



AL IMAN COLLEGE – EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

TERM 4 2025 NEWSLETTER

Assalamu Alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuhu,

Respected Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Farewell to 2025: A Term Full of Milestones and Memories

Alhamdulillah.

What an amazing final term we've had at Al Iman College Early Learning Centre! Term 4 was full of special moments that we will remember into the new year. The farm excursion was a real highlight. The children's faces lit up as they met animals, explored farm, and learned where our food comes from. We supported our kindergarteners with their school transition visits and watched them take confident steps toward their next adventure. Our kindergarten graduation ceremony was truly unforgettable. Seeing our little graduates beam with pride as they celebrated with their families and educators reminded us why we love what we do.

As we wrap up 2025, we want to say a heartfelt thank you to our whole Al Iman College Early Learning Centre community. Our curious children, dedicated educators, supportive families, and committed management team have all helped make this year special. Your energy, trust, and teamwork have created a warm and caring place where children can grow and learn.

We wish you a safe and happy holiday season filled with rest, laughter, and time with loved ones. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in Term 1, 2026, for another great year of growth, discovery, and fun at Al Iman College Early Learning Centre!

JazakAllah Khairan

Sr Noor Illyaas and AIC ELC Team
(Sr Iram Mehmood, Sr Reham Mohamed,
Sr Saman Tahir, Sr Fatema ElSabsabi, Sr Fadwa Benchaou,
Sr Farhana Shahid, Sr Naima Fadil, Sr Sidra Hassan,
Sr Heena Pathan, Sr Ayesha Mohammadi, Sr Kaniz Fatema)

IMPORTANT DATES

Please be informed that Al Iman College Early Learning Centre will be **closed for Term 4, 2025, from Monday, 15th December 2025 until Monday 26th January 2026.**

Please find below the last day for term 4, 2025, for kindergarten groups and LDC:

- Kinder groups A and C - Wednesday, 10th Dec 2025
- Kinder groups B and D - Thursday, 11th Dec 2025
- Kinder groups E and F - Friday, 12th Dec 2025
- LDC – Friday 19th Dec 2025

Below are the Term 1, 2026 start dates for kindergarten groups and LDC:

- Tuesday, 27th Jan 2026: ELC Student Free Day (Except LDC)
- Kinder groups A and C - Wednesday, 28th Jan 2026
- Kinder groups B and D - Thursday, 28th Jan 2026
- Kinder groups E and F - Friday, 29th Jan 2026
- LDC -Monday, 19th Jan 2026

Kindergarten Group A

Teacher Kinder Group A: Sr Fatema El Sabsabi

Article by Kinder Group A Educators: Sr Naima Fadil and Sr Farhana Shahid

Al Iman College Foundation Teachers Visit to Kindergarten

In Term 4, we had a special visit from Al Iman College Foundation teachers, who spent time with our kindergarten children on two occasions. The aim of these visits was for the teachers to engage with the children while they were in their comfortable environment, and for the kindergarteners to get to know the Foundation level teachers at school, building a sense of closeness. Foundation Teachers read books aloud, told stories, invited the children to draw, and handed out small stickers. On the Foundation teacher's second visit, the children greeted her with excitement, listened closely, and joined in more easily. Sharing stories, drawing, and spending time together helped children get better at language and reading, sparked their curiosity and creativity, helped them grow socially and emotionally, and helped them enjoy books and learning.



National Water Week



During National Water Week, the children took part in fun activities to learn why water is important. We read the Indigenous storybook "Tiddalick the Frog," which teaches about saving water and respecting the environment. The children also enjoyed water play and simple experiments, like washing dolls and watering plants, to see how we use water every day. They watched a video about why water matters and then discussed how we use it and easy ways to save it. Through group discussions, water play, art, and stories, the children had fun while learning to notice and respect water, understand its importance, work together, ask questions, and be creative. By making these activities enjoyable, we encouraged the children to start good habits for caring for water and the environment.



Exploring Farm Animals



During our farm-themed learning time, the children engaged in hands-on activities that encouraged play-based learning. Using toy animals, natural objects, and small items, children built their own farm scenes. This activity sparked children's imagination, made sense of things and provided understanding about farm life. Crafts, drawing, and playdough activities helped develop children's fine motor skills and creativity. Working together, the children shared ideas and grew curious about animals, nature, and where food comes from. These experiences supported their cognitive and social development while fostering teamwork, confidence and a love of learning.



Kinder Snail Hunt-Discoveries in the Garden



During our garden exploration, the children found a snail and were fascinated by it. Using magnifying glasses, they looked closely at its shell, watched it move slowly, and noticed the small details that made it special. Some children gently touched the snail, while others quietly watched it move along; others tried to feed it, too. Many asked questions or pointed out interesting things they saw.



To keep their excitement going, we set up a snail-themed creative session. The children made snails out of playdough, drew pictures of snails, and tried decorating them with different patterns and colours using loose parts. This fun art and modelling time helped them explore how things feel, look, and are shaped, while also building their hand skills and creativity. By meeting the snail in real life and then making snail art, the children became even more curious about living things and nature, practised careful observation, worked together, and shared the joy of discovery.

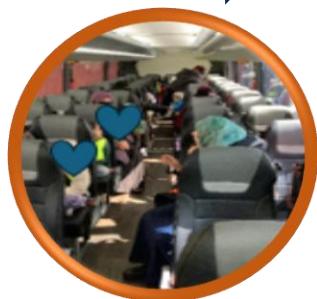


Excursion to Animal Land Children Farm

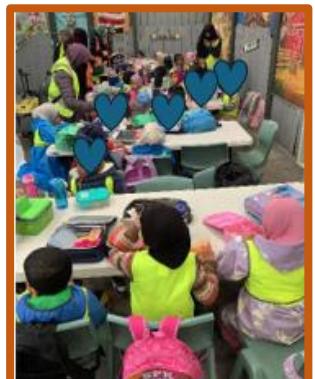
During Term 4, on the 12th of November, the kindergartners visited Animal Land Children's Farm and experienced farm life up close after learning about it in class. They rode a pony, fed goats and ducks, and held and patted rabbits, guinea pigs, and chicks. The children also milked cows, spun the milk to make cream, and, at the end of the session, tasted the cream they had made. These moments made them excited and interested. The group spent time outdoors, listened to the farm guide, and observed the farm animals in their natural habitats. These activities helped the children connect with the animals, build empathy, and learn how to care for living things. Many of them were curious, asked questions, and enjoyed engaging with the animals and interacting with the farm guide, educators, and peers. The day was full of fun and learning, giving the children hands-on experiences that supported their emotional and social growth and created lasting memories of nature.



Group A Photos



Groups C + D Photos



Eco Explorers' National Recycle Week Actions



During Recycle Week, the children took part in many hands-on activities to learn about recycling and caring for the environment. They worked together to sort and reuse materials, played games, and participated in group discussions about recycling. By sorting and matching

recyclable items, they began to see why it is important to cut down on waste. We also used recycled or everyday objects for crafts and play, which made learning creative and fun. These activities helped the children build small hand movements, solve problems, and work as a team. They also began to see how reusing and recycling can help protect the planet and why it is important to handle waste carefully. Through these fun experiences, the children learned to care for the environment and started building habits for a greener future.



Mini Astronauts on a Space Mission



During World Space Week, our little astronauts had a blast learning about space! We got creative with painting and playdough activities, making planets and rockets while exploring the wonders of our universe. In numeracy activities, we counted the planets and learned their names. The children also watched a fun space video to see how many planets there are and discover more about the stars and planets.



Fueling Strong Bodies- National Nutrition Week Fun

During this term's National Nutrition Week, the children explored the importance of healthy eating through a range of fun, hands-on activities. We began with a group discussion about healthy fruits and vegetables and what "nutritious food" means. The children also learned what a balanced diet looks like and discussed which foods help our bodies grow strong. They enjoyed a fine-motor fruit and vegetable sorting activity, followed by a healthy-food colour-sorting game. We also read a big book about healthy foods and discussed how making good food choices helps us live a healthy life.



Our Kindergarteners Step into Foundation- A Day of Discovery

On November 17th, our kindergarten children visited the Foundation classroom as part of their transition program. We split into small groups, so everyone had space to explore. The visit began with a picture book read aloud by the teacher. The story held their attention, and they followed it with a craft activity linked to the book.



We also played 'getting to know you' games. Each child took turns saying their name and sharing a favourite thing they enjoy doing. This helped them warm up to the new environment and get a feel for what group time might look like next year. After that, everyone enjoyed a relaxed morning tea. We then headed outdoors for a short play session before exploring more of the school grounds. The children loved seeing new spaces and asking questions along the way.

After lunch, we returned to kindergarten, full of stories about the day. The visit gave the children a strong first step towards the Foundation. They learnt, played, and gained a little more confidence about what school life will look like.

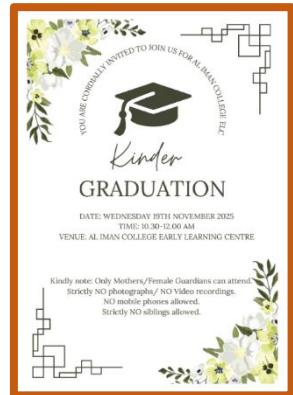


Kindergarten Graduation

On November 19th, Kindergarten Group A and Group C marked a very special milestone with their graduation ceremony. The children were overjoyed to perform for their families, looking charming in their graduation gowns. They sang three nasheeds and surahs beautifully and confidently, and each child proudly received a certificate from Mrs Zulfiqar, Mrs Bahruddin, and their teachers.

Following the ceremony, the children and their families were delighted with meal packs filled with treats and gift bags that brought big smiles to their faces.

As this wonderful year came to a close, our pride in our little stars could not have been greater. We hoped our graduates and their families would continue to visit, bringing more laughter, memories, and adventures. JazakAllah Khairan for making this year truly memorable.



Kindergarten Groups B

Teacher Kinder Group B: Sr Reham Mohamed

Children Week

Children engaged in a fine-motor play experience with pom-poms and masking tape, which encouraged them to use precise hand and finger movements. As they picked up, pressed, and placed the pom-poms onto the taped lines, the children strengthened their pincer grasp, hand-eye coordination, and concentration. This simple, playful activity supported their ability to manipulate small objects, problem-solve, and persist with a task, all while enjoying an inviting and hands-on learning opportunity.



Our Space Week Experience



Our kinder children explored an exciting world of adventure during Space Week. Throughout the week, the children engaged in hands-on experiences that encouraged curiosity, imagination, and wonder about the universe. After watching a video about the planets, they created their own rocket ships, drew colourful planets, and learned fascinating facts about stars, astronauts, and outer space. Through creative play and construction, the children experimented with shapes, textures, and materials to bring their space ideas to life.



Stepping into Foundation Orientation - A Day of Discovery

This term, our kinder children took an exciting step forward as they participated in Orientation Day at school. This special visit gave the children an opportunity to explore their future learning environment, meet new teachers, and experience what school life might feel like.

The children walked through the classrooms with curiosity and confidence, discovering new spaces, materials, and activities prepared just for them. They enjoyed listening to stories, practicing simple routines, and engaging in play-based experiences that helped them feel safe and welcomed.



Our excursion to the Animal Farm

Our kindergarten children participated in a memorable farm excursion that offered rich, hands-on learning experiences. Throughout the visit, the children had the opportunity to milk a cow, feed the ducks, and even churn butter using the milk they collected. A highlight of the day was the tractor ride around the farm, followed by individual pony rides, where each child took turns riding around the track with great enthusiasm.

These practical experiences supported the children's understanding of farm life and deepened their connection to the natural world in an engaging and meaningful way. The bus ride back was filled with cheerful conversation and excitement as the children reflected on their favourite moments. It was a day filled with learning, joy, and lasting memories.



Celebrating Kindergarten Graduation

This term Kindergarten Group B and Group D celebrated a very special milestone—Kinder Graduation Day! It was a joyful and heartwarming occasion as our children proudly stepped forward to mark the end of their early learning journey and the beginning of an exciting new chapter of school.

The children shone with confidence as they recited the Quran and some nasheeds, shared smiles, and wore their graduation caps with pride. Families watched with admiration as their children were recognised for their growth, resilience, creativity, and the many friendships they formed throughout the year.



Kindergarten Group F

Teacher Kinder Group F: Sr Reham Mohamed

Recycling Week

This term, the children engaged in recycling experiences that helped them learn about caring for the environment and sorting different types of waste. Using a collection of recycled bottles and containers, the children worked together to sort items such as lids, paper, plastic pieces, and cardboard. They discussed what recycling means, why it is important, and which materials belong in each bin. During the activity, the children showed curiosity, cooperation, and problem-solving as they compared objects, talked about their features, and decided where each item should go. This experience supported their understanding of sustainability while also promoting language development, turn-taking, and early classification skills.



Children's Week

As part of our Children's Week celebrations, the children engaged in an Aboriginal-inspired fine-motor activity using a large hula hoop with coloured strings attached. The children carefully threaded coloured pasta onto the strings, strengthening their pincer grasp, coordination, and concentration. The colours used—red, yellow, and black—opened a meaningful opportunity to talk with the children about the significance of Aboriginal colours and their connection to culture and identity. This hands-on experience supported fine motor development while fostering early cultural awareness, respect, and curiosity.



Kindergarten Groups C & D

Teacher Kinder Groups C & D: Sr Saman Tahir

Nutritious Week - Learning Healthy Habits Through Play



During Nutritious Week, the children explored healthy eating through a range of fun and engaging learning experiences. These activities supported their understanding of nutritious food choices while encouraging active participation and enjoyment. The children took part in hands-on experiences that



strengthened fine motor skills and coordination, including using tongs to place pom-poms on fruit cards. Creative experiences such as foil painting allowed the children to express their ideas as they painted their favourite fruits and vegetables with focus and enthusiasm. Group discussions and interactive games helped the children identify differences between fruits and vegetables, fostering an early understanding of food groups and the importance of a balanced diet. Sorting and colour-matching activities further reinforced these concepts while supporting thinking, problem-solving and classification skills. Nutritious Week provided a meaningful opportunity for the children to learn about healthy eating in an engaging and enjoyable way.



Exploring Space and the Solar System

Building on the children's strong interest in space and planets, our learning focus shifted to exploring the solar system. The children took part in a range of hands-on and creative experiences that supported curiosity, imagination and early scientific thinking.

Sensory play with moon sand allowed the children to explore new textures while talking about what the surface of the moon might be like. Visual resources and flashcards were used to introduce the names and features of the planets, supporting vocabulary development and early science concepts. The children expressed their learning through craft and painting, creating their own planets using a variety of materials. During group times, they worked together with solar system balls to place the planets in the correct order and learn about each planet's unique characteristics, including temperature and environment. Stories and short documentaries further extended the children's learning, encouraging questions, discussion and a deeper understanding of space in an engaging and meaningful way.



Farm Fun and Learning



This term, the children were very excited about an upcoming farm excursion. To prepare and familiarize them with farm life, we set up a farm animals' corner in the classroom with posters and hands-on learning experiences. The children explored the corner, learning what different animals eat, who takes care of them, and what we can get from them, such as milk, eggs and wool. They also discovered the names of baby animals, for example, a baby horse is called a foal. As part of the learning, the children made animal stick puppets, which they used for imaginative play and role-playing, bringing the farm animals to life in their own stories. These experiences helped the children build knowledge and confidence, so that by the time the excursion arrived, they were well-prepared, enthusiastic and ready to explore the farm firsthand. Farm activities provided a fun and meaningful way for the children to learn about animals, their care, and the important role they play in our daily lives.





Camping and Nature Exploration

The children's curiosity about camping inspired a rich and engaging learning experience. It began with outdoor play, where the children gathered sticks and shared their ideas and stories about camping. Building on their interests, a camping corner was created in the classroom, complete with a tent, cushions and "fire sticks" made from recycled materials. The children enjoyed imaginative play, sharing campfire stories and thinking about the sounds they might hear while camping. This interest naturally extended to bugs and insects. Through stories about where insects live, the children developed their understanding of the natural world. Outdoor exploration allowed them to observe snails and butterflies, encouraging close observation and curiosity.

Back in the classroom, the children expressed their learning through creative experiences, including butterfly crafts using recycled materials and hand painting. A discovery table with grass, toy insects and magnifying glasses provided further opportunities for hands-on exploration and investigation. These experiences supported the children's curiosity, imagination and growing appreciation for nature and the environment.



Recycling Week



During Recycling Week, the children took part in a range of engaging experiences focused on reducing, reusing and recycling. Through these activities, they developed a greater understanding of how small everyday actions can help care for our environment. The children explored creative ways to reuse materials, particularly empty boxes, using their imagination to build structures, invent games and solve problems together. These experiences encouraged collaboration, creativity and critical thinking. Intentional teaching experiences supported the children's understanding of correct recycling practices. Sorting activities using different bins helped them learn which items belong where. The children also used recycled materials to create numbers with coloured paper, combining sustainability with early numeracy in a hands-on and meaningful way. Learning was further extended through stories and short documentaries about recycling, followed by group discussions about how we can look after our environment. These experiences supported the development of environmental awareness, responsibility and an understanding of sustainable practices.



Transition to School

As part of our transition to school program, the children recently visited the local primary school. This experience gave them an exciting opportunity to see what school life is like and helped build their confidence for the year ahead. The children walked to the school in pairs and were warmly welcomed by the Foundation teachers. To support a smooth transition, the children were given colour-coded wristbands before heading into their classrooms. Inside, they participated in fun introduction games designed to help them feel comfortable and settled. The visit also included story time, a creative craft activity and a shared snack. Later, the children enjoyed a guided tour of the school, exploring key areas such as the library, toilets, outdoor play spaces, the office and the sick bay.





Building Literacy and Numeracy Through Play

In the Kinder room, the children engaged in a variety of mixed learning experiences designed to support both literacy and numeracy development through play-based learning. Using alphabet construction sets, the children explored letter recognition and early word building in a hands-on way. Literacy and numeracy stamps encouraged mark-making, number awareness and fine motor development, as children confidently created their own patterns and symbols. Counting activities using animal cards and dominoes supported the children's understanding of numbers, one-to-one correspondence and early problem-solving skills. The children also worked with shape cards, carefully copying patterns to create flower designs, strengthening their spatial awareness, shape recognition and concentration. Creative learning continued as children used loose shapes and textured papers to create their own artefacts. These experiences encouraged creativity, decision-making and self-expression while supporting fine motor skills. Through these purposeful play experiences, the children were not just completing activities but actively developing important learning skills in a meaningful and enjoyable way.



Kindergarten Group E

Teacher: Sr Saman Tahir

Hands-On Health - Nutritious Week Activities



During Nutritious Week, the children explored fruits and vegetables through a range of fun, hands-on experiences. At the exploration table, they enjoyed sorting and playing with toy fruits and vegetables in baskets, supporting early learning through play. Creative expression was encouraged at the painting table, where the children used picture cards as prompts to create bright and colourful artworks. They enjoyed painting familiar fruits and vegetables such as bananas, apples, plums and tomatoes, proudly sharing their creations. To support fine motor development, the children used tongs to place pom poms into matching holes on fruit cards. They also practised colour recognition by choosing the correct colours for each fruit, such as red for cherries and yellow for bananas. These playful experiences helped combine creativity, early learning and fun, while supporting the children's growing confidence and skills.



Space Week

Space Week was celebrated with lots of excitement and curiosity. The children enjoyed exploring a space station setup in the room, complete with planets, rockets and astronaut figures, which encouraged imaginative play and conversation. During group time, the children listened to a story about space, explored an astronaut costume and watched a short documentary about the planets, helping to build their understanding in a fun and age-appropriate way. Creative experiences allowed the children

to express their ideas as they made their own galaxies, arranging stones in sequence on black paper. At the cutting table, children strengthened their fine motor skills by cutting out spaceships, aliens and stars. These experiences sparked curiosity, imagination and a love of learning, making Space Week a fun and memorable experience for everyone.





Snail discovery in the garden

This term, the children were thrilled to discover snails in the garden, sparking lots of excitement and curiosity. Once the snails were spotted, they were carefully placed on a table so the children could observe them closely using magnifying glasses. This allowed the children to notice details such as the shell, body and movement of the snails. The children showed care and responsibility by collecting leaves to feed the snails, learning about living things and how to look after them. Indoors, the learning continued through creative experiences. Using pictures of snails as prompts, the children created their own snails with playdough, proudly showing their creativity and fine motor skills. At the cutting table, the children cut and pasted snail pictures to create artworks, which were added to their portfolios. These experiences supported curiosity, observation skills and a growing appreciation for the natural world.



Spring Learning this term



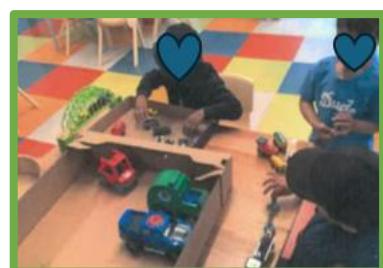
This term, the children have been learning about spring and the changes that happen during this season. As spring began, we transformed the room to reflect the season, creating a bright and welcoming environment for learning. Fresh flowers and pots were added to the playdough table, inviting

the children to explore nature through sensory play. The children learned about the different seasons, with a focus on what happens in spring. Through discussions, they explored how plants grow, flowers bloom and new life begins. We also reflected on how Allah brings life back to the earth after winter, as leaves and flowers begin to grow again. Creative experiences supported this learning, including spring-themed painting using forks to create flower textures. The children also worked together to create a spring poster using recycled bottles, encouraging creativity while learning about sustainability. These experiences helped the children develop an understanding of seasonal change, appreciation for nature and a sense of wonder about the world around them.



Transportation Week

This term, the children's fascination with cars, planes and trucks inspired a special Transportation Week. The children were thrilled to explore a variety of transport-themed activities set up in the classroom. On one table, they discovered different types of transportation toys to play with and investigate, sparking curiosity and imaginative play. At the painting table, a new and exciting experience awaited them: cars were placed on top of a clear plastic sheet with paint underneath, allowing the children to press and move the cars to create colourful tracks. This hands-on activity encouraged creativity, fine motor skills and problem-solving in a fun and engaging way. During group time, the children explored flashcards of different types of transportation, learning about the many ways people and goods move around the world. These experiences supported language development, curiosity, and an understanding of the world around them. Transportation Week was a wonderful opportunity for the children to explore, create and learn through play.



Long Day Care (3+ years)

Room Leader: Sr Iram Mehmood

National Nutrition Week

National Nutrition Week in Australia for 2025 will be held from October 13th to 19th, with the theme "Love what you eat". National Nutrition Week was celebrated to raise awareness about the importance of healthy eating habits and balanced nutrition.

Group time discussions: Through group discussions children shared their ideas about healthy eating and we encouraged children to drink more water, eating breakfast, reducing food waste and including colorful fruits and vegetables in their meals that can make a big difference towards healthy living.

Fine Motor Fruit and Vegetable Sorting Activity: We have used tweezers to pick up pom-poms and place them in the blank circles on each fruit or vegetable and sort according to the colour of the fruit or vegetable.

Healthy Food Colour Sorting Activity: Fruit and vegetable illustrations are included in the resource for children to sort. This is a great colour recognition, and healthy living activity.

Balanced Diet Sorting Activity: The activity contains different foods that children can cut out and sort onto three plates, for foods they can eat more of, those they sometimes eat and those they can eat a little of. Tried out our Balanced Diet Sorting Activity today and it helped children understand the concept of a balanced diet using a hands-on approach



Indigenous seeds planting activity

As a group, we engaged in planting indigenous seeds and exploring the important role these plants hold in Aboriginal culture. Through this activity, the children learned that many indigenous herbs and bush tucker plants have traditionally been used as medicine and for healing purposes.



Long Day Care (0-2 years)

Room leader: Sr Sidra Hassan

Space Week

This week, the children went on a fun learning journey through SPACE!



We read a space book "Discover Space" together, and the children learned new words like astronauts, spaceships, planets, and stars. They were very curious and asked lots of questions about what it's like in space.

We also talked about how Aboriginal people use the sun, stars, and land to find their way, tell stories, and understand the seasons. The children learned that people have been looking at the sky and learning from it for a very long time even before spaceships and astronauts!

As part of our space play, we set up a Space Sensory Bin with shiny stars and "space rocks." The children used tongs to pick them up, helping their fingers get strong. They counted the stars and rocks, and some children sorted them by size – from small to big! The children also made their own glittery stars using gold glitter, glue, and paintbrushes. They were very focused and careful as they decorated their stars.



National Nutrition Week



We celebrate **Nutrition Week** to help children learn about healthy eating and the importance of making good food choices. It encourages them to explore different types of nutritious foods, understand where food comes from, and learn how eating a variety of fruits and vegetables helps their bodies grow strong and stay healthy.



Our toddlers learned about different nutritious foods and how they help our bodies grow strong and healthy. We talked about the colours of fruits and vegetables and discovered that eating a "rainbow" of foods gives us many different vitamins and nutrients.

During Nutrition Week, children engaged in a variety of hands-on activities to explore healthy foods. They matched colourful fruits and vegetables with baskets of the same colour and pretended to go shopping, selecting their favourite foods also read a food alphabet book, where the baby was curious and engaged, flipping through the pages and naming the foods they recognised. Children also explored pictures of a healthy lunchbox and packed their own pretend lunches. During the mealtime One child proudly pointed at the rainbow food chart and said, "I have a green apple!" while another happily added, "I like corn!" It was wonderful to see them relate what they learned to their own meals.



National Recycling Week



National Recycling Week

Join the Cycle – 10th to 16th of November 2025

This year National Recycling Week 10-16 November, the theme "Join the Cycle!" is a powerful reminder that many items we throw away as rubbish are actually valuable resources waiting to be rescued and reused.

The children explored the idea of recycling and reusing materials in meaningful and playful ways. We talked about how recycling helps us take care of the Earth and learned to sort items into the correct bins. The children practised placing paper, plastic, and rubbish into the right containers, showing growing understanding of sustainability. During play, one child picked up a ball and then walked over to the recycled materials. He selected a paper roll, held it like a bat, and began using it as a pretend cricket bat.



In our daily routine, the children continue to use the compost bin, confidently putting fruit peels and food scraps in the right place. Throughout the year, we collected recycling bottles together and placed them in our collection bin. When the bin is full, we visit the recycling centre for a refund and with this money, we buy seeds to plant in our garden. This helps children understand the full cycle: recycle → earn → grow.

The children showed growing awareness of recycling by sorting items, reusing materials in play, and using the compost bin confidently. Their involvement in collecting bottles and planting seeds supported their understanding of caring for the environment.





Free Travel for children under 18yrs: Victorian Public Transport Goes Fare-Free



From Thursday 1 January 2026, people aged under 18 can travel free on all Victorian public transport services. This includes trams, trains, buses and coach services.

Previously people aged 5 to 18 years could use a child myki card and buy a concession fare.

To access free travel from January, they must use a new youth myki card and tap the card on and off each time they travel. For areas that do not use myki cards, they must show their myki card to travel free.

More information about the youth myki card will be available later this month on the [myki types](#) webpage. If your child is transitioning to school next year, you can find information about travel options, and support for eligible students, on the [Travelling to school](#) webpage.

Find out more

For further enquiries about public transport, contact Transport Victoria:

- phone: 1800 800 007
- website: [Transport Victoria](#).

Summer Vacation Care Program



Discover, create and explore these school holidays with our Vacation Care Program for primary school-aged children!

There are fun excursions to Frontier Park, Melbourne Zoo, Atherstone Traffic School, and the movies. Plus, engaging incursions with Victoria Police and Bunnings.

Melton City Council's Summer Vacation Care Program will be running from 5–23 January at Bridge Road Children's and Community Centre, 260 Bridge Road, Strathtulloh.

Bookings open 8.30am, 8 December and close 5pm, 19 December. Spaces are limited so early booking is encouraged to avoid disappointment.

For more information:

Visit the [Melton City Council website](#)

Be a SunSmart Family

Quick Tips for Sun Safety

- **Slip on protective clothing:** Cover up with loose, long-sleeved shirts and long pants to shield skin from UV rays.
- **Slop on SPF 50+ sunscreen:** Apply broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen generously and reapply every two hours.
- **Slap on a hat:** Wide-brimmed hats protect the face, ears, and neck—areas prone to sun damage.
- **Seek shade:** Stay under shade during peak UV hours (10 am to 4 pm) to reduce exposure.
- **Slide on sunglasses:** Protect eyes with wrap-around sunglasses that block 100% UVA and UVB rays.
- **Be sun smart all year:** UV rays can harm even on cloudy or cool days, so protection is important every day.
- **UV Index Alert:** When the **UV Index is 3 or above**, sun protection is essential—even on cloudy or cool days, as UV can't be seen or felt but still causes skin damage.



New video series: What the social media age restrictions mean for your family?

Staying on top of digital changes can be challenging, so to support parents and carers in this space the e-safety commissioner have created a [series](#) of short videos on the upcoming [social media age restrictions](#).



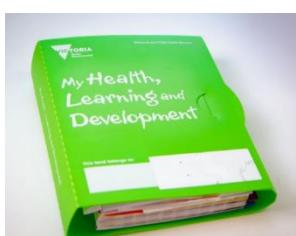
The four-topic series covers:

- A delay, not a ban: What the changes mean for your child's access to social media
- Why delay social media accounts?: Hear directly from a young person on the benefits of waiting
- How will the age restrictions be implemented?: What to expect and how it will work
- Support, resources and tips to prepare: Practical advice to help your family adjust

To access the videos:

Visit the [E-safety Commissioner's website](#)

Maternal and Child Health Appointments Available!



Melton City Council offers a free Maternal and Child Health (MCH) service to all families with children aged up to six years who live in the City of Melton. Our MCH service is now fully staffed, with appointments available for all 10 of the Key Ages and Stages.

These appointments are a great opportunity to review your child's health, growth and development, and discuss any parental concerns, with a focus on family wellbeing.

Council also provides additional support services including:

- breastfeeding support
- New Parent Groups
- sleep and settling support
- immunisation.

To book an appointment call **9747 7287**

For more information:

visit the [Melton City Council website](#)



Recipes to do together with your children

Vegetable Slice (Serves: 5)

This recipe packs a punch with seven different vegetables! A powerhouse recipe for adding more variety in the veggies you serve.

Ingredients:

Green capsicum - 50g (½ small) (finely diced)
Red capsicum - 50g (½ small) (finely diced)
Carrot - 55g (½ small) (grated)
Sweet potato - 55g (½ small) (grated)
Zucchini - 95g (½ medium) (grated)
Pumpkin - 40g (grated)
Red onion - 80g (finely diced)
Eggs - 4 Self-raising flour - 60g (½ cup)
Cheese - 60g (½ cup) (reduced fat and grated)
Vegetable stock powder - 1 teaspoon (reduced salt)
Optional – pepper - 1 teaspoon



Method:

- Preheat oven to 170o C.
- Beat eggs in a large bowl, add flour and beat until combined and smooth.
- Add the prepared vegetables, cheese, powdered stock and pepper.
- Pour into a sprayed tray and bake for 30- 45 minutes or until set.
- Allow it to cool and cut into portions.

(For more recipes – follow the link: <https://heas.health.vic.gov.au/recipes/>)

Important: Keep Your Child's Information Current

Dear AIC ELC Families,

To help us maintain accurate and up-to-date records for your child at Al Iman College Early Learning Centre, we kindly ask that you notify us of any changes to the information listed below as soon as they occur.

Please inform us if there are updates to:



IMMUNISATION RECORDS

- Your child receives any new vaccinations

HEALTHCARE INFORMATION

- Your Healthcare card renewed or updated
- Your Medicare card renewed or updated

CONTACT DETAILS

- Your Home address change
- Mobile numbers are updated
- Email addresses change

Why This Matters

Keeping this information current helps us ensure the safety, wellbeing, and effective communication for your child.

How to Update

Please bring in the updated documents in person to the ELC (we will make copies for you). You can email the updated documents to (elc@aliman.vic.edu.au) when changes occur.

We Value Your Feedback: Share your thoughts about Al Iman College ELC

We are committed to providing the best possible experience for our children and families. Your feedback plays a crucial role in helping us continually improve and enhance our operations to better meet the needs of our community.

We invite you to take a few moments to share your thoughts, suggestions, and experiences with us. Whether it's about our programs, facilities, communication, or any other aspect of our AIC ELC, your input is invaluable in shaping the future of our Centre.



Please click on the link below or scan the QR CODE by using your phone camera to share your valuable feedback. Your responses will be anonymous, and all feedback will be treated with the utmost confidentiality and respect.

<https://forms.gle/fZ7Yj2GC5Xz5M4b69>

