

Friday, September 27, 2019

3rd Grade Community News



Dear Parents,

As-Salamu Alaykum wa Rahmatullahi was Barakatu. Our class community had a wonderful and exciting week! We have been taking ample time to get to know one another in order to develop a strong foundation from which we can build a successful and productive learning community, insha'Allah.

This week, we have continued to learn and practice class procedures and discussed the importance of always giving our best effort in everything we do. Please continue to remind your student of the importance of being ready to learn, following class procedures, and listening to teachers' directions. These frequent reminders have a big impact on your child's classroom behavior!

Mark Your Calendars!

- ✓ Fri 10/4: No School for students
- ✓ Mon 10/7: Hifz program starts
- ✓ Tues 10/8: Parent workshop and coffee hour
- ✓ Fri 10/11: T1 progress reports go out.
- ✓ Tues 11/5: No School for students



Unit 1: Spiritual Literacy

Each of the seven units that are taught throughout the school year focus on a different literacy designed to transform students in a holistic way. This first unit is all about Spiritual Literacy. The students are learning that Spiritual Literacy is having a strong relationship with Allah (SWT). They spent time this week reflecting on ways to increase their connection with Allah (SWT). They discovered that Allah (SWT) created many signs for us to see in order to remember Him. Students will work on building their Spiritual Literacy throughout the rest of the unit, as well as the rest of the school year.

Curriculum: Our newsletters will include a summary of the objectives and activities we teach in each area of study. This week we will briefly explain how we organize the instruction for each area of study.



Islamic: Our Islamic Studies program includes morning halaqa, prayer circle, and other lessons taught on specific Islamic principles. Islamic concepts and teachings are also integrated into all areas of study, including Qur'anic Arabic, literacy, mathematics, science, and social studies.

Literacy: Whole-class mini lessons focus on teaching reading strategies on comprehension, application, fluency, and expanding vocabulary. The acronym CAFE is displayed in our classrooms and strategies are added to the "menu" by the students as they are taught. Once we fully assess students' strengths and needs, we will begin our Book Clubs. Students will be divided into small, flexible groups based on the specific skills they need to develop, and lessons will be given to target their individual learning goals. Students will also regularly "Read to Self" and "Read to Others" in order to grow as readers and learn content knowledge.

Writers' Workshop: Students will be engaged in the writing process as they learn to write in various genres throughout the year. Each whole-class lesson begins with the teacher modeling a writing skill or strategy. Students then spend time practicing what was modeled as the teacher confers with individual students or small groups. Students come together at the end of the lesson to share and celebrate their writing accomplishments.

Science: We take an inquiry-based approach to teaching scientific concepts and skills. Each unit begins with questions that capture the students' attention and excite their interest. Students also have the opportunity to ask their own questions about the topic being studied. We then guide them to finding the answers in a variety of ways. They will be engaged in experimentation and observation, visual demonstrations, and many hands-on activities. They will also learn about scientific concepts by reading different texts, including articles, textbooks, trade books, and newspapers and viewing videos.

Social Studies: Students will be introduced to new skills and concepts through reading various texts, watching videos, and participating in class discussions. They will then be engaged in many project-based and cooperative learning activities that focus on applying these skills and ideas in a real-world context.

Math: Students will be learning new skills and concepts everyday in whole-class mini lessons. During these lessons, they will take notes in their math notebooks. They will then practice the new skills with a partner and receive feedback. Students will also have small-group lessons focused on targeted skills that are differentiated for each student. Students will work at math centers in order to practice previously taught skills and solidify their understandings of mathematical concepts through hands-on activities and games.

Thank you for taking the time to read this week's newsletter. Please feel free to email us if you have any questions or concerns.

JAK! Sr. Aisha and Sr. Lisa ☺