



MALEK FAHD  
ISLAMIC SCHOOL

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# MFIS NEWS

KNOWLEDGE  
IS LIGHT

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



As we conclude this school year, our thoughts and prayers remain with our brothers and sisters in Palestine, Sudan, Lebanon and Syria. May Allah (SWT) grant them strength, patience, and relief during these trying times. This term has been a celebration of excellence, collaboration, and the growth of our school community. It has also been an opportunity to reflect on the milestones we have achieved together as we strive for educational and spiritual enrichment.

Congratulations to Dr. Ahmad Shehabat, Ms. Bahija El Mir, Ms. Fatima Ali, Ms. Maisaa Kassar, and Dr. Ozan Angin for earning their Graduate Certificate in Education (Islamic Education) from the Centre for Islamic Thought and Education (CITE), University of South Australia. This remarkable achievement reflects their unwavering commitment to professional growth and their passion for delivering high-quality, values-based education. At Malek Fahd Islamic School, we continuously strive for excellence, and our educators are the cornerstone of our learners' success.

This term, we welcomed distinguished guests, including His Eminence Dr. Ibrahim Abu Mohamed, the Grand Mufti of Australia, who shared invaluable insights with our school community on faith, resilience, and the importance of education. His tour included the Musallah and our primary student sponsorship program for students from Gaza. Malek Fahd Islamic School had the privilege of hosting Sheikh Shady Alsuleiman, President of the Australian National Imams Council (ANIC), Sheikh Ahmad Nuaina (Egypt), and Sheikh Ahmad Alnufais (Kuwait), whose presence uplifted and inspired our community. Additionally, we were honoured to host Mr. Abu Bakr Ma from the Islamic Kasim Tuet Memorial College in Hong Kong,

We proudly unveiled our new solar energy system at the Hoxton Park campus, with the event graced by Ms. Anne Stanley MP, Member for Werriwa. At our Beaumont Hills campus, a message from the Hon Jason Clare MP was shared to mark the occasion. This significant milestone highlights our unwavering commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship, reflecting the value of caring for Allah's creation.



**Vision:** The leading school for Islamic education in Australia

**Mission:** Empower every learner to achieve their full potential through an Islamic education

**Core Values:** Faith  
Excellence  
Service

**Motto:**  
Knowledge is Light

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**Follow our journey  
@MalekFahd.Official**



Malek Fahd Islamic School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people.

## Child Safe Standards

The Child Safe Standards recommended by the Royal Commission provide a framework for making organisations safer for children.

**Standard 1:** Child safety is embedded in MFIS organisational leadership, governance and culture.

**Standard 2:** Children participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously at MFIS.

**Standard 3:** MFIS families and communities are informed and involved.

**Standard 4:** Equity is upheld and diverse needs are taken into account for all children at MFIS.

**Standard 5:** People working with children are suitable and supported at MFIS.

**Standard 6:** Processes to respond to complaints of child abuse are child focused at MFIS.

**Standard 7:** MFIS staff are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children safe through continual education and training.

**Standard 8:** MFIS aims to identify the risks associated with physical and online environments and ensures to minimise the opportunity for abuse or other kinds of harm to occur.

**Standard 9:** Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is continuously reviewed and improved at MFIS.

**Standard 10:** Policies and procedures document how MFIS is child safe environment. Child Protection Policy outline the school's commitment to preventing harm, identification and reporting.

We extend our sincere gratitude to Ms. Anne Stanley, the Hon Jason Clare, the Australian Government's Capital Grants Program, Mr. Fayeze Moussa (Board Chair), and our Student Shura Council (SSC) for their exceptional leadership and contributions to this event. This initiative serves as a shining example of Malek Fahd Islamic School's dedication to its motto, "Knowledge is Light," while paving the way for a sustainable and brighter future for generations to come.

Our school community came together to celebrate World Teachers' Day, honouring our teachers with gratitude and admiration for their dedication. Their daily work echoes the teachings of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) about the value of service to others, and we thank them for their unwavering commitment to our young learners.



The Arabic Awareness Day was another highlight, as students from all campuses engaged in activities celebrating our rich language and culture. The energy and enthusiasm of our students on this occasion reinforced our shared commitment to cultural and linguistic diversity, and it was uplifting to see them celebrate these important aspects of our identity.

## End-of-Year Celebrations and Achievements

As the academic year draws to a close, we are delighted to celebrate the outstanding achievements and growth of our students across all campuses. During the week, our Kindergarten to Year 11 Awards Ceremonies

took place across campuses celebrating the exceptional academic achievements, personal milestones, and leadership qualities demonstrated by our students. Recognition has been given for First Place, Most Improved in each KLA, Academic Excellence, the Head of Campus Service Award, and the Principal's RESPECT Award.

In addition, last week, the Year 6 Graduation Dinners was held across all campuses. These events were a heartfelt celebration of our Year 6 students completing primary school, as they transition into the next chapter of their educational journey. The evenings were filled with joy, gratitude, and reflection, showcasing the students' growth and accomplishments throughout their primary years.



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Looking ahead to 2025, we are excited to welcome new faces into our community, even as we say farewell to some familiar ones. We were pleased to welcome Mr. Matthew Rylands as our new Business Manager, whose leadership is already enhancing our operations. We also welcomed Ms. Amira Kirsten as the new Head of Campus at Hoxton Park, and I am confident their expertise will contribute to the continued growth and development of MFIS.

As we conclude another fruitful year, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our entire school community—our dedicated students, supportive parents, committed staff, and the esteemed school board—for their invaluable contributions to a year of success, growth, and meaningful learning. May this holiday be a time of peace, joy, and reflection for you and your families. May Allah (SWT) bless the coming year with guidance, enablement, and abundant opportunities for continued growth and excellence.

"Knowledge is Light." Together, we illuminate the path to success and service.

*Dr Zachariah Matthews*

## CURRICULUM UPDATE

This year marked a significant step forward in educational transformation with the release of the indigenous Malek Fahd Islamic School Teaching and Learning Framework. We are privileged to continue benefiting from the invaluable support and guidance of the team at the Centre for Islamic Thought and Education (CITE) at the University of South Australia. Our educators have been deeply involved in professional development, ensuring they are well-equipped to design programs that meet syllabus outcomes while embracing principles of Islamic pedagogy, the centrepiece of the framework.



Lifelong learning is one of our core Graduate Qualities, and it extends to educators as well. Our learning community embraces the responsibility to upskill, cultivate a growth mindset, and tackle challenges to ensure continuous improvement. We are proud to celebrate Ms. Doha Adra, who, after earning her Graduate Certificate of Education in Islamic Education, achieved the Highly Accomplished Teacher Accreditation. Notably, Ms. Adra became the first teacher from an Islamic school to attain this distinction. Her outstanding accomplishment was honoured on World Teachers' Day at Parliament House, where

she was presented with her medal by Greg Warren, Parliamentary Secretary for Education and Early Learning.

We are thrilled to share that our 180 Year 12 students have successfully completed their Higher School Certificate (HSC) examinations. This 2024 cohort tackled a total of 20 exams, showcasing their dedication and pursuit of excellence. As they eagerly await their ATAR results on 18 December 2024, we join them in looking forward to the exciting opportunities that lie ahead. For more details about the ATAR and key dates, please visit: <https://www.uac.edu.au/assets/documents/ug-fact-sheets/ug-fact-sheet-key-dates.pdf> We eagerly anticipate celebrating their accomplishments as recent alumni at our campus-based morning teas in the second week of 2025. To stay updated on alumni events, students are encouraged to share their details by emailing: [alumni@mfis.nsw.edu.au](mailto:alumni@mfis.nsw.edu.au)

*Tulin Bragg, Deputy Principal Teaching & Learning*

## GAZA TO AUSTRALIA FUNDRAISER

We are delighted to share that Malek Fahd Islamic School (MFIS), in partnership with AusRelief, raised an outstanding \$20,000 as part of our Gaza to Australia Fundraiser! This initiative, held on Arabic Awareness Day, 19th September 2024, was dedicated to supporting Gazan families transitioning to life in Sydney.

The funds raised will provide much-needed assistance to Palestinian families from Gaza who are now living in Sydney. These contributions will support their educational fees, medical care, and rental assistance, helping them rebuild their lives and find hope in their new home.

A heartfelt thank you to our entire MFIS community—students, families, educators, and staff—for your generosity and commitment to this cause. Your compassion and support demonstrate the strength of our school's values and our dedication to making a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

### TERM 4 SENIOR

### EXECUTIVE WEBINAR

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the parents who attended our final Senior Executive webinar of the year on Wednesday, 6th November 2024. The evening featured insightful presentations from our esteemed speakers:

- Ms. Rouba Kodr: Graduate Quality "Honesty"
- Ms. Aisha El Shaimy: Curriculum Transformation
- Ms. Tulin Bragg: Study Tips
- Dr. Zachariah Matthews: Prophetic Leadership

The webinar recording is available on the parent portal under Links/Online Webinar Video Recordings or via clicking on this link <https://bit.ly/3OCSERI>

## Yearly Reports

Students from Kindergarten to Year 10 have completed their Yearly Exam period and will receive their Yearly Reports this week. Beyond mastering content, navigating examinations is a holistic journey requiring a balance of effective organisational skills and overall wellbeing. The information shared in the Parent Partnership Webinar in Week 4 provided valuable information to help parents support their child to achieve their personal best.

Year 11 students have received their Yearly Reports already this term, marking the completion of the 12 Preliminary Units. They have now transitioned into the first term of their HSC courses, with many learners confirming their pattern of study by embarking on 10 HSC units. This foundational step sets the stage for a focused and purposeful HSC year ahead.

## 2025 Textbooks

The 2025 textbook lists have been released on Five Senses Education. We recommend placing your orders early to ensure that students begin the year with the necessary resources. Students in Years 7-10 now have the option to purchase certain textbooks in both eBook and print formats, due to the availability of personal laptops. Responsible and ethical use of technology is discussed in Wellbeing programs, as well as campus-based transition programs for current Year 6 students.

## Subject Selection

Year 10 students have finalised selection of their 12 Preliminary units allowing them to explore areas of interest or potential career pathways. Year 8 students have chosen two electives establishing their study patterns for 2025 and 2026. Students have been informed of their allocated courses for the upcoming year.

## ISLAMIC ADVICE FOR SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Assalamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuh,

As school holidays arrive, it's a time of joy, relaxation, and change of routine. However, even during breaks, maintaining a balance between rest, productivity, and spiritual growth is important.

Here is some Islamic advice to make your holiday both enjoyable and beneficial:

**Strengthen Your Connection with Allah (SWT)** - Use the holiday as an opportunity to deepen your relationship with Allah. Make time for acts of worship that you might find difficult during school days:

- **Daily Salah:** Maintain and enhance your prayer routine. Pray on time and, if possible, pray Sunnah prayers as well.
- **Qur'an Recitation:** Allocate time each day to read, understand, and reflect on the Qur'an. Try to memorise new surahs or revisit ones you already know.
- **Dhikr and Dua:** Incorporate morning and evening adhkar into your day. Make dua and seek guidance for both your academic and personal life.

**Seek Knowledge** - Islam encourages lifelong learning. Besides studying Islamic knowledge, engage in learning activities that spark your curiosity:

- **Attend Islamic Lectures and Workshops:** These could be about Seerah, tafsir, or topics relevant to youth.
- **Read Islamic Books:** Use the holiday to explore Islamic literature, be it biographies of the Prophets or books on personal development through an Islamic lens.
- **Develop a New Skill:** Learn something that interests you, such as a new language or hobby, which can be useful in both your studies and future.

**Help Your Family and Community** - Islam emphasises kindness and service to others. Show respect and kindness to your parents and assist them with tasks around the house. Volunteer for community work or help out at the local masjid or with charitable activities. Serving others not only strengthens your bond with the community but also earns great reward in the sight of Allah.

**Stay Active and Healthy** - The body is a trust from Allah, so taking care of it is an act of worship. Engage in physical activities, such as sports or outdoor adventures. Keeping active helps boost energy and sharpens focus for when school resumes. Eat balanced meals and rest well to maintain your physical and mental health.

**Plan and Set Goals** - Set meaningful and achievable goals for the holiday:

- **Academic Preparation:** Review your notes or get ahead on subjects that may challenge you.
- **Personal Development:** Identify habits you wish to improve, such as time management or social interactions.
- **Spiritual Goals:** Aim to enhance your ibadah, such as fasting on Mondays and Thursdays or giving more in charity.

**Limit Screen Time** - While it's tempting to spend long hours on social media, games, or watching shows, set limits to ensure a balanced day. Use technology wisely, watch Islamic lectures, documentaries, or use apps that help you learn Arabic or recite Qur'an.

**Reflect and Journal** - Take time for personal reflection. Journaling can help you process your thoughts, express gratitude, and set intentions for self-improvement. Write about what you're thankful for, lessons you've learned, and your aspirations for the future.

## Conclusion

The school holidays is a precious time that should be spent wisely and balanced between rest, recreation, and spiritual growth. By prioritising your relationship with Allah, seeking beneficial knowledge, helping others, and staying active, you will return to school rejuvenated, motivated and with stronger Iman, ready to take on new challenges with a positive outlook. Wishing you all a blessed and spiritually fulfilling year ahead.

*Sheikh Fawaz Kamaz, School Chaplain*



# A YEAR OF TRANSFORMATION

Assalamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuh,

**MFIS Rebranding in 2024** - As 2024 ends, Malek Fahd Islamic School (MFIS) celebrates a year of transformation with rebranding efforts that enhanced our identity and unified our community. These initiatives have refreshed our school's appearance while fostering pride among learners, staff, and families.

**Updated School Uniforms** - A highlight of the rebranding journey was the introduction of redesigned school uniforms. Combining tradition with modernity, the new designs reflect professionalism, comfort, and functionality. Learners and parents have embraced these updates, proud to wear uniforms that represent belonging and aspiration.

**Campus Refresh** - To complement our updated uniforms, all campuses—Hoxton Park, Beaumont Hills, and Greenacre—received a fresh coat of paint. The new colour palette modernises and brightens the school environment, creating inviting and inspiring spaces for education and growth.

**Special Uniform Addition** - Year 6 learners celebrated their final primary year with a new sports polo, a keepsake representing achievement and transition. Additionally, new sports uniforms for all learners were introduced, designed for comfort, style, and team spirit, ensuring our teams represent MFIS with pride during competitions.

**Indigenous Polo for Staff** - As part of our commitment to cultural respect and reconciliation, staff were provided with an Indigenous polo shirt featuring beautiful artwork that celebrates Australia's First Nations peoples. This initiative reflects MFIS's dedication to inclusivity and unity.

**Kindergarten induction booklets** - The newly designed kindergarten induction booklet for 2025 will provide a warm welcome to new families. Featuring vibrant designs and key information, it embodies the school's refreshed identity and supports families as they begin their MFIS journey.

**Looking Ahead** - MFIS's rebranding in 2024 symbolises pride, unity, and growth, setting a strong foundation for continued success in 2025 and beyond. Insha'Allah!



## 2025 Term Dates for Students

**Term 1** - Tuesday 4th February to Friday 11th April

**Term 2** - Tuesday 29th April to Friday 4th July

**Term 3** - Tuesday 22nd July to Friday 26th September

**Term 4**—Tuesday, 14th October to Thursday, 11th December

## School Fees

The school would like to thank all parents/carers who have paid Term 4 fees on time. For families who have balances outstanding, we ask that these fees be paid in full immediately to bring your accounts up-to-date. Unpaid fees may be handed to debt collectors for recovery. Fees can be paid on Sentral Pay via the Parent Portal, EFT via phone or in person and Cash payments in person at the Admin Office.

Mr Matthew Rylands  
Business Manager

## Social Media

Follow MFIS Journey on our dedicated official social media channels.

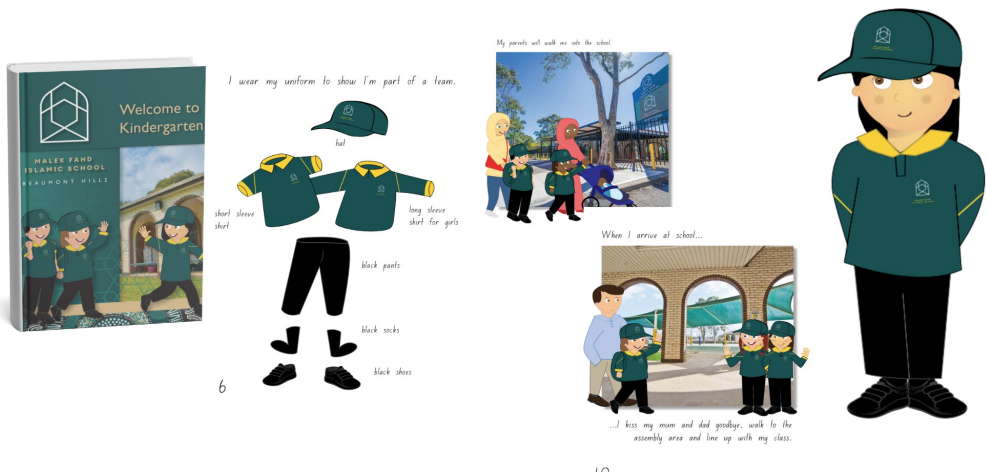
Visit our new website:  
<https://mfis.nsw.edu.au>

**Instagram:**  
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<https://bit.ly/47MoO1v>

**LinkedIn:**  
<https://bit.ly/3HzcAS1>

**YouTube:**  
<https://bit.ly/3vRNkEd>



Mr Houssam Bizri, Marketing & Communications Manager

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## GRADUATING THE CLASS OF 2024

Our school proudly celebrated and farewelled the Class of 2024 with individual campus Graduation Ceremonies, culminating in a memorable Graduation Dinner. This event brought students, families, and staff together to acknowledge our graduates' accomplishments and their embodiment of MFIS's core values. As they now await their HSC results, we wish them all the best and remind them that success is measured by far more than a ranking. We look forward to seeing them make a positive impact on the world (Ummah) and are confident they will continue to make us proud.



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