

March/April
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UNIVERSAL ACADEMY OF PITTSBURGH

MARCH/APRIL NEWSLETTER

Scholastic Book Fair



Our school recently hosted the Scholastic Book Fair for the second time this year, and it was a huge hit with both students and parents!

This time, the fair featured a special "Buy One, Get One Free" offer on all books and items, making it an even more exciting event for everyone. The hall was filled with the joy of reading as students eagerly browsed and selected their favorite books to take home. It was a wonderful celebration of literacy and a great way to encourage a love for reading in our school community.



Animation Workshop

Students in grades 5 through 8 are enjoying an exciting opportunity to explore their creativity and tech skills in our ongoing Animation Workshop! Through hands-on activities, they are learning the basics of coding and bringing their ideas to life by creating their own cartoons and interactive games. The workshop combines fun and learning, sparking imagination while building valuable 21st-century skills. It's a fantastic experience that continues to inspire many future animators and game developers!

Student of the Month



We are proud to celebrate our Student of the Month for April! This recognition honors students who have consistently demonstrated outstanding character, academic effort, and a positive attitude. Whether in the classroom, during activities, or around campus, these students set great examples for their peers by showing respect, responsibility, and kindness. Congratulations to:

Pre-K A: Salman Islamov

Pre-K B: Diana Orozalieva

K6: Bilol Dadadzhonov

1st Grade: Umar Sobirjonov

2nd Grade: Nozila Nuralieva

3th Grade: Aniyah Bey-McGee

4th Grade: Layla Aqra

5th Grade: Ni'la Montgomery

6th Grade: Oydin Rakhimberdieva

7th Grade: Aida Nurmuhammad

8th Grade: Milo Zehr

PJAS State Science Fair



Our middle school students proudly represented our school at the PJAS (Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science) State Science Fair! After months of hard work and dedication, they presented their impressive research projects at the national level, showcasing their curiosity, critical thinking, and scientific skills. Our students presented distinguished projects that stood out among many, earning them second and third place awards in their respective categories. We are incredibly proud of their achievements and the way they represented our values of excellence and perseverance. Congratulations to all participants for their outstanding efforts!

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Parents and School Community,

Assalam Alykum wa Rahmatu Allah wa Barakatuh,

Alhamdulillah, February and March have been filled with blessings and proud accomplishments from our students. We celebrated the winners of our Black History Month Competition—Hajj, Mohammad, and Moussa—whose thoughtful work honored the legacy and contributions of Black leaders. Our English Spelling Bee brought excitement to the school, and we congratulate Oyden in 6th grade for her well-deserved victory. We were also honored to have Zeyad and Wafa represent us at the CISNA Arabic Spelling Bee—Masha'Allah, they did a wonderful job!

Our middle school students represented us beautifully at the PJAS State Science Fair, earning awards that reflected their hard work and curiosity. The ongoing Animation Workshop has been a fun and inspiring space for our students to build creativity and 21st-century skills.

We also came together in joy during our Eid Al-Fitr celebration, Alhamdulillah, enjoying a day of unity, fun, and gratitude. The Scholastic Book Fair was another highlight, helping us foster a love for reading among our students.

A heartfelt mabrook to our 2nd graders, Habeeb and Kumush, for completing the memorization of Juz' Amma—May Allah (SWT) continue to bless their journey with the Qur'an and make it a source of light in their lives.

Jazakum Allahu Khairan for your continued support and partnership. May Allah (SWT) bless our school community with success in this life and the Hereafter. Dr. Alia Arafah

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Hafthul Al Quran



We are incredibly proud of two of our second-grade students, Habeeb and Kumush, who have accomplished the remarkable achievement of memorizing Juz' Amma from the Holy Quran. Their dedication, discipline, and love for the Book of Allah are truly inspiring at such a young age. This milestone reflects not only their hard work but also the support of their families and teachers. May Allah continue to bless their journey of Quranic memorization and grant them success in both this life and the Hereafter.

PSSA Test

As the PSSA testing season arrived, our school took several important steps to ensure students were well-prepared and confident. Our dedicated teachers worked diligently to review key concepts and provide targeted instruction. Students also had access to practice tools like IXL, which helped them sharpen their skills through interactive exercises. To keep families informed and involved, the school sent out timely notifications with test schedules and important dates, allowing parents to support their children's preparation at home. Together, our staff, students, and parents worked as a team to make this testing experience a positive and successful one!

Eid Celebration



Our Eid Celebration at school was a joyful and memorable event for all students! They had a wonderful time enjoying a variety of fun activities and delicious treats. The excitement filled the air with fresh cotton candy and popcorn made right at school, adding a festive touch to the day. Students also delighted in the many treats generously brought in by their parents, creating a warm and joyful atmosphere of community and celebration. It was a beautiful way to come together and share the happiness of Eid!

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Black History Competition Winners



We are proud to announce the winners of our Black History Month Competition! This year, three outstanding students from 4th and 5th grades were recognized for their dedication and active participation in the competition. Congratulations to Hajj, 4th grade, who earned first place, Mohammad, 5th grade, our second-place winner, and Moussa, 5th grade, who placed third. Each student received a certificate in honor of their hard work and commitment to celebrating and learning about Black history. Well done!

English Spelling Bee

The English Spelling Bee brought an exciting buzz to our classrooms as students eagerly participated in the class-level rounds, showcasing their vocabulary skills and confidence. It was inspiring to see how determined and enthusiastic everyone was, cheering each other on and celebrating every correct spelling. The competition culminated in a thrilling school-level final where our top spellers faced off in a challenging yet fun showdown. We're proud to announce that Oyden from 6th grade emerged as the school champion—congratulations, Oyden, on a well-deserved win!



CISNA Arabic Spelling Bee Participation



We are thrilled to announce that our students participated in the CISNA Arabic Spelling Bee for the first time! This prestigious competition brings together students from Islamic schools across the nation, providing them with a unique opportunity to showcase their Arabic language skills. MashaAllah, we are especially proud to be the only school in Pittsburgh to take part in this event! Our students worked hard to prepare, and their dedication is truly commendable. Congratulations to all participants for embracing this challenge and representing our school with excellence!

ISNA Conference

As part of our ongoing professional development plan, our Principal, Dean of Students, and two dedicated teachers had the opportunity to attend the ISNA Conference in Chicago. This enriching experience allowed them to engage with educators from across the country, explore best practices in Islamic and academic education, and bring back valuable insights to strengthen teaching and learning at our school. We are proud of their commitment to continuous growth and excellence!

