

2025



GARDEN COLLEGE



GARDEN COLLEGE: NURTURING FUTURES, HALFWAY THROUGH

Asalamu Alaykum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatu,

As we approach the middle of Term 2, I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank our wonderful staff, dedicated students, and supportive parents for your continued partnership and deep commitment to our College.

Alhamdulillah, this term has already been filled with growth, achievement, and exciting activities, including the National Storybook Stimulus, Maths Week events and competitions, Waste-free Wednesdays, the Interschool Volleyball Tournament, and the upcoming Islamic Museum of Australia Workshop for both primary and secondary students.



DR AHDELAH EDRIES

We were also blessed with dynamic new staff (Ms Boduk, Br Zamri, and Mrs Shah) joining our amazing team. Our students have continued to engage with their learning in meaningful and dynamic ways, demonstrating enthusiasm, curiosity, and resilience.

Beyond the classroom, our wellbeing, leadership, and enrichment programmes have continued to strengthen the holistic development of our students. We are proud to see our learners thriving in an environment that nurtures not only their academic growth but also their character and confidence.

High Profile Visits and Board Meeting at Modbury Campus

We were especially honoured this term to host several high-profile visits from our friends and supporters at our Modbury Campus. We welcomed Mr John Fulbrook MP, Ms Kelly Bunyon, Principal of Compass Catholic Community, and Mr Scott Hockenhull, Partnerships Lead for Compass Catholic Community. Their visits were a testament to the strong relationships we continue to build within our community.

Furthermore, our Board meeting was also held at our Modbury Campus. This important gathering focused on discussing the school's priorities and setting the strategic directions for the future of our College.

Upcoming Events and Important Dates

Looking ahead to the next half of the term, we are excited about the upcoming Haj activities planned by our Religious Department. Please note that the school will be closed on Friday, June 6th, in honour of celebrating the Blessed day of Arafat, followed by Eid ul Adha. Monday, June 9th, is a public holiday. School will resume on Tuesday, June 10th, 2025.

As always, we remain committed to upholding the values of integrity, excellence, and faith in all we do. We pray for ongoing success and continued barakah in all our efforts. May Allah (SWT) guide and bless our students as they grow into individuals of sound moral character and contribute positively to the wider Australian society, In Sha Allah, Ameen.

Thank you once again for being an essential part of the Garden College family. May the remainder of the academic year be filled with growth, purpose, Almighty's guidance, mercy, protection, and Blessings, Ameen!

Best Regards,

Dr. Ahdielah Edries
Principal
Garden College





Reception A: Building Foundations in Literacy and Numeracy

Ms Akil

Assalamu'alaikum Parents and Caregivers,

The past few weeks have been filled with vibrant learning experiences that have greatly enhanced our students' time at school.

Our students have been making excellent progress in the Heggerty Phonemic Awareness program. Their growing confidence and skill in identifying and manipulating phonemes is a joy to witness and a testament to their hard work.



In Mathematics, students are continuing to develop their understanding of numbers up to 20. They have been engaging in activities focused on subitising, comparing quantities (more, less, and the same), and classifying shapes based on shared attributes. In the coming weeks, they will also explore the days of the week, sequencing events, and further consolidate their understanding of numbers to 20.



In Art, our Reception students have been introduced to Aboriginal Art, learning how it serves as a powerful medium for storytelling and cultural expression. They are not only developing an appreciation for Aboriginal culture but are also enjoying the opportunity to create their own vibrant and imaginative artworks.

As part of Math Week, the children took part in an exciting shape hunt around the school, applying their knowledge in a fun and interactive way. We are also eagerly anticipating the upcoming National Storybook Stimulus, which promises to inspire further creativity and literacy engagement.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support and partnership in your child's learning journey.

A reminder to all of us:

**The Prophet (ﷺ) said,
"A father gives his child nothing better than a good education."**

Kind regards,

Ms Akil
Reception



Two Campuses, One Community: GC's Start to the Year



Mr McBride

Assalamu'alaikum GC community!

The last couple of weeks in P.E. Garden College have been buzzing with energy! We've just kicked off our basketball unit at High School and our Primary School kids have begun their Softball journey, and it's been fantastic seeing the students dive into learning new skills and teamwork on the court. The enthusiasm has been contagious, whether they're nailing their layups or strategising during drills.

Adding to the excitement, we also recently wrapped up the Year 9/10 volleyball tournament. The atmosphere was electric! It was brilliant to witness the students' competitive spirit and the incredible teamwork on display.

Seeing them put their skills into action, strategise on the fly, and support their teammates throughout the tournament was a real highlight.



Looking ahead, the sporting calendar remains packed, with another Year 9/10 volleyball tournament on the horizon. We're also eagerly anticipating the upcoming Bachar Houli Cup tournaments for both the Year 9/10 and Year 11/12 cohorts, promising even more opportunities for our students to showcase their skills and sportsmanship. These next few weeks are set to be just as action-packed!

I look forward to sharing what we've been doing in the next newsletter!

Mr Gabriel McBride





Year 2 with Mrs Nusrat: A Vibrant Learning Space

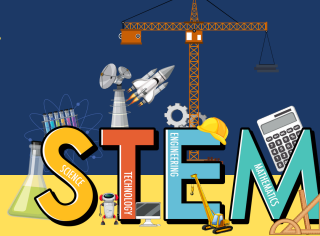
Assalamu'alaikum,

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are excited to begin another term filled with hands-on learning and meaningful experiences across all subject areas.

Mathematics

Our focus is on Multiplication. Students are exploring this concept using arrays, grouping, and repeated addition. We are using a variety of hands-on materials to help build a strong foundational understanding in a fun and interactive way.



Science

We are learning about different materials and their properties. Students are enjoying practical experiences where they get to observe, touch, and describe materials using their senses enhancing both their understanding and vocabulary.

English

Students are learning how to write a recount. They have successfully identified the key components and structure, and are now using this knowledge to create their own personal recounts with clear sequences and details.



YEAR 2

Mrs Nusrat

HASS

Our learning has centred around the theme of belonging particularly the connection Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have with the land. Students are developing an understanding of how people feel a deep sense of belonging to country and place.

Digital Technologies

Students have done an excellent job learning the steps of using Google Docs. We've already seen some wonderful examples of their work as they practise typing, editing, and formatting their writing.



Physical Education (PE)

Students are developing important movement skills such as sliding, leaping, jumping, and skipping. These foundational skills will help them confidently participate in a range of sports and physical activities in the future.

Show and Tell

Our weekly Show and Tell sessions have been a big hit! The current topic—'Something that keeps me warm and how'—has sparked great interest and enthusiasm among the students. They have been presenting confidently and promptly, and it has been wonderful to see their creativity and communication skills in action. You can see some of these moments captured in the photos below!

We are proud of the effort students have put into their learning so far and look forward to a productive and engaging term ahead. Thank you for your ongoing support!





 **HASENE**
AUSTRALIA



**40 Years,
One Mission**

Garden College is proud to support Hasene Australia in their global Qurban Campaign, which delivers vital aid to millions of underprivileged and oppressed people across more than 100 countries. Each year, thousands of Qurban shares are distributed across Africa, Asia, the Middle East, the Balkans, and the Americas, bringing hope and joy to those most in need.

Hasene Australia ensures that all Qurban donations are handled responsibly, with supervisors overseeing the entire process--from purchase and sacrifice to distribution--ensuring your contributions reach their intended recipients.

Students have received a Hasene donation envelope to take home. Please fill it with the correct amount and return it by Friday, 30th May. Alternatively, donations can also be made directly through Hasene's website - <https://www.hasene.org.au/>

Your generosity can help make a lasting difference in the lives of many.

Jazak Allahu khayra

Garden College and Hasene Australia





Year 4 with Mr Alim: Fostering a Learning Community

Assalamu'alaikum Dear Parents,

Term 2 has been an exciting and enriching journey for our Year 4 class! The students have continued to build on their learning foundations through hands-on experiences, critical thinking, and collaboration.

In **Science**, we have been delving into the **Water Cycle**, with students actively participating in a range of experiments and investigations. Through observation and discussion, they are developing a deeper understanding of key concepts like evaporation, condensation, and precipitation. It has been wonderful to see their curiosity and scientific thinking come to life!



In **PE**, students have been developing their **basketball skills**, concentrating on dribbling, passing, and shooting. Their enthusiasm and teamwork during activities have been fantastic, and it's been great to see their coordination and confidence grow on the court.

This term has truly been a time of meaningful learning and development. I'm proud of the effort and attitude each student has shown, and I look forward to continuing our journey together, Insha'Allah.

Kindest regards,
Mr. Ezziddin Alim

During **English**, our focus has shifted to Explanation Texts, where students have learned how to explain processes clearly and logically. They have compared **explanation texts** to information reports and have worked together to craft well-structured and thoughtful explanations on a range of topics.

Mathematics has been equally engaging, as we explored the world of **Fractions**. Students have been identifying and representing fractions, as well as discovering the relationships between **equivalent fractions**. They have worked hard to strengthen their number sense and have shown excellent progress.





Mr Davos: Witnessing Growth, Building Futures

Assalamu'alaikum parents, students, and family members,

I hope this message finds you in good health and high spirits as we hit the halfway point of Term 2.

It's been a vibrant and exciting start to the term here at the new campus. The energy is high, the momentum is strong, and we're loving every moment of it. Our Year 7s, in particular, have brought so much life and enthusiasm into the school—they've settled in beautifully and are showing an impressive hunger for learning. They're currently making their way through their class novel, diving headfirst into rich storytelling while exploring literary techniques such as metaphors, similes, and characterisation.

It's been a joy to see how keen they are to engage with every page and unpack all the elements that make English such a powerful subject.

Meanwhile, our senior students are making the most of the incredible new Senior Building and Activity Hall. These spaces have given them room to focus, collaborate, and unwind when needed. The canteen, unsurprisingly, continues to be a hit with students of all ages... and staff too!

Our Year 12s, though small in number, are a mighty and focused group. They've just finished analysing a film and are currently hard at work on their written film analysis, drawing on a set of targeted questions that are helping them dive deeper into the use of cinematic and literary features such as symbolism, mise-en-scène, tone, and dialogue. With only seven weeks of face-to-face learning left in term 2, they're already eyeing the finish line and setting high standards for themselves.

Graduation invitations have been sent out, and we're looking forward to celebrating this special milestone with students and families. If you haven't yet RSVP'd, please do so as soon as possible—it promises to be a beautiful evening of recognition and reflection.



Our Year 11s are also well and truly into the thick of things. They've moved into the second half of their Research Project—an especially significant journey, as they will be the final cohort to undertake this subject before it is replaced in 2025. It's been encouraging to see them take ownership of their inquiries and push their thinking further as they prepare to present and reflect on their findings.

With a range of senior excursions also on the horizon, students can look forward to some valuable bonding experiences that go beyond the classroom—helping them grow socially, emotionally, and intellectually.

As always, thank you for your continued support, encouragement, and partnership. It's shaping up to be a fantastic term and we're excited to see what the second half brings.

Warm regards,

John Davos





Miss Ismail's Journey Through Term 1: Inspiring Students

Dear Garden College Parents and Guardians,

What a great term we've had so far across all my classes, I'm genuinely so proud of the creativity and effort my students have been putting into their work!

Year 7 English as an additional language

Our Year 7s have been diving into *The Maze Runner* for their novel study and have shown great engagement through both chapter questions and in-class activities. From character analysis to creative responses, they've really brought the world of the Glade to life. I'm looking forward to seeing how they go on their upcoming quiz, they've been putting in some fantastic effort into their work!

Stage 1 English

Our Year 11s have been studying *The Time Machine* and are using it as inspiration to write their own science fiction short stories. I've already seen some brilliant ideas, unexpected plot twists, and strong character development. It's been exciting to watch their confidence grow as they shape their narratives!

Stage 1 Exploring Identities and Futures

My EIF students have been planning their career-related projects, with each student choosing a path that reflects their interests and future goals. Some are creating models, others are writing booklets, and a few are even organising work experience or interviews with professionals in their chosen fields. I've loved seeing how invested they are in their ideas, whether it's medicine, aviation, trades or creative design, and I'm super excited to watch their projects take shape over the coming weeks.

Year 9 English as an additional language

In Year 9, we've been exploring protest poetry and the powerful role it plays in expressing meaning and purpose. Students have been learning how to annotate and analyse different types of poetry, and soon they'll apply what they've learned to write their own original poems on protest topics close to their hearts. They'll also learn to justify their artistic choices by drawing on the techniques and insights they've gained throughout the unit.

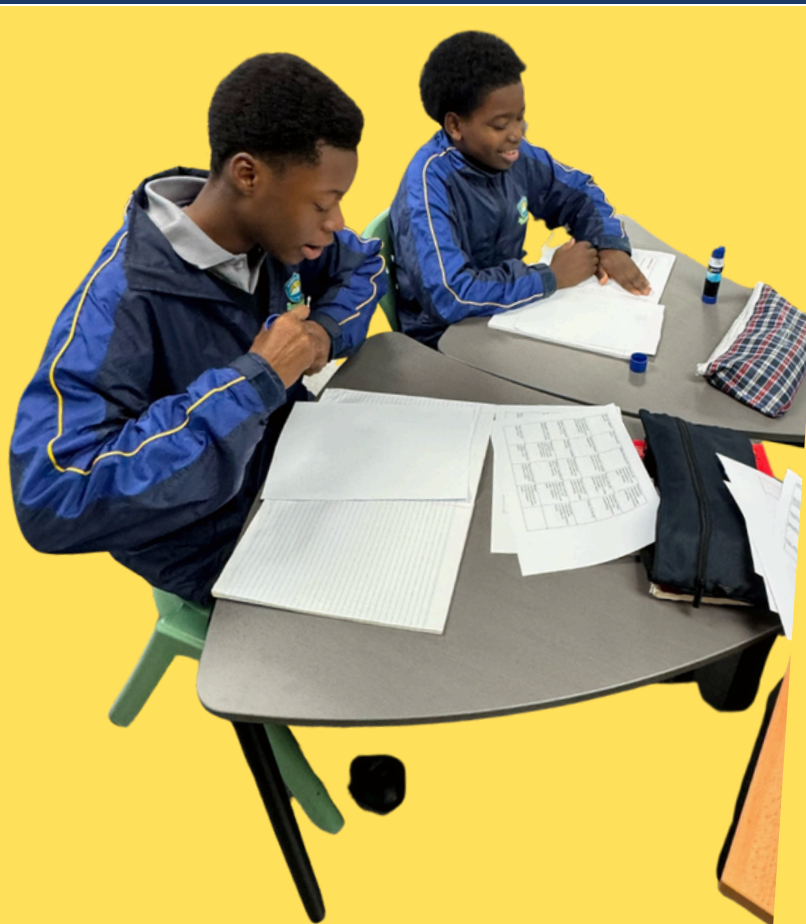
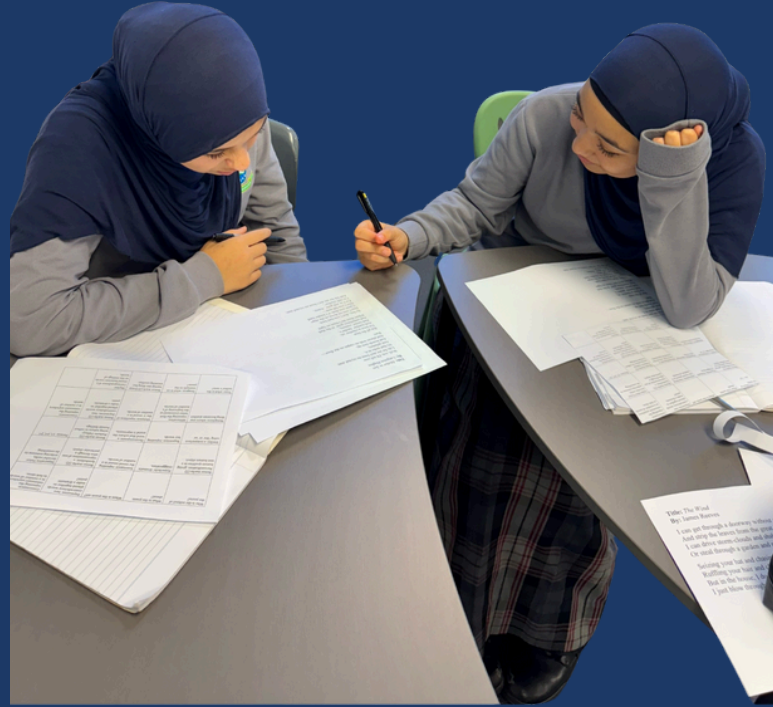


Stage 2 Child Studies

My Year 12 Child Studies students have been working hard to design and create toys for children aged 0–3. They've thoughtfully considered health and safety, sensory engagement, and how their toys can support fine motor skill development. It's been so rewarding to see their designs come to life in such meaningful ways.

It's been a busy and exciting term, I am looking forward to seeing what our students continue to achieve as we head towards the end!

Warm regards,
Ms. Yasmin Ismail





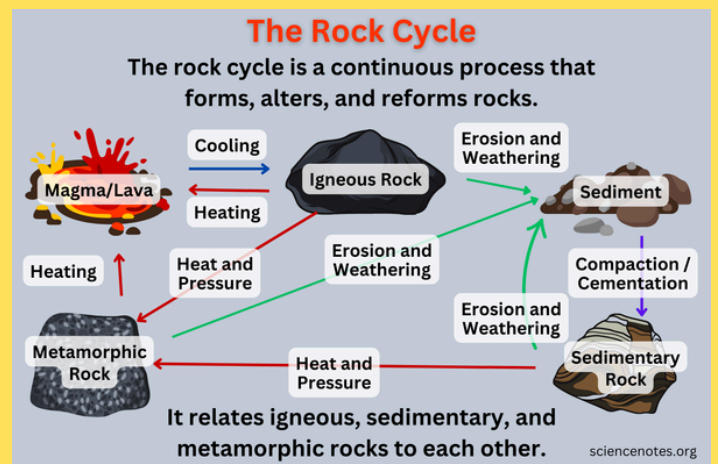
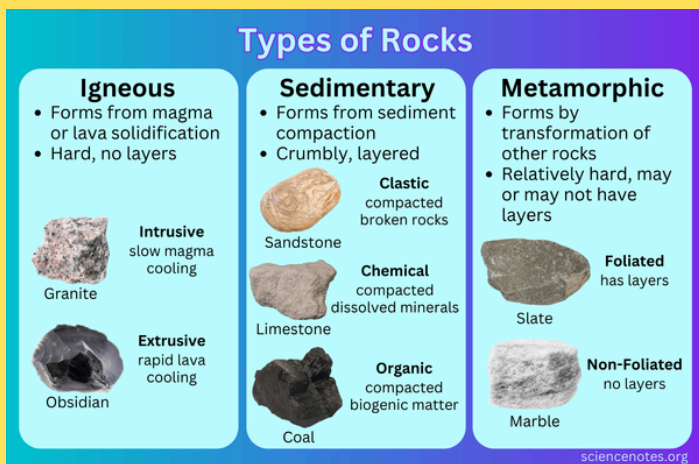
Exploring the Scientific World: Ms Bahwach's Secondary Science News

Assalamu'alaikum,

Alhamdulillah, it has been a wonderful term 2 with our Year 8 Science students. We've been learning about the structure of the Earth, including its layers and specific properties of those layers. Students also explored the Igneous, Metamorphic and Sedimentary types of rocks and how they form. Our students will be exploring their creative side later this term, looking at how they can create a story book for a life cycle of a rock, I urge you to keep an eye out for updates for their amazing stories.

To extend our students' knowledge beyond books we spent week 3 undertaking a hands-on crystal-growing experiment. It was lovely to see the Year 8 class's excitement as they observed how crystals develop under different conditions when Independent Variables are manipulated. Co-Teaching with Mrs Shaheena has given the students a great experience with adapting and taking on new knowledge.

In Health classes, we have had some meaningful and deep conversations on healthy eating principles, safe and critical decision making with outdoor sports, safe driving and spiritual wellbeing aspects from an Islamic point of view. The students have engaged well with discussions, Education Perfect and some are currently conducting research on their chosen topics. It has been a pleasure working alongside Mr McBride and seeing our students participate in issues that relate to them.





After nearly ten years at Garden College, it is bittersweet to share that I will be taking a little break from teaching. I will take these experiences and tools as I prepare to welcome my very own first child, in shaa Allah. I am very grateful to have been part of this beautiful community for so long — working alongside such dedicated and genuinely humble & respectful colleagues that have grown to be family over the years. I thank Allah swt for blessing me with the opportunity to get to know, teach and bond with such amazing students and families over the years and wish you all nothing but success.

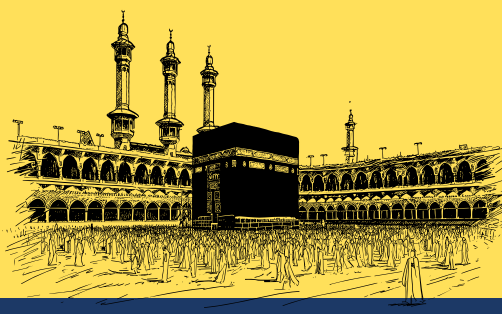
May Allah swt grant you all with good health and success, Inshallah

Until we meet again,
W'Alaykoum w'Salam,

Mrs Bahwach



E=MC²



لَبَّيْكَ اللَّهُمَّ لَبَّيْكَ

The Journey of Islamic Knowledge: Shaykh Abdulsalam's Reflections

Praise be to Allah, and may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon His final Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), his household, and all those who follow his teachings until the Day of Judgement.

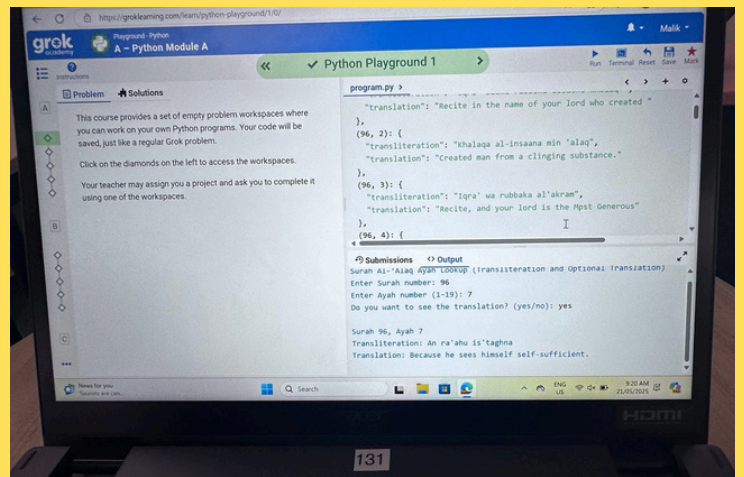
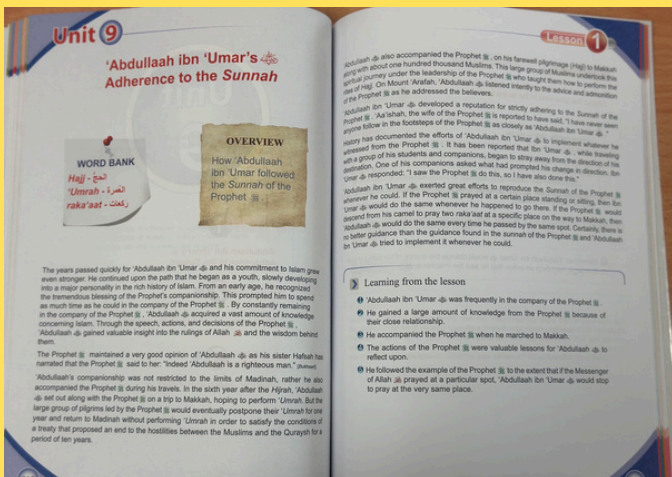
I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and high spirits as we enter the second term of the 2025 academic year. With the grace of Allah, we have witnessed remarkable progress in both the performance and behavior of our students. It is truly uplifting to see their dedication and growth in Qur'anic studies, Islamic Studies, and SACE (Spiritualities, Religion & Meaning).

Firstly, I would like to congratulate all our students for their hard work and dedication, particularly in Qur'anic studies and Islamic Studies. A special mention goes to our Year 11 students undertaking the SACE Religion Studies (SRM Stage 1). Their commitment and progress this term have been impressive and reflect their sincere efforts.



Secondly, this is a valuable opportunity for us as a Muslim community to encourage one another to benefit from the blessed Hajj season. These sacred months, especially the first ten days of Dhul Hijjah (just a few days away), are a time to increase in worship and good deeds. We make heartfelt du'a' for all Muslims intending to perform Hajj this year—may Allah ease their journey, accept their intentions, and grant them the full reward of Hajj.

In Qur'anic Studies, students are memorising selected Surahs according to their respective year levels. They are also learning the meanings and Tafsir of these verses, with a strong focus on improving their Tajweed. I would also like to acknowledge and appreciate the Digital Technology teacher for creatively incorporating Qur'anic content into a database task—a thoughtful and beneficial integration.



```
program.py
}
}, 2): {
    "transliteration": "khalqa al-insaana min 'alaq",
    "translation": "Created man from a clinging substance."
},
}, 3): {
    "transliteration": "Tagra wa rubbaka al'akram",
    "translation": "Recite, and your lord is the Most Generous"
},
}, 4): {
    "transliteration": "Recite in the name of your lord who created"
```

Submissions Output
Surah Al-'Alaq AYAH LOOKUP (transliteration and Optional translation)
Enter Surah number: 96
Enter Ayah number (1-19): 7
Do you want to see the translation? (yes/no): yes
Surah 96, Ayah 7
Transliteration: An ra'ahu is'taghna
Translation: Because he sees himself self-sufficient.



In Islamic Studies, students are currently focusing on Islamic history, particularly the era of the Khilafah and the biographies of some of the noble companions. These lessons help students identify righteous role models who can inspire them toward success in both this life and the Hereafter. In line with the Hajj season, students are also learning about the rituals and significance of Hajj.

In Arabic, students in the middle school are taking to a new level of learning with enthusiasm with the help of Education Perfect program introduced this year.

Our Year 11 SRM Stage 1 students have been exploring Big Idea 2: Community, Justice, and Diversity. As part of this, they have studied various Muslim organisations and their roles in uniting communities and supporting the underprivileged.

They also visited a local charity organisation's office in the city, where they participated in preparing and distributing care packages to those in need, including the homeless. This hands-on experience was incredibly meaningful, helping them to appreciate the countless blessings of Allah and understand the importance of supporting and serving their community.

In conclusion, I remind myself, our students, and the entire Garden College family to always be grateful for Allah's blessings. Let us be mindful of our words and actions, and avoid creating confusion or doubt. As Allah reminds us in the Qur'an:



"O you who have believed, avoid much [negative] assumption. Indeed, some assumption is sin. And do not spy or backbite each other..." (Surah Al-Hujurat, 49:12)

May Allah protect us from the whispers of Shayṭān and grant us success in this life and the Hereafter.

Abdul Salam Alim
Quranic, Islamic Studies Co-ordinator



2025

**Empowering Minds, Inspiring
Futures: The GC Chronicle**

