

# Irfan Times



## Principal's Message

Alhamdulillah, with the grace and blessings of Allah (swt), we have been able to complete another year at Irfan College. This has had to be one of the most productive years in our College's history.

### NESA Inspection

The inspection conducted by the NSW Education and Standards Authority (NESA) in August was concluded with successful outcomes. Irfan College received a renewal of registration and accreditation of five years for Years 7 & 8 and also obtained initial registration for Year 9.

### Increase of Student Numbers

Another major development in our College's history was the Development Application to Council to increase our student capacity to 300. The approval of this application will be a huge milestone for Irfan College as this increase will accommodate years K-12.

### Completion of Double-storey Complex

The commencement of construction for our double-storey complex in July is in its final stages. We are working hard to obtain the Occupancy Certificate for the new facility prior to the beginning of the new academic year. The new complex will house a brand new commercial kitchen, science lab, and state of the art classrooms. Each classroom will have an Islamic theme and will be named after an Islamic thinker or leader within the Islamic tradition that has contributed to the field of science and the Islamic sciences.

### School Readiness Program (SRP)

An exciting new initiative Irfan College implemented this year was the SRP for our new Kindergarten cohort. Students that had gone through the first process of enrolment participated in a five week program which comprised of students attending school one day a week

and going through the Pre-lit program. The SRP allowed our new Kindy students to familiarise themselves with the school culture, their class teacher, and daily routines.

We thank Allah (swt) for blessing us with such a productive year. We pray to Allah that He bestows upon a safe and enjoyable break and look forward to seeing everyone in 2018.

*Mr Ali Arabaci*

### Special points of interest:

#### LAST DAY OF TERM 4

Wednesday 13th December

#### END OF YEAR HOLIDAYS

THURSDAY 14TH December 2017 to  
Sunday 28th January 2018

#### K-9 Orientation for new students 2018

Monday 29th January 2018

#### FIRST DAY OF TERM 1 FOR ALL STUDENTS

Tuesday 30th January

#### BELL TIMES

School starts at **8.45am**  
School ends at **3.30pm**

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# School Holiday Parent Kit – Tackling stress

The everyday responsibilities of parenting can sometimes feel endless. Considering all the extra demands placed on you during the school holidays and festive season, you may feel more stressed than usual.

## remember

*What your family and your children really want most is to spend time with you.*

Holiday stress may be caused by having to change work routines or child care arrangements, stretching the budget to meet the costs of the festive season, entertaining children or dealing with older children staying home alone.

Although we cling to the idea that the family will spend the holidays together and everyone will get along, it can be a difficult time.

When you are stressed it seems as though you have to sacrifice the things you enjoy. But often the things you give up, such as keeping fit and spending time with friends, are activities that can help you manage stress or keep you from becoming frustrated with your children.

It's also important to remember that grief can be particularly heightened at this time of

year. The loss of a family member, a divorce, the loss of a job or being separated from family and friends can be particularly stressful.

By taking some steps now, you can help to minimise stress later. The key is to recognise the triggers. Do what you can to avoid or lessen their impact and learn some techniques to help you relax should you start to feel the tension rising.

Here are some simple tips to keep you healthy and manage stress. By looking after yourself you will be in a better position to care for your children.

- **Set priorities:** learn to say "no" to some things - choose quality over quantity. Your main priority may simply be spending time with your children and enjoying each other's company.
- **Plan ahead:** take charge of your holidays in advance by making lists of things to do and setting aside some time each day for them - nothing creates more stress than last minute shopping and preparations. When entertaining children, one different activity each day will keep them excited.
- **Stay in budget:** draw up a budget to make sure you don't overspend over the festive season. Choose simple, thoughtful or useful gifts over elaborate, expensive surprises.
- **Delegate:** you don't have to do it all yourself - there is only so much time and people generally appreciate the opportunity to help out. If you are having a family get together, it might be a good idea to ask everyone to bring along some food rather than preparing it all yourself.
- **Have realistic expectations:** if there is tension within your family it is more than likely that this will only escalate during the holiday period. You might consider visiting your relatives separately if they do not get on well or keeping them occupied when together.  
  
When making new year's resolutions, think positively about what you can really achieve. Unrealistic goals can cause disappointment.
- **Look after yourself:** to take care of others you need to first take care of yourself. A healthy diet, regular exercise, learning to relax and getting enough sleep will also help to reduce stress.
- **Exercise:** research shows that exercising several times a week (even just a walk) can reduce stress and tension and improve your mood.
- **Deep breathing:** spend five to ten minutes several times a day practising the art of deep breathing. It helps to raise your energy levels.
- **Positive attitude:** try to think positive thoughts. Your thoughts influence your feelings - if you dwell on unhappy thoughts, you start to feel unhappy. Your attitude can be transferred to others and this is not helpful with children at home.
- **Talk to others:** if you are feeling stressed it can help to speak with people who can understand the position you are in, such as friends or family members.
- **Laughter:** nothing reduces stress as quickly or as effectively as a good laugh!

## contact numbers

Lifeline 13 11 14 (24 hours, 7 days per week)  
Parent Line 1300 1300 52 (24 hours, 7 days per week)  
Salvo Crisis Line 9331 2000 (24 hours, 7 days per week) or  
Salvo Care Line 1300 363 622 (24 hours, 7 days per week)

[www.community.nsw.gov.au](http://www.community.nsw.gov.au)



**Human Services**  
Community Services

## HIGHLIGHTS OF TERM 4

### School Athletics Carnival 2017

The 2017 School Athletics Carnival was the fun we expected it to be. Our staff and students had been training hard to build their athletic skills and their efforts did not go to waste. The highlights are too many to report, and everyone really got into the spirit of the event. There were winners and losers, but the atmosphere and overall fun that we all had made it worthwhile. Mecca House students had even more to celebrate as the overall winners, but will have tough competition in 2018 as the other house groups become even more determined to win. As they say, a picture tells a thousand words, so we will leave it to the pictures to tell this story.

### Soccer Team – Futsal competition

Our soccer team has participated in a variety of competitions throughout the year, and during this term they were involved in the Futsal competition. This allowed them to practise their soccer skills and general sportsmanship. The team worked well together and learnt many life lessons, including the value of friendship and teamwork. Well done team!

### Radiothon

As a way of contributing to the community, our students were involved in fundraising which helped raise money for Westmead Children's Hospital. This was instigated by one of our year 7 students and highlights our school's commitment to helping raise students who are community conscious and willing to do good in the world. We are proud of their efforts, and the school presented a cheque to Westmead Children's Hospital on behalf of our staff and students. May Allah always guide us to do good.

### Bonnyrigg Mosque

Our students have been working hard all

year as part of the Young Scholars Program with the assistance of our Quran teachers, Mr Erol and Mr Abdulsamed. To showcase the progress of our students, they were invited by Bonnyrigg Mosque for Quran recitation. Masha'allah they did a great job, and we look forward to future Quran recitation events as they grow and further improve their skills.

### What's up West

What's Up West? is a unique event designed especially by, and for, young people in Greater Western Sydney. Our students were lucky enough to be part of this two-day event which provided them with an opportunity to gain skills that will assist them in getting involved in their community and make the future of the region one they want to be a part of.

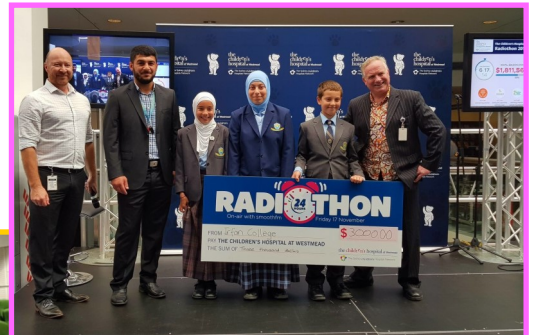
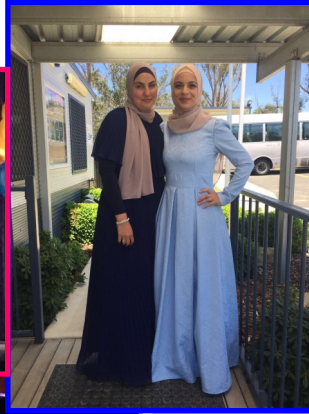
### School Presentation Night

It's our favourite time of year, where teachers and students showcase their very best through performances and this year did not disappoint in providing great entertainment. There were many highlights during the evening, from the wonderful performances on stage, to the performances back stage, but by far the biggest attraction was the year 6 students farewelling their teachers. Many tissues were passed around as year 6 surprised their teacher, Ms Elif, with a poem they had secretly written for her. It is this kind of thoughtfulness from our students which makes us proud to be a part of the Irfan College community.

As the evening drew to a conclusion, the question foremost in everyone's minds was, "who is going to be school captain?" and we congratulate Asli Cetinay and Mikail Payir on their appointment as 2018 school captains. We wish them every success as they make their final journey on the Primary school ship as year 6 students.



HIGHLIGHTS CONT.

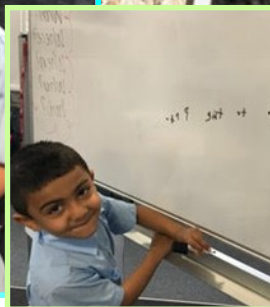


## TERM 4 IN KINDERGARTEN

### Farwell Kindergarten 2017!

Another successful year draws to a close. It is amazing how much has been achieved by Kindergarten in one year. The achievements extend from the academic, to the sporting and the creative arts, scientific experiments to Geographical inquiries. It is difficult to identify the highlights because there are genuinely so many. This year has been an amazing year Alhamdulillah. Indeed from little things big things grow. I

wish nothing but success, happiness and good health for all KA students. I wish you and your family a wonderful holiday break I thank Allah (swt) for giving me the opportunity to teach such a delightful bunch of children.



## TERM 4 IN YEAR 1

We have made it to the end of year 1 and I am so, so proud of all the effort and progress of each of the superstars in 1Z. As always, this term was fun filled and very busy!

Just a few highlights from this term have been; our indigenous tour around the city, the athletics carnival and a visit from the very friendly Healthy Harold.

We were able to integrate many lessons around our theme of 'weather and seasons' such as English, mathematics, geography and creative arts where students were able to express their artistic abilities as well!!

Overall we had a great term and semester together, I enjoyed every moment getting to know and teaching year 1, I hope they enjoyed it just as much as I did!!

I hope all students have an amazing summer break with plenty of sun and zooper doopers, see you next year Inshallah.

*Ms. Zeynep*



## TERM 4 IN YEAR 2

It was an absolute pleasure teaching 2B this year. A big thank you to all the students for working hard and trying their best during each lesson. During Science, students designed and created their own playgrounds. Year 2 also enjoyed playing olden day games as they studied the past and present playgrounds followed by writing a recount on their experience. I wish you all the best in Year 3!



# Year 3!

## TERM 4 IN

Year 3 have worked incredibly hard throughout all KLA's in 2017. It has been an honour to be part of each individual's learning experience throughout the year alhamdulillah and a blessing to witness their growth physically and academically.

A special congratulations to Irem Basokur who this year, received her gold award in the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge. The award recognizes Irem's successful involvement in the PRC for four years. Well done Irem!

We thank all 3E/S students for their dedication and hard work and wish each of them the best of luck in year 4!

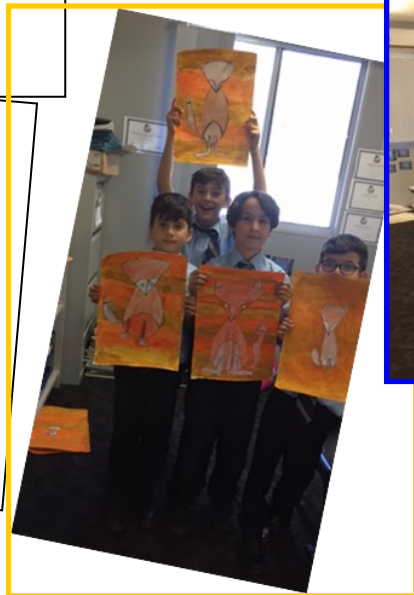
Ms Samah Taki and Eman Aweida.



I feel like I've learnt a lot in just one year, I'm so lucky to be here. The memories were the best, I can't wait for the rest! Sometimes it's rough but not all the time, it's just enough to have a great time. The school is great, but sometimes I'm late. There are lots of things to remember, does it really have to end in December?  
- **Zehra Trizik**

Science is exciting  
Collecting new information  
Interesting new topics  
Excellent and engaging experiments  
Never give up on science  
Contributes to everything  
Environmental awareness  
- **Zakariyya Hussein**

I've learnt a lot since I started in year 1. This school is the best and it will never change! One day the school will get more people and I will have more friends. Before I know it, it will be time to graduate and I will leave, educated and ready to take on the world.  
- **Berra Yatagan**





## TERM 4 IN YEAR 4

Farewell year 4!

We have come to the end of a very busy year. Year 4 have worked hard again this term, and we have had a fun-filled term with everything from baby chicks to an amazing African performance on presentation night. Year 4 should feel very proud of their achievements this year and I wish them all the success in the future. Keep safe and enjoy your holidays, and always remember to do your best at everything. Good luck in year 5.

Ms Malika.



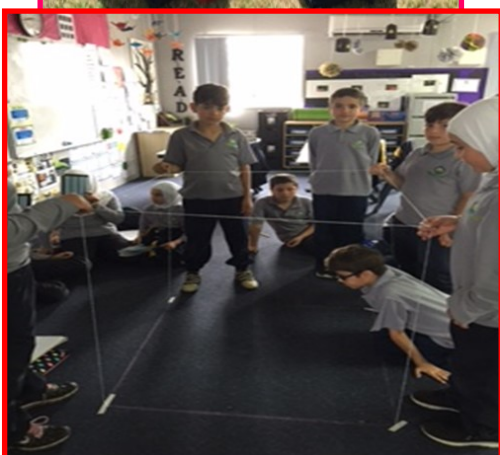
## TERM 4 IN YEAR 5

To the dearest parents and students of 5D.  
As the school year comes to an end I want to take a moment to say thank you for supporting all my efforts.

I want to thank each child for all the warmth, the memories, and the learning that we have shared this school year. To my students, I say **THANK YOU!** A little bit of each of you will always be with me. Always strive to be the **BEST** that you can be!

It has been a wonderful and rewarding year for me.

Ms Derya



## TERM 4 IN YEAR 6

### Quotes by year 6

"Year 6 life is hard, but keep on trying - you'll get there #bigmac4life" Murat.

"Year 6 was fun and easy" #Ihatebigmacs" Dilhan.

"Life in year 6 hasn't been good, it was amazing!" Maryam.

"This term was amazing" Ubeyda.

"Best year with the best class" Aisha.

"#I'llgettaller" Walid.

"Year 6 was hard, till I drew IT #Iloveyear6" Ceylin.

"#I'mtootall" Salih.

"Thank you Miss Elif for teaching us this year" Enes.

"InshaAllah all of us become leaders in the future" Yahya.

"#theslowchocolatemuncher" Arif.

"It's been an amazing year #100%math" Mehmet.

"Year 6 was the best year of our lives #friendshipgoals" Sude.

"It is so sad to be leaving a great year behind" Ayse.

"The memories we've had we will not leave behind" Zehra.

"Best year" Aisha.

"It has been a great year #I'mAlive" Esra.

"It's been an amazing year, but it is time to move on #bigmacnation" Tarik.

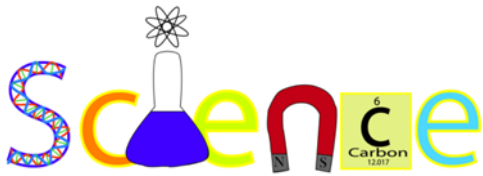
"Year 6 has been full of laughter #bigmac" Tahsin.

"This has been an amazing year - wishing my students the best in high school and beyond #year6forlife "

Ms Elif.



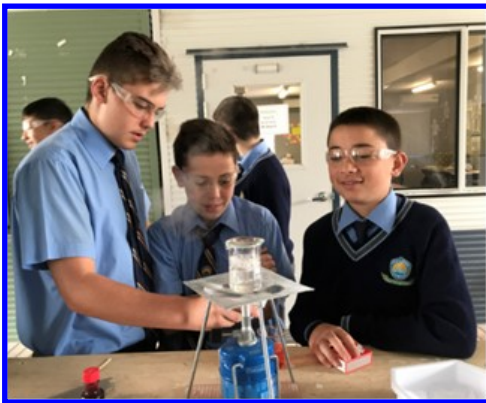
## TERM 4 IN YEAR 7 & 8



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Stage 4 Science students participated in an array of activities throughout this term. Year 7 students explored the science behind the classification of living things. We also looked at the intricate details surrounding the beginning of our universe. Students learned about the similarities between the Aboriginal and Islamic teachings regarding the creation of the universe. Year 8 students learned about chemical and physical reactions. They investigated chemical change by making their own 'fireworks' using the variety of coloured metallic salt compounds. In addition, Year 8 students spent time exploring the rock cycle and used our rock sample kits



In PDHPE, stage 4 students prepped for the Athletics Carnival that took place in week 4. Students participated in a variety of competitive track and field events including shot-put, long jump, high jump and sprint and relay races. Following the carnival students have been working on improving their fitness by practicing a range of physical fitness tests including the Beep Test to improve cardiovascular endurance.



## TERM 4 IN ENGLISH

### Year 7

This term, Year 7 English students were involved in an exciting drama unit where they explored drama texts and engaged in practical miming tasks.



### Year 8

This term, Year 8 English students undertook a Myths and Legends unit that looked at a variety of myths like Greek Myths, Modern Myths and the legendary stories in the Qur'an.

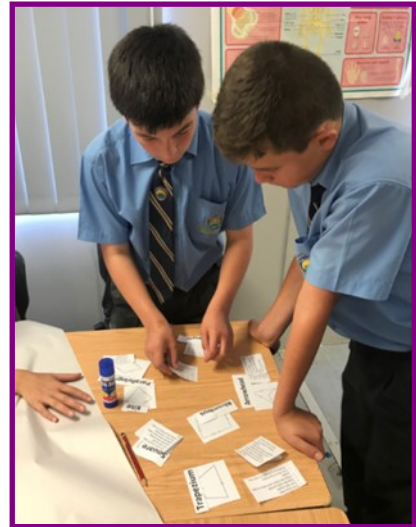


## TERM 4 IN MATHS

### Maths

Year 7 mathematics students have investigated a range of scenarios when learning about 2D & 3D Shapes, probability, statistics and simple equations. They worked collaboratively to make posters describing the properties of shapes, experimenting with dice and coins and re-searching about the great contributions of Muslim mathematicians to algebra.

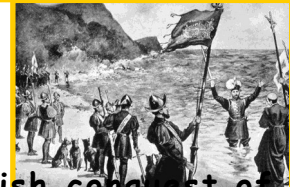
Ms Zina



## TERM 4 IN HISTORY

### Year 7

This term, Year 7 History students studied Ancient China and explored the Great Wall of China and the Terracotta Army amongst other things.



### Year 8

This term, Year 8 History students studied the Spanish conquest of the Americas explored the Aztec and Mayan civilisations amongst others.

Mr Ozan

## Term 4 in TECHNOLOGY MANDATORY

The theme of Term 4 Year 7 Technology has been “Kakadu”. In this Unit of work year 7 has been reflecting on Aboriginal Spirituality, in particular the “Dreamtime”. The students have also examined the methods that Aboriginal people use to express themselves in the art medium. The students designed an Aboriginal style motif which they were then able to transfer onto a ceramic pot using paint. The pictures below show the students painting their lovely designs onto their ceramic pots.

In Term 4 Year 8 Technology has been exploring various types of Food outlets, in particular “Pop up Cafes” or food trucks or portable event catering. The students have looked at safe hygiene procedures when preparing, cooking and serving food while exploring cultural foods and developing recipes and menus. The students shared their love of Turkish, Lebanese and other cultural food types in this activity. The students are very much looking forward to the new Food Technology classroom in 2018 which will be fitted out as an operational kitchen with large and small appliances.

Ms Wendy



## TERM 4 IN Creative Arts

This term Year 7 and Year 8 have been studying 'Pop Culture' in **Visual Arts**. Students have practiced and applied their understanding of the *elements of design* through their utilisation of design and construction within their art making task of creating a *relief sculpture* of their '*ideal perfect bedrooms*' using cardboard and other materials.

Year 7 and Year 8 have also been studying **Music**, with the topic this term being 'Film Music'. Students have been exploring the topic through various influences and examples of music within film and how music can enhance and change a scene dramatically in a movie. Students have additionally developed their compositional skills throughout this term by composing and performing musical pieces with a focus in *tonality* using the app *Garage Band*.

Ms Amber





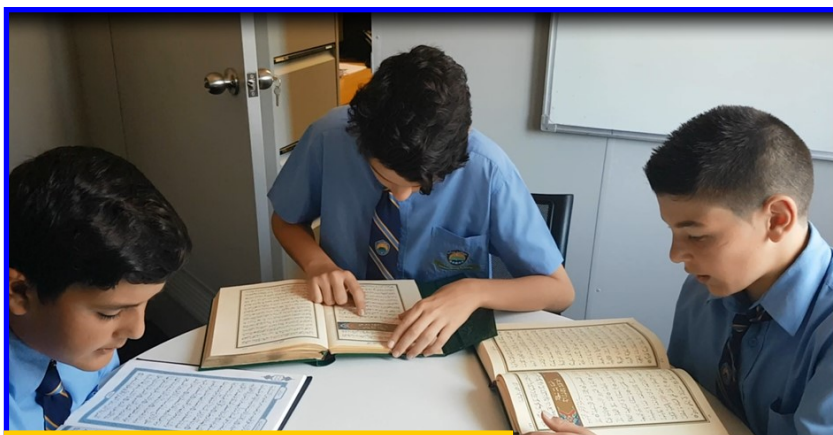
## TERM 4 IN ISLAMIC STUDIES & QURAN

Assalamu aleykum wa rahmetullahi wa barakatuh,

All praise be to Allah for allowing us to come to the end of eventful yet fruitful year. Our students have been continuing their hard work in Islamic Studies and Qur'an throughout the year and term 4 is no exception. With our Young Scholars Program in full swing and a comprehensive curriculum in place, students have been achieving great outcomes in their studies. Lower primary have successfully completed their recognition of the Arabic alphabet and letter joins and are ready to gradually move onto short words and passages. Upper primary have completed their advanced Tajweed rules such as the rules of Noon Saakin and Madd and are ready to apply these rules to the Qur'an itself. High school have also worked hard in consolidating their Tajweed knowledge and memorisation. We pray that Allah grants us success in our endeavours and allows the Qur'an to be our children's guide throughout their lives.

Wasalaam

Mr Erol



## TERM 4 IN ARABIC and TURKISH

This term has been a very productive term for Arabic and Turkish students. Students have learnt about many different vocabulary and spelling throughout their language sessions. Our students have been participating in discussions and practising dialogue so that they are able to speak with each other and other language speakers. They have grown in confidence inshallah with more effort, our students will make an even bigger effort in years to come. We wish them all the best for 2018. Have a happy and safe holiday.

Mr Rami Almomani and Ms Yuksel.

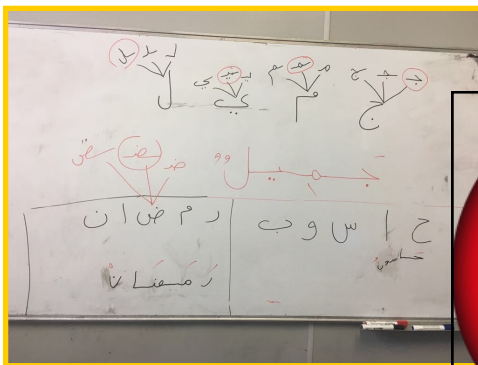
High school students have been exposed to a range of multimodal texts. As a class we have enjoyed reading and discovering different texts and translating them in to English.

During the term, the students participated in reading experiences involving a variety of comprehension activities, predominantly related to school life, transport, Food, leisure, holidays and the seasons of the year.

It has been a wonderful term teaching my lovely students. I look forward to watching all students progress through their remaining years in school Insha'Allah. Thank you for your ongoing support and I hope you have a safe and happy holidays.

Wasalaamualaykum.

Ms El Kheir



## TERM 4 IN THE LIBRARY

Dear Parents,

This term, we had a new reading buddy in our library for Kindergarten, Year1 and 2. Students loved reading books with her. She even had different names for each year level: Ms Worm, Gracey and Amelia.

Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 explored new dictionary and atlas games which helped them to get to know about different countries and cities around the world.

The last few weeks of the term, we were busy packing up the books in our library as we are moving to a new room in 2018. I would like to thank all the lovely P&C ladies for helping us out in packing our valuable books.

See you all next year!

Have a wonderful and safe holidays, and keep reading!

Ms Iram

Irfan College Librarian

**A final message from all of us at Irfan College.**

Please be safe and enjoy your holidays and your families. We have had a wonderful year with you and your children, and we ask Allah (swt) that 2018 brings with it as much joy and success as 2017.

We will leave you with a hadith from our beloved Prophet (pbuh):

“There is nothing heavier in the scales than good character”.

And we pray to Allah that he guides to make choices that enhance our character.

Inshallah we will see you all next year.