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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>J U N E</th>
<th>J U L Y</th>
<th>25 Parent/Teacher Interviews</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26-30 Eid Holidays</td>
<td>3 School Holidays</td>
<td>29 Open Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 First day of Term 3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Message from the Principal

ASSALAMUALAIKUM WBT
EXAMINATIONS
Our mid term and VCE GAT exams are now completed – the term was a hectic time for our teachers and students. My best wishes to all VCE and VCAL students for their end of year exams that they achieve remarkable scores, inshaAllah. Meanwhile, I would advise the Year 11 and 12 students to focus on their respective subjects during the term holidays and regularly attend weekend tutoring classes as an integral part of the revision regime.

RAMADAN
In welcoming and celebrating the month of Ramadan, the College held staff Iftar dinner on Tuesday 6 June in the College’s multipurpose hall. Alhamdullilah, the Ramadan decorations in the hall sparked the very spirit of Ramadan. I would like to thank the Extra Curricular and Administration teams for the wonderfully organised IFTAR dinner.

I have been overwhelmed with iftar invites from various Government sectors, associations, business associates and the community and tried to attend where possible.

At the College, there were many challenging programs being organised to inspire students and staff with Ramadan quizzes, essay writing, art and painting, fundraising for the homeless, radio talks and many more. Apart from the routine academic and mid-year exams, our teachers buzzed like bees throughout the month – I thank and appreciate their participation and great perseverance for the blessed month of Ramadan.

EID-UL-FITR
The Eid-ul Fitr will be on Monday 26 June which is next week. Therefore students and staff will enjoy three weeks of holidays starting from 24 June. Al-Taqwa College will be closed from 24 June to 16 July, and re-open for Term 3 on Monday 17 July 2017. I wish everyone a safe and happy Eid and school term holidays!
As usual, the Eid-ul Fitr congregational prayer will start from 7.30am at the Al-Taqwa Masjid which is for the men, whilst the ladies will be praying the Multipurpose Hall. For the children’s Eid entertainment, they can look forward to the amusement rides and show bags.

The traffic and carparking can be quite challenging during Eid day, and I would earnestly request the community to cooperate with patience when entering and leaving the school premises, by following the instructions of our parking attendees. Also, do not park or obstruct the entrance of residences in the neighbourhood.

I wish everyone Eid Mubarak and have a wonderful and safe holiday!

Wassalam

OMAR HALLAK
Principal

---

### Calendar of Events

#### PRIMARY

**JULY**
- 19: Grade 5 Yellow Lantern Program
- 24: Grade 6 Regional Debating
- 27: SEEP Students Australian Maths Competition

**AUGUST**
- 8-9: Grade 4 Taskworks Incursion
- 14-25: Grade 2 Swimming Program
- 15-25: Scholastic Book Fair
- 24: Grade 6 Regional Debating

**AUGUST/SEPTEMBER**
- 28 Aug to 9 Sep: Grade 1 Swimming Program

---

#### SECONDARY

**JULY**
- 18: Toyota Manufacturing Plant
- 20: Ecolinc
- 20: Toyota Manufactury Plant
- 20: TIS

**AUGUST**
- 01: Wyndham Division Basketball Comp
- 01: VCE Comparison of Texts
- 02: Ecolinc
- 02: Interschool Debating Comp Y9-12s
- 08: Wyndham Division Basketball Comp
- 10: VCE/VCAL Subject Selection Night
- 17: Wyn Div Athletics Comp
- 24: RMH Party Program
- 28: Immunisations

---

### Primary Diaries Art Competition

We were inundated with beautiful artwork from many students in Primary and Secondary all competing to have the honour of having their artwork printed on the front and back covers of the Primary school diaries.

Thank you to all the students who worked hard providing their artistic flair. The winners will be announced in Term 3.
Dear Parents, Students & Friends

ASSALAMU ALAIKUM

ACER SCHOLARSHIP
The 2018 Scholarship Program is now open. Please check our website for details. Scholarships are offered in the areas of Academic, Sport and Religion. Applications close on 28 July.

LATE ARRIVALS AND EARLY DISMISSELS
The school commences promptly at 8.50 am each day, therefore our gates also close at this time. If your child arrives late in the mornings they will be asked to proceed to the Administration Office to obtain a late pass to be accepted into their classroom. If your child is required to be collected early due to an appointment, please advise the Administration Office so they can have your child waiting for you in the foyer. Students who fall ill during the day will be contacted by the Nursing staff for collection from the First Aid Department.

Students must carry their ID cards in their school bags at all times.

STUDENT APPOINTMENTS
To avoid disruption to your child’s learning it is requested that medical or other appointments for your children are made outside of school hours.

A message from First Aid
Keeping your kids healthy during Cold and Flu season.....
The cold season has arrived and with it the winter colds and flu. Here are some simple steps that you can take to prevent from getting sick.

• Hand washing with soap and water is the simplest and the most effective way to keep from getting colds or giving them to others.

• If possible, minimise or avoid close contact with people who have colds.

• If you sneeze or cough, cover your nose or mouth, and then wash your hands with soap and water.

• Cold virus (Rhinoviruses) can live up to three hours on your skin. They can also survive three hours on objects such as table top and mobile phone. By cleaning your surfaces with a virus-killing disinfectant might help to prevent the spread of infection.

• Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs can enter your body easily by these paths.

• The seasonal flu vaccine is recommended for anyone ages six months and older. The vaccine greatly reduces your risk of getting the illness. While no vaccine is 100% effective, however, your symptoms will be much milder.

When your child is ill...
While prevention is the key, there may be times when your child does become ill with the flu. In order to protect the health of other students and school staff, students who are sick should not attend school. Students who are sick should remain at home until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medicines. If your child’s symptoms worsen, you should contact your child’s health care provider. These guidelines are for the safety of the ill student as well as the other students and staff.

ROSSLYN NASIR
Senior School Nurse

SPARE CLOTHING
We have many younger students presenting to the front office due to bathroom accidents. For parents with children in Foundation and Grade 1, can you please provide an extra pair of pants, underwear and socks in their school bags.

SPEEDING
Over the course of the year, we have found many parents speeding in the car parks. As you can imagine this is extremely dangerous especially when smaller children pop out between cars. Please follow the actions of our staff on duty and keep in line with the speed on the school grounds at all times.

PARENT PORTAL
Our Parent Portal is available for all families to be able to update their personal details online. If you have changed address or phone numbers, log onto website and change your details through the portal.

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Parent/Teacher interviews will be held on Tuesday 25 July, please log onto the parent portal to book your interviews.

STUDENT ID CARDS
All students should have their own ID cards now, please ensure that your child keeps their ID card in their school bag at all times.
Term 2 has certainly kept us busy! From making 3D planets to writing persuasive texts to putting together our Ramadan Big Book. At one point throughout the term, we thought we were biting off more than we could chew, however, with the blessings of this holy month of Ramadan, we managed to have fun and learn along the way. Below are some of our class member highlights from the term.

**ENGLISH**
For English this term, we learnt how to write a persuasive text using persuasive devices such as rhetorical questions and repetition to persuade readers. We also worked on improving our grammar and punctuation through VCOP games. The activity I found most interesting was learning about ellipses how they are used differently in writing.

**ZOHRA SOZ**
We worked on improving our spelling by practicing our soundwaves list words. We practiced writing words and segmenting them multiple times. We also played a game called ‘Crack the code’. This is my favourite game because you have to figure out the common sound in each word.

**ABDUL KHAN**
**SCIENCE**
This term we learnt in detail, about the different types of planets in our solar system and studied the distance of the planets from the sun. We studied information on the relative gravity for each planet and compared it to the gravity on Earth. A fun lesson we had was creating our very own 3D planets.

**PARSA NAJARIAN**
**RAMADAN BIG BOOK**
The Ramadan book...hmm lets take some time to consider all of the effort we put into creating this very special book. To begin with, the aim of our Ramadan book was to teach people about the different ways they could get good deeds. We also made sure our stories referred to Hadeeths by Prophet Muhammad PBUH. It took a lot of time to perfect our comic stories but the final product made it all worth it.

**SALAM HAOULI**

**DEBATING**
Our favourite part of term 2 was debating. We learnt to make our points stronger and persuade people to agree with us. The best part of the whole debating process was rebutting the other teams. This allowed us to put the other teams against their own statements. We also found that we improved our confidence by speaking in front our class and telling them all about our opinions.

**RIDA HUSSAIN AND HAFSA KHATRI**
### Student of the Month - Honesty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>Raheesh Khaja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>Mifzal Mohammad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1C</td>
<td>Yazeed Khalifa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1D</td>
<td>Haider Waqas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1E</td>
<td>Yusuf Nasir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1F</td>
<td>Sarah Naz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1G</td>
<td>Niya Mume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1H</td>
<td>Zain Jawad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2A</td>
<td>Saad Jemal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B</td>
<td>Mubasheeruddin Mohammed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2C</td>
<td>Hanine Sadik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3A</td>
<td>Hibah Mohammed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B</td>
<td>Amani El-Hawli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3C</td>
<td>Areesha Khan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3E</td>
<td>Hanza Mohamed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3G</td>
<td>Deniz Nauman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3H</td>
<td>Waqif Muhammed Naushad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4A</td>
<td>Ahmed Hussein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4B</td>
<td>Nabilah Naseer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4C</td>
<td>Elissa Saaddeddine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4D</td>
<td>Sarah Fatima</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4E</td>
<td>Hannah Osman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4F</td>
<td>Syed Hasan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4G</td>
<td>Zara Kaddour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4H</td>
<td>Najma Mohamud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5A</td>
<td>Yasin Dawood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Saad Barakat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5C</td>
<td>Fatat El Jindi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5D</td>
<td>Nasreen Farah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5E</td>
<td>Safi Farah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5F</td>
<td>Humairah Bhamji</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5G</td>
<td>Jamila Nuredini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6A</td>
<td>Hafsa Said</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6C</td>
<td>Nour Ellaz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6D</td>
<td>Emran Ali</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6E</td>
<td>Ellaa Ali</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6F</td>
<td>Serene Kaddour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6G</td>
<td>Muqtaar Farah</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Al-Taqwa College**

**Open Day**

Saturday 29 July - 10am-2pm

Register your attendance at adminoffice@wicv.net
Ramadan at Al-Taqwa College has been extremely busy and fulfilling, alhamdulillah. The food drive commenced during the first week of our holy month and the outpouring of generosity from students and their parents was truly heartening. This year, students and staff themselves packed the food items into boxes. This enabled students to actually be part of the donation process and physically take part in giving. Almost 100 boxes were packed for the needy here in Melbourne and delivered to families. We hope to continue this Ramadan tradition every year into the future.

On Thursday 15 June, another Ramadan tradition took place. Money was raised throughout Ramadan for the Royal Children’s Hospital and delivered to the hospital by selected Dawah and Hifz students, and the Primary Islamic Department Team Leader, Mrs Heba Yassine. More than $2800 was raised by Grade 4-6 students, which is a record so far for donations to the Hospital. Well done and thank you to all the generous students and their families who donated! The annual soccer and basketball tournament for Grades 4 to 6 will take place in August this year, inshaAllah.

A new and exciting initiative to take place in 2017 was Al-Taqwa’s Laylat Al-Qader evening. The evening took place on Wednesday 21 June. Invited students including the Dawah and Hifz students spent the night with Br Mohammad Hallak from 7.30pm to midnight. The program included Taraweeh prayer, Quran reading, Dua, Zikr and a talk about being patient and obedient to parents. We hope that along with these students, you enjoyed a blessed and fulfilled Laylat Al-Qader.

Following on from the Ramadan Big Book Challenge, the standard from teachers and students was so incredible there was no choice but to hold an exhibition at school of their incredible work. The Book creations covered topics from Islamic values, hygiene, food, culture – all linked to our special month in Ramadan. Students were able to visit the Ramadan Big Book Exhibition to flick through other year level’s books. The students were in awe and the smiles on their faces said it all. Another wonderfully successful combined Ramadan initiative by the Primary Islamic and Art Department.

On another note, assessments and exams have taken place across the Primary Islamic Department. Students have completed their set performance tasks and exams. These assessments are based on the unit of work taught over the term.

Enjoy a wonderful and blessed Eid-Al Fitr with your family, from all of us at the Primary Islamic Department.

AMAL ASSAFIRI
Head of Arabic, Quran and Religious Studies Primary
What’s up with 2s and 3s!

Term 2 was an extremely eventful and exciting term. The students enjoyed celebrating the holy month of Ramadan by conducting many fun and exciting events that showed the great artistic side of our Grade 2 and 3s. The students had a fantastic time visiting the Alligator Book Fair. Many students had the pleasure of buying many fantastic Islamic items. Classrooms were decorated beautifully with lanterns and artwork. There was an excited feel in the atmosphere. Students become authors and contributed to the Big Ramadan Book Competition. All students chose a different topic to write about - things that happen during Ramadan. The teachers and children put in their best effort.

The grade 2 and 3s were also extremely busy conducting Semester 1 exams! Well done to all the grade 2 and 3s for trying their very best to achieve great results. We are all extremely proud!

It is extremely important that all students continue to read during this term break. This will ensure that when students return, they will continue to become confident and happy readers.

As your child’s first and important teacher, there is a lot you can do at home that will support your child’s learning through everyday experiences.

Here are some tips on things you can try at home:

- Have problems they can help solve, like a jigsaw puzzle. These are great ways to tap into their natural problem solving abilities.
- Do things that interest them – like a hobby or activity they love. For example, if your child likes helping you cook you can introduce maths by getting them to measure the ingredients; science by observing and discussing how the different ingredients mix together; English through reading the recipe steps out loud; and health by discussing how healthy the different ingredients are.
- Help them find answers or solutions to problems themselves. Show your child how to look things up in a book or on the computer, and find the answers themselves.
- When talking to your child, ask reflective questions like ‘how’ ‘why’ or ‘what if’ as this helps them to think deeply about their responses.
- Repeat things. Most of us cannot do something perfectly the first time we try. We get better with practice, and understand what we are doing the more we do it. Children are exactly the same.
- Remember, your child needs some downtime just like you. Giving them time to just be themselves is important.


A kind reminder on late arrivals and attendance. We seek your support to ensure that we instil the good habits of coming to school on time and have regular attendance to ensure maximum learning.

We wish all the parents and students to have a safe and blessed Eid and a fantastic holiday. All Grade 2 and 3s are looking forward to seeing the students looking fresh and re-energised for next term, InshaAllah!

NOORUN NISA ABDUL WAHID
Head of Student and Teacher Services Grade 2-3
Term 2 has come to an end but not without some fabulous memories.

Last week our Grade 4’s visited the Taskworks hands’ on educational activity centre in Mulgrave. Students were immersed in challenging activities that involved using their mind and body. Students were divided into groups and rotated during their visit. Some of the favourites were the ‘stomp a stump’ and cable maze.

Our Grade 6 students trained hard and well throughout the term to participate in the Winter Interschool Sport Gala Day on Thursday 15 June in three different venues, netball, AFL, softball, volleyball and soccer were amongst the sports played. Our students had some victorious moments such as our soccer, AFL and softball boys all came second. Selected Grade 6 students also participated in the division cross country event. The best result was Obisiissa finishing tenth out of 40 students in his division.

Some of our SRC representatives attended the VicSRC Student Voice Workshop. Students and teachers worked together on ways students voice their opinions as school representatives. Students left with fresh ideas, useful strategies and the first steps to implement an action plan to take back to school.

Our Grade 5’s were ready to roll with their Ramadan rotational activities. This week students ended the term with some hands on activities to end the semester. Also our Grade 5 students are practising to use their persuasive skills by preparing for some interclass debating. May the best argument win!

Looking forward to term 3 for more action-packed learning and activities. See you all after the holidays! Eid Mubarak.

Obayda Kannoj
Assistant Head of Student and Teacher Services Grades 4 to 6
**Zoo Excursion**

The advanced group in the year 10 Arabic class visited the Melbourne Zoo on Wednesday 15 March to study the animals, their diet, habitats and dynamics. The visit was part of their learning program to write a report on the animals in different format and a recount of the visit.

The excursion was fruitful. Students translated the acquired knowledge into English and were able to achieve many outcomes in learning Arabic.

**Introducing the Holy Mosques and Sites in Islam**

Students from year 7-10 attended assemblies to introduce the importance of the holy mosques and sites in Islam. The focus for the assemblies was “Al-Aqsa Mosque” and the “story of al-Israa and Miraj”. All presentations were prepared by the year 10 male students who actively presented the topics in interesting and organised manner. The students were able to produce quality work within a short period of time. The student audience were very impressed with the presentations and praised the effort and skills put throughout the assembly time.

Thank you Abdurrahman Hassan, Ibrahim Mohammed, Mahmoud Badran, Mohammad Awal, and Mahmoud El-Masri from 10D class for your outstanding work. A big thank you to Br Minwer for supporting the team before and during the assemblies.

**Isomer Retirement Home**

The Year 11/12 Arabic and Text and Tradition students had the opportunity to visit the retirement home on 28 March and meet with its residents. Most of the students spoke of the valuable lessons they had learnt from this visit. They were able to talk to senior people living there and listen to their life experiences. Some of the students were shaken with what could happen to them when they become old. Some of them found the trip very inspirational and it changed their understanding towards our elderly.

Students participated in many games and activities during their short visit.

“It was a real eye opener to see a teacher, a doctor, a principal, and other patients who had contributed extensively to the broader community, now being totally dependent on others for assistance in their old age. It reminded me of the hadith which refers to making good use of your youth and health before old age and sickness overtake you.”

* A quote by one of the Al-Taqwa visitors

**Treasure Hunt**

Arabic students were involved in treasure hunt activities during May. They were rewarded for their successful participation. A big thank you goes to the teachers who prepared the activities and supervised them; Sr Anaam for the girls and Br Emad for the boys.

---

**Rabab Soueidan**

HKL Arabic (LOTE), Islamic Studies and Quran
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.

2017 College tours will be held on Wednesdays commencing at 9.15am on the following dates

29 July - Open Day
6 September

Bookings are essential
This is a great way to see the College in action.

School Fete Day
Saturday 21 October
11am to 4pm

College 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
Emmy Eribsytantie