



# Darul Arqam School New Directions

Quarter 1 News  
Issue 1

December, 2011

## Principal's Message

*Every morning, before leaving my house, I pray that Allah grants me the strength and stamina to fulfill the mission of this great organization. In the short time that I have served as principal of Darul Arqam School, I have unraveled its hidden beauty. Darul Arqam is not just a school that serves a group of children by educating them; Darul Arqam is an organization that serves a community. At a central location amidst the surrounding areas of Sayreville, Old Bridge, East Brunswick and Piscataway, Darul Arqam opens its doors to the community Night and Day.*

*Providing our children with a proper Islamic Environment like no other, Darul Arqam School is a wonderful place to live, learn and lead. A major contributor to its greatness is its dedicated staff, supportive parents, and sincere line of men that form the Board of Trustees. The collaborative efforts among all parties have proven to be critical to our advancement and progress.*

*Our vision is to create the perfect product of Islamic Education; a student with a set of spiritual and moral values such as honesty, integrity and good judgment; a student with an enquiring and discriminating mind and a desire for knowledge; a student with strong self-esteem and high personal expectations, and most importantly, a student that has tolerance and respect for others.*

*I am extremely enthusiastic about this year and believe it will be one of the most exciting years Darul Arqam School has had so far, Insha' Allah.*

*Iman ElDessouky*  
*Principal*

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## Back to School Again!

Darul Arqam proudly celebrated "Back to School Night" on Friday September 30, 2011. The night was a great success, bringing parents and teachers together to discuss a myriad of topics focused, of course, on our children. From specific aspects of the curriculum to our school's expectations, a broad variety of topics were very well presented by our

teachers and staff. The effort that it takes to plan and successfully carry out this event expresses the dedication and hard work of everyone involved!

As we welcomed parents to this new school year, we were honored to have our respected Board of Trustees provide us with a presentation about the school's new organizational struc-

ture. The focus of the presentation was to identify and describe the six committees that will make up the new structure, named as follows: 1) Fundraising/Finance, 2) Building & Maintenance, 3) Volunteer, 4) Marketing/Outreach, 5) Education & Curriculum, and 6) Technology. The committees are to serve as channels for requests and suggestions to be funneled through. Members will consist of parents, teachers, and administrators who will unite with the common goal of our school's overall improvement and continued progress.

Back to School Night also featured a presentation from The South River Police Department. A new traffic pattern flow was introduced with the goal to ease the morning drop off and afternoon pick-up of students.

Insha' Allah, May we be granted with success in uniting teachers and parents throughout this year.

## Darul Arqam Gives Back: Students "Walk for a Brighter Tomorrow"

Our high school students proudly took part in "A Walk for a Brighter Tomorrow" with proceeds to benefit individuals suffering from the disease epilepsy. The 5K walk took place on Sunday October 9, 2011 at Roosevelt Park located in Edison, NJ. Participation in this very special event highlights our continued effort to teach students the value and importance of community service.

In the past our students have also donated their time to volunteer at the "Muslims Against Hunger" Soup Kitchen in New Brunswick. They will

continue to take part in this wonderful act of charity by helping out at the



kitchen on the third Friday of every

month.

Students look forward to continuing our tradition of community service in upcoming events! May Allah reward our students for their intentions and effort and may their good deeds serve as a form of dawah to our greater community.

## South River Police presents "Stranger Danger" to Our KG

On Friday October 14, 2011 Darul Arqam proudly welcomed our local South River Police to present a workshop entitled "Stranger Danger" to our early childhood students. Led by Sergeant John McKenna, the workshop reminded our students of the importance of staying safe

when out in public. They were provided with tips on how to protect themselves from the harm of "unknown adults."



Concepts such as "Don't talk to strangers," and "Don't tell anyone your name," were reinforced by Officer McKenna. The children were delighted with the presentation and learned some very beneficial safety tips!

## **BREAKING NEWS-** Student Council Elections: The RESULTS are in!

October 24th, 2011, our school gymnasium was packed with excited students from grades 1-12 ready to cast their votes for the candidates running for positions on the 2011-2012 Student Council.

The results were as follows:

President :

Isteshhad Shata

Vice President:

Yasmeen Zayed

Secretary:

Bouhaitha Youssef

Treasurer:

Rahma Shata

The officers on the Student Council are very active and have a lot in stock for the Student Body for the whole year. We all can't wait to see!



## Labaykah Allahumu Labayk

Our students completing a mock Hajj that was setup throughout our school. From Tawaf to Sa'ii, to stoning the Jamarat, students partook in these steps of Hajj as well all of the other essentials.

Our duah at Arafah, the most important part of the Hajj, was very moving, leaving many parents and teachers teary eyed!

Students got to experience all of the different aspects of Hajj

guided by our Islamic Studies & Quran Department.

It was a wonderful day filled with du'ah and thikr! The sound of young voices chanting, "Labayk Allah Humma Labayk..." resonated throughout the building, certainly wonderful to hear! .

JAK to all of our teachers and students for a job very well done!



## Our PTO Supporting DAS

Our PTO plays a crucial role in our school community as they coordinate some very important projects. They contribute to fundraising, literacy awareness, and community collaborations, just to name a few!

PTO President, Abeer Mustafa, Vice President Mukarram ElBannah and Treasurer Nazneen Farouki, kindly

met with parents and staff at our special Iftar held on the Day of Arafah, Saturday November 5, 2011 to share their vision and goals for this year's.

On their calendar for this year, the PTO has exciting events in store, including:

- Chocolate Sales
- Box Tops for Education

- Book Fairs
- Literacy Nights
- Sisters' Night
- Family Fun Night

We look forward to a year of success with our parents and teachers joining forces, dedicated and hard at work!

## Get Your Head in the Game

This school year we are very excited about our basketball team, The Darul Arqam Knights. The team was established last year and students enjoyed playing several games against other local Islamic Schools.

Over the summer, our Knights were victorious in a challenging

game against Al-Minhaal Academy's team. Our boys look forward to playing in upcoming games vs. Al-Noor Academy.

Our games are scheduled monthly and are set for October 20th, November 20th, and December 20th, Insha' Allah!

We anticipate many challenging

and exciting games this season!



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World's First Muslim Spelling  
Bee

Darul Arqam is proud to be  
hosting the Muslim Spelling  
Bee 2012, the World's first  
Muslim Spelling Bee  
promoted by TMA World-  
wide.

*Darul Arqam School's Mission*

*Our mission is to provide an excellent Islamic and academic education within an Islamic environment to produce well rounded Muslims and strong leaders.*

*We seek to promote a safe, caring, and supportive environment where our children can attain the knowledge that would enable them to perform as effective citizens of the world, especially in today's world of Globalization. Our students will be attaining such worldly knowledge in a spiritual environment rich with Islamic teachings, values and practices.*

*We strive to have our parents, teachers, and community members actively involved in our students' learning.*

*Today's Children...Tomorrow's Leaders*

## Cleanliness is From Faith

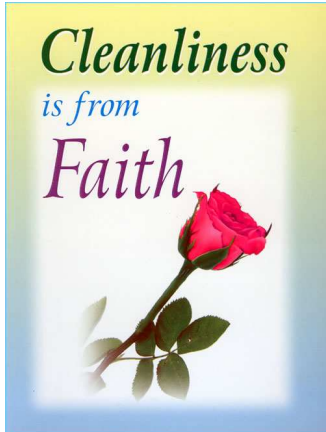
إن الحمد لله سبحانه وتعالى والصلاة والسلام على سيد الخلق سيدنا محمد بن عبد الله (صلى الله عليه وسلم) الهادي إلى كل خير والهادي إلى كل جميل يقول الله سبحانه وتعالى "وتعاونوا على البر والتقوى ولا تعانوا على الإثم والعدوان" ومن هذه الآية انطلقت مدرسة دار الأرقم الإسلامية بولاية نيو جيرسي بمسابقة للنظافة بين الفصول والأقسام المختلفة وذلك حتى تضع التطبيق العملي للآية الكريمة.

ومن لحظة ذكر إدارة المدرسة عن هذه المسابقة وإذ بكل من في المدرسة من مدرسين وإداريين و

طلاب وكأنهم خلية نحل في كل مكان لينال كل فصل أو قسم على شرف الفوز بالمسابقة.

وذلك كله في حب الله عز وجل وحب ما جاء به رسول الهدى صلى الله عليه وسلم.

وقد أشرف على هذه المسابقة قسم اللغة العربية والقرآن الكريم والتربية الإسلامية ممثلة في شيخنا الفاضل محمد أبوسيد. داعين الله أن يقوي إيماننا ويهدينا إلى سبل الخير ويجعل عملنا هذا خالصاً لوجهه الكريم.



قسم القرآن والتربية الإسلامية واللغة العربية