

THE

NEWSLETTER



TERM 1, ISSUE 1
9TH FEBRUARY, 2017



DATES TO REMEMBER

7-10th February, 2017

- Year Eleven Retreat

10th February, 2017

- Middle School Assembly
12.50pm

17th February, 2017

- Junior School Assembly 2.35 pm
- Senior School Assembly
12.50pm

20th February, 2017

- Senior Volleyball

21st February, 2017

- Year 5 Dandenong Market Ex-
cursion 9-12pm

23rd February, 2017

- Senior Cricket, Tennis and Soft-
ball

24th February, 2017

-Japan University Visitors 9.30-
11.30am
- Middle School Assembly
12.50pm

27th February, 2017

- Parent Resilience Project Infor-
mation Session 7-8.30 pm

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the 2017 academic year.

Mt. Hira College was established in the year 2000 and is a co-educational Foundation to Year Twelve Islamic College, located in Keysborough. Mt. Hira College is committed to raising upstanding citizens of tomorrow and instilling lifelong learning in each and every student. Over the past two years we have seen a steady improvement in our quest for high expectations. In 2016, one hundred percent of our students completed their Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) and ninety two percent received a round one VTAC offer.

We continue our 2017 academic year with continual high expectations and a mission to develop each child to his or her fullest academic and spiritual potential. Our teaching staff is committed to nurture and challenge your child to achieve their goals and we ask that you partner and collaborate with us in this endeavour. Your children receive the best education when you and our dedicated teachers work as a team. It is a parent's enthusiasm, support and involvement that inspires children to do their best and along with our wonderful and nurturing staff these goals can be achieved.

Our focus will be on continuing a culture of high expectations for all students, to ensure that teachers provide exemplary teaching pedagogy and to maintain a positive and safe school environment. The pedagogical vision at Mt Hira College is to promote holistic education through positive relationships and provide engaging learning opportunities by empowering individuals to succeed.

I look forward to meeting each and every one of you and working with you to ensure all children at Mt. Hira College receive the best education possible. We will be organising a parent morning tea in the coming weeks so please make sure to sign the RSVP form that will be sent out shortly. All the best for the 2017 academic year.

Ms. Sareh Salarzadeh
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - ADMINISTRATION

Welcome back to all students for what promises to be a very exciting and productive 2017 school year. Term One is going to be very busy for all of the College community and it is very important that all students (existing and new) get off to a very positive start that sets them up for a year that allows them to achieve the necessary growth academically and socially.

The first week of school has been very pleasing and it will help to set up a strong foundation from which to continually improve moving forwards.

Best of luck to all of the new staff and students within the college. We are sure that the changes made to school programs and additional teaching strategies that 2017 will be a great success.

We are very hopeful of meeting and getting to better know parents at the upcoming information sessions for junior, middle and senior school parents and students. Having clear expectations of the role we all play in assisting students to achieve their potential is integral to students' achieving their potential.

Tuesday 21st February—**Junior School (Foundation-Year Five) Information Evening** 5:30-6:30pm in the College gym

Wednesday 22nd February—**Middle School (Year Six-Year Nine) Information Evening** 5:30-6:30pm in the College gym

Thursday 23rd February- **Senior School (Year Ten-Twelve) Information Evening** 5:30-6:30pm in the College gym

At these sessions parents will develop a clearer picture of school and teacher priorities, strategies and aims. The more support and positive communication there is between parents/teachers and students, the greater the learning and developmental opportunities there are for the students. We hope that all parents and students are present at these sessions and we wish you all the best of luck for 2017 and beyond.

Tim Campbell

Assistant Principal (Administration)

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - ACADEMIC AND INNOVATION

STUDY SKILLS HANDBOOK NEWSLETTER ITEM FOR FEBRUARY TOP 5 HABITS FOR STUDENTS

Recently I was asked what I thought the top 5 habits were for students in their last year of school. I came up with this list below, then realised wouldn't it be great if all students had these habits firmly entrenched before they even reached the senior years of school!

So your challenge for this year, no matter what your year level, is to ensure these habits become embedded as part of YOUR practice for learning to help you become an effective learner at school and in your career and personal life.

Want to develop great habits for learning? Here's what you need to do:

1. ENGAGE: Don't just be a bystander, instead be an active participant in your own learning, taking responsibility for what you need to do to achieve your academic best.

This means:

___ You involve yourself in all of your lessons, staying on task, participating in discussions and trying to absorb as much as you can during your classes (and that means less to learn later).

___ You complete all of the set work for your subjects (your teacher gives you this for a reason) and you try and keep up to date in this work.

___ You seek help on anything you don't understand or can't do. This might be from a teacher, a friend, online sources, additional books or study guides. You also do this nice and early, you don't let the problems pile up.

2. ORGANISE: Being organised means that you can find things when you need them, you don't forget about work to be done and you don't have last minute panics. Much less stressful.

This means:

___ You have a good system for managing all of the paper for school, you file away completed work and sort and organise all of the papers you are given.

___ You do the same with your digital resources: well named folders and logical filing structures. You do a back-up on a regular basis.

___ When you are given an assessment task you make a plan for when you will do the work for this task and you adjust the plan along the way as things change.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - ACADEMIC AND INNOVATION - (CONTINUED)

3. THINK AHEAD: Part of 'stepping up' is that you don't just wait for someone to tell you to do something. You think ahead and work strategically.

This means:

___ If you know there will be exams (and there are always exams) then don't wait until exam time to get your act together. Make your study notes as you go. Every time you finish a topic make study notes for that topic and file it away at home.

___ Make your study notes as you go. Don't fall too far behind. Yes I know I have already said this, but it is so important I am saying it twice. Keep improving and condensing your notes throughout the year.

___ In fact it needs to be said three times. Keep up to date in your study notes. Worst case scenario - catch up every school holidays.

4. STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE: You want to be able to differentiate yourself from all of the other students, so think what you can do to make your work stand out from the crowd.

This means:

___ You take the time to be thorough when working on essays and assignments. This means lots of planning and brainstorming to start and then multiple drafts over a period of time for editing and proofing (it's good to give the subconscious time to process and evaluate between drafts).

___ You look for additional source material, you read widely and you do more than what is asked of you. But you ensure that in specific tasks you are focused on answering the question and providing depth to your response.

___ You make the most of any feedback you are given (either along the way or after the task) to make adjustments to your approach to your work to improve your outcomes.

5. STUDY SMART: Many students are incredibly ineffective in the way they study. They just stare into their books hoping what they need to learn will magically jump into their heads. If you aren't doing it yet, then it is time to study smart.

This means:

___ You test yourself over and over on the material you need to be able to recall in exams. You don't just read it and hope you will be able to remember it.

___ You then check for understanding, are you able to apply the information you have in your head to different types of questions? To do this you do as many practice questions and past examination papers as you can. You get hold of as many different questions as possible to do as practise.

___ You do these past papers under examination conditions! This means that you stick to the time limits and don't look at notes or answers until the end. This gives you a reality check about your performance and helps you rehearse for the time pressure of exams. You use these practise papers as a tool to help you pinpoint areas of weakness that you then address.

You can learn more about how to be a more effective student at www.studyskillshandbook.com.au by logging in with the details below and working through some of the units:

Username: Password:

Dr Prue Salter - Enhanced Learning Educational Services

Julie Parker

Assistant Principal - Academic and Innovation

MIDDLE SCHOOL (6-9)

Dear Middle School Community,

The 2017 academic year has brought with it slight modification to the structure of Middle School as the College perfects the correct sub-school model for our learning community. In an exciting development for Middle School, students from each year level will be given the opportunity to apply for a position within the Core Leadership Team.

Research shows that meaningful leadership throughout the years of Middle School translates into the development of essential life skills. Each grade will elect one student to a position within the Core Leadership Team, which will result in significant involvement as a leader in many areas and events.

We need responsible and effective leaders in our communities, our cities, our country and the world. We need leaders in the workplace, in government, and in charitable organizations. Who will become the leaders of the future? The answer is... the teenagers of today.

MIDDLE SCHOOL (6-9) (Continued)

Teens today have a challenging time taking the next step toward becoming responsible adults and contributing to their community. Between school, work, extracurricular activities, and family responsibilities, there are a lot of things to take care of amid all of the typical distractions in every teen's life. In addition, they are still trying to learn how to be mature in the way that they handle things and relate to others.

To help meet these demands and to prepare them for adulthood, it is important for teens to learn about and gain leadership skills. Attributes such as: relationships, communication, public speaking, planning, and taking initiative can all benefit teens in becoming more proactive in the world around them.

A coveted position within the Core Leadership Team will require dedication and a fierce drive from students to develop their leadership skills. Students will therefore be required to undertake roles occurring both within and outside of school hours. Parents will be notified of outside school hours responsibilities in advance. The Core Leadership Team will be announced to the community during the Middle School Assembly on Friday 24th February.

I welcome questions from parents and students alike regarding the Core Leadership team. Good luck to all applicants.
Regards,

Mr Andrew Stock
Head of Middle School (6-9)

JUNIOR SCHOOL (F-5)

Dear Parents, Students and Friends of the Junior School,

2017 is off and running and I would like to begin by thanking you for helping this year begin in such a positive manner. It is wonderful to see the Junior hallway filled with happy, busy students once more.

Next Friday I would like to extend a warm welcome to all parents to join us in our first Junior School Assembly for the year. In the meantime, I strongly encourage all families to familiarise themselves with our online communication portal, SEQTA, as this is an excellent way to keep up to date with activities, events and news here at Mt Hira College.

On a separate note and in an attempt to prevent a foreseeable issue, the Junior School has come to the consensus to ban students from bringing collectables to school. Please note that 'collectables' refers to items such as Pokémon and Football cards, or any other item that students can collect and trade with one another. The reason for the ban is due to the unnecessary time teachers are required to spend dealing with issues and complaints raised regarding these items, whether it is that they become lost, stolen or unfairly traded.

If a student breaches this new rule, banned items will be confiscated for twenty-four hours by the classroom teacher. However, if a student breaches the rule for a second time, parents will be asked to collect the confiscated item from the classroom teacher instead.

Please note that students are still allowed to bring sports equipment to school to play with. Lastly, I would like to stress that the College takes no responsibility for lost or damaged items. Students who bring personal items to school, bring them at their own risk and it is their responsibility to ensure they are clearly named (first and last name and their grade) and kept safe. One of our College Values is Responsibility and staff at Mt Hira College encourage all students to practise this value every day. We thank you in advance for supporting this decision.

Teachers and staff of the Junior School look forward to working closely with you to ensure our students have a positive, productive and prosperous year.

Kind regards,

Ms Ashley Beardsley
Head of Junior School (Foundation to Year Five)
abeardsley@mthira.vic.edu.au

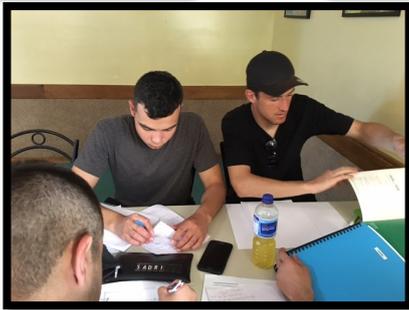
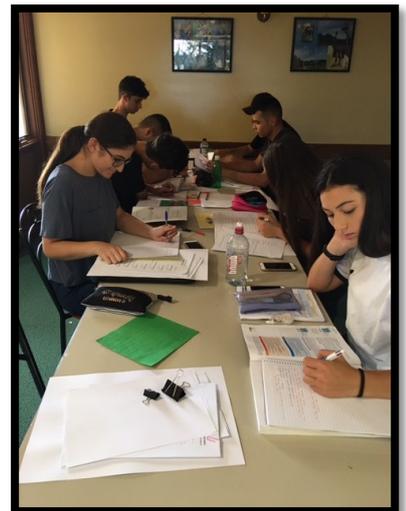
SEQTA

SEQTA Engage is a powerful tool for parents to have an overview of their child's learning and assessments. Parents enter SEQTA Engage through their login page entering the username and password the school has provided you. This login information is only available to parents/guardians who have **registered an email address with the College**. Once this email is registered then you will receive an email from SEQTA/Mt Hira College which will have your user name and password. If you do not have a registered email address with the College, then please do so immediately so you have access to the information and communication opportunities that SEQTA provides.

To access SEQTA use this link;
[https://
engage.mthira.vic.edu.au:8938](https://engage.mthira.vic.edu.au:8938)

Please contact the College if you are still having login issues. Please login into SEQTA regularly as teachers will be updating information frequently and progressively increasing communication with parents through SEQTA direct messaging and email.

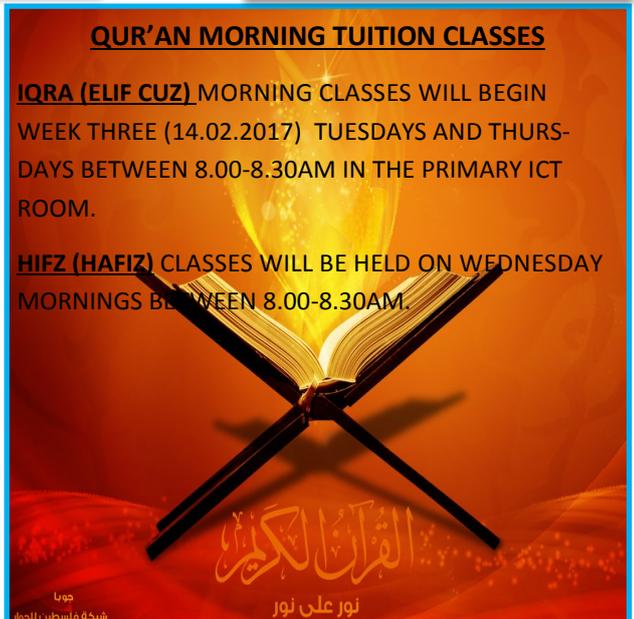
IMAGES FROM THE YEAR 11 RETREAT



QUR'AN MORNING TUITION CLASSES

IQRA (ELIF CUZ) MORNING CLASSES WILL BEGIN WEEK THREE (14.02.2017) TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS BETWEEN 8.00-8.30AM IN THE PRIMARY ICT ROOM.

HIFZ (HAFIZ) CLASSES WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY MORNINGS BETWEEN 8.00-8.30AM.



CANTEEN LIST 2017 Term 1

PLEASE NOTE: ALL OUR PRODUCTS ARE HELAL

HOT FOOD

Party Pie.....	\$1.00
Beef Pies (Four'n Twenty).....	\$3.50
Sausage Roll (Jumbo).....	\$3.50
Shepherds Potato Pie.....	\$3.50
Spinach & Ricotta Gourmet Roll.....	\$3.50
Hot Dog.....	\$3.00
Chicken Nuggets.....	\$0.80
Steamed Dim Sim (includes cup & fork).....	\$1.00
(SAUCE IS INCLUDED IN HOT FOOD PRICES)	

PASTA'S

Lasagne Beef.....	\$3.50
Spaghetti Bolognese.....	\$3.50
Macaroni Cheese.....	\$3.50

PIZZA'S

Margarita.....	\$3.00
Barbecue Chicken.....	\$3.50
Sucuk Pizza.....	\$3.50
Lahmacun.....	\$3.50

TOASTED SANDWICHES (orders only)

Cheese.....	\$1.50
Cheese & Tomato.....	\$1.80
Cheese & Salam.....	\$2.00
Cheese & Sucuk.....	\$2.00

ROLLS & WRAPS (orders only)

Cheese & Lettuce.....	\$2.00
Chicken Burger (chicken, lettuce & mayo).....	\$4.00
Chicken Sweet Chilli Tenders Burger (Lettuce & Mayo).....	\$4.00
Salami & Salad.....	\$3.20
Salad Roll/Wrap (cheese,lettuce,tomato,carrot&cucumber).....	\$3.00

POPPER JUICE 100% FRUIT JUICE

Blackcurrent/Apple, Orange, Apple.....	\$1.80
LOL (Apple/Raspberry, Apple/Blackcurrent & Tropical).....	\$2.50
Sour Cherry (Visne).....	\$1.50

SUMMER MENU

MON: Kisir.....	\$3.50
TUE: Chicken & Rice.....	\$4.00
WED: Pasta Bolognese.....	\$4.00
THU: Pasta Salad.....	\$3.50
FRI: Pasta Bolognese.....	\$4.00

Garden Salad (lettuce,tomato,cucumber,fetta & olive).....	\$3.50
Warm Chicken & Salad (Large).....	\$4.50
Small.....	\$3.50

WATER

H2O Spring Water 600mls.....	\$2.00
NW Water 575mls (blueberry, Goji, Dragon Fruit).....	\$3.50

MILK DRINKS

Up & Go (chocolate, strawberry, banana & vanilla).....	\$2.00
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Nippy's (Iced Coffee, Ice Chocolate, Iced Honey-comb, Ice Strawberry).....	250mls.....\$2.00
Sahara Ayran.....	270mls.....\$1.50

LIPTON ICED TEA

Lipton Ice Tea (mango, peach, lemon, raspberry).....	\$3.50
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FRUIT

Fruit Salad (seasonal).....	\$2.00
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SNACKS

Choc Chip Cookies.....	\$0.50
Mamee Monster Noodles (BBQ Chicken).....	\$1.00
Mamee Cornitos Zesty BBQ & Zesty Cheese.....	\$1.00
Muffins (chocolate, choc-chip, blueberry).....	\$2.00
Vege Crackers (salt & vinegar, Honey soy, BBQ, Light & Tangy Salsa).....	\$1.20
Simit.....	\$1.20
Simit with butter toasted.....	\$1.50
Croissant.....	\$1.50

STREET ICE-CREAM

Prices range from \$1.00 - \$3.80 (ice-cream will not be sold during winter)

PLACING ORDERS

A lunch order bag must be sent with each new lunch order, please print child's name, grade, lunch order and the amount enclosed, on the lunch bag.

Please Note: Parents will be required to pay for orders with insufficient money in them (you will be notified)



Dingley Stars Football Club



INFORMATION & REGISTRATION DAY

PLAYERS WANTED! GET ACTIVE & STAY HEALTHY!

Dingley Stars F.C are seeking players for their Junior teams from all age groups (7 - 18's BOYS & GIRLS) for the 2017 Season.

An Information & Registration day will be held for all players & parents with the Coaches & Technical Director to answer questions & provide information on what the club is aiming to achieve.

WHEN: Feb 12th 2017

TIME: 11am - 2pm

WHERE: Chadwick Reserve, Howard RD, Dingley

NEW & EXISTING PLAYERS WELCOME FOR ALL AGES BETWEEN 7 - 18 YEARS (BOYS & GIRLS)

Registration fees can be paid on this day to secure your position at the club.



Dingley Stars FC

PO Box 238 Noble Park 3174

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www.facebook.com/dingleystarsfc