

Al-Qalam القلم Newsletter



Volume 1, Issue 1
August-September, 2023
Muharram, 1445
Safar-Rabii, 1445

Dear Parents, Guardians, Teachers, Students,

Bismillah-ir-Rahman-ir-RahimIn, in The Name of Allah, The Most Merciful and The Most Compassionate, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you back for another new, exciting school year. In our school, we are committed to providing a high-quality education in a safe, secure, and nurturing environment designed to inspire and enrich life-long learning with Islamic values. We want our students to be engaged and challenged in their learning experiences.

For those of you who are new to our school, I extend a very special welcome and thank you for choosing IScGKC. To our youngest learners in Pre-school and Kindergarten, we are excited to have you at school and look forward to getting to know everyone! To our teachers and staff, I would like to give you my sincere appreciation for your support, dedication, and commitment to be a part of our academic educational program for tomorrow's young leaders of the future. May Allah guide our students to achieve great accomplishments.

This year, we are blessed to have our enrollment increase by 50% with many new students. It is our mission to welcome all members of our school and to provide the support, guidance, and opportunities that students need to be successful, lifelong learners.

Parent and guardian involvement and support are appreciated as we work to ensure success for all of our students. Working together, we can ensure that IScGKC students strive to achieve their highest potential in the classroom and beyond.

The staff and administration at IScGKC are dedicated to educating our students to the best of our ability. Should you ever have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Once again, I want to welcome our students, staff, and parents back for another exciting year of learning together. Alhamdulillah, may Allah bless each and every one of you!



Sincerely,
Dr. Ghulam Chaudhry
President & Chair
of IScGKC School Board



CONTACTS

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Fax
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School Website
www.iscgkc.org



VISION

Striving to be a premier Islamic progressive and scientific learning Institution.

MISSION

To provide a nurturing environment where students aspire for excellence in education, integrity and leadership skills to better serve humanity.

GOALS

Dedicated to produce Committed Balanced Muslims, Knowledgeable Scholars, Contributing Citizens and Community Builders.

IScGKC Accreditation



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2023-2024 Enrollment Status

Our enrollment count for this year has greatly increased. We have over **130** new students who have enrolled in all grade levels. **Many of our class are full to capacity and some classes have two classes for a grade level.**



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FACULTY UPDATES



AUGUST TEACHERS' MEETING

- * Teachers attended their first meeting with the Principal on Friday, August 18th to discuss all questions and concerns about the new school year.
- * Friday, August 25th, no meeting was held so that teachers could prepare for the Open House with parents.

NEW TEACHERS FOR 2023-2024

Give a big welcome to our new teachers this year!

- * Amina Duggan - 7th Grade Language Arts, Science, & Art Teacher
- * Julius Von Rautenfeld - 7th Grade Math & History Teacher
- * Hayat Jesri - 6th Grade Math & Science, 8th Grade Science Teacher
- * Sahla Bayazid - 8th, 9th, 10th Grade Math, Leadership Teacher
- * Ula Bayazid - Physical Education Teacher
- * Jenna Safi - 2nd Grade Math & Science Teacher
- * Johara Abdullah - 4th Grade Language Arts & Social Studies, 4th & 5th Grade Islamic Studies Teacher
- * Nahid Alyamani - Homeroom Preschool Teacher
- * Zainab Alkhateeb - Elementary Arabic & Islamic Studies Teacher
- * Roula Kowatli - Kindergarten Quran & Art Teacher
- * Sakina Skaili - Elementary Arabic & Quran Teacher



" Good teaching is more a giving of right questions than a giving of right answers. "

OPEN HOUSE

All parents were invited and welcome to attend our Open House on September 2, 2023. The Open House is the chance to meet your child(ren)'s teachers and see what is in store for their learning during the coming year. The schedule was emailed to all parents, and was posted on Orbund.

We hoped to see you there, but our turnout was less than expected. We do appreciate everyone's input and suggestions.

IscGKC Student Clubs

The following clubs have been started for this year, as follows:

Academic World Quest - Mondays 3:25-4:25 p.m.
Teacher: Ms. Deb
Cost: None
Grades: (9th-10th)

Science Club - Tuesdays 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Teachers: Sr. Amina & Sr. Hayyat
Grades (6th-10th)

Podcasting - Wednesdays 3:25-4:25 p.m.
Teacher: Ms Deb
Grades (7th-10th)
Cost: \$80/semester

Art Club - Tuesdays 3:45-4:45 p.m. twice a week
Teachers: Sr. Reagan, Sr. Amatullah
Grades (1st-3rd)
Cost: \$20/month

Art Club - Wednesday 3:45-4:45 p.m. twice a week
Teacher: Sr. Reagan
Grades (4th-6th)
Cost: \$20/month

Archery Club - Every other Friday 2:00-3:00 p.m.
Teacher: Sr. Jaime
Grades (7th-10th)
Cost: New Students \$100, Returning Students \$50

Accreditation Renewal

IScGKC will be working on our accreditation renewals during this year for review in 2024. The renewal will be for both COGNIA and CISNA.

COGNIA is the national accreditation organization and CISNA is the Islamic accreditation. CISNA will be the organization that gives us our review.

We will be asking our students, parents, alumni, and all stakeholders for your assistance in meeting some of the requirements for our school. We thank you in advance for your help.



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NWEA MAP TESTING September 18-29, 2023

We will begin our Fall NWEA MAP testing during September 18-30, 2023. Our schedule will be posted on Orbund. Please make sure that your children get plenty of sleep the night before their tests so that they will be alert and ready to go.

The following are the tests that will be given by grade level:

- Kindergarten - Math & Reading
- 1st Grade - Math & Reading
- 2nd Grade - Math, Reading & Language Arts
- 3rd Grade - Math, Reading & Language Arts
- 4th Grade - Math, Reading & Language Arts
- 5th Grade - Math, Reading, Language Arts, Science
- 6th Grade - Math, Reading, Language Arts, Science
- 7th Grade - Math, Reading, Language Arts, Science
- 8th Grade - Math, Reading, Language Arts, Science
- 9th Grade - Math, Reading & Language Arts
- 10th Grade - Math, Reading & Language Arts

NWEA MAP tests are adaptive tests, which means that the test will adjust to the level of the student's knowledge and continue to test them to their greatest potential. NWEA, is the most trusted and innovative assessment for measuring achievement and growth in K-12 math, reading, language usage, and science. It provides teachers with accurate, actionable evidence to help inform instructional strategies regardless of how far students are above or below grade level.

NWEA provides excellent reports for teachers to find common areas of need among their students, identify students who could benefit from intervention, and determine which instructional strategies are generating the most academic growth. Higher-level reports provide administrators with the context to drive improvement across entire schools and educational systems.



Measuring What Matters

We will also be giving MAP tests during the Spring to do comparisons of each child's growth during the year. Test results will be shared at our first Parent/Teachers' Conferences in October.



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TEACHERS' MEETING

On Friday, September 22, 2023, we had a couple of representatives from the Kansas City Police Department come to talk to our teachers about how to identify and be aware of dangers in school.



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SCIENCE CLUB BEGINNING BATTLE OF THE BRAINS September 26, 2023



Paul Stansbury, Project Execution Manager \ Governance, Risk, Cybersecurity & Compliance, from Burns & McDonnell came to our school on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, as our mentor for the Burns & McDonnell Battle of the Brains. He came to help engage our students to create a smooth and beneficial experience by answering questions and offering advice about their specific design concepts.



Thank you to our Science Club Coaches:
Sister Amina Duggan
Sister Hayat Jesri
Sister Farzana Jabeen

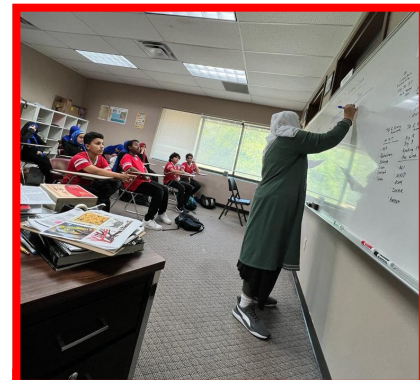


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SCIENCE CLUB IN ACTION

What is "Battle of the Brains"? It is a program inspired by kids and built by Burns & McDonnell. It's Kansas City's most exciting K-12 STEM competition — Burns & McDonnell Battle of the Brains. Metro area schools can earn a grant for STEM education by dreaming up an exhibit concept for Science City — and one student team sees its idea come to life in a big way! It's a fantastic, no-cost experience for students and teachers — thinking big, exploring new things, collaborating and having fun!
Our Science Club students will be participating in this year's competition.

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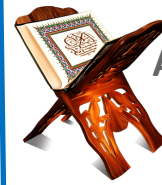
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GIRL SCOUTS OF NE KANSAS & NW MISSOURI

Supporting students and showing love for outstanding teachers! We are thrilled to introduce you to our newest Silver Award Girl Scouts from Troop 3103 in Overland Park. This is a great project from Cadettes Erum Syed, Isra Syed, Hira Choudhry, and Aleeza Tariq. They wanted to make a difference at The Islamic School of Greater Kansas City. Because this a private school, philanthropic funding and financial support from teachers to buy supplies is what keeps this school going. These Girl Scouts wanted to take action to bring some special additions to this school. They provided the elementary teachers with sketch books (for 2nd Grade), a bookshelf (for 4th Grade), and gel packs and First-Aid Kit for all the students in the elementary building. They also did money earning for an indoor / outdoor soccer net, pegboards to organize P.E equipment, hooks to put on the pegboards, labels for the P.E storage room, and a portable mini voice amplifier for the P.E teachers. These Girl Scouts also did all the organization for this P.E. storage room. They worked so hard and made such a BIG DIFFERENCE! Way to go, Girl Scouts and welcome to the Silver Award sisterhood!!



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Congratulations & Thank You!!!



OUR GOALS

Dedicated in producing Committed Balanced Muslims, Knowledgeable Scholars, and Contributing Citizens and Community Builders.

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NEW AFTER SCHOOL SOCCER PROGRAM

Calling ALL 2nd & 3rd Grade Brothers & Sisters
Starting October 10, 2023



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AMERICAN YOUTH SOCCER ORGANIZATION AYSO PLAY



AYSO AND ISLAMIC SCHOOL OF GREATER KANSAS CITY INVITES YOU TO OUR **NEW** AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM **AYSO PLAY**. LEARN FROM OUR TRAINED AND CERTIFIED AYSO COACHES.



QUALITY TRAINING

Supplemental Weekly Training



QUALIFIED STAFF

Trained and Licensed Coaches



TRUSTED PROGRAM

Best-In-Class Curriculum

Each registrant will receive a **FREE** performance water bottle

ONLY \$16 PER CLASS!

EVERYONE PLAYS | BALANCED TEAMS | OPEN REGISTRATION | POSITIVE COACHING | GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP | PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

PLAY+ | TUESDAY | 4 WEEKS | STARTING OCT 10
3:30pm - 4:30pm
2nd & 3rd Grade Brother & Sisters

For more information, please contact:
Youth Soccer Coordinator, Jennifer Ruiz

✉ jruiz.soccercr7@hotmail.com

☎ 816-274-2197



USE THE QR CODE TO REGISTER



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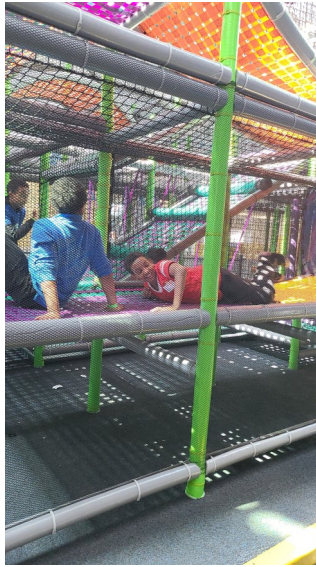
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SCIENCE CITY FIELD TRIP

6th & 7th Grades
September 20, 2023



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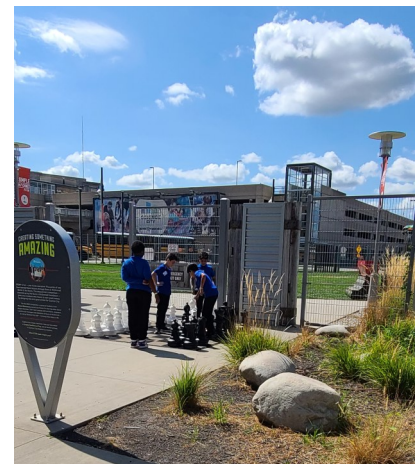


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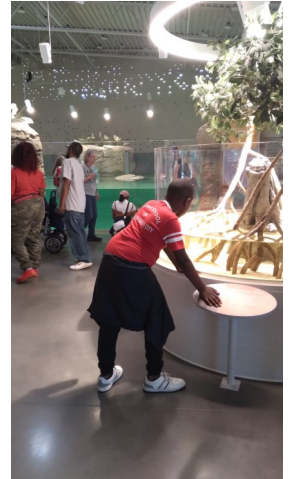
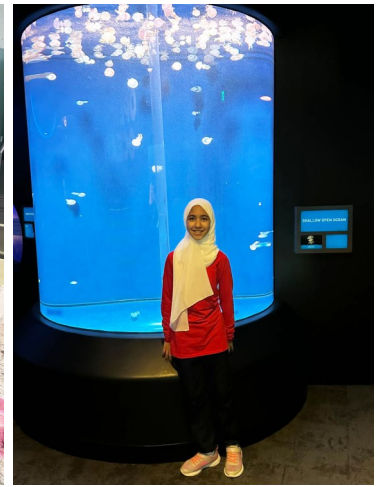
KANSAS CITY ZOO FIELD TRIP

3rd, 4th, 5th Grades
September 27, 2023



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Exploring new creatures of life for our students enjoying the Kansas City Zoo.



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ACTIVITIES WITH PARENTS PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN September 22, 2023



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Ms. Raihannah Shuaib
Mid-Continent Public Library
Story Reader &
Former IScGKC Student

Our "Activities with Parents" for Preschool and Kindergarten students was held on September 22, 2023. It was a great success with wonderful, supportive parents. Raihanna Shuaib started the event by reading two exciting stories to the students. Then, the parents participated in creating learning artwork with their children. Thank you everyone for your help and participation! Until next year . . .



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ACTIVITIES WITH PARENTS 1ST GRADE September 29, 2023

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Ms. Raihannah Shuaib
Mid-Continent Public Library
Story Reader & Former IScGKC Student



Brother Hasan Shatara telling our students about how great the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was and how he should be respected.



1st Grade Homeroom Teachers
Sister Amatuallah Beamon (1stB, Left)
Sister Reagan Kamram (1stA, Right)



LEARNING WITH SCIENCE

8th-10th Grades

Explore! Discover! Imagine!

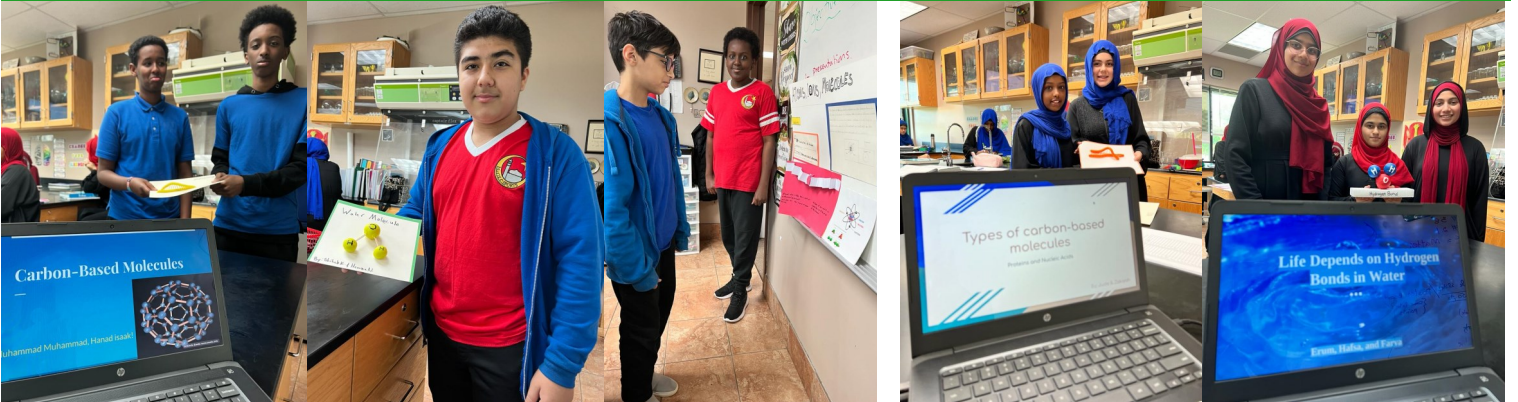


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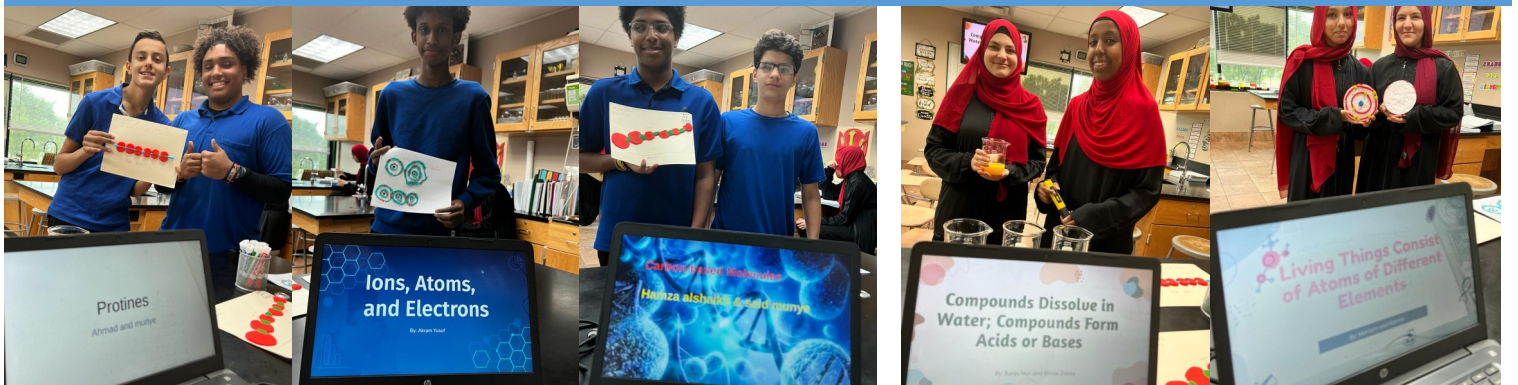
8th Grade Science Project - Column Density & Studying in Nature



9th Grade Science - Carbon-Based Molecules Presentations



10th Graders Science - Biochemistry Presentations



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

IMPORTANT DATES:

| | |
|--------------|---|
| August 12 | New Student Orientation |
| August 15 | First Day for Students/Half Day |
| September 2 | Open House (PreK-10th Grades) |
| September 5 | Labor Day (No School) |
| September 14 | Mid First Quarter (22 Days) |
| Sept. 19-30 | MAP Testing |
| September 21 | Mid Quarter Grades Due |
| September 23 | Activities with Parents (PreK-KG) |
| September 30 | Activities with Parents (1st Grade) |
| October 7 | Activities with Parents (2nd/3rd Grades) |
| October 14 | End of First Quarter (44 Days) |
| October 21 | First Quarter Grades Due |
| October 28 | Parent/Teacher Conferences (No School for Students) |
| November 4 | Activities with Parents (4th/5th Grades) |
| November 16 | Mid Second Quarter (22 Days) |
| November 18 | Islamic Studies Fair (6th-10th Grades) |
| Nov. 23-25 | Thanksgiving Break (No School) |



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Online Payments

Online Payments can be made for school fees, lunches, registrations, yearbooks, etc., on our school website:

www.iscgkc.org

Just select the Payments and choose your selection from the buttons provided. **Thank you.**

Reporting Child Sick Days

Please remember to report first thing in the morning if your child is sick and will not be attending school that day. **Also, please do not send sick children to school.**

Just notify the office by 8:30 a.m., so that we can mark it as an excused absence, not in the afternoon or the next day. Thank you.

"IF YOU GIVE THANKS, I WILL GIVE YOUR MORE."

Quran 14:7

School Announcements

Just a reminder, we will be making the latest school announcements via these methods:

- Orbund Text Messages
- Orbund Announcements
- Voice Messages
- Email Messages
- www.iscgkc.org (School Website)



If you need to reach the administration office, please email us as follows:

admin@iscgkc.org - Diane Ghosheh, Technical Coordinator
 schooladmin@iscgkc.org - Maryam Haggins, School Administrator
 shamouda@iscgkc.org - Saba Hamouda, Principal
 fjabeen@iscgkc.org - Farzana Jabeen, Vice Principal

We are working at hard to keep the school running efficiently. If you need to reach us immediately, please leave a voice message. We are promptly answering all voicemails and emails.

When at home, take care of your families and be safe.

Thank you for your cooperation!

1st QUARTER MID-TERM Ends on September 14, 2023

Our 1st Quarter Mid-Term ends on September 14, 2023. Please make sure you child has all of their homework turned in so that it can be graded before the teachers submit their grades.

We look forward to a successful academic year for all students. If you do not have your Orbund login, please contact the office.



Hadith on Plague: Avoid the plague but do not spread it either.

The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "If you hear of a plague in a land, then do not go into it. If it happens in land where you are, then do not go out of it."

SAY YOUR DUA'A AND WASH YOUR HANDS.