



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



Highlights!

- ◆ Salam Academy’s Board, affiliated committees, principal, staff & faculty are active in the re-accreditation process.
- ◆ Lunch from Yasmine Café coming soon to Salam Academy.
- ◆ Drama Club will start, supervised by Ms. Lena Baxley and Ms. Kamila Kasparian.
- ◆ Ramadan Competition & Eid Party were fabulous.
- ◆ Stay tuned for the Hajj Competition results. Are you ready for Spelling Bee and States and Capitals Contest?
- ◆ Preparation for science competitions in the works—contact Sr. Habibe Aksoy at ms_science@salamacademy.org for details.
- ◆ REMINDER! Call for PTO elections. Please submit your nominations ASAP to pto@salamacademy.org.
- ◆ Caleb Fisher's Lego men are still missing—reward of two slices of pizza for each one recovered.

Sunnah Sports at Salam Academy



Healthy Heart and Lungs Boost Math and Reading Scores.

According to a study done at the University of North Texas, having a healthy heart and lungs may be one of the most important factors for middle school students to excel in math and reading. This was the finding from a review of 14 studies involving children ages 6-18.

Cardio-respiratory fitness was the only factor that was found to consistently impact grades on reading and math tests, which the researchers said.

Parents should strive to make physical fitness a regular part of the family's life outside of school hours as well.

The More Active Your Child, The Better They'll Do at School.

The first archery fieldtrip was on Wednesday, Oct 3, 2012, and soon thereafter making it a part of our regular curriculum, with yearly participation in state competitions, Insha' Allah! All three Sunnah sports (archery, swimming, and horseback riding) will become a part of our regular semester plans, even though horseback riding can likely only be done once every semester, and swimming will at best be monthly, given our current constraints on time and resources.

FAMILY CONNECTION PROGRAM

A wonderful program that provides fun and learning opportunities to families that home school their children or children are attending part/ time or online schools/ programs. It is flexible and affordable. [Learn more ...](#)



- Newsletter Committee:
- Kamila Kasparian
 - Rebecca Mossalaei
 - Aamna Nayyar

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Now at Your School: Common Core State Standards

The Common Core State Standards are being implemented at your school, this year. Forty-five states have adopted the national educational curriculum standards. Here's a Common Core primer on what to expect your kids will be learning.

Released in 2010, the Common Core State Standards, or CCSS (or just "Common Core"), are a set of voluntary national education standards for mathematics and English Language Arts. Developed through collaboration among teachers, education researchers, school administrators, parents, and state education leaders, they define what students should master, by grade, to become successful adults. As of September 2012, 45 states and the District of Columbia have adopted the Common Core standards for school districts. (The states that haven't adopted the standards are Alaska, Minnesota, Nebraska, Virginia, and Texas.)

The standards are complex documents with detailed descriptions of what students should know and be able to do in grades K-12. They specify skills and competencies, but don't prescribe specific curriculum content or teaching methods. This leaves states and districts with greater flexibility in how they help students achieve mastery of the standards.

The success of the standards may start being measured in 2014, when new national, computer-based assessments aligned with the CCSS replace current state standardized tests, which have no uniformity across state lines, either in expectations or difficulty. But parents are advised not to be too concerned if their children's test scores initially decline. [Learn more ...](#)

COMMON CORE STANDARDS Summary

Kindergarten:

Math:

- Know number names and the count sequence
- Understand addition as putting together and adding to, and understand subtraction as taking apart and taking from
- Work with numbers 11-19 to gain foundations for place value
- Identify and describe basic shapes

English Language Arts:

- With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text
- Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds (phonemes)
- Speak audibly and express thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly
- Print many uppercase and lowercase letters

3rd Grade:

Math:

- Solve problems involving the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division) and the relationship between multiplication and division
- Multiply and divide within 100
- Develop understanding of fractions as numbers
- Solve problems involving measurement and estimation of intervals of time, liquid volumes, and masses of objects

English Language Arts:

- Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events
- Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension
- Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly
- Explain the function of nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs in

general and their functions in particular sentences

and use ratio reasoning to solve problems

- Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division to divide fractions by fractions
- Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving area, surface area, and volume fluently with multi-digit numbers and find common factors and multiples

English Language Arts:

- Explain how an author develops the point of view of the narrator or speaker in a text
- Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence
- Interpret information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and explain how it contributes to a topic, text, or issue under study

6th Grade**Math:**

- Understand ratio concepts and use ratio reasoning to solve problems
- Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division to divide fractions by fractions
- Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving area, surface area, and volume fluently with multi-digit numbers and find common factors and multiples

English Language Arts:

- Explain how an author develops the point of view of the narrator or speaker in a text
- Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence
- Interpret information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and explain how it contributes to a topic, text, or issue under study

8th Grade**Math:**

- Know that there are numbers that are not rational, and approximate them by rational numbers
- Understand the connections between proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations
- Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving volumes of cylinders, cones and spheres
- Analyze and solve linear equations and pairs of simultaneous linear equations

English Language Arts:

- Compare and contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structures of each text contributes to its meaning and style
- Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence; support claims with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text
- Analyze the purpose of information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and evaluate the motives (e.g., social, commercial, political) behind its presentation

Grades 9-12**Math:**

- Use properties of rational and irrational numbers
- Create equations that describe numbers or relationships
- Understand solving equations as a process of reasoning and explain the reasoning
- Prove geometric theorems
- Summarize, represent, and interpret data on a single count or measurement variable
- Use probability to evaluate outcomes of decisions

English Language Arts:

- Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings
- Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading or listening

- Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate
- Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience
- Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain

Inspiring Teacher Quote

"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."

Benjamin Franklin



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Smart Cool Week 3D Model Contest:

- **First Place:** Abdullah Shah (9th Grade)
- **Second Place:** Maryam Gauba, Eman Gauba & Mahnoor Gauba (Family Project)
- **Third Place:** Maryam Assed (3rd Grade)

Judges:

- Dr. Ibrahim Ahmed
- Br. Said Badran
- Br. Mohamed El Emawy

Ramadan Quiz Contest:

- **First Place:** Abdullah Mamdani (8th Grade)
- **Second Place:** Marwa Kassem (8th Grade)
- **Third Place:** Abdullah Shah (9th Grade), Safa Kassem (4th Grade), Rinad Yusef (8th Grade)

Contest Organizer: Ms. Iman Babaa

Quiz Prepared by: Education Committee



SALAM ACADEMY

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Has No Limits!

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Salam Academy is considering starting Free or Reduced
Halal Lunch Program, Insha'Allah! Stay tuned!

Food Allergies and School-age Kids

Food allergies are on the rise among children, affecting 4% of U.S. kids age 17 and younger and up 18% in the past decade, according to a 2008 report from the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Eight foods accounted for 90% of food allergies: eggs, fish, milk, peanuts, shellfish, soy, tree nuts, and wheat.

Researchers are perplexed by the reasons for the increase in food allergies. But for parents of kids with allergies, the bigger concern isn't the cause, it's how to keep their child safe. Children with severe allergies can go into anaphylactic shock, a severe reaction marked by swelling of the throat and tongue, among other symptoms.

Parents should make a plan with the school as soon as possible if their child has known allergies.

Although it's important to talk to the

principal and to your child's teacher, the most important people who need to understand your child's condition are in the cafeteria, not the classroom. The ones who serve the food and give out the food—they need to be educated on how to avoid the food and how to end the reaction.

Even parent volunteers need to be educated about allergies. If a parent passes out trail mix containing peanuts as a class treat, she might pick out the nuts for a child who says he's allergic. But the fruit might be contaminated, triggering a reaction.

Children with severe allergies need to keep an EpiPen (an epinephrine shot) available in case they accidentally ingest the food they're allergic to and go into anaphylactic shock. Epinephrine works to counteract swelling and other symptoms related to anaphylaxis, and so the injection should not

be kept solely in the school clinic, the principal's office, or a locked cabinet that only one person has access to. The pen should be with the child or in the vicinity of the child.

The most powerful weapon against an allergic reaction is education. It's important to teach children to read food labels carefully.

Besides the common allergies, some children may have reactions to foods not usually associated with allergies, such as pineapple or peaches.

Allergies usually surface before a child is old enough to start school, and most children are only allergic to one or two foods, though some may be allergic to a wide variety. Food allergies often go hand in hand with other medical conditions—children with food allergies are two to four times as likely to have asthma and three times as likely to have skin and respiratory allergies, for example. Many children will eventually outgrow their food allergies.