



### Message from Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As-Salaam Alaikum.

May is always a wonderful time of year at school, where we celebrate as we watch our children's learning blossom. The skills, concepts, and knowledge students have worked on throughout the school year truly come together.



At AZIA, this is especially evident as we reflect on the incredible year we have had so far. Our school, under the guidance of Sr. Virtue, Shaykh Saleem and other school leaders, teachers and staff, has been a hub of engaged learning, spiritual growth, and exciting activities that have brought our community together.

In this Spring Newsletter edition, you will learn more about the heartfelt participation in our 'Quran in My Heart' challenge, the confident voices in our WISE Talks speech competition, Jump Rope 4 Heart, and the energetic spirit of our basketball competitions with BCMS. Every moment has been a testament to the dedication and passion of our students, staff and families.



Also, looking a little further back, blessed Ramadhan and our food drive, along with our all-school Eid breakfast, were a wonderful celebration of faith, giving and community. Through it all, our parent volunteers (PVGs) have been the backbone of our success, selflessly giving of their time and energy to help make these events all that they are intended to be.

As we look to the final stretch of the year, we have a busy calendar with many more upcoming events. The most impactful may indeed be a Spring Fair that a small but dedicated team of people have proposed and are working towards offering in June.

Also, an end-of-year soccer fest hosted by AZIA, our Grade 7, JK and KG graduations, and an all-school House Teams Field Day will help us bring to a close another impactful year at Az-Zahraa Islamic Academy. You are encouraged to stay connected through our *Class Dojo* announcements and *Weekly Updates* from the Front Office team.

Warmest Regards,  
Paul R. Cohee  
Principal





### **Message from Islamic Director**

Assalamu Alaykum.

As we approach the end of another blessed school year, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all our parents and guardians for entrusting your children to our care at the Az-Zahraa Islamic Academy. It is truly an honour to play a role in their academic and spiritual development, and your partnership means so much to us.

With spring in full bloom, we are already looking forward to welcoming our returning students back in September, insha'Allah. Each new year brings fresh opportunities for growth, learning, and strengthening our connection to our faith. We are excited to continue this journey together with you and your children.

Although the end of the year is near, I want to remind everyone that we still have over six weeks of valuable learning ahead. Now is not the time to slow down! These final weeks are essential for reinforcing knowledge and ending the year on a high note. Please continue to encourage your children to stay focused and give their best effort until the very last day.

As we prepare for the summer holidays, I am pleased to share the first of several tips on how to keep your children academically and Islamically engaged during the break:

#### **Tip #1: Reading Books**

Encourage your children to read books by reputable Shia authors. This is especially important for our younger students, but there are wonderful Islamic books available for every age group-from Kindergarten to Grade 7. Reading is a powerful way to nurture both the mind and the soul. We recommend limiting screen time to a minimum over the holidays and letting your children discover the joy of books filled with morals, fun, and engaging stories rooted in our faith. There truly is something for everyone! If you need tips on where to purchase books, we will be posting some suggestions for students of all ages on ClassDojo over the upcoming days.

Thank you once again for your trust and support. May Allah bless our students and families with continued success and happiness.

*Warm regards,*

*Shaykh Saleem Bhimji*

*From the Desk of the Director of Islamic Studies*



### **THEME OF THE MONTH**

#### **Honesty**

Honesty brings us closer to Allah (SWT) and builds trust. The Prophet ﷺ said, *"Truthfulness leads to righteousness, and righteousness leads to Paradise."*

#### **Respect**

Teaching children to respect others is part of our Islamic values. The Prophet ﷺ said, *"He is not one of us who does not show respect to our elders..."*





### IN THE NEWS

#### Welcome back Ms. Wassick



We warmly welcome Ms. Wassick and the vibrant energy she brings! Her enthusiasm has already sparked excitement among the kindergarten kids, filling the room with creativity, activity, and a love for learning. Thanks to her passion, the children are more eager than ever for both extreme fun and serious learning!

~ Front Office

#### Our'an in My Heart Challenge: A Wonderful Achievement

Alhamdulillah, during this blessed month of Ramadhan, our students wholeheartedly prepared for the *Qur'an in My Heart Challenge* with dedication and love for the Holy Qur'an. They engaged in daily recitation, memorization, and reflection, embodying the spirit of this sacred time. Their hard work culminated in a beautiful achievement, as participants showcased their efforts in a spirited competition. Winners were recognized with certificates, celebrating their memorization and commitment. May Allah (SWT) continue to bless them and keep the Qur'an alive in their hearts.

~ Sr. Zainab Bachoo & Sr. Masuma Daya (Quran Teachers)



#### Our MVP for the Month of March



Alhamdulillah, we are proud to announce our Salat MVPs for January & February! These students have shown great improvement in their Adhan, Duas, and care for the Masjid. May Allah bless all our students and strengthen their connection to Salat.

~ Front Office

#### March House Teams Winner

Congratulations to all our House Teams for their incredible efforts throughout March! Each team worked hard to earn A.I.R. tag points by demonstrating outstanding

Attitude, Intention, and Respect around the school. Thanks to your dedication, our scoreboard for March shows a tie for 1st place between the yellow and red teams with 150 points each, followed by Green in 2nd place with 110 points, and Blue in 3rd place with 90 points. Keep up the amazing work—brace yourselves and be ready for the final announcement before the school year ends!

~ Front Office





### **HIGHLIGHTS through March & April**

#### **March Assembly Highlights!**

We wrapped up March with a joyful all-school assembly just before Spring Break. Excitement filled the room as students came together to celebrate the House Team Winner for the Month of March, with cheers echoing in a true display of school spirit. It was a heartwarming gathering that celebrated teamwork, gratitude, and the strong sense of belonging we share.

~ Front Office



#### **Spirit Week Fun: Crazy Hat Day**

As part of our vibrant Spirit Week celebrations, we had a blast on Crazy Hat Day! It was wonderful to see students express their creativity through fun, imaginative, and unique hat designs. From wild and whimsical to clever and crafty, each hat reflected the students' individuality and talent. It was a joyful reminder of how creativity brings us together and inspires us to think outside the box!

~ Front Office



#### **Kindergarten**

It is wonderful to be back in kindergarten! The class has jumped right into science experiments, exploring why things float or sink and investigating why plants need roots and stems. What a curious group of learners! Whether we're getting our hands dirty with soil or testing objects in water, the excitement for learning is contagious.

~ Ms. Wassick (Kindergarten Teacher)



#### **Grade 3 Enjoying Spring, while reading Novel**



Grade 3 students had a joyful and creative month! They made beautiful Ramadan decorations that brightened the school and lifted everyone's spirits. They also enjoyed the spring weather by reading novel outdoors with their Grade 1 buddies, building both literacy and friendships.

~ Ms. Jacquie (Grade 3 Teacher)

#### **Grade 4**

Our Grade 4 students applied math skills by designing dream homes, exploring perimeter and area with creativity and precision. They also studied maps of countries like Iran and Canada to broaden global awareness. These hands-on activities support the BC curriculum, combining measurement, problem-solving, and real-world learning.

~ Ms. Olan (Grade 4 Teacher)







### Ramadhan Spirit & Creativity in Action



During the month of Ramadhan, students showed great excitement and spirit as they engaged in prayers, fasting, and acts of kindness. Alongside these meaningful practices, each class took part in decorating their bulletin boards with thoughtful Ramadhan themes. Students poured their creativity into making beautiful artwork that reflected the values and joy of the month. Their efforts brought a warm, festive, and reflective atmosphere to the school, celebrating Ramadhan in both heart and art.

~ Front Office



### All School Breakfast



To celebrate the joy of Eid, the school hosted a special All-School Breakfast that brought everyone together in a spirit of unity and happiness. The event began with a beautiful recitation of a Surah, followed by a short and inspiring talk. Students arrived dressed in their most festive and colorful outfits, adding to the cheerful atmosphere. Everyone enjoyed a delicious breakfast while sharing laughter and smiles with friends and teachers. It was a memorable morning filled with warmth, celebration, and community spirit.

~ Front Office



### Eid Activity Celebration

After spending quality time with friends and teachers, students took part in exciting Eid activities to make the day even more special. They enjoyed coloring, cutting, and creating fun pieces of art that reflected the joy of the occasion. The hands-on creativity brought smiles all around and added to the festive spirit. It was truly a blessed and memorable day, filled with laughter, learning, and celebration.

~ Front Office



### A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Parent Volunteers

A special thank you to all the parent volunteers who helped make the Eid event a wonderful success. Your hard work and dedication in serving the children were truly commendable. A huge thanks as well to the PVG team for organizing and beautifully decorating the event. Are you able to Volunteer your time? Please email [pvg@azia.ca](mailto:pvg@azia.ca)

~ Front Office

### Jump Rope for Heart



Az-Zahraa Islamic Academy recently held a fun and energetic Jump Rope event where students actively participated and enjoyed learning new skills. Through their enthusiasm and the generous support of our community, we were able to raise nearly \$142. Thank you for your continued encouragement and involvement!

~ Front Office





### Successful Fundraising Events



Throughout the academic year, we have held several incredible fundraising events—each filled with purpose and community spirit. From popcorn sales and hot lunch fundraisers to bake sales, calendar sales, and special occasions like the Terry Fox Run and our recent Jump Rope for Heart, every initiative was met with enthusiasm and generosity. We also organized a food bank drive to support those in need. All these efforts were dedicated to helping the less fortunate, and we are truly grateful for the continued support from our school community.

~ Front Office

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS!

#### Communication Guidelines

<u>Enquiry</u>	<u>Communication Channel</u>
Attendance (vacation, sick leave, etc.)	Email: <a href="mailto:attendance@azia.ca">attendance@azia.ca</a>
Messages to teachers	Message via ClassDojo or their respective email
General inquiries (tax receipts, fees, etc.)	Email: <a href="mailto:info@azia.ca">info@azia.ca</a>
Accounts (payment info, invoices, receipts)	Email: <a href="mailto:treasurer@azia.ca">treasurer@azia.ca</a>
All other questions and concerns	Call Front Office at 604-274-7861 or email: <a href="mailto:info@azia.ca">info@azia.ca</a>

### Lost and Found

We kindly request all parents to take a moment to check the Lost and Found area located near the school entrance. Over the past few weeks, several jackets, sweaters, boots, water bottles, and other personal items have been collected. If your child is missing any belongings, this is a great opportunity to retrieve them. Unclaimed items will be donated at the end of the term, so we encourage you to stop by at your earliest convenience.

### AZIA Term 3 After School Clubs







### School Calendar 2024/2025 1446/1447

Any updates to the dates below will be communicated as available.

<b>First Day of School</b>			
Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2024 – Noon Dismissal			
<b>School &amp; Religious Holidays</b>		<b>Pro-D Days</b>	
Monday, Sept. 2	Labour Day	Tuesday, Sept. 3	Planning Day
Monday, Sept. 30	Truth & Reconciliation Day	Friday, Sept. 20	Pro-D Day
Monday, Oct. 14	Thanksgiving Day	Friday, Oct. 25	Pro-D Day (Provincial)
Monday, Nov. 11	Remembrance Day	Monday, Nov. 25	Pro-D Day
Monday, Dec. 23 – Mon., Jan. 6	Winter Break	Monday, Jan. 6	Planning Day
Tuesday, Jan. 7	School Reopens	Friday, Feb. 14	Pro-D Day
Monday, Feb. 17	B.C. Family Day	Friday, May 16	AZIA Teacher Conference
Monday, Mar. 17 – Fri., Mar. 28	Spring Break	<b>Reporting Dates</b>	
Monday, Mar. 31	Eid-ul-Fitr*	Interim Report Card	Monday, October 21
Tuesday, Apr. 1	Schools Reopens	1 <sup>st</sup> Term Report Card	Friday, November 29
Friday, Apr. 18	Good Friday	2 <sup>nd</sup> Term Report Card	Monday, March 3
Monday, Apr. 21	Easter Monday	Final Report Card	Friday, June 20
Monday, May 19	Victoria Day		
Friday, June 6	Eid-al-Adha*		

<b>Parent/Teacher Conferences</b>	
Thursday, Sept. 19	Meet the Teacher
Thursday, Dec. 5	Non-Instructional Day
Friday, Mar. 7	Non-Instructional Day

<b>Religious Celebrations</b>	
Friday, September 20	Birth of Prophet Muhammad (s)*
Saturday, December 20	Birth of Sayyida Fatima Az-Zahra (a)*
Tuesday, January 14	Birth of Imam Ali (a)*
Tuesday, January 28	Birth of Prophet Muhammad (s)*
Friday, February 14	Birth of Imam al-Hujjah (a)*
Tuesday, April 1	Eid ul-Fitr (School-wide breakfast)*
Friday & Monday, June 6 - 9	Eid al-Adha*
Monday June 15	Eid al-Ghadeer*
* Please contact the AZIA Parent Volunteer Group for volunteer opportunities!	

**RABBI ZIDNI ILMAN, WALHIQNI BIS SWAHLIHEEN**  
(My Lord, increase me in knowledge and make me of the virtuous)