



ACT ISLAMIC

EDUCATION SERVICES

LEARNING AND LIVING ISLAM

NEWSLETTER - PILOT UPDATE - JULY 2023

Assalamu Alaikum wr wb

Dear Parents,

The ACT Public School Pilot Project Team hope you had a blessed Eidul Adha and Hajj Mubarak to all parents and students who made the holy Hajj pilgrimage this month of Dhul Hijjah.

Allhumdulliah, Term 2 ended with the three-day Eid ul Adha celebrations which saw the last lessons cover the importance of the first 10 days of Dhul Hijjah and the Hajj.

This term the Syllabus topic featured some of the Prophets mentioned in the Holy Quran including Adam AS, Saleh AS, Musa AS, Maryam AS, Issa AS and our Prophet of Islam Mohammad SAW. The students enjoyed this topic very much and through interactive learning methods have fully participated and were encouraged to share their understanding and knowledge in class.

This term Teachers observed lower attendance levels amongst the Year 9 and 10 students at Amaroo and the year 11 and 12 students at Gungahlin College. Whilst we have been very encouraged by the parental support for this program, we need parents of secondary students to assist us a bit more by discussing regular class attendance with their child/ren given the school has been given parental permission for your child/ren to attend the class.

We have also found some students have higher levels of Islamic knowledge than others in the year group Subhan Allah! The Syllabus Committee is addressing this and in term 3 the Syllabus content depth particularly for years 5-6 in primary and for 7-12 secondary lessons has been greatly enhanced. Being a small-scale pilot, we are well positioned to be agile and responsive to the needs of our students.



Mr. Will Johnson
Principal Neville Bonner Primary School, ACT.

We are delighted to acknowledge the Principal of Neville Bonner Primary School, Mr. Will Johnson. Neville Bonner Primary is the first school that was approached to be part of the 2023 Pilot. Alhamdulillah, Will has been very welcoming from the outset and has been exceptionally responsive to our student's and parent's needs.

There are over 100 students enrolled in the Islamic studies classes which represents over 10 percent of the school student population. Thank you, Will and all your staff, for your support and for making our volunteer teachers and ACTIES registered students so welcome.

The next newsletter will acknowledge the staff at Amaroo School and Gungahlin College.

Other important matters

Parents - we welcome your feedback, **email - admin@acties.org.au** and we appreciate it if you check in with the child/ren on what they have covered in the weekly class as a means of reinforcement.

Term 3 dates

Bonner Primary	Start Week 2 Thur, 20 July - last class of term Thur, 14 Sep
Amaroo School	Start Week 2 – Mon, 17 July - last class of term Mon, 11 Sep
Gungahlin College	Start Week 1 – Wed, 19 July – last class of term Wed, 6 Sep

New enrolments for 2023 will continue to be accepted

Parents who have not yet registered their Child/ren in the program are requested to register with ACTIES using the below link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScWeoC2KhTZ038klfMA2Jluqb6bRPdl-faBNOK3d2N_iHobkw/viewform?usp=sf_link

Next steps of the Pilot

Alhamdulillah, as of July 2023, there are 222 registered across the three Pilot Schools and an evaluation of the Pilot program is now underway.

In June we sought parent interest to determine, insha'Allah, the next tranche of schools the program will expand to in 2024. The response has been very strong, and we have identified 7 to 8 potential new schools to include. Further updates and confirmation of the new schools will be announced soon.

So far the ACTIES team continues to gain valuable experience and a better understanding of the various aspects of running the Islamic education program within ACT Government schools' system ... from volunteer teacher training/support to managing the day-to-day coordination of classes, students, and volunteer teachers all within school safety, security and compliance requirements.

We are indeed very thankful for the support from NSW Islamic Council (NSWIC) for the use of the ISRE Syllabus and also very grateful to Australian Islamic Education Services (AIES) for the ongoing collaboration with ACTIES.

You would be aware that ACTIES is a not-for-profit Islamic Education Service, and no fees are charged for the Islamic studies classes. Hence, we need to fund raise to help us cover the ongoing costs for running the pilot and for the expansion of the program in 2024.

Please help us out and donate by bank direct transfer to the following special account set up for this project:

Account reference: (Your name) – ACTIES
Account name: Canberra Islamic Centre Inc
BSB: 062914
A/c: 10930748

Your donations will fund the costs of providing teacher resources, including printing student worksheets, teacher handbooks, training materials and other ongoing operational and administrative costs. May you be rewarded for your donations.

Wasalaam

ACTIES Team

ACT Islamic Education Pilot Project 2023

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