



Alamiyah Pre-School

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Dates for your Diary:

Coffee Mornings and Afternoons

Coffee Mornings and Afternoons for the Nursery:

Please find dates below for this half term and RSVP admin@alamiyahschool.org to request a date and await confirmation before attending.

Coffee Morning

Friday 8th March 2013
9:15-10:15

Coffee Afternoon

Friday 22nd March 2013
12:45-1:45

Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullah,

Welcome back to the Spring Term at Alamiyah Pre-School.

Well done to parents of the PTA who organised the winter fete on Sunday 17th February. It was an amazing effort from everyone involved and really brought the community together and raised awareness for what we are aiming to achieve. After weeks of after school practice, it was wonderful to see the children perform nasheeds. It was also amazing to see our budding entrepreneurs proudly trading items they had made in their arts and craft lessons.

We extend our warm welcome to Humma Willis who has come forward to lead the PTA and we hope that everyone will support her in this role and wish her success and much energy with this appointment.

Alhamdulillah the weather has changed and as we witness the first signs of trees in blossom and tulips emerging we are reminded of how quickly time passes by. As we get closer to the end of the academic year we cannot but think of the burning issue of fundraising for the expansion of the school. At the forefront of all our minds is the on-going need to raise money and for us all to continue to support new events and fundraising initiatives that we undertake. The school also needs much needed assistance in all areas at the moment so we kindly ask for any parents who can spare some time to volunteer their services and take up the special opportunity of coming together to build our community, our ummah.

Please read on to find out what the children will be learning about this half term and about the new fundraising initiatives we are putting in place.

We seek Allah's blessings and generosity as we continue with our efforts to realise a secure future for our growing school and pray that all the children with us and many more will benefit from the continuation of this unique education opportunity, ameen.

PTA Updates

Parents, staff and the Management Committee met in January for a PTA meeting where the focus was the ongoing fundraising efforts that are currently underway. Please find a summary of the main points raised.

Appointments

Humma Willis has been appointed the role of PTA Parent Representative. Humma will lead and coordinate PTA activities in addition to galvanising support for them. She has already shown her talent for leadership through the great work she did in organising the Winter Fete. We welcome Humma and look forward to working with her.

Build for Alamiyah!

We introduced our new upcoming fundraising campaign entitled 'Buy a Brick' which aims to raise £100,000 with the support of parents and supporters of Alamiyah. The PTA were tasked with devising strategies to raise £50,000. Please watch this space for more information as this campaign gets underway.

Jummah Collections

Plans are currently in progress to undertake bucket collections after Jummah prayer in different locations around East London. If you know of any mosques or Jummah gatherings where they would be happy to donate the Friday proceeds to the school, then please get in touch with us.

Sponsored walk

The final trek of the 3 peaks challenge is scheduled for 29th - 30th June 2013. This year we want parents and supporters to climb the highest peak in England, Scafell Pike. They say that on a clear day, from the summit of Scafell Pike, it is possible to see Wales, Ireland and Scotland. This is a trip not to be missed. Details of the trip and the sponsorship requirements will be released very shortly.



Standing Orders and One-off donations

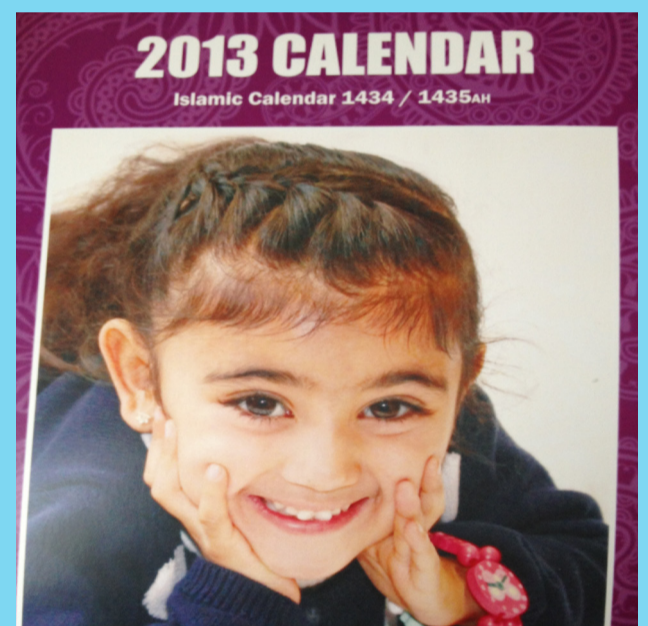
The importance of regular donations for the school was highlighted. A campaign to increase standing orders to the school from existing donors and to encourage friends and family to support the school has been initiated. We need everyone to support this campaign and to encourage others to donate even as little as £5 a month. Please use the attached standing order form to encourage your friends and family to support your child's school.



For more information on any of the initiatives mentioned above or to find out how you can get involved with these projects, please feel free to contact me by email at Safina@alamiyahschool.org

School Calendar Initiative

The sale of school calendars raised a total of £1075, with 68 calendars being ordered. We gained an initial sponsorship of £300 for the project so all the money taken will go towards the school. A huge thank you to Safiyah, Iram, Nida and everyone else involved.



Bag to School

Thank you to everyone who brought in their Bag2school donations at the end of last term. All your bags weighed in at 296 kilos and has raised £148 for our fundraising pot. Please look out for details of the next collection, which will take place in the summer term.

Donation Boxes/Bucket Collections

We are still awaiting the return of the final few boxes so, as yet have been unable to count up how much we have gathered. We would also ask for more people to come forward to take the remaining few boxes.



Alamiyah School Winter Fete

After almost two months of planning, Alhamdulillah the Winter Fete was a great success with many people attending. There was a joyful buzz all afternoon as the stallholders traded their goods, the ladies were pampered and the children enjoyed face painting and henna tattoos.





Alamiyah School Winter Fete Cont.

From start to finish, parents and many volunteers worked tirelessly throughout the day, welcoming guests, serving delicious food, assisting stallholders, and cleaning away at the end of the evening. There was plenty of food and drink and the auction was full of pleasing items. The school children participated in selling items they had made in art and craft lessons on the stalls, such as papier mache birds and handmade cards and homemade lemonade, all of which were popular. Well done children! So far our calculations indicate that we have raised in excess of £3500! So a huge THANK YOU to everyone who took part in making the event so successful.

InshAllah we can all come together again to organise the summer fete planned for August.

(Humma Willis, PTA Parent Representative)



Volunteering Vacancies

Classroom After School Assistant (Job share)

We are currently in need of someone to organise, clean and tidy the contents of the Montessori activities in the classroom at the end of the day. There are particular items in each box/basket used for learning which are placed on the shelves in a set order. During the day these items may get jumbled up and need to be re-organised and tidied for the next day.

Required from 3.30pm daily. The task will take about 30 mins to 1 hour. This role can be a job share once a week or for however many days you are available.

Please contact Filiz (Volunteers Co-ordinator) on 07803843934 or filizbrown120@hotmail.co.uk

Morning Garden Sweep and Tidy Assistant

We are urgently in need of a volunteer who can regularly sweep and tidy the play area at the back of the school ensuring a hazard free and clean garden for the children to play in. Ideally this role would be suitable for a parent or group of parents since it could be done before or after dropping off the children to the school in the morning at 9am.

The role could be fulfilled on a rota basis, so the more volunteers who come forward, the easier it will be on those involved. It should take about 20-30 minutes maximum inshallah.

Please contact Filiz Brown (Volunteers Co-ordinator) on 07803843934 or filizbrown120@hotmail.co.uk





Come and join the exciting team of parents and teachers who are working hard to raise money for our school. If you would like to join the Parent Teacher Association or would like to find out more about the work that the PTA will be doing this year, please contact a member of staff at the school or email Safina@alamiyah-school.org

Special Quotes

The children at Alamiyah Pre-school are always surprising us with the wonderful things they say. Here are a few quotes :

"The Prophet Muhammad was kind!"

Abdul Haleem , aged 4 years

"The Prophet Muhammad came to show the people how to be good. And Allah lets the good people go to paradise"

Safiyah, aged 3 years

"We have to have a bath every night to be clean"

Hammad, aged 4 years

"I love sandpaper letters. Sandpaper letters are so much fun!"

Sahla, aged 4 years

"I know the Prophet's second name.... shall I tell you? It's Rahmat al lilalameen"

Sahla, aged 4 years

An activity:

How we do it at Alamiyah Pre-School":

Threading Beads

Threading is one of the early practical life activities in the pre-school. Children learn to focus on one point as they attempt to put the thread through a small hole in the bead using their fingers. This activity helps to develop the child's fine motor skills as well as one to one correspondence and the ability to concentrate on one thing before moving on to the next. The 'Large threading beads' activity is the first in a series of activities which will eventually lead on to actual sewing.



Parent Tip

Being Present with your children

When we interact with our children, we need to be watchful of the way in which we respond to them so that we allow them to grow naturally according to their pure nature and the huge potential given to them. We all carry with us the imprint of experiences we have had in life, many of which have developed our habits and we often judge our children according to these experiences and react to them out of habit. For example, if a child spills something on the floor we may react immediately by saying 'naughty' or 'clumsy' or some other negative remark which can give the child a shock and the feeling of being wrong. However, the child is actually learning through this experience and this learning process takes time and requires compassion and patience.

A responding parent is a parent who allows them room to grow by not reacting spontaneously or habitually. Children are pure and mirror our own imperfections. We should be asking ourselves why we have learned to behave in this manner and how we should go about emptying our bag? We need to start by slowing down and trying to respond to children rather than reacting. When we approach our children we should aim to leave our experiences behind us so that we are with the child in an empty and present state. By giving the child quality time, free from other things, and by emptying your own thoughts the moments spent with your child will be fresh, giving you the opportunity to truly appreciate that the child is in a constant state of learning and is not misbehaving.

Circle Times

Seerah Sessions with Aunty Halima

This term we began the Seerah by discussing the signs that heralded the coming of the final Prophet and Messenger (PBUH). The children heard the story of the Yemenis King whose dream foretold of a series of events including invasion and war eventually leading to peace, with the coming of the beloved Prophet, peace be upon him.

The children learned of a pagan King, also of Yemen, who came in revenge of his son's death to destroy Yathrib (Madina) only to be left in awe at the great and noble character of the city's people who treated their enemies as guests while the two sides took breaks from fighting each other. When Jewish priests explained that the city was to be home for the Prophet Muhammad, the pagan king adopted the Jewish faith and converted his people to Judaism when he returned to Yemen. The children also heard how the same king was the first to cover the Kaaba after understanding its significance and value. They also learnt about the divisions amongst the king's sons and about the tyrant who was defeated during his youngest sons reign. They also heard about this young king's own tyranny on the community who followed Isa Ibn Maryam. This tyrannical King of Himyar, was only stopped by an army sent in aid from the ancient Christian Kingdom of Habasha (Ethiopia). We ended the term with the children being introduced to Abraha Al Ashram, a young, proud soldier from the Habasha army. This half term we will learn more about Abraha and discuss the year of the elephant, the year that the blessed Prophet was born.

Here at Alamiyah Pre-school, the children learn to sing new songs in Arabic and English:

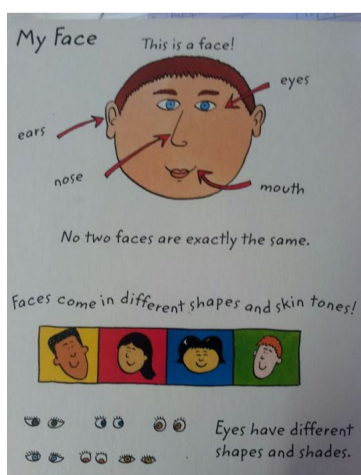
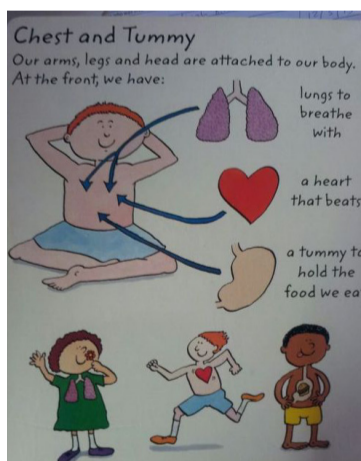
Songs covered in Circle Time with aunty Hanan:

Of the songs we covered last half term the children really enjoyed the Friends song. This half term we will be singing:

1. I have a Nose
2. A House
3. Turtles
4. Bismillah song
5. Muhamad Nabina

Announcements

A warm welcome to our new administrator Lisna, who has joined the Alamiyah school team.



Circle Times

Circle Times with Aunty Zainab

This half term we read some books and discussed the animals that were in the stories. We read 'To Catch A Bug' and played the 'guess the bug' game. This story is about a young boy who catches bugs and brings them home to show his mother who is afraid of them. He promises not to bring home any more bugs, but decides maybe a mouse would be better!

The book makes reference to being kind to animals and uses words such as 'Subhanallah' and 'Inshallah'. The game is a 'close your eyes and feel' game in which the children are invited to guess the insect from a selection which includes a caterpillar, butterfly, bee, ant, centipede, dragonfly and fly.

As a consequence of the snow at the beginning of term, we discussed what the children did in the snow such as building snowmen. We read 'Snow Bear' a book about a polar bear who gets lost. We used items from the nature table such as reindeer, snowy owl and seal to illustrate the story.

We read 'Love All Creatures' a book which focuses on stories of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and animals such as The Crying Camel, The Woman and her Cat and The Thirsty Dog and highlighted how the Prophet was kind to animals and because we follow his example, we should also be kind to all of Allah's creatures.

The children have enjoyed all of the circles times this term, especially the 'Guess the bug' game. We have noticed that the children have played the game themselves outside of circle time too.

This half term we will explore the subjects of penguins, seals, colossal squid, eagles, children from across the world and vocabulary extension scenes. The vocabulary extension scenes will involve the children being presented with pictures of familiar scenes and using familiar objects, they will be encouraged to enter into further discussion. This allows the teacher to gauge the child's vocabulary and to introduce grammatical concepts such as verbs and nouns.



Circle Times with Aunty Urja

We repeated some popular topics from the previous term. These included reading 'The Hungry Caterpillar', discussing pandas and exploring parts of the human body.

A particular favourite, was the human body where we discussed different aspects of the human body such as how we all have two eyes, two ears, a nose and a mouth and all have the same limbs yet we are all unique. We explored the different limbs and discussed their functions. We spoke of the amazing things the human body can do such as gymnastics and how the body grows from a baby to an elderly person. We also discussed how the body is nourished with the foods we eat and the importance of healthy sleep patterns and personal hygiene.

Over the course of the coming weeks the circle times will include discussion and investigation into cats, boats, nests, sticks, 'Handa's Surprise'.

Arabic and Tajweed with Aunty Maryam

In Arabic conversation last half term, the children were learning how to say "thank you," "no thank you," "please," "good morning" and "how are you?"

The children also learnt about the names of wild animals, fruit, vegetables and clothes. The children continued to practice writing Arabic letters in their individual form and read each letter, pronouncing it with the correct tajweed. As a group, the children recited Suratul Masad and Suratul Falaq. Individually the children continued reciting Qur'an at their own pace.

This half term in Arabic conversation we will be learning how to say "sorry," "excuse me" and "look." We will revise the nouns we covered last half term and will also introduce kitchen utensils to our vocabulary. The children will also begin writing Arabic letters in their joint form. As a group, the children will recite Suratun Nasr and Suratul Kafiroon.

Primary Arts and Craft with Aunty Nasima

Last half term the children completed their papier mache birds. They created some wonderful structures and personalised them with their choice of colour and design. We also began weaving, with paper being the prime material. The children produced pretty woven hearts and progressed to making cards from the hearts. We will continue to explore weaving this term and build upon skills they have already acquired through activities using thread and pony beads. As an extension to this, the children will be learning to weave using finer beads. Once they have mastered this skill they will make animals, flowers and stars with them. They will be practising the art of sewing, beginning with the basic running stitch and making their own pin cushions. They will eventually progress on to more complicated stitches such as blanket stitch and will aim to make stuffed animals. We will also continue to explore the use of colour through different mediums.



Snack Schedule

	Week 1 & 4	Week 2 & 5	Week 3 & 6
Monday	Breadsticks Strawberries Carrots Water	Breadsticks Strawberries Raisins Water	Breadsticks Apples Sweet-corn Water
Tuesday	Grapes Apples Water	Blueberries Pear Water	Strawberries Grapes Water
Wednesday	Toast with Butter Pear Sweet-corn Water	Toast with Butter Melon Carrots Water	Toast with Butter Melon Cucumber Water
Thursday	Toast with butter Blueberries Cucumber Water	Breadsticks Apples Sweet-corn Water	Toast with Butter Strawberries Raisins Water
Friday	Breadsticks Melon Raisins Water	Toast with butter Grapes Cucumber Water	Breadsticks Melon Carrots Water



Donations

Donations can be made online or by monthly standing order to:

Alamiyah Institue Pre-school, HSBC Account Number 92287145 , Sort Code 40-25-27

<http://www.justgiving.com/alamiyah/donate> , Jazakum Allahu khayran!

Donation Form

Standing Orders or One-Off Donations

PLEASE COMPLETE in BLOCK CAPITALS

Standing order instruction:



First name _____

Surname _____

Contact Telephone Number _____

Email _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Bank Name _____

Branch _____

A/C Number _____ Sort Code _____

Please pay

Alamiyah Institute Pre-school, HSBC Account Number 92287145; Sort Code 40 - 25 - 27

* Please indicate if you wish to make a **ONE-OFF** payment or whether you would like to donate on a **MONTHLY** basis.

- The ONE-OFF payment of: (please tick)

£5	<input type="checkbox"/>	£10	<input type="checkbox"/>	£20	<input type="checkbox"/>	£50	<input type="checkbox"/>	£100	<input type="checkbox"/>	£250	<input type="checkbox"/>
£500	<input type="checkbox"/>	£1,000	<input type="checkbox"/>	£5,000	<input type="checkbox"/>	other Amount: £ _____					

- The MONTHLY sum of: (please tick)

£5	<input type="checkbox"/>	£10	<input type="checkbox"/>	£20	<input type="checkbox"/>	£50	<input type="checkbox"/>	£100	<input type="checkbox"/>	£250	<input type="checkbox"/>
£500	<input type="checkbox"/>	£1,000	<input type="checkbox"/>	£5,000	<input type="checkbox"/>	other Amount: £ _____					

Date of the first monthly payment: _____

Date of the final payment (or until further notice/UFN) : _____

My Reference for this standing order will be: _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Donations by cheque to be made payable to '**Alamiyah Institute Pre-school**' & posted to: Alamiyah Pre-School, Annexe Building, 2 Victoria Road, Barking, IG11 8PY

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Use Gift Aid and you can make your donation worth more. For every pound you give us, we get an extra 25pence from HM Revenue & Customs. So just tick here, its that simple.

ALAMIYAH PRE-SCHOOL PART OF ALAMIYAH INSTITUTE
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www.alamiyahschool.org

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