

Ottawa Islamic School

THE CRESCENT Monthly Mail

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2019



Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatu,

Dear respected Ottawa Islamic School families, we pray that you are all well and in the best state of health and Iman. The months of September and October have certainly gone by quickly, students are adjusting to the classroom and school routines as each day goes by. All staff work hard each day for our students to ensure students feel safe, secure, and comfortable in their environment. Teachers work hard to not only ensure that curricula expectations are fulfilled, but also to nurture and cultivate the young minds of our future. We would like to thank all parents that came out to meet the teacher night on September 17th. We look forward to an exciting year ahead with many fun-filled activities inshaAllah.

This month we would like to welcome Sheikh Ismail Albatnuni to our school. He will be teaching Islamic Studies to some High school classes (Grade 10,11 & 12). In addition, we've installed a new bell system for both the elementary school and high school. It rings at the end of each period to alert students as to when classes begin and end.

REPORT CARDS

High school progress report cards were released on Thursday 10th October. **Report cards** for both **high school and elementary** will be released on **November 7th** and **14th** respectively. There is a scheduled **parent/teacher interview on Thursday November 21st**. Please refer to the school calendar for all school dates.

UNIFORM DRESS CODE AND WEATHER CHANGE

Uniform is a must to be worn by all students. Uniform enhances discipline and students not wearing uniform are sent home. The dress code for Elementary students are a **blue dress with a white Hijab for the girls**, and **blue pants with a white collared shirt** for the **boys**. For high school students, **black abayas with either a black or white Hijab** is required for the **girls** and **black khaki pants with a white collared shirt for the males**. As the weather gets progressively colder please ensure your child comes to school dressed for the cold weather and with the school uniform.

SCHOOL START/ END TIMES

Student safety is one of our highest priorities. We make every effort to ensure that all students are supervised. Parents will be responsible for drop-offs in the morning by **8:30am and pickups 3:00pm** for elementary school. In addition parents should not pick up their child before 3pm as it disrupts the teachers and other students from learning.

NEW LATENESS POLICY

Numerous students are habitually late for school every morning. The school does understand that many students do not live close by but this has a huge impact on the teachers, classrooms and most importantly the students themselves. **All students will be marked late any time after 9:00 a.m. sharp**. Please ensure your child is on time every morning. All lateness will appear on the report card.

CHARACTER EDUCATION

This month, we have introduced Character Education for all elementary students. Students will be working on one-character trait each month; for the month of November we will be focusing on **EMPATHY**. Activities will be given to the students showcasing the specific character trait.

HONOR ROLL STUDENTS

In early October, high school students that achieved above an 85% average for the 2018-2019 academic year were awarded recognition certificates. Grade 10 Students also received a high achievement award for scoring above the provincial average for the EQAO Literacy test (OSSLT) for the 2018-2019 academic year.

SCHOOL PARKING LOT / SAFE DRIVING

We've received a few complaints from the residents in the area about cars speeding especially where the two stop signs are. Speeding greatly increases the risk of causing an accident that can result in serious injury or death, therefore, please be careful and cautious when driving. In addition, **please ensure you drive safely in the parking lot and are aware and looking out for students and others.**

SCHOOL MASCOT.

A design contest took place to see who could draw the best mascot for the Ottawa Islamic School. This idea was initially started by Sr. Sumaya & Sr. Muna and was open to all students in grades 1-8. It was a fun activity showcasing many aspiring artists. Teacher and student votes were tallied making the OIS WOLVES the new school mascot. Using the winners' design, a costume was made, which was led by Sr.Maha (see picture below). The students were then introduced to the school mascot and it was a lot of fun. **(GO OIS WOLVES.**

ISLAMIC HERTIAGE MONTH

October was Islamic Heritage Month in Canada. Many schools are learning about the contributions of Islam to civilization. The many

discoveries and inventions of Muslims and the contributions of Canadian Muslims to the Canadian Society and the cultural diversity of the Canadian Muslim community is being recognized. Unfortunately, we did not get to celebrate this event at school this year but Inshallah we will get the chance next year. Checkout this website for Muslim contributions: <https://www.1001inventions.com/>

LOCKDOWN PRACTICE

We had a practice lockdown at school on Wednesday, November 6th, 2019. A lockdown drill usually takes place once or twice a year. The purpose of a lockdown drill is to know what to do in the face of potential danger or threat to the school. It is imperative that students understand what to do and treat it seriously. **During a Lockdown**, lights are turned off in the classroom/office, curtains/blinds are closed where possible, cell phone use is restricted, and all people inside the building should remain quiet.

PARENTS

Parents play an important part in their children's education and can support the efforts of school staff in maintaining a safe, inclusive, accepting and respectful learning environment for all. Parents fulfil their role when: They are engaged in their child's homework and school progress; Communicate regularly with the school help their child be ready for school with all their supplies. Ensure that your child(ren) attend school on time. **Please feel free to contact us at any time.**

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Remembrance Day is commemorated on November 11th each year and marks the end of World War I in 1918. On Remembrance Day, Canadians pause to honour the men and women who have served and continue to serve Canada during times of war, conflict, and peace. Approximately twenty-two Muslims fought with the Canadian Army, as well as 2.5 million Muslims who travelled to Europe to fight

alongside the British. The poppy is worn to symbolize remembrance. We honor and remember those who lost their lives for our freedom.



Media Forms

Media consent forms have been handed out today. Please sign and return the forms with your child.

Islamic School Expansion Project

We would like to notify you that, to date, there has been no activity on the expansion project and the primary reason for this is the lack of funding. The second phase of the project is estimated to cost \$540,685 and the third phase is estimated to cost \$633,735. Unfortunately these amounts have to be paid in full to the contractor before any work can resume. In order to cut cost down the school is working closely with the architectures and engineers. Once a new report is finalized the project will restart. It is important for the school to complete the expansion project in a timely manner in order for our current and future students to utilize the new space it will provide. Its feature will include a two-storey gymnasium that will allow the school to host games.

Useful Websites for homework and extracurricular activities

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JZDe9DCx7Wk>

<https://www.funbrain.com/>

<https://www.brainpop.com/>

<https://www.codecademy.com/>

<https://codecombat.com/>

www.khanacademy.org

Contests/ Clubs at the school:

Waterloo Math Contests Grades 7 – 12

Let's Talk Science Challenge

Lego Robotics

Chess Club

Media Club

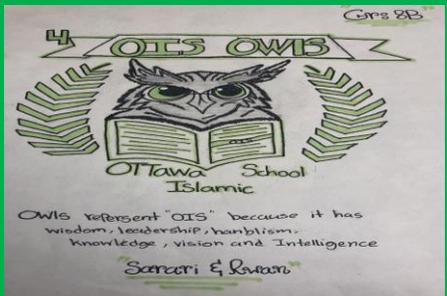
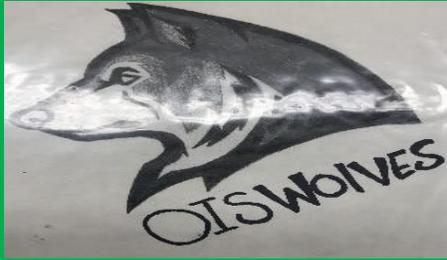
Debate Club

Environmental Club

OIS MASCOT & OTHER FINALISTS



The final nominees selected were OIS WOLVES, OIS EAGELS OIS RIDERS, OIS CHETTAHS and OIS OWLS. The finalist designs are below:



GUIDANCE
 GRATITUDE
 SALAM
 IKHLAS
 EXCELLENCE
 COMMUNITY
 MOTIVATE
 DISCOVER
 EMPOWER
 LEAD
 LEGACY
 CHARACTER
 HUMANITY
 UNITY
 ACHIEVE
 RAISE
 WISDOM
 KNOWLEDGE

ENDURANCE
 ISLAM
 STRIVE
 VIRTUE
 DIGNITY
 SUCCEED
 CONFIDENCE
 ENLIGHTEN

IMAN
 EDUCATE
 PRAY
 CONFIDENCE
 MODESTY

HUB
 INSPIRE
 FAITH
 VILLAGE
 BOUNDLESS
 PERSEVERE

MADRASA OTTAWA AL-ISLAMIA
 OTTAWA ISLAMIC SCHOOL

IHSAN