



SURREY MUSLIM SCHOOL

Tel. 604-599-6608 | Fax 604-599-6790 | administration@surreymuslimschool.ca



Principal's Message



*Please remember to
phone the school
office before 8:30
a.m. whenever your
child is absent.*

*Please mention your
child's name, grade
and the reason of
his/her absence.
(604) 599-6608*



*If you have a
change of
address and
phone number
please inform
the secretary.*

Asalaam Alaikum Dear Parents

Bismillahi Al-Rahmani AlRahim

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter to you as the newly appointed Principal of SMS for the academic year 2022-2023.

I am passionate about education. During my career in Education, I was a teacher, a Principal and a Director of Islamic Education. I have been in Education Career over two decades. I am both elated and honored to be appointed to SMS, where I can continue my work with the students, staff, and parents.

Along with the staff and parents, I will work hard to continue the legacy of success established at SMS by building strong relationship with parents, students, staff, and community partners.

It is my hope that we will work together to provide the students the best opportunities in preparing for the world, ready to master challenges placed in their path, with strong Islamic Education and understanding the noble Qur'an. Our kids can be the most successful individuals in today's world.

I would like to thank Br. Hussain. He has been an amazing guiding force for all of us for the past 3 years. We have seen some of the greatest virtues I have found in any human being. I genuinely appreciate his great effort and would like to extend my sincere thanks for being the best Principal ever.

Wassalamu Alaikum

Mohamed Bush
Acting Principal

Quran Competition Winners

8A

Tilawah Category

- Muhammad Ghogawala First Place
- Rokaya Sharif First Place
- Yahya Basar Third Place

7A

Advanced Category

- Bilal Mohamed Afsar First Place
- Sarah Ahmad First Place

School-Wide Category

- Furqan Memon First Place
- Amir Miah Second Place
- Rayyan Mirza Third Place

Tilawah Category

- Azan Sajjad First Place
- Ayesha Jidran First Place
- Mubashir Elmi Second Place
- Duaa Nauman Second Place
- Yahya Abdellahhassen Third Place
- Aisha Basar Third Place

Quran Competition Winners

6A

Advanced Category

- Adam Mansour First Place
- Ridhwan Ansari Second Place
- MuhammadIbraheem Shahzad Third Place

6B

School-Wide Category

- Sara Senhadji First Place

Regular Category

- Mir Ali First Place

Tilawah Category

- Hafsa Ait Alla First Place
- Raghad Alabbar Second Place

Tilawah Category

- Muhammad Ibraheem Usman First Place
- Muhammad Ahmad First Place

Quran Competition Winners

5A

Advanced Category

- **Eman Saqib** **First Place**

5B

Regular Category

- **Ali Hussain** **First Place**

Regular Category

- **Ruqayyah Iftekhhar** **First Place**
- **Shahad Benian** **Second Place**

Tilawah Category

- **Ahmed El-Najjar** **First Place**
- **Mohammed Sheikh** **Second Place**
- **Bilal Patel** **Third Place**

Tilawah Category

- **Zaynab Contractor** **First Place**
- **Umama Imran** **Second Place**
- **Hafsa Khan** **Third Place**

Quran Competition Winners

4A

Advanced Category

- Eshan Rahman First Place
- Ameer Muradagha Second Place
- Raghad Alsaoudi Third Place

Regular Category

- Assia Senhadji First Place
- Noor Nauman Second Place

Tilawah Category

- Bismah Khalid First Place
- Noor Fatima Second Place

4B

Advanced Category

- Yusra Ahmad First Place
- Mohammad Ata Ullah Second Place

Regular Category

- Khansa Qazi First Place
- Mohammad Fuad Second Place

Tilawah Category

- Samara Kashif First Place
- Ariba Ghanchi Second Place

School-Wide Category

- Maryam Sadik First Place

Quran Competition Winners

3A

Advanced Category

- Kamel Mansour First Place
- Saad Miah Second Place
- Sulaiman Qayum Third Place

Regular Category

- Rayyan Hassoun First Place
- Hassan Benzerga Second Place

3B

Advanced Category

- Aqsa Chaudhry First Place
- Nafissa Senhadji Second Place

Regular Category

- Maryam Shahzad First Place
- Mustafa Ustowar Second Place
- Maryam Wahab Third Place

Tilawah Category

- Aaminah El-Najjar First Place
- Ahmed Akhter Second Place
- Halima Imran Third Place

Quran Competition Winners

2A

Advanced Category

- Abdennour Ait Alla First Place
- Ali Ata Ullah Second Place

2B

Regular Category

- Nubaid Baker First Place
- Muhammad Patel Second Place
- Faatimah Wahab Third Place

Regular Category

- Zainab Ali First Place
- Abubakr Qazi Second Place
- Abdurrahman Rashid Third Place
- Ferras-Sulayman Omar Third Place

Tilawah Category

- Abdullah Ghogawala First Place

Quran Competition Winners

1A

The Winners

- **Rania Hassoun**

First Place

- **Anis Benmesselem**

First Place

- **Ayesh Mubashar**

Second Place

- **Hamnah Saqib**

Third Place

1B

The Winners

- **Sham Rose Hovaizavi**

First Place

- **Saaida Mariam Miah**

Second Place

- **Aisha Tajweed**

Third Place

Quran Competition Winners

KGA

The Winners

- **Rehan Mahboob**
First Place
- **Umar Qazi**
Second Place
- **Saaliha Mohamed Afsar**
Third Place

KGB

The Winners

- **Atif Hakim Sardar**
First Place
- **Muhammad Farooq**
Second Place
- **Muhammad Ibne Sadiq**
Second Place
- **Abdirahman Ahmed Bare Abdihakim**
Third Place



Report Cards will be given out on the last day of school, June 23th.



Sports Day

Sports Day will be held at Newton Park on Wednesday, June 16. Snack will be provided. A permission form will be sent home. Please make sure you return it by the deadline. The PAC will provide lunch for a fee. More information will follow at a later date.

OFFICE HOURS

**The school office will be closed from July 1st to
Friday, August 12th.**

**We wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer
holiday!!!**

**First Day of School
Tuesday September 6, 2022**

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full day 8:15 am-3:30 pm | <input type="checkbox"/> Full uniform |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Provide a snack and lunch | <input type="checkbox"/> Provide an Earthquake Kit |

Bus Transport :

Your child's bus driver will contact you between **September 1st** to **September 5th** regarding pick up/drop off times.

Reaching Your Goals

DUNYA GOALS

- Live your life for the sake of Allah
- Waking up each and everyday to serve your maker
- To strive for your deen
- Impact society and help the Ummah with the skills Allah has given you
- Never settling for mediocre rather striving for greatness and seeking the pleasure of Allah

S

Set a **specific** goal with a narrow focus. General goals are harder to achieve.

M

A **measurable** goal is easier to track and you will see how far or close you are to completing the goal.

A

An **achievable** goal should be realistic.

R

A **realistic** goal can be achieved quicker and more goals can be accomplished as a result.

T

Having a **time frame** allows you to avoid being lazy or giving up before the goal is reached.

Student Tips

Summer Study Habits

Over the summer, students and parents who practice these tips can see great strengthening and improvement in scholastic skills, and avoid digressing in learning. Summer learning can be fun and challenging at the same time.

Students may find learning to be more fun as they become more capable of meeting scholastic challenges and overcoming any learning weaknesses. By implementing a summer plan and igniting your child's passion for learning, he or she can enjoy a renewed sense of academic self-esteem and dignity.

EFFECTIVE HABITS FOR SUCCESSFUL FAMILIES

1. Register your child for summer school with the school district.
2. Purchase learning workbooks and implement a strategy to study for 20-40 minutes throughout the day.
3. Schedule regular visits to the library.
4. Have children read out loud for 15 minutes everyday.
5. Celebrate work ethic over achievement.
6. Take care when using on-line learning resources as your children may only play games rather than utilizing learning tools.
7. Manage the time that you children spend on electronics throughout the day.

Learning Resources:

1. Purchase workbooks for children for phonics, mathematics, reading comprehension at your local dollar store or Superstore.
2. Sign-up for a minimal monthly fee to education.com
3. Join a summer reading program through your public library.
4. Check out these learning links:
www.multiplication.com/games/
interactivesites.weebly.com
www.turtlediary.com/games

Learning is Fun!

ATTENTION: Please make sure to monitor the internet usage for your children. Using your phone set the timer for a pre-determined length of learning time. Keep computer in a public space, and don't allow children to be alone with a computer, laptop, iPad or tablet.

HOW TO SUPPORT *YOUR CHILD'S* MENTAL HEALTH



LOVE

Be there for your child and show care and love



EXERCISE

Encourage play, exercise and sport



BEHAVIOUR

Keep an eye out for any changes in behaviour



SUPPORT

Regularly support, encourage and praise your child



REST TIME

Help your child to manage stress by building in some rest time



BE PROUD

Tell your child that you are proud of them



PATIENCE

Be patient. Don't pressure your child



HELP

Don't be afraid to seek help from professionals



FEELING

Get to know how your child is feeling



EDUCATE

Educate yourself about mental health problems



PROBLEM SOLVING

Help your child to effectively problem solve



LISTEN

Make sure you take time to listen to what your child has to say



COPING

Help your child to learn some simple coping skills such as relaxation



SYMPTOMS

Be aware of signs and symptoms



CONVERSATION

Encourage your child to engage in conversation



ENVIRONMENT

Provide a positive environment for your child where they can thrive



Islamic School article -Part 1



Ibrahim Hindy

Yesterday at 7:08 AM · 🌐



I've spoken to a number of people since my last posts on schooling. A great number of imams and public school teachers have reached out to emphatically validate my conclusions. I think we see things on the ground that parents often cannot see.

But I've also spoken to parents, some of whom felt disheartened. In one parent's words: "Even if I agree that (homeschooling/Islamic schools) lead to better outcomes in general...how are most parents who legitimately can't access these options supposed to feel other than guilty and afraid?" It's a fair point.

I do stand by what I said. It would be a dereliction of duty for me to see trends play out so clearly over the past decade and keep my mouth shut just to not ruffle feathers. I hope that I at least sparked a serious internal review for parents who *can* make use of those options to look at them more closely.

But, and this will be my last post on this (for a while anyway), what can parents who have no real choice but public schools do for their kids? I thought about some amazing kids I've seen in the community who go to public schools and what was common about their upbringing:

1 - They take their kids to the masjid often.

I can think of a few vivid examples of just incredible kids and a common theme is that their parents bring them to the masjid nearly every day. One father prays 1-3 times in the masjid and brings his kids practically once a day with him. I think the masjid provides an Islamic environment and they eventually get to meet other kids who likely are being raised similarly.

But I think in general we underestimate the capability of the masjid. Even if nothing is happening and the masjid is empty, there is power in being in the masjid. There is tremendous reward in waiting from prayer to prayer. There is, I think, a boost to mental health just sitting in an empty masjid...even for a child.

2 - Their parents are their best friends.

Not in a creepy, overbearing way. These kids also have close friends that are kids but you can tell that they are very close to their parents. They have developed a close relationship where they can communicate and tell their parents their entire day and not feel afraid that their parent will unleash wrath on them for doing so. This takes time to develop no doubt, but it is a common theme in these kids.

[Edit: one thing I forgot to add: this is usually a result of the parent and child spending a lot of time together. Being in the company of your child, and 'present' helps create this closeness and ability to communicate].

Continued...

3 - Strong peer connections outside of school

These parents find families with similar aged kids, who are raising their children the same way, and spend time together. The earlier you can establish this, the better. These kids have a peer group who are being raised with similar values and ideals, which makes it much easier for the parent down the line.

These parents can align on how they want to manage raising their kids in a lot of ways. Your kid begs you for a cell-phone because someone at school has one? "You can get one when (friend in the peer circle) gets one" (but you already agreed with their parents that they ain't getting one for a while). It's like building a village to raise a child.

4 - They are serious about Islamic education

They make use of community programs like youth halaqahs, weekend schools, etc. But they go beyond this too. And this means that the parent themselves has to be engaged in learning about Islam, for themselves. The vessel can only pour forth what it contains.

Even if they attend some of these programs, your kids need Islamic education reinforced at home (this is true for Islamic schools too). You need to be educated enough to teach them their religion, give them resources to learn and have conversations about 'why' too. Why believe in God, why follow Islam, etc.

5 - You have to own the conversation on difficult topics

Kids in public schools, and Islamic schools, get exposed to difficult topics like homosexuality, sex, masturbation, drugs, gender identity. In the public system they are exposed early, often, and far outside an Islamic framing.

That means that especially if your kids are in public school, then you need to talk to your kids about these topics much earlier than you would prefer. You need to 'own' this conversation - talk to them about it, openly and sincerely, and allowing for two-way communication. Your kids need to feel safe and comfortable talking to you about these topics.

You need to not only frame it within Islamic ethics, but you need to help them think through and manage situations at school where they may find it difficult to navigate as Muslim kids. Role-play situations that might happen in the classroom to help them build their confidence in social situations.

I hope parents find this beneficial. All we can do is try our absolute hardest and best for our kids and recognize that ultimate guidance is in the hands of Allah. May Allah guide us all and our children to His Straight Path - ameen.

Islamic School article -Part 2



Ibrahim Hindy

May 18 at 5:02 PM · 🌐

...

A more substantive post on homeschooling/Islamic schools:

Homeschooling (first) and Islamic Schools (second) are undoubtedly the best option for the overwhelming majority of Muslims.

Are there Muslims who cannot afford these options? Yes, absolutely. There are parents who both work, sometimes multiple jobs, to barely make ends meet. Islamic schools are way out of their budget and they have no time to invest into homeschooling.

Are there Muslims who have children with special needs which Islamic schools can't support? Yes, absolutely (and it's a shame that this is the case, but more on that later).

But many Muslim don't fall into the above categories. Most Muslims, especially in the suburbs, drive around in their Range Rovers and Audi's and scoff at the prices of Islamic schools that they can well afford. The same parents will end up in my office or the office of some other imam out there one day and complain "my child doesn't care about Islam" or "doesn't see themselves as Muslims". How much would you pay now to give your child even a slightly better chance at being Muslim?

Those parents seem to think that Islamic Schooling/Homeschooling is only for extremists and radicals because real education is found in schools with white teachers.

I've spoken to more than a dozen substitute teachers who have subbed in both Islamic and public schools who tell me that without a doubt the education quality in Islamic schools is far better. (Note: this is a comparison between public schools and Islamic schools in the greater Toronto area which have been around for a while). But since so many parents have the lens of an inferiority complex, they'll can't see it.

Some will say: "But terrible things happen at Islamic schools! I heard from so-and-so..."

Let me save you the trouble: Yes, terrible things happen in Islamic schools. Sex, drugs, and rock and roll. But we don't judge data on the basis of anomalies. The incident rate of these terrible things aren't even close to how prevalent and frankly uncontrollable they are in public schools.

Some will say: "But I went to public school and turned out fine!"

Unfortunately the school you attended, 20-30 years ago, that school doesn't exist any more. The teachers are gone, the textbooks are gone, the curriculum is gone. Maybe the building still stands but that's pretty much it.

Others will say: "Islamic schools aren't even that good at teaching Islam".

And I'll say, no they're not. They can be way better at it. But they've gotten much better at it the past 20 years and will continue to improve.

But all of this misses the salient point: Secular institutions are not irreligious. Secularism is not a neutral arbitrator of religions. Secularism IS A RELIGION. In a secular school, your child is learning a different religion, different values, different philosophies, which contradict and undermine their faith. You just don't know it.

When a man with deviant thoughts came to the learning circle of Imam Malik and raised his hand and said "Shaykh, I want to ask a question", Imam Malik told him "Leave!".

The man said "I just want to ask one word". Imam Malik said "Not even half of a word".

Imam Malik understood that his intent was to raise a question and place doubt in the heart of his students. And knowing his students still had not developed a strong foundation of knowledge, he refused for them to hear even a word from this man.

What are you doing to implement a deep foundation of Islamic knowledge inside your child's heart and mind? Ask yourself this question.

And no, Islamic schools are not a panacea. They won't help parents who are neglectful at home. That's like going to the gym but eating terribly unhealthy at home. You won't get much out of it. (And yes, many parents like this exist).

But I see this playing out at scale. Year after year, I see kids in the masjid. Those who attend public schools and those who attend Islamic schools. I can compare batches against batches.

Are there INCREDIBLE kids who go to public school? Absolutely. Are there terribly behaved kids who go to Islamic schools? Undoubtedly.

But against a scale of probability: The kids who go to Islamic school tend to have their heads on straight. Even if they go through a phase in their teens, they know right from wrong...typically. If they go wayward, they tend to come back as sincere, contributing, and believing adults. At scale, the comparison is easy to make.

To some these options seem impossible, but to many others its a matter of priority. Just today I spoke to a brother who wakes in the early morning every day, prepares the lesson plan for his 4 kids, goes over their homework over breakfast, then goes to work. His is a single income home. His parents and wife are home with the kids but not involved in educating the kids. He sets the lesson plan every morning, reviews with his kids every evening. He tells me it takes about 20 hours a week for him to do so, and that's on top of his demanding job. It's intense, no doubt, but that's an investment in his kids which frankly shows.

But I understand that for some, even the above example can't be done. And that falls on all of us. As a community, we reap what we sow.

We don't invest in schooling options for our children and that leaves the above categories out in the cold. People will donate for all kinds of causes: Masjids, social services, programming, relief, etc. But Islamic schools? Support homeschooling resources? Nope...they either say "I'm paying tuition and that's enough" or "my kid won't attend so why should I pay for this?" It's a selfish mentality that leaves so much of our community ailing and will leave much of the next generation lost.

Calendar

June 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 KG & Gr 7 Graduation Gr. 6 & 7 Vac- cination	15	16 Sports Day	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Report Cards out/Last Day for Students	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		