



Elementary School Home-School Connection

An-Nu'man ibn Basheer reported: The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said upon this pulpit, **“Whoever is not grateful for small things will not be grateful for large things. Whoever is not thankful to people has not thanked Allah. Speaking about the blessings of Allah is gratitude and abandoning it is ingratitude. There is mercy in the community and punishment in disunity.”**

Source: Musnad Ahmad 17982



Often people ask how I manage to be happy despite having no arms and no legs. The quick answer is that I have a choice. I can be angry about not having limbs, or I can be thankful that I have a purpose. I chose gratitude.

Nick Vujicic

November 2014

Message from Sister Bibi Baksh, Elementary School Instructional Leader

The end of the first marking period is quickly approaching. As a result, students have been scheduled to take several assessments. Parents should be aware of the following Elementary school Assessment Policies:

- Teachers must announce assessment at least 5 days prior to the assessment.
- Study guides should be sent along with the announcement.
- Teachers should provide grades within 2 days of the assessments. Grades are to be sent on homework sheet or a slip and available on ALMA. If the grade is not available for a particular student, the teacher must communicate to parents regarding the issue. <https://andalusia.getalma.com/>
- If a student fails an assessment, the teacher must communicate with parents about the matter.
- All students are excused from any homework the night before a scheduled assessment. Teachers may assign optional homework. If there is a weekend prior to assessment, the teacher may assign minimal math and literacy homework.
- Kindly note that most of the text books are available online on Think Central for kids to prepare from. There are great Science and Math resources for extra practice. Please let your children practice from them. <http://andalusiaschool.org/think-central/>

Vacationing During the School Year:

This is becoming a serious issue. We are asking parents not to take students out of school for vacation during the school year. In addition, some parents are doing this without even reporting it to the school. We will follow all state laws regarding student absence. We do understand there are extreme situations at times, but we are asking parents to respect school and the welfare of their children; no one should keep children from school unless it is a necessity.

Student of the Month:

October 2014



Grade	Student
Pre-K	Fares Nofal
Kindergarten	Kareem Rafiq
Grade 1	Huda Jamshaid
Grade 2	Ammaar Shariff
Grade 3	Hadiya Jamshaid
Grade 4	Asiya Abbas
Grade 5	Duaa Mir

Subject Award	Student
Arabic	Malayeka Naqvi Abdulrahman Azeez
Islamic Studies	Ayat Igbara, Grade 5
Quran	Sagar Sarr, Grade 2



Memorable Moments:

Please click on link to view some special moments. We have a beautiful photo gallery on our website; we update it with photos and videos regularly. Enjoy!

<http://andalusiaschool.org/gallery-elementary-school/>

Elementary School Reading Competition:

You might have noticed children are more interested in reading. We are having an Elementary Reading Competition. Students are competing to win a pizza party and gift cards to Barnes & Noble. Flyers were sent home previously. Please encourage your child to read.

Important Dates:

Trip to LEGOLAND:

Grades Pre-K to 2 will go on December 16th

Grades 3-5 will go December 15th.

Spelling Bee: Tentative dates are

January 14th for Elementary School and

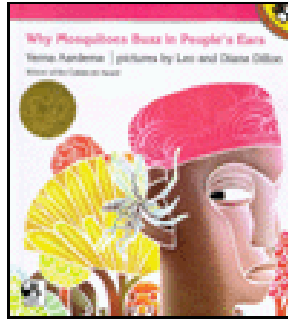
January 15th for Middle School

Parent Teacher Conference:

Wednesday, December 17th : 5:30-7:30 pm

& Friday, December 19th: 2:30-3:30 pm

Book of the Month:



Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears: A West African Tale by Verna Aardema.

This is a great repetitive tale teaching students to take responsibility for their actions and what consequences may turn up if they don't.

Taking Responsibility for Actions –

What did each and every animal in the story do? They blamed another animal for their actions. Do you think this was right? What should each animal have said? Do you think that only the mosquito was to blame? Why or why not? Through this story we can learn that all of our actions have an effect on those around us, and also that we should take responsibility for our actions.

Students can also learn about morals and lessons at the end of a folktale (literacy).

Traditions and Morals –

A folktale was a story that was traditionally told by adults to their children to **teach the children how to behave and/or explain why something is**. When a story is designed to teach you something, it is called a moral. What do you think the moral of this story is? Can you think of any other stories that have morals?

This is a great African tale that has also been turned into a short video by Scholastic.

<http://video.nhptv.org/video/1689064464/>

You may view our class bulletin boards by clicking on the link: <http://andalusiaschool.org/gallery/book-month/>

Writer's Corner

Informative Writing

John Adams was a selfless man. In "Revolution and Rights", he and others nominated George Washington to be the leader of the army. John Adams didn't think that he was the only man for the job and that everyone should have a fair share in fighting for their rights. He believed strongly in Independence and after they won the American Revolution, the leaders quickly began to make a government in order to have a free and independent nation. In "Dangerous Crossing" the Americans created the Bill of Rights so that everyone had freedom including rights to speech, religion and press.

Muhdee Nawab, 5th Grade

Personal Narrative: Helping My Family

Last summer, I helped my family to plant in the garden. We had to pick out the weeds, so we could plant flowers in the garden. My mom gave me a glove, so that my hands would not get dirty. I pulled out the big weeds. It was hard, but my mom showed me how to pull close to the roots. "Good job Fatimah." After all the weeds were gone, my dad dug up holes for the flowers. We had yellow Tulips, red Roses, and purple Geraniums. "Can I help you plant the flowers mom?" "You can do the tulips." I put the tulips in the hole and my sister helped me to water them. Finally, when we were all done, my mom took a picture of our new garden. She said we all did a great job at making the garden beautiful. I felt proud of myself for helping. I can't wait to help again next summer!

Fatimah Azeez, 3rd Grade

Cause and Effect Analysis

In the story, *Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears*, Snake says, "Hello" to Iguana, but Iguana does not answer, so Snake thinks Iguana is going to hurt him. As a result, Snake hides in Rabbit's hole and Rabbit ran screaming for danger.

David Rafiq, 2nd Grade.

Response to Reading

If Mosquito was at the Council Meeting, he would have said, "I accept my punishment for causing the animals to panic."

Haytham Alomari, 1st Grade

Story Character and Setting



Talal Saleem, Pre-K

Making Observations

Close up the leaf had cracked edges. Close up the bird had very small feathers.

Fatima Salim, Kindergarten

Narrative

On a cloudy and rainy day, Jack and John slept in for an extra hour. John woke up and looked at the time. He screamed, “Jack, wake up. We are going to be late to school. It is 9 o’clock.” Since they missed the bus, they had to run to school. As they reached the school and went up the stairs a blackout occurred. Jack and John were shivering in fear.

All the boys could see was a big, tall, scary looking man with a mask. Jack said, “Run!” So, they ran past him and up the stairs to the hallway and to their classroom. But, the door was closed. They tried to open the door. Jack screamed, “Turn the knob!” They were panicking so much that they started to kick the door.

Once they were in, they started to look for their friends and noticed that there was nobody. Jack and John looked at each other. “Oh my God, it is Veterans Day! It is a holiday.” The lights finally came back on.

John and Jack kept on walking quietly. Suddenly, they heard noises in the hallway. It was the hockey team getting ready for practice. They also saw the very scary man with the mesh over his face who turned out to be a hockey player, who approached them. “Do you need help?”
“Whew. I can’t believe we came here on Veterans Day.”

Hashim Alomary, 4th Grade

You can always send me a message at bbaksh@andalusiaschool.org

