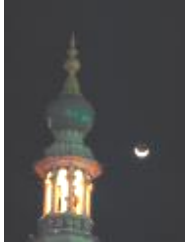




Call to the Light



MU'AZZIN

Newsletter No.3

24TH MAY 2006

Principal's message

Asalaamu Alaikum,

As we near the end of semester one, everyone is busy preparing for exams. Teachers are busy setting the tasks for assessments, students are busy revising their work, whilst parents are busy motivating their children to study and providing them with support. The best results are obtained when the whole school community works together for the same goal – to help the student achieve their very best.

Even though students have not been provided with the exam questions, yet many preparations are under way to succeed. In last week's newsletter, I talked about the success that we are called towards in the athan. It is the ultimate success – to gain the pleasure of Allah. The test has already been set, and it is one that will take the whole period of our life. Even the questions have been given to us before the final Judgement; "Who is your Rabb? What is your deen? Who is your prophet?"

Similar to the tests of the dunya, there are many distractions and temptations along the way. Sometimes our work distracts us from concentrating in our ibadah, sometimes enjoying time with our family or friends makes us forget the reality of the akhirah and that we all have to leave one day, and sometimes the comforts of this life can make us complacent and neglectful in seeking help from Allah. Whatever the case, everyone knows their own condition in this test, and whether we really are putting the best effort possible.

Let's use this time to reflect on the life we have led so far, and try even harder to get the highest results. After all, in this test, Allah has made it possible for everyone to get 100%, as His treasures are limitless, and way beyond even the wildest imaginations!

Wasalaam

Interesting web sites

www.eaa.unsw.edu.au

This website offers information about the various competitions set by the University of NSW along with the relevant dates.

www.sofweb.com.au

Parents and students are provided with information about children's learning and development as well as a wide range of stimulating activities.

Uniforms

Please make sure that your children are dressed neatly in full school uniform. Mending rips or tears is also crucial to maintaining a neat appearance. Just remember that 'a stitch in time saves nine'. We don't have to look like a million dollars, but the richest person is one who looks after whatever Allah has given, and is happy with it.

Role Models

It's great to see so many mothers in the morning at assembly. The children also become more interested in their studies when they find that their parents take an active role in their education. We encourage all of you to participate in the early morning duas in assembly, as this protects the sanctity of this time and leaves a lasting imprint in young minds that Islam is practiced by all regardless of age. As adults, we all have an important job as role models for children, who learn more by observation than by listening.

Important dates

Wed 31st May – Presentation of Student of the Month certificates.

Tues 6th June – Presentation of End of Semester Awards.

Wed 7th June – Semester 1 exams start

Fri 9th June – Last day of term and exams

Arabic Nasheeds

Last week in assembly, the school enjoyed an Arabic nasheed presented by grade 2. The words are given below (Provided by Sr Salwa):

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ
بِسْمِ اللَّهِ بِسْمِ اللَّهِ
قُولُوا دَوْمًا بِسْمِ اللَّهِ
هَذَا قَلَمِي وَهَذَا كُتَيْبِي
وَهَذَا دَرَسِي وَهَذَا لَعْبِي
بِسْمِ اللَّهِ بِسْمِ اللَّهِ
أَنَا مَحْفُوظٌ بِسْمِ اللَّهِ



Pick-up and drop-off

Please ensure that your children are picked up by 4.05pm. After this time they will be sent to the office and parents will need to come to the office to pick up their children. The school will be monitoring this situation closely.

If you pick-up and/or drop-off your child by car, then please remember to follow the school procedures and some safety tips: It is unsafe to be allowing your child to enter or leave the car by double parking. Not only does this block the traffic, but it forces the children onto the road. Make sure never to allow children in or out of the car, from the traffic side, always use the kerb side. Children, especially the younger ones, are not as aware about the dangers of traffic, so it is our responsibility to ensure safe practices. Likewise, it is equally as important to drive very slowly in the vicinity of the school, as many children forget to look for traffic as they cross the road.

Exam tips and techniques - by Br Cem

Performance in examinations and tests depends firstly on how much you have **prepared** before and secondly on what you do **during** the exam.

Preparation

- *Dua'*: Make dua' to Allah for help, making sure that you have prepared as best as you can.
- *Motivation for studying*: You need to develop a positive and motivated attitude

to your studies. What mark do you want to get? What are your short-term and long-term goals? Why is it important for Muslims to learn as much as possible? What are the benefits of knowledge?

- *Study timetable and program of study*: Put together a study timetable that includes all the areas of the subject that you will be examined on. Allow for work periods of up to 40 minutes. Include breaks for relaxation and exercise. Give more time to areas of subjects you find more difficult. Stick to the time-table, even if you don't feel like it at the time.
- *Study skills*: Read widely within the subject area. Use the texts. Record important words and make comments and summaries where it will be helpful. Read to understand the meaning. Always have a question in mind and take notes that will help you respond to that question. Re-read class notes and keep them neat and organised. **I was amazed after a class survey of the year 7 & 8 class that some students watch up to 60 hours of TV a week! With a homework (?) program like that, you are not going to do very well, no matter how smart you are! This is where parents can help, inshaAllah.**
- *Study environment*: Your study area should be quiet and comfortable. It should have good lighting, fresh air and should be away from noise and TV. Keep your study area tidy and neat.
- *How can parents help?*: Parents should support and help their children all year round, but especially during exams. They should be more understanding with house chores, especially for the girls. They should show an interest in their child's work, and can help in testing and organising their child's time.

The Exam/Test

Here are some tips and hints during the exam or test,

- Don't be too nervous. Be prepared and confident and be satisfied that you have tried your best.
- Read all the instructions and questions carefully. It is amazing how many students make errors because they have not understood exactly what the question wants from them.

- Time yourself well and work out how much time to spend on each question.
- Start with the easiest questions first, but don't neglect the more difficult ones. Try to answer every question, even though you may not know much about it.
- With longer or more difficult questions, plan the answer before you start writing.
- If you run out of time, write down the main points of the answer (in point form if you have really run out of time).
- Make sure your handwriting is clear and easily read.
- Check and re-read your work if you have any time left.

FUN CORNER

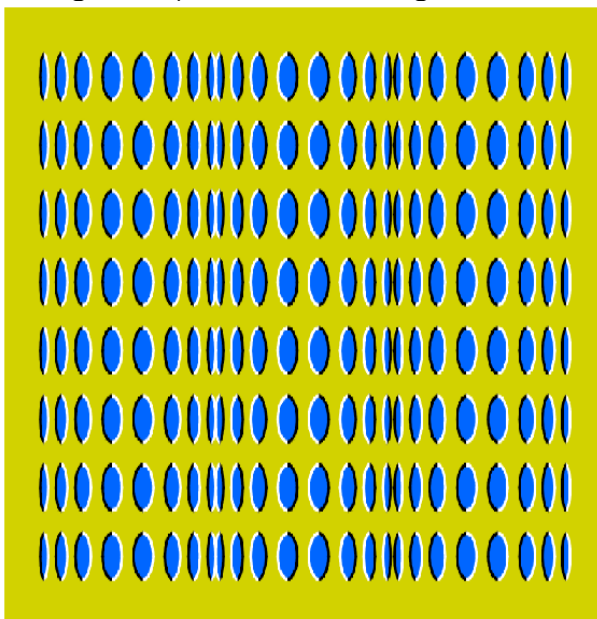
Brainteaser

Arabic and many other languages are so rich in the way that a name is given to each relation. An 'aunty' in English could be the sister of your mother, or the sister of your brother. However in Arabic, 'amma' would be your father's sister, whilst 'khala' would be your mother's sister. In Urdu there is 'phoopi' and 'khala' to describe these relations. On this topic, here is a little brainteaser for you to solve:

A man says, "Brothers and sisters, have I none, but that man's father is my father's son." Who is he pointing at?

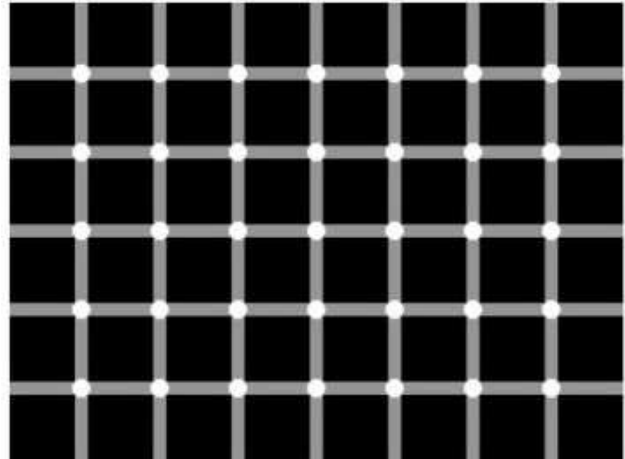
Optical illusion

It is said that the world is but a deception. The following illusion proves it! It looks as though the picture is moving.



Can you count the black dots?

Another interesting illusion. The eyes trick us to think that the dots are black, but as soon as you look at them they turn white again! That is why we have to think about what is happening. Likewise in life, if we only believe what we see, then we will be tricked. But if we really think and ponder on the beauties of this creation, we will find the Creator, through the eyes of the heart.



Read This Brainteaser ... bet you CAN!

The phaonmneel pweor of the hmuan mnid: I cdnuolt blveiee taht I cluod aulacly uesdnatnrd waht I was rdgnieg. Aoccdrnig to a rscheearcr at Cmagbride Uinervtisy, it deosn't mtttaer in waht oredr the ltteers of a wrod are, the olny iprmoatnt tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae.

The rset can be a taotl mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit a porbelm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Amzanig huh?

Islamic date - Rabi ul-Thani, 1427A.H.

ربيع الآخر أو ربيع الثاني

We are currently nearing the end of the month of Rabi ul-Thani (it is also known as Rabi ul-akhir). Rabi means spring, and it was near the end of spring that this month was named after. This is the fourth month of the Islamic calendar which follows the moon cycle. With the sighting

of a new moon, a new month starts. As a guide only, the next birth of the moon is scheduled for 27th May. Perhaps some of you may be able to spot it after Maghrib. If not, then inshAllah the new month will start on 28th of May. It will be good to get children in the habit of looking for the new moon. It will be especially exciting when the time for Ramadan approaches and everybody is eager to discover the start of this very blessed time. Some events that took place in this month are:

- Battle of Furu' in 3A.H.
- Death of Sheikh Abdul Qadir Jilani- 561A.H. Abdul Qadir Jilani was from a very pious family and was born in Iran and later went to Baghdad to study Islam. His father died when he was very young so his mother raised him. One day, when Sheikh Jilani was on his way

to get his education, he was stopped by a group of thieves who robbed all the people with him. When the thieves came to him, they found nothing. They asked him if he had anything. He told them that his mother had hidden 40 gold coins inside a secret pocket in his clothes. They thought he was joking, but when they checked, they found that he did indeed have it. The leader of the gang asked why he didn't just keep his money hidden. He replied that his mother always told him to tell the truth. This made the thieves feel ashamed of themselves, they made taubah, and stopped stealing. This story teaches us the importance of always telling the truth, no matter what happens.

Colour in the following geometric pattern:

