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# **MFIS NEWS**

# KNOWLEDGE IS LIGHT

**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



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



As we welcome the new Hijri year, may your path be illuminated with faith, sincerity, and righteousness. May Allah (SWT) bless you and your loved ones with peace, health, and happiness.

As Term 2 draws to a close, I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to our students, parents, and staff for their continued support and dedication. This term has been enriched with notable accomplishments and opportunities for holistic growth and development.

# **New Initiative: Year 7 Enrichment Class**

We are excited to announce the launch of a Year 7 Enrichment Class at our Greenacre Secondary campus. This program is designed to support high-performing students who demonstrate academic excellence, refined character, and a sincere love for learning. It offers a learning environment that is enriched, challenging, and grounded in our Islamic values.

The objectives of the program are to:

- Provide differentiated teaching and enrichment activities tailored to student abilities
- Encourage advanced thinking, creativity, and leadership grounded in adab and akhlaq
- Foster a deeper sense of purpose and self-motivation through character-based success criteria

Selection for the program is based on:

- Academic performance (internal and external assessments)
- Teacher evaluations and student portfolios
- A written expression of interest and interview
- Qualities such as sincerity (ikhlas), empathy, integrity, and a strong motivation to learn

This initiative is part of a broader vision alongside our Learning Support Enhancement Project — both representing our commitment to meeting the diverse learning needs of our students. Unlike previous streaming models, the Enrichment Class aligns with the goals of our Niyyah Project, redefining success through both knowledge and character.

We are also exploring the possibility of expanding this initiative to Hoxton Park and Beaumont Hills in 2026, based on enrolment demands.



#### **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.

# **Student Leadership Development**

This term, I had the pleasure of engaging with our Student Shura Councils across Greenacre Primary, Greenacre Secondary, Beaumont Hills, and Hoxton Park. It was heartening to witness the enthusiasm and sincerity of our young leaders as we explored the concept of Prophetic Leadership.

During a session with the Shura Council, I shared three essential qualities drawn from the life of our beloved Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him): grounded spiritual leadership in a connection with Allah, guardian leadership through care and responsibility, and servant leadership marked by humility and selflessness. I reminded our students that leadership is not just a role but an amanah-a trust. I



am confident that, with the continued support of our staff and Wellbeing teams, our student leaders will rise to the responsibility with integrity, purpose, and excellence.

# Celebrating Our Students: Scholarship and Service Acknowledged in NSW Parliament

I am incredibly proud to highlight two outstanding student achievements this term that reflect our school's commitment to holistic education and community service - both of which were formally acknowledged **NSW** in Parliament through Community Recognition Statements delivered by The Hon. Jihad Dib MP.

At our Greenacre Primary Campus, our partnership with the Australian Soccer School has provided a platform for students to build physical skills, teamwork, and confidence through sport. I am pleased to congratulate Year 4 student Musa, who was awarded a \$7,500 football scholarship for his exceptional talent, character, and



commitment. This scholarship grants him a full year of elite training, with the potential to compete internationally, an incredible achievement for one so young.

At the Greenacre Secondary Campus, our Year 12 students demonstrated inspiring leadership and compassion through their fundraising efforts to build a mosque overseas, raising more than \$20,000.

Both achievements were recognised at the NSW Legislative Assembly, where Mr Dib praised our school's dedication to nurturing well-rounded learners through extracurricular, sporting, and charitable initiatives. We are deeply honoured by this acknowledgment and proud of our students for embodying the values of excellence, compassion, and service. May Allah (SWT) continue to guide and bless their efforts.

In addition Alhamdulillah, MFIS senior learners from Greenacre Secondary proudly raised and delivered \$16,500 to Chris O'Brien Lifehouse, contributing to vital cancer research and patient care. This is a powerful example of khidma (service) and leadership in action — a moment of pride for our school community.

# CITE Sydney Education Forum: Beginning with the End in Mind

On Saturday, 31 May 2025, Malek Fahd Islamic School was honoured to host the second annual CITE Sydney Education Forum at our Greenacre Primary Campus. The event, themed "Beginning with Our End in Mind", brought together educators from Islamic schools across Sydney and beyond to engage in deep reflection on the essential question: What does a complete graduate of an Islamic school look like?

Led by the Centre for Islamic Thought and Education (CITE) from the University of South Australia, the forum began with thought-provoking presentations and continued through three dynamic roundtable discussions. We extend our sincere thanks to Dr Nadeem Memon and Mr Dylan Chown from CITE for guiding these transformative conversations, and to the following schools for their valued participation: Australian International Academy (Strathfield), Arkana College, Australian Islamic College (Perth), Irfan College, Maarif International School, Western Grammar School and MFIS educators.



As we approach Term 3, we remain dedicated to academic excellence and the holistic development of our students. We encourage our community to stay engaged and continue supporting our initiatives. May Allah (SWT) bless our efforts and guide us in nurturing the leaders of tomorrow.

Dr Zachariah Matthews, Executive Principal

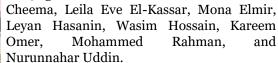
## **CURRICULUM UPDATE**

## **Academy U**

#### **Graduation Success - Class of 2025**

On 9th May, our Year 12 Academy U students proudly celebrated their graduation at Western Sydney University's Parramatta South campus.

Parramatta South campus.
Congratulations to our
2025 graduates: Shoaib



These students have shown exceptional commitment and intellectual rigour throughout their four-year journey from Year 9 to Year 12. They participated in hands-on problem-solving workshops and successfully completed a university-level subject, Leadership in Complexity, alongside their Year 11 studies. Their achievements reflect the values of lifelong learning, innovation, leadership, and global citizenship.





# Qurban Fundraiser Update

We are pleased to share that this year's Qurban Fundraiser, held in partnership with Human Appeal Australia, raised a total of \$16,300 across our campuses. Alhamdulillah, the Qurban meat was successfully distributed to families in Sudan and Gaza, bringing much-needed relief and joy during the blessed days of Eid-ul-Adha. We extend our heartfelt thanks to our students, families, and staff for their generosity, empathy, and commitment to serving others. May Allah (SWT) accept your contributions and reward you for supporting our brothers and sisters in need.

# Senior Executive Webinar

We sincerely thank all the parents who joined us for the Term 2 Senior Executive webinar on Wednesday, 28th May 2025. Your active participation and engagement truly embody the spirit of our Parent Partnership Program and strengthen the vital connection between our school and families. We hope you found the session insightful and inspiring, as our presenters shared valuable perspectives on teaching Mathematics through an Islamic worldview, cultivating empathy, and prophetic leadership. The recorded webinar is available on parent portal or via clicking on this link: <a href="https://">https://</a> bit.ly/4lq8Ggf Your ongoing support and involvement are invaluable as we work together to nurture our students' academic and spiritual growth.

# Term 3 Professional Learning Program

As a faith-based school guided by a distinct educational philosophy, our commitment to ongoing professional learning continues to strengthen and empower our teaching staff. During Weeks 3 to 6, our Wednesday afternoon sessions focused on programming, offering valuable time for teachers to collaborate professionally. These sessions enabled educators to refine and enhance existing programs and begin planning for the implementation of new NESA syllabuses. Importantly, they also provided an opportunity to explore and develop more effective, culturally responsive strategies for delivering the same NESA outcomes in ways that are meaningful and relevant to the diverse needs of our

learners.

As part of the school's ongoing efforts to enhance assessment practices, Jennifer Pledger, NESA Liaison Officer Communications & Engagement, facilitated a workshop titled Delivering **Consistent Teacher** Judgement. This crosscampus initiative supported teachers in deepening their understanding of assessment principles and refining their approach to consistent, evidence-based judgements of student achievement. By engaging with NESA-endorsed frameworks and participating in collaborative activities. educators are more confident in aligning assessments with syllabus outcomes and standards.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the families and caregivers who supported these students throughout their educational journey. A special thanks also goes to Alicia Pinning (Senior Project Officer), Ciaran Smyth (Project Officer), and the dedicated staff at Western Sydney University for empowering and guiding our future thinkers and leaders.

#### **Year 11 Achievements**

Our Year 11 Academy U students completed their second online workshop in May and successfully passed the Academic Integrity Module. Their diligence opens the door to significant opportunities, including:

- Early Conditional University Offers (with a pass grade or higher),
- Course Credit for their university subject,
- Access to two prestigious scholarships:
  - ♦ Academy U Excellence Scholarship (for students achieving a Distinction or High Distinction and engaging in community activities),
  - Academy U Engagement Scholarship (for those who participate in at least 90% of program activities and complete 30 hours of community service).

#### Year 10 - Preparing for Innovation

Our Year 10 participants have been actively engaging with learning playlists aligned to their chosen focus areas. These resources are part of their preparation for the Hackathon Day scheduled for September, where students will tackle real-world challenges through innovative, team-based solutions.

#### **Year 9 – Onboarding the Next Cohort**

Year 9 students recently took part in a Zoom session with Western Sydney University coordinators to complete their onboarding process. They will soon receive official offers to join the Academy U program. Successful candidates will go on to participate in the Innovation and Investigation Day in Term 4, marking the start of their exciting journey in the program.

For further information regarding the Academy U program, please reach out to Ms Kathryn O'Connor, Careers Advisor at Hoxton Park and Beaumont Hills, or Ms Fatma Mehana, newly appointed Careers Advisor at Greenacre.

# **HSC Trajectory Reports**

This year marks the introduction of HSC Trajectory Reports, a valuable new initiative designed to support student achievement. Developed by Graham Wright from Edu Consulting, these reports integrate performance and assessment data to provide each individual student with a comprehensive analysis of their progress. They also offer a detailed projection of the ATAR contribution for each subject, helping students better understand and monitor their academic standing. Following each internal assessment task, updated reports will be generated, allowing students to track their growth and work towards achieving their personal best. Both Year 11 and Year 12 students have already received their reports based on the Half-Yearly assessment results, which are currently being uploaded to the Parent Portal for easy access by families.

The official 2025 HSC Examination timetable has been released, and all students have received an electronic copy. It is essential that students arrive on time at the Greenacre campus to ensure they receive the full allocated time for their exams. May Allah SWT support our students to achieve their personal best Insha'Allah.

# 2026 Subject Selection

Subject Selection Information Sessions were held for Year 8 and Year 10 students and parents across all campuses. Year 10 students will select 12 Preliminary units and Year 8 students will select two electives for their pattern of study in 2026. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to the Curriculum Coordinator at your campus.

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

# **Half-Yearly Examinations**

Kindergarten to Year 10 students have now completed their half-yearly examinations and are scheduled to receive their Half-Yearly Reports in Week 2 of next term, inshaAllah. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to contact teachers if they wish to discuss their child's progress or gain further insights into their academic development.

Ms Tulin Bragg, Deputy Principal Teaching & Learning

# BEAUMONT HILLS ACTING HEAD OF CAMPUS MESSAGE

Alhamdulillah, Term 2 at Malek Fahd Beaumont Hills has been rich with achievement, reflection, and growth. Students across all year levels have excelled in their academic pursuits while engaging in diverse programs that reflect our core values of *Faith*, *Excellence*, *and Service*. From NAPLAN completion and robust classroom learning to outdoor experiences, the term has been both productive and inspiring.

A highlight of this term was our Hajj Expo, where students journeyed through the rituals of Hajj via immersive displays and storytelling.

Alongside this, students actively participated in Eid celebrations, Abaya Day, and the Feed the Fasting fundraiser, showcasing compassion and community spirit.

Our Athletics Carnival was another memorable event, marked by outstanding sportsmanship and determination. The multi-sports program and basketball gala days for Stage 3 students further promoted teamwork, fitness, and school pride.

In Primary, leadership and resilience were nurtured through Peer Support Leader Training for Years 5 and 6, while excursions like Symbio Wildlife Park and incursions such as Mad About Science and Healthy Harold brought learning to life through hands-on engagement.

With Semester 1 exams and reports underway, we commend our students and staff for their dedication. As we look ahead to Term 3, we remain committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and faith-driven environment for all students.

May Allah (SWT) continue to bless our school community with success, unity, and barakah.

Mr Mohammed Shameem, Acting Head of Campus

## HOXTON PARK HEAD OF CAMPUS MESSAGE

This term has been filled with purposeful learning and meaningful connection across our Hoxton Park campus. A recent highlight was our Hajj Interactive Day, where students engaged in a powerful, hands-on simulation of the sacred pilgrimage.

With their Hajj passports in hand, students moved through each stage of the journey, deepening their spiritual understanding and connecting with the significance of this pillar of Islam. It was a beautiful moment of spiritual connection, unity, reverence, and joy across our school.

Aligned with our strategic focus on strengthening parent partnerships, we have continued to foster collaboration between families and educators. Our recent PC Meet and Greet created a warm space for parents to connect with one another, share their goals and challenges, and explore meaningful ways to support their children's learning journeys.

We also proudly hosted our Secondary School, Subject Selection Extravaganza Evening, which drew 73 families. It was a valuable opportunity for parents and students to explore the pathways available in Stages 4 and 5, ask questions, and make informed decisions that align with their aspirations and strengths. The strong turnout and engagement reflected the deep care our families have for their children's future.

I would like to thank all our staff, students, and families for their ongoing dedication, especially during this busy term. Your collective efforts and commitment continue to shape our school into a place where learning, faith, and community flourish.

Ms Amira Kirsten, Head of Campus

# The Migration of Prophet Muhammad(SAW): A Turning Point in Islamic History

The migration (Hijrah) of our beloved Prophet Muhammad (SAW) from Makkah to Madinah marks one of the most significant events in Islamic history. This blessed journey was not only a physical relocation but also a major spiritual and historical transformation for the Muslim community. For thirteen years in Makkah, the Prophet (SAW) called people to the worship of one God, Allah (SWT), and to a life of justice, compassion, and morality. However, he and his followers faced severe persecution, torture, and social boycott at the hands of the Quraysh tribe. As the opposition intensified, Allah (SWT) granted the Prophet (SAW) permission to migrate to Yathrib (Madinah), where the people welcomed him with love, support, and a promise of protection. The journey of the Hijrah was filled with danger and wisdom.

The Prophet (SAW) and his closest companion, Abu Bakr al-Siddiq (RA), hid in the cave of Thawr for three days before continuing their journey north. Despite the Quraysh's attempts to capture him, Allah (SWT) protected His Messenger, and he safely arrived in Madinah, where he was greeted with joy by the Ansar. The Hijrah was not due to fear but a step toward building a new society based on Islamic values. In Madi-nah, the Prophet (SAW) established the first Muslim community (Ummah) with a constitution that guaranteed the rights of Muslims, Jews, and other residents. The masjid became the center of worship, education, and governance. It was also a place where disputes were resolved and where the spirit of brotherhood and mutual support was cultivated among the believers.

In recognition of the importance of the Hijrah, the Islamic calendar (Hijri calendar) begins from the year of this migration. It represents the beginning of a new era in which Islam moved from persecution to power, from individual da'wah to the establishment of a just society. The migration also signified a shift from tribal loyalties to a unified Muslim identity, where faith took precedence over blood ties. The Hijrah teaches us lessons of patience, reliance on Allah (SWT), strategic planning, unity, and sacrifice. It reminds us that with hardship comes ease and that sincere efforts in the path of Allah (SWT) always lead to success. It is a timeless story of courage, hope, and unwavering commitment to truth in the face of adversity.

> Sheikh Fawaz Kamaz, School Chaplain

# **Important Dates**

**Last Day of Term 2** Friday 4 July 2025

School Development Day Monday 21 July 2025

Term 3 Commences Tuesday 22 July 2025

MFIS Charity Ride/ Walk Sunday 10 August

2025

2025 Term Dates for Students

**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

#### **Social Media**

Follow MFIS Journey on our dedicated official social media channels.

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

**Instagram:** https://bit.ly/42dxmjw

Facebook: https://bit.ly/47MoO1v

LinkedIn: https://bit.ly/3HzcAS1

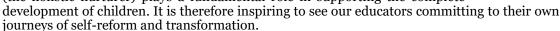
YouTube: <a href="https://bit.ly/3vRNkEd">https://bit.ly/3vRNkEd</a>

# GREENACRE PRIMARY HEAD OF CAMPUS MESSAGE

I pray this message finds you and your families in the best of health and *iman*.

Alhamdulillah, Term 2 has been a period of growth and renewed purpose on our campus. A significant milestone has been the increasing number of our educators enrolling in the Graduate Certificate in Education (Islamic Education) offered by the Centre for Islamic Thought and Education, UniSA.

We believe that professional learning of this calibre is vital to our collective efforts in *tajdid* (renewal) of Islamic education. In our tradition, the *murabbi* (the holistic nurturer) plays a fundamental role in supporting the complete development of children. It is therefore inspiring to see our educators complete



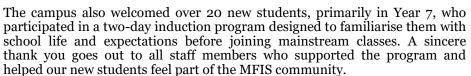
Among the highlights of this term were our Eid al-Adha Assembly, which also celebrated the achievements of our Qur'an Competition participants, as well as the many grade excursions and assemblies acknowledging our learners' commitment and accomplishments throughout Term 2.

More details about campus events and initiatives will be shared with all Greenacre Primary parents in the coming weeks, insha'Allah.

Mr Ali Arabaci, Head of Campus

# GREENACRE SECONDARY HEAD OF CAMPUS MESSAGE

We are pleased to share several exciting developments from the Greenacre Secondary campus this term. A major highlight has been the launch of our Year 7 Enrichment Class, aimed at offering high-performing students an opportunity to engage with content at a deeper level through project-based learning and advanced concepts. Students were selected through a comprehensive process to ensure suitability and commitment, and placements will be reviewed annually to maintain fairness and high standards.





In Week 9, our Peer Support Program brought together Year 7 and Year 10 students for two days of bonding and mentorship. It was heartening to see our Year 10 girls and boys take the lead in delivering engaging and educational activities, fostering a strong sense of connection across year levels. Special thanks to Mr. Zoabi and Ms. Jalloul for their efforts in coordinating this successful initiative.

Finally, we are proud to celebrate the achievements of our MFIS Chess Team, who secured third place overall in the annual inter-school competition. The team remained undefeated until the final stages, a testament to their skill and teamwork. We extend our gratitude to Dr. Shehabat for his dedication in coaching and mentoring the team throughout the season.

Mr Omar Merheb, Head of Campus

