



IN THE NAME OF ALLAH, MOST GRACIOUS, MOST MERCIFUL

THE OUTLOOK

PUBLISHED FOR PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF NEW HORIZON SCHOOL WESTSIDE
1819 SAWTELLE BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90025

MARCH 2015

WELCOME to this edition of our School's newsletter: The Outlook. This year marks New Horizon School Westside's 20th Anniversary, with a rich history of growth and learning. This year, we also submitted our report for renewing the School's accreditation by the California Association of Independent Schools (CAIS). The visiting team spent four days touring our school and learning about the many exciting programs we offer. They commended the strength of our school community, our mission and our values, which the team stated were evident in every interaction they saw on campus. They also praised the work of our amazing teachers in their dedication, their instructional methods, and their bonds with the students, and they commented on our students' character, confidence, and their genuine love and pride of school.

The year got off to a great start, and soon it was time to celebrate Eid Al Adha. Our students turned their focus on spirituality as they participated in the Annual Hajj Simulation event before enjoying the Eid Carnival. Turning towards science, they visited the Columbia Memorial Space Center and learned about the history of aviation innovation in the city of Downey. On campus, they demonstrated their knowledge by participating in the international celebration of the World Arabic Language Day on December 18th.

As we welcome Spring, we invite you to relax and enjoy reading all about the exciting opportunities our students had to enhance their learning experience since the beginning of this school year.



SCHOOL COMMUNITY MEET AND GREET AT THE ANNUAL SCHOOL PICNIC

Parents, teachers, staff and students enjoyed a day in the sun by the beach. We all had the chance to get together with old friends, or meet someone new at the Annual Back to School picnic.



Good food was abundant, and we took advantage of the great weather and good company to strengthen the ties among all school community members in a relaxed and informal setting.



The New Horizon School Westside mission is to inspire excellence through rigorous academics and the promotion of universal moral values in a progressive Islamic environment. We nurture a positive American Muslim identity, a devotion to God, and a strong commitment to family and diversity in a global community.

NEW HORIZON WESTSIDE STUDENTS CELEBRATE ARABIC LANGUAGE DAY DECEMBER 18

This year, we celebrated our Annual Arabic Day event on December 18th: the World Arabic Language Day as declared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, UNESCO.



The Arabic language is spoken by more than 422 million people in twenty-two countries, and 100 % of New Horizon School Westside students. It is used by the world's 1.5 billion Muslims, since it is the language of the Quran.

Arabic is taught as a second language to all students in the preschool and elementary programs at New Horizon. Our goal is to enable our Fifth Grade students to comprehend and read the holy Quran.



Students treated their parents and friends to a full program of songs, parades and presentations in Arabic, and a parade representing the many countries our students' families call home.

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HAJJ SIMULATION AND EID CARNIVAL



Every year, as pilgrims flock to the city of Mecca to perform the rites of Hajj, our students undergo a journey of their own. For one day, the campus is transformed with designated areas depicting specific stops on the path of a pilgrim, and students follow their steps as they complete their pilgrimage leading up the first day of Eid Al Adha.

This year, students and their parents celebrated Eid with community members, with a carnival day, filled with fun and games.



THANKSGIVING AND GRANDPARENTS' DAY

Grandparents and family members joined us as we gave thanks to Allah (swt) for all the bounties and gifts that He bestowed upon us. Students prepared posters and presented them to their grandparents when they visited the classrooms.



NEW HORIZON STUDENTS LEARN HOW TO BECOME “ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENDERS”



The Environmental Defenders Rock the Planet Tour is an interactive stage show. Featuring time travelers Al Luminum and Polly Ethylene and their

friends, the Environmental Defenders, the show aims to teach elementary school kids in Los Angeles County how to protect the environment. The assembly is correlated to California teaching standards.

This Fall, they presented their show to New Horizon Westside’s students. The performers used music, call and response audience participation and repetition to effectively communicate the environmental concepts of **reduce, reuse, recycle** (the Three Rs), storm water pollution prevention, and proper disposal of household hazardous waste.



ANNUAL SCIENCE FAIR

One of our goals is to create an atmosphere that piques each child’s individual curiosity by means of critical thinking, problem solving, and intellectual reasoning skills. The Annual Science Fair provides our students with an opportunity to achieve this goal. This year, students in lower elementary researched and presented group projects during the special assembly. Upper elementary students chose a topic to investigate individually. Each student created a report and presentation board, and presented their projects to a panel of judges in late February. Trophies were awarded to three students in each grade whose projects received the highest scores.



COLUMBIA MEMORIAL SPACE STATION

The next step in scientific exploration found our students turning to Space exploration. This led them to The Columbia Memorial Space Center in Downey. The Center was conceived and built as a national memorial to the seven crew members of STS-107, lost on the Space Shuttle Columbia in 2003. In the spirit of exploration and in tribute to those heroes, the center uses space exploration to educate young generations about science.



The City of Downey has been the site of aviation ingenuity since 1929, when a section of ranch land was converted into an airport and aircraft manufacturing facility. For the next seventy years the site and facilities continued to be developed, expanded and utilized for aircraft manufacture, missile design and development, and ultimately, the design and production of Apollo command and service modules during the lunar program and development and production of the Space Shuttle.



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ART, ART AND MORE ART



Another important school goal is to expose students to a variety of subjects and various disciplines that lead them to develop an appreciation of the diversity in the arts, humanities and sciences. In the area of Art, our students were very busy, indeed, preparing for a splendid and colorful display of their artistic talent and portraying what they learned about different artists and art forms.

Kindergarteners

worked on Africa: with charcoal drawings depicting basket weaving, masks and acrylic Kuba cloth.



First Grade displayed their Japanese work, featuring ceramic sushi creations and colored pencil drawings.

Second Graders learned about Kidrobot toy designs and tried their hand at Louise Nevelson's wooden Assemblage installations.



Third Graders studied Van Gogh and created charcoal drawings, while **Fourth Graders** turned to Wayne Thiebaud, best known for his bright paintings of pastries and cakes, and created their own miniature ceramic pastry sculptures. They also explored contemporary fashion design.



Fifth Grade explored furniture design, and inspired by Zaha Haddad, they tried their hand at architectural design.



New Horizon Outlook is published by the New Horizon School Westside Campus to enhance communication between parents and friends of the school. We welcome your suggestions, comments and ideas. Please share them with us by calling (310) 231-6092 or email us at info@newhorizonwestside.com. The School also greatly appreciates your donations. Please make checks payable to New Horizon School Westside, or contact the office for further assistance. Thank You.