



# New Horizon Weekly

A weekly bulletin published by New Horizon School Pasadena

October 31, 2007



## Reminder

Daylight saving time ends this **Sunday, Nov. 4**. Be sure to set your clock back one hour.

## Upcoming Parent Meetings

As part of our ongoing efforts to communicate and connect with our families, the school will be holding the regular grade level parent meetings during the month of November. (Please see the piece below). In addition, we have worked with the PTO this year to provide three additional evening parent meetings. Due to some low turnout in past years, the evening PTO meetings were discontinued. However, after receiving some feedback from the parent surveys last year, the administration decided to give them another try.

Again, due to parent feedback from the parent surveys from last year, the school administration decided it would be very helpful to have an in-depth presentation on the school's Arabic program. The goal is to clarify the mission and expectations of the program and to give parents an opportunity to ask questions. Rather than hold a separate school meeting for this presentation, the school agreed to hold the meeting along with the PTO's first meeting of the year.

Therefore, please join us for the joint PTO/School Meeting on **Friday, Nov. 9** at 6 pm. The Arabic Language Faculty and the BIAE Arabic Coordinator will provide a thorough presentation on the goals, standards, and methodology of the school's Arabic program. This is a meeting you don't want to miss!

-- Mrs. Al-Sarraf

## Parent Meetings by Grade Level

During November, we will begin a series of parent meetings by grade level starting with Preschool. We encourage parents to join us for these meetings as they are an opportunity to obtain information pertinent to their child's particular grade level. Please remember that these meetings are not the appropriate forum for specific issues related to your individual student. If you have any concerns, please contact Mrs. Al-Sarraf or Mrs. Budge directly. Grade Level Meetings take place from 8:15 – 9:15 a.m. in the conference room or library in the main

office building. Parents receive 2 parent service hours for attending.

<u>Grade(s)</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Possible Topics</u>
PS 1 & 2	Tue., Nov. 13	PS Handbook, Transition to PS, Early Literacy
PK	Wed., Nov. 14	Early Literacy program, Zaner-Bloser Handwriting, Houghton Muffin Curriculum
K	Thur., Nov. 15	How Children Learn to Read
1	Fri., Nov. 16	Accelerated Reader and Math programs
2 – 4	Mon., Nov. 26	Homework: A Parent's Survival Guide by the Huntington Learning Center *
5	Tue., Nov. 27	The 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Year
6 & 7	Wed., Nov. 28	Helping Your Child with the Science Fair
8	Thur., Nov. 29	High School Admissions

\*Other grade levels are welcome to join this session.

## Jum'a at NHS

We would like to thank Naim Shah, Jr. for presenting a wonderful khutba to our students last Friday. We so appreciate all of our khateeb's taking the time to meet with our students and share of their wisdom.

For the month of November, the schedule for Jum'a is as follows:

11/2/07	Dawud Khalilullah
11/9/07	Osman Khan
11/16/07	Omar Ricci
11/23/07	No Jum'a—Thanksgiving Holiday
11/30/07	Osman Khan (separate Jum'as for LS and MS due to auditorium use that day)

Except for 11/30/07, these are all joint jum'as for both LS and MS students and will be held in the school auditorium.

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## Upcoming Volunteer Opportunity

**Office Mailing on Tuesday, Nov. 6** - If anyone would like to help with this volunteer opportunity, please call Fatima Cash at 626-795-5186 ext.128.

## The Annual Benefit Dinner

Mark your calendar to join us on **Saturday, Dec. 1** for an exciting and fun evening with the theme of "Celebrating Our Children." The evening will include:

- Our featured speaker, Geneive Abdo, noted journalist and author of *Mecca and Main Street*
- Our Teacher Appreciation Award recognizing Lina Kholaki for her years of dedicated service to our school
- Performance by our award-winning Performing Arts Club, and much more.

## Movie Night (Grades 2 – 8)

On **Friday, Nov. 9**, the 8<sup>th</sup> graders are organizing a Movie Night from 6 – 8:00 pm. The cost is \$5 per student for the movie or \$7 for the movie and a treat. The movie choice is "Surf's Up." Come join the fun! Students must be signed in at the auditorium before being dropped off. Parents must be on time to pick up their students from the MS driveway or auditorium at 8 pm.

## ICSC Qur'an and Art Competition

Congratulations to all of the students who participated in the Qur'an Recitation and Art Exhibit at the Islamic Center on Sunday, October 28. Instead of handing out individual awards, the Center recognized each school with a trophy for participation and gave each student a certificate and a gift card. We applaud them for representing their school with their excellent Qur'anic recitation skills.

## In Our Village

The book was finally published! Third, fifth and sixth grade students last year contributed three chapters to the book, *In Our Village*, Los Angeles area. Over ten private schools collaborated with their students to create a book about Los Angeles. We have placed two copies in the school library, and there are just a few copies still available for sale if anyone is interested. Please contact Mrs. Al-Sarraf at [aalsarraf@newhorizonschool.org](mailto:aalsarraf@newhorizonschool.org) for more information.

## California Wildfires

The school will be donating its sadaqa from November to Islamic Relief to help support the victims of the wildfires. Also, the Islamic Shura Council and The Omar Ibn al-Khattab Foundation are holding a fundraiser on **Sunday, Nov. 3** at 5 pm. Our students are also working with Islamic Relief on a postcard campaign to send gratitude to our dedicated firefighters.



## Lower School

### United Self Defense Studios

Students at the Lower School in grades K-4 were able to participate in a self defense lesson on Friday with Sensei Lucien of the United Self Defense Studios. There was much enthusiasm for the class, and we would like to offer it to all of our families. We are making the final arrangements for the class to start on **Wednesday, Nov. 14**. Classes are scheduled to take place after school on Wednesdays. A ten week group session will be offered for \$175.00. There is also a one time registration fee of \$125.00 to pay for uniforms, t-shirts, reference manuals and a requirement DVD. If you are interested in joining the class, please sign and return the flyer to receive an information packet.



## Middle School

### Big Rock Creek Camp is Almost Here!

Fifth and sixth graders will be leaving for their outdoor experience next **Wednesday, Nov. 7**. Please note the following points and reminders:

- Follow the "What to Bring" list for ALL necessary items to pack.
- Please do not pack your children's bags for them. Have them pack their own bags under your supervision so they know exactly what they are taking as well as to learn how to pack efficiently since they will need to do that on their own when we depart the camp.
- **Arrive at school on Wed., Nov. 7 at 7:30 am.**
- Bring a backpack, a sleeping bag, and a duffel bag (no large suitcases since car space is limited and nothing with wheels since they'll be hard to push on gravel and grass).
- **BRING A SACK LUNCH ON WEDNESDAY.** All other meals for the week will be provided.
- If your student is vegetarian or only eats zabiha meat, there will be alternative foods at each meal (i.e., meatless spaghetti sauce, vegetarian lasagna, etc.)
- Students may bring a FEW candy/snack items. If they bring a large quantity, it may be taken and not returned.
- No pocket knives or electronic devices (ipods, gameboys, etc.) may be brought.
- Students may bring no more than \$10-20 on this trip (money may be used for snacks, gifts, or phone calls – please bring change)
- **Pick-up is on Friday, Nov. 9 at 4:00 pm. Please be on time.**

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## American Mathematics Competition – AMC8

On **Tuesday, Nov. 13**, all middle schoolers will participate in the 23rd annual American Mathematics Competition 8 (AMC8). Last year the AMC 8 contest involved over 160,000 students worldwide. With this contest, there are awards in each school for the student with the highest score, certificates for high-scoring students in each school, and state-wide awards. However, the real rewards come from challenging each student with mathematics that is new, different, and “outside of the box.” The problems on the contest are hard, but designed to be within reach of the students. Even if a student managed to solve one or two problems, they should still be proud because these math problems are meant to be more challenging than they routinely encounter in their mathematics course. Results of the AMC8 should be available in January.

## After-School Clubs

The middle school will be offering two additional after-school programs this year.

- Qur’an Club on Tues. with Ms. Samia Abdel Aal
- Self-Defense on Wed. with United Self-Defense

Please see the attached flyer for more details. The deadline for signing up is **Wednesday, Nov. 7**. If a minimum enrollment is met, classes will begin the **week of Nov. 12**.

## Help 8<sup>th</sup> Graders Go to Washington, D.C.!

The 8<sup>th</sup> graders are officially beginning their Washington D.C. fundraising activities. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, they will be selling water bottles for \$1.00 each. On Wednesdays, things will be getting a bit sweeter as they will be selling donuts, again for \$1.00 a piece. And lastly this Friday, they will have a buffet featuring a smorgasbord of delectable food items for a low, low price of \$7.00. Be sure to come out and support the 8<sup>th</sup> graders while also satisfying your food cravings!

## Sports Club

The boys’ basketball team will be playing against Gooden School on **Wednesday, Nov. 14** at NHS. Come out and support the New Horizon Nighthawks!



## Wrapping Paper Fundraiser

Thank you to all the families who participated in the PTO’s Innisbrook Gift Wrapping fundraiser. 50% of all your purchases goes directly back to New Horizon. For all the families who turned in their order forms today, you will be receiving 2 Parent Service Hours. We will calculate the class room participation and will get back to you with the winners of the ice cream parties. We will continue to accept order forms through Friday, November 2. Thank you again for your continued support! You can continue to purchase Innisbrook Gift

Wrapping online through their website at [www.innisbrook.com](http://www.innisbrook.com). Remember to use our school code 110223 so that New Horizon can get 50% of your purchases.

## Parent Meeting

The PTO will be hosting a New Parents’ Coffee on **Thursday, Nov. 1** from 8:00-9:30 a.m. in the Middle School library. We welcome all parents to attend and meet the newest parents of the New Horizon family.

The PTO’s first “Parents’ Meeting” will be on **Friday, Nov. 9** at 6:30p.m. The NHS Administration and Faculty will be discussing the New Horizon Arabic Program. This will be your chance to meet our Arabic teachers and Arabic specialists, so please come and join us for an enjoyable and informative evening. Childcare for preschool-1<sup>st</sup> grade students will be available for \$10 per child. Please contact the main office at 626-795-5186 ext. 125 to sign up for childcare by **Wednesday, Nov. 7**.

The PTO is always available to answer any questions or concerns you may have. You may call us at (626) 795-5186 ext. 122 or email us at [pto@newhorizonschool.org](mailto:pto@newhorizonschool.org).

## Scrip

November is Scrip 100% Participation Month. Last year, we raised \$1063.13 from 64% participation from our school families and staff. Imagine how much more we can raise with 100% participation from parents and staff!

Our next Scrip order is Tuesday, Nov. 6. Orders will be available for pick up on Friday, Nov. 9 in the morning. For your convenience, we will be taking orders **every Tuesday during the month of November** (6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>) and will have tables available at the end of the school day to sell Scrip cards starting next week. Please sell to your family and friends, and let’s make this November Scrip month the most successful! If you would like to see all the retailers who participate, please go to the [www.newhorizonschool.org](http://www.newhorizonschool.org).

We also have for sale a sheet of 20 EID \$0.41 self-adhesive stamps for \$9.00. It is our understanding that these specialty stamps will no longer be printed because there is very little demand. However, if we can sell them and show the United States Post Office that the Muslim community does want these stamps, maybe they will continue printing them. So, please support the EID stamp by selling them to your family and friends. They will be here the second week of November, but we are accepting pre-orders now.

Muna Karram will be available every morning until 8:30 a.m. in the PTO office located in the Middle School office to take orders and sell available Scrip and EID stamps. You can also contact her at (818) 621-4245 or (818) 246-4030 or via email at [mkarramus@yahoo.com](mailto:mkarramus@yahoo.com).