



AL IMAN COLLEGE – EARLY LEARNING CENTER TERM 4 2022 NEWSLETTER

Assalamu Alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuhu,
Respected Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Alhamdulillah 2022 has been a successful year at AIC ELC.

During term 4 we had a range of events and activities, one of them being the Greater Western Water incursion. Students learnt about the process of the water cycle and how water is delivered to us. This made children learn about the value of water and how to be more conscious of their usage.

Alhamdulillah, this term we also farewelled our 2022 kinder graduates with a memorable graduation which children shared with their families and friends.

ELC also prepared our kinder students for school life by taking them to the Al Iman College school for transition. ELC children were so excited as they explored their future classrooms and the school library. We also had the Foundation class teachers come to the ELC to conduct transition activities for the children. Overall, the kindergarten students enjoyed the transition and are looking forward to 2023 at school, InshaAllah.

The change from kindergarten to school can also be a new experience for parents. Hence, we organised a parent information session at the ELC about 'transition strategies' to assist parents in supporting their children during this time of change. This session was presented by the child psychologist and speech therapist, who were able to provide valuable advice and information.

We would like to thank all families on behalf of AIC ELC for their support throughout the year. It has been a pleasure seeing your children at the ELC learn, grow and flourish; we wish them all the best for school. We also wish families a safe and happy summer holiday.

JazakAllah Khairan,

Sr Noor Illyas
(On behalf of the ELC Staff)

IMPORTANT DATES

Last day of Kinder Group A & Group C
Wednesday 7th December 2022

Last day of Kinder Group B
Thursday 8th December 2022

Last day of Kinder Group E
Friday 9th December 2022

Last day for LDC
Friday 16th December 2022

First day for LDC
Monday 16th January 2023

First day of Kinder Group A & Group C
Wednesday 25th January 2023

First day for Kinder Group B
Tuesday 24th January 2023

First day for Kinder group E
Friday 27th January 2023

Kindergarten Group A

Teacher- Ms Kefaya Yousuf

Flags from around the world

As the summer holiday break is approaching, so many children are heading overseas. Therefore, we decided that the theme will be Country for term four. We began the theme by having a group chat, and we had a brief discussion about their identity, acknowledging their heritage. Then we decided to have a group activity by creating our country flags.

When children make their country flag, they represent their family, their imaginary Country, their feelings, or their name. This project opens the door to many interpretations of the idea of communication. We also underpinned why flags are important and how flags can let someone know how they feel.



Passport activity

As most of the children are planning to go on their holidays overseas, One of the activities we came across while exploring the concept of a country was kids making their passports. We came to the conclusion that there was no better method to educate children than to teach them about the Country they were visiting.

Children who created their passports engaged in role-play to explore aspects of identity and demonstrated respect for diverse cultures. This activity helped the children connect to their family's culture, which contributed to their cultural identity.

Transition to school

Children went on a field trip to Al Iman College to learn about foundation classes, transitioning to school, and getting a glimpse of what school life will feel like next year.

Our kindergarten children are more than ready to start school next year. Children interacted and participated in activities with the current foundation-level students who acted as their Buddies. All the kinder children were attentive to the instructions given by the foundation-level teachers, which delighted the foundation teacher. Teachers commended each kindergarten student and gave them stickers as a result. Children also visited the school library to familiarise themselves with it and learn how to utilise it.



Kindergarten Group B

Teacher- Ms Reham Mohamed

National Recycling week

During our recycling week, the children decided to create a dress using different materials to decorate it—examples: feathers, paper cups, pompoms, sticks, cellophane, and newspaper. The children decided to hang it outside for their parents to see.

During the recycling week, the children collected some cardboard, pipes, old cardboard boxes, and tissue boxes and used their imagination skills to make garages and ramps for their toy cars and marbles. Children stacked the cups on each other to make a giant tower for the cars.



Learning alphabets

Kinder children learn the alphabet through play. Using the alphabet, each child picked the letters of their first name and placed them into the tray with their teacher. Children cooperated with each other to find the letters which their peers needed.

Transition to school

The children visited the school to see the teachers and the classrooms. They stayed one hour with the foundation teacher and then had their morning tea there with the foundation children. After that, the children ended their orientation visit by going to the Al Iman College library for half an hour.



Kindergarten Group C

Teacher- Ms Reham Mohamed

STEAM activity

Our science activity for term four was blowing bubbles using straws and food colouring. The children added different colours in each container, then blew the big bubble outside and watched it fly up in the sky.



Doctor role play

The children created their own dramatic play. They chose to open a Medical Centre, and each child came with a baby to see the doctor to get a prescription for their unwell children.



National Recycling week

During National recycling week, children collected some cardboard, pipes, old boxes, and tissue boxes and used their imagination skills and making garages and ramps for their cars.

Transition to school

The children visited Al Iman College to see their teachers and the classrooms for next year. They stayed one hour with the foundation teacher and then had their morning tea with the current foundation-level children. After that, the children ended their school visit by going to the school library for half an hour to explore the library on a bigger scale.



Kindergarten Group E

Teacher- Ms Saman Tahir

Greater Western Water

We had the Western Water Education incursion in October to celebrate National Water Week. The presenter talked about how we can save water and be vigilant if there is a water leak, such as dripping water taps and how we react to it by telling an adult immediately. The program presenter used a puppet to make it more interesting. The children learned about being more aware of not wasting water. They were engaged and participated in the session.



Earth Activity

In the kinder room, we have a World globe that children showed interest in. We decided to follow the children's lead and taught them about Earth. We did an activity on Earth by showing them the globe and a presentation about Earth. After that, the children were given open-ended resources to create their own Earth. They learned about the shape of the Earth and tried to copy the globe by pasting different crape papers. Pasting activities helps children explore their creative side and express themselves artistically. It is a sensory activity that aims to develop fine motor skills.



STEAM activities

We had a bird theme in term four, and kinder group E children continued their interest in bird nests as they saw nests in the tree. With the help of Ms Fatema, they made a nest by collecting sticks, feathers, and bark. This nest theme continued for a few weeks, and the children made eggs using salt dough; they painted them and then made the nest using paper plates. The children developed creative thinking, transporting, connection-making, and teamwork by engaging in the nest activity. A Birds` Nest STEAM projects are an excellent way for children to extend their skills across a broad curriculum area. This hands-on make a Bird's nest STEAM project will give children lots of opportunities to develop their creative and analytical thinking whilst engaging with nature and learning about the natural wildlife around them.



Long Day Care (3+ years)

Teacher- Ms Saman Tahir

National Recycling Week

Encouraging children to recycle is a way of teaching them about sustainability. Learning the importance of being sustainable shows them that the environment is important. It also helps create responsible adults with a better chance of having a decent world to live in.

We found two big boxes of cardboard that we used to teach the children how to reuse and recycle the material and create something beautiful. Two groups of children took a box, each for boys and one for girls. Each group was given different resources to decorate the way they liked. The boys wanted to make a car, and the girls chose to create a doll house.



Balancing activity

We observed that while children were playing outdoors, they were trying to figure out how to balance by standing on the log, putting rocks and sometimes standing on one side. Through this activity, they learn about light and heavy concepts and new vocabulary like heavier, lighter, enough, more, less, too much, too many, too few, the same as, nearly, just over, just under, and close to. After watching them, we set indoor and outdoor balancing scales using natural materials and liquid. We have been experimenting with our balance scale, weighing items around the room and outdoors, and comparing different objects.



Making damper bread

As the children loved making playdough and doing sensory activities, we planned to do baking with them. We made Damper bread, and the children were involved in every step, working together cooperatively, turn to take, mixing, pouring, stirring, measuring, and tasting using all of their five senses. The children enjoyed eating the damper bread for lunch. Alhamdulillah, it was a fun and interactive learning activity; all the children were engaged and excited.



Long Day Care (Infant)

Teacher- Ms Iram Mehmoud

Seasons through sensory play

The children in Dar Arqam were engaged through sensory play activities and developed their knowledge about weather, seasons, and creative play. The children also explored their senses and fine motor skills and had a better understanding of nature.

To develop the children's interest in nature and sensory play, we will introduce them to the season bottles in the room and do a leaf print and playdough rainbow where they can explore their senses with nature.



National Recycling Week

National Recycling Week (NRW) is one of Planet Ark's flagship campaigns, and every year aims to educate and empower people to do the right thing with recycled materials. November 7th to 13th was marked as National recycling week, and we took this as an excellent opportunity to remind our children about the importance of reducing and recycling.

Our education program focuses on the waste hierarchy – reduce, reuse, recycle - to minimise strain on finite resources. To make children aware of this week, we had a small discussion about how important it is to take care of our planet earth. Here we learned how to recycle and reuse materials. To extend our



Take Home Information

The school holidays have arrived!

With some time off school to reset and recharge, the holidays are a special time for families to spend time together and try all sorts of new things. There are endless activities, craft ideas and games you can play to keep your children active and entertained. Many parents worry about filling the long days with their children however it can often be a matter of getting organised and getting inspired.

We have come up with some amazing ideas for school holiday activities to ensure both children and parents have a brilliant time. Firstly, let us look at the great outdoors. Whether warm and sunny or wet and cold, there are many possibilities when venturing outdoors. Encourage your children to enjoy nature early, and they will be set up for a lifetime of exploring while embracing the health benefits of fresh air for the body and mind.

Go for a nature walk

Sometimes the simplest things are the best. Why not try a new walking trail or familiarising your children with your neighborhood by pointing out interesting landmarks, trees or homes on your way. Going for a walk and discovering a new place is the best way to pass a morning or an afternoon.



Go for a nature walk

If you live in an area with flowers or have an overgrown garden, why not let the children pick some flowers to take home? Gather up a bouquet and put it on the kitchen table at home! You can encourage them to use all their senses – looking at the colours, feeling the stems, smelling their scent



Food art

Pancakes are a good candidate because the ingredients are simple, and children can mix them. As adults, we probably consider the perfect pancake structure to be the stack (the higher, the better). However, when it is a child, pancakes are the building blocks for endless shapes and designs – breakfast sculptures, if we allow them. This easy pancake recipe is a great way to get children involved in preparing breakfast and encourage extra creativity. They will build skills and cooking competence while also making family memories.

Ingredients:

- 1 ½ cups of flour
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons unsalted melted butter
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 1/4 cups milk
- 1 large egg
- Cooking spray

Method

1. Let the child combine flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt in a large bowl. Make a well in the centre and pour milk, melted butter and egg. Mix until smooth.
2. Heat a lightly oiled griddle or frying pan over medium-high heat. Pour or scoop the batter onto the griddle, cook until bubbles form, and the edges are dry, 1 to 2 minutes. Flip and cook until browned on the other side. Repeat with the remaining batter.
3. After making the pancakes, the art begins by adding some pieces of seasonal fruits and nuts,



Take Home Information

Apricot balls



Ingredients

- 15 dried apricots
- 6 Medjool dates, pitted
- 25 grams (1/4 cup) almond meal
- 25 grams (1/4 cup) of desiccated coconut, plus extra for rolling
- 1 tablespoon coconut oil

Super easy and made with just 5 ingredients.

PREP: 20 min COOK: 10 min TOTAL: 30 min

Directions

(Please note: Direction-1 needs to be done by an adult)

1. Add apricots, dates, almond meal, coconut and coconut oil to a food processor. Mix it on high for 1 minute or until it is finely processed. It is okay if the mixture is a bit chunky.
2. Roll tablespoons of apricot mix into small balls, using your hands, until smooth. Dip each ball in extra coconut and place it on a plate. Repeat with the remaining apricot mixture.
3. Place balls in the fridge for at least 30 minutes to set—store balls in the fridge.



Leaf painting

- Collect some leaves from the nearby trees for leaf painting at home!
- Paint one side of the leaf with a light coat of acrylic paint and press it onto a piece of paper to print the leaf.
- Repeat as many times as you want with different colours and different leaves.
- Fill up the page with leaf prints or use one or two leaves to create a shape and get yourself to complete the picture by drawing a scene around it once the paint has dried.



Community activities

Check out what is on with your local council. You will be surprised how many sports camps and children's activities are run in local parks and sports grounds. Why not sign up your child to try a new sport – they will make new friends and come home exhausted!



Visit Australian Sports Camps to see what is happening in your area during the school holidays.