

## SMT END OF YEAR NEWSLETTER

Assalaamo Alaikum Dear Parents

We pray that you and your families are well in sha Allah.

We are now just a few short days away from the Summer holidays starting. Usually this time of year is a bustle of activity as we prepare for Early Years Graduation ceremonies, Year 6 Leaver's Party, the Whole School Assembly and so much more. Unfortunately, due to the current lockdown so much of this has been lost this year. But alhumdilillah we all still have so much to be thankful for.

This is also the time of year when we say goodbye to staff who have decided to move on from the Suffah family. This year we are saying goodbye to Ust. Saida (Year 1), Ust. Hafsa (Year 3), Ust. Aamina (Year 4), Ust. Hashim (Year 5) and Ust. Zahrah (Nursery). The Governors and School Management wish them well for the future in sha Allah.

Alhumdilillah we have managed to recruit new staff to fill the class teacher vacancies. Please see below for a small biography of each of the new staff.

### New Staff Biographies



**Year 1 – Ust. Jannatara Akhtar**

Assalamu'alaykum Warahmatullahi Wabarakathu!

I am delighted to be starting as a Newly Qualified Teacher for Year 1 at Suffah Primary School from September 2020.

I graduated from the University of Greenwich with an Education Studies BA and from Brunel University London with an Education MA with specialism in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. I completed my teacher training with the School Centres Initial Teacher Training in East London Schools and completed my PGCE at Goldsmiths, University of London.

I have worked in several schools across East London, including working various roles at Read Academy in Ilford. Alongside this, I have worked in Weekend Supplementary schools. This has helped me strengthen and also practise various teaching skills as well as teach various aged children.

I look forward to meeting you all and pray that this pandemic allows us to continue our good work.

Ust. Jannatara



**Year 3 – Ustadha Suhana Haque**

Assalamu Alaikum everyone!

I am thrilled to be joining the Suffah family. I am so excited to meet everyone! I know this is going to be a great year for all of us to explore and learn together!

I was raised near the seaside in Essex and moved to London not long ago. I have had the opportunity to visit a few places abroad (feel free to ask me when you see me!). I used to work for the NHS but then moved to Netherlands for a while, before I moved back and started my teaching career.

Teaching is my passion, especially teaching the future of tomorrow which is tremendously rewarding. I have a 1<sup>st</sup> class degree in Biochemistry and have also completed a PGCE qualification, therefore I feel I am fully equipped with experiences to help my students perform at a higher level.

I use Carol Dweck's 'Growth Mindset' theory in my teachings and believe parents' perception of their child is a great resource for a teacher.

Aside from teaching, I enjoy spending time with my daughter, shopping and travelling.

I cannot wait to meet everyone and pray that they year ahead is going to be a FUN and HAPPY educational journey!

Ust. Suhana



**Year 4 – Ustadh Shoayb Bhatti**

Assalamu-Alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakhathu!

I am Ustadh Shoayb, and I am delighted to say that I will be joining Suffah Primary School as a Year 4 teacher. I am really looking forward to beginning a new year which involves learning and growing together. I am proud to start my teaching career at Suffah as I have learned many skills during my PGCE year of teacher training which I am excited to apply.

I am looking forward to meeting the staff members, pupils and parents. I am a passionate, enthusiastic and well-mannered person and my hobbies include reading and writing fictional stories for children, as well as drawing and painting sketches along with playing sports.

I have previously worked in an Islamic education setting and I am keen on promoting the faith values and ethos of the school. I thoroughly enjoy teaching and presenting new ideas as I find myself to be a creative individual with an artistic skill-set, which I can use to enhance a love for learning both in the classroom and in the school.

I look forward to communicating and working together with the pupils, staff members and parents whilst trying my utmost hardest to accelerate the progression of the pupils to their best of potential.

Ust. Shoayb





**Year 5 – Ustadha Aai'shah Lodda**

Assalamu alaikum

My name is Aa'ishah Lodda and I am 22 years old and have just completed my PGCE course. I am a very adaptable, curious, organised and bubbly person which has led me to the path of teaching. Teaching is my passion and therefore, I look forward to teaching Year 5.

My background in education consists of two degrees (Sociology – Undergrad and Primary Education – Postgrad) at the University of Roehampton. As much as I enjoy teaching, I also have multiple hobbies that I love doing outside beyond teaching. I enjoy art, swimming, debating and poetry, which not only help me relax but also allow me to be creative and stimulated from time to time.

On a slightly random note, my favourite colour is yellow, I cannot pick a favourite food but I tend to eat noodles a lot. I love to travel and the next place I am due to go to is Morocco and my favourite books are the Hunger Games series. Overall, I am a very adventurous person and do encourage you to get to know me a lot better! I am looking forward to working with you all!

Ust. Aa'ishah



**Islamic Studies, Quran and Arabic – Ustadha Arami Mohamoud**

Assalamu-Alaikum

My name is Arami Mohamoud, I will be joining Suffah as the new Quran, Islamic Studies and Arabic Teacher for Years 1, 2 and 3.

I completed my Bachelor's degree at Ain Shams University in Cairo, Egypt and then went on to work as a lab technician in Al Rabia Eladaweia in Cairo, Egypt. I have also worked at the UNHCR regional office in Cairo as a community facilitator and interpreter for displaced families from east and central Africa who have fled civil wars.

After joining my family in the UK, I have worked in many different cities as an interpreter/translator as well as community facilitator. I also worked in Qubaa and Al Furqan Islamic Centres in Leicester, teaching Quran, Tajweed and Islamic studies for children and revert sisters. It is through this experience that I realised my passion for teaching and I therefore snapped up an opportunity to work as a non-qualified Year 4 teacher at Leicester Islamic Academy for a year as maternity cover and I was later appointed as Quran and Arabic Teacher.

Since 2017 I have been working as Quran and Islamic Studies teacher at Alehsan academy where I gained experience in teaching and being part of a friendly team.

I am looking forward to developing my teaching skills and hope to go on and qualify as a teacher next year by completing a PGCE course.

Ust. Arami

We are very confident that all of the new staff will bring a strong, fresh approach to teaching at Suffah and the children will benefit immensely in sha Allah.

## Meet and Greet Session

As there are so many new staff joining us we will be holding a short '**Meet and Greet**' session for parents and children of the affected classes to meet their child's class teacher. We feel this will help the children to feel more confident and safe before they arrive for their first day of school after such a long time away from school.

This session will take place between 2pm and 4pm on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> of September in sha Allah. If you would like to come along, please bring your child to the school playground during the hour specified. We will of course be observing social distancing and ask that you therefore only bring your child and not your whole family. We also ask that if your child is not going to be in one of the affected classes you do not come to the school on that day.

Please note that this is an opportunity for you to introduce yourself and your child to the new class teacher. The staff will not be answering questions regarding curriculum, teaching, timetables etc, that information will be emailed to you in due course.

## Advanced Fee Payment

A number of parents have not yet paid the advanced fee to secure their child's place for September. Many reminders have been sent out and the deadline has now passed.

***We have a large waiting list for many of the classes and therefore anyone who has not paid the advanced fee by 3pm on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July will automatically be removed from the attendance register and their place will be offered to another child. Once your child's place has been rescinded your only option will be to reapply for admission to the school via the readmission online application form. Once received your child will be added to the end of the waiting list for a place, please note there is no guarantee a place will become available for this academic year.***

We urge you to take this matter seriously as once the place has been given away there will be no retraction.

## Summer Holidays and Return to School

We are in full preparation to re-open school in September and will be in contact nearer the time regarding specific arrangements.

We wish you all a safe and enjoyable Summer break and look forward to welcoming you back to school on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> of September in sha Allah.

Asif Ali  
Head Teacher

Soobia Khan  
Bursar

