

New Horizon Digest is published by the New Horizon School Los Angeles Campus to enhance communication between the school and parents.

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We welcome your suggestions, ideas and announcements. Please contact the office at (213) 480-3145 /3149.

Website  
www.newhorizonla.org

**Kindergarten & Fifth Grade Graduation & Annual Day**



We are looking forward to an exciting occasion when our Kindergartners and Fifth Graders embark upon the next phase of their young lives. This momentous occasion will be held on Friday June 12, at 5:30 pm. All students should be at school by 5:00 p.m. sharp. Parents please be in your seats in the Lecture Hall, so we may begin on time.

We shall also honor our Board members and PTO Officers. Hope to see you all there.

**"Spotlight on Excellence"**



We invite you to join us at the Award Ceremony on Wednesday, June 10th, from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the Lecture Hall. We will recognize our students in grades Pre-School-5th for their attendance and academic excellence.

We shall also be honoring the parents who have contributed to the school this year.

A continental breakfast will be served at 8:00 a.m. and the ceremony will start at 8:30 a.m. Please make an effort to be there on time.

**Happy Birthday! May**



Layla Afify, Mecca Perry  
Maimuna Chowdury,  
Abdul Ghofar Martorebo  
Sabiha Suchana  
Tioby Malik, Fatima Khan  
Sharmin Shanur  
Mostafa Elmallah, AbuBakr Elmallah, Basim Usman

**June**

Sofia Abusaleh, Mohamed Abakar Anisa Martorebo

**July**

Deena Halawani,  
Danielle Darundono  
Hamidou Guechtouli  
Maseena Usman  
Samir Rahman, Amir Arya  
Anosha Anwar, Nabila Katamso, Yahya Ijza

**August**

Leena Boumat  
Shaffa Rashid  
Nishat Brinta

New Horizon School  
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Los Angeles, CA 90020

Place Stamp Here

*In the Name of God, The Compassionate, The Merciful*  
**New Horizon Digest**

Published for Parents and Friends of New Horizon School- Los Angeles

*"O my Lord! Advance me in knowledge." Quran (20:14)*

May / June 2009

**Our Mission**  
Dedicated to providing academic excellence in an Islamic environment.

**"Our Children, Our Future"**

**School Administration**

**Principal**  
Shahida Alikhan

**Business Manager**  
Shahana Malik

**Secretary**  
Khadijah Rashid

**Board of Education**  
Sanjida Masud-  
Chairman  
Mohammad Abdul Aleem  
Danan Darrundono  
Nabila Idroos  
Zafar Iqbal  
Shahida Alikhan

**P.T.O Officers**

Lizette Hassan  
Taskin Momin  
Dindin Budiantie  
Sheikh Faiz  
Nishat Alikhan  
Khadijah Rashid  
Sheerin Khaleel

**New Horizon School is Accredited by WASC**

*From the Principal's Pen...*



Assalamu-Alaikum! Another school year is coming to a close with a few activities left. It is once again time for the tradition of caps and gowns, to say good-bye to our loving and shy fifth graders, and to welcome a new set of kindergartners upstairs to the elementary school. Alhumdulillah, this year was challenging, but has proven successful on so many fronts. Even though the enrollment has been low in upper grades we were able to accomplish a lot.

It is almost 25 years since New Horizon was first established and we have come a long way since then. This year we introduced many new activities to challenge the students and enhance our curriculum. The computer program with computerwise kids and the art program with Inner-city Arts stand out as outstanding addition to our program.

We remodeled the playground and had a successful Fall Benefit dinner followed by Mock Hajj, Science Fair, Annual Appreciation Awards Dinner honoring Mr. Fareed Farukhi, Chairman of the EC, Sports Day, Spring Open House, and Arabic Day, to name a few.

We continued to offer competitions this year which included drawing and painting, debate, who wants to be a champion, Quranic recitation, spelling bee and staff vs students volleyball match. We also had very successful family nights.

We hosted the 2009 Interschool Spelling Bee again this year. There were twelve schools and 147 participants and 21 students took home the spelling bee trophies.

This year we had our interim WASC visit to go over the progress we have made on their recommendations.

The two committee members who visited our school were very impressed by our school. We are waiting for the report which will come by the middle of June.

In February I was invited by WASC to be on their accreditation team for Echo Horizon School in Culver city. It was a great learning experience to visit another school. It helped in initiating the computer and art programs for our children. I was also invited by ISNA to give a presentation in Chicago. Mrs. Irshad and Miss. Nishat also gave presentations at ISNA Education Forum.

Alhumdulillah, our Board with a dedicated Board Chair Sanjida Masud at its helm with her team is working hard to take the school to the next level. I want to thank them all for their vision and goals for the school.

I would also like to thank the New Horizon families for their support and cooperation, for participating in the school activities, and making our programs a success. With our partnership, together we made a difference in our children's lives.

I thank our PTO officers specially Lizette, Taskin and Dinny who took charge of different activities and worked hard to make them successful. Last, but not the least, I thank my wonderful team of faculty and staff for their untiring efforts and enthusiasm in making the school year a success. They put their heart and soul in all school activities.

As the school year is coming to an end, some of the best programs are still to come, such as the "Spotlight on Excellence Assembly", where students and parents will be recognized for their achievements and contributions, Graduation and



Annual Day, end of the year field trips, Fathers Day celebration and class parties. Continue to join in these activities and support our children. Do not miss our Kindergarten and Fifth grade commencement exercises and have a great summer!

*Shahida Alikhan*

**P.T.O News**

Assalamu-Alaikum Parents. The school is coming to a quick end. Thank you all for attending the Spring Open House and Arabic Day. The children gave a great presentation. Our next event is Teacher Appreciation week. The PTO will sponsor an event each day of the week. We will end the week with a Teacher Appreciation dinner, on Friday May 29th from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Please buy your tickets by May 18th and join us in honoring our teachers.

The last PTO meeting for this school year is on Friday June 5th, from 3:45-5:00 pm. Please make an effort to attend. Elections of the PTO Officers for the upcoming school year will be done.

I would like to thank you all for giving me this opportunity to be the Co-President of the PTO this year. My sincere thanks and gratitude to all those who worked hard this year.

*Taskin Momin*  
PTO CO-President

## Pre-School News

Dear Parents, Assalamu-Alaikum. The 2008-2009 academic year has almost come to an end and, assessing the performance of a large and smart group of children, we can declare it a success!

They have developed in areas of Language Arts, Science, Arts and Craft. They have learned the alphabet, sounds of letters, associating words, many new and old songs, nursery rhymes, and stories with actions. The children also conducted many simple science experiments. Based on weekly themes, they know well about sea animals, farm animals, fruits, flowers and seeds. And with our new computer set, we learned egg hatching of butterfly, tortoise, fish, hen and duck. They enjoyed coloring, block printing and pasting, and they can trace, match the numbers from 1-10 and also recognize the letters and numbers in dodging method.

Inshallah, our last fun field trip to adventure city is scheduled for June 16th. The end of this school year is as lively as the beginning. The start of the year was full of hopes, and the end is full of satisfaction and much gratitude. I want to thank all the parents for their support and help this year. I really loved working with your children. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be a part of your child's developmental stage and may Allah give the best rewards for our efforts in future. Ameen

*Zainab Nigebhani*

## Pre-Kindergarten News

It is hard to believe that we are coming to the end of the school year. Time has gone fast as we have been busy with all the different activities. The Elementary students were busy with spelling bee competition and the little ones with their practices for presentations.

Then we had the Spring Fair which went very well and I would like to thank all my parents for joining us and making it a great success. It was also time for the kids to work hard to put up a special show for the parents at the Spring Open House and Arabic Day.

Pre-K kids are trying their best to prepare to move on and get ready for Kindergarten. Most of the students are able to print letters and numbers. We will be going back in time to find out what happened to dinosaurs and try to learn a few names. We will find out more about them by reading books and looking at the weekly readers. The children prepared and will present a beautiful song and card to their very special person –moms. I would like to thank all my parents who gave me this opportunity to be with their kids and for believing in me. It was a pleasant journey and I enjoyed it very much.

I also want to thank all my wonderful parents for giving me a chance of playing an important role in their child's learning. It sure gives me a great feeling of achievement when I hear parents talking about the things their child say at home about the school. It was truly a pleasure working with your beautiful children as well as working with all of you.

*Tanveer Hadi*

## Kindergarten News

Dear Parents, Assalamu Alaikum. We had a great constructive academic year. The goals that we had set in the beginning have been accomplished by the hard work of the Kindergartners.

We are now in the process of preparing for the upcoming Stanford tests and simultaneously practicing for the graduation ceremony. It will surely be an emotional day for all of us as it will mark a great transition for Kindergartners.

The first years at school are very important in a child's education and being aware of this fact, I have tried very hard to make this learning experience rewarding for my students. I hope I have succeeded in doing so.

I would like to thank all the parents for their cooperation and understanding. My best wishes are with my Kindergartners and hope that they achieve all their goals and dreams. My heartiest congratulations to you on your child's graduation.

*Tahira Zainab*

## First Grade News

"It's not over, til it's over," – This famous slogan definitely applies here in the 1<sup>st</sup> grade classroom of New Horizon School. The last day of school is fast approaching, but the 1<sup>st</sup> graders are not putting their pencils down just yet. We are working hard to prepare for the end of the year standardized testing, and parents can help as well!

Parents can contribute by making sure their child gets a good night's sleep and eat a healthy breakfast every morning to ensure that his/her child will put forth his/her best effort. There are also commercial test taking booklets parents can purchase at bookstores to improve test-taking skills. Parents can also continue reading and asking comprehension questions to increase reading fluency and improve comprehension ability.

As for the teacher, I will continue to empower my students, encourage hard work, and practice more. The key to improvement is practice, practice, and practice. Thank you again, parents, for your dedicated support this year.

*Tamera Wong*

## Second & Third Grade News

Dear Parents, Assalamu-Alaikum. The second and third grade students have been quite busy with their academics and extra curricular activities. Besides their regular tests, they are preparing for the CTP-4 testing. I will be sending out work sheets for review in Math and Reading. Please make sure that your child works on it and brings it to school every day for revision. I really need your cooperation in this matter.

It seems just yesterday that I had the honor and opportunity to be a part of your child's life. The year has almost come to an end. I had a challenging yet wonderful experience in teaching, sharing and getting to know each of these bright students.

The WASC visit and the Spring Open House was a grand success. I would like to take this opportunity to thank every one who helped in making it successful.

Studies show that the involvement of parents at school helps in the overall development of a child. Thank you all once again, for all the help and cooperation that you have rendered to me in making this year a successful one!

At this time of the year, I express my deepest gratitude to Allah first, & then Fouzia, who has tirelessly been with me throughout the year helping me with all the challenges and needs the students and I faced. Thank you Fouzia! I would also like to thank all the parents for their concerns, valuable suggestions and constant support. It has been a rewarding experience to be a part of your child's life. I wish them all the success in life. Have a safe and delightful summer!

*Shaheda Inshad*

## Fourth & Fifth Grade News

Assalamu Alaikum everyone! This year is drawing to a close! It is getting to be time for the traditional blue caps and gowns crossing stages and another class to move on. Feels like only yesterday this school year began, but as all good things must come to an end, so too must this year. Don't despair, there is still a lot more left to do before we can say adieu. These last weeks of school are going to be the busiest time ever.

The month of April and early May were both exciting and hectic. We had our Spring Fair, the School Spelling Bee, the Interschool Spelling Bee, Earth Day, our Accreditation visit, and Spring Open House and Arabic Day. These were all very successful events. Quickly following these events is the Mothers Day Breakfast, our WrAP testing, the Spring Final Trimester testing, and of course, the CTP IV testing. These bouts of testing will be interspersed with review, review, and more review. Students will review quantitative reasoning skills, writing mechanics, grammar, reading comprehension skills, as well as other basic math and English skills. Students will also be taking field trips to alleviate some of the testing anxiety.

This, as mentioned earlier, will be the most exciting and toughest part of the school year. For this reason, parents, it is imperative that students eat nutritious meals and get plenty of rest. Please make sure they complete their review assignments for homework and come to class prepared daily with pencils, erasers, a pencil sharpener, and are ready to tackle the world of academia.

The students are looking forward to all of the June end-of-year activities. Activities such as: Student Appreciation Day, One Notch-Up Day, the Spotlight on Excellence Assembly, Graduation, and the elusive end-of-the-year overnight field trip. This year our students have decided that they would like to go to Catalina Island for the overnight trip. Please expect the permission slips out soon. It is imperative that we know who all will be going among the parents and students, as we have to book the hotel rooms as soon as possible.

I want to thank all of you for making this year incredible. The students have made significant progress and I'm proud of every single one of them. I wish everyone all the best, a good summer, and good luck to my fifth graders as they enter middle school. I will miss them!

*Nishat Akkhan*

## Values of the Month May

### Kindness and Care

- ◆ Be kind to your family, friends and neighbors and to your elders
- ◆ Be kind to all living things
- ◆ Be kind in your words and actions
- ◆ Remember that when you are kind to people, Allah cares more for you

### June

### Excellence and Perseverance

- ◆ Be courageous enough to live by your values
- ◆ Pursue your dreams and don't give up easily
- ◆ Remember what the mind can perceive, the body can achieve
- ◆ Expect less from others and more from yourself

### Enrollment for 2009-2010

Alhamdulillah, this year we have lots of new students enrolling. Register now so that your space is secured. A late fee of \$25 per student will be assessed for students registering after May 30th.

### Graduation DVD

Professional graduation DVD will be available for \$25.00. Book your copy now.



### Lost & Found

Dear Parents, have you checked for your child's missing items? We have a box full of lost & found items like school sweaters, sweats, etc. Please collect them as soon as possible. After school ends they will be given away.