, probability, 2D, 3D.
- Use the language of mathematics-words like under, bigger, faces, prism, estimate, etc.
- Show your child the mathematics that is all around them, such as money, maps, distances, patterns, time.
- Discuss the mathematics your child has learned at school
- Show your child the mathematics that people use every day, for example, measurement in cooking, money for shopping.
- Play games that involve numbers, money, dice, and time
- Use technology, including calculators and computers to solve problems, and graphics programs to create shapes

Most importantly, parents can help their children to develop a studious learning approach to schooling by getting them into the routine of doing more than just homework, either that be Reading, learning via e-resources such as Mathletics or Reading Eggs/ Eggspress.

Students require a quiet study corner and a study timetable which they can follow. Celebrating their small successes is key to ensuring that learning is fun and rewarding. May Allah SWT continue to give us strength and vigour to provide the opportune learning experiences to our students.





# ICT Report

**Mr Issam Ibrahim**  
**Head of IT**

Dear Parents/Guardians

Assalamu Alaykum,

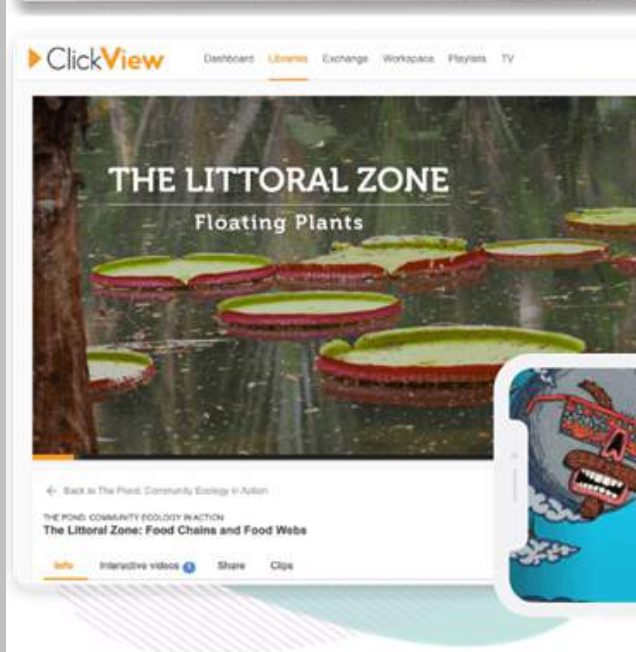
**Largest SMART Interactive Flat Panel (IFP) Deployment in the shortest period in the South-Western Sydney Region.**

GVIC has invested in and deployed 61 x 86” SMART MX Interactive Flat Panel (IFP) across our school for all our Primary and Secondary classes to become a driving force in school pedagogies and to deliver 21st Century education.

This is one of many other ICT initiatives that are part of our rapid school digital transformation roadmap to enhance our technological teaching and learning capabilities.

**GVIC introduces World-leading school educational video learning resource platform**

ClickView is the leading video content resource for primary schools, secondary schools and tertiary settings. Now GVIC students can access visually stunning, curriculum-aligned video content and teacher resources, plus contextual on-demand TV, our own video library and interactive question layers for formative assessment. Trusted by over 4,900 schools, TAFEs and universities, in collaboration with the Library we now provide world-class video content for effective teaching and learning at the fingertips of educators and students.



# Alumni Report

**Ms Soussan Raad & Mr Faraaz Aboo  
Alumni**

Assalamu Alaykum,

The formation of the Green Valley Islamic College Alumni is an initiative that is long overdue. It is therefore, with great hope and optimism for the future that we would like to announce the development of the Green Valley Islamic College Alumni Association.

With plans to encourage participation from the broader alumni in the coming weeks and months, the Alumni hopes to build a strong cohort of young and motivated past GVIC graduates from differing fields that will be able to give back and contribute to the school that facilitated our education.

The alumni will intend to convene on a regular basis and develop projects to contribute to the educational experience of current students, whilst also encouraging cooperation and networking amongst past students. Ultimately, in fostering a culture of participation and unity, we hope to continue to grow, prosper and contribute to the rapidly growing GVIC community.

As we continue to progress, we will endeavour to keep you updated on our goals and projects to come. Insha Allah.

