



MINARET COLLEGE

Islamic College of Melbourne South and East

31 March 2021

Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh Minaret Families,

I hope this letter finds you in the best state of health and iman.

Alhamdulillah this year we find ourselves in a very different position compared to the same time last year. We've been able to finish the term in full and our students and teachers have enjoyed an action-packed term to make up for any sense of loss from 2020. In addition to their classes, students have attended assemblies to recognise new leaders and welcome Ramadan, many have gone on excursions or camps and school photos have been taken! Tomorrow, our last day of Term One, will be a grand celebration of our diversity as part of Harmony Day. Students are encouraged to dress in cultural dress and there will be plenty of fun activities for them to get involved in InshaAllah. Parents are reminded that **students will be dismissed at 2.30pm on Thursday 1 April.**

RAMADAN ARRANGEMENTS

Ramadan will commence during the term holidays and so our Ramadan bell times will commence from students' first day back for Term Two (Tuesday 20 April). The Hifz program will also recommence from the first day of Term Two. There is no change to start times however **students will be dismissed early at 2.35pm during Ramadan.** Students returning home via school bus will also leave school one hour earlier than usual. The Canteen will be closed and will reopen with a new menu after we return from Eid break InshaAllah.

TARAWEEH AND EID PRAYER AT BOTH CAMPUSES

Alhamdulillah this year we will be offering both **Taraweeh and Eid Prayers at both Springvale and Officer Campus.** The College will be following the dates announced by the Board of Imams Victoria.

For Taraweeh, the athan for Isha will be called at 7.15pm and taraweeh will be prayed directly after Isha. For both Taraweeh and Eid prayer, consistent with COVIDSafe guidelines, physical distancing must be observed, a maximum number of attendees will be allowed and attendees must sign-in on arrival. Full details for both Taraweeh and Eid prayer will be available on our Facebook page and website closer to the date InshaAllah.

After our Ramadan of solitude last year, I know we're all looking forward to reconnecting as a community this year. We hope that many of our students and families will join us for Taraweeh and Eid prayer InshaAllah.

OFFICER CAMPUS

67 Tivendale Road Officer VIC 3809
T 03 5943 2058

SPRINGVALE CAMPUS (HEAD OFFICE)

36-38 Lewis Street Springvale VIC 3171
T 03 9574 0567

DOVETON CAMPUS

146 Kidds Road Doveton VIC 3177
T 03 9238 4200

TERM TWO – GUIDELINES FOR WHEN A CHILD IS UNWELL

We are coming into winter and so expect that students will encounter the common cold and flu in the coming months. It's important that our families follow the below guidelines if their child is unwell:

- Students who have the following symptoms should remain at home until symptoms resolve: fever, chills/sweats, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose, loss or change in sense of smell/taste, headache, muscle soreness, stuffy nose, nausea, vomiting or diarrhoea.
- As per current public health advice, any individual with the above symptoms, no matter how mild, should seek medical advice and be tested
- Students will be able to return to school without a medical certificate if symptoms are no longer present. If any symptoms still remain, the student will only be able to return to school with written clearance from the GP or a negative COVID test result.
- Students who regularly suffer from hayfever or other conditions which may cause them to experience symptoms similar to COVID should provide a statement from their GP of the condition, common symptoms and severity. This will allow us to establish a medical plan and manage the student with more flexibility given their known condition.

BUS SERVICE – REMINDER REGARDING BUS FEES

Families using the Otobus bus service are reminded that Minaret College students are offered a bus service so they can conveniently and safely travel to and from school each day. As is our expectation with school fees, we expect that bus fees will be paid on time. Not paying for the service may result in the service being cancelled. We regret having to make such decisions however the service is already highly subsidised and we cannot continue to provide a service which is not being paid for.

All parents are reminded that the College offers means-tested concession arrangements for school fees. The College will support families who have fallen into financial hardship; as a community we will ensure that students from all financial backgrounds have a place at the College. Our concession framework ensures transparency in our decision making and we welcome families to call our Finance team to arrange a review of their school fees if required.

Alhamdulillah it's been a wonderful start to 2021 and there is plenty to look forward to as the month of Ramadan approaches. We also look forward to **welcoming students back for Term Two on Tuesday 20 April** InshaAllah.

May Allah (swt) accept our fasting and ibadah for His sake and may we be amongst those who earn the blessings of Ramadan. Ameen.

Kind Regards,



Mohammed Taksim
Executive Principal