Congratulations to the Chairman of Salamah College, Dr Ghayath Al Shelh for his receipt of the 2014 Order Of Australian Medal (OAM).

For nearly 20 years, Dr Al Shelh has championed community activities to help Australian children and youth engage in beneficial actions to pursue a better future for themselves.

His journey began with a vision to empower the youth from an Arabic and Islamic background with knowledge and strong self-esteem which would see them become future leaders in a multicultural society. This vision soon became a reality with achievements, medals, awards and the satisfaction of making a noticeable difference on a grass roots level.

Among his most outstanding achievements are the establishment of the Spears Sports Club (SSC) in Bankstown and the expansion of the 5th Scout Group, both in 1999. In 2004, Dr Al Shelh was elected as the ambassador for Multicultural Australian Scouting to the Arab Scout Conference in Egypt. His visible effort with local and community youth accelerated and by popular demand he landed the position of ICPA President in 2004.

In 2013, Dr Al Shelh set a precedent for the Islamic Sports clubs in Australia when the karate youth players were selected to represent Australia in the World Championships, winning bronze, silver and gold medals in Fight and Kata.

Along the way, Dr Al Shelh has won numerous awards and has become associated with a number of community organisations including Al Amanah College, Muslim Community Radio and Darulfatwa Australia, as well as various sports associations and global committees.
MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to another year at Salamah College. Alhamdulillah the school is developing very nicely and according to plan. Despite having a few issues at the beginning of the year I am quite happy to report that all areas of the school are functioning well and that the students who have been allocated to the newly built classes are enjoying them and are decorating them as well.

I want to thank all the parents for their collaboration with the school in relation to the new pick-up and drop-off procedures. This has made the flow of cars in and out of the school much smoother, has cut down on the waiting time for parents and students considerably and has eased the traffic on both Hector and Priam streets. On this note I would like to ask all parents to abide by all the traffic laws if they wish to use public off-street parking when picking up or dropping off their children. The school has received several complaints from neighbours that some driveways have been blocked or that parents are letting their children cross the road on their own. Instances of this nature makes the job of the school much harder when seeking new development permits from Council for the school in the future.

On Saturday 22 March 2014 the first NAPLAN session was held at the school to assist our students in achieving better results. This is a service that we are providing to students free of charge where teachers are donating their own time to help our students. I would like to thank all teachers participating in this 4 week program.

The School has a policy in place for the use of mobile phones by students on school premises. Parents are advised to make sure their children don’t bring mobile phones into the school unless there is a reasonable reason to do so. If this is the case parents are required to inform the school in writing. Mobile phones and interactive tablets can be misused by students during school hours which may result in action to be taken in response to the offence committed by the student in question.

FROM THE MAIN OFFICE

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

We would like to remind all parents that this Thursday 10 April is the final day for Term 1. All students return to school on Tuesday 29 April 2014.

We hope that all students and their families enjoy a safe and relaxing holiday period, and we look forward to seeing you all in Term 2.

PICK-UP & DROP-OFF OF STUDENTS

We would like to thank all parents for their patience and support during the changes to the pick-up and drop-off procedures which were introduced earlier this year. These measures were put in place to accommodate the increased number of families at the school this year. We would like to remind parents to drive at a low speed once they have entered the property. If you are parking your car, please make sure that you are considerate of others and do not leave a large space between cars. Also, with the wet weather setting in, we recommend that parents purchase raincoats for their children to minimise the likelihood of their school clothes becoming wet as they walk to the pick-up zones to wait for their parents.

PRAYER CLOTHES

All students from Year 2 to Year 10 perform wudu’ and the dhuhr prayer in congregation every day. As we have a large number of students, we must ensure that we provide the most efficient way for this to occur, whilst ensuring that the prayer is performed in a valid manner. Keeping this in mind, we have included the one-piece prayer garment as a part of the School Uniform. All female students are required to wear this one-piece prayer garment, which can be ordered and purchased from the School Administration Office.

2013 PRESENTATION DAY

Presentation Day was a great success and we would like to congratulate all of the students who received awards for their achievements throughout the year. Photographs were taken of each child receiving their award, and any parent who is interested in obtaining a copy of these photographs should contact the School Administration Office.
ATHLETICS CARNIVAL YEARS 3-6
Students from Years 3 to 6 enjoyed a fun, sport-filled Athletics carnival which was recently held at The Crest Athletics Centre. Students were dressed in team colours and cheered their team-mates as they raced in their relevant age races.

The novelty events, which are always very popular with the students, were completed with great energy and enthusiasm displayed by all students. Students enjoyed their pre-ordered lunches and then performed the dhuhur prayer.

Although the day was cut short by the looming rain clouds overhead, the children thoroughly enjoyed another successful Athletics Carnival.

We look forward to the Kindergarten - Year 2 Athletics Carnival which will be held on Thursday 10 April at the School.

NAPLAN 2014
NAPLAN Student Preparation Sessions were offered to students and two sessions have already been held. This is a free service that is offered by the School to help prepare all students for the NAPLAN tests.

We would like to remind parents that these sessions will resume after the school holidays, with the next session to be held on Saturday 3 May, from 10:00am to 12:00pm.

Students should be dropped off and picked up via Hector Street entrance and we kindly ask all parents to arrive strictly at these times.

TERM 1 EXCURSIONS
This term, Primary School students participated in a variety of excursions to further enhance their learning. Kindergarten students enjoyed a day at the Calmsley Hill City Farm, Year One spent the day at the Tramways Museum and Year 2 investigated various habitats of animals at the Sydney Wildlife Zoo. Year 3 travelled to Featherdale Wildlife Park, Year 5 learnt about life in the Gold Rush at the Powerhouse Museum and Year 6 went to the Imax Theatre for a presentation about Antarctica. Year 4 students are looking forward to their excursion to Taronga Zoo this Thursday 10 April.

HIGH SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL
The first swimming carnival of Salamah College was held this term at Greenacre Swimming Centre.

Female High School students enjoyed racing against each other on a beautiful, sunny day and the Male High School students were highly competitive during their separate carnival.

Salamah College records were broken by impressive swimmers. Students tried their best and did an amazing job cheering on their friends.

The two days proved to be very successful and all students enjoyed the day. We look forward to continuing this tradition in coming years.
SALAMAH COLLEGE

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MORE NEWS FROM THE MAIN OFFICE

SCHOOL FEES
A review of outstanding fees is currently being undertaken, to ensure that fees are paid on time.

Please ensure that you have paid any outstanding fees, as it is a condition of your child’s enrolment at the school. Payment of school fees is accepted at the school office Monday to Friday from 8:00am to 3:30pm. We appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

LOST PROPERTY
Every year we are left with a large amount of unclaimed lost property. This includes school uniform, lunch boxes, drink bottles etc. Unfortunately, these items are not labelled and as a result we cannot return them to their owners.

To assist in this, we would like to ask all parents to label their children’s property. Over time this may fade away, so please check it from time to time. If property is labelled, it can be returned to your child. We thank you for assisting us in this matter.

HEAD LICE
We would like to remind all parents about the importance of regularly checking their children’s hair for head lice. NSW Health reports that head lice are one of the most commonly reported health complaints from parents and teachers. The NSW Health Nitbuster program has found that when sampled, more than 23 per cent of primary school aged children in New South Wales had head lice. Infestations appear to be on the increase, due to factors such as:
- resistance to the common chemicals used in head lice products
- inappropriate use of the treatments

We would like to remind all parents about the importance of regularly checking their children’s hair for head lice.