

الهداية

Al-Hidayah

QUALITY EDUCATION *for* QUALITY LIFE
AL-TAQWA COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

OUR MISSION

Al-Taqwa College aims to produce good reflective self-directed learners who have problem-solving skills and critical thinking abilities. It aims to be a place where the individuality of each person is recognised, and where that recognition is reflected in the College's curriculum diversity and flexibility, diverse teaching strategies and student centered processes. The College aims to create a school environment that instills in students love and obedience to *Allah (swt)* in accordance with the sayings and deeds of the Prophet *Muhammad (saw)* and enables them to benefit from the teachings of the Holy Quran and the Sunnah of the Prophet *Mohammad (pbuh)*.

Important Dates

MARCH

- 02 School Tour - 9.15am
- 14 Public Holiday
- 15 Secondary School Photo Day
- 16-17 Primary School/Family Photo Day
- 24 Last Day of Term 1

APRIL

- 11 Term 2 starts
- 13 School Tour - 9.15am
- 25 Public Holiday

*We are now taking
enrolments for 2017*

Message from the Principal

ASSALAMUALAIKUM WBT

Welcome to the 2016 School Year! On behalf of the College, I wish everyone a happy and successful year. We started Term 1 with an overwhelming number of new students and teachers for 2016. Allhamdulillah, all went well and they have settled down nicely in their respective classrooms. I am thankful to the Administration staff, leaders and teachers for their prowess, patience and cohesive team work.

During the holidays, I had the opportunity to visit Laojie Mosque (150 years old) established in 627AD by Sa'd ibn Abi Waqqas and Xida Islamic Education College (with more than 500 students, boys and girls) in Jijie Town. I found the visit very enriching which increased my knowledge about Muslims in China having met the Imams,



Outside the Dong Guan Mosque

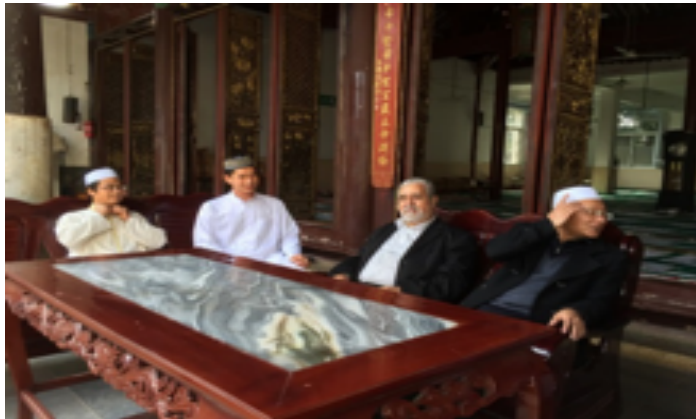
teachers and students. Most of the teachers at the College gained their degrees from Arabic countries or within Malaysia. Many students there were able to speak fluent Arabic as well.

It was surprising to see that some girls who studied Quran sitting outside on a very cold day. I was told that all students there were expected to memorise the Quran in three years three years.



Group photo taken with Xida Islamic Education College staff.

I also visited the Grand Mosque of Shadian, covering an area of 17,708 square meters with two 93 meter high towers. We exchanged ideas and there is great potential to enhance the educational aspects, environment and methodologies, through close interaction between our schools. They expressed that they are very interested to visit our school and also participate in camping whilst in Melbourne.



VISITORS DURING FEBRUARY CHINESE IMAM

Earlier this month, their Imam and his family visited our College and Camp Coorong. They seemed to enjoy having seen the native flora and fauna around the camp, the river, the sea, Ninety-Mile Beach, and Metung, as well as koalas, colourful birds like rosellas and kookaburras on the Raymond Island. Many photos and selfies were taken by our ardent Chinese visitors. I am pleased to say that they loved Australia!

GRAND MUFTI OF AUSTRALIA

It was a pleasure to host a visit of Imam Sheikh Ibrahim Abu Mohamed, the Grand Mufti of Australia, on Friday 19 February. Two of our students recited the Holy Al-Quran. The Grand Mufti thanked our teachers, Imam and Principal for supporting the Quranic Program. I took the opportunity to thank all teachers for being active in Quran teaching and Islamic Studies. I also stated that the College started the Quran Competition 12 years' ago. The competition also includes Khutbah, Azan and Public Speaking in Arabic and English, all being organised by the Masjid Committee. They have also started Tahfiz and Recitation classes, Alhamdulillah. Append photos of the Grand Mufti.



Grand Mufti, Mr Hallak, Sheikh Abdel Azeem, teachers and students

CAMP COORONG

This year we prepared the camp for student camping. We would like to ensure that all camps are gender separated and that an adequate amount of teachers attend per camp. The Sports Committee agreed to provide 10 items of sporting activities for boys and girls. Students are encouraged to participate in all school's sports.

BUILDING PROJECT AT 229 SAYERS

Allhamdulillah, the construction is due to commence soon in March and expected to be ready by the end of the year. This expansion is part of our recent increase of enrolments. The Planning Permit has been approved by the Council and also the Building Permit approved in principle. Our builders, Austco, will be putting up fences around the property according to OHS requirements and trespassers are prohibited. It is anticipated that students will be utilising the classes during Term 1 in 2017, inshaAllah.

STUDY GROUP - INDONESIA

A group of 14 comprising of 12 students and 2 female chaperons from our sister school in Sentul, Bogor, will be at our College on 12 March as part of another Exchange Program. Along with them, we have three personnel from SMP IT Al Haraki (Akbar Foundation), who are on an educational tour in Australia. Indeed, we welcome them warmly with a program to suit their requirements. We look forward to having a peaceful and fruitful year. Members across the Board will work hard together to achieve our set goals for 2016, inshaAllah. That's all for now till the next issue.

WASSALAMU ALAIKUM

OMAR HALLAK

Principal

Dear Parents, Students & Friends

ASSALAMU ALAIKUM

I hope you had a restful summer holidays; subhanallah, how time flies. Three weeks have already passed since the start of the school year. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new Year 7 students, new enrolments and all their families into our Secondary Department. Year 7 students were given their lockers and are so excited to start their secondary schooling at Al-Taqwa College. They have settled really well and are getting used to the daily routine. The Year 7 & 8s received their tablets last week and were also given access to their eBooks.

There are still students who have yet to pay for their tablets or eBooks, therefore they will fall behind in their studies. I would like to urge parents to pay for the tablets and eBooks as soon as possible before it becomes very hard for your children to catch up on their work. Tablets are a valuable educational tool which should be used wisely. We urge you to monitor your child's use of their tablet and be vigilant of which websites are accessed at home.

Two programs have started for year 7 this term: MPower Girls and MN8 for Boys. These programs tackle many teenage issues, such as peer pressure, bullying, self-esteem and many other issues.

Student diaries are a very important means of communication between you and the College. Please make sure that you check your child's diary on a regular basis, and you can write messages to the teacher if required. If you notice that your child does not do any homework, please contact us and follow up.

It was noticed that there are still many parents who are dropping their children off late in the morning. Please be aware that the first period for secondary students starts at

8:45 am, which means that students are expected to be at school by 8:30, to give them enough time to go to their lockers, get their books and go to class. By dropping your child off late, they are losing valuable learning time which also causes disruption to the learning of others. As adults we need to instil in our children the importance of time and the value of learning.

Please advise your child not to wear sports jackets if they do not have sports. Students are expected to be in their full uniform clean and tidy – this includes school ties and blazers. Your child needs to have more than one school shirt, so are always neat and well-presented. Mobile phones are not allowed at school. If your child wishes to talk to you, they can always use the phones in their Coordinators office. For any concerns regarding your child, you can contact:

MS HANAN KHALIL

(Assistant Head for Year 7 and 8, Student Wellbeing and Discipline)

MS SAMARA OSMAN

(Year 7 and 8 Student Wellbeing and Discipline Coordinator)

MR KHALED ZPEIDI

(Year 7 and 8 Student Wellbeing and Discipline Coordinator)

WASSALAMU ALAIKUM

Wafa Tebeileh

Head of Year 7 & 8 Student and Teachers Services



ALHAMDULILLAH,

Al-Taqwa College has commenced its ALP program as promised last year. Below is a student list who are participating in the ALP program for 2016.

GRADE 5	GRADE 6	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9
<i>Shayaan</i> AFTAB	<i>Hamza</i> ADAM	<i>M. Ismail</i> SHAREEF	<i>Yussuf</i> AL BAKRY	<i>Ibtisam</i> REDI
<i>Sadman</i> CHOWDHURY	<i>Mahdi</i> AZEEZ	<i>Wafa</i> SAEED	<i>Wajih</i> IBRAHIM	<i>Khalid</i> AHMEDIN
<i>Tamzid</i> ISLAM	<i>Laiba</i> KHATRI	<i>Hyder</i> ASKARI	<i>M. Abbas</i> UNIA	<i>Feda</i> KAMAREDDINE
<i>Jerin</i> KAZI	<i>Tahlil</i> ISLAM	<i>Rania</i> RAFEEQUE	<i>Adam</i> WIRAPANDYA	<i>Muhammad</i> AWAL
<i>Ameen</i> Ali KHAN	<i>Raahim</i> MEMON	<i>Mohammed</i> HABIB	<i>Sheereen</i> AFTAB	<i>Hassanally</i> EFFENDI
<i>Parisa</i> NAJARION	<i>Nihad</i> MOHAMED	<i>Fatima</i> KASIM	<i>Yousef</i> SAEED	<i>Liwa</i> HADDARA
<i>Shuayb</i> OSMAN	<i>Faiyaz</i> RASHID	<i>Qistina</i> RIZWAN	<i>Shariar</i> TALUKDER	<i>Nadine</i> FAWAL
<i>Amnah</i> WAQAS	<i>M.Ibrahim</i> SHAREEF	<i>Nadia</i> TAMRIN	<i>Mumtaheina</i> ISLAM	<i>Syed</i> ABEDI
<i>Najfah</i> MUHAMMAD	<i>Sinan</i> UMMU	<i>Luqman</i> SALAAD	<i>Hiba</i> HASHMI	<i>Mohamed</i> SAID
<i>Mehwish</i> KHAN	<i>Manhal</i> MUHIYAADDEEN	<i>Yusra</i> NALEEM	<i>Aaliyah</i> BISE	<i>Sajdah</i> ARGHANDIWAL
<i>Yumna</i> SYEDA	<i>Arif</i> AHMED	<i>Ibrahim</i> JAMA	<i>Rakhshan</i> MOHAMMED	<i>Amina</i> FAZLIC
<i>Simrah</i> ANSARI	<i>Mohamed</i> NAUSHARD	<i>Mohammed</i> MELHEM	<i>Siham</i> HERSI	<i>Usman</i> M. MUHAJIREEN
<i>Enzo</i> NATAATMAJA			<i>Sagal</i> SHIBBIN	<i>Nafisa</i> KAZI
<i>Muhammad</i> AHMAD				

NOTE

The students listed above are either in English accelerated class or Maths accelerated class or both.

The teaching team of ALP includes, Ms Shabana Chowdhry (Grade 5/6 Accelerated Maths),

Ms Anne (Grade 5/6 Accelerated English), Ms Sarah Ali (Year 7/ 8/ 9 Accelerated English) and

Ms Hivin Ramadan (Year 7/ 8/ 9 Accelerated Maths). If you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Shabana Chowdhry, the Head, Accelerated Learning Program.

ClassDojo

At Al-Taqwa, most of our teachers use ClassDojo to give their students instant, positive encouragement during class. Teachers choose and customise behaviors that matter most, and then award a student in class Dojo points when a skill is demonstrated. Best of all, teachers can engage parents with ClassDojo progress reports and instant messaging so they can stay involved in their child's success at school.



Counsellors' Corner

ASSALAMUALAIKUM WRWB

Welcome back to our returning parents and a warm welcome to new parents!

The Counselling and Welfare team looks after the social and emotional needs of your child; we work with parents, teachers and support staff to: counsel students, assist parents/carers make informed decisions about their child's education, assess learning and behaviour, address issues that affect students' learning and generally advocating on students behalf. The Counselling and Welfare team run targeted sessions for year levels, such as MPower and MN8, addressing issues such as anxiety, social relationships and managing emotions to name a few. The team also organises parenting seminars throughout the year and welcomes feedback from parents on topics to address.

In 2016 the Counselling and Welfare team is excited to introduce KidsMatter and Mindmatters which will prioritise the social-emotional welfare of your child at school.

If you have any concerns regarding your child's wellbeing, feel free to make an appointment with one of our counsellors through the Administration Department or inform your child's teacher that you wish to access the counselling service by sending a note using your child's diary. Counselling is confidential and we have male and female counsellors who speak Arabic and Urdu/Hindi. Some reasons you may wish to contact the Counselling and Welfare team are:

- Strategies on academic support
- Changes in your child's behaviour/mood which are difficult to manage
- Issues at home
- Issues with friends

We hope to work with you to support your children through their year at school and support their learning potential!

NAAZIA SYED,

on behalf of the Counselling and Welfare Team

LUCY VERWEY,

MAHA SALEH,

RUQAYA ALMIRGANI &

IBRAHIM ABDEL-HAFIZ.

Our counsellors can help your child develop their self-understanding and self-confidence, motivation, decision-making, goal-setting, planning and problem solving, interpersonal relationships, communication skills, respect for others and more.

Extra Curricular Activities

The College is pleased to announce that we will be working very hard this year to develop our extra curricular activities for our students. These activities offered by Al-Taqwa College do not form part of the academic curriculum and range from gardening to newspaper editing. For many students, extra curricular activities present an opportunity to practice social skills and to experiment in activities that may represent a career interest.

Extra curricular activities also help to form the student's profile for consideration in university applications. A student's academic record and scores on standardised tests form the core of their application profile. However, admissions officers consider other factors, such as a demonstrated talent and participation in school leadership or extra curricular activities.

Extra curricular activities are provided to all Al-Taqwa students and we look forward to a productive year ahead.

Attention

Students must attend school on time. Classes commence at 8.50am therefore students are expected to arrive at school between 8.30-8.40am for preparation.

No early dismissals are permitted during the following times: recess, lunchtime or during ANY prayer times.

**ALL APPOINTMENTS
SHOULD BE MADE
OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS.**



Students leaving in 2016

If your child/children are leaving Al-Taqwa College in 2016 please complete the section below and return it to the Administration Office as soon as possible.

Name: _____ Class in 2016 : _____

Name: _____ Class in 2016 : _____

Name: _____ Class in 2016 : _____

COLLEGE TOURS

Tours of the College are available by appointment only. If you wish to visit the School and view our facilities, please contact the Administration Office on 9269 5000 to arrange a booking.

2016 College tours are held on Wednesdays commencing at 9.15am on the following dates

2 MARCH
13 APRIL
4 MAY
1 JUNE
13 JULY
3 AUGUST
7 SEPTEMBER
5 OCTOBER
2 NOVEMBER

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

This is a great way to see the College in action and meet various key staff members.

English Tutor

ABN 76-172-192-277

Houda Badawi

B.A. (MELB), B.BUS. ACC (RMIT)

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15 years experience in the private tuition of students from Prep to Year 12

Expertise in teaching all aspects of English literacy, including grammar, punctuation, spelling, reading and writing

Family discounts available by negotiation

Ph: 0422 089 031

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AL-TAQWA COLLEGE CONTACT DETAILS

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ADMINISTRATION PERSONNEL

Registrar

Jenny Dunstan

Parent Liaison Officer

Michelle Dimech

Enrolment Officers

Susan McAsey

Enas Ali

Transport Coordinator

Sameh Aghbash

Accounts Receivable

Malak El-Ashey

Fadile Jeka

Accounts Payable

Janice Mudge