



Newsletter

44 Westney Road, Mangere, Auckland. P: 09 2550904 E: admin@zayedcollege.school.nz

Salaams Parents and Students,

2024 has been a year of upheaval in terms of school leadership, including the absence of a proprietor's Board for some time. Despite all, we here at school have carried on to the very best of our ability and we have successfully conducted business as usual.

I would like to thank Ms Deidre Shea for her continued guidance and mentorship throughout the past three terms. Ust Deidre will not be with us next year but I would like to take this opportunity to thank her most sincerely for the wonderful leadership she has shown us while she has been here and wish her all the very best for the future. Deidre will be missed, not only for her educational expertise, but also for her quick wit, sense of care and compassion and for her genuine concern for us all.

I would also like to thank Ustada Nazmeen and Ustada Nahla who have stepped up into the co-principal role for the past two terms. It is never easy navigating additional roles as well

as continuing with your own responsibilities, but these women have done so with patience and dedication. On that note, the new proprietors and we have made the decision to employ Ust Nazmeen as our Acting Principal and Ust Nahla as Acting Deputy Principal. Ust Nazmeen and Ust Nahla, thank you both very much for the work you have done in leading the school on a day to day basis and I trust you enjoy a well deserved break.

My thanks to the staff for their commitment to the school and for the time they put into making it an educationally successful place for the girls. I love being with the staff here and enjoy their camaraderie and sense of fun.

Finally to you and your daughters, on behalf of the staff and myself, have a safe and happy holiday break. To those who are not returning, I thank you for your time here and wish you well for the future. For those who are returning, I look forward to seeing you again in 2025.

Warm regards, Linley Myers, Commissioner.

2025 Start dates:

- **29th January - New students only orientation (10am –1pm)** [click here for details](#)
- **29th January – Years 11-13 course confirmation (10am -12pm)** [click here for more details](#)
- **30th January – Full School Start. Mihi whakatau welcome for new students and parents**

ZAYED COLLEGE ATTENDANCE DUES

Purpose of Attendance Dues

Attendance dues are compulsory fees charged by the proprietors of Zayed College for Girls to cover operational costs and essential responsibilities. These funds are critical for:

- Maintaining and upgrading school buildings and facilities
- Covering building insurances
- Funding major capital works projects (e.g., new classrooms, playgrounds)
- Supporting administrative costs
- Covering cost for school infrastructure projects

Attendance Dues Structure 2025

Total Annual Attendance Dues: \$300.00 per student

Payment Terms

Full payment of Attendance Dues on enrolment or the entire \$300.00 paid in full by the end of Term 1 for all students.

Payment Options and Methods

Online Bank Payment

Account Name: Zayed College for Girls
Account Number: 02-0124-0100679-00
Reference: Child name
Code: Year Level Particulars: Dues

Cash/Eftpos payment

This can be made at the school reception during office hours
Monday – Friday: 8am to 4pm

Automatic Payment

Email Nafisah at: finance@zayedcollege.school.nz with your child's name and request to set up a payment arrangement.

Legal and Enrolment Considerations

Key Points

- Attendance Dues are a condition of enrolment
- Mandatory for all students
- Essential for maintaining school quality and infrastructure
- Non-payment may impact student's continued enrolment

Potential Actions & Consequences of Non-Payment

- Potential referral to debt collection processes
- Review of student's enrolment status

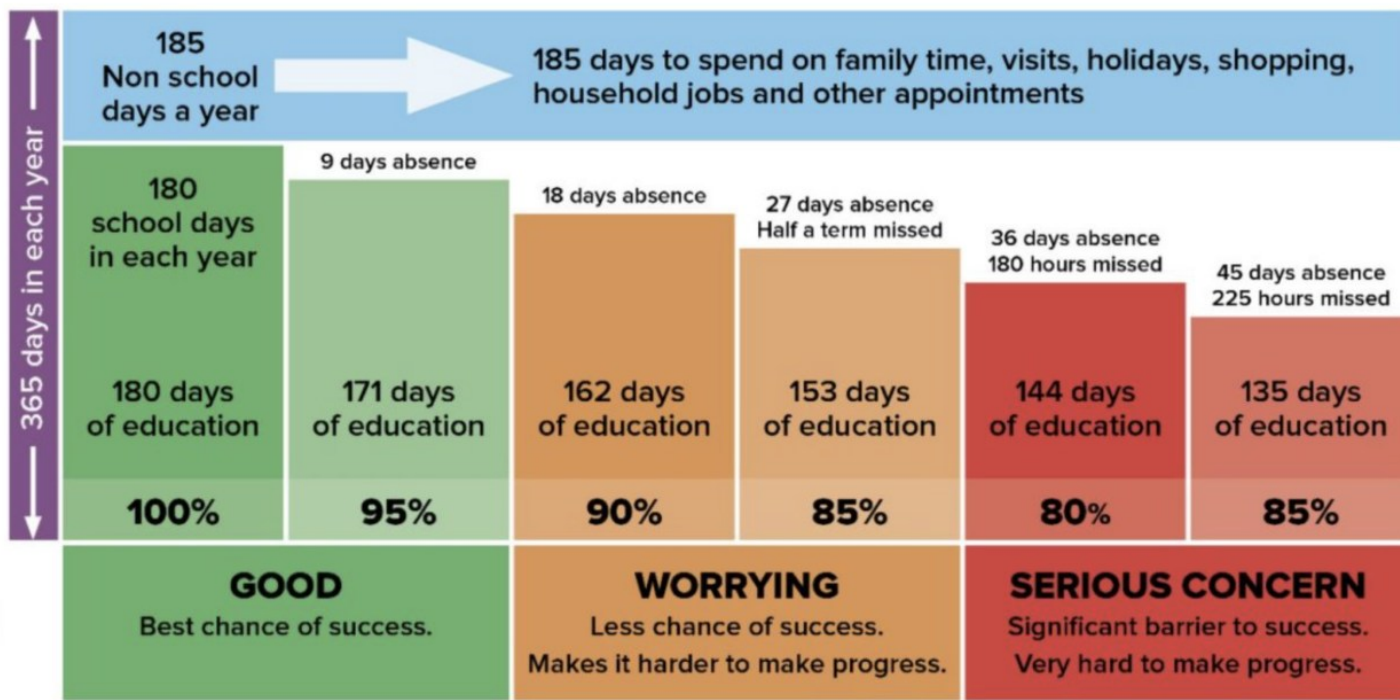
Acknowledgment and Agreement

By enrolling a student at Zayed College, parents/guardians agree to:

- Pay the full annual Attendance Dues of \$300.00
- Comply with payment terms and conditions
- Communicate proactively about any payment challenges
- Understand the importance of these dues to the school community

Contact for Payment Arrangements

We encourage open communication and will work collaboratively to address any payment challenges. Please contact **Executive Officer**: Nafisah Rasheed ;
Email: finance@zayedcollege.school.nz



ATTENDANCE

Attendance at school is crucially important to your child's learning, confidence and sense of belonging. We value the partnership we have with you in helping your child to reach their potential.

Here are some important facts about attendance that we would like to bring to your attention.

The school monitors the attendance of all students on a daily basis. We record the reasons for absence and code them according to Ministry directives, for example illness, justified absence due to extenuating circumstances or explained but not approved.

Any student whose attendance drops below 90% is a deep concern to us. This works at 10 days per year, or 2 and half days a term. If your child does indeed have 10 days off every year, when they finish their tenth year at school, this would mean they would have had a whole term off school in this time. 20 days a year or 5 days a term would be two terms or half a year.

We ask that unless your child is unwell or their attendance is impossible due to a family emergency or circumstances outside your control **that you do your utmost to send your child to school**. This is compliance with the law and means that your child can make the most of being at school.

If you do not explain your child's absence, they are recorded as truant. You **MUST** contact us every time your child is not at school and give us the reason.

Persistent lateness is also dealt with in the same way as poor attendance is dealt with. There is a direct link between poor attendance and poor achievement.

Some examples of justified absence are:

- Illness
- Funeral/Tangi
- Medical treatment offsite (for example a dentist or doctor visit with appointment card)

Some examples of unjustified absence are:

- having a day off for a birthday
- family holidays
- going shopping.

We have procedures in place for dealing with poor attendance.

Attendance – What we do:

- You will receive a text in the morning if we have not heard from you and your child is absent.
- Code the absence in Kamar (T=truant and will be the code if you do not tell us why your child is away).
- Send a letter to request a meeting after 3 Truant absences.
- Have a meeting/hui about barriers to attendance.
- Send a second letter and have a second hui if the absence repeats.
- Make an attendance service referral to the truancy officer if the issue is not resolved. This is so that the school is compliant with the law.

What we need from you:

- Send your child to school, keeping them home only if they are sick or you have a genuine family emergency.
- Also make sure they are at school on time. Vital learning can be missed when your children are late!
- Contact the office if your child is unable to attend school, and explain the reason. The school will text you if there has been no contact prior to 10:30am
- If for any reason you need to take your child from school during school hours notify the school in plenty of time.
- Where possible, make appointments outside of school hours.

Thank you for helping us work together to make sure our students are achieving to their potential!

CHANGES IN 2025

STUDENT ID CARDS

All students at Zayed College for Girls are issued with a Student ID card. These are an accepted form of Student ID with all AT (Auckland Transport) buses and trains - used for student concession fare.

Student ID cards may also be used as identification when purchasing tickets for student concession at many recreational facilities (Cinemas, MOTAT, etc).

Student ID Cards cost \$12. This charge is added to each student's account and can be paid for at the Accounts Office (or) online banking. Our school bank account number is **02-0124-0100679-00** please use your child's name, year level and ID Card as a reference to appear on our bank statement.

Photolife Studios Ltd come into school to take ID photos **12 March 2025**. Students who were absent on photo day, or enrol later in the year, will need to have their photo taken in the school's main office and an ID card will be ordered.

SCHOOL SCARVES

Due to the price increase by our suppliers we have had to increase the price of our school scarves to \$25.00 effective from the first of January 2025.

WE ARE A BYOD SCHOOL

All students are required to bring a personal computing device to school each day for use in class to support their learning. We will not be lending devices, chargers or power cords. No mobile phones are permitted.

Refer to Student Handbook for more details.

Digital learning device could be either a: Chromebook, MacBook, or a Windows laptop.

The device needs to meet these minimum specifications:

- A physical keyboard
- A screen that is at least 11"
- Battery life that lasts at least 6 hours / Power cord
- 4GB of memory
- The latest version of Chrome browser
- It is able to connect to a wi-fi network

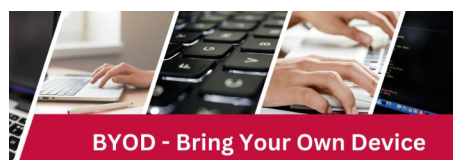
Software

Students are provided with a login and password that allows them to access google docs as well as classroom pages so no extra software is required. No VPNs are permitted.

If you have any questions around BYOD, please contact us at school.

Access to the School Wi-Fi Network

Connecting to the school wifi is only possible on a device such as a Chromebook or laptop. There will be no school wifi connectivity for mobile phones.



IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2025

Tue 21 Jan Office open from 9am to 3pm

Mon 27 Jan Auckland Anniversary - Public Holiday

Wed 29 Jan Orientation Day for new students only. 10am - 1pm.

Wed 29 Jan Course confirmation for Years 11 to 13 only. 10am - 12pm

Thu 30 Jan **FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR ALL STUDENTS**

normal office hours begin 8:30am - 4:00pm

Thu 6 Feb Waitangi Day - Public Holiday

URGENT TRANSPORT REQUIRED for 2025

Parents would like to make contact with anyone wanting to share or help with transport. We have students in the following areas urgently requiring transport:

Blockhouse Bay, Wattle Downs, New Lynn, Manurewa, Ponsonby, Takanini, Flatbush and Papatoetoe.

If you can help or would like to offer carpool, please contact the office on 09 2550904 or email admin@zayedcollege.school.nz and we will put you in contact with the parent.

ORIENTATION DAY FOR NEW STUDENTS ONLY. WEDNESDAY 29 JANUARY 2025 10AM - 12PM.

All new students are encouraged to attend. You will meet the Pastoral Care Team and above all you will meet other new students starting with you as well.

No uniform is required, bring a morning tea and mothers are welcome to stay if they like.

COURSE CONFIRMATION FOR YEARS 11 - 13 ONLY. WEDNESDAY 29 JANUARY 2025 10AM - 12PM.

If you have not chosen your Senior subject options for 2025, this is an opportune time to come in and choose them.

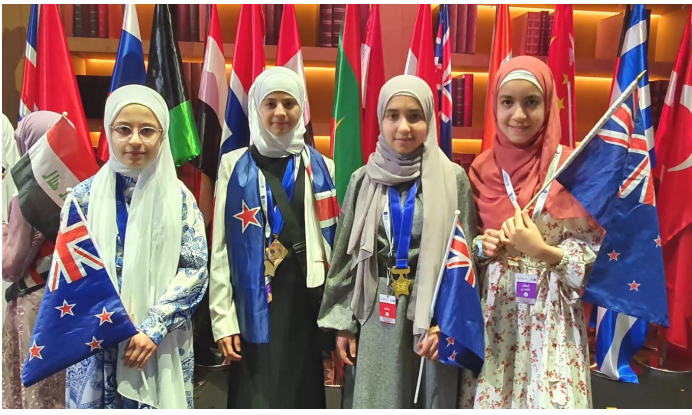
The earlier the better as the later you leave it there is more chance that the option may not be available.

NEW STUDENTS IN 2025

Thank you to all families who have already enrolled their daughters for 2025. We look forward to welcoming them to our school community.

If you have other children or friends who would like to enrol at Zayed College for 2025, please do so as soon as possible. Currently, we have places at each year level, but we will be enrolling only up to the number of classes we can accommodate.

Once we reach these numbers, we will advise families that their daughter's application is on a waiting list and encourage enrolment in another school to be sure of a



ARABIC READING CHALLENGE REPORTING FROM DUBAI!

Pictured ABOVE : Representing Aotearoa on the world stage in Dubai. From L to R: **Hajer Muhammad Zeki, Year 8** (Fourth place), **Razan Hawa** (First place), **Sumaya Muhammad Zeki, Year 9** (Third place) and **Maisoon Abdallah** (Second place).

It was a busy week, filled with activities, making new friends, competing and learning new words and poetry. Such an experience!

The week started with Sumaya and Hajer meeting the NZ team as we had a head start, they all met with other groups from around the world, discussed the competition, procedures, and challenges they all faced to get to this point! The hotel lobby was buzzing with people from around the world all speaking Arabic and at the same time comparing words from different languages!

The next day, all the teams started their journey to get to know the city, they went to the Museum of The Future where they saw robots, and all kinds of future inventions and AI technology. In the evening, they headed to the Global Village where they visited pavilions of many countries from around the world, saw their famous food, clothes, arts and other traditional things including dances and performances.

The next day they had a blast at IMG Worlds of Adventure, where they continued to make friends and exchange knowledge while moving between the rides.

On the 23th October, the day started very early, it was the big day, all the buses headed to Dubai Opera where the final event was taking place, the wait was long, but the girls were laughing and chatting with all of their new friends, the groups were chanting some traditional songs from their countries while waiting, then H. H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum came to the opera to recognise the winners.

The event started with a majestic performance of parts from each national anthem of the attending countries, followed by a display of many skilled contestants, some

of whom have disabilities and some had to cross many obstacles including war and siege to be there and some from the non-Arabic speakers who astonished us with their speeches and skillful interviews.

Then came the moment of truth, the winner of the categories (Arab countries, non-Arab countries and people with disabilities).

We got to vote to help choose the winner from the Arab countries, where a committee who interviewed the contestant had decided the winners for the other two categories. Sweden won first place from the non-Arab countries and Egypt for the people with disabilities category.

But the surprise was that the audience voted equally for three winners from the Arab countries, the champions were from Syria, Saudi Arabia and Palestine!

It was thrilling and intense! So amazing! Everyone did an incredible job, we were ecstatic to be there in the moment, to witness the anticipation and then the surprise and joy! It was marvellous!

Although the New Zealand team didn't win this time, but now we know the drill and what we are up against, the girls are filled with enthusiasm and determination to read more, learn more, and hopefully next time win the first place inshallah. The big question remains, who is going to join them next year on this journey? Who wants to read and get a chance to become a reading champion?

You can watch the full ceremony here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RRV-dH_L8Vo



Ustadha Hala Khorshid
Head of Learning Area (HOLA) for Languages - Arabic

Reading about our New Zealand team's experience at the Arabic Reading Challenge in Dubai was a truly inspiring story. It was heartwarming to hear about the overwhelming solidarity for Palestine, a reminder of how invaluable unity and support for one another are, especially in times of hardship. Admirably students not only competed but also gained connections with young people from around the world, sharing stories of resilience and determination. It seems that the event was a powerful display of solidarity, with heartfelt support shown throughout.

We are incredibly proud of these students for how they represented New Zealand with pride, dedication, and enthusiasm. Though they didn't win this time, they must be more determined than ever to continue learning and aim for first place next year, Insha'Allah. Agreeably, this experience has left them motivated to read more, grow, and inspire others to join the next challenge.

We hope that this invaluable experience has equipped our students with lessons and inspiration that they can share with others. May they bring back newfound knowledge, a deeper love for learning, and a commitment to encouraging their peers to pursue excellence.

We encourage all students, Arab and non-Arab, to take part and embrace the opportunity to improve their Arabic and strengthen their connection with the Quran.

Lastly, we extend a warm appreciation to our dedicated parents and celebrate their commitment, being the backbone in reaching this success. Jazakum Allahu Khairan for your continued support.

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Many thanks to Mrs Shaimaa W. Zahmak for reporting to us from Dubai and Rehab Abdelmoniem (NZ Team's supervisor and competition coordinator) pictured bottom left.



## 2025 SENIOR LEADERS

|                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| SUMMER ARWANI  | HEAD GIRL           |
| AMIRA MOHAMMED | DEPUTY HEAD GIRL    |
| NABEEHA KHAN   | PEER SUPPORT LEADER |
| LEMA YUSUFEE   | SPORTS LEADER       |
| HOMMA SAFI     | ENVIRONMENT LEADER  |
| RIMSHA MALEK   | EVENTS LEADER       |
| AMINA OSMAN    | ACADEMIC LEADER     |

## Y7 TECH ACTIVITY ON ORIGAMI AND SUSTAINABILITY

The Year 7 students have been learning and exploring the ancient art of paper folding, origami, through a sustainable lens in their Technology class. They came up with a recycle bin using origami techniques.

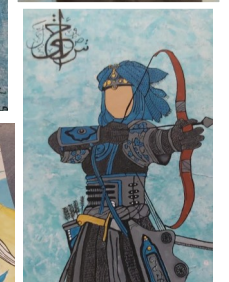
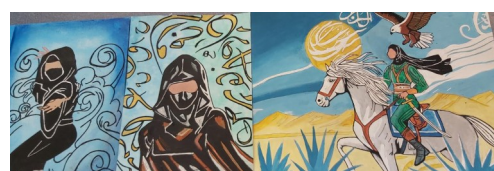


Their next task was to place these bins in designated areas in the atrium for usage. Eco monitors are responsible for daily monitoring of the bins and will also gather feedback from staff and students.

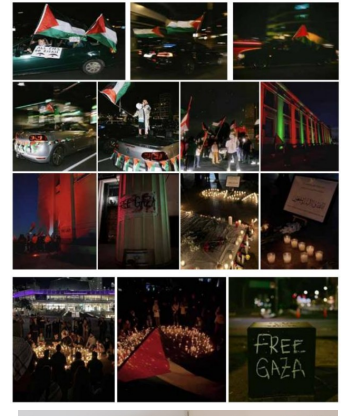
## MURAL COMPLETE

Under the guidance of Ustada Glen anne, A large mural painted by Year 9 and Year 10 students, is now ready to be installed on the outside wall of the playground.

Students who painted the Mural are Safiyah Patel, Noor Ali, Hafsa Nouman, Hafsa Shahid, Zaynub Chida, Yasmmeen Mussa, Amara Mahmood, Umaiza Rehan, Arouhsa Ali, Swaimah Safi, Sabina Adilova, Aizah Nawaaz and Rumaysa Rizwan.



## SENIOR ART & PHOTOGRAPHY



# Congratulations to all our 2024 Prize Winners

The following are the Special Awards, Top Scholar Awards, Acknowledgements and Tertiary Scholarship recipients recognised at Prizegiving last week.

|                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Serene Chammaa                                                                   | Dux of Zayed College for Girls is awarded to the student in her final year at Zayed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Shahifa Aara                                                                     | Proxime Accessit is awarded to the student in her final year at Zayed College for Girls                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Shayma Munif                                                                     | Senior School Muslimah Award for overall best Islamic values and Practices.<br>Sponsored by Ustatha Marliya in memory of her parents, Marhoom Zubair Sultanbawa and Marhooma Haniah Sultanbawa who were dedicated educators whose work inspired and enlightened many lives in Sri Lanka.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Maheebah Gul                                                                     | Intermediate School Muslimah Award for overall best Islamic values and Practices                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Safa Katawazi                                                                    | Junior School Muslimah Award for overall best Islamic values and Practices                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Summer Arwani                                                                    | The Rasheed Memorial Dawah Trust Award is presented to those who advocate peace, interfaith dialogue and charitable work in the community                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Asiya Salim<br>Farishta Safi<br>Jayan Metwally<br>Alayna Shiraz<br>Salma Yusufee | Iman Qureshi<br>Sumaya Akil<br>Mariam Osman<br>Hajir Almkhtar<br>Shahifa Aara                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Service Awards are presented to students who contribute to the efficiency of the schools operation.                                                                                                                                  |
| Zarghuna Syed                                                                    | Diligence Award for showing a high level of work ethic and perseverance through challenges as an English Language Learner with true commitment to progress.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Amira Mohammed<br>Ummul Hafsa Razmin<br>Najat Thabiti                            | Drama Award for commitment to performance and to developing skills in a school presentation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Maheebah Gul<br>Najat Thabiti                                                    | Kapa Haka Te Tohu Kaiārahi Award to students who have stood out for their commitment and dedication to the group, embodying tuakana relationships, where big sister and younger sister share their knowledge.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Shaimaa Zahmak<br>Zahara Abbawaaji<br>Ebtesam Othman<br>Farida Ahnadullah        | Huma Katawazi<br>Arifa Afzal<br>Huma Siddiqua                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Acknowledgements for supporting the school helping create a better environment for our students, enhancing their opportunities for growth and success and service towards our school community. |
| <b>SCHOLARSHIPS</b>                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Shayma Munif                                                                     | The University of Otago Leaders of Tomorrow Entrance Scholarship is awarded to students who have demonstrated all-round ability, including academic capability, and who exhibit leadership potential.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Raaniya Rehiman                                                                  | The Victoria University School Leavers Scholarship has been developed to support school leavers through their academic journey with Victoria University.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Serene Chammaa                                                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The University of Otago Dux Scholarship, which is awarded to the student who is named Dux, the top scholar of their school.</li> <li>The University of Auckland Academic Potential Scholarship is awarded to talented students who show a commitment to pursuing tertiary education.</li> <li>The AUT Find Your Greatness (Academic Excellence) recognises student academic achievement, contribution to school and community, as well as recognise potential leadership ability and contribution.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Shahifa Aara                                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The First Foundation Scholarship is a four-year scholarship provided to a student in Year 12 or 13. It is a three-tier model consisting of financial assistance, a mentor and paid work experience.</li> <li>The University of Auckland Faculty of Arts Entry Level Undergraduate Scholarship to support students in their first year of university and to encourage excellence in the study of subjects in the Faculty of Arts.</li> <li>The Faculty of Education and Social Work Start Smart Merit Scholarship to support and encourage excellence of students entering their first year of an undergraduate degree in the Faculty of Education and Social Work.</li> </ul> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

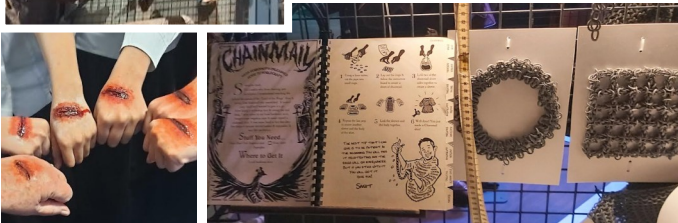
## WETA WORKSHOP

Year 9 had a fantastic fun day at Weta Workshops which included a tour and hands-on workshops in the film studio.

The students were very impressed with all the sets. How props and film sets are created and the time put into the making of all the characters.

It was a full day and all students and teachers really had an adventure into the imaginative world of filmmaking.

It will definitely be a trip to remember and revisit next year.



**20 FORGOTTEN SUNNAH DAILY PRACTICES**

Rasulullah ﷺ said, "Whoever holds steadfast to my Sunnah at the time of corruption in my Ummah, will receive the reward of a hundred martyrs." [Bayhaqi]

**9**

**SMILING**

Rasulullah ﷺ said, "Do not regard any good deed as small even it be meeting your fellow Muslim with a smiling face."

[Sahih Muslim]

**JAMIATUL ULAMA**  
KwaZulu-Natal - South Africa  
COUNCIL OF MUSLIM THEOLOGIANS

Be grateful for Allah's bounties which are given to you, and be thankful to your parents, friends, and teachers. You are lucky to have them.

With gratitude, blessings continue. Allah is Ash Shakoor (the most appreciative) who rewards little deeds with great goodness.

Thank you all for being part of Zayed College for Girls 2024. it wouldn't have been a beautiful year without you all. Shukran.) - Ustadha Aomaema



Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) said:  
"Whoever does not thank people has not thanked Allah."

Sunan Abī Dāwūd 4811