



A Message from the Principal

Each month Iqra Academy adopts a theme to guide classroom and school wide activities. Along our school hallways, and on our bulletin boards, we celebrate students' classwork and homework projects related to the theme of the month. For March, the teachers and I have chosen to focus on pleasure reading, and "Enjoy Books!" will be the slogan for this special message. Our goal is to make sure that that each student has fun reading books this month.

Although reading is already an important part of each day's activities in an elementary school classroom, we plan to help our students get more involved in reading books. We will use examples from fiction and nonfiction to catch their interest, and will have special reading activities this month. We are inviting guest readers who are avid readers themselves, and enthusiastic about children's literature, to read to our students in classrooms and during a

special assembly. We invite all the parents, brothers and sisters, relatives, friends and neighbors who read this, to show our students (by your own example!) that people read for pleasure outside of school, as well.

You may hear your children discussing "Dr. Seuss" when they come home from school. We will be emphasizing Dr. Seuss books this month, with reading aloud, memorizing lines, and acting out some of the stories. Dr. Seuss books were carefully written to include humor, adventure, interactions, and comfort, while using only a small vocabulary. Classic examples are "The Cat in the Hat", "One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish", and "Hop on Pop". In this century, a child's learning experience in the USA is incomplete if they've never enjoyed Dr. Seuss rhymes and stories with family members and friends. We encourage you to take your child to your local library, and enjoy their collection of

Dr. Seuss books; although we will be using our library's collection for most of the month, feel free to ask your child's teacher about borrowing a Dr. Seuss book after March, if you don't have ready access to your local library.

During Parent-Teacher Conference week (3rd week of March), we will be hosting a Book Fair of sorts, with many children's selections available for browsing and purchase from Scholastic Publishers, as well as some Islamic books for young students, older students, and adults. We hope that this month will help each student and each family take another step towards becoming lifelong readers, echoing the hadith in which the Prophet (saw) urged all Muslims to "Seek knowledge, from the cradle to the grave." *Enjoy Books!*

Wan R. Ismail-Ebling
Principal

BOOK FAIR CARNIVAL
Your Ticket to Read!

During the week of March 14-18 Iqra will be hosting a **BOOK FAIR!**



Please come and support Iqra. The Scholastic Book Fair and Islamic Book Sale will be during school hours and when you come and visit your child's teacher for parent teacher conference.

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Where's a Library Near Me?

Salt Lake City Libraries:

Main Library	210 East 400 South, Salt Lake City UT 84111 <i>Mon.-Thurs. 9 am -9 pm; Fri.-Sat. 9 am-6 pm; Sunday 1-5 pm</i>
Anderson-Foothill Branch	1135 South 2100 East, Salt Lake City UT 84108 <i>Mon.-Thurs. 10 -9 pm; Fri.-Sat. 10 -6 pm; Sunday closed</i>
Chapman Branch	577 South 900 West, Salt Lake City UT 84104 <i>Mon.-Thurs. 10 -9 pm; Fri.-Sat. 10 -6 pm; Sunday closed</i>
Day-Riverside Branch	1575 West 1000 North, Salt Lake City UT 84116 <i>Mon.-Thurs. 10 -9 pm; Fri.-Sat. 10 -6 pm; Sunday 1-5 pm</i>
Sprague Branch	2131 South 1100 East, Salt Lake City 84106 <i>Mon.-Thurs. 10 -9 pm; Fri.-Sat. 10 -6 pm; Sunday 1-5 pm</i>
Corinne & Jack Sweet Branch	455 F Street (9th Ave), Salt Lake City UT 84103 <i>Mon.-Thurs. 10 -9 pm; Fri.-Sat. 10 -6 pm; Sunday closed</i>

Salt Lake County Libraries:

HOURS (all branch libraries): Mon. - Thurs. 10 am - 9 pm; Fri. & Sat. 10 am- 6 pm

ALTA READING ROOM	Alta Community Center, Alta, UT 84092
BINGHAM CREEK LIBRARY	4834 West 9000 South, West Jordan, UT 84081
COLUMBUS LIBRARY	2530 South 500 East, South Salt Lake City, UT 84106
DRAPER LIBRARY	1136 East Pioneer Rd (12400 S), Draper, UT 84020
HERRIMAN LIBRARY	5380 West Herriman Main Street, Herriman, Utah 84096
HOLLADAY LIBRARY	2150 E. Murray-Holladay Rd. (4730 South), Holladay, UT 84117
HUNTER LIBRARY	4740 West 4100 South, West Valley City, UT 84120
KEARNS LIBRARY	5350 South 4220 West, Kearns, UT 84118
MAGNA LIBRARY	8339 West 3500 South, Magna, UT 84044
RIVERTON LIBRARY	12877 South 1830 West, Riverton, UT 84065
SANDY LIBRARY	10100 South Petunia Way (1405 East), Sandy, UT 84092
SMITH LIBRARY	810 East 3300 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84106
SOUTH JORDAN LIBRARY	10673 South Redwood Road, South Jordan UT 84095
TAYLORSVILLE LIBRARY	4870 South 2700 West, Taylorsville, UT 84118
TYLER LIBRARY	8041 S. Wood Street(55 W), Midvale, UT 84047
WEST JORDAN LIBRARY	1970 West 7800 South, West Jordan, UT 84084
WEST VALLEY LIBRARY	2880 West 3650 South, West Valley City, UT 84119
WHITMORE LIBRARY	2197 East Fort Union Boulevard, Salt Lake City, UT 84121

Homeless Project



On Sunday, February 27th, community members gathered at Iqra Academy to sort through and organize the goods donated by fellow Muslims at the various masajids for the homeless.

In 33 gallon bags, United in Service for Humanity and Iqra Academy collected six bags of men's clothes, two bags of women's clothes, four bags of blankets, four bags of kids' clothes, three bags of coats, one bag of shoes, two bags of toys, one bag of books and movies. Additionally one 20-gallon container of hygiene products, one container of backpacks, one container of new clothes, diapers and and pillows for a total of 899 gallons worth of goods taken to the needy at the Road Home. And 60 gallons of traditional clothes were donated to the Muslim refugee population.

InshaAllah on Friday, March 4th and Monday, March 7th donated food will be served to the homeless for dinner.. May Allah swt reward all those who helped in this month's community service efforts and inshaAllah activities such as these will become regular events.



Presidents' Day Assembly



Students presented what they learned about various Presidents to the rest of the school in a Presidents' Day Assembly. Read Sr. Fia's 4th grade review on page 6 for more information on what was done!



CLASS UPDATES: ELEMENTARY

Kindergarten

February is a shorter month, but Alhumdulillah was full of activities. We celebrated the 100th day of school through different activities. We also did activities related to President's Day and Black History month. For President Day, Kindergarteners had presentation in assembly. They wore President Lincoln's Hat and delivered some quotations of President Lincoln. In our class we read stories about American Presidents and made President Lincoln puppets.



Kindergarteners learned a lot about how the weather is formed. They learned about different kinds of clouds and we also had an experiment in our class about how the rain is made. Kids enjoyed this experiment and were amazed to see the rain in the class.

Presently our reading theme is *Wheels Go Around*. Our next reading Theme will be *Down On the Farm*. Besides enjoying the stories from the country, children will learn to recognize and write capital and lower case forms of letter X, as well as learn about the sound it represents.



In Social Studies we are learning about the National Symbols of our country. In Science our next unit will be about Plants. In this unit we will discuss and do activities to learn about some of the different kinds of plants, parts of a plant, how plants grow, about where the plant's seed are found, and about how people use plants and animal products.



In Math, Kindergarteners have learned to write and count numbers from 0 to 100. They have also learned to count by 2's, 5's and 10's. Next, they will be learning about Addition. Kindergarteners will also start taking the computer classes soon, inshaAllah.

Sr. Aisha Attique
Kindergarten Teacher

1st Grade

MashaAllah, they did it! Our First grade class completed their very first read-a-thon. The challenge was to read 500 pages in five days, but our students went above and beyond, they read 700 total pages. As promised we had our "Favorite Book Pajama Party" to celebrate this achievement. The children dressed up in pajamas and brought sleeping bags and pillows and spent the last part of the day reading and swapping favorite books with their fellow classmates. Hats off to all the parents who encouraged their student to complete this goal.



In March, we will be working on the Solar System and will soon have a Science Fair, inshaAllah, to display the Solar System models made by students.

Sr. Hanifa Dhedhy
First Grade Teacher

Iqra Academy of Utah admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

2nd Grade

In Science, the Second graders are conducting a study of their environment by investigating the relationships between plants and animals and how living things change during their lives. We have observed the stages of a butterfly's life-cycle and created our own model using a paper plate divided into quarters. This life cycle model was compared with the life cycles of other animals to find similarities and differences they have, if any.

We also are learning about the changes that occur with plants and animals in the winter. For example, some animals hibernate during winter, while others migrate or stay active.

In Social Studies, we are learning how symbols and models are used to represent features of the environment. We drew diagrams of bedrooms and our houses. We played games involving continents, oceans, countries, and states, and some hands-on activities using the atlas and the globe. These activities will inshaAllah increase the students' knowledge of how and why maps are important in our lives.

In Math, the class has learned addition and subtraction facts. This involved: making up, representing, and solving addition number stories. We have also discovered and practiced shortcuts for subtracting. At the moment, we are focusing on numeration and place value, money, time, data collection, and analysis.

Sr. Shabana Khan
2nd Grade Teacher



3rd Grade

In Math, the Third graders explored fractions. We discussed the uses of fractions and fraction notations in our lives. Comparing and calculating with fractions were approached through hands-on activities. We found out there is an endless list of equivalent names for any given fraction.



In Science, we had fun with friction. Friction is a force that occurs when one object rubs against another. It can slow things down. People can walk because of friction between their feet and the ground. Similarly, people can hold things because of friction between fingers and an object. We conducted an experiment of how different amounts of friction affect our ability to hold things.

In Social Studies, we learned about some of North America's first communities. Each community had a unique culture, but shared the struggles of meeting basic needs, such as food and shelter. Eventually, the colonists declared and won independence, forming the United States of America. Later, as cities in the East grew, many people moved to the West, which was mostly unexplored. These cities grew bigger as more immigrants came to the United States. They came to the big cities looking for jobs and to avoid discrimination.

Sr. Murni Mohamed
Third Grade Teacher



4th Grade

February was a month to celebrate Black History and Presidents. The students read and learned a lot about these two subjects in American history. To put these findings into action, we held an assembly where each class chose an act or script to present. Each child participated. We decided to do a few Presidents' slogans during their Presidential Campaign: "No Child Left Behind" by George Bush, "Change" and "Yes We Can" by Barack Obama.

Students need confidence to stand before an audience. The assembly was a blast. We need to do more of this to help our students learn and to feel comfortable talking on a stage, especially now, when they enjoy doing it.

Fia Bartley
Fourth Grade Teacher

For pictures of the Presidents' Day Assembly, see page 3

Arabic and Islamic Studies (1st through 5th Grade)

First Grade MashaAllah is almost done with their Arabic text book, once complete we will continue with writing and reading. All classes have one Prophet remaining to study, and have memorized at least five hadiths.

The top surah memorizers are Dua in Third grade who has memorized 25 surahs thus far, Abdullahi also in

Third grade has memorized 23 surahs, and MashaAllah, Sara in second grade has memorized 27. May Allah (swt) help all the kids to continue to learn and excel in their Islamic knowledge.

Sr. Manar Marie
Arabic and Islamic Studies Teacher



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT: Sr. Shabana Ali Khan

Sr. Shabana is the Second grade teacher at Iqra Academy. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Science. Prior to joining the Iqra team this year, she has worked in the airline industry and taught in Dubai.

As the only Islamic School in Utah, she came to Iqra for her two children, who are now students in Pre-School and First grade. She was always interested in joining the Iqra teaching team and when an opportunity was available at the start of the year she applied. Sr. Shabana enjoys teaching because, she said, "It is a very interesting job in terms of increasing your skills everyday." Her favorite thing to teach her students are manners and respect, and she says more than anything she has, "learned patience from my students."

"I believe that teaching in itself is very rewarding, it is especially more so when it's at an Islamic school where the reward is not just in this life, but in the Hereafter as well. Our success in our efforts and hard work to teach our students in an Islamic environment," she said, "may not be immediately apparent, but the students are getting their firm foundation, and as they grow and start giving back to society, inshaAllah, they will be seen."

"I think it's an amazing opportunity to work at Iqra, a very important institution in our community," she said, "and I consider myself very fortunate to be part of such an amazing team."

Sr. Shabana's BBQ Chicken Tikka Recipe

Ingredients:

1 cup yogurt	1 tablespoon butter
1 tablespoon lemon juice	1 clove garlic, minced
2 teaspoons ground cumin	1 jalapeno pepper, finely chopped
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon	2 teaspoons ground cumin
2 teaspoons cayenne pepper	2 teaspoons paprika
2 teaspoons freshly ground black pepper	3 teaspoons salt, or to taste
1 tablespoon minced fresh ginger	1 (8 ounce) can tomato sauce
4 teaspoons salt, or to taste	1 cup heavy cream
3 boneless skinless chicken breasts, cut into bite-size pieces	1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro
4 long skewers	

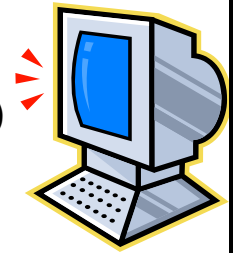
Directions:

- In a large bowl, combine yogurt, lemon juice, 2 teaspoons cumin, cinnamon, cayenne, black pepper, ginger, and 4 teaspoons salt. Stir in chicken, cover, and refrigerate for 1 hour.
- Preheat a grill for high heat.
- Lightly oil the grill grate. Thread chicken onto skewers, and discard marinade. Grill until juices run clear, about 5 minutes on each side.
- Melt butter in a large heavy skillet over medium heat. Saute garlic and jalapeno for 1 minute. Season with 2 teaspoons cumin, paprika, and 3 teaspoons salt. Stir in tomato sauce and cream. Simmer on low heat until sauce thickens, about 20 minutes. Add grilled chicken, and simmer for 10 minutes. Transfer to a serving platter, and garnish with fresh cilantro.



Wish List:

- Digital Camera (new or slightly used and working)
- Computer Monitors (new or slightly used and working)
- Plastic spoons and forks for students' lunches
- Volunteers (to help at lunch, to help answer phones)



March 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 Stranger Danger Talk 10 am: Pre S-1st 10:30: 2nd-5th	3	4 1:00 PM Dismissal	5
6	7	8	9	10 "Reading Month" Assembly 9 am: Pre S-1st 9:30: 2nd-5th	11 1:00 PM Dismissal	12
13 Daylight Sav- ings Time Begins	14	15	16 PTC 1:00 PM Dismissal	17 PTC 1:00 PM Dismissal	18 1:00 PM Dismissal	19
20 First Day of Spring	21	22	23	24	25 1:00 PM Dismissal	26
27	28	29	30	31		



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