



Al Fatih
Academy

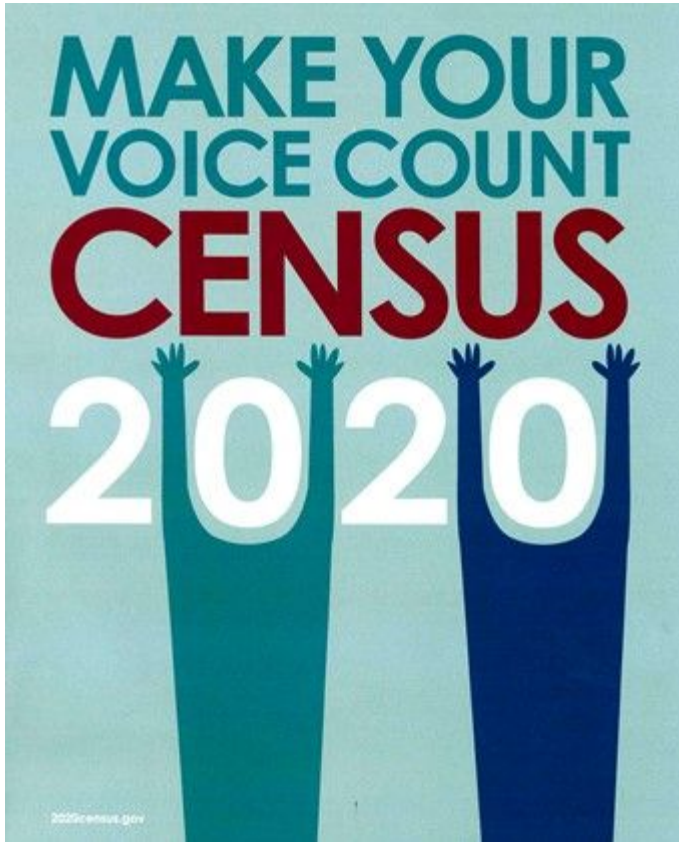
OPENING YOUNG MINDS TO GREAT WONDERS

We Hear You! We See You!

Parent/School Team Building

AFA Virtual School

Parent Community Meeting April 15 2020



Agenda

Roses and Thorns!

Ramadan Coming!

Attendance and Grades

Zoom Concerns

Science Fair

Survey Says....

Follow AFA on Social Media

#AFAParentsRock!



Rose and thorn

Activity
@Home

Share
something
positive - rose
and something
difficult - thorn

We need both
to grow in
beautiful
people

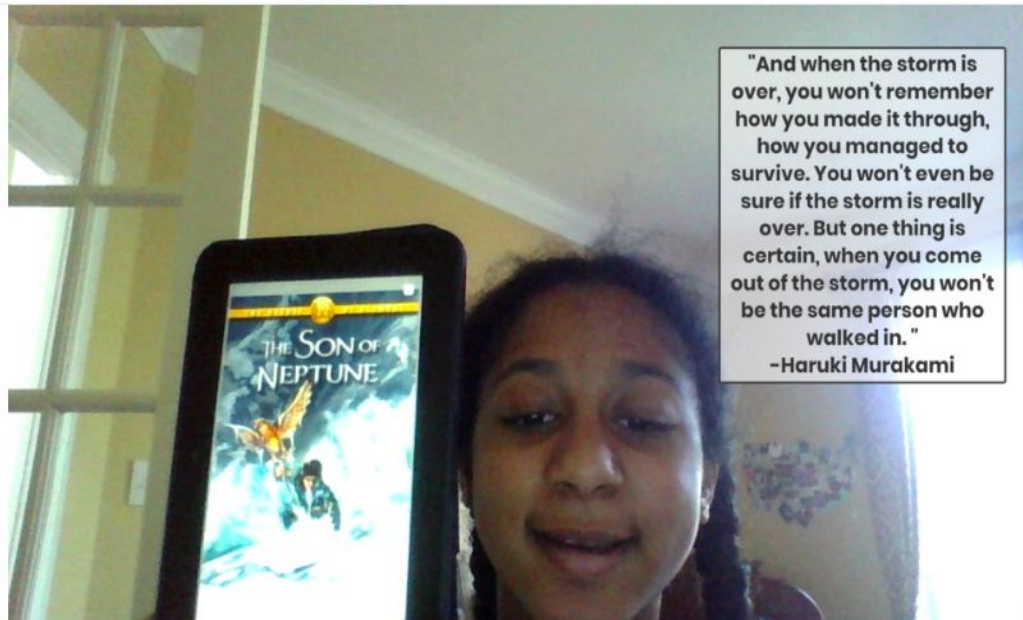


Seesaw Post



Suraiya Farooqui

In response to: Spring Break Share! - OPTIONAL



Apr 9, 2020

Amina Husain So profound and appropriate to the times!



aw Codes.pdf ^

**5P Prompt
Share
Something
From Spring
Break**

**+Demonstrate
knowledge of
use of Seesaw
technology**

food and shelter and friends and mostly school.

Building with Legos, limiting my screen time to only at night, and waking up early, making jello or cakes and reading a lot.

Being able to connect with my classmates and family and friends.

I tried making chapati with my mom and coloring

that my family is safe from this virus alhamdulillah

I've been drawing a lot in my sketchbook.

I go outside 5 times a week, walking around my neighborhood

AFA Students On Being Grateful, Creative and Healthy

I am grateful for turning 14, and that i'm healthy and alive. I am also grateful for being able to contact my teachers.

I tried making an omelette! It didn't taste great but it was edible :D

I cooked, and played guitar.

In everyway because I have another week to live for. (I used the thing in friday khutbas where they say (usualy ali sayeds dad) "alhamdu lil-lah that we can live for another jumu'ah".)

For the amount of effort the people at AFA are putting in to try and get on schedule

Take photographs, made a homemade bday cake

talking to family members and finding quiet time by myself

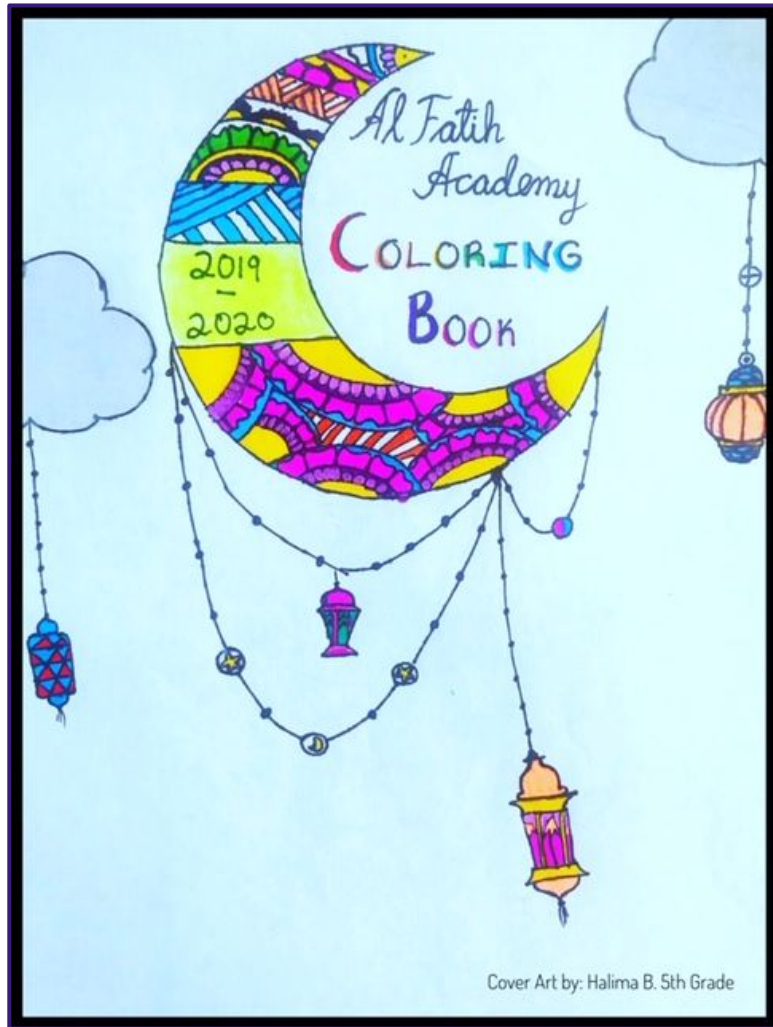
I sometimes build legos. I found this mini drone in my closet, and am trying to figure out how to control it.



***You* are adapting**

***They* are adapting**

***We* are adapting**



Ramadan Is Coming!

~April 24 - May 24

Remain the same

**All regular instruction
Preschool - Middle School
scheduled between
9am-2:45pm**

New Timing

**Hifdh classes
move to 3:30 pm**

Virtual School Attendance Plan

To ensure that students are attending and accessing the Virtual School program, attendance will now be taken as indicated in the chart below. Teachers and administration will monitor individual student presence, absence and tardiness.

Morning Meeting Live Session	All Grades PS-8th	Official Daily Attendance will be entered in RenWeb
All Live Instruction Sessions: Homeroom, Arabic, Special	All Grades Kg-8th	Class Level Attendance will be entered in RenWeb or in teacher spreadsheet.
All Live Content Block Sessions	Middle School	Class Level Attendance will be entered in RenWeb

AFA- Virtual School Grading Plan

3rd Quarter Grading

3rd Quarter Progress Report

Gradebooks reviewed up to March 13

PS/PK no report planned

Standardized
comments to

All work completed and assessed sufficiently to this date is recorded as is.

KG-5 Grades entered per stated standards based grading scale

communicate progress in different focus areas

Students given opportunity to complete 3rd qtr work or assessments until April 3

6-8 Grades entered per stated A-U grading scale

Any Q3 standards/content not taught sufficiently moved to Q4.

Reports sent electronically to parents April 17th-20th

Are We Zoomers?



Time + investment in setting up zoom

New Zoom ID links w/ passwords & updated host settings implemented for added security

-Created some glitches as we all adjust this week

Google Meet was not secure & had significantly less host control when we rolled out VS.

Will lose time & familiarity to make a switch at this point

Science Fair Update- New Due Date, April 28th

Display and Presentation/Judging will be replaced with the following:

Report: Requirements remain the same as were communicated prior to Virtual School and still required for all students in grades 4-8

Enhanced Report: Report enhancements will explain, illustrate, or provide a deeper understanding of project/experiment. The enhanced report is optional for 4-8th grade students . Enhanced report may include: Photographs, Models, PowerPoints, Other (use your imagination) Students completing the enhanced report will earn extra points.

Virtual Presentation: This is a 5 minute presentation. Optional for 4-8th grade students. Presentation may be recorded using a phone, iPad, or tablet. Teachers will let students know where and how to submit their virtual presentations.

Teachers will share specific guidelines, rubrics and grading information directly with students.

Survey says...

A wide range of responses

Each family's experience dependent on student grade and family circumstances.

Survey covers first 3 weeks

Respondents Breakdown

68 Respondents Overall

4% - PS/PK
81% - Kg-5th
15% - MS

Section 1: Access - Clarity - Quality

Parent Feedback

Hard to manage the schedule and finish the work.

Technology hard to manage (links, sites, logins, etc. This is especially true for younger students.)

No real teaching is occurring.

Not enough live sessions.

Too many emails with too many things to do.

Admin Response

Weekly schedules provided

Logins and links now in one place

AFA student emails created for students Grades 1-4 for ease of access

No new content provided first 2 weeks
New content introduced gradually 3rd week

“Teaching” encompasses introduction and practice of concepts, guided facilitation

Live instruction sessions will continue to increase in week 4-5 and beyond



Ease of access to lessons/plans/resources:

- 69% Strongly Agree/Agree
- 22% Disagree/Strongly Disagree

Daily instructions/plans are clear and easy to follow.

- 68% Strongly Agree/Agree
- 23% Disagree/Strongly Disagree

Overall quality of lessons being delivered.

- 63% Strongly Agree/Agree
- 20% Disagree/Strongly Disagree

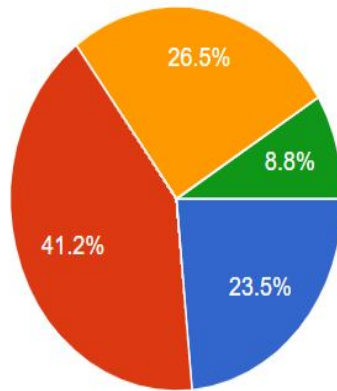


Section 2: Level of Parental Support as expected

Family Support

How does your child complete their assigned work?

68 responses



- Independently
- With some parental support
- With a lot of parental support
- Varies - Depends on the assignment or day

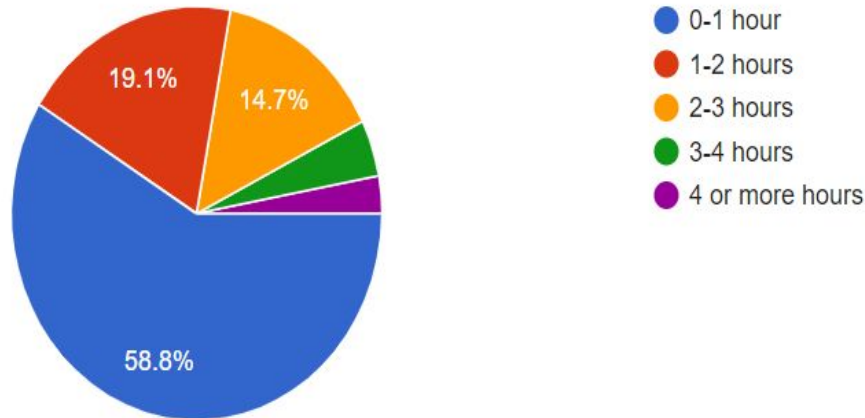
PS/PK/KG/1st Grade Students reported needing the most parental support.

2nd- 8th grade students report they require some support with most students working independently.

Parental Support Continued

How much parental support does your child require per day in order to complete assigned work?

68 responses



Most families reported that students require between 0-2 hours of support per day.

Families of younger students reported requiring the most parental support.

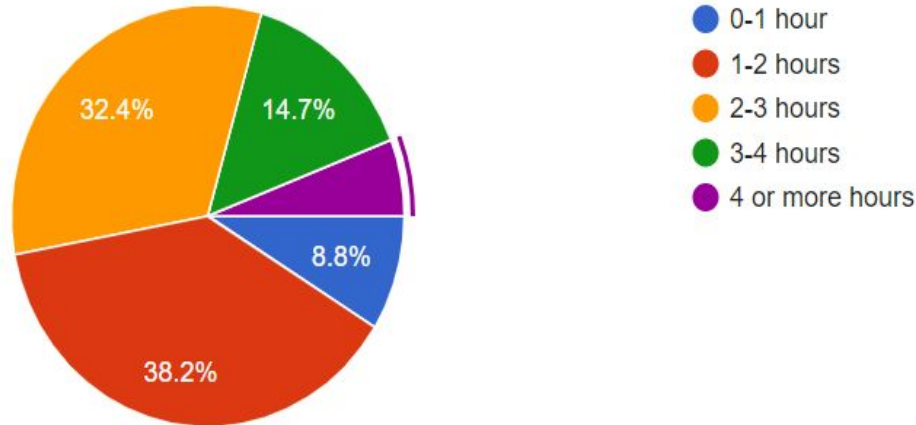
10 families reported requiring 2-3 hours of parental support.

5 families reported requiring 3 or more hours of parental support

Reported Time Students Spend Online

How many hours per day does your child spend working on online assignments?

68 responses



Most students spend between 1-3 hours on online assignments.

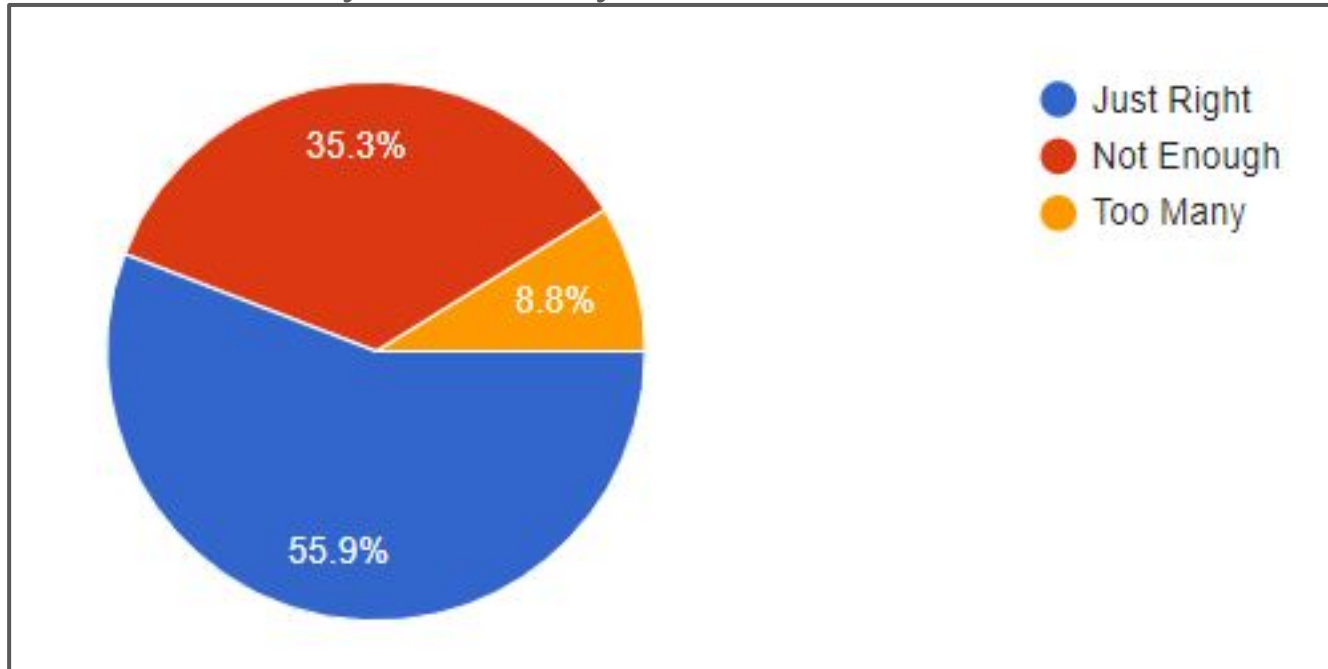
Only 5 students report spending 3 or more hours on online assignments

Only 2 students spend 4+ hours on online assignments.

Majority of Kg students report spending 2-4 hours on online assignments

Section 3: Live Sessions

Number of daily and weekly live sessions are...



Majority of families responded that # of live sessions were just right.

Families with younger students were more likely to want added live sessions.

Live Sessions continued...

Parent Feedback

Too many emails and too many websites

Too hard to log in for younger students

Students access websites other than those assigned

No Zoom IDs provided

Hard to get my student to complete the work.

Can teachers check on them at end of day?

Students need more guidance from teachers.

Teachers need to be live and teaching more.

Live sessions should happen everyday just like real school.

More live sessions in math

Admin Response

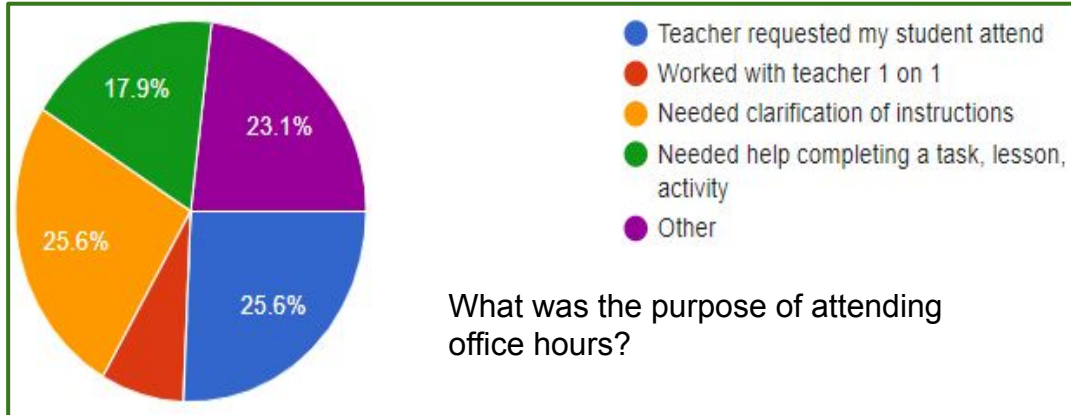
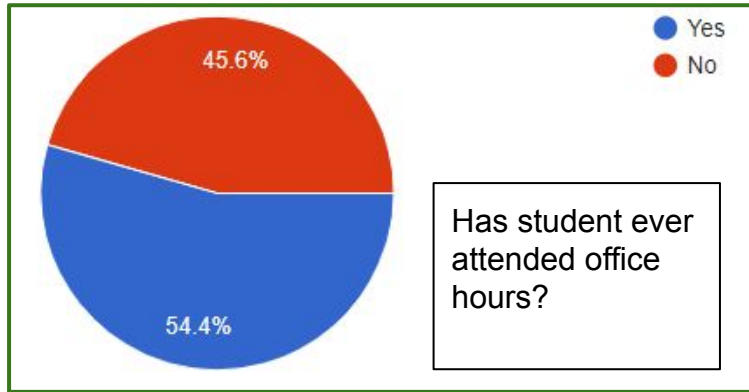
We have proactively worked to consolidate login info and access in order to simplify the process for students and parents. (Weekly Planners)

Virtual school will never replace the in person experience.

Virtual school will always require a level of parental support. Especially for younger students.

Live sessions were increased using a measured and purposeful approach and will contain increased amounts of new content.

Section 4: Office Hours & Teacher Support



72% of families of students that attended office hours reported their time there as very useful/useful

We encourage families to actively reach out to teachers and ask for help whenever needed.

Parents may also request appointments with teachers to ensure their student gets time with the teacher.

- Avoid longer waits in the waiting room by making an appointment!

Section 5: Technology Challenges

Parents Report

Logins and links not working

Seesaw password seems to expire

Keeping track of all of the Meeting IDs is hard

Lack enough devices makes it hard for everyone to work at the same time

Connectivity issues

Chromebook access

Camera issues

Admin Response

Chromebooks still available for student checkout

- Built in camera, longer battery life, portable, mic integration
- Uses apps, so may lose some functionality but not significant

Meeting IDs / Zoom access now hyperlinked into weekly schedules.

Tip! For Chromebooks and Zoom - change setting for Focus Tracking

Seesaw and other apps that the teachers will be using have been added to student alfatih accounts



Positive Feedback

We are very happy with how things are going so far with virtual learning.

My child is thriving doing her work at home. The teachers have done a god job transitioning to an online classroom while still letting the students use the things they were using in the real classroom, such as their ISN books.

The quality and planning of the lessons is done well and my child is able to complete all the activities required.

He loves to share his work with his teacher. The variety of live sessions, sessions, and one on one is good.

The teacher is easily accessible through office hours and meeting once a week that I feel that it is just right.

The materials created by teachers is good. They are able to complete any/all activities given for each subject easily.

I want to thank all the teachers and counselors for everything you are doing for us, I couldn't be more grateful. Everyone is doing so much for our education and for our health.

It's not easy dealing with this situation but you're making it work somehow. Thank you.
~AFA 7th Grader

Has increased his independence

Teachers are doing a great job trying to get the kids focus during the virtual classes ,the schedule has help my son with organization and taking a break between classes has helped him cause he gets very tired in front of the computer .

All the lessons are clear to understand and easy to follow and execute. They cover a variety of material and do NOT involve endless worksheets (which we are very thankful for).

I appreciate the little details that are being put into this e-learning by you all and trying to focus on how to execute everything so no one feels pressure or stressed.



NURTURING YOUNG MINDS TO:

- BE** INTENTIONAL & MINDFUL
- PRACTICE** STEWARDSHIP & SERVICE
- TRANSFORM** KNOWLEDGE INTO ACTION
- UPHOLD** EXCELLENT CHARACTER
- CREATE** SERENITY & PEACE
- BUILD** COMMUNITY



Preschool - Grade 8
Muslim Independent School
A Nonprofit Organization

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HOME VIDEOS PLAYLISTS CHANNELS DISCUSSION ABOUT

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#AFAParentsRock

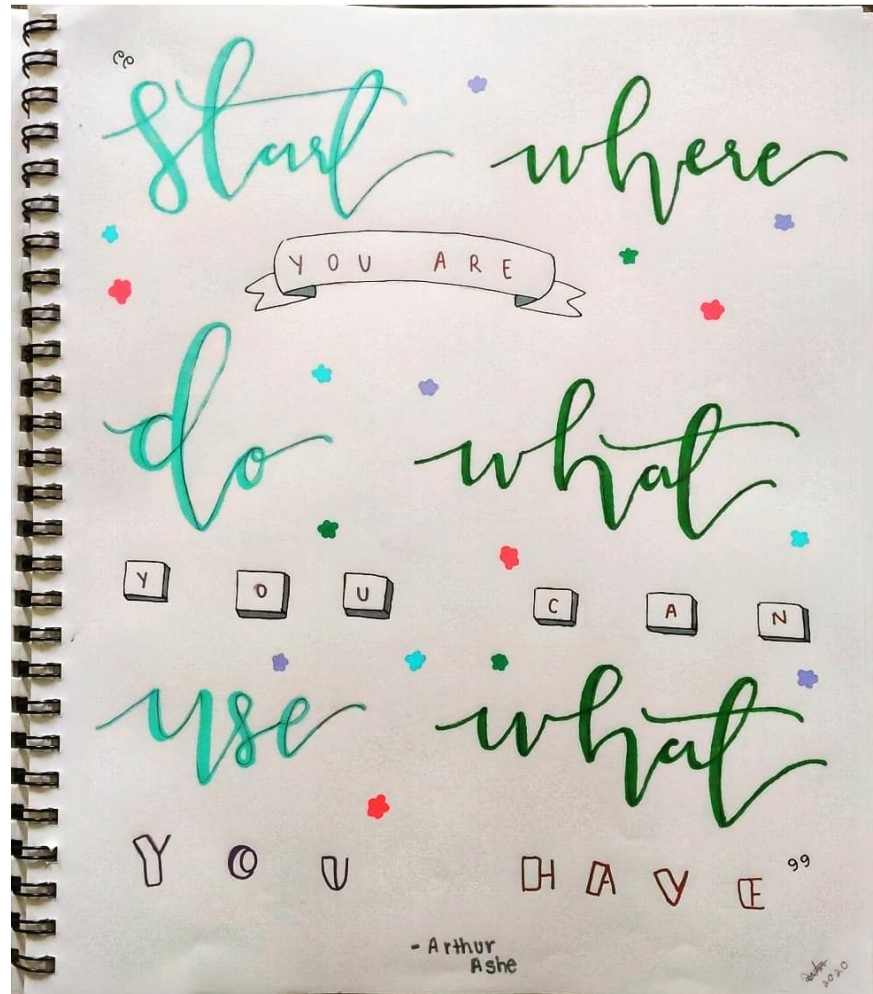


FRED ROGERS CENTER
for early learning and children's media
at Saint Vincent College

"Parents can set the example by just being themselves rather than trying to be perfect parents. As a parent, I found it most helpful to remember the larger picture: that I really did love our sons. But there were times when I couldn't give them undivided attention. I've realized that everything does not have to be perfect in order to be effective"

- Fred Rogers

Thank you Jia
for sharing a
page from your
sketchbook!



Take a deep
breath...

It's sunnah!

Office Hours

Admin Office Hours

- Admin will be available to meet with parents virtually (phone, email, video-conference) by appointment between 9am-5pm.
- Parents may email appointment requests directly to an admin team member.

Teacher Office Hours

- Teachers will communicate with parents how best to connect.

TIPS FOR PARENTS @HOME

Tips for Parents of Elementary School-age Children

1. Explain the slides to younger children i.e. Preschool - 2nd grade
2. You don't have to do everything on the slide deck at once. You can spread things out during the week
3. Make a visible schedule -- you don't have to stick to it everyday; create a sense of **routine**
4. Write down passwords all in one place where it is visible
5. Allow time for breaks from screens
6. Build in time for movement
7. Students shared many feelings with their counselor this week during their Zoom call. Most of them have mixed feelings like **happy**, **sad**, **scared**, **confused**, and **anxious** -- some students are experiencing many feelings at once. Reassure children that we are experiencing this together for the first time and we *will* get through it, Insha'Allah.
8. And for the reasons above, *please keep things simple*.

Tips for Parents of Middle School Children

1. Facilitate ways for older children/adolescents to talk to their **friends** on Hangouts, Facetime, Zoom, etc - it's important to see their faces and not only type/chat.
2. Keep **Zoom IDs and schedules** in a visible place to look at every morning.
3. Check all **Google Classrooms** daily.
4. Take **screen breaks** - every hour or so, remind them to get up and walk around the house, eat a snack, talk to a family member, jam to a song, then get right back into it.
5. Notice when they become agitated, frustrated - these are signs they need your **help**. Say, "Take deep breaths. This is hard - but **you can do hard things**."
6. Social Media- "**post/read what makes you happy** and filter out the negative and stress inducing content."
7. Say, "keep telling us how you feel and what you're thinking. Use your coping skills, talk to Allah (swt) and remember you are not alone."

WORKING FROM HOME WITH KIDS

A CHEAT SHEET FOR PARENTS

1. SHARE THE LOAD

Ask your child to take ownership of their own routines. At first, they might need guidance and encouragement, so try to stay positive and be patient.

2. NAME YOUR TEAM

Foster an attitude of teamwork with your child by explaining your shared goal and inviting them to come up with a fun family team name.

3. BANK YOUR HOURS QUICKLY

Wake up before your child to make the most of the quiet morning hours.

4. FILL THAT TANK

When you see your child during work breaks, make it a priority to connect in a meaningful way. That will fill their connection “tank” and cut down on their natural urge to interrupt you while you’re working.

5. SET A FIRM BOUNDARY...TOGETHER

Work together to set a boundary for what will happen when you’re working:

- Make a sign to put on your office door
- Brainstorm a list of activities your child can do independently
- Share the science of why interruptions make everything take longer
- State the exceptions when it’s acceptable to interrupt you
- Plan for how your child can record what they want to say in the moment

6. MAKE A SPACE

Dedicate a separate area in your home to being your office space.

7. CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

Let your child have a say in how they’ll be spending their time while you’re focused on work. Brainstorm a big list together, then each time before you head off to a work session, ask them to set their intention for what they’ll be doing. Remember: Make sure you have realistic expectations for how long your child can play independently given their age and developmental stage.

8. FIND YOUR RHYTHM

Some parents prefer a detailed hour-by-hour daily schedule, but that doesn’t work for everyone. A detailed schedule might make you feel frustrated and possibly lash out at your child when you get off track. Establish a daily rhythm instead so that you can still have some structure while being flexible.

9. SUPERCHARGE YOUR FOCUS

Focus on one task at a time using The Pomodoro Technique:

1. Pick one task to focus on and set a timer for 25 minutes
2. Work on that one task until your time’s up
3. Take a short break, like 5-10 minutes, and check in on your child if you need to
4. Repeat steps 1-3, then every fourth time, replace step 3 with a longer 10- or 15-minute break

10. SET A TIMER

Set a timer before you head off to a work session to communicate to your kids how long they’ll have to wait.

11. MAKE SCREEN TIME COUNT

Choose the best kind of screen time for your child so that you don’t end up with behavior issues to deal with later on:

- Watch old Mister Rogers episodes
- Set your child up with a kid-friendly documentary
- Queue up video adaptations of children’s books on Kanopy Kids
- Let a famous actor or author read aloud to your child
- Encourage your child to FaceTime or Skype a relative
- Set a timer or an app time limit to minimize the negative effects

12. REMEMBER THREE IS A MAGIC NUMBER

Before you do anything else each morning, pick your three Most Important Tasks for the day and jot them down. Then when you get time to focus do your MITs first.

Creating Sakinah- Tips for Parents/Families

1. Family schedule agreed upon together, posted
2. Exercise routine for everyone
3. Limiting news and social media consumption to designated breaks
4. Intentional family time especially around prayers
5. Pockets of personal time for all family members
6. Outside time both structured and non
7. Plenty of sleep

Supporting Students @ Home

- ***Let children work through the assignments independently.***
 - It may be tempting to jump in and “help” by correcting a mistake or teaching them the concept but it does not reflect what the child has understood or is able to do on their own.
 - The teachers have seen their work so far. They can tell when the child has received assistance.
- ***It’s ok if they don’t understand something***
 - They don’t need to know everything all at once! And many aren’t able to! Let them learn to crawl first.
 - Self-advocacy is an important skill. Encourage them to ask their teacher. Help when needed.
- ***Supervise but give space!***
 - As best as you’re able, allow children physical and mental space as they do their work.
 - Often, children display different learning behaviors in front of their parents than they do with their teachers and peers.
- ***Help your child stay focused during live Zoom sessions by being mindful of their surroundings.***
 - Try not to engage with your child during live sessions
 - Keep siblings out of view of the camera and away from the microphone
 - Be aware of background sounds. It may be helpful to provide noise cancelling headphones with a built-in microphone if background sounds are unavoidable.

***Lack of organization is not a character trait that is permanent.
Organization is a skillset that all students can learn.***