



Al-Ashraf: Newsletter

"Branches in the Sky"

End-of-Term 1

21st October 2011
24th Dhul Qa'dah 1432

Assalamualeykum.w.w

Welcome back to the first term of the academic year 2011/2012. It has been a busy term and the children have settled down very well. Alhamdulillah.

Sport Sessions

IA football and netball sessions will restart after the half term holidays. Year 4 and 5 boys will have a session every Tuesday starting from 1st November. The girl's netball sessions (for year 1 onwards only) will continue on Thursday starting from 3rd November. Timings for both boys and girls session will be 3.30- 4.15. Please collect your children promptly after this as staff also need to leave.

Courses for Mums.

Maths sessions are taking place every Thursday 1.15 – 3.15pm. If you have enrolled for this course please make an effort to attend. For those who missed out, all is not lost as the course is being repeated in February. The course leads to a level 2 qualification which is equivalent to a GCSE.

Tajweed lessons continue to take place in the school on Tuesdays from 2.30 – 3.30. Please make an effort to attend as it will improve the pronunciation of your Quran and subsequently help you support your child's Arabic pronunciation. Hadeeth - 'The best amongst you are those who teach the Quran and learn it. (Bukhari 6/546)

School Policies - I would like to draw your attention to the following policies.

Safeguarding Policy. Al-Ashraf Primary School is committed to Safeguarding and Promoting the Welfare of all of its pupils. Each pupil's welfare is of paramount importance. Teachers and other adults in school are well placed to observe any physical, emotional or behavioural signs which indicate that a child may be suffering significant harm. The school will carry out its legal obligation of making a referral to social services if it feels a child is suffering harm. The complete policy is available on the school website.

First Aid. The school policy on an injury to a child is as follows: If a child is injured in school and the injury is minor, first aid treatment will be administered by a first aider and the injury will be recorded in an accident report form. If the injury is thought to be serious an ambulance will be called and parents will be informed. If the injury is not deemed to be serious, but may require medical attention, parents will be informed.

Free Secondary Boys School

Alhamdulillah, plans are in progress to put together an application for an Islamic boys school to open in 2013 under the governments Free Schools initiative. Members of the Steering Group, who are leading this project, gave a presentation to mothers which was well received. For the application to be successful we need to show evidence of demand, in particular from boys currently in years 4, 5 and 6. Parents with boys in these years will be receiving an expression of interest form which needs to be completed and returned. Both mothers and fathers are requested to get involved in this project which is of vital importance to the future of our boys.

Ragtex Clothing Collection

Following the success of the last collection, we are having another collection of clothes on Tuesday 1st November 2011. Alhamdulillah last time you helped the school raise £192.50. Please bring your unwanted clothes to school early in the morning in the bags which will be provided nearer to the time.

Uniform.

Masha-Allah the majority of our children arrive to school in full uniform looking very smart! However it has been noticed that some children sometimes have the wrong items on. Uniform checks are carried out regularly and any pupils with incorrect uniform are reminded about expectations. Pupils who regularly fall short of these standards will be sent a letter home. Please see attached uniform list.

Tasheel and Lunch Supervisor money.

At the start of each year, your child is issued with a set of books from the Tasheel series which are used in the madrasah sessions for teaching Islamic issues. The charge for these books is as follows.

Year 1- £9.50 Year 2 £11.50 Year3- £7.50 Year4- £7.50 Year5- £9.50

As was decided with mutual consent at the end of last year, the school has employed an extra lunch time supervisor. This reduced the need on mums for volunteering at lunch times. The charge works out to £12/child.

If you haven't already done so please pay these charges to the school office.

Ramadhan Sponsorship Money.

Alhumdulillah, the children raised a total of £983.49 from the sponsored fast this Ramadhan. I would like to take this opportunity to say well done to Muhammed Kathrada (Year 3) who raised an impressive amount of £240.00. A big well done to all those who participated in this event and braved the long summer fasts! May Allah reward you and your parents for this noble act. If you still have any outstanding sponsorship money please hand into the school office.

Car Parking

Parents are encouraged to walk to and from school as not only does it avoid traffic congestion and problems, but is also the healthier option and more environmentally friendly. However, if it is necessary to bring your car, please use the school gates which are being opened at the start and finish of each day to ease congestion. Please use this facility rather than parking in Stratton Road as this can cause inconvenience to residents and other road users. Please also remember to avoid stopping in the middle of the road.

Madrassah Benches.

The school has lightweight low benches for sale at £5 each available from the school office - these can be used for madrassah or general work.

School bags.

The school also sells bags, back packs, and P.E bags with the school logo. The cost is as follows: large back pack £11; small back pack £9.50; heavy weight school bag £8; lightweight school bag £5; P.E. bags £4.25

Tasheel.

Please check your child's tasheel timetable, which is inside the inner cover of your child's reading record, and ensure that they bring the correct tasheel book to school each day.

Year 5 children.

After reviewing the situation, we have decided that Year 5 children are old and responsible enough to walk to and from school on their own. If you wish your child to do so please inform the office. Please note this is for year 5 only.

Year 5 Bread Project

A big well done to year 5 for raising £130 in their bread sale last Friday. The children have been working hard all term perfecting their bread recipes and baked a variety of delicious breads. A big thank you and jazakallah to all children and staff for supporting year 5 in this project. IA proceeds will go towards buying playground equipment. Congratulations to the 'yummy mummies' group for raising the most amount of money and well done to Hammad Patel for winning the title of Al-Ashraf's 'young businessman of the year'

Lunch.

We request you to support the schools healthy eating policy and provide a healthy lunch for your child. Lunches are being monitored on a regular basis so please refrain from sending your child to school with fry foods, chocolates, cakes fizzy drinks and sweets. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Zuhr salaah in school.

As winter sets in and days become shorter years 3, 4 and 5 will be reading zuhr salaah at school after the holidays. IA this will enable children to realise the importance of salaah in the life of a Muslim. Parents are requested to reinforce this message by encouraging their child to read salaah at home during non-school hours, weekends and holiday. Allah (SWT) instructs us in the Quran 'And enjoin salaah on your family, and be steadfast in offering them' (20:132). The Prophet (SAW) has told us to encourage our children to read salaah from the age of seven.

KS1 Treat

We hope that year 1 and year2 enjoyed their treat today - a reward from Miss Jones and Miss Edgar for their good behaviour. The children made cake and learnt instruction writing for cake making and dipped fruit into the chocolate fountain! Keep up the good behaviour KS1!

Please also note the following dates:

School is closed for holidays from Monday 24th October and re-opens on Monday 31st October.

School will also be closed 3 days for Eid-ul-Adha holidays on Friday 4th November, Monday 7th November and Tuesday 8th November.

An INSET Day has been scheduled for Monday 21st November.

On behalf of the school we hope you have an enjoyable holiday.

Wa-alaykum salam.w.w

Mrs K.Jadwat.