



The Bulletin

Australian Islamic College - Kewdale | Year 9 Journalism & Design Elective

AIC's New Swimming Pool and Fitness Centre

By Muhammad Shafiq Syed

AIC has finally completed the construction of its new swimming pool. The state-of-the-art facility will mark the beginning of a new dawn for the Health & Physical Education Department.

As an island nation, Australia is surrounded by oceans. Students in AIC need to be acquainted with the basics of survival swimming skills when it comes to staying safe in and around bodies of water. As such, swimming lessons will become part of the physical education curriculum.

The new health and fitness centre is amid completion with physical education teachers eager to teach students with the new gym equipment. Students will be taught

the proper use of gym equipment while training for strength and fitness as part of their sports classes. The facilities may also be available to certain students during recess and lunch time.

This project has proven to be very ambitious, and we at the Year 9 Journalism Team commend the school for their efforts in order to make our school more recreational and diverse.



Two New AIC Campuses WA - Construction Underway!

By Nubaid Kaosar and Abdul Gaffar Mohammed

Australian Islamic College, Masha-Allah, has grown exponentially from strength to strength with an additional two more campuses that will be added to the list of current AIC campuses that

service education and integrates Islamic values. The two new campuses within the outskirts of the Perth metropolitan area are Forrestdale and Henley Brook. The purpose of constructing these campuses is to offer quality education to students and their families with the trailblazing facilities. This will also entail far easier access to education without time-consuming travel to other campuses.

Here is an artist's impression of the Henley Brook campus when it is completed.



Source: aic.wa.edu.au

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Scan this QR Code to be redirected to the WA Health website.



The New Normal

By Editor (Muhammad Shafiq Syed)

This year has been highly unpredictable for students attending school facing the 'New Normal' with COVID-19 still in the community.

AIC high school has also come on board in ensuring that both teachers and students are given support in teaching and learning. Teachers have been utilising online services such as Microsoft Teams to allow their students to study from home if they are either infected or close contacts.

With the efforts of staff and students in this COVID situation, safety protocols were swiftly administered within the college to provide a pragmatic approach in order to deescalate the spread of the variant, although it has presented challenges for the school community.

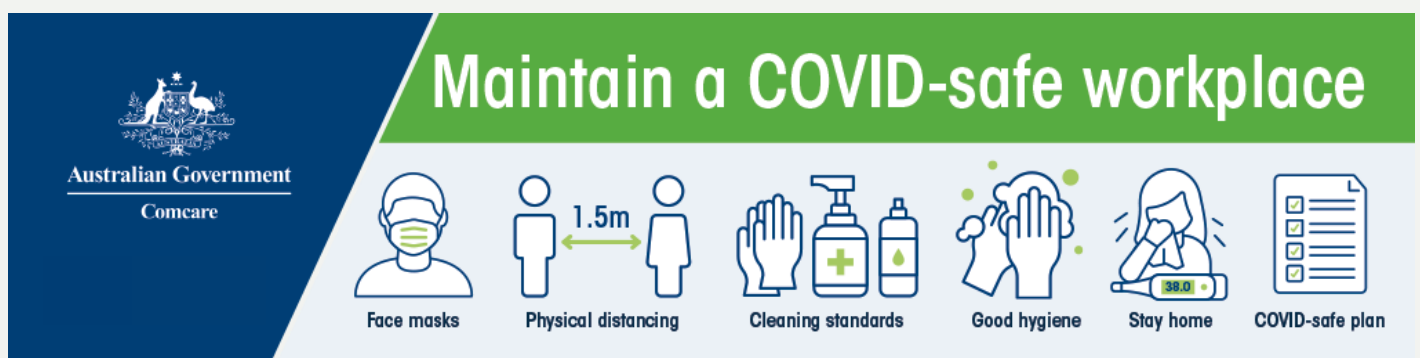
Teachers have been urging students to maintain a distance of **one and a half square metres** amongst one another. Students in years 3 and above are also required to wear masks unless they are eating or drinking in a public area. Mask wearing is compulsory in all enclosed areas including classrooms. WA Health has also been strongly advising vaccinations for those who are eligible. Students are advised to get tested ASAP.

A major issue that has already been addressed multiple times is the mask-wearing policy. Students find masks to be unnecessary, and they tend to refrain from wearing them, or they are not worn properly. Masks should be fitted so that much air cannot escape, and both your nose and mouth should be covered. If these rules aren't followed, it defeats the whole purpose of wearing a mask and will only lead to the virus spreading exponentially. By simply following the rules, you are ensuring that the spread of this deadly disease is slowed.

The school has also adopted "hybrid teaching" as a method for students who are in quarantine to continue with their education. Assembly is also being conducted virtually as per social distancing regulations. Hybrid teaching has its flaws, but overall it has proven to be an innovative way for students to learn even while in isolation.

"Our teachers are working hard to deliver the best instruction and services to our students during these unprecedented times," Deputy Principal Sr Sehrish assures, "and we thank you for your continued support of their work."

Despite how hopeless the current COVID-19 situation may seem, Insha Allah we will be able to persevere. However, in order to overcome COVID, we require the cooperation of both staff and students.



Source: COVID Guidelines comcare.gov.au 2022

Embracing Multiculturalism at AIC

By Muhammad Shafiq Syed, Nubaid Kaosar and Abdul Gaffar Mohammed

The Australian Islamic College takes the opportunity to get new, dedicated and talented teachers every single year. The Journalism team interviewed 3 teachers asking them why they chose to teach, what subject they teach and some ideas they have on engaging and motivating students and also their proudest moments as a teacher.

Sr Malak Chiha



Algeria

Question 1: What inspired you to teach?

When I was in year 12 a disastrous event happened. This event affected me a lot and I got some advice from my year 12 English teacher at the time she advised me to read lots of books. After that day, my dream was to become a teacher.

Question 2: What subjects are you teaching?

I am currently teaching English for years 7-10.

Question 3: What are your ideas for engaging and motivating students?

My idea for engaging the students is to get to their level. I use examples that are related to them. If I'm talking about film analysis, I will refer to a film they will like and not a boring film to get them engaged in the topic.

Question 4: What were your proudest moment as a teacher?

My proudest moment is when the students get good marks in the test.

Br Peter Lam



Vietnam

Question 1: What inspired you to teach?

I love to help people to get to their goals. For example, if there is a video game and someone wants to get to a certain rank in the game, I love to help them get to that rank. I feel like all the students have the right to learn and get to the goals they desire.

Question 2: What subjects are you teaching?

I teach science to students from year 7 to year 10.

Question 3: What are your ideas in engaging and motivating students?

I feel like I need to make the lessons and content that I am teaching more relatable to real-life situations so they can understand the topic more. For example, if I am teaching physics to some students I would relate to real-life by saying that when they are writing some text down with a ballpoint pen gravity is pushing the ink down as the ball is rolling at the tip. Another way I keep students engaged and motivate them in their learning is by relating the topic to students' interests.

Question 4: What were your proudest moments as a teacher?

My proudest moment is when students respect me and they learn a lesson from when I teach them and go home with more knowledge.

Br Milan Pavkovic



Question 1: What inspired you to teach?

Teaching has always been a passion for me. Having always taught at private, faith-based schools, the culture and the new opportunity for growth attracted me.

Question 2: What subjects are you teaching?

I teach Health and Physical Education to students from years 7-10 inclusive.

Question 3: What are your ideas in engaging and motivating students?

In my experience, the greatest ways to motivate and engage students is to understand how they learn and think, while building positive relationships through understanding and compassion. Finding what students respond to best and how that changes throughout various year levels is a challenge that is both satisfying and purposeful.

Question 4: What was your proudest moment as a teacher?

There is no single moment that sticks out in my mind. I am always reflecting on my experiences as a teacher and am almost proud on a daily basis of how the children learn, grow and show respect and kindness towards others. It is seeing children change in positive ways that always makes me proud consistently as a teacher.

Embracing Multiculturalism at AIC

Sr Ishrat Zubair



Pakistan

Question 1: What inspired you to teach?

I am inspired to teach because Allah tells us to teach others what we have learned. I want to get more good deeds from Allah. I want to make the students in this school have more knowledge so that whenever they do a good deed then I will get good deeds too.

Question 2: What subjects are you teaching?

I teach Quran and Islamic Studies for students in years 7, 8, 9 and 10.

Question 3: What are your ideas in engaging and motivating students?

My idea to engage and motivate students is to use lots of interactive PowerPoint slides and activities in my lessons. I also listen to the students and what they are saying and answer all their questions so that my lessons are interesting for the students.

Question 4: What was your proudest moment as a teacher?

My proudest moments as a teacher is when the students give me an answer to a question and show that they know what they are learning and also when everyone puts their hand up and everyone in the class is learning and enjoying the lesson.

Br Farhad Omar



Question 1: What inspired you to teach?

Seeing students achieve greatness from the knowledge they acquire.

Question 2: What subjects are you teaching?

Technology related subjects.

Question 3: What are your ideas for engaging and motivating students?

Providing them with real-world challenges to solve. I believe that when I give students real-world challenges they feel more engaged in the lesson and think it is more needed in their life than other stuff.

Question 4: What was your proudest moment as a teacher?

When you see your students graduate.

Br Jarle Elias



Question 1: What inspired you to teach?

I have been teaching for a long time. But, I decided to teach at AIC because of the Islamic values of the students and environment of the school.

Question 2: What subjects are you teaching?

I currently teach English and HASS in years 7 and 9.

Question 3: What are your ideas for engaging and motivating students?

I like to teach in a variety of ways, my most important and critical motivation is when the Prophet (PBUH) was told to "read" thus motivating my students in a simple manner

Question 4: What was your proudest moment as a teacher?

Seeing my students develop through the course of time.

New Basketball Academy

By Nubaid Kaosar, Abdul Gaffar Mohammed and Muhammad Shafiq Syed

With the new academic year starting, a new initiative by the Health and Physical Education Department (HPE Dept.) has been approved; the Basketball Academy. This will provide new opportunities for the students in years 9 and 10 to develop their skills. With the increasing demand for a basketball academy in AIC Kewdale, we all hoped that this new is helpful for our student's physical well-being. Brother Haythem Fouda has kindly volunteered to teach basketball and educate passionate students about the sport. The Year 9 Journalism Team has interviewed Brother Haythem regarding his thoughts on the new Basketball Academy.



Br Haythem Fouda

Question 1: Why did you decide to teach the basketball academy for year 9 and 10?

There was generally a lot of interest among students to start a basketball academy. We could see at recess and lunch that people love basketball. I also love to play basketball, that's why I initiated to teach the basketball academy.

Question 2: What got you interested in basketball?

I got interested in basketball when I used to play it in recess and lunch when I was at school back in the days. After that I pretty much played basketball every recess and lunch after that.

Question 3: Why do you enjoy playing basketball?

I enjoy playing basketball I enjoy the sport and its games, it was a sport that I played since my high school years in this school. Its a fun game and I have lots of fun and enjoy my time when I play it.

Question 4: Do you see potential in your basketball academy students?

It is a new experience, some students have great potential in the sport and I am very willing to help their journey of basketball. I want to help them achieve their dream and what they want. I want to help them to play the sport that they love.



Soccer Academy

By Waleed Dahir, Abdul Gaffar Mohammed and Muhammad Shafiq Syed

The Soccer Academy has been provided to the year 8, 9 and 10 students to enhance their soccer skills and strengths. All three year levels are taught by professional soccer players to perfect the art of soccer and to improve upon any weaknesses they may have. The soccer academy has been a tradition at the AIC for many years. Every year the AIC soccer team participates in a tournament with other schools around Perth. Brother Daniel has volunteered to teach the soccer academy for years 9 and 10 and Brother Farish for year 8.



Br Daniel Luxton

Question 1: How many people are in the soccer academy?

There are 16 boys in the soccer academy

Question 2: Why is the soccer academy popular in AIC?

Soccer and basketball are loved more than sports by the students because they come from families and different cultures that love these sports.

Question 3: How often do the boys train?

They train during periods 5 and 6 on a Friday.

Question 4: How does one get into the academy?

They have to do a trial to test their skills and at the end, they will be selected by the coach.

Question 5: Does AIC host a local soccer competition with other schools?

The AIC soccer academy is involved in competitions with other WA schools every year.

Question 6: Is the soccer academy for both genders?

It is for the boys as the girls have their own basketball, netball, badminton, and volleyball clubs as part of the sports program.

Question 7: What happens if a student misses out on a game?

If the student cannot make a commitment to the majority of the games, they will be asked to leave the academy.

Thank you, Br. Daniel, for giving your valued time for this interview to our Year 9 Journalism Students.



Ramadan Kareem and Eid Festival

By Abdul Gaffar Mohammed, Nubaid Kaosar and Muhammad Shafiq Syed

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar that is observed by Muslims around the world. In our Islamic year of 1443, Ramadan will be observed in April depending on moon sighting.

As the days go by, the month of Ramadan greets Muslims all around the world. One of the most notable aspects of the month is fasting, which is the practice of abstaining from food and drink. Several events will take place during Ramadan to strengthen our relationship with the Book of Allah. AIC, Kewdale Campus will host the annual Quran Competition in week 7 Thursday and Friday, and it is focusing on the clear Tajweed and recitation of the Holy Quran.

"Whoever does not recite the Qur'an with a melodious voice is not one of us." (Sahih Bukhari)

Prestigious awards will also be given to winning participants in the Annual Qur'an Competition.

RAMADAN QUIZ!

1. Would you know what Prophet Muhammed (saw) ate and drank to start and break his fast in the Holy month of Ramadan?
2. What is your ideal iftar meal and drink every day when you break your fast in the blessed month of Ramadan?
3. What is the typical Ramadan day like in your house? Do you get together in the recitation of the Holy Quran and perform additional sunnah prayers like Taraweeh in the mosque/home?
4. What does fasting in Ramadan teach us? How does it affect you after Ramadan?
5. What happens when Ramadan ends? How do you celebrate that day?
6. How do families prepare for the advent of Eid ul Fitr?

EID FESTIVAL

Eid marks the end of the month of Ramadan from fasting from dawn to sunset and reflecting on your deeds and prayer. Under usual circumstances, the day starts with an Eid prayer and a big meal for most Muslims worldwide, but many different cultures choose to spend their eid day another way. In AIC, an Eid festival is hosted twice a year for the different Eids. Each year AIC hosts lots of fun activities and much different food from different cultures for the students. On the Eid festival day, there are many tournaments of different sports competed by students and a fun friendly game of basketball which includes "teachers vs students".



Ramadan Quiz Answer:

1. The Prophet Muhammed (Saw) ate dates to break and start his iftar and he drank camel milk and water in order to break and start his fasting. This is the main reason why it is sunnah to eat dates and drink camel milk and water to start and break your fast.

2. The ideal iftar meal for the prophet consisted of dates, camel milk and water. Many cultures around the world have their own additions to the starting and breaking of their fast. Some cultures eat some fruit whilst others add some sweet touch to the meal.

3. A typical day of Ramadan in your house should consist of you starting of your fast before sunrise and then you pray fajr, and do ibadah for lots of the day. You should recite the Quran and do Dhikr. When time for prayer comes then you should pray and at sunset time you should break your fast by eating dates, and drinking camel milk and water or whatever else is available to you.

4. Fasting teaches the believer self-control because it disciplines their desire or need to drink or eat during the fasting period. Another vital lesson learnt in Ramadan through fasting is that believers have a chance to experience what millions of people go through throughout their lives. After Ramadan, there will be many changes to you, spiritual and physical. Spiritual changes consist of you being more patient and having better behaviour and physical changes include losing weight and removing toxins from the body.

5. After Ramadan ends, the next month arrives. On the first day we celebrate Eid ul Fitr where we must donate some money as Zakat ul Fitr and we celebrate the ending of Ramadan to show how much we have obeyed Allah. "You celebrate the day until you are enjoyed." The prophet said in many narrations.

6. Families prepare for Eid ul Fitr by purchasing gifts for their children and getting new and clean clothes for them to wear on the day of Eid. They try to make themselves and their family look the best on the day of Eid.

Harmony Day

By Nubaid Kaosar and Abdul Gaffar Mohammed

Australian Islamic College organises events and initiatives to involve students in various contextual topics that can open students toward topics of importance. Hence, one of the celebrations and initiatives that is overseen by the college is the Australian Harmony Day which is celebrated on the 21st of March every year.

Our school empowers embracing everyone's culture, history and diversity are celebrated; informing each other of student's backgrounds can be a learning opportunity.

There are over 56 different nationalities in our school, Alhamdulillah. On the campus, students and teachers are free to wear their traditional clothing and bring a plate of their traditional food to share with their fellow classmates. Nubaid Kaosar, Muhammed Shafiq Syed and Abdul Gaffar Mohammed from the Journalism team 2022 interviewed Sr Dina Magar for her thoughts of Harmony Day.



Sr Dina Magar

Question 1: Why is Harmony Day celebrated in Australia?

It is celebrated to bring together multiculturalism in Australia. It brings different nationalities together. AIC has over 56 nationalities and it is essential to acknowledge that. We should also acknowledge the different ways of life other traditions have and share our traditions and have fun together in harmony.

Question 2: Since when was Harmony Day celebrated in AIC?

Harmony Day has been part of AIC celebrations for the last 12 years

Question 3: Why is the colour orange worn on Harmony Day in Australia?

Traditionally, orange represents shared societal respect for one another through expressive dialogue celebrating cultural diversity and inclusiveness for all.

BONUS Question 4: What country are you from and three facts about it?

I am from Alexandria, Egypt and three facts are, that Egypt has the most ancient history in the whole world and is the most ancient country in the world. It has the Nile river and Alexandria was built by Alexander the Great. A final fact is Al-Azhar University is where people come from all over the world to study in Egypt.

Clean School Initiative

By Abdul Gaffar Mohammed and Mustapha Aijiboye

The CSI team is an initiative by Br Milan in keeping our school clean. It is led by Br Milan. Mustapha Aijiboye from our journalism team has offered to interview Br Milan and we hope this interview will help people understand the cleanliness of our school.



Br Milan Pavkovic

Question 1: What is the CSI about?

The CSI is about keeping the school clean and beautifying it. CSI stands for Clean School Initiative

Question 2: Why is it important to have this at our school?

To shape and change the way we treat each other and the environment in a positive way.

Question 3: What made you come up with CSI?

The leadership of the school stood up and asked if I should and want to take the responsibility for the CSI, and I said yes.

Question 4: How do students help or sign up for the CSI?

They help by believing what we are doing. Students can come up for an interview to see if they are the right person for the CSI team.

Question 5: How many members or helpers do you have in the CSI team?

Currently 17-20 members in the CSI team but we are hoping to grow.

Question 6: What other positive outcome would you like to see from this initiative?

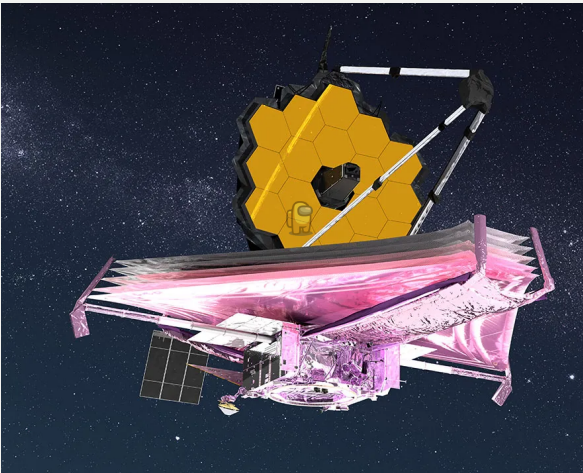
Attitudes towards the college change, and mentality towards how we treat and look at the school also changes.

SPACE TRIVIA

By Abdul Gaffar and Hassan al-Samawi

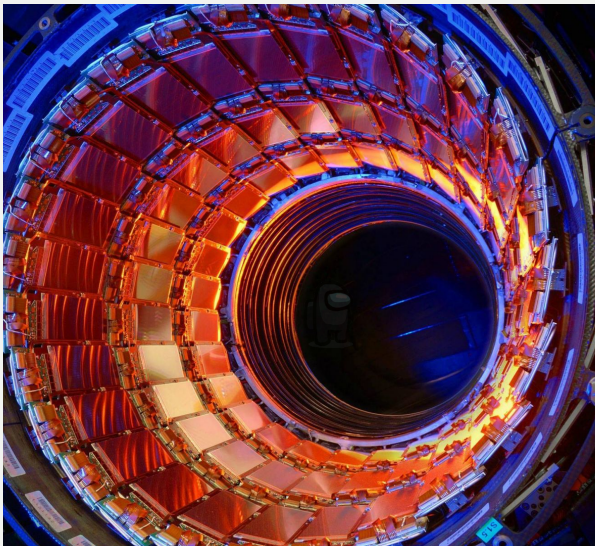
GUESS THE IMAGE?

1.



Source: popularmechanics.com, 2022

2.



Source: Universonetoday.com, 2022

JAMES WEBB

It's the biggest telescope the world has ever seen. It's named after James Webb, who was one of the main individuals behind NASA's Apollo Moon landing and it was built by NASA, the European Space Agency and the Canadian Space Agency. Construction on it began back in 1989, with the aim of launching it into space in the early 2000s. But there were a bunch of delays and the original budget of US\$1 billion inflated it to US\$10 billion.

It was finally completed last year. It's roughly the size of a tennis court with its mirror part measuring about 6.5 metres wide which is made up of 18 gold plated hexagonal deployable segments. The James Webb Telescope is the successor to the Hubble Telescope, which has been orbiting Earth since 1990. It has been capturing remarkable images of our universe sent by this telescope about 1.5 million kilometres away from Earth where it will use its infrared light to observe further into the universe than ever before, explore distant worlds and look for potential life around other stars.

Furthermore, scientists are also hoping it will be able to see back in time. In that it'll investigate stars that are so far away their light has taken 13.5 billion years to reach us. What we'll see are the very first stars, formed just a few hundred million years after the Big Bang, which might give us humans some idea of how our world began. The first part of the mission was a success. This incredible telescope has enough fuel to stay in orbit for 10 years to capture images that we can only imagine in our lifetime.

HADRON COLLIDER

The Hadron Collider is the largest machine of its kind being an accelerator, a machine that speeds up charged particles and channels them into a beam. As it is designed to send these tiny particles whizzing into each other at close to the speed of light, it is a way of smashing things together to look at even the tiniest particles inside. This is an innovative way for scientists to explain how the universe came to be.

When used in research, the beam hits the target and scientists gather information about particles, and understanding the laws of physics. The question to ask, "Why do things have mass?" Light cannot be picked up, it does not have mass, and scientists have always wondered why it is different. The machine came into operation on the 10th of September 2008, consisting of a 27-kilometre ring of strong magnets with several accelerating structures to boost energy of the Higgs particles along the way. The site in Switzerland amounts to over 13 billion dollars in its conception. The origin story can be, "Why do things have mass?" Light cannot be picked up, it does not have mass, and scientists have always wondered why it is different.

It is an expensive way of smashing things together to look at even the tiniest particles inside. Peter Higgs, an acclaimed scientist produced the idea in the sixties, but the technology to test whether it existed until now did not exist.

Amazing but True...

Dr Bruno Abd al Haqq Guiderdoni, a French Muslim convert, is an astrophysicist who specialises in galaxy formation and evolution. He has also been named one of the world's top 500 influential Muslims. Bruno is the Director of the Observatory of Lyon and has published over 140 papers and organised several scientific conferences. He has also published over 60 papers, mostly on Islamic theology and mysticism. He is now the Director of the Islamic Institute for Advanced Studies, and he has organised many interfaith dialogues and conferences around the world, as well as various television programmes on the subject.

Source: <https://bit.ly/3mxNJ6P>, 2022

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A special thanks to AIC Kewdale College, Principal Br Mohammed Nazar Khan for his ongoing support for the publishing of the Journalism Newsletter and also a special thanks to the English department for all the dedication and resources given to us for the creation of this newsletter.
