

الحمد لله الرحمن الرحيم



The Islamic School of Seattle

FALL

2008

## EID MUBARAK !

Insha' Allah you and your loved ones had a blessed Ramadan and a joyful Eid. We are especially grateful to those who donated so generously during this special month.

With the of the beginning of Ramadan coinciding with the first day of school, the children were blessed to be have been able to fast with their teachers and classmates.

Each week our morning *halaqa* began with a new Ramadan *du'ah* . On Friday evenings our school community broke their fast together at potluck *Iftars*, followed by a lecture and *Tarwiya*. We are pleased to have been joined by other community members and many families whose children have moved on, but still chose to celebrate with us.

After a week of vacation time children and staff returned to an Eid celebration complete with pizza and our own ISS bouncy house.





Wearing tags like those used to identify internees, ISS students, Hassan Mumin and Mubarik Ali inspect a prison barracks where Japanese American families were held during World War II.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS JOIN JAPANESE AMERICANS ON SENTIMENTAL VISIT TO MINIDOKA

Middle School students accompanied by Sister Ann and Sister Samia El-Moslimany joined Japanese Americans from western Washington on a journey to the former concentration camp in Idaho where they or their parents had been imprisoned during World War II.

The two-day trip was made possible through the generosity of a grant from Sharifah Sabah and Lina Baharain of Shalina Homes

This field trip marked the culmination of a theme on “witch-hunts” that included the study of other historical periods in America when hysteria against groups of people overcame reason. The Japanese Americans shared stories of the devastation that families endured as they were forcefully taken from their homes, businesses and farms and shipped by trains with blacked-out windows to remote and desolate prison camps.

The students learned that the Japanese people are very protective of the civil rights of Muslim Americans in the present climate of fear. “We are here for you, we will never let what happened to us happen to you” they promised.

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### BR. JAMEEL HYDER IS NEW BOARD CHAIR OF ISLAMIC SCHOOL OF SEATTLE

Br. Jameel Hyder was unanimously elected in the September Board meeting to the position of Chair. He has been a member of the Board of Directors for several months. Br. Jameel is Director of Development at Microsoft and brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the position of chairman. He recently hosted a workshop for Board members and long-time staff members at Microsoft to initiate strategic planning.





mir Chambers and Ifrah Mohamed

### **SUMMER PROGRAM IS A BIG SUCCESS!**

A summer of fun and learning about Allah's wide world kept children happy and engaged. Many exciting field trips made it a summer to remember. Look for an announcement for next summer's program in the winter newsletter, insha'Allah.

### **MASTER LEON PRESTON JUDGES OLYMPICS**

We are very pleased to announce that Tae Kwon Do instructor Leon Preston was chosen to be one of the judges at the Olympics in Beijing this summer.

Master Preston offers classes at ISS every Monday and Wednesday free of charge as a service to the community. ISS is pleased to have been the venue for Master Preston's classes for the past four years.

If you are interested in joining or want further information see: <http://tkd2xcell.com/>

# Islamic School of Seattle **-Muslim! Bilingual! Montessori!**

## **Teachers choose Montessori**

In a teachers-only meeting last spring ISS teachers made a decision that came as a welcome surprise to the administration -to *fully* commit to a Montessori school! In addition to the elementary teachers, who were already enrolled in training programs, Sr. Angelique Godley, Intermediate teacher and Sr. Laila Kabani, Middle School teacher, made arrangement to begin training, Sr Laila through Woodenville Montessori (MEIPN) and Sr. Angelique through Spring Valley Montessori. Br. Hassan is also training at Spring Valley.

## **Sr. Nadia Yasin assumes role of preschool/kindergarten Head Teacher**

Sr. Nadia Yasin is the new Head Teacher at Cherry Hill. She completed her training at Spring Valley and her internship in the Montessori program at Graham Hill Elementary. Sr. Nadia and her husband have three children at ISS.

## **Br. Hassan moves to Elementary/Sr. Ayat is Preschool Arabic-speaking teacher**

Br Hassan Zekri has moved into the elementary program this year. He will be replaced by Sr. Ayat Al Filfil as the Arabic-speaking teacher in the preschool-kindergarten classroom. Br. Hassan has taught in the pre-school/kindergarten program for three years so is well-grounded in Montessori. He will complete Montessori elementary training at Spring Valley.

## **Toronto family picks I.S.S.**

During the summer, Sr. Amaal Juma and her husband, Br. Shaid Constantino, visited from Toronto. They had researched Islamic schools throughout the USA and Canada and were attracted by our combination of bilingualism and Montessori within an Islamic school.

After their visit, they decided to move to Seattle. Alhamdulillah, Br. Shahid, found a job and they will be moving as soon as they receive their visas. Sr. Amaal is a trained Montessori teacher and will be a welcome asset to the school.

**Thanks to our Director of Arabic, Br. Khalid Ahmed, who recently developed his hidden talent of web-design, our new web page is up and running! See us at [IslamicSchoolofSeattle.org](http://IslamicSchoolofSeattle.org) or [IslamicSchoolofSeattle.com](http://IslamicSchoolofSeattle.com).**

