

NEWSLETTER

APRIL NEWSLETTER 2022

Message from the Director Mrs. Shabana Syed

RAMADAN MUBARAK 2022

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا كُتِبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الصِّيَامُ كَمَا كُتِبَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ

O you who believe, fasting is prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you that you may become righteous. **Surat al-Baqarah 2:183**

RAMADAN: WHAT IS RAMADAN?

Ramadan is a very important time in the Islamic calendar, and Muslims all over the world will be preparing to take part.

WHAT IS RAMADAN?

During the month of Ramadan, Muslims won't eat or drink between dawn and sunset. This is called fasting. Fasting is important during Ramadan as it allows Muslims to devote themselves to their faith and come closer to Allah, or God. Fasting is one of the Five Pillars of Islam, which form the basis of how Muslims live their lives. The other pillars are faith, prayer, charity and making the pilgrimage to the holy city of Mecca. Ramadan is when the holy book, the Qur'an, was first revealed to the Prophet Muhammad. Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, but the date changes each year. This is because Islam uses the lunar calendar (based on the cycle of the Moon), so it isn't a fixed date in the western/solar calendar.

Ramadan is also a time for spiritual reflection, prayer, doing good deeds and spending time with family and friends. Normally, people will make a special effort to connect with their communities and reach out to people who need help. It is common to have a meal (known as the suhoor) just before dawn and another (known as the iftar) directly after sunset. At the end of the fast - when the sun has gone down - usually, families and friends will get together for iftar to break their fast.

DOES EVERYBODY FAST?

Not everybody fasts during Ramadan. Children, pregnant women, the elderly and those who are ill, or who are travelling, don't have to fast.

WHAT HAPPENS AT THE END OF RAMADAN?

There is a special festival to mark the end of Ramadan. This is called Eid al-Fitr - the Festival of the Breaking of the Fast. It begins when the first sight of the new moon is seen in the sky. Muslims will not only celebrate the end of fasting, but will also thank Allah for the help and strength that they were given throughout the previous month. Often children are given presents and new clothes.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- First Day of Ramadan ---- April 2
- Hygiene Kits Due ---April 14
- Eid Party ---April 29
- Iftar @ ICSGV Masjid ----April 14
- Canned Food Drive ---April 11-25
- Sadaqa Jar Due ---May 5

NO SCHOOL EID-UL-FITR --- MAY 2-4

WHAT IS RAMADAN?

WE ASKED FAMILIES TO TELL US WHAT IT MEANS TO THEM

Ramadan is a Month of Blessing.

Allah's special mercy is bestowed on the Muslims. This is a month of forgiveness. Allah (swt) instructed us to fast from dawn to sunset in this month. Fasting in this entire month is obligatory for all adult Muslims with few exceptions (eg. sick and unable). Another added to-do in this month is to Pray 20 raka' sunnah (Tarawih) prayer after 'isha salah. The greatest night of all night, Lailat-Al-Qadr, is also in this month. Praying on this night is very very virtuous. The fasting is a part of purifying our soul. We should all seek forgiveness in this month.

---**Mohammed Alam**

Ramadan for us is a time to get a "tune up", so to speak. It is a time to get extra close to Allah SWT via salah, recitation of the Quran, volunteer activities to help the less fortunate and dhikr. It is a special time to spend with family and close friends.

---**Zuhra Musherraf**

Ramadan is 30 days. Muslims fast in Ramadan from sunrise to sunset, we have two meals- foteer in sunset and sohour any time in midnight before alsobh Adan.

We do a lot of good deeds in Ramadan. We love each other and we all have forgiveness. Ramadan is a very special month for Muslims people, it is the month of the Quran and we have laylat al kader. After Ramadan it's Eid AlFotor. All Muslims need to pay zakat al fotor- giving money to poor people .

---**Rania Almohder**

Ramadan to us: Blessed month given to us to practice- Patience, be nice to each other, feel empathy for people who don't have enough food, charity .. in ramadan and full year following, be happy to practice 4 pillars of islam at once .. Kalima/Namaz/Roza/Zikat, wait for Eid to get rewarded

Traditions: Drinks-we mostly do lemonade and Rooh Afza daily, dates, and fruit chat. On weekends and occasionally weekdays we have Fried food, Samoosa, Pakora, Spring rolls, and Gol Gappa. Then we pray Maghrib:

At Dinner time we have Pakistani Salan and naan or Rice and raita, and kaboob. Both Parents (Mother Rabia /Father Osman)share responsibility and help each other in making tables ready for Iftar. Right before Iftar: we sit and pray and Thank Allah

---**Rabia Rehman and Osman Waraich**

Ramadan is a time to reflect on our real purpose in life. It is like we find ourselves working to have the most luxurious car (on the road of life) but what have we saved to purchase the dream house when we reach our destination? (in jannah in sha Allah.) We need to fill up our bank with Allah immediately while we have the chance. Ramadan brings an emaan rush and a high, almost like when we get motivated to get healthy again and detox our bodies from processed and quick foods and start feeling lighter, better and more energetic. It is the same spiritual detox from useless spending, actions, speech etc we need to force ourselves through to really maximize our time in Ramadan. And this beautiful month lastly reminds us how we can train ourselves to fit in little good deeds or dhikr in our daily lives where we may not have made the attempt before while doing this as a community and an ummah. Allahuma balighna Ramadan wa taqabul minna Ameen.

---**Shazia Hoda**

We have three major holidays in Morocco. The most important one is Ramadan. In Arabic countries, Ramadan is a month when all people must fast almost for 18 hours from morning till evening. When girls and boys reach adulthood, they must fast for 30 days. We eat delicious food after dawn, and then we go to the mosque to pray for one hour. On the 27th night of fasting, mothers, daughters, fathers, and sons dress up in traditional clothes and girls get their hands painted with beautiful hands with henna. On the morning of Eid, all adults and children pray and congratulate each other. After Eid prayer we eat different yummy food and visit our relatives during lunch or dinner.

---**Hanane Imaghri**

TEACHING CHILDREN OF GIVING IN THE MONTH OF RAMADAN

Teaching your children about **sadaqah** during Ramadan is one of the best ways to implement this trait in them from an early age, as they learn the importance of charity and the need to share with those who have less than they do. Giving in charity does not just have to be raising money for charities, but can be as simple and sincere as sharing **iftar** food with your **neighbours**. This has the added benefit of your children actively participating in **da'wah** and teaching others about Islam.

Sadaqah is an important part of the holy month of Ramadan. Donating food, clothing, money, and time, picking up trash, helping the elderly, or planting a tree are just some of the ways to show kindness and generosity. Helping your students realize that their efforts can make a difference in their community is so important.

AT LITTLE ANGELS PRESCHOOL, I HAVE PLANNED DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES TO IMPLEMENT THE IMPORTANCE OF RAMADAN AND GIVING:

1 SADAQA JAR

Each student will take home a sadaqa jar to collect any amount to share with the less needy children in the community.

2 HYGIENE KITS

We are planning on collecting essential items for hygiene kits for the homeless.

3 IFTAR PACKAGING

Parents and children will volunteer at the ICSGV masjid for packing and distributing Iftar boxes. We will then join in to break our fast together with our community.

4 FOOD DRIVE

We will be partnering with the ICSGV/ICNA Food Distribution Center and hosting a Ramadan Food drive to share canned and dry goods with families in need.

5 EID PARTY

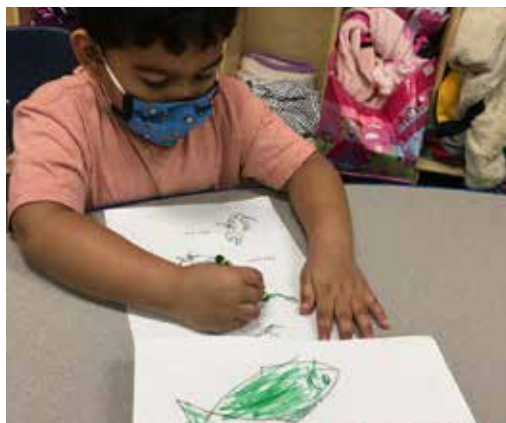
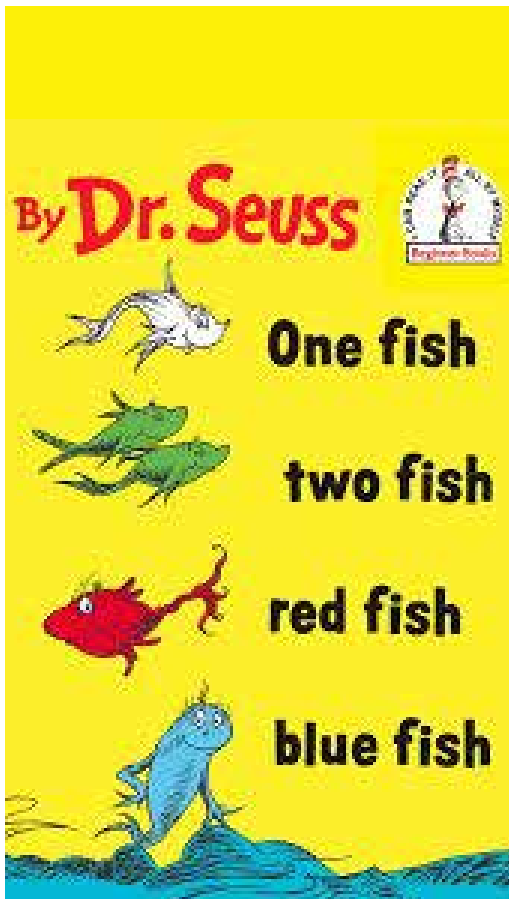
We will have our special Eid class party!



DR. SEUSS WEEK



DR. SEUSS WEEK



BOOK READING

“GREEN EGGS AND HAM” READ BY ERIKA



“FOX IN SOCKS” READ BY FADWA



PRESCHOOLER LEADING JUMMA PLAYERS

ZUBAIR ALAM



GUEST SPEAKER

SARAH PATEL

"WHAT ARE GERMS AND HOW TO BE HYGIENIC?"



SENSORY ACTIVITY

MAKING PLAYDOUGH



MARCH FIELD TRIPS

PETTING ZOO, HORSE RIDING, AND PICNIC



MARCH FIELD TRIPS

LOS ANGELES ZOO



AT HOME ACTIVITIES

PAPER PLATE MOON CRAFT



The crescent moon has a lot of significance in Ramadan, so this Paper Plate Moon Craft from Nurture Store is a perfect craft for this season! Even toddlers can help with this craft, although adult assistance is required. Make the craft and hang it high, so he can look at it and be proud of his handiwork.

JAM FILLED WREATHS

- 1 Cup butter or margarine
- 2/3 Cup sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 Cups flour
- Powdered sugar for dusting the top
- 1/4 Cup red jam of choice

In a mixing bowl cream butter, sugar and vanilla. Stir in flour. Roll into ball and wrap with plastic wrap. Chill for 2 hours. Then roll out on floured surface. Cut out with round cookie cutters. Each cookie will have two parts to it. For half the cookies cut out a small circle in the middle with a bottle cap or small round cookie cutter.

Bake at 375 degrees for 10-12 minutes. Allow to cool. Dust the top cookies (the ones with holes in the centers with powdered sugar.) On the bottom cookies spread jam over the top and place a powdered sugar cookie wreath on the top so the jam will be seen through the hole