

Islamic Values & Our Responsibilities

The obvious objective of Islamic education is character building, which means development of such a wonderful personality that is not only beneficial for oneself or ones family and friends, rather should also benefit the community and the world. Every Islamic school should set up a target for the development of such leading personalities through teaching program and by providing an Islamic and educational environment. Our new generation needs to play the role of a torch bearer, by their excellence in knowledge, character, and positive attitude. Education should aim at the balanced growth in all aspects required for the development of such personality. It is also important that parents play a vital role in the education of their children. Children are more influenced by their parents and environment at home. Early childhood education programs emphasize the role of parents. Parents should provide Islamic environment to coincide with schools and to achieve the best results of schooling. Parents should set the best examples for their children. The role of parents and families has always been considered very important for the education of children.

Happy New Islamic Year of 1434 Hijra.

With the sighting of the new moon the Islamic New Year is ushered in. The first month, Muharram, is a month of great reward and virtue. Muharram itself means 'sacred' and is from those months which have been mentioned as being so in the Holy Qur'an. Although the month of Muharram is a sacred month as a whole, the 10th of Muharram is the most sacred among all its days. The day is named 'Ashurah'. It is one of the most important and blessed days of Allah in the Islamic calendar.

According to the Holy companion Ibn Abbas (RA), when the Holy Prophet (PBUH) migrated to Madinah, he found that the Jews of Madinah used to fast on the 10th day of Muharram. They said that it was the day on which the Holy Prophet Musa (AS) and his followers crossed the Red Sea miraculously, and the Pharaoh was drowned in its water. On hearing this from the Jews, the Holy Prophet (PBUH) said, "We are more closely related to Musa than you." So the Prophet (PBUH) directed the Muslims to fast on the day of Ashura (Abu Dawood). However it is important to either fast on the ninth and the tenth or the tenth and the eleventh of Muharram.

The martyrdom of Syedena Hussain (RA) on the same day was indeed a great tragedy. The dash between Syedena Hussain (RA) and Yazid was not for acquiring power but the fact of the matter is that Karbala represents the dash between the forces of truth and falsehood & Hussain (RA) was all set for embracing martyrdom, not power. The act of Syedena Hussain teaches us to be righteous and stand for the truth, no matter how immense sacrifice is required to uphold the truth, justice and righteousness.



Lunch Box Idea

Ingredients:

- ¼ cup soy sauce
- ¼ cup tomato sauce
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 12 chicken drumettes
- 125g sugar snap peas, trimmed
- 1 large carrot, cut into sticks
- 2 celery stalks, cut into sticks

Method:

- Preheat the oven to 200°C. Line a baking tray with foil.
- Combine soy sauce, tomato sauce and honey in a bowl.
- Add chicken and stir to coat. Arrange chicken, in a single layer, prepared tray. Bake, turning twice for 30 minutes or until golden and cooked through. Set aside to cool.
- Place peas in small, heatproof bowl, cover with boiling water. Stand for three minutes, drain, rinse under cold water. Pack chicken and vegetables in lunchboxes.
- Serve with low fat spring onion dip.

ISSUE

07

Term 4
Week 8



Western Grammar School

Newsletter

November 2012
Muharram 1434 Hijra.

Message from Principal

Assalam-o-Alaikum

Alhamdulillah the momentous year of 2012 almost reached to an end. 2013 is approaching us in about 30 days. This is probably going to be the last newsletter of year 2012. As days turn into weeks, and weeks into months and years, every second of our future is spinning into present and then becoming the past which reminds us about the reality of our life. Allah (SWT) has revealed Surah Al A'raf for us to be mindful about this undeniable fact of our life.

"By the time, Surely Man is in loss. Except those who believe and do good deeds and enjoin one another onto the truth and enjoin one another onto patience."

In light of this divine guidance of the Master of Universe let us prepare ourselves for the year 2013. And let us plan our 2013 in conjunction with the peaceful life of this world and world hereafter.

Referential

Important Dates

- 13 Dec : Orientation day
- 13 Dec : Last Day of Term 4
- 13 Dec : Award Ceremony
- 29 Jan 13: First Day of Term



Words of Wisdom

"An education isn't how much you have committed to memory, or even how much you know. It's being able to differentiate between what you know and what you don't." - *Antoine de Saint-Exupery*

Gratitude to Allah the Almighty

All praise is due to Allah (SWT) who enabled us to accept and deal with lot of challenges and hardships of the year 2012. Being the first year of our operation we were not expecting any breakthroughs but, Alhamdulillah with the grace of Almighty, we have achieved an unbelievable triumph.

This year we started almost in the middle of the first term and missed the chance of a proper projection of our school, but with the help of some devoted community members who dearly understand the need of a quality educational institution, we started our first year with a reasonable number of students. Those who understood the benefit of additional educational facilities for the community and believed in our



A School in its Childhood

HADITH e RASOOL

'Abd-Allah ibn 'Amr narrated that the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: "It will be said to the companion of the Qur'an: Recite and rise in status, recite as you used to recite in the world, for your status will be at the last verse that you recite."

- *Al-Tirmidhi (2014) and Abu Dawood (1484)*

abilities and devotion are the pioneers of Western Grammar School. By the help of Allah (SWT) we delivered what any new school could not dream to deliver in the very first year of its establishment.

The first achievement of the year was the registration of the school for five years until December 2017. The senior official of the Board of Studies encouraged us with the registration of Year 5 and 6. In addition they quoted, "If we compare the beginning of your school with others, you are miles ahead of them". This was with the help of Allah (SWT), our hard work and outstanding presentation. WGS stood above the national average level in the NAPLAN 2012:



A Glimpse of the past

Go4Fun

HEALTHY ACTIVE HAPPY

FREE fun program for kids to be healthy, active & happy!

Do you have children 7-13 years old? Are you worried about their weight or their lifestyle?

Maybe Go4Fun is for you?

Go4Fun is an established healthy lifestyle program to improve health, fitness, self-esteem and confidence in children above a healthy weight. Go4Fun runs for 10 weeks over the school term and is for children and their parents. Sessions include games, activities, tips on healthy food, label reading, portion sizes plus much more! To find out more call 1800 780 900 or visit au.mendcentral.org and click on 'Join a MEND Program'.

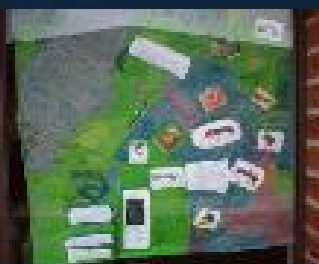


Enrol Now

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Continued from Pg1

it was another significant achievement of 2012. Being in the first year of establishment no one could expect that we would have such a wonderful event as the carnival. And it was another considerable outcome of our passion for the mission. This year our students enjoyed themselves with a lot of learn-through-fun activities such as gardening, the worm compost program, farm-to-plate, and recycling. We had four excursions and three incursions throughout the year. Our children had lot of fun through the sports carnival and taekwondo. We have had a very good program to cater for the spiritual needs of our students which included Arabic, Islamic Studies and Quran. Through this program our students have learnt the Arabic alphabets, reading, and memorizing Suras and Duas as per their level and classes. The assessments were done for the first two terms and final assessments are being conducted. Our students have done very well and Insha' Allah they will be rewarded with Awards on the last day of the term. We anticipate a great new year in 2013 with many goals and targets and with additional talents of our newly enrolled students.



Passion for Reading

It is important to ensure that children consider reading worthwhile by encouraging them to read texts that relate to their sets of interests. This process must begin when children are very young, particularly during or before going to primary school.

Inside the Kindergarten

It is hard to believe that it's week 8 already. As the end of the year is approaching quickly, kindergarten students are busy displaying their knowledge and skills gained throughout the year in their assessment tasks. They enjoyed learning about balancing objects on a weighing scale and made their own balance scale with their rulers. When exploring time, the young brains got creative and made their own clocks with moving hands. The happiness of achievement is always displayed on their bright smiling faces, which makes my day.



It was a great pleasure to teach kindergarten this year. All the students were very enthusiastic and always full of energy and were eager to discover the world around them. Their positive attitude



towards learning is reflected in the assessment tasks they have completed recently. May Allah guide them to the right path and make them true Muslims and successful achievers in this world and in the world hereafter, Insha'Allah. Ameen. *-Miss Asasha*

Help Your Kids Enjoy Reading

How do you make reading a joy and not a chore for your child? The most effective way to encourage your children to love books and reading is to read aloud to them and the earlier you start is better. Even a baby of a few months can see pictures, listen to



your voice, and turn cardboard pages. Make this time together a special time when you hold your kids and share the pleasure of a story without the distractions of the TV or telephones. You may be surprised to find that a well-written children's book is often as big a delight to you as it is to the kids. And don't stop taking the time to read aloud once your children have learned to read for themselves. At this stage,

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encourage them to read to you some of the time. This shared enjoyment will continue to strengthen your children's interest and appreciation. Children are influenced by, and imitate the world around them. While a steady diet of violent cartoons may have a detrimental effect on child's development, carefully chosen stories and books can have a positive influence on children, sensitizing them to the needs of others. For example, books can encourage children to be more cooperative, sharing, to be kind to animals, or to respect the natural environment. *-Miss Asasha*



Science

Young children are naturally curious and constantly exploring the world around them. Classroom science provides the opportunity for children to extend this natural curiosity and building of theories.



From classroom experiences, children can develop a greater appreciation & understanding of the natural world. An opportunity to research on their own provides children with direct experience with materials, events, and ideas that are important to later learning and practical life in general.

Science exploration in early childhood is science inquiry – exploring materials / events, asking questions, investigating recording / representing their work, reflecting on what they have done and what it means, allowing them to create new theories or ideas about how the world works.

This term, year 1, 2, 3 and 4 learnt about how scientists collect information to write their own information reports. The two classes were taken on a short excursion to Plumpton Park to search for and collect insects. The young researchers took part in this activity with enthusiasm and most of them overcame their usual fear from insects. The students were provided

with insect nets, magnifying glass and plastic containers to aid their search and collection process. The students then were given a chance to identify some of the insects collected through the use of computers, electronic microscopes and insect books. Furthermore, students of year 1 & 2 and

3 & 4 learnt about the importance of insects in our lives and the environment through their research and later they designed and wrote their own information reports. The overall outcome of this activity was to build self-confidence and to build confidence in their environment & to gain necessary exposure to nature. *-Miss Asasha*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We are now enrolling from Kindergarten to year 6. Advance payment and siblings discount are available.
- The school is in the process of arranging transport for the students starting from the 1st term of 2013. Kindly register the expression of interest for your child now.
- Thursday the 13th of December is the last day of term and this academic year. Awards will be distributed among the students. All parents are cordially invited to see their children getting their awards.
- Also Thursday the 13th of December is the orientation day for new students.
- Book donations are welcome.

We open heartedly welcome your feedback and suggestions to improve our services.

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From the Library

WG's Library is growing in leaps and bounds. We have a lot more books now than at the start of the 2nd and 3rd term and Insha Allah, in the New Year, we will have more computers for the students to do activities and research on.



This term our students have had the opportunity to read a lot of new books which were added to the library earlier in term 3. Students are reading at much better levels and becoming independent readers. Our Kindergarten has been busy learning safety at home and at school, they also learnt about hot and cold things. The same theme has been integrated in our library and technology classes to reinforce the work done in the classroom. Years 1-4 have been doing research on insects in their classes. They had an excursion to cover the topic mini-beasts in science where they collected a lot of insects from the environment and gathered data on them. Year 3-4 had a lot of fun making insect models in their technology lesson and I am proud to say that they all took part in this activity with enthusiasm. *-Miss Asasha*

