

FROM THE DESK OF ADMINISTRATION

April 15th-21st, was National Volunteer Week. Salam Academy Board and Administration would like to honor you, our volunteers, who tirelessly share your time and talent. We cannot thank you enough for your commitment to Salam Academy. There is no doubt that volunteerism becomes ever more important in our local communities, state, and nation every day.

National Volunteer Week is about inspiring, recognizing and encouraging people to seek ways to engage in their community. It's about meeting our challenges not as isolated individuals, but as members of a community, with all of us working together. This special week was designated by executive order by President Richard Nixon in 1974. Every President since has signed a proclamation of support announcing National Volunteer Week as the national week of recognizing volunteers. If you are interested in reading President Obama's 2012 proclamation, please visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2012/04/09/presidential-proclamation-national-volunteer-week-2012>.

We ask Allah (SWT) to reward you all and grant you the successes, good health and the joy & satisfaction of helping our children to receive good academic education under safe and secure Islamic environment. Our students are the future of the American Muslim community and with the help of our volunteers; they will be (ISA) the best representation of the Islamic Faith.

Newsletter Committee:

- Kamila Kasparian
- Rebecca Mosallaei
- Aamna Nayyar

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

SALAM ACADEMY: WHERE EDUCATION HAS NO LIMITS!



VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4

JUMADA THANI 1433

APRIL 2012

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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.

NEWS!



- ◆ Tuition is due on the first day of every month.
- ◆ Please keep up-to-date about your children's performance by visiting GPA link on school's website.
- ◆ Please send your final comments about the school's handbook by May 13th.
- ◆ Imam Shafi is speaking with our middle school children every Thursday after school.
- ◆ Annual Garage Sale is on May 12 at Salam Academy from 8 am- 2 pm.
- ◆ Graduation and Talent Show will be on May 26 at UNM CE Center.

APRIL FUN & ACTIVITIES



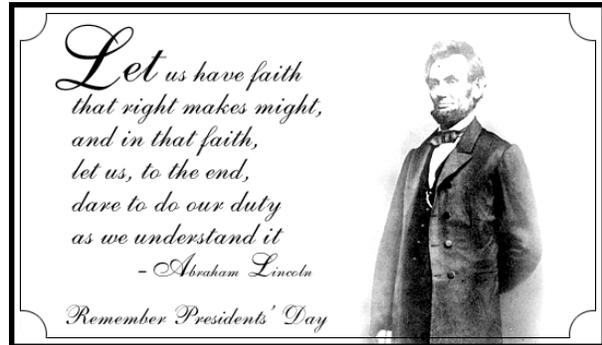
- * Kindergarten continues to work hard at their reading skills. They gained familiarity with sight words and reviewing the consonant blends. In Math, they practiced ITBS tests, focusing on word problems and basic mathematical concepts. They had a wonderful time on the field trips: a lovely **hike through the Bosque** and a fantastic day at the **Albuquerque zoo**.
- * The First Grader worked with a local **Ceramic Artist, Pat Marcello**, who came to the classroom to teach them to make "knee bowls". Students then visited her Art Studio after she fired them in her kiln and the class got to paint and glaze them. Students are waiting to seeing the finished "GOODS". Students are learning about GOODS AND SERVICES in Social Studies.
- * April 3, started out with a trip up to **Tent Rocks National Monument**. The purpose of the journey was to spend some much needed time outside and experience firsthand what "sublime" really is. Students learned about the Transcendentalists, their love for God and Nature as well as the Hudson River School and how they painted the American Wilderness with a reverence for Allah's creation.
- * April 5, was **Dental day** at Salam Academy. It was sponsored by Santa Fe Community College Department of Dental Health. Middle School students learned about Intoxicants and their effects on teeth and hence the whole body. They also participated in an essay contest on what they learned from that presentation.
- * April 4, 5 and 6 was the theater showing of **Baklavia**. Directed by Ms. Kasparian and Co-directed by Ms. Peterson. Background paintings were done by Ms. Boyden. Everyone did fabulous job with their part.
- * April 6, students , teachers and parents participated in the **Run for the Zoo** event.
- * April 14, Caleb, Layla, and Ms. Brisbin participated in the **Albuquerque Open Space spring clean up** of the Indian School Trailhead.. Thank you all in helping clean our environment!
- * April 17 was **National River Clean up day**. Students who participated were given extra credit by Ms. Brisbin.
- * April 18, middle school girls took the **challenge of Hula Hoop** in their PE class with Ms. Brisbin.
- * April 24-26, students had their **ITBS tests**.
- * April 29 was **Donors appreciation** lunch and Celebration of Regional and State level **Science fair winners**.
- * **\$286.23 was donated to Islamic Relief for Somalia** via Imam Shafi. This money was collected as part of helping students learn to help the people in need.
- * Sad news is..... Coach Ramzi will no longer be able to coach the **Chess Club** because he and his family are moving to Arizona. We are happy for their exciting opportunities but this will be a great loss for our school! He has been a fantastic teacher and our club members are becoming great Chess players very quickly.
- * Good news is we have another coach who is willing to take us through the rest of this year and then hopefully will continue with us next year. He is a Chess colleague of Coach Ramzi and an experienced player and teacher.

SIGNS OF WEAK FAITH

~ Taken from the book "Spiritual Disease and its Cure" by Imaam Ibnul Qayyim A-Jawziyyah on pgs. 71-73 and Imam Shai's lecture to sisters.

⇒ Committing Sins and not feeling any guilt. Sins leave disturbing and damaging effects, on the body and soul, which have consequences both in this world and the Hereafter. Some of these effects are:

- ◇ **Deprivation of knowledge.**
- ◇ **Withdrawal of blessings**
- ◇ **Loneliness:**
- ◇ **Facing hardship.**
- ◇ **Feeling anxiety.**
- ◇ **Prevention from doing other obedient acts.**
- ◇ **The shortening of one's lifespan:** When a person turns away from Allah, and dedicates him/herself to committing sins, he/she would waste his/her real life here, about which he/she would say one day: **[Oh! If I had prepared for this life of mine]** [surat al-Fajr, verse 24]



turns

- ⇒ Having a hard heart and no desire to read Quran.
- ⇒ Feeling too last to good deeds.
- ⇒ Neglecting Sunnah.
- ⇒ Having mood swings. Getting bothered with petty things.
- ⇒ Not feeling anything when hearing the verses of Quran.
- ⇒ Finding difficulty in remembering Allah.
- ⇒ Not feeling bad when things are done against Allah's command.
- ⇒ Being mean and miserly.
- ⇒ Ordering others to do good deeds when not doing it themselves.
- ⇒ Feeling good when things are not progressing for others.
- ⇒ Being concerned about halal and haram only and not avoiding makrooh (not recommended/ disliked)
- ⇒ Making fun of people who do simple good deeds.
- ⇒ Not feeling concerned about when others are hurt.
- ⇒ Not feeling the responsibility to serve and promote true faith.
- ⇒ Liking to argue for the sake of argument without having knowledge
- ⇒ Becoming engrossed and very involved in worldly things and forget about life after death.
- ⇒ Becoming engrossed and obsessive about ourselves.

HOW TO INCREASE OUR FAITH?

- * Recite and ponder meaning of The Qur'an.
- * Realize the Greatness of Allah.
- * Make an effort to gain knowledge that benefit.
- * Attend gatherings where Allah is remembered.
- * Increase doing good deeds.
- * Must fear the miserable end of our lives.
- * Remember the different levels of Akhirah.
- * Make dua (supplication).
- * Love for Allah must be shown in actions. Faith is complete with good deeds.
- * Realize the effects of sins and disobedience.



Abdullah bin 'Abbas (radi Allaahu anhu) said: "A good deed brings illumination to the face, light in the heart, power in the body, and love in the people's hearts. A bad deed shows as dullness in the face, darkness in the heart, weakness in the body, shortage of blessings, and hatred in people's hearts."



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Intoxicants and Our Health essay writing submission:

- **First place:** Sarah Hasan- 7th grade
- **Second place:** Abdullah Shah- 8th grade & Isa M- 6th grade
- **Third Place:** Abdullah Mamdani- 6th grade & Kiran Mamdani- 8th grade
- **Honorable mention:** Marwa Kassem- 8th grade

All students who submitted essay received the Certificate.

Special Prize:

- **Best Essay:** Sarah Hasan
- **Original & Creative Writer:** Isa Manzanares



FRIDAYS ARE ETHNIC DRESS-UP DAY



SCHOOL UNIFORM MUST BE IN SCHOOL APPROVED COLORS ONLY



Salam Academy is excited to welcome Susan Khalili as our new school nurse. Sr. Susan has a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of New Mexico Nursing School. She worked at University of New Mexico Children's Hospital in the General Pediatric Unit from 1998 until 2007 when she decided to stay home with her children. She will be at the school Mon-Thurs from 11 am-2 pm, helping with any medical issues in the school.

TEACHER OF THE MONTH OF APRIL



Ms. Priyam Banerjee - Awarded a gift certificate from Olympia Cafe and a Certificate of Appreciation from the Board.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH OF APRIL



- Early Childhood - Zara Mamdani
- Elementary - Lillah Hammad
- Middle School - Taha Quraishi