



WELCOME TO GRADE 2A!

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2015

Assalam u Alaikum Parents,

I hope you had a relaxed and fulfilling summer. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all Grade 2A students and their families. I am thrilled to be working with you this year to help your children grow and succeed Insha Allah.

September will be an exciting and packed month for us all. We will begin the school year with ice-breakers, learning classroom rules, procedures, routines, completing diagnostic assessments and reviewing core concepts. This will ease students into their classroom transition and prepare them for the content they will learn throughout the year. This will also allow me to learn more about each student - their unique personalities, learning styles and academic strengths and weaknesses.

It is important that every student comes to class prepared with school supplies, completed homework, appropriate uniform, a healthy and litter-less snack/lunch and a water bottle. Although stationary is provided at school I encourage all my students to come to school with three sharpened pencils and an eraser each day to help build a sense of responsibility and to make our day run more smoothly. It is also important for students to have a breakfast daily. This will allow them to have a productive start in the morning and be more alert during lessons and activities in class Insha Allah.

I will be sending home a bi-monthly newsletter and monthly calendar to keep you informed of important dates and topics that we will be covering in class. This will create regular on-going communication between both of us. It is important that we work collectively to enhance the learning experience and academic development of our students. As per school policy, I am available to meet with you **by appointment**. Please contact the secretary to arrange a meeting or send a note with any questions or concerns you may have with your child in the agenda.

Please keep me updated on any health concerns, new allergies, and any major changes that your child may be experiencing. This will allow me to monitor him/her closer and make necessary accommodations if required.

Jazak Allah Khair for all your understanding and co-operation. I am excited to be teaching grade 2A for the 6th year Alhumdulillah and can't wait to get to know all my superstars and their families. My goal for this year is to help your child become an independent and responsible learner, as well as, to show him or her how to make responsible choices. I pray that this is a fruitful year for all of us and filled with lots of success for our students Insha Allah.

Sincerely,
Sr. Taiba

Daily Items

All students must bring their backpack, books, agenda, school supplies and lunch to class every day. This makes transporting school supplies and homework easier. If students wish to bring a toy or book from home to read or play with at recess, it must have the student's name on it. This will prevent mix-ups and trades. Trading toys, books, foods etc. is not allowed at school.



Snacks/Lunches

This year, our class is proud to implement the **“Litter-Less Lunch Policy.”** All snacks and lunches must be sent in a reusable container and a reusable plastic or aluminum water bottle. This will allow students to implement an environmentally-friendly program which will not only reduce the level of consumption in the house of Allah, but it will also reduce the overall level of consumption in our community.

Every student should be mindful about their health from an early age and start practicing healthy eating habits. Healthy snacks such as fruits, vegetables, yogurt, applesauce, canned fruits, cheese, whole wheat muffins, granola bars, sandwiches, rice cakes, baked chips, etc. are strongly encouraged. Please ensure all products are nut free as we are a **nut free school**.



Tests & Quizzes

Tests and quizzes will be administered during the middle and at the end of units. I will provide these dates on the monthly calendar and parents/students will have early notice. It is important that students complete all assigned work and review materials at home regularly to receive a successful grade. Tests and quizzes will be sent home in an assessment folder and will need to be signed and returned to class promptly.



Homework

Homework completion is **mandatory**. Please ensure that the student agenda is signed by parents and all assigned homework is checked daily for completion. Also, please assist and support your child if he or she is having difficulty and send me a note so I may review the concept with them in class.

All assigned homework is due back the next school day unless otherwise specified.

Students that do not complete their homework will initially be sent "Action Cards" as friendly reminders to complete homework. However, if habits are not improved students may be required to stay in class during snack recess, or lunch recess till their work is complete and may lose other privileges. On days where no work has been assigned, please encourage your child to read for 20 minutes. In situations where homework could not be completed a note from parents in the agenda will be expected.



Agenda and Missed Work

Every student will receive an agenda during the first month of school. This is my main source of communication with you, the parents. If your child misses school for any reason a "Missed Work Folder" will be sent home. It will be the responsibility of the students and parents to ensure all missed work is completed and sent back to school. The missed folder must not remain at home nor any books or folders sent home. If additional days are needed to catch up or study all required books can be taken home again the next day.



Class Website

Our class website can be accessed at: www.ifsgrade2a.weebly.com On our class website you will find important information, resources and be able to view photos of student work. There are also several links to educational and age appropriate games that students may use at home to review important concepts covered in class. Please check this website regularly for additional important information.

Punctuality

I regret deeply that I am missing the first 4 days of school. Sr. Mirkeni, the previous grade 1 teacher, is substituting during my absence. I hope that my students will share my belief that regular attendance is fundamental to academic success. We start our day off with a range of fun and educational activities during DEAR time and everyday routines that are pivotal to starting our day off smoothly. Please ensure your child arrives at school by **8:20 am** each morning. I cannot stress enough how important it is that your child is ready to start their day with the morning duas alongside their peers. School is dismissed at **3:30 pm**. Students will not remain in class after 3:30 pm, instead they will be supervised outside in the play area, but only until 3:45 pm. Please ensure appropriate arrangements are made for your child's pickup.

