



# My Iman Friday Newsletter

September 16, 2011

Mrs. Sara

The few weeks of school have been wonderful! You all have very smart children, they are learning so quickly. These last few weeks have been review for the returning students and the new students. We have reviewed some of the rules that we do in the classroom; we use our walking feet, inside voices, and to walk around our friends work. We have also talked about bathroom procedures; shutting the door when you are using the bathroom, flushing the toilet, and washing your hands with soap when you are done. We have also worked on rolling out our mats, carrying trays, and cleaning up our mess. We have practiced pouring water from a pitcher to a glass, pouring beans, cutting paper, washing windows and tables, and already so much more!

Students are practicing writing their names. Some students have started reading books, and other are working hard on there phonics. They are also practicing counting and writing numbers.

This week we started learning about parts of our body. We talked about our hands and what kind of things we can do with our hands; for example- wave, shake hands, clap, carry things, wash our hands, and much more. We also learned that we do sign language with our hands and we are starting to learn the alphabet in sign language. We talked about our legs and feet. We did hand prints and feet prints for art. We learned about our head the different

shapes that our head can be the different colors our skin are, eye color, and hair color, we all look different. We also learned about our teeth.

### **Mrs Brittanie**

Our first full week of school is complete! This is the perfect time for our first classroom newsletter. During the first two weeks of school, we introduced classroom procedures and schedules. Students learned how to move around the classroom, independently choose activities, and clean up materials. The teachers also began making presentations and introducing classroom materials and activities.

All of the students were introduced to the Addition Strip Board, a material for representing addition facts. First graders used this to represent addition facts from  $1+0=0$  all the way to  $9+9=18$ . Second graders used this, along with other materials, to represent more advanced addition equations and look for patterns. We learned about the parts of addition equation, addend and sum. We also began working with money. First graders are learning to identify each of the coins and second graders are counting groups of coins.

I have been meeting with each of the students individually to read books with them at their reading level. Students are using these books to practice different spelling patterns. Some students are working with short vowel words, others with sh and ch, and others with -ing and -ly endings. Using these spelling patterns, we have created individualized spelling lists. Students have used several games and activities to practice these spelling words.

Last week, we finished the 5 Great Lessons, a 5 part story that explains the creation of the universe, plants, animals, and humans. These stories introduce many of the topics we will learn about during the school year. After finishing these stories, we began a series of science lessons about animals. Students have learned the names for animals and their young, created food

chains, and classified animals into groups of herbivores, carnivores, and omnivores.

We plan to continue posting classroom newsletters every two weeks with the next one being posted on Friday, September 23.



### **MRS SAMIA (Elementary)**

#### **Arabic**

We are learning the Arabic alphabet with its different pronunciation and writing rules. At this stage we are focusing on learning how to read without necessarily understanding the meaning of the Arabic words. So far and at this early stage, students started writing words they hear for the first time. The result was very encouraging. All students are now most familiar with the Arabic letters and vowels and are able to understand and memorize many Arabic words through various audio visual techniques.

#### **Quran**

Students are divided into 3 different groups depending on their memorization abilities.           Group1: Surat “Iqraa”

Group 2: Surat “Alqariaa”

Group 3: Surat “Attakathur”

The teaching and Quran memorization is performed on an individual basis (but we still need the parents help to work as a team and help the students memorize their portions of Quran).

### **Islamic Studies**

We are following “I love Islam” program for Islamic studies. We learned about attributes of Allah (“Alawwal”, “Alghaffar”, and “Alghafur”) through discussions and activities. We also learned about the stories of Adam (Peace be upon him), his two sons (Qabeel and Habeel) and Prophet Ibraheem. At the end the year, all students should be familiar with the prophets and their stories.

**MRS KARIMA (Pre-K – K)**

**It's been a great start to the school year!**

**Arabic has been going great for the kids. We are having lots of fun! We've been working on some basic vocabulary and also on greetings and how to introduce ourselves in Arabic.**

**Please ask your child to recite the song we have been learning in class.**

**In Islamic studies, we've been discussing the creations of Allah. The kids are very interested and they have been participating.**

**Have a good weekend Insha-Allah!**

