



# AL AMANAH COLLEGE

Success Through Knowledge

## NEWSLETTER

Issue 03

Thursday 21 May 2020

## Message from the Principal's Office

Dear Families and Friends,

Praise be to Allaah and may Allaah raise the rank of our prophet Muhammad, peace and blessing be upon him, and protect his nation from that which he fears for it.

It has been wonderful to have students back at school. We were very pleased to see our students across all year levels, return to campus. We were also delighted to see our remote learning program continuing to provide rich educational opportunities for those students learning from home.

A new term brings with it an increased sense of enthusiasm and energy. We challenge our students, whatever their current learning mode, to reflect on their efforts with a view of planning for growth. Setting challenging but achievable goals and then putting in key steps to work toward these goals is an important strategy. Students are further challenged to hold themselves accountable for what they have planned and to take ownership of their own learning. Our teachers are beside our students every step of the way, providing support, guidance and quality feedback.

We again commend our students for the very positive way they have approached their remote learning. They have demonstrated self-discipline and strong self-regulation skills, which stands them in very good stead for whatever learning pathway they undertake.

As the term progresses, please be assured that we will continue to keep you informed of COVID-19 related developments. As mentioned previously, we are in very dynamic times, and we greatly appreciate the amazing support we have had from our families. We also need to again acknowledge the dedication of our School staff and the terrific resilience and agility demonstrated by our students. It was wonderful to see so many students attending school and helping to decorate the school during the holy month of Ramadan. During the first four weeks of this term, our school face to face attend-

ance rate has exceeded 85%. We thank all parents for their continued support and commitment.

We continue to follow the required COVID-19 related safety measures and protocols at the College. Further to my letter to all parents and caregivers during the holidays, I ask our community to please make themselves aware of these protocols in support of the safety of our staff and students. You can find all official communications relating to COVID-19 on our ClassDojo and igloo portals.

I continue to invite those parents and caregivers experiencing financial difficulty at the moment to make contact with the school's accounts office via email: [admin@alamanah.nsw.edu.au](mailto:admin@alamanah.nsw.edu.au) so we can put appropriate support mechanisms in place. Please know, particularly at this most difficult of times, that no child will be denied an Islamic Education in our community due to genuine financial hardship.

We hope that our community members are keeping safe and well during this most challenging of times. We are looking forward to the full return of face to face teaching at Al Amanah College starting from Wednesday 27 May, it is an expectation that all students return to full time face to face teaching and resume their classes as per normal.

On behalf of Management and staff of Al Amanah College, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our students and their families a joyous Eid Mubarak. We ask Allah ta'ala to accept all of our good deeds and to gather us in Paradise with our beloved Prophet Muhammad peace be upon him.

In closing, I would like to thank parents and carers for their continued support and our teachers and administration staff for their dedication towards the school's mission. I am looking forward to vitalizing supplemental partnership with the whole community of Al Amanah College. Eid Mubarak!

Yours Sincerely,

Ayman Alwan  
Principal

### Dates to Remember

MONSDAY 25 - TUESDAY 26 MAY  
Eid Break

WEDNESDAY 3 JUNE  
Mini Eid Fete

MONDAY 8 JUNE  
Public Holiday

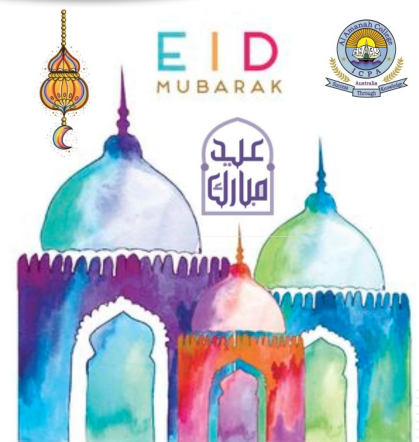
THURSDAY 28 MAY - TUESDAY 9 JUNE  
Year 11 Mid Year Examinations

MONDAY 22 JUNE - THURSDAY 2 JULY  
Year 7 - 10 Mid Year Examinations

WEDNESDAY 3 JULY  
Term 2 Last Day

MONDAY 20 JULY  
Term 3 Starts/Pupil Free Day

TUESDAY 21 JULY  
Students Day One



**Eid ul FITR break will be on**  
Monday : 25-5-20 Tuesday : 26-5-20

Monday : 25-5-20 Tuesday : 26-5-20  
عيد مبارك عيد مبارك

# FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions



## COVID-19 Update

### Parents FAQs

#### **When does Al Amanah College resume its full-time face to face teaching?**

Currently, our school attendance rate has exceeded 85%. In line with the Health and Department of education advice, schools will resume their normal face to face operation from Monday 25 May. Al Amanah College will resume its full-time face to face teaching from Wednesday 27 May following the Eid break.

#### **When will the school mark my child's attendance for on-site learning only?**

In line with school policy and legislative requirements student attendance must be registered. All students from K - 12 will be marked based on their physical school attendance only, starting Wednesday 27 May 2020.

#### **Will the school provide remote learning if I choose to keep my child home?**

All students in all year levels are expected to return to normal on-site schooling and are expected to attend school. Schools are not expected to provide remote learning where parents elect to keep their children at home, except where this is based on medical advice. Parents will then be required to contact the school and provide supporting evidence. If a child is healthy and their parents are not willing to send them to school for their safety and wellbeing, they will be marked as absent and will be followed up according to the student attendance policy.

#### **What happens if my child is unwell?**

No student should attend the school if they are unwell. The school will contact parents if their child is exhibiting symptoms of illness at school, and they will need to be collected from school.

#### **Will the half yearly examinations for year Seven - eleven go ahead?**

Year Seven - Eleven half yearly examinations will go ahead as scheduled.

Year Eleven half yearly examinations will take place during weeks five and six. All year Seven - Ten examinations will be modified and will take place during weeks nine and ten of the current term. A detailed timetable will be released later.

#### **What happens if my child is absent during an assessment?**

Following their return; students will be required to complete all scheduled assessments. The school will use the assessment data to provide a semester report for all students, which is a legal obligation. School's assessment policy will apply for students who do not complete assessments without an approved reason.

#### **Will the School be holding its primary school mid-year parent/teacher nights this term?**

Due to the current restrictions, Al Amanah College will not be holding its usual primary school mid-year parent-teacher nights. Instead, teachers will be emailing school reports during week ten. Parents will be able to pick up their child's report from the front office. Parents wishing to discuss any concerns are urged to contact the teacher via email, dojo or telephone. The school will advise parents at later stage of any changes regarding the secondary school parent/teacher night and mid-year reports.

#### **Are parents allowed to enter the school site?**

Parents are only allowed to enter the school site for essential services. Parents are requested to exercise social distancing when attending the school's office and during pick up and drop off routines. Gatherings of parents before and after school is not allowed.

#### **Will the school be holding any excursions, carnivals, or assemblies during term two?**

In line with the health advice, the school will not be holding any excursions, whole school assemblies, or carnivals during term two.

#### **When will the school canteen services be available?**

The school canteen will resume its normal operations on Wednesday 27 May following the Eid Holiday.

#### **When will the bus services recommence?**

School bus services will resume its full operation starting Wednesday 27 May.

#### **Is there a limit for the number of students boarding the Bankstown - Liverpool public bus?**

The school has been advised that social distancing rules do not apply to school students boarding the same bus. We have also been advised that these buses are regularly disinfected to comply with the current rules and regulations.

## Eid Prayer and Recommended Acts on the Day of Eid

Eid prayer can be performed in congregation, or individually any time between sunrise and noon. The best time of the *Eid* prayer is after the sun has reached the height of a spear (approximately 20 minutes from sunrise).

However, if one missed it one should make it up. The *Eid* prayer is not preceded by the *adhan* (the call to announce the prayer time) or *iqamah* (the call to start prayer).

The one who performs the *Eid* prayer must satisfy the conditions and avoid the invalidators of prayer. The *Eid* prayer consists of two *Rak'ahs*.

It is initiated with the *opening takbir*, with the intention to perform *Eid* Prayer with the *Imam*, followed by the opening supplication, and seven *takbirs*. In between each *takbir* of the seven *takbirs* one recites the following du'a':

"*Subhanallah, walhamdulillah, wala ilaha illallah, wallahu akbar*". Then one recites *al-Isti'adhah* (seeking refuge with Allah from the *shaytan* by saying "A'outhu billahi minash-Shaytanir-Rajeem"), *Suratul-Fatihah* and *Surat Qaf* or *Suratul-A'Ala* alternatively. In the second *rak'ah* one says five *takbirs* before reciting the *Fatihah* followed by *Suratul-Qamar* or *Suratul-Ghashiyah*.

If one started with the *Fatihah* leaving out any or the entire *takbirs*, ones prayer is still valid, however, one would miss out on the reward of the *takbirs*. Hence, one should continue with one's prayer order.

After the prayer, it is recommended that the *Imam* delivers two speeches (same as the Friday speech) starting with nine *takbirs* in

the first half of the *khutbah* and seven in the second.

The *Imam* should teach the people the rules of breaking the fast, visiting one's relatives, and other significant matters pertaining to *Eid*.

### Recommended acts on the day of Eid

- \* It is *sunnah* on the day of *Eid* to have a bath before going to the prayer.
- \* To wear perfume.
- \* To clip one's fingernails.
- \* To wear the best of one's clothes.
- \* To take different routes to and from the *Eid* prayer.
- \* To go early to the mosque excluding the *Imam*.
- \* It is *sunnah* to have a light snack such as dates or the like before going to the prayer.
- \* Walking to the prayer place.
- \* Saying *takbirs* of *Eid* is highly recommended after the sunset of the last day of *Ramadan* and remains until the *Imam* says the opening *takbir* of the *Eid* prayer. This includes saying *takbir* in one's home, the market places, mosques, and the streets.
- \* Congratulating one another on the day of *Eid* is rewardable, as both *Ibn Hajar* and *Al-Bayhaqiyy* stated.
- \* It is *sunnah* to spend the night preceding the day of *Eid* in acts of worship such as praying or the like. Prophet *Muhammad* (peace be upon him) used to pray *Eid* prayer consistently as it is *sunnah mu'akkadah*.

The first *Eid* prayer that the Prophet per-

formed was in the second year after the *Hijrah* (migration).

### Meaning of the Eid Takbirs

1. Allah is Great
2. No one is God except Allah.
3. Allah is Great and Praise is due to Allah.
4. Allah is Great.
5. Many praise is due to Allah.
6. Praise to Allah at the beginning of the day and at the end of the day.
7. No one is God except Allah
8. He fulfilled His promise and gave Victory to His slave.
9. He strengthened His soldiers and He alone defeated the *Ahzab*.
10. No one is God except Allah.
11. We do not worship anyone but Him.
12. Our worship is dedicated only to Him.
13. Even if the non-believers hate it.
14. We ask Allah to raise the status of (our master) Muhammad,
15. And the *Al* (Muslim wives and relatives) of our (master) Muhammad,
16. And the *sahabah* (Companions) of (our master) Muhammad.
17. And the *Ansar* (The people of *Madinah* who supported the Prophet) of (our master) Muhammad,
18. And the wives of (our master) Muhammad,
19. And the descendants of (our master) Muhammad, and save the (Muslim) Nation of (our master) Muhammad.
20. Oh Allah forgive me and my parents, and have mercy on them for the great efforts they exerted in raising me.



## زكاة الفطر وأحكامها

اعلم يا أخي المسلم وفقنا الله وإياك لطاعته أن الفرائض هي أفضل ما يُتقرب بها إلى الله عز وجل ومن جملة هذه الفرائض المتعلقة بشهر رمضان زكاة الفطر. وزكاة الفطر تجب بإدراك جزء من رمضان وجزء من شوال بأن كان حياً عند غروب شمس آخر يومٍ من رمضان. وعلى هذا تجب على الولي عن المولود الجديد الذي وُلد آخر أيام رمضان وأدرك جزءاً من شوال.

والمسلم يُخرج زكاة الفطرة عن نفسه وعن من عليه نفقتهم إن كانوا مسلمين.

ومن كان له أبوان مسلمان فقيران وجب عليه أداء الزكاة عنهما.

ويجب على الرجل المسلم فطرة زوجته وأولاده الذين هم دون البلوغ. وأما الابن والابنة البالغين فلا يجب على الأب دفع زكاة الفطر عنهما وإنما يؤدي الولد البالغ عن نفسه إن استطاع وإن لم يستطع جاز لأبيه أن يدفع له أو عنه بإذنه.

وإنما تجب زكاة الفطر على من عنده مالاً فاضلاً عن دينه وكسوته ومسكنه وقوت من عليه نفقتهم يوم العيد وليلته. وأما مقدار الزكاة التي يجب إخراجها عن كل واحد صاعاً من غالب قوت البلد.

وفي بلاد الشام ونحوها يخرجون قدر ملء كفين معتدلين أربع مرات من القمح وهو المسمى بالصاع.

وعند السادة الحنفية: نصف صاعٍ من برٍ، أو دقيقه أو سويقه، أو صاع من شعير أو دقيقه أو سويقه أو تمرٍ أو زبيبٍ أو قيمة ذلك.

ولا بد من النية في أداء الزكاة وهو أن ينوي زكاة الفرض لقلوه صلى الله عليه وسلم: **”إنما الأعمال بالنيات”** أي أن الأعمال الصالحة لا تكون معتبرة إلا بالنية.

وتُعطى زكاة الفطر لأي صنف من الأصناف الثمانية المذكورة في القرآن الكريم المستحقين للزكاة كالفقير والمسكين.

ويجب أداؤها قبل غروب شمس يوم العيد ويحرم تأخيرها عنه بلا عذر مع العلم بأنه يجوز دفعها في أول رمضان. ولكن يسن دفعها قبل صلاة العيد.

أخي المسلم، لم يبق من رمضان الكثير فهلاً وطدت نفسك إلى أداء الفرائض وفعل الخيرات والمبرّات قبل أن يفارقنا شهر القرآن والبركات.

## Zakah of Fitr

The *Zakah of Fitr* is due on every Muslim who is alive part of *Ramadan* and part of *Shawwal* (the month after *Ramadan*.) According to *Imam ash-Shafi'iy*, the due *Zakah* for each is a “*sa*” or four “*mudds*” (the fill of a pair of average-sized hands cupped together) of the most common staple food of one's area. However, according to *Imam Abu Hanifah*, the due *Zakah* is three “*mudds*” of wheat or six “*mudds*” of dates, barley or raisins. Alternatively one may pay the value of these “*mudds*”. **In Australia, it is estimated to be about \$ 5.00 (Year 2019).** One intends that any amount in excess of the due *Zakah* is given as a charitable donation.

It is an obligation upon the Muslim to pay the due *Zakah* for one and one's Muslim dependants if on the day of the Feast of *Fitr* (*Eid-ul-Fitr*) and the night after it one has enough to meet one's debts, clothing, lodging, and sustenance, and the sustenance of those whom one must support.

The man must pay the *Zakah of Fitr* for his wife, non-pubescent children, and poor Muslim parents. He may not pay for his pubescent children or solvent parents without their permission. It is permissible to pay the *Fitr Zakah* any time during *Ramadan*, even on the first night. However, it is recommended to pay it during the day of the Feast and before the *Eid Prayer*, because this mends the hearts of the poor people before the Prayer. It is prohibited to delay paying the *Fitr Zakah* until after the sunset of the day of the Feast without an excuse.

### Recipients of Zakah

For all types of *Zakah*, the intention is obligatory upon setting one's *Zakah* portion aside or paying it to the deserving people. *Zakah* must be paid to the eight categories of Muslims deserving of *Zakah* as mentioned explicitly in the *Qur'an* (*at-Tawbah*, 61):

﴿ إِنَّمَا الصَّدَقَاتُ لِلْفُقَرَاءِ وَالْمَسْكِينِ وَالْعَامِلِينَ عَلَيْهَا وَالْمُؤَلَّفَةِ قُلُوبِهِمْ وَفِي الرِّقَابِ وَالْغَارِمِينَ وَفِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَابْنِ السَّبِيلِ ﴾

Those (who are poor) who earn less than half their basic needs (*al-fuqara*);

Those (who are poor) who earn half, but less than what meets all their basic needs (*al-masakin*);

The *Zakah* workers who are assigned by the caliph (*al-ʿamiluna ʿalayha*);

The new converts to *Islam* whose hearts are to be reconciled (*al-mu'allafatu qulubuhum*);

The slaves who are short in satisfying their contract for purchasing their freedom from their owners (*ar-riqab*);

Those who are unable to pay their debts (*al-gharimun*);

The volunteer fighters (*fi sabilillah*);

The travelers who do not have enough to enable them to reach their destination (*ibn-us-sabil*).

It is neither permissible nor valid to pay *Zakah* to other than those eight types of Muslims specifically mentioned above. Hence, it is not valid to pay *Zakah* to any charitable project, hospital, or the like.

May Allah accept your deeds in this Blessed Month, and may Allah make this Ramadan a fruitful and joyous month for the Muslims at large.

## الأحاديث الأسبوعية

### Hadiths of the Week



قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:  
 " إِذَا جَاءَ رَمَضَانُ فَتُخْتَبَرُ أَبْوَابُ الْجَنَّةِ  
 وَتُغْلَقُ أَبْوَابُ النَّارِ وَصُفِّدَتِ الشَّيَاطِينُ "   
 رَوَاهُ مُسْلِمٌ

**Which means**  
 "When the month of Ramadan begins,  
 the gates of the heaven are opened and  
 the gates of Hellfire are closed and the  
 [senior] devils are chained."

Related by Muslim

T2  
WK1



Your day are more beautiful!

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:  
**" أَفْضَلُ الصَّدَقَةِ صَدَقَةٌ فِي رَمَضَانَ " رَوَاهُ التِّرْمِذِيُّ**

**Which means: "the best of donations is the one made in Ramadan"**

T2  
WK2

أَيَّامَكَ أَحَدَبُ  
 شهر رمضان الجميل 1443  
 Blissful month of Ramadan 1443  
 Your day are more beautiful!

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:  
 من قام ليلة القدر إيماناً واحتساباً غُفِرَ لَهُ ما تَقَدَّمَ مِنْ ذَنْبِهِ

رواه البخاري

**Which means:**  
 "Whoever spends the Night of Qadr in acts of worship in faith and in seeking reward from Allah, One's past minor sins will be forgiven"

(Related by al-Bukhariyy)

T2 WK 3

T2 WK 3

WK 3

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:  
**"الصِّيَامُ وَالْقُرْآنُ يَشْفَعَانِ لِلْعَبْدِ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ"**

رواه الإمام أحمد

**Which means:**  
 Fasting and Qur'an intercede for the slave on Judgment Day

T2 WK4

أَيَّامَكَ أَحَدَبُ  
 شهر رمضان الجميل 1443  
 Blissful month of Ramadan 1443  
 Your day are more beautiful!

## COVID-19 Major Clean-up - 2 May 2020



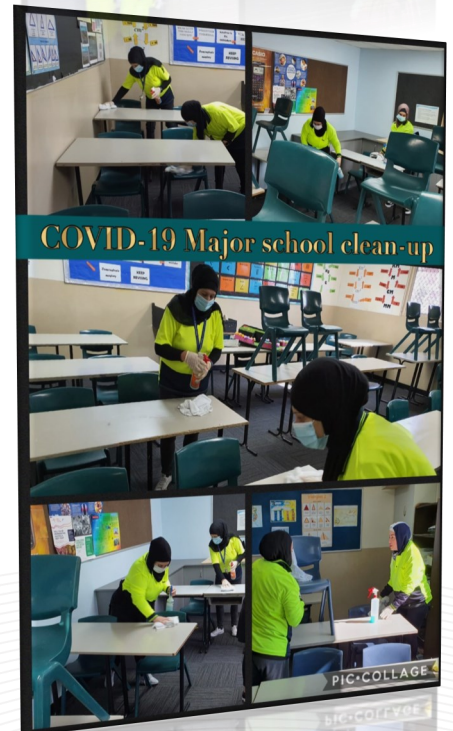
Al Amanah College have been implementing an extended and increased cleaning of frequently high-touched surface areas in all parts of the school at the end of term one and progressively continuing throughout each school day in term two to help reduce the risk of the COVID-19 transmission.

These extensive clean-up procedures formulate an important component of the COVID-19 school's action plan to ensure the disinfection of highly touched and common surfaces. The school has been regularly enhancing its cleaning procedures to ensure the adoption of all reasonably practicable measures to reduce the spread of viruses or germs at our campus. This includes enhanced and regular daily cleaning of high-touch surfaces such as desks, chairs, doorknobs, handrails, outdoor seats, play equipment and toilets. On week one weekend, 2 & 3 May, the school has performed another whole school major clean-up which thoroughly included the total disinfection of all frequently touched surfaces.



The school is actively ensuring all staff members, students and families are practising social distancing and maintaining regular personal hygiene practises through refilling hand sanitisers in each classroom and antibacterial hand soap dispensers near all designated hand basins on a daily basis.

Through these imperative measures, we are ensuring our staff members, students and families are staying safe and keeping healthy during the Covid-19 pandemic.



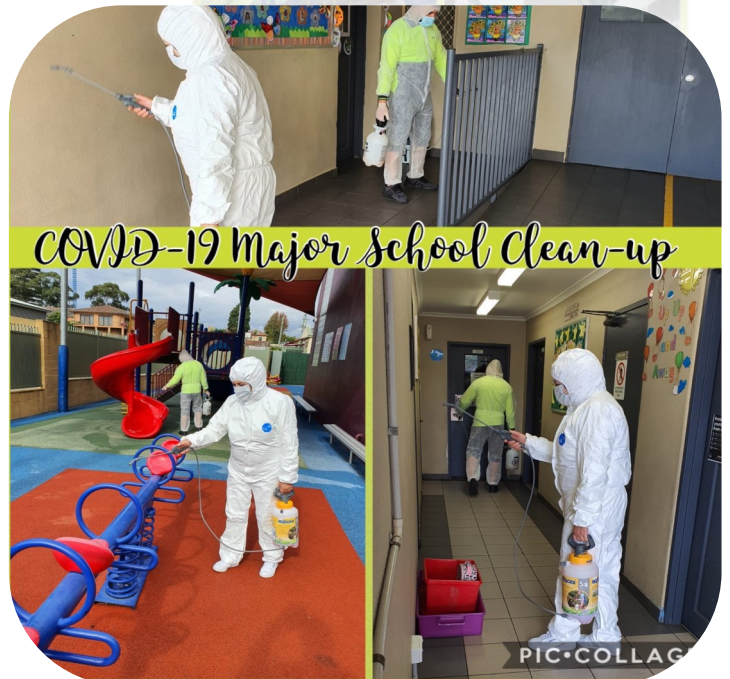
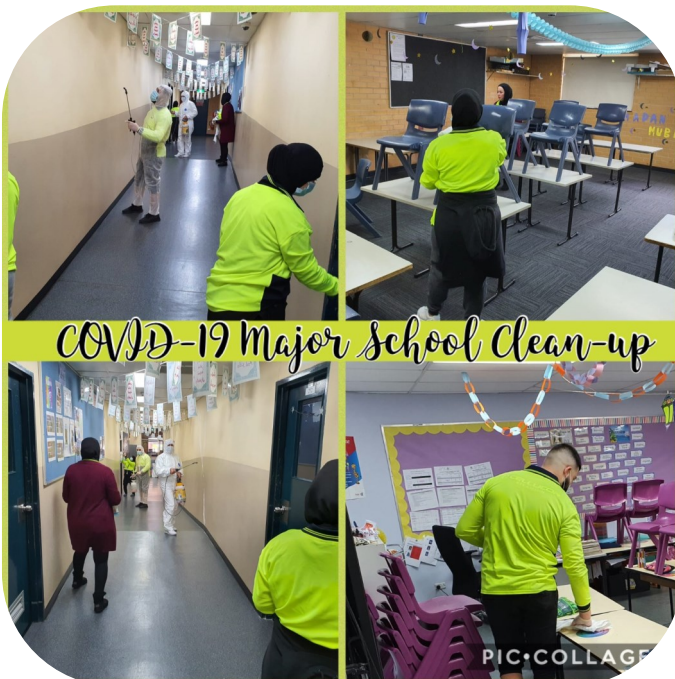
## COVID - 19 Major Clean-up - 16 May 2020

Al Amanah College has implemented another extended and increased cleaning of frequently high-touched surface areas in all parts of the school on Saturday 16 May 2020, to help reduce the risk of the COVID-19 transmission.

Last weekend, the School has performed the fourth whole school major clean-up which thoroughly included the total disinfection of all frequently touched surfaces. This includes enhanced and regular daily cleaning of high-touch surfaces such as desks, chairs, doorknobs, doors, handrails, lockers, outdoor seats, play equipment and toilets.

The school is actively ensuring all staff members, students and families are practising social distancing and maintaining regular personal hygiene practises through refilling hand sanitisers in each classroom and antibacterial hand soap dispensers near all designated hand basins on a daily basis.

The school has been regularly enhancing its cleaning procedures to ensure the adoption of all reasonably practicable measures to reduce the spread of viruses or germs at our campuses. We are ensuring our staff members, students and families are staying safe and keeping healthy during the Covid-19 pandemic.



## 2021 Enrolments Open!

Al Amanah College is now accepting applications for enrolments from our school families and the wider community for Kindergarten to Year Eleven students. A child born between 1 August 2015 and 31 July 2016 will be eligible for Kindergarten in 2021. Expression of interest forms can be downloaded from the school website or taken from the front office.

Parents need to complete and return the form to the front office with the child's birth certificate, immunisation information and latest school report. Last day for accepting applications is Friday 26 June 2020. Please hurry as our numbers are filling up fast and places are limited. For further information please visit our website [alamanah.nsw.edu.au](http://alamanah.nsw.edu.au) or call the school's administration office on 9822 8022 or 97081220.



**AL AMANAH COLLEGE**  
Pursuing Academic Excellence

2 Success through Knowledge

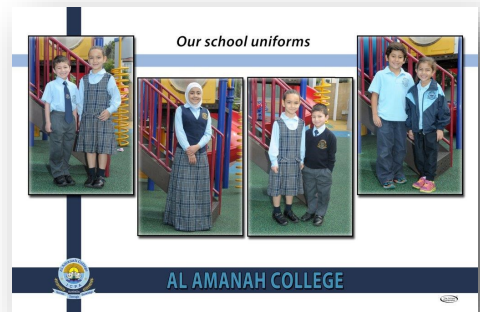
Bankstown Campus  
2 Winspear Avenue  
Bankstown NSW 2200  
P: +61 2 9708 1220  
E: admin@alamanah.nsw.edu.au  
www.alamanah.nsw.edu.au

Liverpool Campus  
55 Speed Street  
Liverpool NSW 2170  
P: +61 2 9822 8022

**Enrolling now!**

## Uniform Expectations

Wearing school uniform provides a sense of pride and identification, as well as improving the tone and atmosphere. On some occasions and after many warnings we had to send students home to put on their uniform in full or to fix their hairstyle. However if some students arrive to school with a non-compliant school uniform or hairstyle they would be sent to the front office immediately and the parents would be contacted to pick them up and bring them back to school with the proper uniform and hairstyle. In order to avoid such situations, please make sure to check your child's hairstyle, uniform and shoes and have them arrive to school on time. The same follow-up and consequence will apply to female students who arrive to school wearing make-up and nail polish. They will be sent to the front office until the situation is rectified. A notice to the teacher must be provided if your child is out of uniform.



**Our school uniforms**

**AL AMANAH COLLEGE**



## KISS & RIDE AREAS:

A safe place to drop off and pick up your child to maintain social distancing at schools.

To avoid large gatherings within school grounds, try to make a plan with your child to meet you at the Nagle street or Speed street gates.

YOU MAY ONLY STAY 2 MINUTES & DRIVER MUST REMAIN WITHIN 3 METRES OF THE VEHICLE

Liverpool City Council Road Safety Initiative \* Penalties apply in school zones. Fines subject to change





## Star Student of the Week



### K - 1

### 2 - 6

K - 1				2 - 6			
Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Linda Mohamed	Hooriya Fathimah	Aaliyah Maarbani	Aasiyah Alshleh	Karima Alshelh	Mohammad Abduljabbar	Amar Khashashneh	Rida Mehera
1E	1R	1H	KK	4K	5J	6J	6A

## Stage One Online Learners

During the past few weeks, Stage One students learning from home continued to participate in distance education at our Liverpool campus. They have quickly adapted to the new online learning experience as well as learned new skills promptly and efficiently. The Year One and Year Two students have been working dedicatedly to complete their scheduled online tasks to the best of their abilities. They have also been participating in scheduled daily sessions to meet with their class teachers live on Microsoft teams. We are very pleased with our online learners' efforts thus far.



## Online Learning at Al Amanah College



From Kindergarten to Year Six, the participation in distance education at our Liverpool campus by students and their parents has been outstanding. Students have taken to their devices to become digitally engaged with the content that teachers have uploaded. Students will take on their first full week of learning next week and we are looking forward to seeing some great things ahead. Here are a few snaps of our younger students taking advantage of our Online Learning Packs. Our dedicated teachers will be here to provide assistance in any way they can.



## بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

### Primary School Ramadan Annual Poster Competition

Al Amanah College Primary School has organised a Ramadan POSTER Competition as a way of showing joy, encouraging the students to fast and to celebrate this blessed occasion.

Primary students had the opportunity to participate in this annual Ramadan Poster Competition this year amid the current COVID-19 situation. Students were given the opportunity to design and make their own Ramadan poster while they are studying from home.

We have received many fantastic posters from students across all grades. Congratulations to Ayesha El Asmar (3M) and Muhammad El Asmar (KR) who won the best poster award. We thank students and their families for coming together and creating these amazing posters.

*Thankyou* to all the students who participated in the competition and we look forward to another fantastic competition next year.

Religion Department  
Al Amanah College Primary School

قامت مدرسة الأمانة الإسلامية بتنظيم مسابقة رمضان السنوية لأجمل لوحة رمضانية وذلك لإظهار الفرح والسرور بهذه المناسبة وتشجيعاً منها للطلاب الأعداء على الصوم والاحتفال بهذه المناسبة.

وقد قام طلابنا بالمشاركة بهذه المسابقة في ظل إنتشار هذا الوباء حفظنا الله وإياكم منه، وقد أعطيت الفرصة للطلاب بالمشاركة بهذه المسابقة وهم في منازلهم . هذا وقد استلمنا عدة لوحات من الطلاب من عدة مراحل، ووقع الاختيار على لوحة للطالبان عائشة ومحمد الأسمر مع الشكر لكافة المشاركين والأهالي الذين ساعدوا أولادهم في عمل هذه اللوحات الرائعة على أمل رؤية المزيد من المشاركين في السنة القادمة وبارك الله بكم.



## Ramadan Competitions

Al Amanah College community welcomes this holy month of Ramadan and embraces it with happiness and joy. Ramadan is the month of Mercy. It is the ninth month of the Muslim Hijri calendar, a time of prayer, fasting and performing many other good deeds.

Every Friday during the holy and blessed month of Ramadan, Al Amanah students are given the opportunity to dress up in an Abaya and be voted by their peers for the best dressed Abaya from each class. The initiative of the 'best dressed abaya' is to represent our Islamic heritage and to follow the traditions of our beloved Prophet Muhammad (May blessings and peace be upon him). Today marks the first day of the competition and we were thrilled to see so many students embrace the Ramadan spirit and wearing Abayas.

In addition, to commemorate this Holy month, the school annually holds the 'best decorated classroom competition' to encourage all the teachers and the roll call students to actively decorate their allocated classroom to celebrate this blessed month. The criteria for the chosen winner of the best decorated classroom is based on original, cost-effective and handmade Ramadan themed decorations that are well arranged and colour coordinated.

The winners for both competitions will be announced during the Ramadan competition assembly.

On behalf of Al Amanah College school board and executives, we would like to extend our best wishes and congratulations to our staff members and their families for Ramadan and Eid Ul-Fitr.



## Online School - The Way I see It

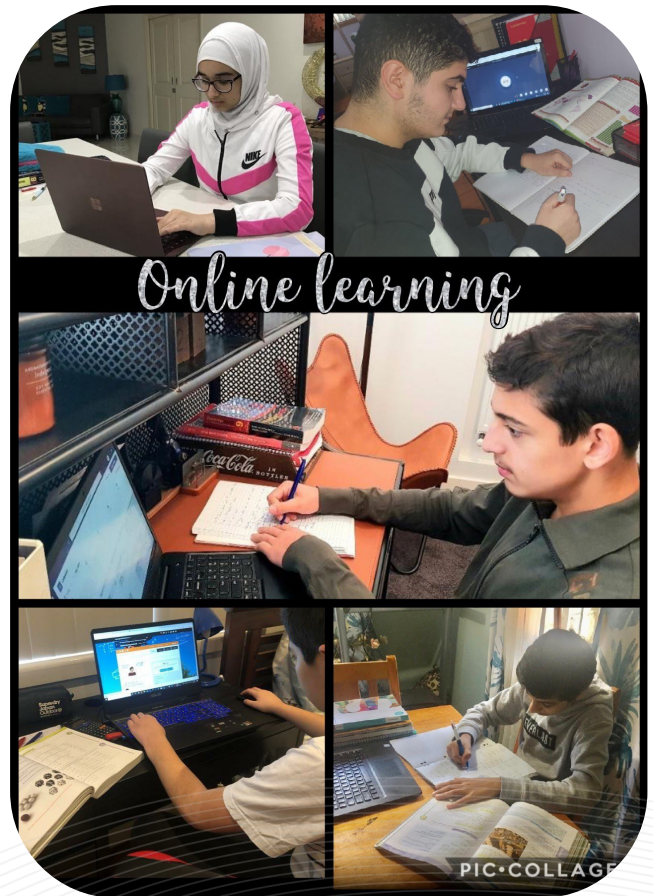
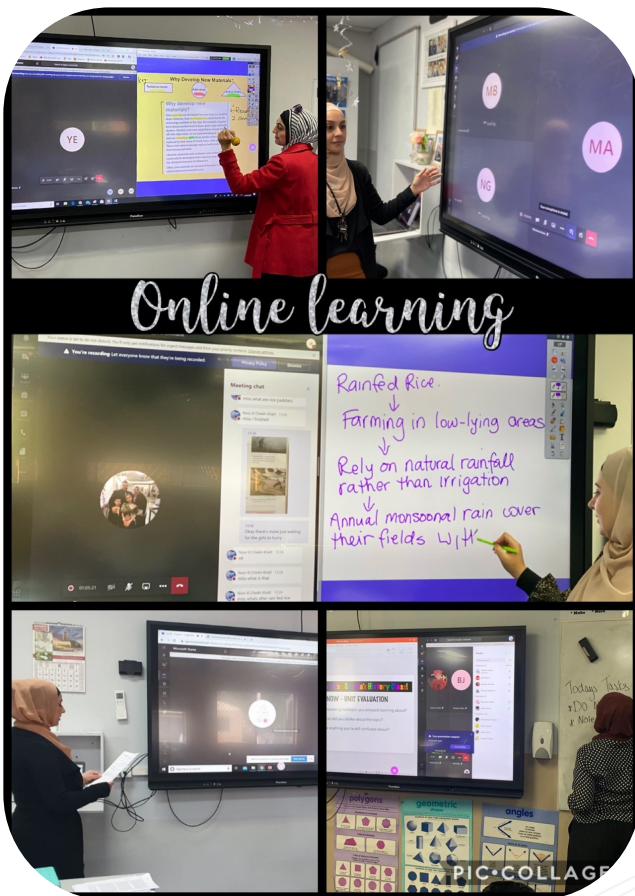
Al Amanah College has continued online learning into Term Two, as an alternative for going back to school. It has been a significant change for students, but it is one of many precautions taken to protect us from the Corona Virus outbreak. Online school uses the same procedures as regular school on campus without leaving the comfort of our home.

As an online student myself, I personally enjoy talking to my teachers and peers using Microsoft Teams. While using online school, students are offered more methods of contacting teachers and other peers to ask questions about certain work or assignments.

Unfortunately, due to some students staying at home for majority of the isolation, time away from friends and teachers left students such as myself stuck at home with not many people to interact with. However, when using online platforms such as Microsoft Teams in conjunction with Moodle, the teacher explains the instructions on Teams via screen sharing where the student can actively stay online by listening and watching the lesson alongside peers that are school. The teacher uploads all the necessary worksheets, Flipchart PDFs or PowerPoint slides prior to the lesson that we need to download so we can actively engage in the lesson content. To ensure we are understanding and making the lesson content more engaging, the teachers have integrated discussion forums and quizzes on Moodle and uploaded videos that can assist our understanding of particular concepts.

Online school has been a positive alternative for the students who wish to remain at home. It involves interaction with their peer and teachers, whilst giving the students education during times away from school.

Maysa El Masri  
Year 8G Student



## Learning in the Time of COVID-19 - Al Amanah College Secondary School

No one can deny that this COVID-period has been a great challenge for us all, but it has also provided us teachers with a great opportunity to reflect further on the effectiveness of our teaching methods and to find ways to maximise student learning in all settings, whether in the classroom or remotely.

Term two officially began on Tuesday 28 April and so far, we have seen over half of our students turning up to their daily classes at school. The other half are present with us too, connecting through their devices from home. Some might say that it is a big feat, teaching the two, however we have been well prepared for this. During the last few weeks of term one and at the beginning of this term, us teachers met online twice a day to discuss and share ideas for online teaching and learning. We supported each other both professionally and emotionally and this kept up our spirits for whatever obstacles we were going to face. We were keen on ensuring that the disruption to student learning from home was minimal. We were determined to continue working together to provide the highest quality teaching for ALL our students.

Below are some of the key things that we have been employing to help us achieve this:

- The School Principal and his leadership team have been working tirelessly to develop and implement an effective COVID-19 risk management plan for our school.
- We have developed home learning guidelines to help support students who are studying from home and their parents.
- We are using a combination of online platforms such as igloo, Microsoft Office 365, Microsoft Teams, Moodle along with Hot-Maths and other school specific interfaces to facilitate the online learning experience for our students.
- Teachers are continually collaborating, sharing resources and planning lessons to stretch the learning of our students both in class and online.
- Our lesson outlines have been simplified to allow the students to follow them adequately. They are being uploaded on both the igloo and Moodle platforms so that parents and students may access them readily and use them to receive a 'heads up' for upcoming assessments and homework.
- Majority of the live lessons are also being recorded and streamed onto Microsoft teams for students who are absent from the online class, so they do not miss out on any class instructions.
- Heads of departments are monitoring the delivery of online lessons and providing feedback to teachers. We are also using ongoing feedback from parents and students to make improvements to our lessons.
- Teachers have set up 'Moodle submission boxes' and online quizzes to check the quality of learning by the students and provide them with additional feedback.
- Teachers, year advisors and learning support staff are frequently communicating with parents on their child's progress or the completion of work through a combination of letters, phone and class dojo messages.
- Learning support staff, year advisors and stage leaders are regularly contacting students via Microsoft teams and checking in on their state of wellbeing and progress.
- School Coordinators, heads of departments and teachers are working in collaboration to review assessment tasks in relation their nature and timeframe for submission. Some assessment components have been simplified or reduced. Some tasks have had their weighting minimised, or their submission dates extended. This is to ensure all students have equal opportunity to succeed.

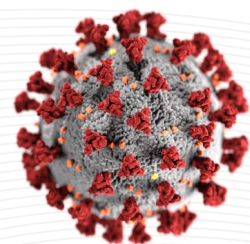
As John Hattie, a world renowned educationalist stated in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic and its implications for schools 'It does not matter whether teachers undertake teaching on site or from a distance over the internet, what we [teachers] do matters, not the medium of doing it', and praise be to Allah, the feedback we have been receiving from our students and their families on the strategies we have been employing has been overwhelmingly positive. It is a reflection on the cohesiveness and high standards of our school.

We are always glad to take additional feedback on-board. If there are questions or concerns relating to the general well-being of your child or the general teaching arrangements for home learning plan, please contact our school Principal Mr Alwan.

While the Covid-19 pandemic continues to be a challenge for schools, Al Amanah College has adapted very quickly and quite successfully. If anything, we are confident that we would come out of this as more reflective and effective teachers.

We would like to thank everyone for their continued cooperation, feedback, and support.

Chaza Ferdaws  
Secondary School Curriculum Coordinator



## Backyard Tips for Parents

Children love to play and the backyard, courtyard or local park are great places to learn, explore, make up games and have fun. Backyard games can be inventive and encourage sustained concentration and application by kids.

Backyard games do not have to be complicated or expensive – a bit of chalk, a ball or a skipping rope can all get a game underway. Playing in the backyard also allows children to be noisy and messy, physically challenge themselves and move in ways that are not possible indoors.

Encouraging your kids to play is an important way you can support their health, coordination, self confidence and happiness.

### Try these popular games

- Hide and seek
- Skipping
- Hopscotch
- Throwing and catching games, like knocking down a target
- Chasing games, like tag and stuck in the mud
- Racquet games against a wall
- French cricket or backyard cricket
- Running and jumping

### Tips for backyard games

- Check your backyard, courtyard or park and remove or block off unsafe areas
- Let your children explore and make up their own activities and rules - try not to interfere
- It is more fun if your child has a 'friend or two' (or you) to play with
- Focus on what your child can do, not what they can not
- Make active play fun and positive
- Be patient and provide plenty of time for your children to practise movements
- Be active with your children – have fun and be a role model

### Staying safe

- Slip, Slop Slap, Seek, Slide – make sure your child wears sunscreen, sun glasses, clothing and a hat to protect him/her from the sun. Play in the shade when you can.
- Being active means children will need extra fluids, especially if it is hot and humid. Make sure they have regular drinks of water while they are playing.



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