

Granada Islamic School Newsletter

October 2007

Nihad Mourad, Acting Principal
Khalid Obeid, Acting Vice Principal



Principal's Message

Assalam Alaikum Dear Parents,

I start by wishing you and your families a blessed Eidul-Fitr. The month of Ramadan came and went quickly, as usual. It is becoming more and more challenging to meet the requirements of worship during this blessed month due to the longer warmer days, especially for the children who just started their fast. May Allah accept our fast and worship during Ramadan. I hope you have enjoyed the week off and spent relaxing time with your children!

It is an honor for me to be trusted with the responsibility of the leadership of Granada as Acting Principal. Granada is a special institution that is dear to my heart; I have spent many years working with staff, students and parents at Granada and I am indebted to Granada for the education of my own children, Abdullah, Asmaa and Menna. Of course we all miss having Dr. Obeid with us on a full-time basis. We are very proud that he has received a prestigious position at Stanford University and we are glad that he is able to continue working at Granada as Acting Vice Principal along with his new position.

By now you must have received the first Progress Report. This is the first communication for this year of your child's academic progress. Make sure to review it carefully and communicate with your child's teacher if you have any questions. Your attention and involvement in school matters show your child that school is important. Please continue to help your child be ready for school by providing a schedule and a quiet place for completing assignments and for reading at least 20

minutes every day.

I would like to bring to your attention an important concern which requires your cooperation; that is bringing your children to school on time (between 7:45 and 7:55). Please review the tardy statistics included in this newsletter. Students lose valuable instructional time when they arrive late to class not to mention that they interrupt the whole class by entering after instruction has started. I will continue to monitor the tardy rate and keep you informed.

We plan some minor changes to the dismissal procedure. We have many parents who come to the classroom to pick up their children. We would like you to come to the building only to pick up K or Pre-K students at 3:15. Please pick the rest of the students from the dismissal area.

We are happy to observe our students complying with the school uniform. As the weather gets colder, make sure your child has a navy blue cardigan to wear inside the building. Please review the uniform violation consequences included in this newsletter.

I welcome your feedback and comments. Please feel free to reach me by email:
nihadm@granadaschool.org.

Sincerely,
Nihad M. Mourad
Acting Principal

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Upcoming Events

- ◆ Reading Day
Nov 14, 07

Assalamu Alaikum,

Granada Islamic School welcomes all parents and students back from the Eid break. Inshallah, everyone enjoyed the festivities and blessings. The Board of Directors will host a meeting Thursday, November 1, 2007 at 7 p.m. to address any questions or issues that are important to you and the educational needs of your children, and to present our goals for the year. Parents will also be given information on how you can get involved on committees, the PTO, and other volunteer opportunities.

Opportunities for Parent Involvement on Committees Please get involved and join the committee that best matches your interest and expertise.

1. Expansion Committee

Goal: Secure the space needed by GIS to accommodate the school's growth needs to attract and accommodate more students than currently allowable.

Objectives:

- Seek expansion options within MCA facilities
- Pursue lease or rent options of school site or commercial buildings.
- Coordinate all activities with MCA expansion plans

Reports To: Br. Atef Ibrahim (atef@nordix.com)

Ideal Size: 3 to 5 members

Qualifications: Architects, civil engineers, and those familiar with school building use issues, community's resources, and real estate rental/lease market.

Time Commitment: 10 hours a month

2. Fundraising Committee

Goal: Ensure that we raise the funds the GIS needs to be financially stable and meet its growing needs for space expansion, equipment and scholarships.

Objectives:

- Seek endowment from wealth community members
- Pursue grants from the city, county or state and other foundations or public organizations.
- Organize a general fundraising campaign, such as the annual fundraising dinner and Ramadan fundraising drive

Reports To: Br. Syed Reza (Syed.reza@mcabayarea.org)

Ideal Size: 3 to 5 members

Qualifications: Familiar with the community's resources, know the nonprofit world, ability to write grants, attract donors and organize fundraising activities.

Time Commitment: 10 hours a month

3. Finance Committee

Goal: Ensure that GIS follows all Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in its finances, has the proper controls and manages the budget.

Objectives:

- Assist the Treasurer with fiduciary responsibilities
- Assist the Treasurer with financial planning for the school

Reports To: Br. Syed Reza (Syed.reza@mcabayarea.org)

Ideal Size: 3 to 5 members

Qualifications: Familiar with accounting principles. Ability to read a balance sheet, income statement and budget. Ability to create appropriate procedures for the finance group.

Time Commitment: 10 hours a month

Jazakum Allahu Khairan

Isa Eric Shaw, General Secretary

Board of Directors Granada Islamic School

Last Name	First Name
KA	
Alemu	Muner
Baloch	Muhammad
Khalil	Omar
Kirmanani	Dania
Sarhan	Nada
KB	
Ahmed	Fatima
Ahmed	Fariha
Hamid	Bismah
Jahangiri	Zayd
Lakusic	Kamal
Nawal	Nishat
Obeid	Yahya
Rohim	Makin
Saada	Tasnim
Salah	Huda
Suleiman	Reem
KC	
Awadalla	Mohammad
Bachar	Mariam
Dahbour	Israa
Garfinkel	Aleema
Iqbal	Farah
Masri	Najm
Salem	Ramie
Zulfiqar	Abdurrehman
1A	
Ahmad	Sajaa
Ahmed	Ahnaf
Alemu	Fuad
Amir	Sarah
Hashemi	Kiana
Khateeb	Rizq
1B	
Anees	Nadia
Assaf	Ehab
Idris	Javeria
Kazemi	Sara Noor
Khan	Muzakkir
Lazkani	Ibrahim
Lichtenberg	Ali
Masood	Farah
1C	
Ababneh	Omar
Abbassi	Fahad
Abugarbieh	Noor
Almaghafi	Shahd
Alnubani	Ahmad
Alzergani	Faris
Amourah	Rama
Elarid	Ahmad
Jawaid	Mohammed
Khater	Youssef
Khattab	Laila
Lazkani	Noor
Limoun	Adam
Syed	Saniyah
Tessisa	Reyan

Last Name	First Name
2A	
Abutaha	Meraal
Alikhan	Haashir
Darwish	Sama
Elhabrouk	Injy
Habboush	Shariff
Islam	Asma
Jalaldin	Moosaa
Kobatte	Maryam
Masood	Hamza
Mirza	Sakina
2B	
Amjadi	Nadeeya
Awadalla	Rima
Azhar	Yousef
Daoudi	Sanam
Feisal	Haroon
Koraitem	Malik
Masri	Lina
Nasir	Hanan
Obeid	Maryam
Rajput	Zoha
Reza	Yousuf
Rohim	Nasrin
Shaikh	Numaan
2C	
Bukhari	Samir
Khan	Afroze
Khan	Aishah
Mohammed	Furqan
Mohiuddin	Hajera
Nayfeh	Omar
Rabia	Nadia
Salah	Lina
Zulfiqar	Rameesha
3A	
Alawi	Genah "Janah"
Awadalla	Isam
Awadalla	Amira
Bukhari	Taimur
Hashemi	Roxanna
Ibrahim-Biangoro	Amin
Khalil	Malaak
Mohammed	Abdullah
Sweilem	Hiba
3B	
Ahmad	Shifa
Alnubani	Abdelrahman
Atesoglu	Hilal
Fawzy	Yousof
Hussein	Yahye
Indris	Nazher
Laymoun	Ismael
Malek	Mohammed "Mahir"
Mohammed	Abdulsamad
Rabia	Yasmine
Syed	Burhaan
Wali	Nawar

Last Name	First Name
4A	
Aejaz	Sarah
Ahmed	Zaynab
Alayleh	Amin
Ali	Roble
Ali	Ahmar
Ali	Ismail
Almaghafi	Omar
Ansari	Sana
Badr	Osama
Elnounou	Hasna
Faiyaz	Abdullah
Feisal	Aasiyah
Haq	Hassaan
Ibrahim	Hebba
Idris	Maryam
Kaddoura	Razan
Mgariaf	Muna
Qureshi	Jibraan
Shaik	Ismail
Siddiqi	Hareem
4B	
Ahmed	Kareem
Baloch	Maryam
Deen	Ziana Camila
Farooqui	Ahmed
Islam	Zainab
Jawaid	Rahmin
Mohiuddin	Humayra
Obeid	Yousef
Osman	Hanaan
Reza	Maymuna
Shamseldin	Lena
5A	
Basma	Ali
Dawood	Yusra
Khan	Aminah
Labib	Tasneem
Laymoun	Yousuf
Malek	Aliyah
Masri	Zainab
Mohideen	Muhammed
Nassar	Yasmine
Perwez	Adnan
5B	
Amir	Muaz
Awadalla	Amany
Hussein	Safiya
Raza	Amna
Raza	Zainab
Reza	Musab
Syeda	Maleeha
Ziadeh	Samia

Last Name	First Name
6A	
Abdhir	David
Almari	Mohamed
Awadalla	Amna
Baloch	Aaminah
Dawood	Aminah
Mohamed	Mahad
Mustafa	Ibrahim Jihad
Osman	Fadumo
Spearman	Sarah
6B	
Ibrahim	Mahmoud
Jalaldin	Nooranne
Sadik	Fazil
Zayed	Mona
7A	
Abed	Danya
Ahmed	Nhada
Ali	Ashraf
Ali	Obah
Hussein	Zakariye
Khalil	Malik
Nada	Ishacq
Perwez	Aisha
7B	
Ahmed	Tauseef
Alawi	Huda
Alshehabi	Abdullah
Anees	Safia
Awadalla	Yasmeen
Bachar	Safiyah
Egal	Hamsa
Ghouse	Siraj
Kaddoura	Tasneem
Khan	Muzammil Ali
Masri	Heba
Mohamed	Sumaya
Rahim	Maryam
Ramahi	Mohammad Jamal
Raza	Mohammad
Sahan	Ayse
Taylor	Esa
Zeb	Aisha
8A	
Alawi	Wafa
Amir	Ammar
Baqai	Sania
Fadhil	Nada
Hammad	Yasmeen
Ibrahim-Biangoro	Abou
Khan	Azeem
Khan	Adeeb
Lazkani	Souad
Maaz	Jenan
Nada	Bayan
Shoubber	Amani
Sweilem	Basheer

Ramadan Poems

from our Sixth Graders

Yay! Ramadan has begun!
Let's worship and have some fun!

We will have a lot of Taqwa,
And InshaAllah we will go to Jannah!

We will fast and wake up for Suhoor,
And we should also give Zakat to the poor!

In Ramadan we get extra good deeds,
Which is another reason to give the poor the
food we need!

There's also another thing to do in
Ramadan,
So we could get good deeds, we should read
extra Qur'an!

Since cleanliness is important, every day we
will take a shower,
Oh yeah, and don't forget the Night of
Power!

Laylatul-Qadr is a special night,
On this night, all our dua'as will be
answered, yup that's right!

But when it is, we don't exactly know,
But it's somewhere in the last seven nights,
don't forget, oh no!

And at the end of Ramadan, Eid will be
here,
You don't need to fast that day, so have no
fear!

Ramadan is over, but don't shed any tears,
It will surely be here next year!

Aamir Azhar

Ramadan is here
And it is Allah we should fear
He watches over us
While we fast from dawn to dusk

We wake early in the morning
To eat the dawn meal suhoor
All the while we patiently think
About the less fortunate and the poor

Throughout the day we make dua'a
And stay in the masjid to pray
We read Qur'an all we can
Worshipping the creator of the universe
& man

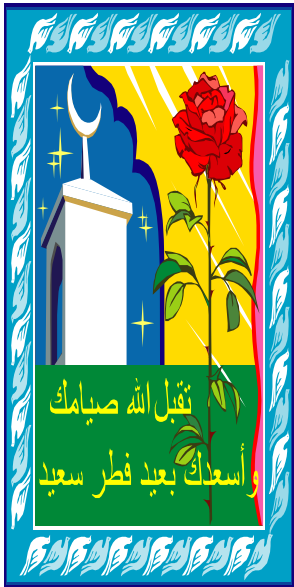
For the Lord we give charity
And see the world its clarity
We think about the good deeds to be
earned
And uncover all the knowledge to be
learned

At the end of the day we break our fast
With simple foods like dates
And remove from our hearts
All the evil & the hate

Then we see the reappearing moon
And know that Eid will come soon
We know that Ramadan will soon end
But our faith in Allah will never break or
bend

And as Muslims we stay all year
Knowing Qiyam could be near
We spend the year making dua'a &
praying
Waiting for the month when the moon
starts fading

Aaminah Baloch



6th grade poets

Ramadan

The special month that is here
Is called Ramadan
We make du'aa and pray Taraweeh
And read a lot of Quran

We eat suhoor before sunrise
And break our fast with some dates
Eat Iftar and worship god
And have a stronger faith

We should have obedience for our mother
And we will get a reward
We will hopefully go to jannah
And there we will never ever be bored

We try to pray on the night of power
And have taqwa in Allah
We do itekaf at the mosque
So our spirits will smoothly flow

Finally when the new moon is a crescent
It is a sign for Eid
We give sadaqah to the poor
So we can get good deeds

Aida Ibrahim

In Ramadan we all must fast,
For in this month eating comes last

During the day we read Quran,
In this month of Ramadan

We give sadaqah to the poor,
Donating a dollar or more

To enter Heaven we must pray,
To Allah every day

And at night we break our fast with dates,
Then finish off with many dinner plates

After this blessed month, comes a very special
day,
Eid is here! Now its time for everyone to play!

Mona Zayed

Ramadan, the blessed month is here
Eid is becoming nearer and near

In Ramadan, your deeds multiply
And the Shaytans are locked up, this is not a lie

In the morning, you wake up for Suhoor
In this month, you give money to the poor

If you could, read Quran
In the night, get up for qiyam

Fasting teaches discipline too
And self control for me and you

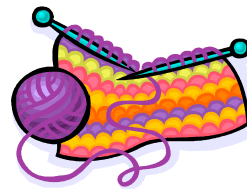
In the evening you eat Iftar and pray Salah
Then if you could, make dua'a

This is the last day of Ramadan, Then will follow
the day of Eid
A truly festive day indeed

As you get into bed, you think of the month that
just past
You smile to yourself because you knew, the month
of Ramadan would never last

Noor Hakim





COOKING CLUB

By Aminah Baloch

Do you stay after school on Mondays? If you do, you'd probably smell the fresh cooked aroma of some delicious recipes coming down the hallway. Why? Cooking Club.

Every Monday, a group of students gather outside the science lab wondering what they're going to make next. A cold salad? Or could we try become a bit adventurous and go for a sweet mixture of chocolate in a Mississippi Mud Pie. But whatever it is, it's always something good, ranging from appetizers to desserts.

We started out with delicious & soft date balls, and recently whipped up a large batch of chocolate chip cookies. As you approach the science lab, you can probably hear the blender going on, the clinking of knives while we chop up fruits and vegetables, and kids just having fun and making new friends.

You'll probably want a taste of what we make. After all, you're the judge. That's possible, because for whatever we make, we get a typed up copy of the recipe so we can enjoy our creations at home, and share them with you.

So in my opinion, cooking club is a great place to learn, as well as have fun, socialize, & meet new people. I'd recommend everyone to join! It'll be worth it!

Bon Appetite'

GIS Knits!

Knitting Club members are stitching away! Last week they took a field trip to learn about and gather materials for their current project - a drawstring purse. Plans for future projects include hats and stuffed animals. The club is still open - see Khala Doha if you are interested.

"Knitting rocks! It's cool!" -7th grade Knitting Club member

News from the Library

The Ramadan Book Drive has been extended for another week! Thank you to all those who have generously donated. We received book dedications for 92 students and have raised around \$1900, mashaAllah. However our goal is to beat last year's total of \$3000. This year we hit a road block by not being allowed to ask for donations at MCA during Jummah. Therefore we're extending the deadline in hopes of more GIS parent donations. We hope you will participate in building our school library!

Sarah Baig
GIS School Librarian

RAMADHAN ASSEMBLY

One, two, three, four! Allah's who we live for! GIS students echoed chants throughout the community hall during the Ramadhan Assembly. The diverse performances reflected the numerous benefits of Ramadhan. Nasheed Clubs, K-4th grades, sang an array of songs. Ramadhan skits performed by first grade and sixth graders were reminders of how vigilant and excited we are about our actions towards one another. Poets from 6th and 7th grades added readings of original and inspiring poetry to the atmosphere. We also appreciate the dedication of the 7th and 8th grade as they MCed, assisted in the assembly set-up, and skillfully painted the beautiful Maghrib scene that set as our backdrop. May Allah reward all the staff and students for their enthusiastic efforts in strengthening the spirit of Ramadhan at GIS.

Fadwa Musleh
Extra-Curricular Coordinator

Tardiness Problem

Background: Punctuality is essential to the educational process. Late arrivals interrupt the classroom learning environment and the daily routine. Tardy students miss part of the academics of their first class, require special attention, take time that could be used otherwise, and develop behavior patterns that are undesirable in school and later in their life. Research has shown that attendance problems correlate directly to achievement problems.

Statistics: In the first 27 days of school, 776 tardies have been recorded; this is an average of 29 students (7%) arriving late to class every day. A two-day survey of students arriving late revealed that 54% live in Santa Clara and 18% live in San Jose. The majority of late comers arrive between 8:00-8:10 a.m. and do not carpool.

Recommendations: Plan to drop off your children at 7:45 a.m. All teachers open their classroom doors at 7:45 a.m. Students are expected to enter class between 7:45-7:55 a.m. This way they have time to unload their backpacks, lunch boxes and jackets and be in their seats before class starts. The morning announcements start at 8:00 a.m. and contain important information the students need to hear.

Note: Starting Monday October 22nd, parents are not allowed to enter any classroom after 8:00 a.m.

Dismissal Procedure

To ensure the safety of all the students and a smooth dismissal procedure, the following will be implemented effective Monday, October 22nd:

1. Both school exits (1. facing computer lab, 2. by Yassin's Corner) will be locked from 3:00-3:15 p.m.
2. All students in grades 1-8 exit the building at 3:15 p.m.
3. No students are allowed in the playground area from 3:15-3:30 p.m.
4. Students who have clubs need to stay in the dismissal area until 3:30 p.m.
5. Parents may schedule meetings with teachers or administrators after 3:30 p.m.

Uniform Violation Consequences

Lower Grades:

- 1st Offense: Note to parent - warning
- 2nd Offense: Note to parent & phone call
- 3rd Offense: Note to parent and meeting before student is admitted to class

Upper Grades:

- 1st Offense: Yellow slip and lunch detention - 1 demerit point
- 2nd Offense: Yellow slip and lunch detention - 1 demerit point
- 3rd Offense: Yellow slip and after-school detention - 3 demerit points

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The following new volunteer opportunities are immediately available:

Yard Duty Assistants

We need 2-3 volunteers each day to assist in yard duty supervision during recess and lunch breaks between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

A minimum commitment of 3 hours per day is required for this volunteer opportunity. A signup sheet is available at the reception desk.

Volunteers must attend a one-time 10-minute orientation session from 9:15-9:25 a.m. before their first scheduled duty.

Granada PTO page

Assalaamu alaikum wa rahamatuallahi wa barakatuhu GIS Parents,

I hope that this month of Ramadan has been a blessed month for all of you, and I pray that all of your ibaadat during this month is accepted by Allah (swt). Alhamdulillah, September has been a very busy month for GIS with Ramadan preparations and the excitement of Eid approaching. I hope that your child has been enjoying their school year thus far, and that they are increasing their love of knowledge and building strength of character, insha'Allah.

Ramadan Door Decoration Contest

Congratulations to the winners of the Ramadan door decorating contest. We had several beautiful doors, and the effort of the kids and parents was quite impressive, masha'Allah. Thank you to all of our judges who had the tough job of picking the winners among so many good choices. The door was judged upon two categories, Theme and Expression. *The winners were:*

Ramadan Door Decorating Contest Winners

Age Group	Theme	Expression
Pre-K thru 1 st grade	Pre-K	KC
2 nd grade thru 4 th grade	2B	2C
5 th grade thru 5 th grade	8th	5B

Eid Bazaar

This year the PTO had tremendous success with its Eid Bazaar held from October 1st to October 5th. In addition to the small gifts for the children, we had some clothing, scarves, and pins this year, which were big sellers for the parents! Jazakum Allahu Khairun to all of those who volunteered their time to sell items and to all those who supported the bazaar. We will be using all proceeds from the bazaar to benefit the children at GIS.

Eid Carnival (October 18th, 2007)

The lower grades (Pre-K to 4th grade) enjoyed Eid Carnival in the parking lot of the school. We had games, bouncers, and treats. The upper grades (5th to 8th grade) changed their field trip plans and went to Logitech Ice in San Jose.

BOX TOPS Earn money for GIS!

Box Tops for Education has helped America's schools earn over \$200 million since 1996. GIS can receive supplemental income every year through Box Tops. How? It's very SIMPLE. Look for the 10¢ Box Tops coupon on hundreds of your favorite products. You can find Box Tops on brands such as Cheerios®, Betty Crocker®, Pillsbury®, Ziploc®, Kleenex®, Hefty® and more! Simply clip the coupon and have your child bring it to his teacher. We will be offering a pizza party to the class with the highest amount collected each semester, so please start clipping today!



eScrip Registration



Granada Islamic School encourages every parent, community member and Islamic school supporter to participate in the eScrip program, a fundraising program where participating merchants make automatic donations (up to 8%) to our school every time registered supporters shop. It costs you nothing extra, just a few minutes of your time to register online. Average contributions received are \$160 for each registered supporter. However, some of our supporters have contributed over \$330 in a single year...at no cost to them! Help us reach our goal of 1,000 supporters and we'll earn over \$150,000 per year!

Here's How it Works

- You register any or all of your existing grocery loyalty, debit and credit cards for use in the program.
- Participating merchants will make contributions to your chosen group, based on purchases made by you, just by using the cards you have registered.
- Your purchases are tracked and available to you online, allowing you to see just how much you are earning on your child's behalf!

Sign up online. It's quick and easy.

Step 1 - Log onto www.escrip.com. Enter Granada Islamic School. Granada's school ID: 140622786

Step 2 - Click on "sign-up"

Step 3 - Follow the instructions. You can register your grocery cards, store credit cards, credit and debit cards.

There are no receipts to collect, no vouchers or certificates to buy, no hassles for you - and every purchase counts! Now just shop at eScrip merchants. Check www.escrip.com for participating merchants. Use your eScrip registered cards for all your purchases. A percentage of purchases will be automatically contributed by the merchant. That's it! It's that easy—your family shops—our school earns dollars.

As an added incentive, the class with the most NEW registrations wins a pizza party!

Parent Volunteer Cards

This is a reminder that we would like all parents to submit their volunteer hours by Dec. 14th, 2007. For those of you who have fulfilled your hours, we will be making new cards and have them available for you soon.

GIS Yahoo Group

If there are parents who would like to join the GIS Yahoo group, please send an email to: GIS_parents@yahoogroups.com

May all of you have a very, blessed and enjoyable Eid!

Wasalaam,
GIS PTO





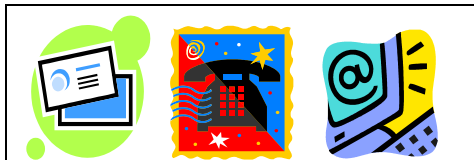
Granada Islamic School
3003 Scott Boulevard
Santa Clara, CA 95054
Phone: (408) 980-1161
Fax: (408) 980-1120

*Our mission is to provide
quality academic and Islamic
education in a community
that nurtures a strong
Muslim identity, fosters
brotherhood, and
strengthens moral character.*

We're on the Web!
www.granadaschool.org

Important Dates to Remember

Monday, November 5	Make-up Picture Day
Wednesday, November 14	Reading Day
Thursday, November 22 to Friday, November 23	Fall Break - No School
Tuesday, November 27 to Thursday, November 29	Upper Grade Finals/Minimum Days



*Please remember to inform the
office whenever your home address,
phone number or email address
changes.*

Granada Islamic School
3003 Scott Boulevard
Santa Clara, CA 95054



RECIPIENT NAME
STREET ADDRESS
CITY, ST ZIP CODE