

Madina Insider

Message From The Principal

Save The Date

- Read Across America: Mar 2- 9
- End of Quarter: Mar 21
- Early Dismissal: Mar 22
- Multi Cultural Fair: April 7
- Spring Break: April 10-14
- Spirit Week: April 24-28

Assalamualaykum, March 2nd marks the birthday of Dr. Seus and, accordingly, tomorrow we kick off our very own celebration of "Read Across America!" We will begin the day with The Cat in the Hat reading in assembly- but alas! What is merriment without Dr. Seus' "Green Eggs and Ham?" For that, we will enjoy, the very talented- Ms. Katt's concoction of Halaal and yummy "Green Eggs and Ham" lollipops! Both Ms. Katt and Ms. Darlene have been busy preparing for a whole week worth of activities to encourage and develop the love for books and the joy in reading. Included on the agenda is the invitation of multiple visitors to read a story and give their perspective on the importance of reading- and of course a competition for the most read books! Those will be fun days for the entire school! But,

also not forgetting, looming ahead of us is the end of third quarter; starting now, students need to be managing their time wisely so that they can complete all missing assignments and prepare for assessments. Together with multicultural preparations already underway, they will be expected to work on projects simultaneously with other work load. As of now, classrooms are buzzing with ideas as students are devising and coordinating their multicultural learning for the next few weeks. Also noteworthy, is our fine practice for fire drill last week and lockdown drill- two days ago. We are doing very well as everyone is now familiar with the procedures and we are able to get into our places within minutes. We will continue making time for these practices till the end of the year, inshAllah.

Letter From The Editor

Inside this issue:

Lockdown

Entertainment

Omer Bajwa

Interview

Science Fair

Theatre Club and Black History Month

Assalamualaikum,

As we are approaching the end of the first month of 2017, I have to say, there has been an immense amount of improvement. My friend and I interviewed the new social worker (you can find the interview on the third page of this issue) and we came to realize, this can be very beneficial to the school. It is an

amazing thing to see your own school being able to help students within the building without the aid of outside experts. As a human, I could say that the school needs a vast amount of improvement. As a student who goes to Madina Academy for most his week, I can proudly say that the school never fails to satisfy our needs, even with the possible improvements. Sadly, one of

our teachers, Mrs. Neven, had to resign due to a conflicting schedule, however the school was quick in finding a new and well-qualified teacher, Mrs. Alaa'. This example proves my statement that Madina Academy is always there for you. The human eye naturally perceives the negative aspects of things, but great power comes from going beyond nature and seeing the good.

Lockdown

Assalamualaikum,

We have successfully had our first lockdown practice. However, for some students and teachers, it was a close call. The following is a fictional story from a student, and it shows how well prepared the teachers could be in case of a real lockdown.

“I could only hear my heavy breathing and the footsteps of an unknown person outside. My stiff legs were screaming in agony, but I ignored them and kept my back pressed against the wall. I thought about the events that occurred a few minutes ago that placed me in this position. I was getting a refreshing drink of water. Just as I started to hurry back to my classroom, an announcement from Mrs. Masuda blared through the halls, “Lockdown, this is a lockdown.” To my

right my classmates screamed at me, telling me to come in. Another familiar voice to my left told me to go in to a another classroom. I was confused and frozen, unable to decide where to go. Suddenly, just as I was about to sprint to my classroom, a hand with an iron grip shot out of the doorway and yanked me into an empty classroom. It was Ms. Susie. She had saved me from my own confusion. I found myself crouched uncomfortably next to her in a corner. I was tempted to go to the other classroom for the sake of comfort, but I stayed put. Shortly after, I could hear Mrs. Masuda checking the doors. The next few minutes were a blur, and soon I found my self walking back to my classroom. I realized I had quite the story to tell!”

Haneen Abuteen Grade 6



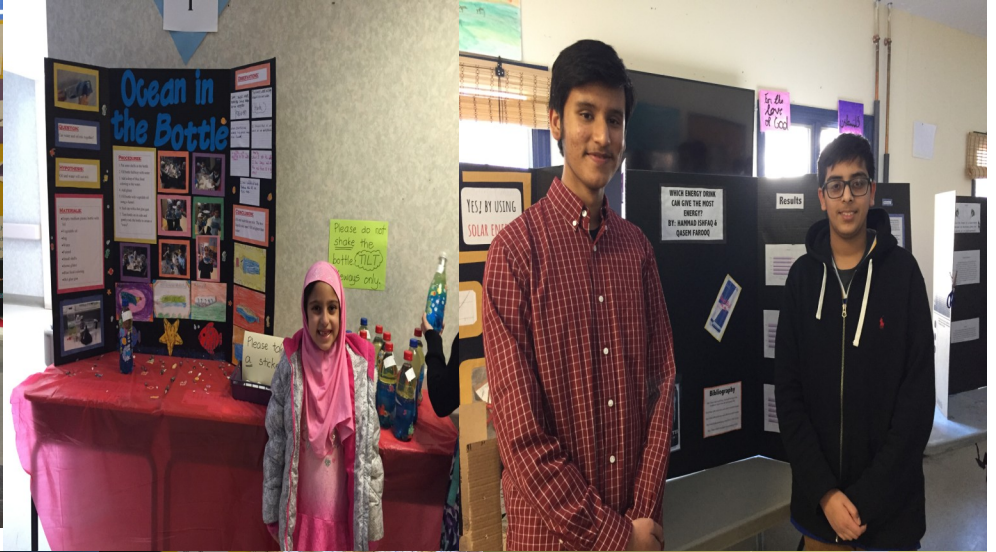
Science Fair

Assalamualaikum,

Alhamdulillah, the annual in-school science fair has once again shown us the sheer talent in Madina Academy. I was visiting classrooms in the elementary wing, and I saw projects that were in some middle school textbooks. Usually, in middle school, I hear a very common phrase, “Even an elementary schooler knows that,” and

after seeing the displays, I was astonished, because they really do know that, and more. Along with the science fair board, the invention convention boards were also on display. It really affected me, as I realized that Madina Academy has gotten to such an extent in such an amazing way.

Samir Khan



Black History Month Presented by Ms. Susie's Theatre Club!!!

GREAT TEACHING BY OUR VERY OWN MS. SUSIE!!!!!!

Third Graders were fabulous on stage, showing off their acting and public speaking skills. In the process of preparing for their performance, they became experts in Black History and the significance of its movement. Here is what the performers learned along the way:

"As a marcher, the African Americans stand for their rights. I learned to be brave on the stage like the marchers were to sing out freedom!!!" Nora ElNemr

"I learned that Martin Luther King JR. won the Nobel Peace Prize. He won this award for fighting for the Civil Rights of the African American." Noora Khalid

"I learned that long ago people were very serious of fighting for freedom. We are lucky today that we all have freedom." Amani Abuteen

"I learned that people who fought for Civil Rights did many things like boycotts, protests, and marches." Aanum Khan



Omer Bajwa

Assalamualaikum,

It has been an honor for Madina Academy that Omer Bajwa delivered the Friday Khutbah on January 10th. Omer delivered a much appreciated inspiring and eloquent Khutbah which was about setting goals for our future, and it also zoomed in on our love for Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Moving on to his everyday life, Omer is the director of Muslim Life in the Chaplain's Office at Yale University. His graduate certificate of Islamic Chaplaincy was earned at the Hartford Seminary. Omer has several degrees, including a Master of Arts in Near Eastern Studies with a specialization in Islamic Studies, which he earned at Cornell

University's Department of Near Eastern Studies, an MS in communication also from Cornell, and a BA in English Literature and Rhetoric from Binghamton University. He is interested in interreligious engagement, Islam and the media, and Islam in the United States. Omer has been engaged in Islamic services, social activism and education outreach since 2000. When unoccupied, Omer and his family can be found



Interview with the Social Worker

Assalamualaikum,

Brother Sulayman hasn't been working in Madina Academy for long. Samir and I interviewed him and asked, "What exactly is your role at Madina Academy?" He said, "My job is to help those students with emotional and/or educational issues, especially when the emotional issues affect the education." He has been a Muslim for 12 years, and became a Muslim with the help of former Sheikh Haidara of Madina Masjid. He stated, "I was going through some tough times, I was born Christian, but my faith wasn't concrete. I was confused. I researched all religions. At one point, I combined different religious ideas and tried to make my own sanctuary. That didn't work out. Then I found Islam.

After discussing it with my friend, we decided to convert. I have been a proud Muslim since then." He has two sons in Madina Academy, one named Adam Tart in second grade, and another named Ayyub Tart in kindergarten. Brother Sulayman's wife is Mrs. Kat, who works in the elementary wing as the reading interventionist. When he isn't working at Madina Academy, he can be found working at The Village.

Muaz Sharaf



Grade 8

Entertainment Section

Islamic Word Search

U R T I S A M X Z I
C A M D F B H U O E
H M U S I B I H S I
H A H A S K A Z B A
V D A L L D H R B H
B A M A A A A A T G
G N M H M H A A J F
Q I A O E Y K Z W J
G H D E T A K J T K
S X M Q Z H C E Y I

Word Bank

Islam
Muhammad
Isa
Ibraheem
Musa
Ramadan
Zakat
Salah
Hajj
Shahadah

Madina Academy
519 Palisado Avenue
Windsor, CT 06095

Phone: 860-219-0569
Fax: 860-219-0649
E-mail: info@madinaacademy.org

Madina Academy
We Raise Children. Higher.

We appreciate the trust that you have put in us to educate your children. The vision of Madina Academy is to graduate generations of scholars who have a strong Muslim identity, and are ready to compete in the global society. Madina Academy is dedicated to arming students with the necessary tools and resources needed to be globally competitive, college and career ready, and productive Muslim citizens.

This newsletter is created by the students of Madina Academy. If you have a story that you would like us to consider for our monthly newsletter please e-mail your story to:
vpvohra@madinaacademy.org/sissusie@madinaacademy.org for review and approval.

We're On the Web
www.madinaacademy.org

**Love Madina Academy? Absolutely.
Absolutely, Love Madina Academy.**

Reminders

- School starts at 8:00 a.m.
- School dismisses at 3:30 p.m.
- All students must be picked up and dropped off at the back entrance.
- Non-Uniform jackets and sweaters will not be allowed inside the classrooms.
- If you are interested in being an active PTS member please e-mail pts@madinaacademy.org

Student of the Month



Challenge Yourself!

How Many Ayat are there in the Quran?

The first student to bring to the principal the correct answer to the “challenge yourself” question will receive an award and will be recognized in the upcoming edition of the Madina Academy Newsletter