**Head Teacher’s Message**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As-salaamu’ alaiakum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuhu

Al-hamdu’lillah, we have completed the Autumn Term 2015 and I’m sure everyone is looking forward to the winter break.

Sadly we have had to say farewell to some members of staff. To those that are returning after a short Maternity break, I wish you a full rest and pray Allah (SWT) blesses you with healthy children. To those that are not returning, I would like to say a BIG JAZAK’ALLAH for all the efforts you have put into our school and knowledge you given to our children. May Allah (SWT) reward you in this world and the Hereafter and give you success for the future.

Our children this week have been busy learning about Heroes of Islam, Chemistrymass (read on for more information), setting up clinics and taking part in school trips, Masha’Allah.

Finally, as always, keep us in your du’as as we keep you in ours; may Allah (SWT) protect, guide and grant us His Mercy, Aameen. I hope you all have a restful and blessed break; I look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year, Insha’Allah.

Br. Arshad Mohammed

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**Year 6 Health Clinic**

Tuesday was a busy afternoon for Year 6 and their parents. As part of the topic ‘Being Human’, Year 6 learnt about the functions of the heart and lungs. To complete this project, parents were invited in to take part in activities in a ‘Clinic’ planned and organised by the Year 6 pupils and staff.

The parents and other staff who visited the Clinic were extremely impressed as they underwent a health check. Masha’Allah, we also experienced healthy fruit ‘kebabs’ and smoothies which were absolutely delicious!

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**Diversity Visit to Chilcote**

Tuesday saw the pupils experiencing a different environment to Al-Hijrah at Chilcote Primary School.

A huge thank you to Head Teacher Debbie Doherty, Deputy Head Teacher Mark Cross and all the wonderful staff at Chilcote for all their hospitality and kindness shown. It was a fun packed afternoon with many workshops set up by Chilcote teachers and pupils as well as a delicious festive lunch. Al-Hijrah students also enjoyed asking Reverend Stephenson questions about the Christian faith and how he became a vicar. He is a vicar for St. Peter’s Parish, Hall Green, Birmingham. Our pupils also watched a Christmas themed Nutcracker production put on by Chilcote’s Year 5 pupils.

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**Parents & Head Teacher Coffee Morning**

As you are aware the Parents and Head Teacher Coffee Morning will now be held every second Tuesday of the month. Parents are requested to email the school with topics and these will Insha’Allah be addressed by our Head Teacher, Br Arshad Mohammed. The first Coffee Morning will be on **Tuesday 12th January 2016** (after the holidays). The Coffee Morning will take place in the Main Hall from 9:00 am – 10:00 am. Parents must kindly sign in at the Main Office on arrival.
**Free School Meals (FSM)**

If you have not already done so, please register for FSM. Remember, even if your child is not having free school meals, it will still mean funding for the school so please take some time to check if you are eligible. The link is available on our website.

**School Website & Social Media**

Please find below the links on our website for social media forums:
- Facebook – [https://www.facebook.com/althijrahschool/](https://www.facebook.com/althijrahschool/)
- Instagram – [https://instagram.com/schoolalhijrah/](https://instagram.com/schoolalhijrah/)
- Twitter – [https://twitter.com/SchoolAlHijrah](https://twitter.com/SchoolAlHijrah)
- YouTube – Please logon and subscribe!

**Important Dates!**

- **Heroes of Islam**: Mon 14th Dec 2015 – Fri 8th Jan 2016.
- **End of Autumn Term**: Fri 18th Dec 2015, school will end at 12:00 pm for ALL pupils.
- **Teacher Training Day**: Mon 4th Jan 2016 – closed for pupils.
- **Start of Spring Term**: Tue 5th Jan 2016 – ALL pupils must return to school as usual.
- **Parents & Head Teacher Coffee Morning**: Tue 12th Jan 2015, 9:00 am – 10:00 am, Main Hall.

**Afterschool Clubs**

Please note the following:
- **ALL children participating in Afterschool Clubs between 3.30 and 4.30 pm will be dismissed from the Cobham Road Entrance/Exit only.**
- The Main Office (Burbridge Road) will be closed from 4:30 pm onwards – if you arrive early you will be asked to walk around.
- Please collect children promptly (at 4:30 pm) from COBHAM ROAD to ensure the safety of all pupils particularly during the dark evenings.
- **Primary Pupils**: To be collected from the Main Hall.
- **Secondary Students**: Will be allowed to leave and exit the school unless otherwise informed.
- **There will be NO Clubs** in the first week of term. Last week was the final week until next term when letters will be reissued unless otherwise stated.

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**Year 7 Merry Chemistrmass**

This week, our Year 7 students visited the University of Birmingham on Tuesday (GY7) and Wednesday (BY7) to attend some Xmas Science lectures. Our pupils were intrigued with how we can study stars, the energy released and the elements contained within them. They were amazed to see the energy in a ‘whoosh bottle’, flame colours from different elements and even learnt how to ‘break’ a banana using liquid nitrogen. Did I just say the word ‘break?!’ Ask the Year 7s!

**Year 3’s RAF Museum Trip**

On Monday, as part of the Topic unit, Gateway to the World, Year 3 visited the RAF Museum in Cosford.

Children took part in a roleplay involving checking-in at the airport, undergoing passport control and a security check before boarding the flight to Malaysia. On board the simulation plane, they were served food and drinks by the cabin crew. Children also had the opportunity to see a variety of aeroplanes, helicopters and other items associated with WWI and WWII such as gas masks.

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**Year 5’s London Science Museum Trip**

To celebrate the topic ‘The Brain’, Year 5 visited the London Science Museum on Wednesday. The museum offered great insight into how we, as people, use our brains for everyday functions such as eating and making decisions. The classes visited three exhibitions and each exhibition provided detailed information as well as interactive games and activities. Pupils explored how the brain is responsible for instructing the body.

All the pupils thoroughly enjoyed themselves and gained a better insight to how their brain works. Year 5 also visited an exhibition titled ‘Atmosphere’ which linked well to the environment and their next topic of ‘Space’.

**Miracle Baby Workshop**

EYFS, KS1 and KS2 enjoyed assemblies enjoyed in the Main Hall today about the Miracle Baby – can you think who we mean? Isa (AS) of course!

Little Leaps of Faith were invited in to offer its unique workshop entitled ‘The Miracle Baby,’ which provided a portrait of Prophet Isa (Jesus Christ) peace be upon him, from an Islamic point of view.

This was an interactive workshop, allowing all children to fully participate and get involved. It comprised a storytelling session, singing, drama and an educational display of the life of Prophet Isa (AS).
Staff News

Sadly this week we have had to say a few goodbyes to some exceptional members of staff. Both Sr Hazara Begum and Sr Ashifa Akram from KS1 are going on Maternity Leave, Masha’Allah – we wish them well; pray Allah (SWT) blesses them both with healthy babies and look forward to their return, Insha’Allah. Sr Razia Shabnum is also leaving to start a new family but will not be returning unfortunately. Sr Johara Choudhury is sadly leaving the Science Department to continue as a supply teacher, Insha’Allah. Br Hasan Ahmed (English/ Drama) is leaving for a second time to pursue and further his studies; we hope he will return once these are complete. Another great loss to our family is Sr Arrwa Yehia who is leaving to complete half her deen – an outstanding person with great akhlaq; we wish her everlasting happiness as she has given to us. We wish all our leavers well and pray Allah (SWT) gives them success in their endeavours, and can say with sincerity that they will all be missed dearly by staff, pupils and parents alike.

On a happier note, we welcome Br Nick Mitchell who has joined our school as the new SENCo and in January we will be welcoming the new teachers for the above roles for Science, Maths, KS1 and English. May Allah (SWT) bless and facilitate their start and time with us at Al-Hijrah School.

Heroes of Islam

This week we celebrated the Heroes of Islam in the Primary classes. Masha’Allah, our religion is so full of rich stories and lessons that we have decided to continue the project for after the holidays. Please kindly continue to assist and encourage your child in learning and researching about their allocated Hero as below, Insha’Allah:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Hero Of Islam</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reception</td>
<td>Bilal ibn Rabah (RA)</td>
<td>Love</td>
<td>Adhan with English translation and create cards of love for parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Musayb Ibn Umayr (RA)</td>
<td>Sacrifice</td>
<td>Posters/artwork about the sacrifice and simple explanation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Abdullah Ibn Abbas</td>
<td>Wisdom</td>
<td>Creation of a book detailing the companions life to be printed and kept in Library and Narration to SLT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Uthman Ibn Affan (RA)</td>
<td>Generosity</td>
<td>Class poster about generosity and all pupils to share things they did over the week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Ali (RA)</td>
<td>Knowledge</td>
<td>Shields created to remember the justice of Ali (RA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BY5</td>
<td>Umar (RA)</td>
<td>Safety, Justice &amp; Community</td>
<td>Class charter to create safety and support the Al-Hijrah community. Bayah in Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GY5</td>
<td>Khadijah (RA)</td>
<td>Belief, Kindness</td>
<td>Mini business during break-times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BY6</td>
<td>Abu Bakr (RA)</td>
<td>Knowledge</td>
<td>Pupils to make a sweet dish in cookery lesson to share with others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GY6</td>
<td>Aisha (RA)</td>
<td>Wisdom</td>
<td>Pupils to make baskets to remember and commemorate the life of Salman Al Farsi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Salmaan al Farsi</td>
<td>Guidance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Children Collected Late (Up to 4:00 pm) | Year 7 Aberdovey Wales Residential

Uncollected pupils will be taken to the Portakbin classroom at the front of the school until 4:00 pm. Parents arriving up to 4:00 pm should enter via Gate 1 on BURBIDGE ROAD and report to the Main Office. Staff will then contact the Portakabin for your child/ren to be brought across. Parents/guardians will not be permitted to enter the main school after 3:45 pm.

Following the information evening we have had lots of positive feedback and many children have registered their interest. If you did not attend the workshop, the information pack is available from Sr Susan Coughlan (Head of PE). Full payment of £155 is required by Fri 8th Jan 2015.
**Love for Allah (SWT)**

The Messenger of Allah (sallatu wa alaihi wa salam) said:

"Whoever loves for Allah’s Sake, hates for Allah’s Sake, gives for Allah’s Sake and withholds for Allah’s Sake, has a perfect faith"

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**Open Door Policy/Parent Matters**

Your first point of call is the Class/Form Tutor. After this, a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) or Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) will deal with your query/concern. Please kindly note:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Br. Amjid Hussain</th>
<th>Pastoral &amp; DSL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sr. Saima Khan</td>
<td>Assistant Head &amp; DSL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Br. Shawkat Chowdhury</td>
<td>Deputy Head &amp; DSL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Br. Arshad Mohammed</td>
<td>Head Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Br. David Brown</td>
<td>Executive Head Teacher</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Parking**

A reminder: please park safely when dropping off and collecting your child from school. Please be conscious of our children and park safely. Help us to help you keep your child safe, Insha’Allah.