

Salam Academy Newsflash

November

Volume 1, Issue 1

Welcome to the premiere issue of the Salam Academy Newsflash! The Newsflash will be a monthly venue to present the great work of the Salam Academy commu-

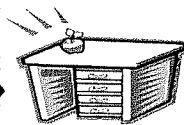
nity — especially our brilliant students! Inside each issue, you will find space provided once per month to the Salam Academy teachers to preview the month's curriculum, class projects, and special events.

Aside from the teachers' regular columns, the Newsflash will also feature the creative and diligent work of Salam Academy's students. The unity and cooperation of

Continued on page 12 ...

Pre-Kindergarten	2
Kindergarten	3
First Grade	4
Second Grade	5
Third Grade	6
Fourth Grade	7
Fifth Grade	8
Sixth/Seventh Grade	9
Arabic & Islam	10
Photo Page	11
Calendar	12

The Principal's Desk



Dear Parents, Welcome to Salam Academy's 2006-2007 school year. May Allah (swt) make it a very successful year.

I am enthusiastically awaiting beginning our journey together. The staff and

I are committed to your child's educational excellence and high quality, inclusive Islamic education promoted through a diverse curriculum and a dedicated and knowledgeable staff.

In Salam Academy, characters counts. We concentrate on trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

This month we

will be stressing responsibility. We encourage parents to mention it to their kids daily.

Collaboration and open communication between home and school are keys to building a strong foundation for a successful school year. Therefore I invite parents involvement.

On this occasion let me thank the Salam Academy PTA, which has been instrumental in sup-

porting us and is an outstanding team. I will never forget to thank those parents who have invested time in their children's future.

We are proud of our school; we are proud of our students. May Allah make us always proud of pleasing him.



Pre- Kindergarten

As-salamu alaikum-



Ms. Fatimah Zaky

Salam Academy students, faculty, and parents.

In the month of November we will be making our long-awaited trip to the the New Mexico Museum of Natural History

& Science. We had hoped to go at the end of October, but the earliest the visit could be arranged was the first day of November and we will accompany the kindergarten and First Grade classes. This will be good for the pre-k students as many of them have older siblings in those classes and will join them for this special event. The pre-k students can hear what the older students know about science and the geological history of

our Albuquerque area and this will add to their learning experience. This month we will also continue our introduction to Social Studies. We have read fantastically illustrated stories about some of the Native American tribes and their desert or prairie homelands. And now we are reading stories and viewing documentaries that are taking us to the "dark continent" of Africa!

Student Highlights



During the month of Ramadan, I wanted to decorate our room pretty to make this a special time. I tried to think of a simple art project, then I remembered how the city of Cairo would decorate during Ramadan with fenoos, lanterns with beautiful colored glass in them. So that is what the pre-k students made. They did a great job on them and they are so beautiful that

Kindergarten

For the month of No-



Ms. Vera Chestnut

vember, Kindergarten will have its first field trip to the New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science, at which time we will also go to the planetarium. The field trip relates to our science

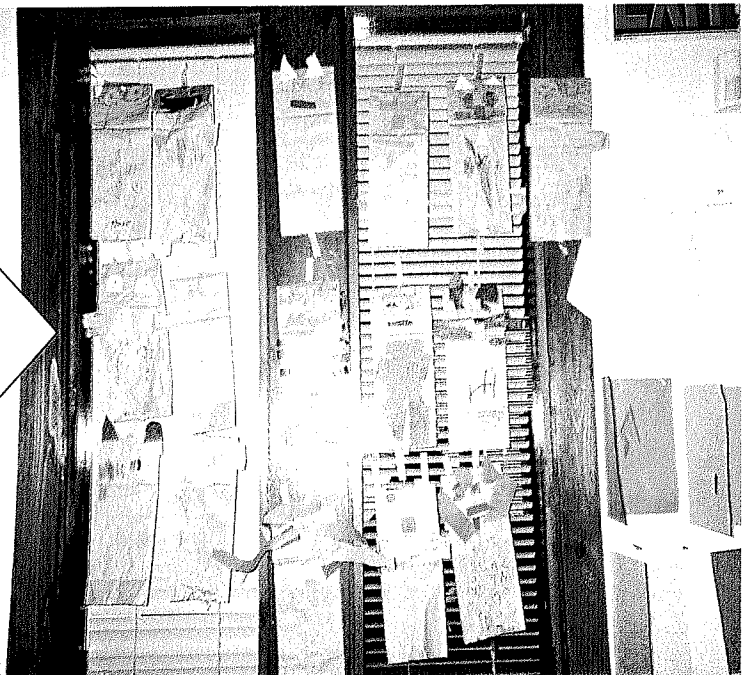
and our study of astronomy, specifically the sun, earth, and moon. In social studies we will look at maps, the four cardinal directions, and basic topography. Math brings us into number concepts. Students will work on writing numbers in their math journals and they will also be studying the concepts of comparing sets, and graphing. In language arts we will look at common and proper nouns and con-

tinue our shared writing. Reading will bring us to the medial *a* sound and new "word wall" words such as *that*. We will also continue to work on the lower case letters of the alphabet in our



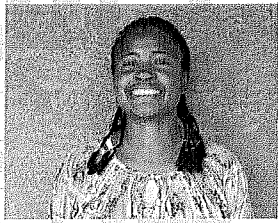
Student Highlights

As a group project we made animal puppets out of brown paper bags and scraps of construction paper. The students worked for two days to make their puppets and then they assumed "the character" of their puppet and talked to their classmates. We had a great diversity of animal puppets and even one vampire! The puppets can now be seen outside our classroom.



First Grade

November is going to be



Ms. Michelle Ellis

a busy month for first grade. Inside the classroom, we will be engaged in many activities. We will continue to learn about consonant blends and begin learning the long vowel sounds. We

will be learning to tell time to the half hour and quarter hour. We will also study two-digit addition and subtraction.

In language arts, we will start learning about verbs and contractions. In social studies, we will be studying about different kinds of money and reading picture graphs. In science, we will be exploring states of matter.

Outside of the classroom, we will be going on a field

trip with pre-k and kindergarten to the New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science. The trip concludes our science unit about the night skies. We have been studying about the sun, moon, and stars. In particular, we have learned about the phases of the moon and the constellations. At the museum, we will visit the planetarium and watch a movie about the moon, stars, and planets. We will also look at the various exhibits there.

Student Highlights



During October, Ms. Ellis's class explored a social studies unit about different types of jobs. We integrated social studies into our language arts program through a shared writing assignment. As a class, we composed the following paragraph together.

Jobs

By Ms. Ellis's first grade class

There are many kinds of jobs. A policeman helps a town to be safe. The firefighters help people by washing their houses with water when they are on fire. Waiters serve food. Lawyers help people who are not guilty stay out of jail.

Second Grade

In the month of No-

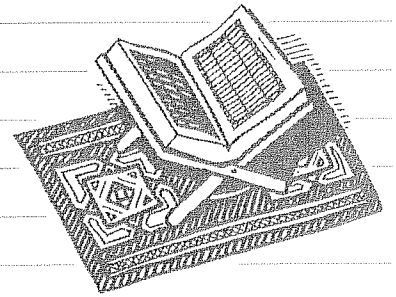


Ms. Carys Drennan

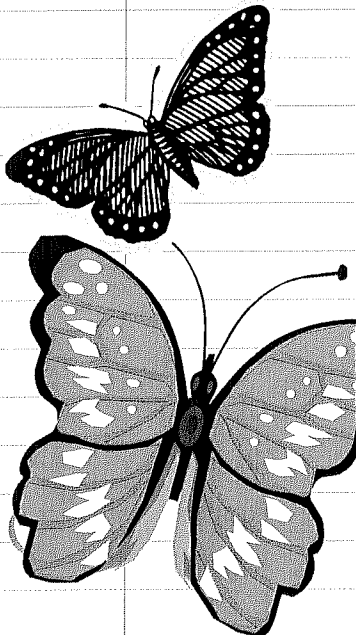
vember the second grade has a lot going on. The second graders will continue working on their science fair projects. Students will be assigned their genre project. Each student will

choose three books from a particular genre and write about how they are similar and different. Students will then present their project to the class. In Math, we will be learning about double-digit subtraction and addition. Students will work a lot on writing style and story writing. During the month of November students will also be participating in literature circles. It will give the students more exposure to chapter

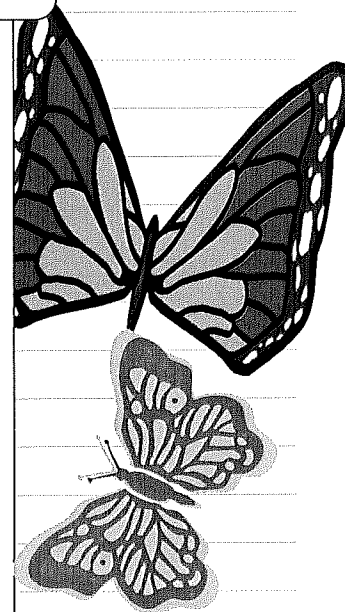
books and they will have the opportunity to discuss books with other students. This will require a small group project as well. Each group of student will be responsible for making a project about their book.



Student Highlights



The second graders are observing the life cycle of the butterfly. Each student is responsible for observing and drawing each part of the life cycle. So far the caterpillars have changed into cocoons. Each student has done a diagram of the different stages of the life cycle, but have also created their own caterpillars. The students will do this for each stage they observe. We will also be doing an experiment on whether or not a volcano can erupt under water.



Third Grade

Welcome to a new month!



Ms. Christin Vigil

Time sure goes by quickly when you're having fun. Our first trimester ends November 1, and we will be meeting Friday, November 3, to discuss the strengths of your children, as well as any areas that may need more work. If any parent feels that you would

like for your child to receive tutoring in any area, please contact me, as I will begin tutoring soon. In third grade, during the month of November, we will be working on many new concepts. In Language Arts, we will be learning about verbs and we will continue to practice and improve our writing. This month we will focus on persuasive writing and the writing process. In Math, we will be talking about data and probability. We will be graphing and analyzing data. In Science, we will be discovering new things about the human body, protection against disease, and nutrition and diges-

tion. We will be having a guest speaker come in and teach us about our bodies. In Social Studies, we will move onto History. We will learn about Native Americans, English Colonies, and the Spanish Mission. If you are an expert in any of these areas, we would love to have your help.



Student Highlights

The Exciting Zoo Trip

Our class went to the zoo. Someone said the zoo is like a dormitory for animals. While we were there, we saw many peculiar animals. We saw hippos, birds, lions, and giraffes. Everyone began to panic when we heard the lions roar, but a sensible zookeeper told us not to be afraid because they could not get out. After we left the lion exhibit, we saw a peacock but it quickly vanished. We all had gained a big appetite so we took a break for lunch. After lunch, we went to visit the clever monkeys. Next, we visited the flamingos. They sure smelled ghastly! Because they smelled so awful, we left to go see the ducks. We fed the ducks and fish a rasher of food. We enjoyed our break feeding them. Our trip to the zoo was fun but all the manure made it stink! Next time we go we are going to remember our air freshener.

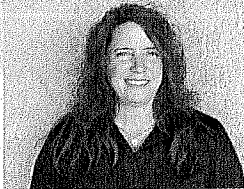
Third grade is working in reading groups. Each group has vocabulary words from their text. They have found the words in their books and found their definitions in the dictionary. Each group chose words from their vocabulary lists and we used them in writing this paragraph about our experience at the zoo.

New Vocabulary

- Dormitory
- Peculiar
- Panic
- Sensible
- Vanished
- Appetite
- Clever
- Ghastly
- Rasher
- Manure

Fourth Grade

The fourth grade class is



Ms. Jill Mejewski

going to see big changes for November. First, we will start to use fake money in our classroom as an economic reward system. The students will start with a certain amount each week. They can earn more money, or lose money based on their behavior, classroom performance, environmental clean-ups, and

general classroom ideas. Each Friday, we will have a time that the students can go shopping in our classroom store.

In science, we will continue our study of matter. We will measure it and determine what it can be made of. We will talk about types of change, heat, energy, and tools. We will also start keeping a science journal to be used throughout the rest of the school year.

In reading, spelling, and grammar, we will be reading the stories, "Just a Dream," "Leah's Pony," "Baseball Saved Us," and "Will Her Native Lan-

guage Disappear?" We will be working on finishing one story per week, including all the associated spelling words, vocabulary words, and grammar.

Math with still be some review as well as some new concepts. We will study fractions of money, reading fractions, decimal, rounding, and memory multiplication. We will start building our sundaes with multiplication facts tests.

Student Highlights

Our class has started to study matter, and "why it matters." We completed an experiment together in class. The students had to observe, test and describe a "mystery substance" without tasting it. The students observed the substance to find such things as how it looks, how it feels, and how it smells.

Our mystery substance was made of glue, water, and borax powder. Once mixed together, it formed something similar to putty. The students had lots of fun playing with the "mystery substance," but they also learned from it. They decided it should be in the Museum that Matters.



Fifth Grade

In November, the fifth



Ms. Amy Zorick

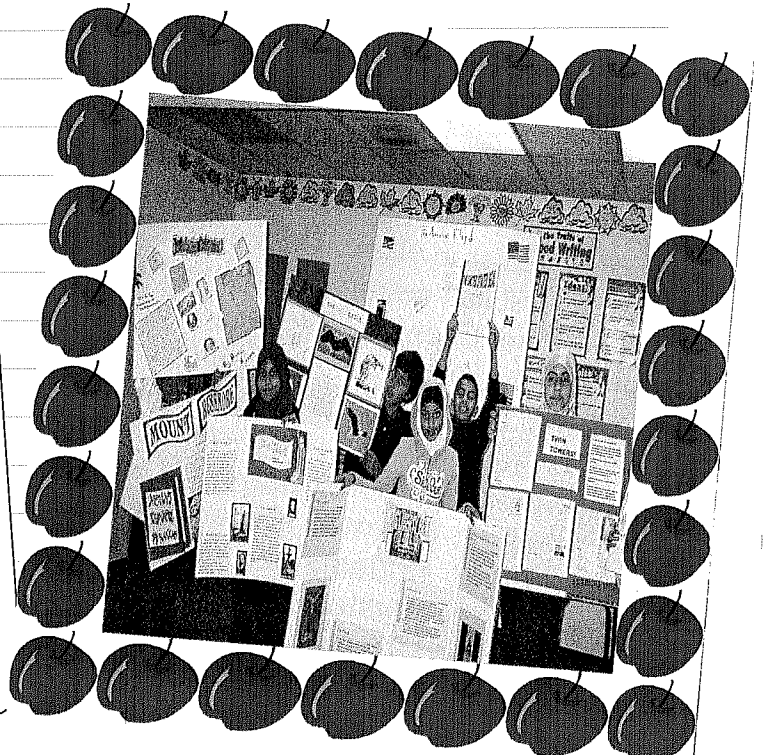
grade will not only start preparing for the upcoming class and school spelling bees, but we will also be preparing for the school science fair in January. By the end of November, students will have chosen their topics for

the fair and will on their way to completing their projects. Students will be using the scientific method throughout the month in class for practice and referral for their own projects. The science curriculum for the month of November will center on matter and energy. Students will learn what particles are and know that the periodic table is comprised of elements that make up all matter. In social studies, we will continue to learn about the exploration of America and then we will

end the month with development of the colonies. We will expound on skills learned in October for math, but will learn new skills like finding averages and multiplying two-digit numbers. In language arts, students will continue to develop comprehension skills of identifying main ideas and supporting details. Students will also improve their writing abilities using the six-traits and the 5-step writing process. We can do it all, fifth grade!!!

Student Highlights

One of the fifth grade's projects this trimester was to research an important American document or symbol and then present the research to the other students. In their presentations, students needed to explain the significance of their document or symbol, what it means to America and Americans, who made the symbol, and when it was created. Each student picked a different topic for their research so more symbols could be presented on. Fatima Quraishi, who did her project on the Liberty Bell, had this to say about her experience: "I learned that the Liberty Bell is really important to America and to Philadelphia. The best thing I loved about this project was presenting it." Great job, fifth grade!



Sixth & Seventh Grades

The sixth and seventh

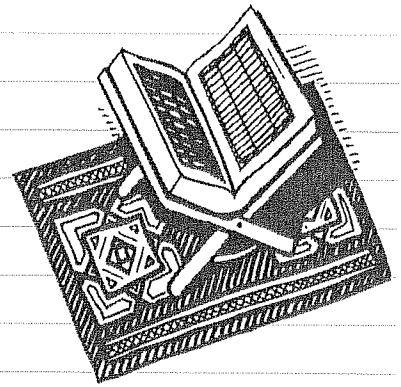


Ms. Kim Sanchez

grade has just finished their International Day project. Each student researched a country and created a display board to show their work. With January quickly approaching, we are beginning to think about the Science Fair. Salam

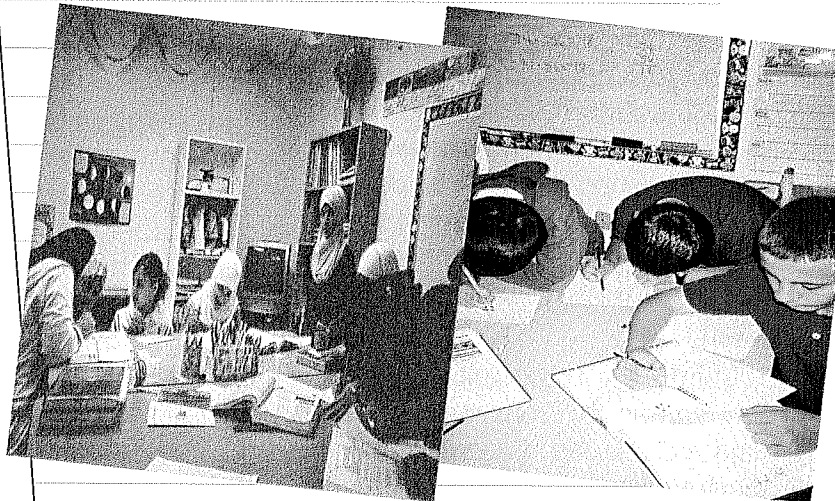
Academy has scheduled the Science Fair for January 8, 2007. While the date itself may seem far away, the students need to begin their experiments within the next two weeks. We will be taking several students to the Regional Science Fair at UNM in March. If we want to continue placing and attending the State Science Fair at New Mexico Tech, we need to begin producing quality projects now. Rubrics will be sent home, and many of the forms the Regional Science Fair re-

quires will need to be completed. If your student's project involves animals or people, there will be extra forms. These forms are necessary to complete at the regional level.

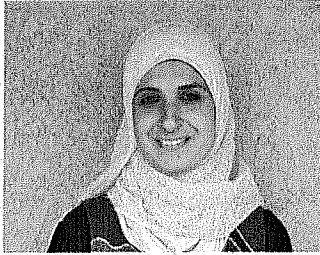


Student Highlights

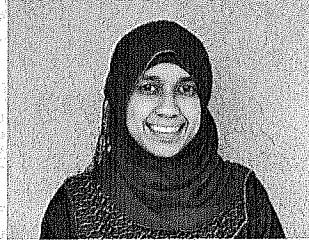
The sixth and seventh grade will be participating in the American Mathematics Competition on Tuesday, November 14, 2006. The students have been working on math problems to prepare for this competition. Last year, we had a student who placed nationally. We are hoping to do as well, or better, this year.



Arabic & Islam



Ms. Dima Sawash



Ms. Aidah El-Shukri



Ms. Eman Babaa

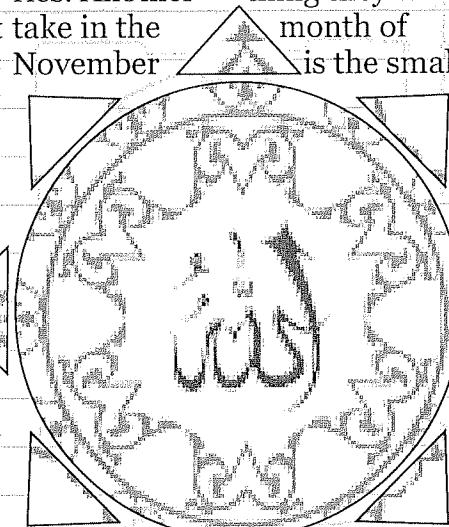
Kindergarten will learn letters Khaa', Noon, and Zaie and the sound of each letter and the way it's written in the beginning or end of the words and practice reading words with long vowels. In Islam, we will continue seerah of the rasoul Muhammad (S) and about prophet Ibrahim (PBUH). For Quran, we will start sura Al-Lahab and continue practicing Adhan and Salah.

For first grade, we will start lesson 6. The students will practice how to read fluently, will review letter Meem, and the sound and how it's written in words. As for Islamic studies, they will learn the seerah of prophet Muhammad (S) and start sura Al-Qari'ah. The students will continue listening to the story of prophet Ibraheem (PBUH).

Second grade class will start lesson 3. We will practice how to read fluently and will review letter waw. For Islamic studies they will continue the seerah of our beloved prophet Muhammad (S) and will listen to the story about Ibraheem (PBUH) and review the small sura and we will start sura Al-Balad.

Third grade the students will learn lesson 7, 8, and 9 From Mercy to Man-kind, part one. Also, they will listen to the story about prophet Ibraheem (PBUH). We will also start sura Al-Balad and learn new Du'a'.

For the month of November, the pre-k class will be learning surat al-Falaq for Islamic studies. They also will learn about different prophets and their stories. Another thing they will take in the month of November is the small



Duas, like before eating, before going to bed and when waking up. As for Arabic they will proceed in learning the Arabic Alphabet. So far they have reached to the letter Zai and, inshallah, by the end of the month of November we will have reached the letter Daad which is the 15th letter of the Arabic alphabet. The students not only learn the letters, but they also learn to recognize them and write them.

In November, we plan to visit a homeless shelter, on November 9 at 11:00 a.m. The students will serve lunch to about 100 people of the residents of the facility. The main goal of this field trip is to teach the students how to treat the needy and weak kindly and humanely and to appreciate the better life the students have.

Third grade will learn food- and beverage-related subjects. Fourth grade will learn about forests and wildlife.

For Islam, we will discuss subjects related to the pillars of Zakah and Hajj and learn Surat al-Fajr.

Fifth grade will finish the lesson about the bee and the pigeon, whose moral is to help others and do good deeds. They will also learn new vocabulary and the present form of the verb, plurals, and antonyms. Finally, the students will learn about the Prophet (PBUH) Sirah in Mecca and Surat al-Inshiqaq.

Sixth and seventh grades will learn a story from Arabic folklore, which will teach new vocabulary, rhyming words, types of verbs, adjectives, duals, plurals, how to solve puzzles, how to pinpoint mistakes in given sentences, and verbal and noun sentences. Lastly, the students will learn about the Prophet (PBUH) Sirah in Medina and continue Surat al-Muzzamil and start Surat al-Mursalat.



Salam Academy: Reaching for the Stars!



November 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 • End of 1st Trimester • Report Cards Issued	2	3 • Parent-Teacher Conference	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving Recess	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 • Quran Contest		

Our Teaching Vision

Our goal is to produce an American Muslim student who is trained to be a leader in his family, community, and society as a whole. More specifically, our goals are to (1) create an institution of education based on Islamic values and American and Islamic academic standards of excellence; and (2) build students' character and prepare them for leadership roles throughout their lives.

The philosophy of Salam Academy is to foster a learning environment that reinforces the concepts of self-discipline and the acceptance of personal responsibility. In order to maintain an environment conducive to attaining the highest quality education, there must exist certain disciplinary policies and procedures relating to student conduct which delineate unacceptable behavior and provide the basis for sound disciplinary practices. These policies and procedures will be enforced fairly, uniformly, and consistently.

each grade will be showcased in art, creative writing, and hands-on projects. So, keep an eye out for your

child's latest masterpiece! On the back of the Newsflash, you will find a convenient calendar listing all Salam

Academy events and important dates. We hope you have an excellent month! If you have any questions or

suggestions about the Newsflash, don't hesitate to send a note to: wred1@hotmail.com.