

City of Knowledge

Parent-School Connection – March, 2008

Dear Parents,

Assalamu Alaikum,

Masha'Allah, the Tragedy of Karbala performance marked another great success for City of Knowledge. I received extensive compliments, notes of appreciation and gratitude for the quality of the event. One guest stated "I have never seen such a cohesive, dedicated, and professional team in any other Islamic school or organization." Another guest stated, "I have been to many Majales but they never captured the event as the students did today." Alhamdulillah and thank you all.

It is almost the end of the third quarter. This means that elementary students will be receiving their report cards, and secondary students will be receiving their progress reports. These reports are often underestimated and sometimes even overlooked, since they are the child's current, rather than final, grade. However, it is important to understand that these reports are critical, since your child will only have about six weeks to raise poor grades or to maintain a good G.P.A. Take the time to talk with your child's teacher about his or her report and find out about areas in which he or she may need help. Fill any gaps before they become larger. Keep a sharp eye on your child's needs!

Additionally, please remind your child of the importance of good citizenship and respect. The Qur'an praises good character and sets an example for the rest of us when it says of Prophet Muhammad, "and indeed, you are of great moral character." Respect and good character are very important concepts in the Qur'an, and as a parent you do not do your child a favor when you fail correct a disrespectful attitude. As he or she moves into school, and into the world outside of his home, a disrespectful attitude does not serve him well. His first school is in the home, at your knees. There he learns the behavior that he shows to others outside of his home. Treat him with respect so that, in turn, you can demand respect from him. Do not use words that you will not like to hear him use! Also, do not behave in ways you would not like to see him replicate. The book *"Everything I know, I learned in Kindergarten"* reiterates this idea when it states, "everything I know, my parents taught me." Children are mimics. They are also like sponges and absorb everything around them, including your expectations. Be consistent! Teach them also that "two wrongs do not make a right," so returning bad behavior with bad behavior does not get them off hook. Teach them the importance of not giving others the power to change their good behavior into something reprehensible. Teach them that kind words turn away wrath. Teach them to honor the adults and others around them whom we serve. Be intolerant of disrespect. Confront it immediately and give your children the knowledge of how to replace it with respect. Let's all work together for the good of all!

Please join us for the PTO meeting Wednesday, March 5 at 8:15 AM. Science projects will be viewed by parents on Friday, March 7 at 3:00 PM. All are welcome for Sura memorization and awards ceremony March 10 at 2:30 PM. Jazakum Allah Khair

Dr. Haleema Shaikley