

Edmonton Islamic Academy

RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE, SUCCESSFUL, LEADERS AND CONTRIBUTORS TO SOCIETY.



February - Grade Two

Final Sermon of Our Beloved Prophet



On the day of his farewell sermon, emotions ran high as he said to his Ummah, those standing before him and those absorbing his wisdom through studying his life: "All mankind is from Adam and Eve. An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab, nor does a non-Arab have any superiority over an Arab; a white has no superiority over a black, nor does a black have any superiority over a white except by piety and good action."



Parent Halaqas:

To ensure great success in Islamic Studies a partnership between school and family is necessary.

It is mandatory for our EIA parents to attend at least three Halaqas within each school year to secure your child's re-enrollment for 24/25 school year.

The academy will be cross checking the registration

Upcoming Events:



Black History Month: All of February

World Hijab Day: February 1st

Parent Halaqa: Sunday, February 11th (2:00 - 4:00)

Ramadan Food Drive Begins: February 12th

AISCA Teacher Convention: February 15th and 16th (No School for Students)

Family Monday: February 19th (No School)

Parent Halaqa: Thursday, February 22nd (7:00 - 8:30) PM

Umrah Simulation: February 26th to March 1st

Edmonton Islamic Academy

Principal: Mr. Ibrahim Abougouche abraham.abougouche@islamicacademy.ca

Resident Imam at EIA: Imam Jamal Taleb imam.jamal@islamicacademy.ca

Assistant Principal: Mr. Walaid Zahra walaid.zahra@islamicacademy.ca

Team of Educators:

Ms. Farah Yassine; Ms. Maha Sleiman; Ms. Umama Syed; Ms. Reema Jalel;

Ms. Nadine Hamdan; Ms. Huda Haymour

Ms. Feryal Yousef; Ms. Majda El Sayed

Ms. Ziniira Mahamud; Ms. Rabia Assaf; Ms Jena Baalbaki; Ms. Samia Abougouche



Message from our Imam:

Assalam Alaykoom our Dear Respected Parents, Teachers and Students;

As part of his last sermon, our Beloved Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) made it abundantly clear that racism is not acceptable in Islam and is something that Muslims must stay away from.

On the day of his farewell sermon, emotions ran high as he said to his Ummah, those standing before him and those absorbing his wisdom through studying his life: "All mankind is from Adam and Eve. An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab, nor does a non-Arab have any superiority over an Arab; a white has no superiority over a black, nor does a black have any superiority over a white except by piety and good action."

His words sharply declared that racial or ethnic superiority holds no value in the eyes of Allah, and only one's moral character and God consciousness gives you a higher ranking.

Yet as a society, while Muslims accept the words of our beloved messenger and understand why we are all equal in the eyes of Allah, the disease of racism prevents Muslims from doing what they have been commanded to do in treating people equally.

This isn't an issue exclusive to Muslims – there is discrimination and elitism in all forms of human life, but as we strive for excellence – ihsan – we must tackle these issues head on.

Anti-racism is a principle deeply ingrained within the teachings and values of Islam. Islam recognises and emphasises the equality and dignity of all human beings, regardless of their race, ethnicity, or cultural background.

As Muslims, not only we must unequivocally condemn racism, it's our duty to actively rise up against it when we see it take place at schools, workplaces, the general public and especially in our own homes.

May Allah help us to unite, regardless of our background, and help us to stop racism and discrimination in all its forms that displease Allah SWT and His messenger, Ameen.

**JazakAllahu Kheirun,
Sheikh Jamal Taleb
Resident Imam at EIA**



Message from Mr. Zahra (AP)

Salam Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuh Sisters and Brothers,

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome you all back to school, In Sha Allah your lives are filled with prosperity and health for you and your loved ones.

During the month of February, I will have the opportunity to participate with the grade two students as a whole team in discussions and activities focused on developing Virtues of Moral Intelligence. By exploring different virtues each month, we are fostering their understanding and practice of important values. Introducing compassion and empathy as the theme for February will help them develop a deeper understanding of the importance of kindness, empathy, and compassion.

Empathy allows us to put ourselves in someone else's circumstances, enabling deeper connections, compassion, and fair judgment. By experiencing their emotions and perspective, we can develop a more comprehensive understanding of others and foster a more inclusive and understanding society.

If we follow the Sunnah of our beloved Prophet, empathy for each other would naturally develop and InShaAllah prevent racism. It is up to all of us parents, educators to work as partners to educate our future generation about racism and help them understand the Sunnah and learn empathy for one another.

It ensures effective communication, as individuals can better navigate conflicts and build understanding, leading to stronger and more fulfilling friendships and relationships. Additionally, empathy promotes acts of kindness and altruism, leading to personal growth and overall success in various aspects of life.

Please see the last page of the newsletter for strategies in building empathy/compassion with our children.

**JazakAllahu Kheirun,
Mr. Zahra
Assistant Principal**

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Things to Remember:



Dress For the Weather:

Please ensure that your child/ren are coming to school with a toque; warm mittens, boots and a snowpants.



Help Build a Positive Attitude About Education:

The research shows that the greatest influence you can have on your kids' chances for success in school lie in how you influence their attitudes, their sense of personal competence, and their work habits, including persistence, seeking help, and planning.

Raz Kids:

Use the opportunity of the subscription to Raz Kids.

Ensure success beyond the classroom with engaging, developmentally appropriate books at various levels of text complexity. Students can read texts at different levels and in their areas of interest anytime.

Staff Recognition

At Edmonton Islamic Academy, we are always looking to recognize hard work and dedication. We want parents to be apart of this opportunity as well.

If you want to recognize an EIA staff member, or something positive at EIA please contact me:

walaidd.zahra@islamicacademy.ca



Curriculum Update for February



Language Arts

- The students are working on two programs: UFLI and Words Their Way. They will continue to work with long vowels and digraphs in February.
- The students will be constructing sentences with proper formations.
- The students will begin to work on individual stories for their class story book (Young Authors).
- The students will be working on constructing paragraphs with proper punctuation and formation.
- The students will understand and be prompted to use deep questioning skills in regards to reading comprehension. Applying strategies will be beneficial to their thinking skills as they progress through the grades.

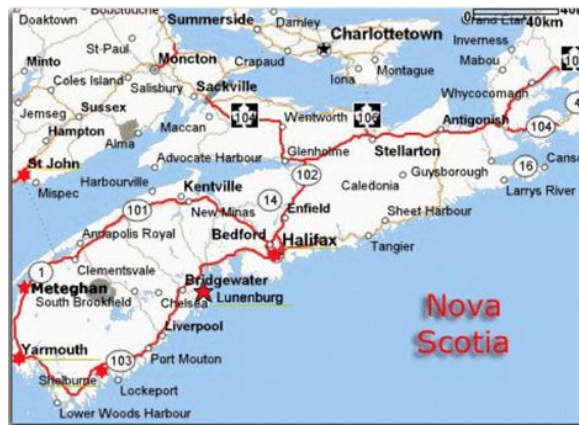
Math

- The students will demonstrate an understanding of addition and subtraction with answers to 100.
- The students will demonstrate an understanding of 3 digit addition and subtraction with and without regrouping.
- The students will compose sums and differences using different strategies.
- The students will understand that addition and subtraction number facts facilitates addition and subtraction strategies.



Social Studies: Continue to Study Meteghan:

- The students will understand where Meteghan (Acadian community) is located in Canada.
- The students will understand how the Acadian geographic region is compared to where we live?
- The students will develop an understanding of what is daily life is like for children in Meteghan compared to their personal daily lives.
- The students will understand what the cultural characteristics of Meteghan (e.g., special symbols, landmarks, languages spoken, shared stories or traditions, monuments, schools)?



Science:

- The students will learn where light comes from and how they move.
- The students will learn about the parts of the human eye.
- The students will understand how the human eye works in regards to light.

Discover More about the Curriculum/ Program of Studies:

Visit:

<https://curriculum.learnalberta.ca/curriculum/en>

It is never too early to start speaking about Anti Racism

Research have shown that, children begin to understand racial stereotypes around ages 2-5 years

Racial prejudice can develop in the early school-age period (ages 5-8 years)

An ideal time to speak with children about prejudice is the school-age period (ages 5 -12 years)

We can start by teaching children two key concepts that build the foundation for anti-racism:

- **“The Golden Rule”: Treat others the way you want to be treated**
- **Fairness: Actions and consequences that are right and honorable; illustrates the difference between EQUAL and EQUITABLE**

Continue using books that highlight diversity, equity, inclusion, and also address racism and discrimination. What types of experiences and examples do they provide in helping children navigate fairness and honor “The Golden Rule?”
Support programming that builds their cultural knowledge.

