

# MULTICULTURAL ACADEMY

## OCTOBER NEWSLETTER



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### Featuring:

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### Quote of the Month

With the new day  
comes new strength  
and new thoughts.  
~Eleanor Roosevelt

## Hello Fall!



### The Mission

The mission at Multicultural Academy is to create and maintain a learning environment that maximizes the potential of our diverse learners.

### The Vision

The vision at Multicultural Academy is to impact the lives of our students to enable them to become creative thinkers and lifelong learners.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH?

### October 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	★ 3	4	5	6
7	★ 8	9	10	11	12	13
14	★ 15	16	17	★ 18	19	20
21	★ 22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

- ★ October 3<sup>rd</sup> Count Day
- ★ October 8<sup>th</sup> Picture Day
- ★ October 15<sup>th</sup> Progress Reports
- ★ October 18<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting at 6:00 pm
- ★ October 22<sup>nd</sup> Math Curriculum Night

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### Principal's Corner



*From the principal's corner*

*Dear parents... students, and staff...*

*We have the following goals to achieve this academic school year:*

- 1. Improve our students' performance in all subjects.*
- 2. Increase our parents' involvement in the learning environment.*
- 3. Increase MA activities and events.*
- 4. Increase our staff retention.*
- 5. And update our curriculum and other MA academic programs.*

*In order to achieve the above goals, here is our action plan:*

- Implement a new teaching strategy through the collaboration work among K-2<sup>nd</sup> teachers, and 3-5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers during ELA classes.*
- Create a new schedule for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> that enables students to rotate from teacher's room to another one, which students have been requesting for a while.*
- Create after school programs like tutoring and sport teams.*
- Conduct more academic competition events in the building such as: Spelling Bee Competition, Math Competition, Literacy Competition, Multicultural Day, and others.*
- Conduct monthly and bi-monthly parent events such as: Parents' Night, Parent Teacher Conferences, Math Night, Reading Night, and others.*
- Conduct more Professional Development meetings for MA staff and this is why we have early dismissal every Friday.*
- Increase the building material resources, as well as human resources.*

*We are looking forward to a dynamic partnership with all MA stakeholders to guarantee our children can achieve their highest potential. We share the responsibility for our children's success. We believe that if parents' care, our children will learn.*

**Dr. Naji A. Jaber**

**Superintendent and Principal of Multicultural Academy**

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### Classroom News

Kindergarten

Parents and Families,

Our first month of Kindergarten was a success! The students have done a great job adjusting to our daily routine. We've spent a good amount of time reviewing classroom and school procedures as well as center expectations. It's been a joy getting to know your student and I look forward to spending the rest of the school year with them! Here is a brief overview of what is to come for the month of October:

**Reading:** We will continue working with 1st and 2nd Grade teachers and students during ELA. Within my small groups, we are working with letters, letter sounds, and blending sounds to create words. We will also continue working in our writing notebooks.

**Math:** This month students will transition into their math workbooks. This will be an exciting time for students as they will have a place all their own to work on math concepts. We will begin with writing numbers, connecting numbers to their quantities, and then transition into greater than/less than.

**Social Studies:** We will continue talking about community and what it means to be a good citizen within one.

**Science:** This month we are learning about two forces: push and pull. This unit is accompanied by many interactive activities that students will love!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call, email, or stop by!

-Ms. Lampkins

First Grade

Dear 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Families,

We have had a very busy month in the 1st grade classroom! Here are some of the highlights:

**Math-** We have been learning various strategies to add numbers up to 10.

**ELA-** We have been learning various comprehension strategies while reading a story. We have also been learning the difference between fiction and non-fiction.

**Science-** We have been learning about sound and vibrations. We practiced using our hands to make it sound like a rainstorm, and learned how musical instruments create sound.

**Spelling-** We have now taken two spelling tests. Please remember to have your child study their words at home each week.

**Writing-** We have been learning how to sound out words, and write down all of the sounds that we hear. This can be challenging, but we are working hard.

You may contact me at [amangan@academyk8.com](mailto:amangan@academyk8.com) if you have any questions or concerns. I am looking forward to a great school year!

-Ms. Ann Mangan

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### Classroom News

Second Grade

Dear Second Grade Families,

We have had a great past month of getting to know each other and learning important concepts along the way!

**English Language Arts**- We are learning about comprehension strategies and have been practicing those strategies as we read stories. We are also working on important phonics skills as well as engaging in our Daily 5 Response to Intervention groups.

**Math**- We are working on various strategies to add and subtract, including number lines and unifix cubes. We have also been working on learning important vocabulary words that help reinforce math skills.

**Spelling**- We are now into Week 2. Students only need to complete three squares per week (due every Friday), along with their spelling list.

**Writing**- We are brainstorming "small moment" ideas to help us with our personal narrative stories.

**Science**- We have started learning about the "plants as living things" as part of our Mystery Science curriculum.

**Social Studies**- We are learning about communities and how communities help provide our basic needs: food, clothing, and shelter.

Please contact me at [ajohnson@macademyk8.com](mailto:ajohnson@macademyk8.com) should you have any questions. Friday folders will be sent home every Friday with student work, homework for the following Friday, and any notes from the office.

Sincerely,

-Mrs. Johnson

Third Grade

Dear Parents of 3rd Graders,

The 3rd graders have been working hard and learning so much already! In

**Math**, we have been learning about place value to the thousands place. We will be having our first test this week. In **Social Studies**, we have learned about family groups, being good citizens, and we'll start globe and map skills this week. In **Science**, we have been learning about plants. In **ELA**, we've been taking spelling tests, learning new vocabulary words, and reading stories each week. We also do daily 5 three days per week (Monday - Friday). In **Daily 5** students do centers: Read to Self, Read to Someone, Word Work, Writing, and Listening to Reading.

Parents should look at the planner and in the folder each night to see what homework students need to complete, notes from the office, and papers Mrs. Kayser has graded and returned. Please feel free to email me at [jkayser@macademyk8.com](mailto:jkayser@macademyk8.com). Also, parents are welcome to talk to me before and after school.

Sincerely,

-Mrs. Kayser

# MULTICULTURAL ACADEMY

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### Classroom News

Dear Parents/Caregivers:

We are headed into October with lots of learning to come. The students are starting to understand the rules and regulations of the classroom, and though we still have some bumps we are getting better at spending our days learning. Following is the schedule of what we have accomplished in each subject this month:

**Math:** We have learned about place value and reading/writing multi-digit numbers. The students have done a lot of classwork and practice. Most did really well on the tests. Now we will move on to comparing numbers.

**Science:** We have been learning about pollination and the importance of bees. We dissected a flower and named the parts. Next week we will begin a project where we learn about bean/seeds and we will be planting soybeans.

**ELA:** In English Language Arts the students have decorated and began writing in their "Writers Notebooks", this is a place where students can express themselves and learn about creativity in writing. We also talked about how an individual's actions affect others and read some stories that related to this. Finding out how our actions affect other people in our lives is important in learning and in growing to be responsible adults.

**Social Studies:** We started with a week of reading and watching documentaries about Martin Luther King, we will continue this in January during MLK holiday time. We have also started learning about regions of the USA, different climates and landforms.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation in your child's learning.  
-Ms. Becker

Fourth Grade

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### Classroom News

#### Fifth Grade

Hello Families,

Welcome to fifth grade, my name is Andrea Kidd and I am so happy to be your child's teacher this 2018/2019 school year. We have gotten off to a great start in Fifth Grade so far! We have not had much homework yet, but I will be sending at least math, spelling and cursive homework every week. I also have told the students that any classwork that is not finished during the school day must be completed as homework. I do provide two nights to complete assigned homework knowing that since it is the start of 5th grade homework, your family may need to plan for it. It should NEVER take longer than 30 minutes to complete any homework assignment. If it does, please let me know and we will make a plan to assist your student.

**Word Study:** Our spelling words are written every time they are assigned in your child's planner for the week. Lists are given on Monday. Spelling homework is due that Friday. We will also have a Spelling Test on Fridays.

**ELA:** We have begun learning about the Realistic Fiction genre. We are reading the story One Hen in our story anthology. This week we are starting Daily Five and will be working on building stamina during silent Read to Self time. Metacognition is essential, so we are spending lots of time working on that. As we begin developing a solid base in that, we will be able to carry it throughout the school year.

**Math:** We started the second week of school reviewing place value to the millions. We have carried that into comparing numbers into the millions. This week we will begin modeling and comparing decimals and fractions, using a tenths grid. In fifth grade we focus on learning skills, concepts, and applications. We have also already begun working on problem-solving strategies.

**Science:** We are beginning by reviewing the three states of matter. We are learning about their physical, and chemical properties and what makes them different from each other. We are doing this by participating in a States of Matter Escape Room center activity. We will work in teams to complete each station, to make it through and receive our certificate of completion.

**Social Studies:** At the beginning of fifth grade we delve into the Early Years of America, by investigating different Native American Tribes. We have begun by creating an interactive notebook. In our notebook we will complete activities about our first tribe The Hopi Indians.

This is just a brief snapshot of what we have going on in fifth grade this year. There is so much more to come!!! I am so pleased and look forward to sharing in this learning journey with your children. Please feel free to contact me at anytime, with any questions or concerns regarding your child. You may reach me at the school or by email at [akidd@academyk8.com](mailto:akidd@academyk8.com). PLEASE stay updated also by reading Dr. Naji's monthly column. If he has addressed it, I try not to duplicate.

Working together with you, for the success of your child is my ultimate goal.

Ms. Kidd

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### Classroom News

Middle School  
Science

**6th Grade Scientists of Tomorrow** are diving into matter! We are learning how to remain positive like a proton! Our topics include: Law of Conservation of Mass, Temperature, Thermal Energy, Endothermic Change, Exothermic Change, and Chemical Energy. Measuring volume, and density, while using the **International System of Units** is our goal.

**7th Grade Scholars** have taken **microorganisms** to another level. We are taking a journey from the cell, to tissues, to organs, and making our final stop at the organism. Our goal is to know the **organization of the human body system**.

**8th Grade Engineers** have risen from the depths of the Earth to identify how heat is transferred from the Earth's core. There are three methods of transferring heat: **radiation, conduction and convection**. We must protect the Earth in order to protect life on our planet. The 8th grade will know how to **positively impact our Earth's heating system**.

-Ms. Taylor

Middle School  
English Language  
Arts

In English Language Arts for **sixth grade** we are discovering poetry! Sixth graders brought to class a meaningful object as a source of developing their own piece of acrostic poetry! **Seventh and eighth graders** are learning about monologues! Each student has developed their own personal monologue expressing their personal thoughts! Every student is given the chance to bring their monologues to life right in front of their classmates! Be aware, you might hear them talking to themselves! 😊

Middle School  
Social Studies

The World History and US History classes will be busy undertaking two projects for the month of October. The World History classes will be working on a project for natural disasters and /or biome issues. The US History class will be working on their "Revolutionary War historical figures/events project.



**MULTICULTURAL  
ACADEMY**

Dear Families,

The first month was a period of settling down, relationship building and laying foundations for academic pathways.

1. The Title I and ESL department are working hand in hand to ensure :
  - The Interventionists are an integral part of the state mandated MTSS form of instructions.
  - The Interventionists provide adequate support to classroom teachers for content areas of Math and ELA.
  - The Interventionists provide supplementary support to identified students so that they are at par with the rest.
  - The Interventionists target focus on all skills on ELA which encompasses listening, reading, speaking and writing.
  - The Interventionists target fundamental Math skills for each unit.
2. In addition to this, we shall now initiate pull out instructions for students with limited English skills so that they are at par with the rest.
3. NWEA testing has begun and this data will be used to plan and modify classroom instructions. A bilingual staff, along with proctors ensures smooth and fair assessment. After this session of testing, each student shall have a goal to achieve by spring 2019 and this way, we can set individual targets and move towards it.

The month of October will be more of finishing the NWEA test sessions and intensifying intervention support in all possible forms. Our goal is to collaboratively work towards academic excellence and meet required standards for each student.

Thank you,

Mrs. Mohana Mukherjee

ESL and Title Director, Testing Coordinator.

**Putting  
Students  
First**

Multicultural Academy 5550 Platt Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108  
Phone: 734-677-0732 Fax: 734-677-0740



# October

# أكتوبر



## Multicultural Academy

## أكاديمية متعددة الثقافات

### What we are learning in our Arabic Classroom?

ما الذي نتعلمه في فصل اللغة العربية؟

### Important information!

معلومات مهمة

#### Lower Elementary:

- Weather Vocabularies مفردات الطقس
- How to write my name in Arabic!  
كيف أكتب إسمي باللغة العربية؟
- Shapes vocabularies in Arabic: مثلث, مربع, دائرة, مستطيل.
- Arabic Alphabets: Jeem, Haa and Khaa ج ح خ

#### Upper Elementary:

**Group A: Unit 1:** التعرف والتحيات و المجاملات

الصدقة و الأصدقاء, الأسرة و الوطن

**Group B:** Weather Vocabularies مفردات الطقس

- Seasons in Arabic
- Arabic Alphabets: Alif, Baa, Taa, Thaa, Jeem, Haa and Khaa along with short and long vowels  
ج ح خ الحروف مع الحركات الطويلة و القصيرة

#### Middle School:

**Group A: Unit 1:** المحور الثالث: الصيد السعيد

العلاقات الإجتماعية

**Group B:** - Arabic Alphabets with short and long

Vowels, Days of the week in Arabic ,

Seasons in Arabic

- Please check the Arabic folder daily for potential incomplete classwork/ homework to help your children finish it at home!
- I will be sending Spelling Words every Monday! Please help your children studying them! We will also be studying these words in class.
- The spelling words test will be every Thursday for middle school and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and every Monday of the following week for elementary
- Please check your ClassDojo messages for any announcements!

على الأهالي الإطلاع على ملف اللغة العربية يوميا لمساعدة الإلماء! الطالب على إتمام واجباته و التحضير لإمتحان

إمتحان الإلماء سيكون كل خميس بالنسبة لطلبة المستوى المتوسط وكذلك الصف الثالث و يوم الإثنين للأسبوع الموالي بالنسبة للمستوى الإبتدائي المتقدم

Contact Information:

Mrs. Kalem

Email: [skalem@academyk8.com](mailto:skalem@academyk8.com)

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### Helpful Reminders

#### After Care

Multicultural Academy offers after school care from 3:30-5:00PM

Monday-Friday to all K-9 grade students.

#### Student Transportation

Please contact the office by 12:00 pm if there is a change for the bus route. If a student wishes to ride home with another student they are required to have a note with them to give to the bus driver.

#### School Messenger

Please be sure to listen to your voicemail whenever the school sends out a message. We will notify you with updated bus routes, events at school, as well as possible days off.

### Uniform Policy

	<p>Boys and girls must wear a solid <b>navy blue</b> polo. It can be long or short sleeves.</p>
	<p>Students must wear solid Khakis only. <b>NO</b> jeans, spandex, or sweatpants.</p>
	<p>Abayas must be a solid <b>navy blue</b> or <b>black</b>. Uniform must be worn underneath. Hijabs should be black or white. <b>NO</b> prints, designs, patterns, or other colors.</p>
	<p>Shoes must wear solid black or brown athletic shoes. <b>NO</b> heels or open toed shoes.</p>
	<p>Sweaters must be <b>black</b> or <b>navy blue</b> in color with uniform underneath. Hoodies are <b>NOT</b> permitted. <b>NO</b> colors and designs.</p>



Our school is nut and peanut FREE