

**Dhul
Hijjah
Mubarak**



PAC NEWS

ISNA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 2016

"The Prophet of Allah said:

There are no days more beloved to Allah than the ten days of Dhu al-Hijjah, fasting every day of them is equivalent to fasting a year; and standing every night of them (in Salaah) is equivalent to standing on the Night of Qadr." [Tirmidhi]

*May Allah (SWT) accept all our ibadah and bestow His blessings, guidance and mercy upon us all during this sacred month.
Ameen.*

Assalaamu Alaikum Dear ISNA Families,

Welcome back to another school year! We have many new and exciting activities for the students this year so please stay tuned and informed through our monthly newsletter via email (also posted in the main lobby).

If you have any questions, comments or ideas about any of our activities, please feel free to drop off your suggestions anonymously in the suggestion box (main lobby) OR contact us via e-mail at:

isna.parentsvoice@gmail.com

MUHASABAH
SERIES:

ALLAH

PERSONALITIES
OF THE MONTH:

**Prophet Ibrahim
(a.s) & his wife
Hajar (a.s)**

BIRR Quality of the Month:

CO-OPERATION

"Help you one another in Al-Birr and At-Taqwa (virtue, righteousness and piety); but do not help one another in sin and transgression"
~Quran 5:2

THEME:

HAJJ

ISLAMIC
CALENDAR:

**DHUL
HIJAH**

Please Join Us!



Would you like to make a positive contribution to your child's school? Give back to the community?

If so, we have many volunteering opportunities available.

Please contact us via email at isna.parentsvoice@gmail.com.

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BACK TO SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS



1) Two Shoe Policy

Each student shall have one pair of outdoor shoes and one pair of indoor shoes. In the interim, the indoor shoes will be used for the gymnasium as well.

2) Important Dates in September

*Monday, September 12, 2016 - Eid Holiday, school is closed

*Tuesday, September 13, 2016 - Eid Holiday, school is closed

*Wednesday, September 14, 2016 –school reopens, School wide Eid Lunch (Sponsored by ISNA)

*Thursday, September 15, 2016-popsicle treats (sponsored by PAC)



Important Traffic & Safety Reminders



Jazakum Allahu khair to all of our ISNA parents who made sincere efforts last year to improve traffic control and safety! Some traffic and congestion are expected in the school's driveway, parking lot and Sherway Drive. Please bring a lot of patience with you when driving to and from school.

We need your continued support, so as a reminder:

1. The maximum speed limit on school property is 5 km/hr.
2. Handicapped spots can only be used by those with a valid Handicapped permit.
3. Please give full respect to our brothers and sisters who volunteer in ISNA traffic control.
4. Make sure to obey the parking laws outside the school on Sherway Drive.
5. The "No Entry" gate is only for EXITING the school.
6. Parking may be done in the neighbourhood streets away from the school, but please note the parking signs which identify acceptable/unacceptable parking.

PLEASE DO NOT BLOCK THE ENTRANCE TO ISNA ON SHERWAY DRIVE

7. The school is not responsible for any parking ticket fines.

LOOKING AHEAD: SEPTEMBER

New PAC Programs

In Sha Allah, we will be starting two new exciting new programs for the students of ISNA. Your children will be learning about the following via the newsletter and LCD presentation in the main lobby:

- 1) **important events in our Islamic calendar:** why they are important, what happened on this day in history and
- 2) **important Muslim personalities/figures:** who they are, and what character traits make them strong role models for Muslims (aligning with the Birr trait of the month)

Success for Students



- ⇒ **Have all your supplies ready for the new school year and bring them to class every day**
- ⇒ **Come to class on time every day, ready to learn!**
- ⇒ **Keep a neat binder or duotang for each subject and divide each up by units**
- ⇒ **Always write the date and title on your notes**
- ⇒ **Use your agenda book to write down your homework and assignments as soon as you find out about them**
- ⇒ **Pay attention in class, and participate by asking and answering questions**
- ⇒ **Read your notes each day to make sure you understand what you learned**
- ⇒ **Ask your teacher questions about things you don't understand, as soon as possible (do not wait until later)**

Parents' Corner



- **Help your child get organized and ready for back to school**
- **Stay connected with your child's teacher via ISNA's AGENDA book**
- **Take an interest in what your child is learning in school, talk to your child about their school day often**
- **Ensure your child eats a healthy breakfast each day and gets a good night's sleep**
- **Keep in touch with other parents in your child's class**

Prophet Ibrahim (Abraham, as): the intimate friend of ALLAH SWT (Khalil ALLAH SWT)

One of the FIVE Ulu-al-Azm Prophets

Allah SWT sent thousands of prophets and messengers. In the Qu'ran, 25 of them are mentioned. Five of them are known as ulu al-'azm, or messengers with power or resolve. The first of the prophets of power or resolve (ulu al-'azm) was **Nuh** (pbuh), referred to as najiy Allah, the confidant of ALLAH SWT, the father of humanity after the Deluge. The second prophet of resolve is **Ibrahim** (pbuh), khalil Allah, the intimate friend of ALLAH SWT (Qur'an An-Nisaa 4:125). With his son Isma'il (pbuh) he built the Ka'bah, the first house for the worship of God. The third one is **Musa** (pbuh), called kaleem Allah, the one to whom God speaks (Qur'an An-Nisaa 4:164), the recipient of the Torah. He saved the people of Israel from Ramses II and brought the tablets with the Ten Commands. Then **Isa** (pbuh), the Word of God and His spirit (ruh Allah) the recipient of the Enjeel, who was born from Maryam (as). And finally **Muhammad** (pbuh) referred to as habib Allah, the most beloved of ALLAH SWT, the last messenger of God to mankind, who blessed us with the Qur'an. Musa and Muhammad (pbuh) occupy a special place in prophetic history because they were prophets and statesmen. Not only did they send the message, they put it into effect, socially and politically.

Khalil Allah

"Also mention in the book (the story) of Abraham; he was a man of truth, a Prophet" <Qur'an Maryam 19:41>

Prophet Ibrahim (pbuh) had a **strong** and **energetic** personality. Ibrahim's AS heart was now firmly fixed upon his Lord with deep certainty. The heart of the young prophet-to-be was guided and illuminated by his Lord, expanded and deepened, as Allah SWT revealed to him the secrets of His divine Essence, the mysteries of creation, and the great, all-wise workings of His Will (Qur'an 6:75).

Ibrahim AS concluded that his people, with their worship of heavenly bodies and images made by their own hands, were in the gravest error and confusion. There could be no God except the Creator all things including those heavenly bodies which were the greatest of all material objects and which his people unthinkingly worshipped in place of the One who had created them.

To guide his people to the trust, when night fell, he saw a star and exclaimed it to be his Lord (Qur'an 6:76) and likewise when he saw the moon rising (Qur'an 6:67). But the star and the moon set and Ibrahim AS reconsidered the matter. A disappearing object could not be his Lord or the Lord of anything else. And with the innate understanding of his pure fitrah, he turned to the true Lord for enlightenment asking for guidance and not to stray (Qur'an 6:77). When day dawned and he saw the sun rising, he claimed the sun to be his Lord but then the sun too set (Qur'an 6:78).

Then he said : O my people, I am indeed free from your guilt of giving partners to God." Finally, in an outburst of divine illumination, Ibrahim (pbuh) cried out: **"For me, I have set my face, firmly and truly towards Him who created the heavens and the earth and never shall I give partners to God".** <Qur'an Al-An'am 6:76-79>

Consequently, Ibrahim AS came to his Lord with a sound heart, free of any trace of doubt or questioning. He surrendered with deep and absolute faith to Allah at the command of the Lord of the worlds. Allah SWT guided him and gave him and his progeny the gift of prophethood, then chose him as **His intimate friend (khalil)** and finally appointed him as the imam (leader) of Humankind. He was neither a Jew nor a Christian but a man of pure faith, a humble Muslim, a submitter to God. **"Abraham was neither a Jew nor a Christian rather he was a downright acceptor of commands."** <Qur'an Al-Imran 3:67>

The Friend of ALLAH SWT (Khalil ALLAH SWT)

ALLAH SWT, the Glorified, knew that Ibrahim (as) was **loyal, obedient, and submissive** to His orders. He also knew that Ibrahim was not afraid of anybody except Him. So He chose him as a friend. Since then Ibrahim has been known as the Friend of the Merciful ALLAH SWT.

Imam of the Prophets

Ibrahim (peace be upon him), is a Prophet of Allah, and the father of the prophets. Jews, Christians, and Muslims believe in Prophet Ibrahim (as). This is one of the favours of our Prophet Ibrahim (as). ALLAH SWT, the Glorified, chose our Prophet Ibrahim (as) as a Prophet, messenger, and an Imam. Our Prophet Moses (as) was from the progeny of Is'haq, son of Ibrahim (as). Our Prophet Isa (Jesus Christ), son of Mary (as) was from the progeny of Is'haq (as). Our Prophet Mohammed (SAW) was from the progeny of Isma'il, son of Ibrahim.

Remembered as Long as the World Lives

إِنَّ إِبْرَاهِيمَ كَانَ أُمَّةً قَانِتًا لِلَّهِ حَنِيفًا وَلَمْ يَكُ مِنَ الْمُشْرِكِينَ ﴿١٣٠﴾

(Verily, Ibrahim was an Ummah, obedient to ALLAH SWT, Hanif, and he was not of those who were polytheists.) 16:120)

For this reason we say in every salat: **"O ALLAH SWT! Send blessings upon Muhammad and upon the family of Muhammad as You sent blessings upon Ibrahim and upon the family of Ibrahim; indeed, You are praiseworthy and glorious. O ALLAH SWT! Bless Muhammad and the family of Muhammad as You blessed Ibrahim and the family of Ibrahim; indeed, You are praiseworthy and glorious."**

Every Muslim is required to pray 5 times daily. Every Muslim asks Allah SWT to bless our beloved prophet (pbuh) the way He blessed Ibrahim (pbuh) at least 5 times in fard salat through out the planet:

Blessings on the Prophet after the Tashahhud:

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ، وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ،

O Allah, bestow Your favor on Muhammad and on the family of Muhammad

كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ، إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ،

as You have bestowed Your favor on Ibrahim and on the family of Ibrahim, You are Praiseworthy, Most Glorious.

اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ، وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ،

O Allah, bless Muhammad and the family of Muhammad

كَمَا بَارَكْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ، وَعَلَى آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ، إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ

as You have blessed Ibrahim and the family of Ibrahim, You are Praiseworthy, Most Glorious.



[3370 | Sahih al-Bukhari : Vol. 4, Book 55, Hadith 590]

Destruction of Idols

The Destroyer of idols - Ibrahim (pbuh) destroyed the idols his people worshipped to show them they are only made of stone.

Tawakkul and Trust ONLY in ALLAH SWT

Ibrahim believed only in ALLAH SWT, so ALLAH SWT examined his faith and loyalty.

Hajar (as), the Wife of Prophet Ibrahim (as) and the Mother of Ismail (as):

An Obedient Wife and Strong Believer

Ibrahim obeyed ALLAH SWT. He took his wife **Hajar (as)** and son **Ismail (as)** to the land of Hijaz and left them in the desert as per the order of ALLAH SWT.

Hajar was a dutiful wife and slave of ALLAH SWT, and she believed in ALLAH SWT. She was not afraid to be left alone with her son in the desert. When she realized it was the order of ALLAH SWT, she said: "As ALLAH SWT has ordered you to do this, He will not forget us!"

Soon, all of the water was used up. Hajar began running in the hot, waterless valley seven times between the two mountains **Al Safa and Al Marwa**. She was searching for water for her thirsty baby Isma'il. Water miraculously gushed out from the ground by the grace and order of ALLAH SWT, known as the **well of Zamzam**.

Sunnah of Hajar (as)

Allah SWT loved Hajar's (as) act, so He made this a compulsory part of **Umrah and Hajj**, which we know today as **Saee** of Mountains Safa and Marwa.

Prophet Ibrahim (as) and his son Ismail (as)

The Extreme Test, Sacrifice and Love of ALLAH SWT

In a dream, Ibrahim (as) saw himself slaying his son Isma'il (as). At first, he thought that Shaytan was playing tricks on him. The next night, he had the same dream, and Ibrahim (as) knew that Allah SWT would only ask him to do such a thing if He had a good reason. Ibrahim (as) decided to sacrifice his son to be clear proof of his strong faith in ALLAH SWT. That's when ALLAH SWT ordered him to slay a ram instead of Isma'il (as).

ALLAH SWT loved his act, and made this part of our Eid-ul-Adha where each capable Muslim follows this Sunnah of Ibrahim (as).

The Sacred House of ALLAH SWT - Kaaba

Prophet Ibrahim and his son Isma'il (pbut) built the Sacred House of ALLAH SWT to be the mark of ALLAH SWT's Oneness in the world. Thus, the Kaaba was the first house to be built for people according to ALLAH SWT's order. In it, there are clear signs such as the standing place of Ibrahim (as). Whoever enters it is safe.

*O ALLAH SWT, bless Muhammad and the family of Muhammad as you
blessed Ibrahim and the family of Ibrahim.
Surely You are Praised, Glorious!*

THE MONTH OF DHUL HIJJAH

THE GOLDEN DAYS OF ISLAM: REVIVING ISLAMIC HISTORY

The Sacred Month of Dhul Hijjah

Though all the months of Islamic calendar are very important but the month of Dhul Hijjah has got its special place due to many reasons. Let's first talk about the literal meaning of this name. The month has its Dhul Hijjah because of "**Hajj**" (Pilgrimage) as Hajj is performed during this month. Along with this, due to its importance, it is the last sacred month in which every kind of fighting was forbidden.

Blessings of Dhul Hijjah

Islam has five pillars and the importance of this month is that the fifth pillar of Islam "Hajj" is done during this sacred month. Though the whole month is a source of blessings for all of us but **the first ten days of Dhul Hijjah are the most blessed days** are said to be the most virtuous days in this entire month, Hajj is done in the midst of these ten days.

Hadhrat Abu Haraira (R.A) narrates a hadith from the Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) "**Amongst all days there are none better to engage in sole worship of Allah than in the ten days of Dhul Hijjah, To observe a fast on any of these days is equivalent to fasting throughout the year, to actively engage in prayer and worship throughout any of these nights holds such rewarding values leveling with "night of power" (Laylatul-Qadr) [Tirmidhi]**

The Quran has also highlighted the importance of Dhul Hijjah at many places, it states at one place that "**By the dawn; by the ten nights (i.e.the first ten days of the month of Dhul Hijjah), and by the even and the odd (of all the creations of Allah) and by night when it departs. There is indeed in them (the above oaths) sufficient proofs for men of understanding. (And that they should avoid all kinds of sins and disbelief) {89:1-5}**

Fast of Arafaat

Hadhrat Abi Qataadah (R.A) has reported a hadith of Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) regarding the importance of the fast observed on the **day of Arafaat**: "**I have full confidence in Allah for the one who observes a fast on the day of Arafaat that his previous year's sins and the proceeding year's sins are forgiven.**"(Muslim)

Important Days of this Month:

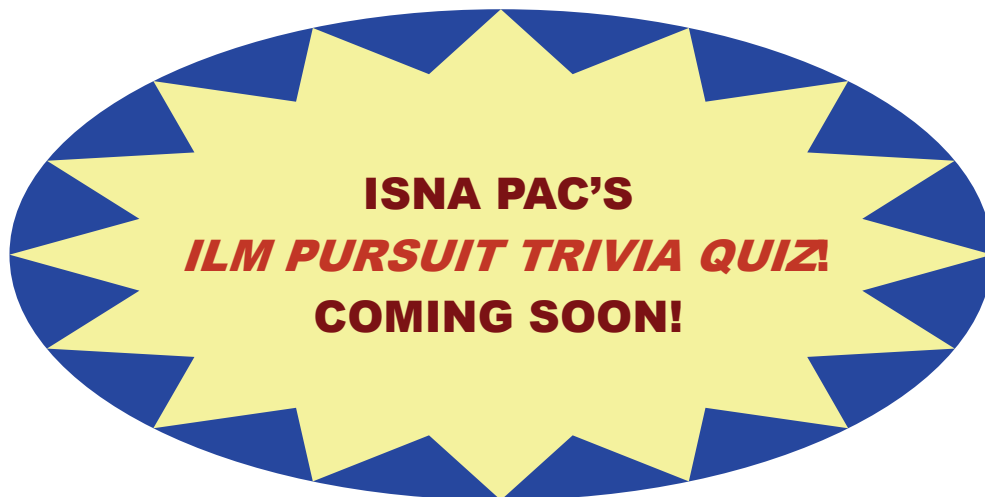
- ◆ The **first 9 days** of Dhul Hijjah for **fasting**
- ◆ The **first 10 nights** of Dhul Hijjah for **standing (Qiyaam) in Tahajjud**
- ◆ The **8th, 9th and 10th** of Dhul Hijjah as the days of **Hajj**
- ◆ The **9th** of Dhul Hijjah as the **Day of Arafaah**
- ◆ **Takbirut Tashreeq** is observed from the **9 Dhul-Hijjah till 13 Dhul Hijjah**
- ◆ The **10th** of Dhul Hijjah as the Night of **Eid al-Adha**
- ◆ **Eid ul Adha** begins on the **10th** day of Dhul Hijjah and ends on sunset of the **12th** Dhul Hijjah

THE MONTH OF DHUL HIJJAH

THE GOLDEN DAYS OF ISLAM: REVIVING ISLAMIC HISTORY

Some Important Historical Events of this Month:

- ◆ The foremost importance of this month is that the **Prophet (S.A.W) did his farewell Hajj** and presented the momentous address recognized as the "**Farewell Sermon**"
- ◆ **Egypt was dominated** by the military sent by Hadhrat Umar (R.A.)
- ◆ **Uthmaan (R.A.)** was selected the **third Caliph**
- ◆ "**Bay'ate-Aqabah**" took place in the same month
- ◆ Hadhrat **Fatimah (R.A.)** was **wedded** in this blessed month to the fourth Caliph Hadhrat **Ali (R.A.)**
- ◆ Hadhrat **Umar (R.A.)** encountered **martyrdom**- 27th of the month of Dhul Hijjah back in the year 26 A.H.
- ◆ Another important Islamic personality Hadhrat **Uthmaan (R.A)** was **martyred**- on 18th of Dhul Hijjah back in the year 35 A.H.
- ◆ 26th of Dhul Hijjah, 206 AH/ May 22nd, 822 AD: Death of al Hakam **Ibn Hesham** the most well known emir of Andalusia. He was **born** in 154 AH/ 771 AD in Cordoba and assumed the rule when he was 26 years of age.
- ◆ 12th of Dhul Hijjah 1426 AH/ January 12th 2006 AD: **362 hajjis** at least are **martyred** and 289 injured while thronging to perform the Hajj rite of Ramy (throwing pebbles) at Mina.



Students will get a chance to increase their Islamic knowledge via PAC's monthly ILM Pursuit trivia quiz, which will be:

- 1) held during the last week of each month
- 2) based on the information presented (**important days and important Muslim personalities**) in the PAC newsletter and electronic presentation in the main lobby

ISNA PAC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 <i>Back to School</i>	2	3
4	5 <i>Labour Day Holiday</i>	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 <i>Eid al-Adha Holiday</i>	14 <i>Eid Lunch</i>	15 <i>Popsicle Treats</i>	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 <i>ILM Pursuit Trivia</i>	27 <i>ILM Pursuit Trivia</i>	28 <i>ILM Pursuit Trivia</i>	29 <i>ILM Pursuit Trivia</i>	30 <i>ILM Pursuit Trivia</i>	

Healthy Eating Ideas

Breakfast Banana Split

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 banana
- ½ cup strawberry Greek yogurt
- ¼ cup blackberries
- ¼ cup raspberries
- ½ cup granola
- Mini chocolate chips for garnish



INSTRUCTIONS:

Place container of yogurt in the freezer until firm, not frozen solid, just scoop-able.
 Scoop out two scoops of yogurt and place each scoop in a separate paper muffin liner
 Put back in the freezer until ready to use
 Split banana in half
 Add 2 scoops of frozen yogurt, then add berries, granola and chocolate chips.
 Serve immediately

(Recipe from: www.artfrommytable.com/breakfast-banana-split/)

WE'RE GOING PAPERLESS!

* to save paper, our newsletter will now mainly be present online via email and our website

*Few paper copies will be available at the main office

*Do NOT throw in the garbage as there is the name of Allah in it

*Please return to the main office when finished reading and we will dispose of it properly