



Rawdat al-Quran al-Kareem

مؤمن في لادام حجة كدهر وقت وحج في روضتي ما تيك  
معهد الزهراء - الجامعة السنية

ZILHIJJATIL HARAM 1442H  
JULY 2021

# LEARNING MADE FUN!

#3 RQK NEWSLETTER

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# LOVE & LEARNING

BY- SH. MURTAZA BHAI  
MASTER

ACADEMIC COORDINATOR

AL-EBTEDAEE - AL-SABEAH



Mrs Sarita, a 65-year-old accomplished teacher working in a suburban school, suddenly was compelled to not just use computers but do it efficiently to continue teaching at her school. Until now, she did not know how to switch on a computer properly. Mustafa, an engineer, had to struggle to multitask while working from home. He had to sit with his younger son, Burhanuddin, while his teacher delivered online instructions. A renowned education board was clueless on how to conduct annual examinations online. Numerous brainstorming sessions led to some workable solutions...Such stories would go on and on... What is similar in all of them? Change - they all changed or were forced to change. They could also say that they all are **lifelong learners/learning institutions**.

"Life long learning" is the most commonly used or perhaps misused term in the world of education today. It is used by anyone and everyone without understanding the depth of meaning it connotes. The term, if observed closely, draws a clear distinction between pseudo education and true learning. Systemized education has limits. Learning, on the other hand, unbridled in the shackles of systems and definite forms, is infinite.

# NETFLIX

لا راحة في العيش الا لعالم ناطق او  
مستمع واع -

There is no tranquillity or leisure in life but for a learned person who spreads his knowledge or for a listener who protects (the knowledge).

One should observe the word "life" in this lofty statement. Thus, the lifelong activity (struggle for some) that a learner goes through, is actually leisure, and all the seemingly leisure and relaxation in not engaging in such a noble pursuit is, in fact, true hardship. Well, for a true learner, every step of the way is an immense pleasure, excitement and enthrallment. So, would you consider the examples above as lifelong learners? The answer is left to your sound judgement.

Ask anyone today what they like to do in their pastime, and most of the responses would range from watching television (read Netflix, television is a passe) to chatting with friends (online, of course) to just working out the thumb muscle extensively scrolling media on Instagram at a frenzied speed. While Netflix could be a great source of learning, and people would say that they learn so much from so-called influencers on social media, true learning might be more than that.

Learning, in its truest and purest sense, is more a process than an outcome. It is the search for answers, the insatiable thirst for knowing and discovering the world's secrets, so evident yet forever hidden. This quest may take many routes; some may pass through a library, a video or a building called the school, an expert, or a great book. It would traverse through messy routes, of course, and be tiresome too. It would be elating as well as boring, blatant bottlenecks and awesome breakthroughs. It would lead one to ask, read, do, note, think, reflect, clarify, discuss again, read more, ..... the process goes on... What's sure is that throughout the journey, it would be truly gratifying and satisfying as clearly stated by Rasulallah SAW -



The important question is how do schools, institutions meant to facilitate learning, do this? While there may be no one answer, it has a lot to do with المحبة - True love for learning. To inculcate that, we need to start asking ourselves - "How much are my students/children enjoying?" instead of just asking - How much are they learning? and more than that - "How much am I enjoying and learning along with my students/kids?" Have we built systems on the foundation of "love and affection" or do our systems propagate self-doubt, fear, anxiety, ruthless competition and enmity? These questions could be the key to a mindset shift, that could usher in an era of true learning. That is, of course, if we understand the meaning of "LIFE LONG LEARNING"

# Ijtahid

# Ibtahij

BY - MS ZAINAB AMRELIWALA  
MUHAFFIZAH

When you're in Rawdat al-Quran al-Kareem, you can't help but eavesdrop on the refreshing conversations of children during their recess while you're passing through the corridor. "Twenty points to go, and then I'll be on T.V.!" "I'll have to buck up in the Math period to complete my work and reach the Quran room on time, and the Timekeeper will be mine again!" "Arey, if you pray attentively every day, you can get the other badges also easily!" "I love the tasks in the new Quran room; today's task is so easy!" These conversations are joyful testimonies for muhaffizeen muhaffizaat as they've successfully managed to add a spark in the child's hifz journey.

## "نادي التنافس"

An intriguing Hifz league was introduced for the students to enhance their love and interest in Hifz al-Quran. Its prime focus was to highlight the uniqueness of each child. We overcame the time crunch of students travelling from one room to another when introducing the TIMEKEEPER badge.



A keener child towards jadeed was recognised as 'JADEED SPRINTER', and the one who was consistent in their Murajaat was titled 'MURAJAAT KEEPER'.

A particular day-to-day task was popularised, which helped them complete their levels faster. After each level-up, student names were displayed on the corridor T.V., making them the STAR of the day!

We created an interactive board where current affairs and general knowledge information were posted. Weekly topics from current affairs and fun facts would change the aura of the Quran room, and Monday's would turn to FUN DAYS and as the boards helped them gain free points!



- On Time x 25 times -----

consistent Performer x 25 times -----

160 marks x 25 Ajzaa -----

Task Complete x 25 times -----

marks in Juz Hali x 25 times -----

read without taqeen x 25 times -----

The image shows a series of achievement cards for a Quranic recitation league. Each card has a title in English and Arabic, followed by a row of 25 small circular icons representing individual achievements. The categories include: 'On Time', 'consistent Performer', '160 marks x 25 Ajzaa', 'Task Complete', 'marks in Juz Hali', and 'read without taqeen'. Each card also features a small cartoon illustration related to the category.

While "نادي التنافس" augmented RQK's hifz journey during their physical presence, the ongoing league has created a buzz even when the kids are shrunk to a passport-sized photo.

## "اجتهد ابتهج"

We wanted to emphasise that every card has a bright side, every coin has two sides, so we customised this league intricately to highlight every child's effort. Imagine a child reciting half of the al-Quran in a month? Yes!

The bright side card brings us this bright reality of a child reciting about 200 pages a month.

We try to maintain every statistical data which will help to feature the brightest side of the coin.

Another element is the "Takhteet Card" given to each child, classifying their target into each day and making hifz doable and their busy academic schedule. As Rasulullah S.A. states,

"التدبير نصف العيش"

the takhteet card has so far kept the children conscious as they take a step further every day!

As every student, teacher, and parent strive to bring the ultimate goal into reality, we continue to virtually enjoy the rejoicing voices of kids coming through every screen. "Muallemah, you know my rank is second this month." "Janab, I did 5 lines today instead of three."

Like salt is the essence of every food. Our main motive is to add the essential element of love of al-Quran in a child's journey of Hifz al-Quran.

# Jadeed Takhteet

Zilhaj al Haram 1443h

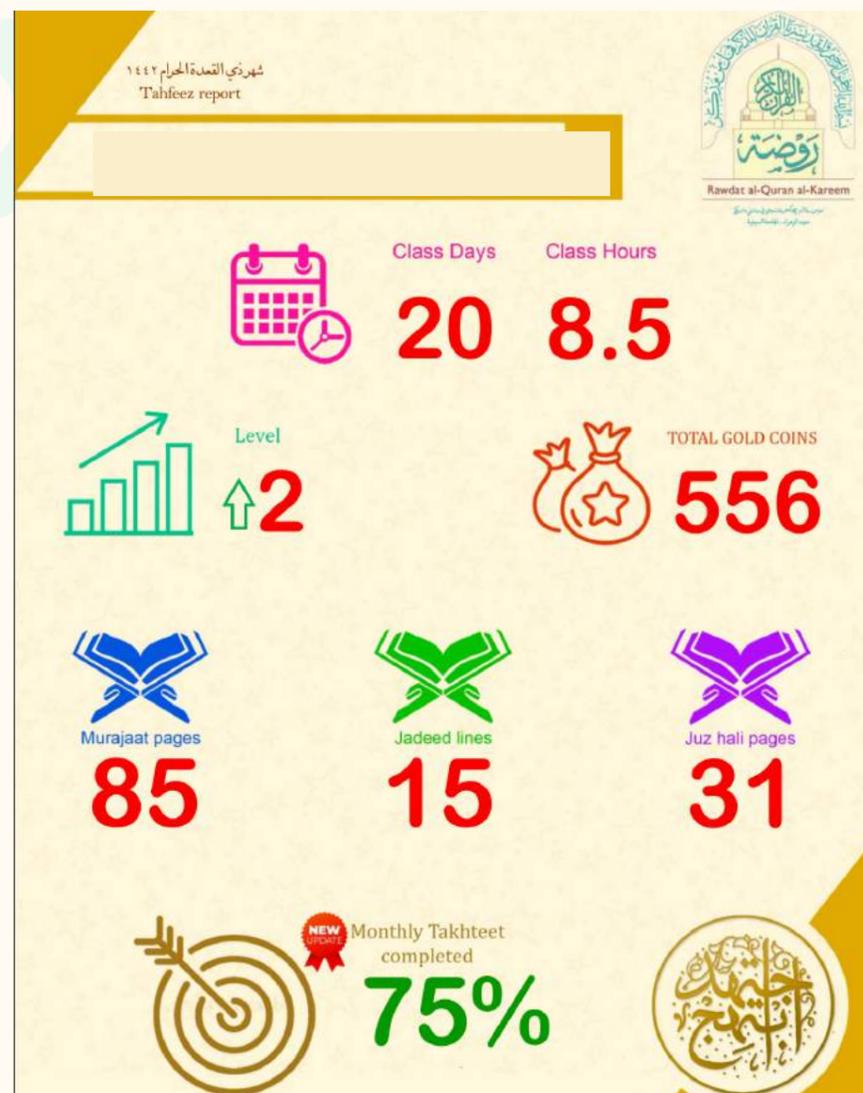
Target for this month

**Surat Al-Anfal**  
**Ayat No. 25**



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Surat Al-A'raf Ayat No. 164	Lines: 7	Lines: 7	Lines: 7	Lines: 7	Lines: 7	Grace Day
	Holiday	Holiday	Lines: 7	Lines: 7	Lines: 7	Grace Day
		Holiday	Lines: 7	Lines: 7	Lines: 7	Grace Day
	Lines: 7	Lines: 7	Lines: 7	Lines: 7	Lines: 7	Surat Al-Anfal Ayat No. 25

Lines per day - 7  
Working days - 17  
Total pages to achieve - 7 Pages 14 Lines



# MIRTHFUL MEANINGFUL MATH

BY – MS JUMANA HARNESSWALA  
IGCSE MATH FACILITATOR

Mathematical education is largely dependent on the activities learners can experience. Teaching mathematics by focusing on routine activities such as exercises leads to a learning process very different from that taught based on enjoyable, mindful, and challenging mathematical tasks that surprise the learner and cause cognitive changes.

The vision of the school, 'Perceiving in the light of the Quran', is internalized, and the subject of mathematics is aligned to achieve this aim. Integrating preaching's from the Quran, bayaanat of Aqa Moula tus, hadees, kalaam and riwayat into our syllabus, which has mathematical interpretation in it is our USP.



The goal of integrating the Fatemi philosophy concepts is to encourage critical and reflective thinking and responsible behaviour with a full understanding of making math meaningful. By dividing away with your possessions, you only multiply your happiness. This gives our children the lifelong value of 'muwasaat' and teaches them that division and multiplication are inverse operations.



The school also avails of the international mathematics teaching programme of 'PRIME' by Scholastic. PRIME's CPA (Concrete-Pictorial-Abstract) teaching approach and the UPAC (Understand-Plan-Answer-Check) process not only engages the learner but also helps the learner in planning how to approach a learning task with the appropriate skills and strategies hence motivating the learner to feel in control of their own learning. Besides this, Math is made mirthful with plenty of activities such as designing quilts to learn fractions, humour through role-plays or storytelling, simulations like setting up marketplaces or mathematical museums, or even organizing a bake sale from the '80s to learn calculating decimals through money!



All kinds of games are brought to the class to connect to the children and engage every child. Board games, outdoor and indoor treasure hunts, relay races and bowling, Bingo, Sudoku, Tarsia puzzles are adapted to fit into the units at different levels. These games are either used to introduce or reinforce a concept or sometimes as a formative assessment tool. Written communication and oral communication (discussion groups) play a fundamental role in transforming a mathematical activity into mathematical learning; thus, math is encouraged as a language subject.

Each student at Rawdat builds their mathematical competence in mirthfully meaningful ways!



# READING - MADE FUN !

**BY - MS FATEMA FANUSWALA  
PRE PRIMARY COORDINATOR**

At Rawdat, we want children to be lifelong learners, and we make sure learning English and Arabic is made equally fun and delightful. The fundamental of any learning process is the child's ability to read and comprehend all read effectively. Therefore, we introduce letters and sounds through stories, rhymes, games, and hands-on activities for our first-time learners. These activities are designed to enable young minds to grasp the concept without pressure to study and learn.

For our primary children, we introduce different kinds of programs for English and Arabi.

## ALIF BA TA

We use the 'Alif baa ta' program, where we start through stories and exercises that help the children learn new vocabulary. Grammar is taught in an interactive voice-assisted method. After every exercise, the child receives stars and appreciations to keep them motivated. Constant listening also helps them acquire the correct accent in spoken Arabic.



The program is in Fus-hah Arabi, which is the language of the al-Quran. This makes it easy for the child to learn and understand the al-Quran better. We have received feedback from parents saying that even they have benefitted from this program, they get to learn along with their children.

## OXFORD READING TREE PROGRAM- (ORT)

This Reading program is based on individual teaching. Special time and attention are given to each child. In school, we emphasise the three basic reading skills, i.e. punctuation which helps maintain speed while reading, expressions and voice modulation. All these three put together effectively can bring any book alive.

The advantage of the Oxford reading tree programme is that it enhances great reading skills and improves spelling as students learn to sound out letters and words.

Phonemic awareness, phonic fluency, vocabulary and comprehension are the key main components of this program.



Pleasure Reading at the Ebtadaee Tamheedi and Awwalah grades help develop their cognitive skills. Reading aloud to young children helps to widen their imagination as they learn new words every day.





## TESTIMONIALS - ORT



*“The Oxford Reading Programme conducted through school has been a tremendous confidence booster to both my children throughout their years and an invaluable learning experience. The one-on-one attention given to the children focuses on their strengths and weaknesses. It gives them the ability to perfect their reading skills in a safe, non-judgemental environment. The love of reading has forever been instilled in my children, and it is now very rare to see my children without a book in their hands!*

*~Ms. Fatema Al-Anwar (Grade 2 Parent)*

*Hi, Mariya ben - love the reading program.. it has enhanced her English as well as her reading skills.. always looking forward to reading more and more books.*

*~Ms. Tasneem Shakir (Grade 1 Parent)*

It's been an amazing experience seeing my child grow each week reading 7 books confidently...

Definitely, sometimes I used to read to him, and we shared a good bonding reading.

I don't have to remind him; he just reads it every day happily.

On Thursday, his reading is at 4:30, but he sits with the phone at 4:15 pm and keeps everything ready...

As soon as it's 4:30, in the first ring, he picks up the call...

I was totally in love with the program right from the beginning, when Ms Mariya had joined the school and started it.

It was a success from day 1 till now and inshallah in future too.

*~Ms Sakina Hamid (Grade Grade 2 Parent)*

*THE READING PROGRAMME HAS GREATLY BENEFITED MY CHILDREN IN BECOMING INDEPENDENT READERS AND HAS ATTRACTED THEM TO THE BEAUTIFUL WORLD OF BOOKS AND STORIES. I AM VERY GRATEFUL TO RQK AND MISS MARIA FOR THEIR DEDICATION TOWARDS MAKING CHILDREN AVID READERS.*

*~MS. NISREEN LOKHANDWALA (GRADE 4 PARENT)*

## RAZ PLUS

Raz plus is an award-winning literary and language-focused program. It is an online program that has products that support teachers and parents. It improves learning for students at any developmental level.

Ergo, it's a platform that develops reading skills which further facilitates blended learning.

Its resources are accessible online and printable material and can be projected in a classroom, making it audio-visual. Worksheets are in digital formats that have instructions helpful to teachers and students.

Various online assessments are conducted to gauge and record their progress at every level, along with vigorous practice.

The program has two interfaces, one for the teacher and another for the students.

The student interface is made so user-friendly that it will need minimum instructions from parents.

At Rawdat, we inculcate the habit of reading from the very start. We award the top 3 star readers of the month from each grade with a hard copy of a classic, available on the Raz plus platform.

We use these programs at Rawdat al-Quran al-Kareem with the sole vision of making children independent avid readers.

