### AL-HIJRA ACADEMY

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### **COMING UP!**

## GRADES 4-8 SPEECH COMPETITION PACING DATES 2025

Choose topic: Mon., Oct. 20 Outline due: Wed., Oct. 22 Rough draft: Wed., Nov. 5 Final copy: Wed., Nov. 12

In-class selection week: Mon., Nov. 17 School competition: Mon., Nov. 24

### JK-GRADE 3 STORYTELLING WEEK

**In-class presentations:** Mon., Nov. 17



### WELCOME TO THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR!

Welcome back, students of Al-Hijra Academy. For all of our new students, we are thrilled you've chosen to be a part of our community. Prepare for an amazing academic year packed with excitement and discovery. May it be a year of blessings, successes, and enjoyment for all.

# SOCCER EXHIBITION GAME WINNERS!

Congratulations to the Boys Soccer Team! They won the exhibition game against An-Noor School on Tuesday, September 23.



### **PARENT COUNCIL 2025**

Based on the nominations received by or on September 19, 2025, all positions were elected by acclamation.

President: Sr. Maria Khan Vice President: Sr. Sadia Virk Secretary: Sr. Nazha Gali Treasurer: Sr. Hafsa Sherwani

Congratulations to all, and we wish the new team great success!

Jazakum Allah khayr for all your efforts, Parents. We really appreciate all you do.

# Students of the Month

### September Best Adjusted to School Procedures



- JK Ahmad Barakat, Zaynab Hasan, Abdulmajeed Ibrahim
- SK Mia El Shire, Ayanna El-Kadri, Nuha Siddiqui
- Grade 1 Arsheen Ahmed, Jana Beydoun, Karam Kanjo
- Grade 2 Lara Abdelbar, Yousof Al Riahi, Eman Khalife
- Grade 3 Kareem Abdel-Latif, Kenzy Marzouk
- Grade 4 Nea'ma Baig, Naima Elbreki, Noor Fatima Mohsen
- Grade 5 Tameem Abdelbar, Fatima Baig
- Grade 6 Muhsen Adi, Maryam Al-Alawani, Julia Daji
- Grade 7 Ayya Alachraf, Adam Abdel-Latif, Maysa Rahman
- Grade 8 Saad Al Atassi, Ayoub Alghazali

### September Qur'an

- JK Jamal Chami, Reemy Hamatto, Aleeza Mustafa
- SK Lana Adi, Zeina Aldabouni, Salama Baig
- Grade 1 Rashid Aboutouha, Layla Sadek
- Grade 2 Lara Abdelbar, Hend Alrayahi
- Grade 3 Amanah Qadir, Zeenah Qadir
- Grade 4 Nea'ma Baig, Ibrahim Kadri
- Grade 5 Joseph Kilani, Kareem Yaseen
- Grade 6 Ahnaf Majumder
- Grade 7 Adam Abdel-Latif, Ayya Alachraf, Sara Almasri, Maysa Rahman
- Grade 8 Layan Adhami, Loor Alhamaideh, Ameera Alsherayda
- Tahfeedth Sara Aldabouni, Sara Almasri

# September's Highlights





### First Day of School and Meet the Teachers Night?

Students and their families were welcomed by the administration and teachers on Tuesday, September 2. Principal Waheeda started with a dua'a to bless the new school year.

Meet the Teachers Night was held on Thursday, September 4. Alhamdulillah, it was a successful event. Parents visited their children's classrooms and met the teachers.









# September's Highlights







Sr. Shaima introduced a monthly cooking class for the students in Grades 2 through 5. For the initial month, they prepared delicious pizzas and a healthy fruit salad. YUM!

















# Apple Picking

Students had an oppportunity to pick apples from our very own orchard!



# Spotlight On

# PRESCHOOL

Our preschoolers are beginning to settle into the classroom environment and are becoming more familiar with our daily routine. They are showing increased comfort and independence as they transition through activities. The children are also engaging with hands-on experiences more eagerly, exploring materials with curiousity and enthusiasm. This active participation is helping them build confidence, strengthen social connections, and develop important problem-solving and fine motor skills.

-Sr. Samia











### LIBRARY CORNER







Students
wrote their
own creative
stories that all
began with a
squiggle.



Students
enjoyed colourmatching
activities after
our Pete the Cat
read aloud.



From SK to Grade 8, students participated in a Book Tasting Event to explore different genres and discover new authors.







# Tips on Dealing with Halloween



Assalamu 'alaykum, Parents.

At our school, we do not condone the participation of our children in Halloween, as it goes against our beliefs. In our school, students should not be encouraging each other to participate, nor should they boast about all the candy they collected indoing so. Below you'll find more information on how to deal with it in today's society. May Allaah protect and guide us and our children always.

### [11] Tips to Deal with Halloween\*

(\*article taken directly from http://www.soundvision.com/article/13-tips-for-dealing-with-halloween with omissions/modifications in [] brackets)

So your kids have come home and begged you to go trick-or-treating on Halloween night (October 31). They can't wait for all of the bubble gum, lollipops and jawbreakers, not to mention dressing up in a Pokemon or witch costume like the rest of their friends.

You watch all of this in dismay. Knowing that Halloween is about Shirk you want to put your foot down once and for all and not let the kids go out that evening.

Ekram Beshir is a mother of four and co-author of the book Meeting the Challenge of Parenting in the West: An Islamic Perspective.

Munir El-Kassem has served as Imam in London, Ontario in Canada and is a father of five.

Shaema Imam is a graduate of McGill University and Muslim youth activist who grew up in a suburb of Montreal, Canada.

These are their tips about how you can deal with the Halloween hoopla:

### 1. Find out exactly what Halloween is

Too often, parents themselves are in the dark about the background of occasions and holidays like Halloween. Don't think this is a trivial matter. Once you find out why Halloween is celebrated, you will think twice about getting your kids involved.

In fact, any parent who is trying to raise his or her child as a God-conscious individual will object to the celebration of the occasion. Just spend an hour at the library looking it up in the encyclopedia. To get an Islamic perspective, check out a review of Holiday Myths.

If you discuss it with your kids using correct information, and they sense that you know what you are talking about, they may even agree with you about not participating in the ritual.

### 2. Talk to them at least a few weeks in advance

This is made easier by the fact that Halloween sales of candy and costumes are already underway and the yearly ritual of horror movies being released or shown on television (see our unTV guide) will soon begin.

So the atmosphere is right to sit Aisha or Ali down to have a talk about Halloween. Talking to them now as opposed to on the morning of October 31 will give them some time to think about it too, and get used to the concept of not having to go trick-or-treating just because their friends are.



# Tips on Dealing with Halloween (continued)



### 3. Rationally explain that we have our own celebrations

Talking about Halloween in the context of a fiery speech against the holiday will not help Aisha or Ali see why they should not participate.

Your histrionics will only blind them to reality. Instead, explain that every group or culture has its own celebrations, and we, as Muslims have our own. Halloween is a pagan celebration. But when Eid comes, that is our celebration. Do not condemn those who celebrate Halloween.

Rather, explain what it is calmly, point out its dangers, and let your kids think about it.

4. Mention the other dangers of Halloween

Horror stories about razor blades in apples, Ex-Lax laxative given instead of chocolate to trick-or-treaters, or the dangers on the street should also be mentioned, but not made the focus of the reasons why you object to Halloween.

### 5. Explain that every one of our occasions has a meaning

Remind your kids that for Muslims, our holidays always have a good, positive meaning. For example, at Eid-ul-Fitr, we celebrate our joy of fasting during the blessed month of Ramadan, which is a time we strive to get closer to God and be better Muslims.

Halloween, on the other hand, is celebrated partly as a reminder of satan, who is evil, and from whom everyone should avoid and seek refuge in God from.

### 6. Emphasize that there is nothing wrong with being different

This is crucial because there will be other occasions later on in their lives when Muslim children must not participate in school activities (for example, the Prom.

This does not mean permanent exclusion from all school and/or peer activities, but it means that as Muslims, they can take what is good, but they also have to learn to reject what is bad in a wise manner.

### 9. Take them to a Muslim friend's house on Halloween

Don't make this a special occasion. If you regularly meet with other Muslim families and your children are friends with their children, visit them or invite them over just to play or hang out. This can take their minds off the Halloween hysteria happening outside.

### 10. Take them out for a doughnut

Or anything else Halal, just so you are not home when trick-or-treaters come knocking, which will reinforce the Halloween hysteria.

### 11. Turn off the lights, close the windows and educate your neighbors

Turning off the lights will give the message this home isn't really interested in Halloween. Closing the windows may be necessary, since throwing eggs at someone's home who hasn't given candy is not uncommon on Halloween.



# Tips on Dealing with Halloween (continued)



Educate your neighbors about Halloween by posting a brief polite note about why you are not celebrating the occasion. Shaema Imam for example, on one Halloween, posted a decorative noteon her door telling neighbors she does not support the pseudo-satanic glorification of evil as represented by Halloween. However, she said it is excellent that there is neighborhood cooperation to promote children's safety on Halloween (there were efforts in her area to ensure kids could trick-or-treat in safety).

She also expressed her support for the collection of money for Unicef, which children sometimes do when they go trick-or-treating. Imam didn't get any comments, but no one egged her house either, she says.

### 12. Spread the word: two to three weeks in advance, organize a seminar

This would be for Muslim moms, dads and their young kids. There should be a presentation on what exactly Halloween is and what Muslim parents can do about it. There are Christians who also feel similar way about Halloween, you can organize this event together.

While this is being discussed, kids should be allowed to play together under the supervision of a couple of baby-sitters. This will serve to inform moms and dads, while giving kids a chance to have fun (and perhaps set up an invitation so they can avoid Halloween night craziness-see Tip #9).

### 13. Keep your promise about Eid

For a number of Muslim youth who have grown up in North America, Eid is sometimes just another day, with parents not even taking a day off work.

In other cases, while parents may take the day off, the ritual is the same: get up, put on new clothes, drive to fancy hall, pray, not understand what's really going on, hug Eid Mubarak, go back home, eat "ethnic" food, get money (as Eid gift). Period. It's no wonder our kids' eyes light up when they see Christmas lights, brightly wrapped gifts and hear of Halloween fun and treats. Make Eid special. Don't just hype it up during Halloween to convince the kids not to participate and then break your promise.

On Eid, give the kids candy, take them out to dinner or an amusement park. Organize a party and invite their friends over. Arrange for them to have a gift exchange. The possibilities for Halal fun are there. We owe it to our kids, if we want them to stay Muslim and to be proud of it, to celebrate the occasions in life that really matter to us, like the two Eids.

May Allaah protect and guide us and our children always.

### **SAVE THE DATE!**



Al-Hijra Academy's 10th Annual
BLACK & VVHITE
LUNCHEON



Sunday, November 9, 2025 Ciociaro Club <sup>2-6pm</sup>



Join us for our sell-out event of the year!



Ladies only!
Semi-Formal Black & White Attire
Shopping ~ Fashion Show ~ Food ~ Entertainment
Tickets: \$60 Ladies, \$40 Girls (2-13 yrs)



We are thrilled to invite you to Al-Hijra Academy's 10th Annual Black & White Luncheon!

The luncheon is a fundraiser for our school with proceeds going towards much needed updates to our school gym, soccer field, and new equipment for students. Our fundraising goal for this year is \$20,000.

Join us for an afternoon filled with elegance, fashion, food and lots of fun! For women and girls only.

We can't wait to see you there!

### Coming Up in October...

		ОСТ	OBER 2	2025		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Student of the Month Theme:  Salah & Masjid Etiquette			1	Boys Soccer Away Game vs. Maranatha Girls Soccer Home Game vs. An-Noor	3	4
5	6	7 Boys & Girls Soccer Tournament	8 Gr. 1-4 Fire Safety Presentation	9 PreK, JK, & SK Field Trip to Meleg's Orchard	10	11
12	13 Statutory Holiday - No School	14 Gr. 1-3 Field Trip to Thiessen's Orchard	15	16	17 Resources Fee DUE TODAY	18 ISEYL Bridge Building Competition at Devonshire Mall
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 Grade 7 Immunizations Ilm Corner Islamic Bookfair	31 Student of the Month Assembly Ilm Corner Islamic Bookfair	