

# Andalusia Academy



Volume 4, Issue 3

NEWSLETTER

March 2010



## Message from the Trustees

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

Alhamdulillah our new website is up and running due to the hard work of Sr Aiesha Hannah. If you haven't yet had the chance to see it please do as it is regularly updated by the teachers. There is lots of useful information to be found on the website which include any vacancies that we may have, how to download a prospectus or get an application form. The Head teacher and I have been interviewing prospectus pupils and we are pleased to inform that Reception Class for September 2010 is full with a waiting list although there are still some spaces available for Year 7. We are also pleased to announce that we will have appointed Sr Sabahat Choudry an experienced and qualified Science teacher joining the school at the start of next term, insh'Allah. Finally, you may have noticed some posters on how to help raise some money for the school. By switching your utilities to **Utility Warehouse** they will donate 5% of your household bill to our school every month! It's easy to do, just ring 0800 131 3000 and say you want to donate to Andalusia Academy and quote **D81695**.

Zaynab Qazi  
BIST Trustee

## Primary Pyjama Party!

On Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, we hosted our Primary Pyjama Party. The children came back to school at 5.30 dressed in their pyjamas and dressing gowns, equip with a teddy bear or 'blanky' and ready for some bed time stories. The children were mesmerised as Mrs Lewis, dressed in snowflake adorned 'jimjams', told the engaging story of the bear who didn't like the dark. Mrs Lewis' little lamp, medium lamp and big lamp, her shining moon shimmering on the wall and baby bear wrapped cosily in his bed, brought the story to life. Of course, every good bedtime story MUST have cookies and milk! And thanks to the Friends of Andalusia Academy Bristol (FAAB) we had just that. But it didn't end there. The children then divided into three classrooms where their imaginations were awoken as they were treated to more exciting stories by our special guests. We would like to say a big thank you to our special guests, Mrs Khan, Mrs Din, Mrs Ali, Mrs Begum and Mrs Wajeed for the fantastic stories, to FAAB for our cookies and milk and to all the staff and helpers who contributed to the evening. And finally, a big thank you to the children and families who brought the evening alive, we hope you had sweet dreams – we did.

## What's been happening in Year 3!

This term has been dedicated to investigating Robots! We have been exploring how robots have been designed and made to make our lives easier, and how they can help us in difficult situations, including helping in the rescue of people who may be trapped under fallen buildings!! We generated a number of things we would like to know about, and put them on our own class robot – Ahmed Yassin. We even designed and made our own robot with moving parts (mouth, arms, legs, fingers). To do this, we used our knowledge and understanding of springs, magnets and pneumatic systems (air-based systems)! We have had a busy term, which we have all enjoyed, and look forward to an even busier next term, insha Allah!

## Hats for Haiti in the Reception class



The children in the Reception class had great fun on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February when all the school were invited to create their own hats and wear them to school. Even Mrs Hursthouse and Mrs Chowdhury joined in the fun with borrowed and homemade hats.

Our class paraded around the hall with the rest of the primary school to show off our creations. As some children hadn't had time to make theirs at home we spent the afternoon making some - and developed a few skills at the same time like: cooperating; negotiating; finding things we needed; using imagination; measuring to see if it would fit; and much more. It was wonderful to see so much enthusiasm and creativity!

Each child was asked to contribute £1:00 for the privilege and in total the school raised £200 to send to aid agencies helping survivors of the terrible earthquake in Haiti.

## “Design a Logo” Competition

Congratulations to **Rakia Ali** in Year 7 who won this competition for designing a logo for The Bristol Council of Mosques. The school received a cheque for £400 which was presented by a representative from the Avon and Somerset Constabulary.

## Art News

- A small group of KS3 students are taking part in an inter-faith painting project, linking with some Christians. They are working on the theme 'What my faith means to me'.
- We have just used the kiln for the first time with stunning results. Year 11s made vessels influenced by William Morris & the Art & Craft Movement. Pictures of these have been posted on the website.
- Year 11 are going to Bath in the coming holidays to research for their controlled test. They are visiting a mosaic shop, The Abbey, The Museum of East Asian Art, The Fashion Museum and art galleries with Ms Ellery, Miss Thompsett and Ms Pickford.
- Year 9 visited Bristol City Museum & Art Gallery to research for their North African Art Project. They experienced a handling session of Egyptian artefacts and objects and also drew in the Egyptology Department.
- Mrs Ellery has also started a D.T project making jewellery boxes in the Art & Craft Style. Watch this space for news of the finished articles!

## After School Clubs

- **Drama Club Success!**  
Key Stage 3 Drama Club, which takes place after school on Thursdays, has proven to be great success. It gives pupils a chance to build their confidence and take on roles of different characters using facial expressions and tone of voice. Skills like these can prove to be useful in lessons such as English. We hope this continues to be successful after the holidays and continues to develop the girls' dramatic ability.  
Miss Stockton
- **Maths is fun!**  
A Maths Club will be running next term for Key Stage 3 pupils on Monday from 3.45pm to 4.30pm.  
There will be lots of fun activities!  
Miss Ozer

## Summer Uniform

We would like to remind all parents that next term the children should come to school in their summer uniforms.

## **ISLAMIC CORNER**

### Reviving Islamic Heritage?

After seeing the exhibition at the science museum, I was reminded again about the huge impact that Muslims and Islam have had on modern society. It is something that is often forgotten amongst all the negative images and media coverage that we see on a daily basis. Often we as Muslims can become very disheartened by all of this but we need to remember that in actuality Islam is truly the best way for all humanity. Whether society chooses to recognise it or not Islam was not sent down to oppress or harm humanity but rather the core of all Islamic teachings is for the advancement and benefit for everyone, Muslim and non-Muslim.

This is seen by our amazingly rich and vast heritage in all the major fields of knowledge and science. Take for instance, the Muslim scientists, Al-Razi, Ibn Sina and Al-Zahrawi . These are among the most famous Muslim scientists whose work has enabled medical advancement.

Al-Zahrawi's book *Al-Tasrif li-man 'ajaza 'an al-ta'lif*, which is an encyclopaedia of medical practices has had a huge influence on medicine and surgery in Europe .

Abū al-'Iz Ibn Ismā'īl ibn al-Razāz al-Jazarī was a great mathematician and engineer. He is best known for writing the *Kitāb fī ma'rifat al-hiyal al-handasiyya* (*Book of Knowledge of Ingenious Mechanical Devices*) in [1206](#), in which he described fifty mechanical devices along with instructions on how to construct them.

One of his inventions is the elephant clock. It has been described as one of the most spectacular clocks invented by Al-Jazari.



I could go on and on! But it makes me wonder, where are the Zahrawis and Jazaris of today? The Ummah is need of Muslims that not only excel in the fields of science and technology but are examples of this magnificent religion. It is with this feeling and desire that we all strive to send our children to AAB and work together to raise the next generation of great Muslims. May Allah help us!!

Mrs Z. Ali

### **Secondary Trip to London.**

On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2010, years 9, 10 and 11 went on a trip to London to visit some of the museums and Regents Park Mosque.

The whole trip went very smoothly and the girls were very well behaved. In the morning years 10 and 11 went to see the 1001 Islamic Inventions exhibition at the science museum. It was very interesting and showed the huge contribution Islam and Muslims have made in all the different fields. We all felt extremely proud of our rich heritage, MashaAllah.

In the afternoon we went to the beautiful and historic Regents Park Mosque where we had a scrumptious meal at the restaurant, did some shopping at the bookstore and had a talk by one of the mosque committee members. We also had a brief tour of the mosque library. It was a fabulous day and the girls and staff all thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

## FRIENDS OF ANDALUSIA

Our latest fundraising event was the Skipathon. This took place over three lunchtimes and it was wonderful to see so many eager children. This event has so far raised **£750**, but we are expecting some outstanding sponsorship money after the break. All the money raised will go towards books for the school.

### GCSE Poetry live!

On the 24<sup>th</sup> February, Year 11 pupils took part in the 'GCSE Poetry Live' at The Colston Hall. They listened to many famous poets reading their work, such as Carol Ann Duffy, Simon Armitage and John Agard. The pupils will be assessed on this poetry in their GCSE English exams so the day was not only entertaining, but highly informative also.

Mrs Bingham

### Goodbyes

Miss Thompsett who has been teaching Science in the secondary school is leaving us to work with children with special needs. She has been very popular with staff and pupils and we sorry to see her go. We wish her success in her new job. Mrs Chowdhury our Year 3 teacher is leaving us due to maternity leave but Insha'Allah will return next year. We wish her well.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

### **INSET DAY & END OF TERM 4**

**THURSDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL**

### **TERM 5**

**MONDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL – FRIDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

**YEAR 2 SATS - TUESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

**STUDY LEAVE Yr 11 - FRIDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

**INSET DAY - FRIDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

### **TERM 6**

**MONDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE - TUESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

### **INSET DAYS**

**19<sup>TH</sup> & 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2010**

## WORLD BOOK DAY



Book Week was an amazing success, with a number of activities celebrating the written word! One of the highlights of the week was, of course, World Book Day. All of the children looked fantastic in the themed costumes, which reflected the talent and imagination of the parents as well as the children! We would like to congratulate the following children for their creativity and imagination: Khadijah (Year 4), Anushay (Year 3), Abu Bakar Rizvi (Year 2), Qasim (Year 1) and Hassan Hayat (Reception). Although the week is over, we hope the children will continue to enjoy their reading and look forward to hearing about any books that you have helped them to discover!



### Text Messaging Service

From next term the school will be using the text messaging service to inform parents if their child is

1. Absent but the school has not been informed (Text should be received by 9.30am)
2. Not doing his/her homework
3. In detention
4. Not wearing correct uniform
5. Or if the child/children need to be collected from school
6. Being Late

Not all of these will apply to Primary.

**Please notify us of any change of mobile phone numbers.**

