

PRESCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MARCH NEWSLETTER 2024

Message from the Director Mrs. Shabana Syed

Ramadan Mubarak 2024

**Wishing you all a blessed, happy, and peaceful Ramadan!
May Allah bless you and your families.**

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 traveling, 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

- 1 • **First Day of Ramadan ---- March 11**
- 2 • **Canned Food Drive ---- March 12-25**
- 3 • **Hygiene Kits Due ---- March 28**
- 4 • **Iftar @ ICSGV Masjid ---- March 29**
- 5 • **Sadaqa Jar Due ---- April 15**

No School

| PD/Upkeep Day –March 22 |

Spring Break/Eid-UI-Fitr --- April 1-5, 8-12

Teaching Children of Giving in the month of Ramadan

Teaching your children about sadaqa 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 neighbors. 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:

- * **Sadaqa Jar**- Each student will take home a sadaqa jar to collect any amount to share with the less needy children in the community.
- * **Hygiene Kits**- We are planning on collecting essential items for hygiene kits for the homeless.
- * **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.
- * **Iftar Boxes**- LA Preschool families take home Iftar to break their fast with their loved ones.
- * **Breaking our Fast**- We will all break our fast together with our community @ ICSGV Masjid.
- * **Eid Party**- We will have a special Eid party.



Wrapping up Animals Project



Practicing Letter recognition

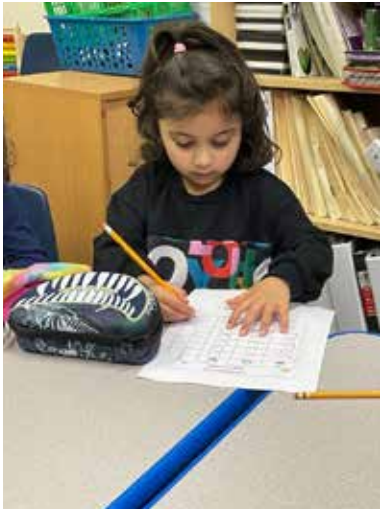


Making Guacamole

Lia Jakvani



Practicing Arabic Letters





Friendship Fruit Salad



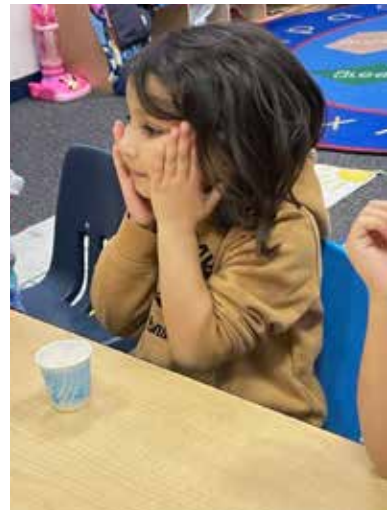


Finger Painting





Fruit Facials



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! Make the craft and hang it high, so the kids can look at it and be proud of their work.



Banana Balls

- 1/2 cup cheerios or rice krispies cereal or your favorite, chopped finely
- 1/2 cup peanut butter
- 1 banana
- Mini chocolate chips, crushed graham crackers or cookies, extra crushed cereal or shredded coconut

In a mixing bowl add cereal, peanut butter and peeled banana. Stir and mash all together. In a small bowl add your topping of choice. Form mixture into balls and roll in toppings. Set in the fridge until ready to eat or until firm.