

Brothers and Sisters,

Ramadan has bid us farewell yet again. May Allah swt accept our fasting, prayers, and charitable acts. This sacred month has offered us the space to practice mindfulness and spiritual nourishment as we untangled the many thoughts, emotions, and habits that we have been distracted from attending to over the year. This 30-day journey results in developing taqwa, which is an elevated bond a human possesses with their Cre-

ator swt. As Allah swt states, "O you who have believed, decreed upon you is fasting as it was decreed upon those before you that you may become God-conscious." [2:183]

This state of mind colors our thoughts, emotions, and actions following the completion of Ramadan. Every thought that enters our mind becomes subject to a process of filtering based on the love of pleasing Allah swt and the fear of displeasing Him. Each feeling that enters our

comes subject to a process of filtering based on the love of pleasing Allah sv

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hearts is also evaluated on this basis, as are our actions.

How do we carry these schemas that have been established over the course of a month for the remainder of the year? Here I discuss some ways to maintain the benefits of Ramadan throughout the year.

1.PRAY 5 TIMES A DAY:

Every Day: There is no doubt that the obligatory prayers are the most essential form of worship a Muslim engages in daily. As the Messenger of Allah (S) was reported to have said, "The first matter that the slave will be brought to account for on the Day of Judgment is the prayer. If it is sound, then the rest of his



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continue from page 1

deeds will be sound. And if it is bad, then the rest of his deeds will be bad." [Sahih al-Jami] Each prayer serves as a mechanism of purification expiating the sins which occurred before it as Allah swt states, "Recite, [O Muhammad], what has been revealed to you of the Book and establish prayer. Indeed, prayer prohibits immorality and wrongdoing, and the remembrance of Allah is greater. And Allah knows that which you do." [29:45] It is important to focus your efforts and energy on safeguarding this pillar of Islam throughout the year above all other matters. Everything else will follow bi'thinillah.

2. MAKE FASTING A HABIT:

Much research is now pointing to the health benefits of fasting two days a week as was the customary practice of our beloved Prophet Muhammad (S) each Monday and Thursday over 1400 years ago. In addition to physical health, fasting nafila promotes spiritual health. Think of each time you stopped from stating something, looking at something, or doing something displeasing to Allah swt during the month of Ramadan because you were fasting. By a similar token, think of all the instances you felt encouraged to remember and be thankful to Allah, to gaze upon His Holy Book, and to do charitable acts because you were fasting. A great way to maintain this mindfulness is to make fasting a habit since it combines patience in obeying Allah and patience in refraining from what He has prohibited. In addition, fasting is a means of gaining immense reward. The Messenger of Allah (S) was reported to have said, "Every deed of the son of Adam will be multiplied between ten and seven hundred times. Allah, may He be glorified and exalted, said: Except fasting. It is for Me and I shall reward for it. He gives up his desires and his food for My sake." [Muslim]

3. GIVE...FROM EVERYTHING:

If we fasted the month of Ramadan sincerely we should have been able to develop a sense of gratitude, which serves as a great motivator to give. Giving zakat is an obligatory pillar of Islam and mentioned in the Quran almost each time obligatory prayers are mentioned. The practice of giving sadaqa is also encouraged and rewarded immensely. In addition to giving from our wealth, Ramadan should have taught us to give from our time and our attention to that which matters most by learning to refrain from immersing ourselves in conversations or on social media applications focused solely on what so and so ate today or wore today. Instead, Ramadan teaches us to connect with those whom Allah swt will hold us accountable for on the Day of Judgment such as our families. Allah swt states, "And do not extend your eyes toward that by which We have given enjoyment to [some] categories of them, [its being but] the splendor of worldly life by which We test them. And the provision of your Lord is better and more enduring. And enjoin prayer upon your family [and people] and be steadfast therein. We ask you not for provision; We provide for you, and the [best] outcome is for [those of] righteousness." [20:131-132] In addition, volunteering at a local Masjid or a humanitarian organization is a great way to maintain our sense of gratitude.

4. BEFRIEND THE QURAN:

The relationship between Ramadan and the Quran is exemplified repeatedly within the Quran itself and the Sunnah of Prophet Muhammad (S). As Allah swt states, "The month of Ramadan [is that] in which was revealed the Qur'an, a guidance for the people and clear proofs of



July 2017 - Shawwal 1438

guidance and criterion." [2:185] The amount of in-person and online classes offered to a diverse range of learners specialized in Quran recitation, memorization, and tafseer do not allow any one to have an excuse to not have the Quran be a part of their daily living. There are truly no excuses for a person not to become a life-long student of the Quran in this age of accessibility. Make listening to the Quran a habit every morning on your way to school or work as you would make it a habit to listen to other things. Enroll in a Quran class to learn how to recite or advance in your recitation. Attend a weekly halaqa to gain new understanding and wisdoms of this miracle Allah swt has bestowed upon the Ummah of Muhammad (S).

5. MAKE DUA'A:

During Ramadan we also become accustomed to making du'a' and speaking to Allah swt especially during nightly prayers. This is a highly recommended form of worship to maintain throughout the year and serves as an act of humility and submission to our Creator swt. Allah swt states, "And your Lord says, "Call upon Me; I will respond to you." Indeed, those who disdain My worship will enter Hell [rendered] contemptible." [40:60] What greater promise can we receive from Allah swt than the one illustrated in the verse? Learning and reciting the different supplications detailed in the Quran and Sunnah daily is a great habit to maintain such as the supplications upon waking, before sleeping, before eating, etc.

I pray that we can use these tools that Allah swt has equipped us with during the month of Ramadan to maintain our spiritual momentum and productivity throughout the year.

AN IFTAR FOR NEW MUSLIMS AND THEIR FAMILES: ANNUAL JOYFUL TRADITION

Friday, June 16th the Mosque Foundation hosted once again an Iftar at Aqsa Shool for our community converts/reverts and their families that include any family members from other faith backgrounds. During this climate of Islamophobia the iftar is especially needed for those who may be isolated in their Ramadan and breaking-fast or have family who don't know other Muslims because it provides a sense of belonging and unity to community and an opportunity to get close to the Mosque Foundation activities.

One of the attendees remarked that its like «a great big family reunion». Imam Ahmed Arafat, our guest speaker, spoke to us about gaining closeness to Allah SWT as a natural phenomenon, and there was a raffle with prizes ranging from kitchen items, a



wood carving of the Name of Allah to gift certificates from Dunkin Donuts and more. The event was marked by a recent convert, who spoke briefly about his first time fasting this year and that events like this help him so much, as well as a sister who came forward to give her shahada/ testimony of faith.

Once again, attendance was near capacity from culturally diverse backgrounds including the young and old. This flagship event is family oriented and next year we hope to incorporate activities for the children. If you know a convert/revert who would benefit from this gathering, please communicate their contact information to the Mosque Foundation.





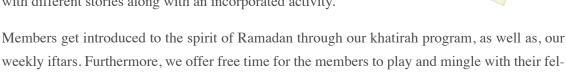
< ﴿ شَهْرُ رَمَضَانَ الَّذِي أُنزِلَ فِيهِ الْقُرْ آنُ هُدًى لِّلنَّاسِ وَبَيِّنَاتٍ مِّنَ الْهُدَى وَالْفُرْ قَانِ ُ فَمَن شَهِدَ مِنكُمُ الشَّهْرَ فَلْيَصُمْهُ ۖ وَمَن كَانَ مَريضًا أَوْ عَلَىٰ سَفَرٍ فَعِدَّةٌ مِّنْ أَيَّام أَخَرَ ۗ يُرِيدُ اللَّهُ بِكُمُ الْيُسْرَ وَلَا يُريدُ بِكُمُ الْعُسْرَ وَلِتُكْمِلُوا الْعِدَّةَ وَلِتُكَبِّرُوا اللَّهَ عَلَّمٰى مَا هَدَاكُمْ وَلَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ - 2:185»

As we all know, Ramadan is the month of the Quran. This Ramadan, MFCC decided to focus the program on Quranic stories and to bring the members closer to the Quran. The program is held every Monday, Wednesday



and Saturday for boys and every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday for

girls. Each day the members are presented



The goal of the program is for the youth to be able to take the topics they learn and apply it to their daily lives and make a fresh start between them and Allah(swt) towards creating a stronger connection with Allah(swt).





TARAWEEH FOR ALL AGES

As we do every year, we ran four Taraweeh programs instantaneously:

1-Boys 6-12 years at Universal School

2-Girls 6-12 years at MFCC

3-Boys 13+ years, at MFEC

4-Girls and Boys 4-5 years at MFCC



END OF THE YEAR PARTY

Islam 101, Young Muslimahs, and Noor are celebrating another year of education and accomplishment. The members of our Friday kids programs enjoyed a full of activities afternoon on Friday May 19, which mark the last day of these signature programs for MFCC little boys and girls. MFCC staff and volunteers are looking forward for yet another year of learning and joy for our girls and boys





MFCC SATURDAY QURAN SCHOOL



ANOTHER YEAR OF ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Our mission is to teach our students how to systemetically read the Qur'an through the Norania program and instill within them a desire to memorize the Qur'an and recite it the way it was revealed to the Prophet Mohamed (s) in a safe and nurturing evironment. It takes each student four years to finish the Norania book. After students complete the Norania curriculum, they are trained in the recitation of the Qur'an with the proper tajweed and makhaarij. At this level, students will be able to read Arabic fluently. A Seerah course is taught in Arabic during the fifth year of study. For Islamic studies, the school uses the "Exploring Islam" series



The 16th Annual Community Iftas: a Remarkable Event



The Mosque Foundation hosted its 16th Annual Community Iftar on Tuesday, June 13th, at Paradise Banquets. It was well packed

event with over 250 distinguished guests from the local civic, educational and interfaith institutions, as well as local government officials. During this event, the Foundation presented its annual Leadership Awards to Kenneth Lukhard, President of Advocate Christ Medical Center, and Dr. Sylvia Jenkins, President of Moraine Valley Community College. Also, Jewish Voice for Peace received the Community Service Award for its service and friendship to the Muslim community.









July 2017 - Shawwal 1438

Shawwal La Celebracion del Fitr



Hoy os he perfeccionado vuestra religion, he completado Mi gracia sobre vosotros y he dispuesto que el Islam sea vuestra religion. (Capitulo5, verso3)

«Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, La illaha illah Allah, Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar wa lillah Alhamd « Estas son las frases que todo musulman continua diciendo al culminar el bendito mes de Ramadan. Alhamdulilah que Allah nos dio la bendicion de estos treinta dias para asi acercarnos mas y aumentar nuestra devocion hacia nuestro Creador, Allah (SWAT). Quien ayuno correctamente en el mes de Ramadan con creencia y conviccion y esperando una recompenza de Allah (SWAT)el o ella alcansara el perdon por cualquier error que hayan hecho en el pasado, saldran puros al final de Ramadan. Aquel quien estuvo parado en tarawwih en la noche, con certeza, sin vaguez y anhelando la recompenza de Allah, aquel quien puso todo su empeno se le dara lo que se le fue prometido. Allah(SWAT) le dice a los angeles que sean testigos que El (SWAT)ha perdonado completamente a Sus Siervos. Empesamos este nuevo mes y la bendicion de Allah continua pues en la hadith transmitida por Anas(ra)que dijo, el profeta(saws) vino a Medinay la gente tenia en el tiempo de ignorancia dos dias para jugar y celebrar. El profeta (saws) dijo; realmente Allah los ha remplazado con algo mejor, el dia de Nahr (sacrificio) y el dia de Fitr(romper el ayuno). Ahmad, Abu Dawoud, Nassai

Tambien en el mes de Shawwal se recomienda ayunar seis dias, cual es una accion voluntaria. El profeta (saws) dijo, aquel quien ayune durante el mes de Ramadan y siga con seis dias de Shawwal sera recompensado como si hubiera ayunado el ano entero. (Muslim, Abu Dawoud). Esto es asi pues Ramadan es un mes ,1 multiplicado por 10 = 10 meses y 6 dias multiplicado por 10 = 60, (2 meses) entonces 10+2=12 cual equivale a un ano. Esta es la recompensa de ayunar estos 6 dias en Shawwal. Se puede ayunar despues de haber celebrado por tres dias el Eid -Ul-Fitr. Tu tienes la opcion, de los dias que deceas ayunar, insha Allah. Finalmente, deceo compartir esta suplica con mis hermanos de fe; Glorificado seas Allah, El Misericordioso, El Compasi-

vo, El Generoso, El que todo lo escucha, El que contesta la suplica de Sus siervos, O Allah te ruego, te suplico con la esperanza de que nos purifiques nuestros corazones, nuestra alma, nuestras intenciones, nuestras acciones y nuestras palabras. O Allah La Paz y Amor esta en Tus manos, pon Amor en nuestros corazones por nuestros hermanos y hermanas en el Islam. O Allah haz que la paz

reine en nuestra comunidad. Amen Sinceramente su hermana en Islam,

Silvia Hamoud



Mubarak





تعزيزا لعطاء متجدد مدرسة الصديق تحتفل بنهاية العام و تخريج الفوج السادس

في فصل من فصول حياة مدرسة الصديق ،طوت المدرسة ورقة من أوراق عامها الدراسي وودعت الفوج السادس من خريجيها الذين كانوا بذورا احتضنتهم وروتهم من ماء التربية والعلم تحت مظلة مسجدهم فنبتت تلك البذور غراسا وكان موعد قطافها في حفل تخريج لهم. ودعناهم وكلنا أمل أن يكونوا كالماء الجاري في نهر العلم والحياة لا توفقه السدود حيثما أصاب نفع ،فحيث وجد الماء كانت الحياة، هذا وكان عدد خريجي هذا العام ٣٢ طالب و طالبة، و تخلل حفلنا النهائي فقرات إنشادية مبدعة من طلابنا و معلماتنا كما أتحفنا إمام ومدير مؤسسة الجامع الشيخ الفاضل جمال سعيد بموعظة هادفة. تم توزيع شهادات نهاية العام الدراسي بعد انتهاء الحفل وبهذا لانقول وداعا ولكن نلقاكم في العام الدراسي القادم ان شاء االله.

عرفانا وامتنانا بدورهن في بناء جيلا صالحا مساهما في تطوير مجتمعه مدرسة الصديق تقيم حفلا لتكريم العاملات والمتطوعات

بحفل ختامي تم تكريم العاملات والمتطوعات في المدرسة والاحتفاء بجهودهن، تخلل الحفل الاستماع لكلمة الادارة و فقرات شيقة نالت

تكريم نادي الأمهات بمدرسة الصديق

هناك في كل عمل وإنجاز أياد خفية لا تظهر أحيانا منها الأمهات المتطوعات في المدرسة لذلك كان حقا علينا تكريمهن لجهودهن الطيبة، نحن ممتنون جدا لنادي امهات الصديق الذي كان له الفضل في إنجاز وإتمام ودعم أنشطة الصديق المختلفة على مدار السنة. ندعوا مزيدا من الامهات والاباء للتطوع في المدرسة.

يوم تكريم الطلبة

في يوم آخر يوم دراسي لهذا العام تم توديع طلابنا بطريقة مميزة تركت انطباعا طيبا في نفوسهم. في هذا اليوم تم توزيع الحلوى والبوظة على جميع الطلاب والطالبات.

شمادات حية عن مدرسة الصديق:

احدى الامهات والمساعدات كتبت:

نحن نبحث عن المثل الأعلى لأولادنا وعن القدوة الحسنة التي يجب أن يقتدوا بها ولكي نجد هذه الصفات لابد أن نبحث عن البيئة الإسلامية بما فيها من معايير تربوية وأسس لمنهج حياة بأكملها .

من خلال تجربتي القصيرة في مدرسة الصديق وجدت لأبنائي هذه البيئة التي طالما بحثت عنها في هذه البلاد وخاصة المجتمع الإسلامي والقيم الإسلامية السامية التي تدعو للتسامح والتعاون وكل ما يحتاجه أطفالنا في المراحل العمرية المختلفة.

منى أبو شقرة

من أهم الأسباب التب تجعلني أصر على تسجيل اولادي في مدرسة الصديق:

أولا: البيئة التربوية التي أراها مجسدة بتصرفات الكادر التعليمي أولاً وبالتطبيق العملي لأطفالي ثانياً.

ثانيا ؛ التعاليم الإسلامية التي تدّرس في كل مرحلة عمرية مراعية الفروق اللغوية والعمرية.

ثالثاً: تحفيظ القران عن طريق أحدث الكتب والطرق لجعلهم يرتلون القرآن بصورة صحيحة.

رابعاً: تعليم اللغة العربية بأحدث الأساليب العلمية لغير الناطقين بها.

خامساً: استخدام الأساليب التطبيقية لتطبيق ما يتعلمه الطالب من خلال الأنشطة المختلفة.

سادساً: توفير البيئة الصحية والرياضية من خلال النادي الرياضي والأنشطة الرياضية المختلفة .

سابعاً:استخدام اُسلوب التحدي في التعلم والحفظ من خلال المسابقات التعليمية كمسابقة اقراً وأسباب النزول وغيرها.

ثامنا:مراعاة التغذية الصحية وتوفير وقت الغداء للطلاب.

تاسعاً:توفير كادر من المعلمات من ذوي التعليم العالي والخبرة الواسعة في مجال التعليم .

عاشراً: النظام المدرسي الذي كدنا أن نفقده من خلال طابور الصباح والفقرات المتعددة.

منى أبو شقرة

أيضا احدى الامهات والمدرسات كتبت... ومدرسةُ الصديق مُنذُ تأسيسها بكل كوادرها وطاقمها تعملُ جاهدة مع ابناءنا لتأسيسهم وإنشاءهم نشأة تتلاءم مع بيئتهم الإسلامية التى تساعدهم على تعزيز ثقتهم بشخصيتهم الإسلامية التى تحقق لهم التوازن للإنخراط بالمجتمع



COMMUNITY LSE

July 2017 - Shawwal 1438

قَاِلَ اللهِ تَعَالَى فَي سُورة لِقَمِانَ الآية رقم 12

(ولقد أتينا لقمان الحكمة أن اشكر لله ومن يشكر فإنما يشكر لنفسه ومن كفر فإن الله غني حميد)

كيف تكون الحكمة؟ وما شأنها في تربية الأبناء؟ ذكر الله الحكمة بأنها التوجه له بالشكر سبحانه وتعالى بنعمه علينا. من نعم الله علينا أنه رزقنا الذ وية التي هي امتداد لنا لنستمر من خلالها في شكره في إقامة منهاجه على هذه الأرض، ومن الحكمة أن نبداً في إعداد أبناءنا وبناتنا مُنذ نُعومة أظفارهم إعداداً يليقُ بمعرفة خالقهم عز وجل حق المعرفة التي فيها النجاح والفلاح في الدنيا والأخرة، ومن الحكمة أن نؤدي حقوق أبناءنا علينا بإلحاقهم بالمدارس الإسلامية التي تعنى بهذا الشأن لتأسيسهم وإنشاءهم نشأة تتلائم مع بيئتهم الإسلامية التي تساعدهم على تعزيز ثقتهم بشخصيتهم الإسلامية التي تحقق لهم التوازن للإنخراط بالمجتمعات الأخرى. ومدرسة الصديق مُنذُ تأسيسها بكل كوادرها وطاقمها تعمل جاهدة لتأدية هذه الأمانة على أكمل وجه وبعد شكر الله تبدأ النصيحة بعد ترسيخ العقيدة وحُبِ الله في نفوسهم وعقولهم وقلوبهم حتى يستشعروا عظمة الخالق ورقابته في كُلِّ جزئيات حياتهم. يبدأ الآباء والأمهات والمعلمون والمعلمات معاً بالنصيحة للأبناء، وتكون النصيحة بتأديبهم في علاقتهم مع والديهم ذات العلاقة المتصلة بتأديبهم بعلاقتهم مع خالقهم الواحد الأحد الذي لا شريك له ، وهذه هي المنفعة من الحكمة التى تعود على الإنسان الذي هو بحاجة للشكر والنصيحة. (رائدة عليا)

A PROUD PARENT STATED: AL-SIDDIQ SCHOOL HAS PLAYED A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THE DYNAMICS OF OUR FAMILY...AN AMAZING JOURNEY TO BETTER OURSELVES...AS INDIVIDUALS, CITIZENS, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY AS MUSLIMS.

Assalam Aiakum wa Rahmat Allahu wa Baraktuhu,

Al-Siddiq School's mission is to help instill Islamic core values. The School is committed to establishing and nurturing the importance of prayer as a congregation and as individuals on a daily basis. The strong Islamic environment of the School inspires the students to be the best they can be. Al-Siddiq's curriculum focuses on Arabic reading readiness and understanding of the Arabic language so students have the ability to read from the Holy Quran. The syllabus also encompasses Islamic creed, supplications, and seerah al-Rasool (PBUH). It also offers many extracurricular activities and programs, such as IQRA and I KNOW MY DEEN, requiring children to read e-books and participate in a comprehension competition.

Furthermore, Al-Siddiq School engages parents to become actively involved in their children's education and upbringing by holding special assemblies as well as encouraging involvement in the Mothers' Club.

Although the School is for one day a week, on Sundays, the positive impact it has on my children is wonderful. I am grateful for the administration, teachers, and staff for their hard work and dedication that are the foundation of Al-Siddiq's success. The school has played a significant role in the dynamics of our family. The past four years have been an amazing journey to better ourselves not just as a family but as individuals, citizens, and most importantly as Muslims. Our community is truly blessed to have an educational facility like Al-Saddiq School.

Miriam Mohamed (Mother of 7 children)

Al-Siddiq's Soccer Team Wins A Soccer Championship..

Excellence in Education and Excellence in Sports, Too,

On a rainy day this Spring, Al-Siddiq School Soccer team for students in grades 4-6 concluded a very exciting and competitive outdoors soccer season with a great victory. The team ranked first and won the Championship of the Southwest Conference for the season. Thanks to our parents for cheering the team up and not being deterred by the rain. Congratulations to our students, families, and to Al-Siddiq School.



For more information about Al-Siddiq School or to register your child/ren, please visit: http://www.mosquefoundation.org/weekend-school/registration

join our team

To Apply: Please send a cover letter and a curriculum vitae to school@mosquefoundation.org or drop these materials at the front desk of the Mosque Foundation.

\$30 Al Siddiq School's
Deep river
water park trip

Saturday July 29th 2017

Park indio declinate 8001 US Highway 20 Crown Point 81 65007 Julip James desegrimental spark com
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