

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

Editor:
Shahana Malik
Advisor:
Shahida Alikhan



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

Values and its Aspects

November - Thankfulness

- * Be thankful to Allah and for your religion
- * Be thankful for your health, your mind and for what you have
- * Be thankful for who you are, your family and your community
- * Show thankfulness through your deeds and actions

December - Respect

- * Show respect to your parents
- * Show respect to life & property
- * Show respect for the rights & beliefs of others
- * Remember that giving advice & correcting the wrong are parts of respect
- * Remember that to respect others does not mean adopting their life style

Sports News

Dear Parents, the PE classes are going very well and the students are having a great time learning movement skills. Currently the K-5 grades are doing a unit on hockey. They are learning safety, stick handling, dribbling, hockey shots and rules. The older students are applying their skills in hockey games, while the younger students are playing games to learn the skills. They get a lot of exercise playing hockey and have a great time. They are also doing fitness activities in each class. After we finish the unit on hockey, they will start a unit on basketball followed by volleyball.

Pre-S and Pre-K students are also very active in the PE classes. They learn movement skills by playing games that are very enjoyable to them. They also learn how to use balls, hoops, beanbags, deck rings, etc. We will soon be starting a unit on gymnastics. It's nice to see how happy they are when coming to class. I hope all of you have a great holiday.

Ricky Kabins



Happy Birthday!

November

Sara BenYousef
Zeynep Karamete
Sameer Hossain
Sumaita Hossain
Nasha Santoso

December

Soraya Diop
Ebrahim Faisal
Nagllaa Ahmed
Sayema Rahman
Aliza Arya
Khatija Shervani
Wahid Momin

**Wishing you all a
Peaceful Holiday
Season & a Happy
New Hijrah Year**

Place
Stamp
Here

New Horizon School
434 S. Vermont Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90020

In the Name of God, The Compassionate, The Merciful

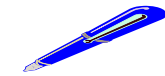
New Horizon Digest

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

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

November / December 2009

From the Principal's Pen.....



Assalamu-Alaikum. It has certainly been a busy few months since the school year started, especially with the preparation of our 25th Anniversary Celebration. Alhamdulillah we had a very successful 25th Anniversary celebration at Queen Mary in Long Beach honoring the Founders for their vision and contributions. Layla Shams, alumni from the first year of New Horizon and a current parent of New Horizon School-Los Angeles was the MC and talked about our history of going from a dream to reality. We recognized 25 years of Board Chairs, Directors/Principals, PTO Presidents, Staff and our Alumni who have turned out to be successful and confident American Muslims doing well in their education and careers. We also thanked the parents for supporting New Horizon School. A special DVD was prepared for the occasion "A Stroll Down Memory Lane" which brought back nostalgic memories of our past. All this was crowned by the comedy of world renowned comedian Ahmed, Ahmed. Everyone had a great time enjoying the special candy prepared for celebration and the picture cubes of old pictures prepared by our faculty and staff. I was most touched by the movie and tribute prepared for me. My special thanks to our board chair Sanjida Masuda and her team along with Layla Shams, Shahana Malik and Nishat Alikhan for all the hard work and extra time they put in.

Alhamdulillah, we also accomplished other successful school events such as Back-to-School Night, Ramadan activities and 'Who Wants to be a Champion' contest. This year again we combined it with family night and had Islamic and general knowledge questions for parents as well. It was a lot of fun. By the grace of Allah (SWT) each of these events went off beautifully. I want to take a moment and thank all those who participated, organized, and helped make these events successful. I want to thank our faculty and staff, whose hard work and dedication has carried on, our wonderful parents for their support, and our students for their energy and enthusiasm to learn.

As this calendar year draws to a close, I want everyone to reflect on not only their own year, but that of the world. I want everyone to remember the purpose of New Horizon - LA and its commitment after 25 years of providing high quality academic and character education and its dedication to nurturing spiritual growth and developing God consciousness in our students through the teachings of Islam.

New Horizon-LA strives tirelessly to develop for its student's self-assurance as American Muslims with a commitment to honoring family, being involved in their community and to respect others. New Horizon-LA continues to aim to foster ethical values in our students towards becoming productive and responsible members of our global society, since its inception in 1984.

I wish everyone a wonderful Hijra and Gregorian New Year and hope everyone enjoys the break, and comes back enthusiastic to go forth in 2010. May Allah (SWT) grant everyone a safe and restful winter break and happy, healthy and safe 2010. Amen.

Shahida Alikhan - Principal

*"25 years of Building
Strong Foundations
& Achieving Success"*

A Tradition of Excellence since 1984

Pre-School News

Assalamu-Alaikum. The preschoolers are adjusting very well to the classroom environment and emerging on the track of learning. The children exhibited tremendous progress in grasping the concepts presented in their lessons through reading new books, coloring, pasting and vocabulary. Physical Education is fun and they all like Mr. Ricky and his P.E activities with music. We are concluding our first trimester having done the letters A-M , numbers 1-10, seven basic shapes and colors. We have also learnt three surahs. I am very happy to see the children progressing academically, socially, morally and spiritually. Inshallah, we will keep on achieving the best for our children with the help of you wonderful parents, our ever dedicated Principal, and always ready to go “Teachers”.

Our Hajj Simulation was well attended by the children, and their parents and the lunch was delicious. Thank you! Alhamudillah our 25th Anniversary Celebration dinner on November 22nd, 2009 at Queens Mary was a big success with so many people in attendance. Now, our school is TWENTY FIVE years old Masha-Allah! Lastly I would like to wish all families a Happy and peaceful New year.

Zainab Nigebani

Pre-Kindergarten News

Dear Pre-K parents, time is flying by fast and we are already coming to the end of the first trimester of the school year and very soon we will be welcoming the year 2010.

November was a month full of wonderful activities. We learned about the Pilgrims and Indians. As this was a month of thankfulness the kids got an opportunity to learn to be grateful of the things Allah has given them .It was wonderful to find out from the little ones—What they were thankful for? Weekly reader and small stories were the means to help through the themes.

Pre-Kindergartners were so excited to participate in the drawing competition and it was great to see the children bringing in their imagination to make the ocean theme alive on the paper. Big thank-you to all the parents! We had a chance to experience the blessings of Hajj and the celebration ended with a delicious lunch. Parents your participation is very much appreciated.

As we move on into the winter weather the students will be learning new vocabulary related to the cold weather. We will look into the animals that Hibernate—explained in simple words as long sleep. Great news we have started to print our letters and numbers. The students will be evaluated on their overall performance in the class activities.

It gives me a great feeling to see the students showing responsibility and maturity each day. I appreciate the students and parents efforts to continue to make this a successful school year.

Tauveer Hadi

Kindergarten News

Dear Parents, Assalamu Alaikum. It is almost the end of the trimester and it is amazing how quickly we have reached this part of the year. I am very pleased that everything is going very smoothly in kindergarten, with very exciting activities in all the areas especially in Math and Science in order to strengthen the concepts.

The children have adopted themselves according to the class rules and have become more responsible towards turning in their homework, doing written assignments and following instructions in class.

The kindergartners have already started Book B in Reading which is more challenging than the previous one. Please read to your child every day for 15 minutes and encourage them to talk about what they are learning at school. They have gradually started blending sounds to read words and simple sentences.

In science we are learning about how our five senses help us learn. They will be acquainted with all kinds of textures and different kinds of tastes and smell. Please continue your participation in the school activities. It is deeply appreciated and encourages us to impart the best efforts towards our students. Wishing you all a very happy and safe winter break.

Tahira Zainab

First Grade News

Our first graders are learning how to read and spell many new words. Their math skills are improving as well. With those who are struggling, I will continue to provide on-going assistance as much as possible. At this point, I would like to refresh students’ minds with a brief review of the material learned so they will do well on the final tests. There is definitely much to be learned in the months to come, after the Winter Break. In Science, students will be learning about the weather and documenting changes in the weather in their Weather Logs. In Language Arts, students will continue with the writing process. We will also be doing a lot more reading in the classroom. In order to bring students to the grade level reading fluency, please read with your child everyday. When students read a certain amount of books the coming new quarter, they will receive a Reading Certificate as well as a prize. So yes, read, read, read with your child!

Tamera Wong

Second & Third Grade News

Dear Parents, Assalamu-Alaikum

The second/third grade students have been busy and are in full swing with their academics. We are at the close of the first trimester. It has been a challenging journey and the children are completely involved now with the school and its schedule. They have been doing a lot of extra curricular activities as well. They will be going through their final tests for the first trimester and their report cards are due soon

We will have the **winter break** in December. I want the students to enjoy their break, but I also want them to spend some time to do their basic studying. I will be sending out packets for CTP - 4 preparations, Insha Allah. Please make sure that your child does this with understanding and with full focus.

I express my deepest gratitude to all the parents for their concern, valuable suggestions and constant support. I also express my gratitude to Fouzia, Imen’s mom, for supporting my class and me this year. She spends three full days of the week in my classroom volunteering. Most of all, she helps students who need a one-on-one in improving their academic skills. May Allah bless her always! Thank You Fouzia!

Remember it takes an effort on both our parts when creating the future Muslim leaders of the world. Please work with your child, with basics in Math and Reading. It is with your motivation that they will be successful. Once again, I thank you very much for all that you have done for the school and my class. I also take this opportunity to wish you all **Happy Holidays and a Very Happy and Prosperous New Year!**

Shaheda Inshad

News from Social Studies Classroom

Assalamualaykum Everyone! I hope that you all had a joyous Eid celebration with the ones you love and all those dear to you and insha'allah you will have many more to come! Well, I am pleased to say that the Second Grade Social Studies classroom group is on track. In November, the class completed building their Model Communities, Rural, Suburb and Urban, using their team-building skills.They were given the opportunity to assess their own self-effort,as well as assess the presentation of their peers' projects. This was something new to them and many of them felt strange about it, but they were able to reach this higher order thinking skill. Please stop by upstairs to view their work (near the fifth grade classroom) as they are on display with pride!

We continued with Theme 2 Our Place On Earth where they discovered that Earth provides different places for people to live. We covered various landforms, bodies of water, continents, countries, and states. Students learned to read from a landform map, from a globe, and from a map grid. They also learned to interpret information from diagrams, such as the various parts of an envelope, a perfect opener to being introduced to the opportunity to write to their new Pen Pal. Through the traditional way of writing letters they will be able to personally connect to another Muslim 2nd Grader living in Wisconsin also attending an Islamic school. They are very excited about formulating friendships with children from the Midwest region of the United States and await anxiously for a reply to their letters! They discovered that the United States has four regions and each region has its own special features, so they have lots of questions about snow and how to play in it!

In December, we will wrap up Theme 2 by covering the many cultures, languages and beliefs of our North American neighbors Canada and Mexico. We will cover some of the ways people use natural resources, such as water, to grow and make things for their communities. We will review how to use a Dictionary better and a World Map.

And finally, please support your child in preparation for their first trimester final exam on Thursday, December 10th. We will also be working diligently to recall the concepts learned in class, insha'allah.

Tasneem Keval

Fourth & Fifth Grade News

Assalamu Alaikum and whew! I can’t believe it is already December! This first trimester, of what I imagine will be an incredible school year, is almost coming to an end. And all I can say is “Wow!” How these days have just whizzed by us. The students have successfully taken two sets of tests, many field trips, learned many new and exciting things in science. Students have expanded their vocabularies, read curriculum relevant stories, and worked on major Math and English concepts, well on track to complete these concepts by April.

In December, we will be visiting the Irvine Ranch Outdoor Education Center in Irvine, California, to experience what this amazing place has to offer. We will spend two days and one night expanding educational opportunities, gaining hands-on-experience learning about native plants and animals and how people used to live.

In the next few months, we will be very busy flying through the earth and conducting various experiments in science, experiencing new people and places in reading, and learning interesting new concepts in math. Please remember that I am always reachable by e-mail nishukhala@yahoo.com. My page on www.schoolnotes.com is continuously updated, if you want to see what we are doing or review my classroom policies.

I want to wish all of you a very happy and blessed New Year and a safe, enjoyable, restful holiday break. Insha’allah, the next trimester will be very exhilarating!

Nishat Akhbar