

MCS-AA School News

November 2013

In this Issue

Tarbiya theme for November is
Thankfulness and Responsibility

Students and Faculty enjoy Mini Hajj

What's the BIG Idea presentations
showcase student learning

Delegation for the Model Arab League

Five things parents can do to improve
student performance

SGA Officers elected

Parent-Teacher Conferences Held on
November 1

Eid-al Ghadeer Program Helps To
Teach Children an Important Lesson

**Make plans to attend the MCS-AA
Fundraising Dinner on December 7**

Students and Faculty Enjoy Mini Hajj



Many thanks to all who contributed money and those who worked with Sr. Sizar to create a wonderful Hajj program. May Allah (swt) accept our ibadah.



October's What's the BIG Idea programs showcase student learning

This month's presentations were done by:
Sh. Mehdi Ali's 9th grade Islamic Studies class
Sr. Rayan Issa's 6th grade math class
Sr. Somayyah Nahidian's 1st grade class

See photos on page 2

REMINDER: Early dismissal day on November 12. Please pick up your children at 1:00 or give permission for them to participate in "Movie Afternoon"

Delegation for the Model Arab League

The following students comprise the Model Arab League delegation. Their advisors are Ms. Emily Yeater and Br. Ali Ahsani.

Sajidah Arefian (alumna, class of 2013)
 Sara Salimi
 Reza Baghaee-Rezaee

Mahdi Mariani
 Milad Marani (alumnus, class of 2013)

Five things parents can do to improve student performance

1. No TV Monday through Friday, before or after school.
2. Select a set time and place in the home for homework, even if the child hasn't been given homework for the evening.
3. Make sure that the student practices math facts regularly.
4. Read as if your life depended on it—it does. If you're in the car for more than 30 minutes, have a rule that children must open a book and read during that time.
5. Stay in regular contact with the school.
6. Make sure education is the most important thing you do.

What's the Big Idea



Starting left, clockwise:
 Sh. Mehdi's 9th grade Islamic Studies class talks about Allah's (swt) creations.

Sr. Rayan Issa's 6th grade math class helps explain

Sr. Somayyah Nahidian's 1st grade class talks about the Quran.

... Continued from page 1



SGA Officers elected

After winning speeches and promises to make MCS-AA a better place, six students are elected to the Student Government Association (SGA).



Above: President Reza Baghaee-Rezaee addresses the student body for the first time as SGA president. Sr. Nahla Aboushaara (center) is the advisor.

Parent-Teacher Conferences Held on November 1

Parents and teachers meet to discuss student progress and to keep the lines of communication open. Student work is displayed in the first quarter exhibition.



REMINDER: Please pick up your children on Nov. 12 at 1:00, or send permission to participate in "Movie Afternoon"

Pink Hijab Day Helps Raise Awareness About Breast Cancer

Female teachers and students wear pink hijabs and pink ribbons and male teachers and students wear pink ribbons on October 25 to show their support for the struggle against breast cancer and to bring attention to the disease. The event was sponsored by the SGA.



Ms. Mariam Eltoweissy's 3rd Grade Class Wins Eid Decoration Contest



The SGA sponsored an Eid door decoration contest to celebrate Eid-al Adha and Eid-al Ghadeer. Ms. Mariam's class gets to enjoy a pizza party as a result of the win.

November Menu

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				1 Teacher Work Day & Parent-Teacher Conferences
4 Pasta & meat sauce, roll & salad	5 Chicken kabob, rice & salad	6 Pizza & salad	7 Chicken curry, rice & yogurt	8 Chicken sandwich, tortilla chips & salsa
11 Pasta & meat sauce, roll & salad	12 Chicken kabob, rice & salad Early dismissal	13 Pizza & salad	14 No School (Tasu'a)	15 No School ('Ashura)
18 Pasta & meat sauce, roll & salad	19 Chicken kabob, rice & salad	20 Pizza & salad	21 Chicken curry, rice & yogurt	22 Chicken sandwich, tortilla chips & salsa
25 Pasta & meat sauce, roll & salad	26 Chicken kabob, rice & salad	27 Pizza & salad	28 No School	29 No School

Lunch Information

Lunch fees (\$4 per day) are billed at the end of each month. All lunches include water and Zabihah halal meat.

Enclosed is a lunch order slip. PLEASE mark the days your child(ren) will be having lunch so we can order enough lunch, and return the marked menu with payment to the office on Monday.

Please understand our lunch routine. We send two copies of the menu home, you (Parent) mark days your child will be eating and return the marked copy to school with payment. We will only be ordering lunch for those who have informed us they will be eating. We do not want to waste food, nor can the school order extra food in case someone needs to eat and then the school has to pay for extra ordered food.

If your child needs to eat on a certain day that was not checked on the returned menu, please call the office and let us know by 9:00am. Some of the students are very shy and will not tell us they need to order food. We don't want any child to go hungry, but we need your cooperation in informing the office of the days your child will be ordering lunch.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Message from the Principal

As salamu alaikum, MCS-AA Family—

I recall hearing some time ago the saying, “When the going gets tough, the tough get going.” That has long been a belief and practice that I have had.

It’s no secret that the school is going through a difficult time as we attempt to accept the current realities of our financial picture and to develop a plan that will put us on stable ground. The situation we are in is a reminder that nothing is guaranteed, and yet life goes on. How we deal with disappointment and adversity can either make us or break us, and this is a time when our deen is all the more important. For within the Quran and Hadith are very specific lessons of how to deal with virtually every test that we are given.

I hope that we will remind ourselves and others that we are never given a burden beyond that which we can bear.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

To the many parents and teachers who have given so freely to help us so far. May Allah (swt) reward you.

Sincerely,



Dr. Althia F. Ali
Principal

<p>Eid-al Ghadeer Program Helps To Teach Children an Important Lesson</p> <p>Students celebrated Eid-al Ghadeer on October 25 with a luncheon generously provided by parents. Sr. Sizar helped to organize the event, and for this we are grateful. The luncheon was followed by a lecture, skit, and treats.</p>	<p>Make Plans to Attend the MCS-AA Fundraiser on December 7</p> <p>Five Parent-Volunteers needed to make phone calls to sell tickets. <i>Please call the office if you can help.</i></p>
<p>Qualified Substitute Teachers Needed</p> <p>Must be able to (1) respond to sometimes very short notice and (2) to follow a lesson plan and to continue instruction according to the plan. Bachelor’s degree required. A background check is required as well as attendance at an orientation.</p> <p>Please send a resume and cover letter to: principal@alimacademy.org.</p>	<p>Parent-Volunteers Needed</p> <p>Volunteer your time to help in the school. We need help of teacher aides, student special assistance, lunch supervision, school security, and other things. We ask that you do not just drop in to volunteer. Instead, pick up a volunteer packet in the office to learn more. All volunteers are required to go through a background check before they can begin to work on a regular basis as a volunteer.</p>

REMINDER: Please pick up your children on Nov. 12 at 1:00, or send permission to participate in Movie Afternoon.