

# ARQAMEDIA

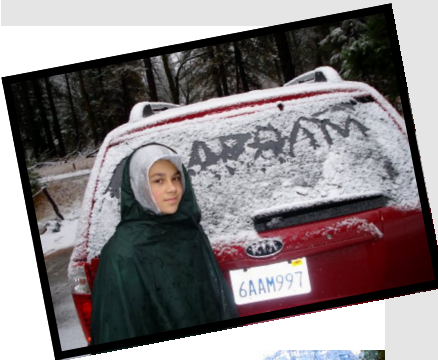
*A publication of Al-Arqam Islamic School  
Sacramento, California*

January, 2008  
Volume 9, Issue 2

## Students hike from the mountains to the Sea

### Marin Headlands Trip

The field trip to the Field Science Institute in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area was a great and memorable adventure for our 6th & 7th Grade students, Al-humdulillah! Our students spent 2 days hiking and studying marine plant and animal life. The students spent free time discussing and appreciating Allah's creations. Thank you to the parent chaperones that accompanied our students



### Yosemite Trip

Our 8th, 9th, and 10th Grade students attended the Yosemite Institute this year. This was our first experience at Yosemite and it turned out to be a great success! The student's enjoyed ice skating against the back drop of Half Dome in the early evening as well as hiking under the Milky Way, guided only by their senses. The students studied ecology, geology and performed a scientific water quality test of the Merced River finding it clean but unsafe to drink. Thanks to the volunteers for driving us there. We could not have done it without you!

*Pictures of both trips can be viewed on the school website: [www.alarqamislamicschool.org](http://www.alarqamislamicschool.org)*

### **Congratulations to our new student body officers for 2007/08!**

Girls Pres:	Sana Saifuddin	Boys Pres:	Oussama Kamel
Vice Pres:	Ayah Abukhazneh	Vice Pres:	Awais Raza
Treasurer:	Neda Awwad	Treasurer:	Ali Raza
Secretary:	Nida Shafique	Secretary:	Shareef Sadek

### **Teachers learn *Critical Thinking* strategies at the first professional development In-Service of the school year.**

The workshop was presented by Mr. Enoch Hale from the National Critical Thinking Foundation. Teachers enacted class group settings and practiced how to enhance students' questioning skills, and how to help them analyze information and defend an argument with logical reasoning. Students use the learned techniques to become more active listeners and to respect

how to enhance students' questioning skills, and how to help them analyze information and defend an argument with logical reasoning. Students use the learned techniques to become more active listeners and to respect the viewpoints of others. Education through critical thinking is an excellent tool towards enhancing social skills and citizenship.

### **Pre-K opens for 3-4 year olds**

At long last, Al-Arqam has acquired its license to offer Pre-Kindergarten. Alhamdulillah both morning and afternoon sessions are almost full. Children enjoy a structured program of language development and other skills needed for a strong start in Kindergarten. We would like to welcome Sr. Maryam Webster, Pre-K teacher, to our staff. There are still a couple of seats in our afternoon program. For more information, contact Jodi Martines, Director.

### **BOXTOPS/CAMPBELLS LABEL COMPETITION UDATE**

Here's an update on our school competition: So far in first place is class 1B with 320 box tops, 6th is in 2nd with 183 boxtops. You have until Feb. 15th so keep bringing them in! 6th grade is in front for the Campbells labels with 35 and 2A running close behind with 22. Campbells labels competition ends March 15th. GREAT JOB! Remember you can save box tops and labels all year around and turn them in whenever school is in session.

### **La Baik Allahumma La baik . . . .**

Congratulations to our staff members who performed Hajj this year, Sr. Iffat, Sr. Elizabeth, and Br. Abdurrahman. May Allah accept their hajj and duas.



### **Jazak Allah Khair!**

To Br. Aqil and Dr. Atiya Abbassi for donating the copy machine to the office.

To our hard-working PTO, and all the parents who donated toward the purchase of our new Student Lockers.

### **Pennies for Peace**

Thanks to all of our young philanthropists, Al Arqam has raised **\$348.00** so far in change for educating students in Pakistan and Afghanistan! Keep up the good job!