



Call to the Light



MUAAZZIN

25TH RAMADAN رمضان 1427

Newsletter No.18

19TH OCT 2006

Important dates

19th Oct – Iftar program for Secondary Girls
 23rd-25th Oct – Eid Holiday for 3 days
 26th Oct – School Eid Function
 31st Oct - Quran Competition Semi-finals
 6th Nov – Curriculum Day (Student free day)

Eid Break

Next week will be Eid inshAllah and there will be no school from Monday to Wednesday. May everyone have a very happy Eid, in celebration for their obedience to the command of Allah, for fasting.

Quran Competition

The date is edging closer for our esteemed Quran Competition. Ramadan has been a blessing also for those reading the Quran in abundance and it is sure to improve the standard of the competition inshAllah. Please remind your children to practice their Quran, not only for the Quran competition, but for gaining the everlasting pleasure of Rabbul Aalameen.

The Semi-finals will be held on Tuesday 31st October. Grades 3 and up will be able to attend. Five students will be competing from each of the categories to be able to get one of the top 3 spots.

The finals will be held on 9th November for the top three contestants in each category and parents will also be able to attend this finals event.

The 5 categories are as follows:

1. Most fluent Nathira reading of Al-Baqara and Juzus 29 and 30 (Prep to grade 4)
2. Best skilled Nathira reading of Juzus 1 to 15 (grade 5 to year 10)
3. Most meticulous voices on prepared ayat from the Holy Quran (grades 4- year 10, including hifz students)
4. Strongest memorisation of Juz 30 (all grades)
5. Most proficient memorisation of Juzus 1 to 12 (Hifz and Huffaz only)

Curriculum Day

There will be a student free day on Monday 6th November inshAllah. Only the school staff will be attending on this day for curriculum related activities.

School Eid Function

The school has organised an Eid function on Thursday

of next week. The notes have already been sent home with permission slips for ordering lunch on that. The cost of \$5 includes lunch as well as a turn on the jumping castle. There will be food stalls as well as henna painting for those who wish to participate. Other activities will also be held throughout the day to make it a memorable event in celebration of Eid.

School Hours

Don't forget that school will resume from Thursday next week at its normal time. The children need to be at school by 8.15am for assembly at 8.20am, and the afternoon bell will be at 3.45pm.

Hadith of the Week

Aishah (Radiallahu anha) reports,
 "O Messenger of Allah, when I
 find myself in Laylatul Qadr,
 what shall I say?"

Rasulullah (sallallahu alayhi wasalam)
 replied, "Say O Allah, You are the One
 who pardons, You love to pardon,
 so grant me forgiveness".

عَنْ عَائِشَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهَا قَالَتْ قُلْتُ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ
 أَرَأَيْتَ إِنْ عَلِمْتُ أَيْ لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ مَا أَقُولُ فِيهَا
 قَالَ قُولِي اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّكَ عَفُوفٌ رَحِيمٌ الْعَفْوُ فَاعْفُ عَنِّي

Story of the week

It was narrated that in the days that Musa (Alayhi salaam) wandered with Bani Israel in the desert an intense drought befell them. Together, they raised their hands towards the heavens praying for the blessed rain to come. Then, to the astonishment of Musa (Alahi salaam) and all those watching, the few scattered clouds that were in the sky vanished, the heat poured down, and the drought intensified.

It was revealed to Musa that there was a sinner amongst the tribe of Bani Israel whom had disobeyed Allah (Subhanahu wa ta'ala) for more than forty years of his life. "Let him separate himself from the congregation," Allah (Subhanahu wa ta'ala) told

Musa (Alahi salaam). "Only then shall I shower you all with rain."

Musa (Alahi salaam) then called out to the throngs of humanity, "There is a person amongst us who has disobeyed Allah for forty years. Let him separate himself from the congregation and only then shall we be rescued from the drought." That man, waited, looking left and right, hoping that someone else would step forward, but no one did. Sweat poured forth from his brow and he knew that he was the one.

The man knew that if he stayed amongst the congregation all would die of thirst and that if he stepped forward he would be humiliated for all eternity.

He stood with a sincerity he had never known before, with a humility he had never tasted, and as tears poured down on both cheeks he said: "O Allah, have mercy on me! O Allah, hide my sins! O Allah, forgive me!"

As Musa (Alahi salaam) and the people of Bani Israel awaited for the sinner to step forward, the clouds hugged the sky and the rain poured. Musa (Alahi salaam) asked Allah (Subhanahu wa ta'ala), "O Allah, you blessed us with rain even though the sinner did not come forward." And Allah (Subhanahu wa ta'ala) replied, "O Musa, it is for the repentance of that very person that I blessed all of Bani Israel with water."

Musa (Alahi salaam), wanting to know who this blessed man was, asked, "Show him to me O Allah!" Allah (Subhanahu wa ta'ala) replied, "O Musa, I hid his sins for forty years, do you think that after his repentance I shall expose him?"

Allah (Subhanahu wa ta'ala) revealed the Qur'an in the most blessed month; the month of Ramadan, the month in which the Qur'an was sent down.

On the most blessed night, the Night of Power: Laylatul Qadr; "Verily, we revealed the Qur'an on the night of Qadr."

It is reported on the authority of Abu Hurairah, that Allah's Messenger (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) said: "Whoever stood in prayer on the night of Al-Qadr, in faith and hoping for a reward from Allah, he will have all of his previous sins forgiven."
(By Muhammad Al-Shareef)

Darul Ulum College Eid Function Schedule

We will have the following at the Fete:

1. A number of stalls
2. Some games and activities

3. Pop corn machine (will be booked and supervised by yr 8)
4. Fairy Floss machine (will be booked and supervised by yr 8)
5. A jumping castle (will be booked and supervised by yr 8)

1. STALLS:

- 2 Cake stalls
- 2 Henna stalls
- 1 Fruit salad stall
- 1 Ice-cream in cones stall
- 2 Show Bag stalls
- 1 Hand painting stall
- 1 Fairy bread stall

2. GAMES:

Periods 1 to 3

- a) All grades P-4 will be having games with their class teachers - or together with the same grade levels (Grades 5 – 10 will be busy organising the stalls, equipments and games)
- b) Different classes will be given time to go on to the jumping castle simultaneously.

All stalls including the pop corn machine, fairy floss and jumping castle will be open at Recess.

Periods 4 & 5

For Grades P– 4 there will be a series of games to participate in:

1. Green team-pick and do
2. Blue team-pin the tail on the donkey
3. Red-money hunt
4. Gold team-treasure hunt (this is for grades 3 & 4 only)

For Grades 6 -10, they will be doing the following:

1. Egg and spoon race
2. Fill in the bottle race
3. Sack race
4. Relays

Period 6

Lunch will be served.

Period 7 & 8

There will be 3 matches:

1. Basketball (between Girls)
2. Volleyball (between teachers)
3. Skipping Competition (for Grade P – 4 students)

Times Table Learning and Practicing Tips -

Mrs. Yesilyurt

Why do students need to learn times table facts?

What will happen if my son/daughter does not learn times table facts?

Times table facts play a crucial bridge between learning a new concept and solving exercises or problems regarding those learned concept. For instance, if I am working on a measurement problem and my aim is to find the area of a square swimming pool which has the measurements of 34 by 8cm. The answer could be easily found by multiplying two lengths with each other. However, the students could get the answer wrong, if the students do not know the 8s x tables facts for this measurement questions, they will not be able to find the correct answer. This will cause students to achieve low marks although they might have a sound understanding of the topics covered. Subsequently, receiving low marks will cause low self-esteem and attitude change towards the subject.

What year levels require times tables facts the most?

From Grade 3 till Year 8, students have restricted calculator usage in classes when working on the Maths exercises and problems. However, the prerequisites for times tables skills start in Grade 1 level since skip counting skills are the foundations for the times tables facts.

How can I help my child learn times table facts?

Traditionally, times table facts could be just memorized but from experience I can easily state that most students tend to forget learned knowledge quickly due to not sufficient practice. I hope the following ideas would help you and your child in some ways:

1. If your child is in Grade 1 & 2, focus on skip counting:

- Ask your child to skip count starting from 0 and give them a finishing number by 5s, 10s, 2s and 4s. (you can always consult to your child's classroom teacher to find out your child's skip counting skills)
- Once counting forward is established (REMEMBER to take one skip counting pattern at a time), to challenge your child, ask him/her to count backwards and let him/her master counting backwards. (Slow and sometimes could be a tedious task but pays off in the later stage of your child's Numeracy skills development)
- Once backwards and forwards counting is mastered, challenge your child by asking after and before questions. For example, if you are working on 2s skip counting; ask your child what number comes in 2s skip counting after 24, or before 36. (You have to be very careful with your language here – make sure

your child understands what is being requested of him/her.)

- All the above-mentioned activities could be done orally (when you do not have enough time) and in written. Both ways are preferably because written practice helps students to get the habit of writing numbers fast. It is also easier to identify reverse number written problems such as 34 instead 43, or the child may write 5 in reversed.
- Once you believe that your child has sufficient practice by counting forwards and backwards from zero, the next challenge is to ask them to start skip counting from any number. For example, count by 2s starting from number 5. Number five is your starting number, not the zero. If the child does not understand the request, you can explain the question by showing the 100 chart (I believe all students have hundred charts in their Maths or homework books but if your child does not have one, you can kindly approach the teacher and request one from the teacher. Next step is to let your child circle or mark the pattern on the paper to see the skip counting pattern and talk about how the pattern continues. If you find this stage a bit confusing, do not hesitate to request help from the teachers or myself please. This exercise will master their understanding of skip counting skills more.
- Once they have established all the above-mentioned skills, they are ready to learn their times table facts.

More tips will be included in next week's Muazzin for grades 3 and 4, inshAllah.

Eid ul Fitr

Eid ul Fitr marks the end of the month of Ramadan, and the beginning of the 10th Islamic month, Shawwal. Different countries have different ways of celebrating this special day. Here is the sunnah of that day which is fast approaching:

- **Wake up early.**
- Prepare for personal cleanliness, take care of details of clothing, etc.
- Take a Ghusl (bath) after Fajr.
- Brush your teeth (using miswak will increase your rewards by 70!)
- Dress up, putting on best clothes available, whether new or cleaned old ones.
- Use perfume or itr (men only).
- Have breakfast on Eid-al-Fitr before leaving for prayer ground.
- Pay Zakaat-al-Fitr before Salaat-al-Eid (on Eid-al-Fitr).
- Go to prayer ground early.
- Offer Salaat-al-Eid in congregation in an open place except when weather is not permitting like rain, snow, etc.

- Use two separate routes to and from the prayer ground.
- The men recite the following Takbir on the way to Salaat and until the beginning of Salaat-al-Eid:

**Allahu-Akbar, Allahu-Akbar. La ila-ha ill-lal-lahu
Wallahu-Akbar, Allahu-Akbar. Wa-lillahill hamd.**

(Allah is great, Allah is great. There is no god but Allah. Allah is great, Allah is great. And all praises are for Allah).

Fun Corner

Last week's answer: There are 11 cows and 9 geese in Lina's barn.

This week: There are fourteen punctuation marks in English grammar. Can you name half of them? (see bottom of page for answers)

BIG words

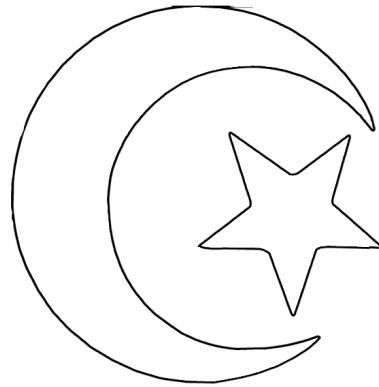
The following is something fun you can try. Big words are used to re-write old-proverbs that most of you may already know. See how many you get correct.

1. Feathered bipeds of a kindred mind in their segregated environment associate with a high degree of amiability.
(Birds of a feather flock together!)
2. He who locks himself into the arms of Morpheus promptly at eventide, and starts the day before it is officially announced by the rising sun, excels in physical fitness, increases his economic assets and celebrates with remarkable efficiency.
(Early to bed, and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise!)
3. An excess of culinary experts impairs the quality of a thin derivative of meat.
(Too many cooks spoil the broth!)
4. A chronic disposition to inquiry deprived the domestic feline carnivorous quadruped of its vital quality.
(Curiosity killed the cat!)

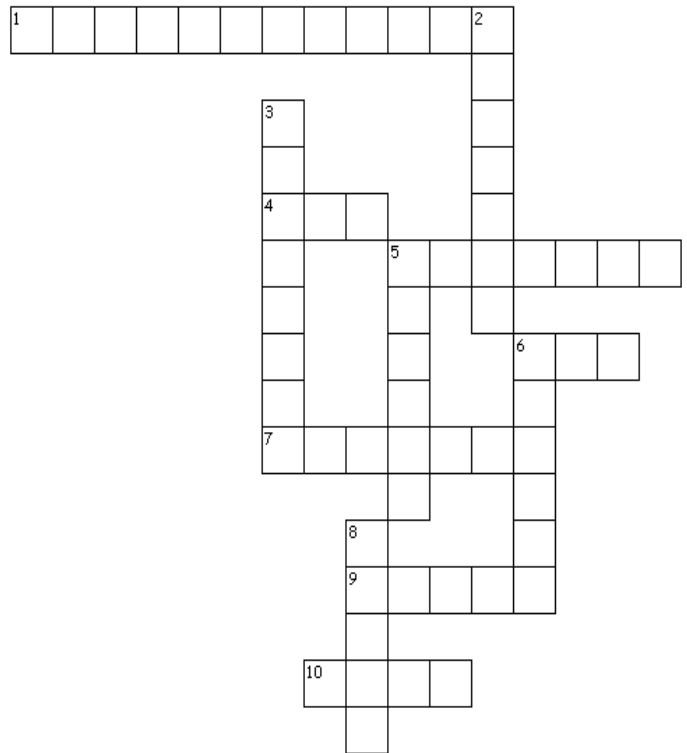
The above clearly demonstrates that fancy words do not carry the same effect as simple words of the same meaning. We should remember this in light of our teachings by the Prophet Muhammad (sallallahu alayhi wasalam), who always spoke clearly and simply. If there were two ways of doing things, he would choose the simpler version. His message was not to show off about how well he could speak, but it was to deliver the simple truth that he was sent to deliver.

Hilal

Hilal just means sighting of the new crescent moon. The Islamic month starts with the Hilal. Ramadan started that way and it will also end that way too.



Let's hope it is a clear night sky so that we can all have the pleasure of seeing the new moon for the start of Shawwal.



Across

1. Worth 1000 months
4. Celebration day
5. Tenth month of Islamic calendar
6. To fast this many days in Shawwal will be equal to one year's fasting
7. Special sunnah prayer in Ramadan
9. Time of breaking fast
10. Arabic for fasting

Down

2. Ninth month of Islamic calendar
3. The shape of the new moon
5. The month before Ramadan
6. Eating before Fajr
8. Sighting the new moon

(Answer for fun corner quiz):

Period, comma, colon, semicolon, dash, hyphen, apostrophe, question mark, exclamation point, quotation marks, brackets, parenthesis, braces, and ellipses.)