



AL-MADINAH SCHOOL

ESOL Newsletter

Term 3, 2026

اتحاد میں طاقت ہے۔

Ittihad mein taqat hai.

Unity is strength.

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

Kia ora whānau. Welcome to Term 3! We are excited for another term of learning, reading, and growing together.

As New Zealand becomes more multicultural, increasing numbers of students have access to ESOL support. In 2025, more than 87,000 students in 1,755 schools received ESOL support, a 4.7% increase from the previous round (Ministry of Education, 2025a). ESOL support helps eligible multilingual learners access the New Zealand Curriculum and develop their academic English needed to participate confidently and achieve success at school (Ministry of Education, 2025b). ESOL support is delivered either within the classroom by class teachers or through targeted withdrawal groups (depending on the needs of individual students), to help them develop their language skills, access the curriculum, and make progress in their learning.

Our Focus

This term, we are focusing on:

-  Reading every day
-  Building speaking confidence
-  Learning new vocabulary and writing
-  Working together and having fun

Celebrating Our Diversity

At the end of Term 2, we celebrated Refugee Week by sharing stories, cultures, and experiences. We are proud of the many languages spoken by our students, including Arabic, Urdu, and many others. Every language is important and helps children learn.

Learning Beyond School

You can help your child by:

 Joining local masjids to build a sense of belonging and community spirit.

 Visiting your local library and borrowing books.

 Going to the local swimming pool to build water confidence.

★ Encouraging your child to join school sports, cultural events, share experiences and inspirations, participate and contribute in class discussions, and competitions.

It is okay to feel shy. We encourage every child to have a go, make new friends, and enjoy new experiences.

How Families Can Help

Read together for 10–15 minutes each day.

Talk about books and everyday life in English or your home language.

Celebrate your child's effort and progress.

Jazak Allahu khairan!

Thank you for supporting your child's learning and attendance. Together, we can help every student become a confident reader and learner. Have a wonderful Term 3!

Wassalam

Mahejabin Shanaz Taz (ESOL Coordinator)

Some stories from Refugee week:



Some stories from Refugee week by AMS students

My JOURNEY...



My Story: Pakistan to New Zealand

Moving from the warm weather and the busy streets of Pakistan to the green hills of New Zealand was a huge change. Leaving my family and culture behind was hard, but the kind people of Aotearoa quickly made me feel safe. Today, I am proud to share my Pakistani heritage with my new community.

My Refugee Story



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My refugee story began when my dad's sister told him to come to New Zealand as a refugee. But applying wasn't easy. We had to pay 800 dollars per person. My mum and dad worked day and night, selling food to save enough money. It took almost a year before they finally had enough.

When the time came, we said our final goodbyes to our friends and family. We went to the airport and got on the plane. Our first stop was Dubai, where we stayed for three days before catching another flight to New Zealand.



When we arrived in New Zealand, we stayed at my dad's sister's house for two months. We received support from the government, and eventually we were able to get our own house. That was the beginning of our new life.

I lived in sunny Fiji, surrounded by tall sugarcanes and big green fields. New Zealand felt so cool and fresh with green hills everywhere. Leaving my family was the hardest thing I ever did. Everyone here was so kind and warm, they made me feel welcomed straight away. I am proud of my Fijian roots, and love sharing them here.