



KNOWLEDGE

FAITH

DISCIPLINE

Issue 1 July Edition Semester 1



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Monday 15th August - Science Week

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Monday 12th September - Year 6 Camp

Friday 23rd September - Last Day of Term 3

Principal – Ms. Yeliz Yilmaz

Asalaamu 'alaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our parents, family members and friends a wonderful Eid Al Adha Insha'Allah. We hope you all have a blissful Eid and may the Rahmah of Almighty Allah (SWT) shine upon you and your family.

As I reflect on our experiences during Semester 1, I realise how rewarding the start of 2022 has truly been. This semester has been eventful for all students and staff, with many creative curricular and extra-curricular activities. We have been fortunate enough to be able to hold all our planned events, which have provided our students with a wide range of engaging and exciting learning experiences.

This newsletter will highlight all the amazing experiences our students took part in this semester. While you are reading through the following pages, I would like to highlight that these experiences have been attained with the meticulous planning and organisation that my staff worked tirelessly to attain. Thus, I am honoured to have and work alongside such an amazing team.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank all students, parents, families and staff members who have supported the on-going work of our leadership and teaching teams this term. I wish all members of the Rissalah community a safe and relaxing holiday. I look forward to seeing students back at school in Term 3, on Tuesday, 19th July, Insha'Allah

JazakaAllah Khairan,



Ms. Yilmaz
Principal



1st Day of School

On Tuesday the 1st of February 2022, Kindergarten students of Rissalah College had their very first day of big school!

The Kindergarten teachers, Ms Naboulsi, Ms Elmir, Ms Samman and Ms Lozi had so many fun and exciting activities to do with the students. This included lining up like trains together, reading books to the students, decorating their 'First Day of Kindergarten' crowns and exploring the class's reading corner.

Students even went on tours around the school to see where the office, library and canteen are located. They learnt about how to be safe around the school with their buddies. Lots of new friends were made on this day too!

Overall, the very first day of Kindergarten was a great success and full of enjoyment for all.



Year 7 Induction Day

On Saturday, December 4th, 2021, Rissalah College welcomed our incoming Year 7 students for the year 2022. Teachers planned interesting and interactive activities to familiarise pupils with the disciplines offered at Rissalah on this day. Students in our school hall sat nervously, scrutinising their surroundings, while waiting for additional instructions.

Ms. Yilmaz, our Principal, welcomed our new students, outlined our school's standards, and introduced the high school teachers in attendance.

During the induction day, our future students were introduced to the content of each subject and were asked to introduce themselves using exciting ice breaker activities.



Students participated in many activities like The Letter Hunt, hangman, experiments and many more. The kinaesthetic aspect of these activities gave students a much-needed energy boost by getting them up and moving.

Overall, these activities helped to establish a friendly informal climate by building rapport among the students and

teachers, thus fostering a productive learning environment.

Students left our gates with full smiles and full bags of books, pens and everything else they needed to prepare for their learning in 2022.





Gelato Day



You scream, I scream, we all scream for ice-cream!! Well in this case Rissalah College was screaming for GELATO.

As a welcome back tribute to the students returning to a new year of face to face learning they were given a delicious cone of gelato to enjoy. The students were overjoyed at the abundance of flavours to choose from passionfruit, lemon, watermelon, strawberry, mango and raspberry.



Some students were very clear in their choices, some chose to step outside their comfort zone and experiment with a new flavour and some needed a little help to narrow their choice. The excitement of choosing a flavour was almost as great as the taste!

The students shared in some laughter and friendship with their peers eating their gelato, and the simple pleasure was displayed with their wide-eyed smiles. I guess none of us are too old for gelato.....hey high school!

Learning Support Department

STORY HEADLINE

This Term, our Learning Support Department has been working diligently to plan and prepare for the transition of our current year 6 students into High School. We know our planning will make the move as seamless as possible for our students and will ensure the Year 7's will have a smooth transition from primary to high school and enjoy the new and exciting challenges this will offer.

Students are being introduced to a wide range of innovative intervention programs with specialised Teachers and Teacher Aides as well as specialised equipment and resources to access several exciting learning experiences and opportunities.

Ms. Nas the Learning Support Coordinator, together with the Learning Support team, Ms. Sophia, Ms. Bibi and Ms. Jasmin have been working on student engagement, programs, withdrawal interventions and after school assistance to effectively achieve the best educational outcomes.

Covid Support Program – In School

Due to the past COVID-19 lockdowns and extended time away from face-to-face teaching, Rissalah College and collaborated with the Learning Support Department and has organised a Covid Support Program, which has been designed to bridge the gap in selected students' literacy skills.

Students have been selected to participate in the in-school support sessions, which will run three times per week. Students will have the opportunity to work in small groups with a qualified support teacher to further develop their basic reading and writing skills.

All students receiving assistance from the learning and support team will be provided with:

- Online Resources
- Literacy Support Materials

Gifted and Talented Program - After School

Students have been selected to be a part of the Literacy Gifted and Talented Program at Rissalah College. Students who have been identified as gifted and talented require a differentiated program that is substantially different to that provided for other students.

The program provides advanced learning opportunities in the specific area or areas in which your child's talents and interests lie. Your child will gain more from focusing on one activity at a time, particularly one that advances their skill level and desire to know.

The enrichment essentials provided to students include:

- self-directed projects
- whole-to-part discovery of concepts (understanding the big picture before the details)
- critical and creative thinking skills
- in-depth topic development
- competitions
- interdisciplinary curriculum
- the 'classics'
- real world problems

Literacy Support Program – After School

The Literacy Support Program will run specific literacy programs to cater for students' specific needs with focus on their reading and writing skills. Students have an opportunity to work on basic literacy skills within a small group during the one-hour literacy session.

In these groups, students work with an experienced teacher on more individualised plans to build confidence and to strive to achieve their potential in all areas of literacy.



SRC Induction Ceremony 2022

On Wednesday, 2nd March, students and families of the Rissalah College community came together to celebrate the 2022 Student Representative Council Induction Ceremony, which was held at the lavish Renaissance Reception Lounge. The SRC received their badges and trophies. The primary and secondary school Captains presented their inspiring speeches, which highlighted their gratitude and appreciation for the school that they hold so dear, Rissalah College.

The Student Representative Council (SRC) are a group of outstanding students elected by their peers and our Head of School Ms. Yilmaz, to support and represent all students at our school.

The 2022 SRC students will be representing Rissalah College within our community and beyond for the entire year. These students will be working alongside the teachers in our SRC committee, who will guide and support them in building leadership skills and giving them a voice to make a difference at our school.

Throughout the year, the SRC committee will regularly meet to discuss any issues, ideas, suggestions, and requests for changes to school practice that will make our school and the community a better place. The SRC allows these students to be involved in decision making, as it applies to student facilities and activities of the SRC.

Congratulations to all our SRC Members for 2022!



WORKSHOPS / INCURSIONS

NSW POLICE & TURNING POINT CONSULTING

This term students have been actively involved with incursion workshops targeting student resilience and safety. Rissalah College has engaged with Turning Point Consulting who has delivered educational strengths-based programs to our school. In return, Turning Point Consulting has supported our students to achieve mindfulness and resilience by developing greater self-awareness, confidence, responsibility, and emotional intelligence. Our students were involved with Innovative educational programs to recognise the expectations of high school students in understanding and being equipped for a 21st century career path.

As part of our ongoing commitment to school safety we are fortunate to have the support of NSW Police in the form of a School Liaison and Youth Liaison Officer. School Liaison Police are officers who work with high schools to reduce youth crime, violence, and anti-social behaviour through a range of school intervention strategies, educational programs, and local relationships which model respect and responsibility

Students were involved in learning programs with the School Liaison Police Officers who provided information, support and guidance on security, cyber bullying, public transport, domestic violence, and child protection matters relating to the school, as well as other issues relating to safety and community responsibility.



2022 Harmony Cup Basketball Tournament

Selected students from Years 5 & 6 participated in the 2022 Harmony Cup Basketball Tournament in celebration of Harmony Day 2022. Students who were selected represented Rissalah College and competed against students from other Islamic Schools.

Harmony Cup day was a great experience



for
our



students, as it allowed them to expand on their social skills, develop their teamwork skills, build on their confidence and ability to believe in themselves, all through a passion for sports. The girls and boys who attended played extremely well, with the boys finishing in 4th place and just missing out on the finals and the girls finishing up in 6th place amongst all Islamic Schools that attended.

Congratulations and well done to all the students who participated in this event and to their coaches on the day, Mr Kabalan & Ms Mariam.



2022 Swimming Lessons

After 2 long years of being on hold, Rissalah College students were finally able to bring out their flippers and goggles to participate in the week-long intensive swimming program held at Hurstville Aquatic centre between the 14th and 18th of March. Rissalah Students were provided with the opportunity to practise essential water safety skills by learning how to perfect their swimming techniques enhancing their level of confidence when swimming.

Differentiated swimming groups were created to ensure that all students were able to learn at their own pace. Our students from K-6 learnt and explored a range of swimming styles and skills, ensuring they develop swim readiness skills they would possess for a lifetime. It was amazing seeing our little swimmers progress throughout the week while enjoying some time away from the traditional classroom setting. Students were also treated to some recreational time where they were able to participate in some free-swimming time, splash activities and an indoor waterslide! The smiles on their faces were priceless! Even Mr El-Arja got in on the fun with them. A big thank you to all the staff including Mr El-Arja and the support team for helping manage the week-long swimming program. All staff took a COVID safe approach to minimise group contact and monitor them whilst providing consistent feedback and addressing their progress. Overall, students found it to be a beneficial and engaging learning experience.



'Be Road Safe Ready' NRMA Incursion

Careful driving and riding is key to protecting yourself and the drivers. The NRMA's 'Be Road Safe Ready' program provides schools with educational programs and resources to help teach safe road habits.

On Tuesday, 15th March 2022, Rissalah College students attended the NRMA Science and Road Safety incursion. Students enjoyed exploring a variety of road safe behaviours through visual learning and science demonstrations.



Car Safety

Students were taken on a virtual reality of the consequences faced by drivers and passengers involved in speeding, drink driving, fatigue and failing to wear a seat belt.

Did you know that 13, 500 accidents happen around traffic lights a year?

In addition, the experience allowed our students to develop a clearer understanding of the numerous other ways car crashes can happen, including poor merging skills, tailgating, in car distractions such as mobile phone and entertainment systems, and even driver frustration levels.

As passengers, it is vital to avoid causing distractions to our drivers that may hinder their focus on the road. It is also important to have your seatbelts on at all times.

The program was an excellent initiative that increased our students' knowledge and behaviour towards road safety. The memorable road safety shows and student workbooks that encouraged teacher led discussions were effective in raising awareness for safer driving on our roads.



VISIT TO ART GALLERY

Visit to Art Gallery of NSW by Year 10

Portraits



YEAR 10 STUDENTS LOOK AT DIFFERENT PORTRAITS

On 17th February 2022, Year 10 students went to Art Gallery of NSW to observe different portraits. The exhibition was named as *The ArtExpress*. Students had a look at portraits such as *Perspectives of a Negative Space*, *Animated Identity*, *Lockdown*, *The Adoration of Adolescence*. The Portraits in the exhibition were made by High School Visual Arts students which motivated the Year 10 students to create their own artworks.

Students while entering the exhibition were very excited to look at different artworks. It was surprising to see how different portraits were created and what mediums are used to create the portraits.



STUDENTS ANALYSED THE ARTWORKS

When the students were looking at the artworks, they tried to analyse the story behind each of them. Students took photographs of every portrait and were trying to discuss about the history of the artworks.

While exploring the Art Gallery of NSW, students not just had a look at the *The ArtExpress* but also saw the historical portraits presented there. The portraits were framed with Gold plated Brass which really caught the students' eyes.

We are delighted to say that it was spectacular to see the students learn about portraits at the Art Gallery of NSW and how they enjoyed the excursion.



Anti-Bullying Day



Bullying is never ok. It's hurtful and can impact someone for a long time.

Always standing against bullying, our school celebrated Anti-Bullying Day on the 18th of March. The theme for 2022 was *Kindness Culture*, which aimed at promoting inclusion, respect and community belonging for all students in schools across Australia.



Students dressed up in their favourite superhero costume and again took a stand against bullying. They certainly know how be upstanders and deal with a bully. Amongst their known strategies are playing with their true friends, trust an adult and ask for help, stay calm and think of what to say to stop a bully from hurting them.

Bullying has no place in Islam. Our religion promotes kind treatment with each other and highly protects the rights and self-respect of humans.



Bullying. NO WAY!

Harmony Day at Rissalah College

On Tuesday 22nd March, Rissalah College celebrated Harmony Day. This is the day when we celebrate Australia's cultural diversity and share what we have in common. The central message for Harmony Day is that 'everyone belongs'. Students across the College wore a traditional cultural dress or orange attire and participated in activities that allowed them to appreciate the multicultural landscape of our society.

Travelling the world



Students travelled around the globe using their passports!

To allow students to experience the greatness of other traditions and cultures, each class was assigned a country. All students worked in collaboration to transform their classrooms to represent their chosen country. From Bangladesh to Brazil, students used their passports to experience the beauty that each place offers.



Tasting the world

Students brought in a plate of delicious food that reflected their culture to share with their class peers. They were extremely thrilled to taste the different flavours in each dish. Our students enjoyed their class party very much!

Celebrating Harmony Day at Rissalah College was a great success, as the activities fostered inclusiveness, respect, and the idea that people of all different cultures make a valuable contribution to society.



SWIMMING CARNIVAL NEWSLETTER



On Wednesday, 23rd March and Thursday, 24th March, Rissalah College had its annual Swimming Carnival at Bexley Aquatic Centre. Years 3 – 10 students participated in a range of swimming events such as, the 25 metre Freestyle and Back stroke along with novelty races and playing in the water park.

Even though the weather forecast displayed heavy rain and a possible storm, students were still eager to participate, and staff took extra precautions to ensure that all students were well supervised, while having fun. This year's carnival also had teachers participating and

racing students in the 50-metre freestyle.

Congratulations to the house group Ali for winning this year's carnival as they strived to defeat their opponents by participating in various races and chanting as a team throughout the Carnival.

A BIG congratulations on the following age group champions who have shown great swimming ability!



25 Metre Freestyle		
Age	Boys	Girls
7 years	Noah Hawat	NA
8 Years	Shahid Abdelrahman	Aminah Dalati
9 Years	Zak Matar	Aya Charaf
10 Years	Jayden Omar	Airseyah Abdel Rahman
11 Years	Eshan Jafir	Mariam Inan
12 Years	Osman Hamouda	Rihanna Habib
13 Years	Kamal Merhab	Suha Derbas
14 Years	Ahmed Ahmed	Jazel Saboune
15+ Years	Mohamed Theeb	Maya Khalil

25 Metre Backstroke		
Age	Boys	Girls
7 years	NA	NA
8 Years	NA	NA
9 Years	Suleima Chehade	Sophia Ali
10 Years	Mohamed Habib	Yara Allouche
11 Years	Rayyan Gena	Mariam Inan
12 Years	Osman Hamouda	Rayana Fayed
13 Years	Kamal Merhab	Javanah Kaour
14 Years	Ibrahim Banat	Jazel Saboune
15+ Years	Omar Wahab	Aaminah Zahab

50 Metre Backstroke		
Age	Boys	Girls
12 Years	Abdul Nasou	NA
13 Years	Kamal Merhab	NA
14 Years	Ahmed Ahmed	Jazel Saboune
15+ Years	Mohamad Theeb	Maya Khalil

A big thank you to all staff who attended and assisted throughout the day. An email was sent by the manager of the pools regarding the Carnival organisation was like no other and our students were well behaved throughout the day. I am proud to say that this year's Carnival was a 'great success and Insha'Allah next year will be even better.



Mr Charaf - Sports Coordinator/ Year 10 Advisor

Year 10 Aboriginal Experience – Rights and Freedoms

Location: Bundeena National Park

In History this semester, Year 10 students have been studying the struggles of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples for their rights and freedoms in Australia. This excursion immersed students within a wide range of authentic and interactive Indigenous experiences, as they spent the day diving into one of the world's oldest surviving cultures! Students took an active role on this practical and engaging Indigenous excursion, as they learnt about the Aboriginal land in which they live, work, and play on.



The day kicked off with a meet and greet with knowledgeable Aboriginal Gumaraa Rangers, before enjoying an interactive and engaging presentation. Students were then drawn into an open discussion about Aboriginal Australians and gained an appreciation for the ancestral culture that has occupied this land for over 40,000 years. They heard stories from the Dreamtime, heard first-hand stories about living on traditional lands, and saw, felt and touched Aboriginal artefacts to learn how Indigenous Australians engage with their



culture and lands.

They were challenged to think critically about the impact that the arrival of colonial settlers had on Aboriginal lifestyles and livelihoods. Similarly, they learnt to understand the concept of loss of rights — citizenship rights, land rights and cultural rights (or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander rights) - and discussed different events that helped to achieve lasting change in the development of Indigenous rights in Australia.

Lastly, they discussed how the right of freedom of speech in our democracy has provided an opportunity for people to use their voice to affect change. This insightful and authentic experience bolstered a strong sense of empathy and connection with students' home and lifestyle.

This excursion was mandatory, and students were required to participate as this is a RoSA requirement and will assist students in their completion of the term one History topic.



Kindergarten's Farm Excursion

On Wednesday, 30th March, Kindergarten went to Camsley Hill Farm at Fairfield. The students had a fun filled day learning all about their favourite farm animals and what life is like on a farm. They enjoyed patting some of the baby animals and watched a great sheep shearing and whip cracking show. They had fun milking the cow too! A big 'Thank you' to all the parent helpers and volunteers for their assistance. The day would not have run so smoothly without their great support.





Ramadan is the 9th month of the Islamic calendar, The month traditionally begins, and ends based on the sighting of the new moon. Starting on Saturday, 2nd April 2022, Muslims around the world began to fast. The typical greeting at the start of Ramadan is “Ramadan Mubarak” or “Blessed Ramadan.” At the end of Ramadan greeting is “Eid Mubarak” or “Blessed Eid”.

On Thursday, 31st March 2022, Rissalah College students and teachers attended our annual Sayran Ramadan Event to celebrate the commencement of this holy month Ramadan together in harmony. The teachers and students dressed in their most beautiful and cultural traditional dresses and abayet. Together we enjoyed cultural foods which everyone brought to share. After this, many teachers and students engaged in decorating activities, learning experiences through educational Islamic videos and lectures. We had the honor to have been accompanied by Sheikh Shady Al Sulaiman and Sheikh Nabeel Succarie during this event.

Ramadan is a month of fasting, practicing acts of obedience and is a blessed month for a special reason. It is the month in which guidance for mankind was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) by the creator Allah (SWT). This message has been perfectly preserved both verbally and textually in the form of our Holy Book, the Qur'an. During this month we will focus on reading and understanding the Quran and it is a beautiful time for everyone to reflect on their religious practices, while they learn more about its key concepts and further develop their current knowledge.

Iftar is the name for the evening meal with which Muslims break their fast. It is the time everybody gets together and enjoys a feast after the Maghrib prayer.



Public Speaking Competition

Here at Rissalah College, we believe in giving children the skills they need to become the next world leaders. One of the most important of these is public speaking, which allows them to learn how to express their beliefs in front of a live audience.

Rissalah College selected three students from Years 4, 5 and 6 to participate in an interschool speaking event at Arkana College. The topics varied from making mistakes, gratitude, and optimism. With a helping hand from Ms Klink and Ms Malika, the students were given a chance to learn how to research an abstract topic and how to condense this research into an argument.

We are so proud of our students for stepping up and taking on this challenge! It required learning many new skills that they had never attempted before, and even though it was tough, they pushed through and did a fantastic job.



Ramadan Iftar Dinners

This year, Rissalah College hosted our first and definitely not last, Student Iftar Dinners.

We were lucky enough to be blessed with great cooking from our Principal, Ms Yilmaz, alongside Ms Klink and many other staff members.

It was a great time to remember what Ramadan was all about. Our students embraced the Iftar nights by forming new friendships between one another and also getting to see what their teachers were like outside of School hours.

Our last Iftar was bittersweet. All our Rissalah College staff members will miss seeing the smiles and joy on the faces of our students and most importantly, their full stomachs.

We want to take this opportunity to thank each and every student and their families for joining us this Ramadan and Insha'Allah, we will be back next year even bigger and better. Thank you to everyone involved in making this such a great event.





Eid Al-Fitr Mubarak!

On Wednesday 4th May 2022, students were welcomed back to school after the Eid break with a colourful arch of balloons that read 'Eid Mubarak!'

Students were also treated to snow cones and popcorn compliments of our school principal Ms. Yilmaz.

We enjoyed the day out in the sun catching up with friends about our Eid celebrations with our families, Eid clothes, Eid sweets, Eid presents and of course all the Eid money we collected!

A huge thank you to Ms. Yilmaz for organising the day and to our learning support staff for serving us throughout the day.



SRC Leadership BBQ

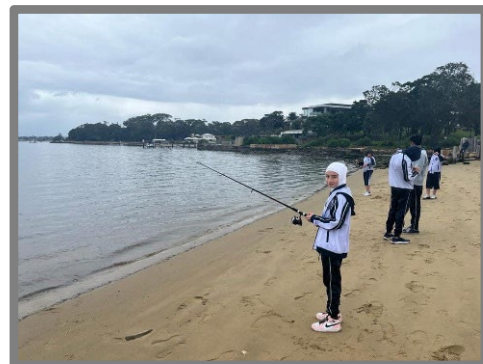
This term, the Rissalah College Student Representative Councillors in Years 3 to 10 attended a leadership barbeque at Carss Park on Monday, 9th of May.

Our future leaders spent their day building relationships with each other and partaking in team bonding activities. The park was decorated with balloons and students had the opportunity to bring their favourite board games and gear up their prized fishing rods.

Courtesy of our wonderful school captain, Maya Kalil, our primary SRC had a blast playing 'Taco Cat Goat Cheese Pizza' - a clever card game that resulted in lots of giggles and lots of fun. Our high school students enjoyed many games of 'Charades', working to hone their acting and improvisation skills.

Students had the opportunity to show off their fishing skills, parking themselves along the beach and hoping to be the lucky one with the catch of the day. Walking away with one fish, students were exchanging their most tested tips- promising to have better luck next time.

To curb the appetite worked up from a day full of fun, our amazing executive team organised a barbeque to end on a high note.



SCHOOLHOUSE MUSEUM

Year 3 students visited the Schoolhouse Museum as part of their learning in History - Community and Remembrance. Students got a glimpse of schooling from the past, analysing primary sources and immersive experiences to investigate the continuities and changes in education from the 1880s to the present. With a hands-on focus, students interact with artefacts and experience early school life, changing technologies, compare teaching and learning methods and analyse and interpret sources such as artefacts, photographs and recreated classrooms.

Students had the opportunity to explore and use props and sources as wartime schoolchildren to contribute to the war effort on the home front.

- Students to part in recreated 1880s school lessons and technologies
- Examine early student workbooks and crafts treasured through generations
- Analyse artefacts and photographs and infer the evidence they hold
- Explore past educational objects and consider changes and continuities
- Write on slates with genuine slate pencils
- Dip an ink pen to label a map and write Copperplate with pen and ink
- Create twisted threads, weaving or knitting as past school crafts
- Use a jelly pad as an early printing technology
- Toast bread over the fire in the winter months
- Compare education of the past to that of today.





Rain, Hail or Shine, Rissalah College held its annual Eid Festival on Monday 23rd of May 2022 for students in Kindergarten to Year 5 on school grounds.

This year, we had a variety of jumping castles and arcade games for the students to enjoy. We also had Henna, Face Painting and show bag stalls. In our food stalls we had Hot Dogs, Hot Chips, Corn in a Cup, Gelato, Snow Cones, Pop Corn & for the first time ever NACHOS!

Students enjoyed celebrating the festivities of Eid with their friends and teachers. Even though the weather was not what we hoped for, our students did not let the rain stop them from having a fun filled day.

Thank you to the Senior Executive team for organising another successful and enjoyable Eid Festival. Also thank you to all the staff members and parent volunteers for their help and continuous support on the day.



Luna Park Eid Celebration – Years 6-10



This year, our annual Eid event for students in Years 6 to 10 was celebrated at Luna Park on Monday, 23rd May 2022. Every year, our amazing executives and staff work to create exciting and unforgettable experiences for all our Rissalah College students, this year being no different.

The lead up to the event was filled with excitement and chatter about all the fun rides Luna Park has to

offer. When the day finally came, we couldn't get there quick enough. The beaming faces of our students was enough to brighten the otherwise gloomy weather. The weather was not a deterrent for the amount of fun that the day had in store for us.



As soon as the park opened, students raced to line up for The Big Dipper, the Tango Train as well as the Boomerang- just to name a few. Spending a day with friends, laughter radiated throughout the park as students braved the rain and took advantage of the adrenaline inducing rides. Stories of their day were shared on our bus ride back to school, ready to be told to family and friends.

A big thank you to our wonderful executive team, staff, and parent volunteers for such a successful and enjoyable day.



National Simultaneous Storytime at Rissalah College

On Wednesday 25th of May, Rissalah College celebrated National Simultaneous Storytime. The aim of this day is to promote the value and fun of books, reading and community Storytime activities. It is also a day to recognise and acknowledge the work of the featured author and illustrator. 2022's chosen book is Family Tree by Josh Pyke, a story about family, celebrations and seasons. This story helped our students understand the meaning of family and the importance of family values.



Storytime with Ms.Khalil

To allow students to get excited about reading, Ms. Khalil read the story, in an interactive way. The students were able to really engage in the core attributes of the story as Ms. Khalil went through each page reading with expression and thought. Each page had a different meaning and perspective where the students were able to be motivated the understand the meaning of the pictures which helped them understand the words. Ms. Khalil then gave the students the opportunity at the end to share their thoughts and ideas about the book and what they liked about it most.



Family tree

Students finished the day by creating their own family tree. Students portrayed their families by illustrating pictures of their family members. Students then placed their families together and made a big family tree outside of their classrooms. This helped them connect back to the theme of the story of understanding core family values. Celebrating National Simultaneous Storytime at Rissalah College was a great success towards motivating the students towards reading and the importance of reading. It helped them feel a sense of belonging by communicating amongst teacher's and peers towards a fun filled reading experience.



Harmony Cup Soccer Tournament

Congratulations to our students who took part in the soccer Harmony Cup that was held in Weeks 6 and 7 of this term.

With great confidence, our students participated in this competition and some teams were lucky enough to progress to the semi-finals.

By focusing on their strengths, they collaborated and performed as they put their efforts in representing Rissalah College to the best of their ability.

This competition has impacted our students in a positive manner by creating an opportunity for those who harness skills targeting this specified sport.

With the dedication of the sporting committee and other staff, this has resulted in a range of innovative and engaging initiatives promoting the developing the skills, healthy competition, sportsmanship, building healthy relationships and building teamwork and confidence between staff, peers and competitors. We will continue to further develop our sporting culture and ensure that provide opportunities for all students to take part in various sporting competition both friendly and competitive.

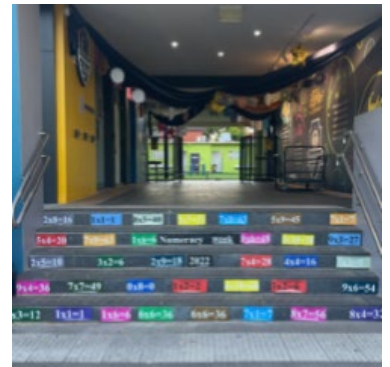




Numeracy Week 2022



Rissalah College celebrated Numeracy Week in Week 6 Term 2. The focus was to look at how Numeracy can be involved in everyday life, and to discover areas that the children might initially not realise involve Numeracy by engaging them in exciting activities.



We started the week off by engaging the students involved in many exciting and hands on activities such as, creating in class mathematical related projects which they used to decorate throughout the corridors. Students from K-6 also participated in an exciting maths incursion, "The Maths Show" by Felstead Education.

Children across the school, from Kindergarten to Year 6, investigated the discoveries of famous mathematicians including Italian mathematician, Leonardo Fibonacci.

Children love cooking! So we spiced it up with some cooking activities that encourage their maths mastery journey.

Kindergarten: students engaged in making fairy bread, which provided them with the opportunity to strengthen their critical thinking skills using concepts such as Fractions (halves, equal, unequal fractions)



Stage 1: students calculated, measured and produced delicious cordial drinks, while demonstrating their understanding of litres and millilitres.

Stage 2: students followed a lamington balls recipe which involved measuring the ingredients and ensuring quality control.



Stage 3: They had the opportunity to measure the weight of chocolate powder, rice bubbles and syrup, in order to make some chocolate crackles.

High School Numeracy Week

Rissalah College hosted its annual Numeracy Week, whereby it accommodated a number of activities in an attempt to encourage students to apply skills learnt from numeracy and create excitement around numeracy in general.

One such activity being the Math Incursion held at Rissalah on the 1st of June 2022. Here, students met Cathy, a woman whose role was to educate the students of Rissalah College on the history of numeracy and the importance of its application in our everyday lives. Cathy spoke about concepts like data and probability using heads and tails on a coin as examples and playing guessing games with the students. She discussed the Konigsberg Bridge Problem teaching students how to solve it. Cathy also created an emphasis on the historical components of history that students were not previously aware of. She created a focus on historical figures that advanced education such as Pythagoras who established the well-known Pythagoras theorem used by students everywhere. Another example being Émilie du Châtelet who is known for her translation and commentary on Isaac Newton's work Principia Mathematica. Châtelet particularly intrigued students as Cathy discussed women in history as people who weren't allowed to learn or have an education. Essentially, the incursion was an opportunity to encourage students to utilise their creativity and deep thinking to solve problems and also recognise the presence of mathematical equations resulting in repetitive number outcomes.

Rissalah College also held a creative competition, where students were encouraged to create posters introducing the many scholars that have allowed us to gain the knowledge we have today. Following this, the nine winners of the competition were rewarded with a climb over the Harbour Bridge on the 23rd of June 2022. After having breakfast at school, students journeyed to complete the climb which according to them was a surreal experience. It was an exhilarating trip that inspired students to leave their comfort zone and engage in what was described by students as truly a “remarkable experience”.



Year 7 Boys Camp

On the 6th of June we saw almost all of our Year 7 *students* travel together to Yarramundi in the Hawkesbury Valley for what is surely to be one of their highlights of Year 7: their first High School Camp.

Students participated in a range of activities over three days including archery, flying fox, laser skirmish and team building activities. The boys also got to play a variety of games at night which, if the facial reactions and laughter of their delight were anything to go by, were also a highlight of the camp.

It was a great opportunity for the boys to get to know their peers, and teachers better, with many commenting that they made new friends over these three days and that it was a good opportunity for them to work on their Islamic brotherhood and understanding of the religion. The students were given the opportunity to lead group prayers and give an Islamic reminder throughout their time at the camp. A special thank you to Ms Yilmaz, Mr El-Arja, Mr Charaf, Mr Saleh, Mr Attia and Mr Chami. These teachers gave generously of their time and without their support, the camp would not have been the success that it was.





YEAR SEVEN CAMP

On the 8th of June the Year 7 girls were privileged to attend their first high school camp located at Yarramundi Hawksbury NSW.

The girls enjoyed a range of physical activities such as outdoor laser tag, rock climbing, archery, and zip lining. These activities helped the girls in their communication skills, teamwork skills and gave the girls the opportunity to make new friends.

The girls also took part in activities to help with their team bonding skills and communication skills. Activities included catapult building, bonfire night, movie night and low ropes.

The girls were able to connect with one another and with their teachers on a personal level.

Thank you to Ms Yilmaz & the Senior Executive for organising an unforgettable experience for the Year 7 Girls.





Literacy Week

In Week 8 Rissalah College celebrated Literacy Week. This was a wonderful opportunity for our students to participate in a wide range of literacy-based activities, to promote reading and all things literacy.



Each grade designed creative displays based on a Roald Dahl book and participated in activities based on that book title.



We started off the week with our fantastic Book Character Parade! The work and effort put into this year's costumes was remarkable as was the enthusiasm of the students wearing them. Even our teachers dressed up! The students had to Guess the Book title by looking at cover and had to use their emoji decoding skills to decipher the book title.

We also hosted our Annual Spelling Bee Competition. Two students from each class were chosen to participate in the Stage Competition. Students went through several rounds spelling words until one was left. We were all very impressed with the spelling skills of all the students and congratulations to our Stage Winners.

Early Stage 1 - Taif Ahammad

Stage 1 - Umar Kalsekar

Stage 2 - Lamia Aissat

Stage 3 - Elma Meah



LITERACY WEEK 2022

RISSALAH COLLEGE

TERM 2

HIGH SCHOOL

Literacy is a bridge from misery to hope. ~Kofi Annan

Literacy Week is a traditional celebration held at our school promoting reading for enjoyment and recognising notable Australian children's authors and illustrators. At Rissalah College, Literacy week was held from 13 June 2022 to 17 June 2022. The high school students enthusiastically participated in different activities such as debating, slogan competition, book character parade and author visit.

On 14th June 2022, students actively took part in book character parade by dressing up as different and famous book characters.



During the week, students had an opportunity to interact with Ms Rawah Arja- a fiction writer who has been awarded with Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Writing for Young Adults. Not just this, all high school students took part in Slogan Competition in which they created their own slogans and made an artwork along with. The most innovative slogans with unique artworks were awarded in which Aatirah 8G2, Rahma 8G1 and Shereen 7G2 bagged first, second and third award respectively.

High school students also were encouraged to take a part in debating during the week. The debating competition taught students how to construct a sound argument and create strong refutes against the other team and also taught students how to create a cohesive debate in a short period of time.

"So it is with children who learn to read fluently and well: They begin to take flight into whole new worlds as effortlessly as young birds take to the sky."

YEAR 5 VISIT TO SEA LIFE SYDNEY AND WILD LIFE SYDNEY ZOO

Our Year 5 students visited SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium and WILD LIFE Sydney Zoo as part of their learning in Science this semester. Our students really enjoyed being able to see different species of marine life in the SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium. They were beyond excited to see a crocodile as well as learn many different interesting facts about it. Our students were in awe of the size of the sting rays and had fun trying to spot the dugong in its enclosure.

At WILD LIFE Sydney zoo, the students were able to visit a wide range of exotic and native animals. The students had the opportunity to see emus and kangaroos nice and close as they roamed around the outdoor area. They seemed to enjoy spotting out all the different types of snakes and lizards that were resting in their glass enclosures. This excursion was a beautiful and fun day out for all!



Year 6 Excursion to Sydney Zoo Bungarribee

For Science this semester, Year 6 students have been learning about the Living World and Survival. Our College organised an educational excursion to Sydney Zoo. Sydney Zoo in Bungarribee is Australia's Largest Reptile and Nocturnal House and The Aquarium. The promotes awareness and an infinity with animals, ensuring communities value and protect wildlife and habitats around the globe.

Students engaged in activities relating to Animal Adaptations at the Zoo. They had close encounters and hands on interactions with the animals. Our Year 6 students enjoyed the Zoo tour and had an amazing experience to get close to the animals and were educated on their adaptation and how they are fed. Their favourite Zoo animals were the lions, and we took the students back for a second time to see them again.

Overall our Year 6 student extended their knowledge of Zoo animals and their adaptations. They had an awesome time and enjoyed this unique learning experience





Year 2 Excursion to Featherdale Wildlife Park

This semester, Year 2 have explored the concept of 'Living Things' in Science. In order to consolidate their learning they visited Featherdale Wildlife Park for an exciting excursion. Year 2 set off on a bus ride with hopes of meeting a few infamous Australian animals and learning some interesting facts about their life cycle. When we arrived at the park, we quickly found that the friendly staff at Featherdale would not disappoint. With an array of wonderful Australian creatures to see, Year 2 were immediately taken with all that the park had to offer.

During their visit, Year 2 were given the opportunity to tour the park to visit the range animals on offer. After we roamed the park making sure to visit the penguins, kangaroos, wombats and lots other animals, Year 2 enjoyed a nice lunch with teachers and parents.

Following lunch Year 2 were taken to meet some very friendly and brave animals with one of the Zookeepers. First, Year 2 met a Blue Tongue Lizard who enjoyed basking in the sun to warm up her cold blood. Then, Year 2 met a snake and proved that sometimes kids can be braver than adults. Lastly, Year 2 were given the opportunity to meet and pet a koala!

Year 2 outdid themselves by exceeding all expectations, demonstrating exceptional behaviour and being respectful representatives of Rissalah College. The staff would like to offer a warm thank you to all the parent volunteers who accompanied us on the excursion. We appreciate and value the dedication of our parents and look forward to working together again in the future!

Did you know..?

Baby koalas are also called 'joey' because they're born really small and develop inside a pouch on their mother's stomach.

Koalas stay pregnant for only 1 month.

ISLAMIC DEBATING COMPETITION RISSALAH COLLEGE



At Rissalah College, we encourage debating to help our students develop higher-order and critical thinking skills. We also teach students how to structure and organise their thoughts while enhancing their analytical and research abilities.

On the 21st June 2022, for the first time, our High School students participated in the Islamic Schools Debating Competition in which each debate featured two teams of three speakers and a team captain. At Stage 4 level, we debated for the motion that 'Parents should be held accountable for the crimes of their children'. As for stage 5 students, they argued against the topic: "Non-violent criminal should never be sent to prison". Each speaker was allocated a set time to speak where they were assessed on the matter, manner and method of presenting their motions to the house.



STAGE 4 WINNERS

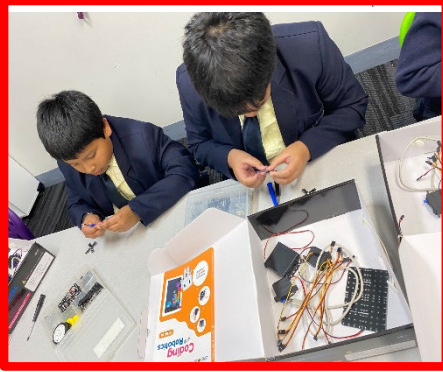


STAGE 5 WINNERS

Our students were given the rare and unique opportunity to assume responsibility for their own intellectual growth in addition to preparing them to be successful and professionally competent in the real world. Most importantly, our students had fun and developed lifelong friendships and a sense of community, while also learning the value of teamwork and the taste of success. We look forward to continue on this hard working path and push ourselves to new heights/victory.

Thanks to all the teachers who volunteered their lunch times to help and most importantly, Ms Yilmaz and Ms Allazze for always having faith in us.

Well done, Team! Let's get ready for the next round



Primary Gifted and Talented Program!

Rissalah College is committed to giving our students the opportunity to excel in their learning by developing their critical and creative thinking skills, learning to solve problems, and experimenting.

This term, our College began it's very first 'Gifted and Talented Program' for identified students with high academic grades.

Students participate in coding and robotics activities delivered by a specialised external provider.

Students also attended an excursion to 'Entermision Virtual Reality Escape Rooms' to combine their creative thinking skills, problem solving skills and communication skills to work as a team and save earth in 60 minutes!



High School Learning Support Department

GAT – GIFTED AND TALENTED

Students have been selected to be a part of the Literacy Gifted and Talented Program at Rissalah College. Students who have been identified as gifted and talented require a differentiated program that is substantially different to that provided for other students.

The program provides advanced learning opportunities in the specific area or areas in which your child's talents and interests lie. Your child will gain more from focusing on one activity at a time, particularly one that advances their skill level and desire to know.

The enrichment essentials provided to students include:

- self-directed projects
- whole-to-part discovery of concepts (understanding the big picture before the details)
- critical and creative thinking skills
- in-depth topic development
- competitions
- interdisciplinary curriculum
- the 'classics'
- real world problems



QURAN COMPETITION AWARD PRESENTATION

Every year Rissalah College recognise our students' achievements in our annual Quran Competition Award Presentation. During Ramadan our students are set with the task of memorising certain surats from the Quran. Our Arabic and Islamic department then begin the process of listening the students recite Quran and select winners from each class.

The Quran Competition Award Presentation began with a beautiful Quran recitation by Abdullah Jamil from 3 Blue, mashallah. Sheikh Nabeel then addressed the winners by giving them an inspirational speech about their accomplishments.

Our amazing school choir performed a nasheed that gave many goosebumps.

Students were then presented with their well-deserved trophy.

