

Community Connections



November 2011

Salam Academy: Where Education Has No Limits!

Theme of the Month:

Hajj/ Sacrifice

" O you the believers, obey Allah and obey His Messenger and those in the authority of Islamic order." (Quran 4:59)

Islamic Authority are those who are closest to the law of Allah, the Quran and the tradition of Muhammad (S.A.W.A) as His last and final Prophet and Messenger.

Newsletter Committee:

- Aamna Nayyar
- Rebecca Mosallaei

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From The School Board:

Salam Academy Board met with the teachers in a get-to-know each other informal meeting in October.

Highlights of the meeting:

- Board will be meeting with the teachers once a month.
- Br. Ahmed Hasan gave a draft copy of the proposed admission policy.
- Br. Tahir Gauba offered his expertise as the Director of Scholarship.
- Teachers relayed their concerns about lack of cooperation by some parents.
- Salam Academy's Discipline Policy was discussed.
- Use of formal suggestion/complaint/ complaint Form was stressed.
- Teachers expressed their



reasons about why they like to be part of Salam Academy Team;

- * Small classroom; hence focused instruction.
- * Family environment.
- * Worth to work here as compared to many public schools.
- * Amazing thoughtfulness of some of the children.

And [mention] when Abraham was raising the foundations of the House and [with him] Ishmael, [saying], "Our Lord, accept [this] from us. Indeed You are the Hearing, the Knowing. (Quran 2:127)

Our Lord, and make us Muslims [in submission] to You and from our descendants a Muslim nation [in submission] to You. And show us our rites and accept our repentance. Indeed, You are the Accepting of repentance, the Merciful. (Quran 2:128)

Our Lord, and send among them a messenger from themselves who will recite to them Your verses and teach them the Book and wisdom and purify them. Indeed, You are the Exalted in Might, the Wise." (Quran 2:129)

Then let them end their untidiness and fulfill their vows and perform Tawaf around the ancient House. (Quran 22:29)

Hajj Mubarak:

⇒ Congratulations to all the Hajjis.

- Mr. Naseer and Mrs. Nada AbdalHack (SA Board-Director of Education) .
- Mahnoor, Iman & Maryam's father (Br. Haroon Gauba) and grandma (Sr. Zulaikha Gauba).
- Taha Quraishi and his parents (Sr. Sabiha & Br. MashaAllah Quraishi).

From the Desk of the Administrator/ Budget Manager

- ◆ The Salam Academy students did a food drive leading up to our Eid in November. It was done to show the students how hunger affects their fellow NM residents as well as give them an appreciation for all that God has given us. They collected canned goods and will be donating them to the Roadrunner food bank. 2nd grade collected the biggest collection of food item and hence won the contest!
- ◆ Just a reminder that students are not allowed to bring medication with

them to school. If a student needs to take medication, parents must fill out forms in the office and the medication has to stay in the office and be dispensed by the staff. Please contact the office if you have any questions.



PLEASE Donate from the following wish list:

- * Printer Papers
- * Toilet Rolls
- * Paper Towels
- * Napkins/ Tissue papers
- * Toilet Water pots (lota)
- * P.E. supplies
- * Science Supplies

Hajj Competition 2011: Islamic Knowledge Projects & Online Quiz

An online quiz on Islamic knowledge will be held on Nov. 17, 2011 during the school hours at the school under the supervision of Ms. Iman Babaa and her assigned proctor. The competition is open to 4th to 8th grade students. The contents of the quiz will be from the Arabic/Islam/ Quran curriculum on Hajj and Story of Ibrahim (A.S.) taught at grade 4th to grade 8th level at Salam Academy.

Do not watch TV at all during the week of Oct 31– Nov 7, 2011... instead be creative and do unique and inspiring projects based on the verse from the Quran or any authentic hadith on Hajj. This competition is open to KG– 3rd grades.

In Kind Donations Received:

- * Printer/ Copier
- * Arabic & Islam Curriculum
- * Toilet Rolls
- * Items for Garage Sale
- * Collections from penny jars

Poetry Contest Deadline:

5:00pm Dec 1st.

Art Contest Deadline:

5:00pm Nov 28th.

Spelling Bee Contest:

Dec 9th (TBA).

From the Desk of P.T.O.

Salam Academy PTO **wants to thank ICNM Board** for approving one Friday each month for selling food and items to raise funds to help support the school. On Oct 21, 2011 booth at ICNM, Salam Academy PTO Volunteers raised following funds:

- Biryani & Ice-cream Sale: \$209
- Donut Mart Cards: \$40
- Candy Sales: \$36

Next Sale Insha'Allah would be on Nov 18, 2011 at ICNM right after Jummah Salat.

P.T.O. is also working on organizing regular **food sales at UNM SUB** with the support of UNM-MSA. Please contact P.T.O. if you are interested in helping and also what days and timings you would be available.

Please help your school by ordering following:

- * Donut Mart Gift Card: \$5 each
- * Sunflower Gift Card: \$100 each

REMEMBER! Every Wednesday is a Pizza Day at School.



Tips for Effective Parent-Teacher Conference:

Education is a shared responsibility. To help students learn the skills, habits and attitudes needed for lifelong success, teachers need your assistance and input. Working together, you and your child's educator can ensure your child reaches his full potential this school year.

Getting Ready:

- Ask your child if there are topics he would like discussed with his teacher.
- Write notes to yourself about your child's personality, learning difficulties and study habits – aspects that

you feel his teacher should know. Take these notes with you to the meeting.

Helpful Questions to Ask at the Meeting:

- What is your classroom homework policy? Is homework graded?
- What are the skills that you expect my child to master this year?
- How do you accommodate for learning styles?
- How can I stay involved in my child's learning?

During the Conference:

- Start off on the right foot.

- Be respectful of the teacher's time and arrive promptly.
- Discuss your notes concerning your child's learning habits.
- Ask your most important questions first – in case time runs out.
- Ask the teacher for specific suggestions on ways to help your child reach his full potential. This is the most important part of the meeting.
- Take notes so you can discuss the meeting with your child.
- End the meeting by reiterating the actions that will be taken by the teacher or you.

(Taken from schoolfamily.com)

Story Writing Competition 2011:

REMEMBER!!!

Parent-Teacher Conference-Friday, Nov 18th.

Coordinator: Ms. Joan Boyden

WINNERS:

- **By Grade:**
KG: Mansour Hashimi "Playing with Rockets"
- 1st Grade: Ziad Aloui "The Boy and the Puppy Go to the Park"
- 2nd Grade: Amr Kassem "Amazing Ants"
- 3rd Grade: Rakin Faruk "A New Baby"
- 4th/5th Grade: Amir Hawash "the

Beak"

- 6th Grade: Mahmmud Saeed "the Kitchen Battles"
- 7th Grade: Alexis Chavez "The Haunted Hat"
- 8th Grade: Abdullah Shah "The Undead Wolf" and Muhammed Saeed "Superpowers"

By Division:

KG-2nd Grade:

- 1st Place: Amr Kassem
- 2nd Place: Hanifa Al-Hassan

3rd-5th Grades:

- 1st Place: Rakin Faruk
- 2nd Place: Amir Hawash

6th -8th Grades:

- 1st Place: Mahmmud Saeed
- 2nd Place: Alexis Al-Omari

Illustration Winners by Division:

- K-2: Hanifa Al-Hassan
- 3-5: Rakin Faruk
- 6-8: Mahmmud Saeed

Middle School's trip to La Luz Trail

Salam Academy Middle School went to for an educational trip to enjoy and appreciate beautiful nature on Oct 27, 2011. Students were accompanied by their teachers, Ms. Kasparian, Ms. Brisbin and Ms. Goradia, and Amina's mom, as parent volunteer.

Students took their eco-friendly, hand-made science journals, and wrote about their experiences.



Dear Parents, please keep up to date about your children progress by regularly logging on to GPA system at; <http://www.salamacademy.org/35.html>

Ms. Monique Green's Early Pre-K:

Early Pre-K is so excited about this month we are going to explore the letters; Kk, Ll, Mm, Nn. We get to talk about the Kangaroos in Australia, The Lions in the Sahara, the Monkeys in the Rainforest, The Newts in the Creeks. We will be working on number 11, 12, 13, 14 and sequencing, patterns, and Problem solving. The shapes we will be working on learning are Cubes, Pyramids, Cylinders, and Spheres. It is getting colder outside so I would like to remind parents to bring a warm winter jacket and hat if you wish. Please try and remember to bring a water bottle everyday to ensure proper hydration. I would like to announce the



new students that have joined our class. Sami and Lana joined us in August, Gabriela, Saad, and Abdul joined us in September and Liliyana graduated to Pre-school. Good Luck Liliyana! We will be doing lots of fun art and reading lots of cool books all year, so parents look forward to seeing a more creative curriculum.



- ⇒ Mr. & Mrs. Tahir Gauba (SA Board– Director of Scholarship) are recently been blessed with a baby daughter, Jannat.
- ⇒ Alexis and Zaid Al-Omari have been blessed with a new baby brother, Mohammad.
- ⇒ Salam Academy Alumni Ms. Seham Aggad, who is also the eldest sister of Eman Aggad, had a baby girl, Jenna.
- ⇒ Inna Lillahi wa inna ilehe rajaoon– our heartfelt condolences to Ms. Hayat Jawad for the demise of her beloved father-in-law, Br. Rafat Mohammad Abdul Jawad.

Ms. Desiree Amaral's Pre-K:

- ◆ In the month of October, Early PreK students learn about “I” sounds and words; numbers 9-10 and counting till 20. They also learned about hot and cold, insects and inchworm, sea life and ocean.. In Social studies they learned about “India, Indians and Igloos. They also learned about appropriate feelings and appropriate behaviors.
- ◆ This month, they have started learning “M” sounds and words. They are now ready to count till 50. In science, they are learning about mice and monkeys and in Social Studies, they are learning to write letters.
- ◆ Congratulations to Idriss Ziouani! He is the student of the month of October. Idriss is a

very caring, patient and considerate with his friends. He always tries his best in class and is a great story teller.



Ms. Priyam Banerjee's KG:

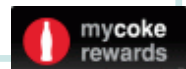
Ms. Priyam reminds all that the school is a three way between the parent, child and the teacher. The channel of communication must always stay open!

To learn more about the Pre-K class, please email;

priyambanerjee15@gmail.com



REMEMBER! Salam Academy support Healthy living and no junk food is allowed in the school. This activity is to learn to recycle. Make sure you collect caps of all Coca-Cola beverages to get codes, and then enter the codes online to get points and donate them to our school. You do not have to drink any cola but wherever you find any, just get the cap and enter the code or drop the caps at the school office and we will enter the codes for you.



Ms. Joan Boyden's First Grade:

First Graders have been hard at work learning to recite and read poetry and soon to write their own! They are also enjoying reading lots of books and scoring points on Book Adventure's website. On Friday, November 18th they will take a Field Trip to a Fire Station in Albuquerque to learn about Firefighters as part of their Social Studies Unit on Community Workers! If any parent in the school would like to come spend a half hour in our class sharing your occupation with us, please contact Ms. Joan, the First Grade Teacher. We welcome you!

Dear Parents, please honor the school's policy on 2 hours per month volunteer time.



Maps and Models

Ms. Suzanne Cordova's Second Grade:

Second Grade is working very hard on many different things. In Science we are studying all about animals. We are learning about mammals, fish, reptiles, birds, amphibians, and insects. We are having a good time and finding this very interesting. In Social Studies we have been learning about the different land forms on the



We Love Gardening

earth. We are working very hard in our reading and our writing and are becoming very good readers and writers. A few weeks ago we learned about balloons and did several balloon projects with our third grade friends. We had a really great time.

Ms. Sharon Cuba's Third Grade:

Third graders are having blast!

They are learning about San Francisco in Social Studies.

In Science, they are learning about Ecosystem and how living thing interact with each other.

In Reading, they are learning

about plot, character, setting



and inferences of a story They are exploring maps.

Math time is focused on multiplication and about equal shares and equal groups.

Language Arts is currently time to learn abbreviations and finding common errors in plurals and possessiveness.

Ms. Sheri Peterson's Fourth & Fifth Grades:

Our fantastic fourth and fifth graders have been learning and enjoying their educational journey.

They learned about The Great Depression and how to calculate distances and mileage on atlases.

They thoroughly enjoyed reading **Bud, Not Buddy** by Christopher Paul Curtis.

They got motivated to write their own books the way the main character did. Using the style and inspiration from Bud Caldwell, they amus-

ingly wrote "Rules and Things for Having a _____ Life and Making a Better _____ Out of Yourself."

Here is an example;

Malek Jaber's Rules and Things for Having an Evil Life and Making a Better Joker Out of Yourself
Rules and Things Number 92: Be as cool as a shark.

Rules and Things Number 101: Your

Sports Authority and Playworld Systems are giving away a \$30,000 grant for a new playground. Anyone can go to the link listed below and vote for Salam Academy.

www.EnergyBalance101.com

life must be fast as lightning for your jokes.

Arabic & Islam:

- ◆ All Pre-K to 5th grades made Eid Greeting Cards.
- ◆ PreK is working on recognizing Arabic letters.
- ◆ KG is now reading words.
- ◆ 1st grade is now reading 3 letter words, recognizing short and long vowels, and how to connect letters to make words.
- ◆ 2nd graders are writing sentences using past verbs and starting memorizing Surah Al Alaq.
- ◆ 3rd graders are writing about their

families and starting memorizing Surah Al Mutaffafeen.

- ◆ 4th and 5th are done memorizing Surah Al Mulk.
- ◆ Middle school students read Quran with rules for 10 m minutes everyday and focusing on significance of



3rd Grade Family Projects

Hajj.

- ◆ 6th grade studied two dialogue-stories from the Iqra' book. The students learned basic conversational phrases. They also learned types of nouns and words.
- ◆ 7th grade discussed several verses from Chapter Al-Imraan with meaning, learned tenses of verbs with pronouns, and Arabic proverbs.
- ◆ 8th grade is studying Surah Annazi'at with meaning. In Seera, they are discussing about; Divine names; Objective of the Holy Quran ; Hadeeth (collection and classification); Schools (mazahib); Hope; Trials in life; & Friendship.

P.E. & Computer Classes:

- ◆ Lots of fun in PE! Ms. Kasparian, Ms. Brisbin and Ms. Iman Babaa are keeping kids busy and healthy. This month kids are learning Yoga (girls only), approved folk dance (girls only), Tennis (Boys & Girls) and Fitness Exercises (Boys & Girls).
- ◆ Mr. Emran Qassim is keeping kids busy in the computer labs. Middle school students are designing their personal websites.

The white garments at Hajj are symbolic of human equality and unity before God, since all the pilgrims are dressed similarly.

And who would be averse to the religion of Abraham except one who makes a fool of himself. And We had chosen him in this world, and indeed he, in the Hereafter, will be among the righteous. When his Lord said to him, "Submit", he said "I have submitted [in Islam] to the Lord of the worlds." (Quran 2:130-131)



Ms. Kamila Kasparian's Language Arts:

Middle school have been writing some poetry about fall!

CALEB FISHER

Big piles of leaves most pleasing to me,
I jump into them like a dolphin jumps into the sea,
I like to go round and round on the mary-go-round,
The leaves on the trees look like sunset to me,
But my favorite thing to do is to go trick-or-treating.

MAHMMUD SAEED

When the last leaf falls
It will be the last of fall.
The air will go cool and
Winter will come.

The end of fall, the end of leaves,
Get your coats when the last leaf Falls.

LAYLA SALEEM

Jumping in cool liquid,
Feeling the freeze,
Looking like the bees knees,
So delightfully cool.

GADA KHALAF

It's chilly now,
And we cry out loud,
The days are short,
So wear your coat,
The leaves are everywhere,
But they die everyday.

AMINA SALL

Cool, orange leaves, beautiful trees all around me.
Pumpkins and Thanksgiving occur.
Orange and Red surrounding me.
This is what Fall is.

MARWA KASSEM

Running in red leaves
Like flowing in my veins
Raking my heart away
Falling into a pile of joy.

ABDULLAH SHAH

Fall Poems
Hear the wind blowing?
That means fall is coming fast.
Quick! Put on a coat.

Ms. Maggi Brisbin's Science Activities & Ms. Nuha Babaa's Math:

- ◆ Science Club is working hard. They have designed Hydraulic Cars from reusable materials. Students are excited and are learning about fuel efficient and green cars. This is part of a competition sponsored by Sandia Labs. The competition is on Nov 19th from 9am– 3pm. Please pray that their hard work will be fruitful, Insha'Allah!
- ◆ In the Science Labs, they grew bacteria by using Agar.
- ◆ They are also learning about

plants and growing their own botanical garden with a variety of herbs.

The Scientists and Professionals Program at Salam Academy (SA) is designed to allow experts in various fields to interact with SA students in ways that will enhance their knowledge and understanding of technical and other subject matters related to their studies.

<http://salamacademy.org/54.html>

- ◆ In math, 6th graders are working on "Everyday Math"; 7th graders are doing Algebra 1 & 8th graders are taking Algebra 2. Both 7th & 8th grades are also taking Saxon Math.



Personal Garden

Ms. Sharmila Goradia's Social Studies:

PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT: AN EXCERPT FROM HIS ANNUAL MESSAGE TO THE AMERICAN CONGRESS, JANUARY 6TH 1941

'In the future days, which we seek to make secure, we look forward to a world founded upon four essential human freedoms.

The first is **freedom of speech and expression** - everywhere in the world

The second is **freedom of every person to worship God in his own way** - everywhere in the world.

The third is **freedom from want** - which, translated into universal terms, means economic understandings which will secure to every nation a healthy peacetime life for its inhabitants - everywhere in the world.

The fourth is **freedom from fear** - which, translated into world terms, means a world-wide reduction of armaments to such a point and in such a thorough fashion that no nation will be in a position to commit an act of physical aggression against any neighbor - anywhere in the world.

That is no vision of a distant millennium. It is a definite basis for a kind of world attainable in our own time & generation.

DON'T DELAY GIVING IN CHARITY!

The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) once had several coins that he asked his wife to distribute in charity. But due to the Prophet's illness at the time, she did not have an opportunity to give out the coins. When the Prophet learned of this, he asked for the coins, placed them in his hand, and then said: "What would God's Prophet think if he were to meet God, who is Great and Glorious, while (still) possessing these?" - Al-Tirmidhi, Hadith 586

The Prophet also said: "Give charity without delay, for it stands in the way of calamity." - Al-Tirmidhi, Hadith 589



Our Vision:

Salam Academy's Vision is to create outstanding American citizens who are trained to be leaders in their family, community, and the American society as a whole.



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ICNM Health Fair & Salam Academy



"By the way, The Salam Academy Science fair posters looked amazing. Hard to believe those were set up by such young folks. Masha'Allah."~ Amjed Musleh– ICNM Health Fair