Islamic School of Rhode Island, 840 (rear) Providence St., West Warwick RI 02893
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Asalamu Alaikum ISRI Parents,

Welcome to the 2014-15 school year!

Let's start by welcoming the new principal of the Islamic School of Rhode Island (ISRI), Br. Abdelnasser Hussein. He joined ISRI since the end of the previous academic year.

We are very excited to reconvene as part of the ISRI Family for the new academic year, 2014 -2015. Staff members are working very hard to prepare for the return of their students. We have set very high expectations and made plans to guarantee that every student at the Islamic School of Rhode Island will be successful this school year, InshaAllah.

During summer students must have got plenty of time to get them completely off schedule. The school would like to give a gentle reminder to all parents of the rules and regulations and to start preparing the students for their first day of school on **Tuesday, September 2nd, 2014, at 7:45 am.**

We recommend you print these out and keep them handy. **These detailed reminders will prove useful throughout the school year.**

School Timings
7:45 am – 3:10 pm – Monday through Friday.

Welcome to New Staff
We have a stellar group of new staff joining our talented ranks. All our extraordinary educators, either new or returning are learning, growing, collaborating, and planning for new and improved programs for the coming year. Please, make sure you attend the **Open House on Thursday, September 4, 2014 from 5 pm– 7 pm** to meet the ISRI staff. A comprehensive overview of the year comprising curriculum, instruction, assessment, schedules, etc. will be presented.

Immunization and Updated Physical
Immunization and updated physicals are required by the RI Departments of Health and Education. For the safety of your child and other students, please ensure their immunization record is up-to-date. Please provide the school office with the information by Thursday, September 4, 2014.

Tuition Payment
To pay tuition families will now have to go on Facts Management, as it is an easy way to pay tuition in installments, https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3D8C5 or, provide four post dated checks for one quarter of the tuition amount for each check; the checks to be dated Sep 1, 2014, Oct. 1, 2014, Jan. 1, 2015 and April 1, 2015. Please get in touch with the school bookkeeper for further details.

School Calendar
The school calendar is included for reference, highlighting all the important dates for the year.

Arrival and dismissal procedures
Once school begins, we expect students to get back into a routine for learning, plenty of sleep on school nights, a good breakfast each morning, and coming to school on time ready to learn. Being on time means all students are in class for an 8:00 am start.

We ask for your support by being punctual in sending your child to school. Morning assembly begins at 7:45 am. Its potential to nurture a positive school ethos that stresses care for the self, others and the pursuit of all forms of excellence should not be underestimated. For safety's sake and to teach independence, we are asking all parents to please allow their children to walk to their classrooms by themselves. PRE K and KG parents will be allowed to go to the classroom to drop and pick up their child. This year students will assemble in the gym and will be dismissed from the gym (with the exception of Pre K and KG students). For grades 1:8, please drop your child in front of the gym door at 7:45 am. For Pre K and KG lead your child into his/her class and deliver him/her to the teacher.

Starting this year school will dismiss each day at 3:10 p.m. Students should be picked up promptly before 3:20 pm, after which the school will charge a late dismissal fee (does not apply to students leaving by State buses). For safety's sake, parents are requested to remain seated in their vehicles until their child is dismissed. PRE K and KG parents will be allowed to go to the classroom to pick up their child. Parents arriving early for pickup will be requested to let their children finish the school day, unless there is an emergency. The last class is equally important as the first.

Late dismissal fee
Effective 1st December 2012, the school strictly enforced a late dismissal fee of $5.00 per 15 minutes per child for any child remaining beyond 3:25 pm. This applies to students departing in a carpool or siblings left behind for a late pick up. The school cannot provide supervisory services after 3:25 pm. Certain exceptions (extreme weather conditions, emergencies etc.) will be made; however, these have to be approved by the Principal in advance, as appropriate.

The payment of any fees, as a result of a child staying overtime, will be due at the time of pick-up the same day and given to the school office. Students departing late more than 3 times a week will be required to come to the school office with their parents and meet the Principal. The late dismissal fee will not be charged to students enrolled in any after-school activity or tutoring.

Attendance is critical
Students succeed when they attend school and are on time. **All students who arrive after 8:00 am will be marked tardy for the day** (does not apply to students arriving by State buses). In the case of illness, a parent or guardian should call and notify the school office on the day of the absence or it will be considered an unexcused absence.

The school does not encourage leave taken during the school year other than the days off. Parents are requested to inform the Principal of any planned leave exceeding more than two school days. The attendance record will be reflected in their report cards and the child will be responsible for making up for any missed work during this period.

School Uniform
Please make sure your child is in uniform every day. Our uniform colors are white and light blue shirts/polos and navy blue / khaki pants. Further details can be found on the website: www.isrionline.org. No other colors are permitted and students out of uniform will be asked to call home for a change of clothes in the first period. We sell polo shirts embroidered with our logo for $5 each. Please see the school office should you wish to make a purchase.

Supply list
Our suggested supply list is included for reference. It is also posted on the school website www.isrionline.org. Please clearly label all supplies, clothing, lunch boxes, etc. with the name of your child to avoid their item being accidentally taken by another student.

Nut-free school
ISRI is a nut-free school. Kindly ensure you do not pack any item with peanuts or any tree nuts etc granola bars, Nutella etc. We ask that you are mindful that we have students with severe nut allergies. There are many ways to be supportive of those students, including providing your child with snack / lunches that are nut-free.

Snack
Children should bring a snack every day. Snack time is a time to refuel to help students get through the morning without feeling hungry. It should be a time for nutrition, such as fruits, crackers, veggies, etc. Please let your child know what they have for snack so they do not eat their lunches during snack time. **Please note, soda of any form is not allowed during school hours.**

Lunch
The school does not provide hot lunches up to the moment. However, in the instance where your child forgets his/her lunch at home / in the car / bus, the school office will give you a call to check if you would like us to give them the following for a $2.00 fee:

- a juice box
- Kraft Macaroni and Cheese

A note will be send home with your child by the homeroom teacher at the end of the week informing the number of times lunch was given. Parents are requested to make prompt payment. The school will not facilitate any item for snack.

Pizza Friday
Pizza Friday will commence on Friday, September 12, 2014, for a nominal fee **of $4 per child, per week** (the supplier costs have gone up). Cheese pizza slices, salad and a juice box will be given to each child. Parents are requested to remind their child to hand in the money to their homeroom teacher. In the instance the child forgot to bring the money, the school office will call the parents and confirm if pizza should be given. A note will be sent home at the end of the month by your homeroom teacher.

Emergency closing
Emergency closings, delays or cancellations due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances will be announced through the local TV channels prior to 6:45 am, emails or by calling in to the school's voice mail system.

JupiterGrades
ISRI utilizes JupiterGrades for grading all subjects. Students and parents can log in securely to check grades and homework, download files, and view announcements and calendar notices. Parents can set alerts for low grades, missing assignments, and absences etc. JupiterGrades passwords will be issued to new students through Pre K – 8 grades. They will be handed out by your child's homeroom teacher. Returning students and parents will retain their previous password settings.

Addresses and Telephone Numbers
We like to keep updated contact records of all our students. If there have been any changes during summer, not reflected in the application form, kindly inform the school office so we can revise our files.

Jumah / Friday Prayer
Starting this year, Juma'ah prayer, conducted every Friday, will be held in the school's gym. Parents and guardians are welcomed and encouraged to attend the prayer.

Books
A high quality curriculum is applied at ISRI. Textbooks are the property of the school and have to be returned by the last day of classes. They must be kept in good, clean condition and students are not allowed to write / draw / doodle in the books. Any damaged or destroyed book will have to be paid for by the parent / guardian. This will be strictly enforced.

Hifz / Quran memorization program
Hifz / Quran memorization program will commence on Monday, September 8, 2014 from 7:00 am – 7:45 am. Parents can drop the Hifz students to the school building. The program is open to KG – 8 grade students for a nominal fee of $40 per month, per child. Payment is required on the 1st of every month.

Parents interested in enrolling their child into the program are requested to prepare students about their serious commitment throughout the year and starting school Monday through Friday from 7:00 am. **Please note, this program is not an early-care option and parents are requested not to treat it as such.**

Teacher meetings
If you wish to speak with your child (ren's) teacher, other than the parent orientation day, please make an appointment via phone or email with the school office. All visitors must stop by the main office for a pass whenever they are visiting the school.

BCI Check - Bureau of Criminal Identifications / Investigations
The school encourages parent involvement in all activities. Parents and those interested in joining the PTO or to be a chaperone for field trips are requested to provide the school with a recent BCI check (Bureau of Criminal Identifications / Investigations).

Electronic Equipment and Toys
The school does not allow toys or the use of electronic equipment in the school, e.g. iPods, iPads, tablets, cell phones etc., without the prior approval of the principal.

Medication
The school is not allowed to give any medication to kids without parents' permission. Parents are requested to clearly label their child medication prior to handing to the school office along with the instructions. All medication should be kept in the nurse's station in the school office.

Flu season
The Flu season is fast approaching. The Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that students with influenza-like illness remain at home until at least 24 hours after they are free of fever (100° F [37.8°C]), or signs of a fever without the use of fever-reducing medications. Kindly keep a sick child home if you see the following:

- **Fever -** Your sick child should be fever-free without medication for at least 24 hours before you send him back to school.
- **Diarrhea.** This could be a sign of a viral infection, so it's best to keep your child at home. It's also important to keep rehydrating him with an oral rehydrating solution when he/she has diarrhea, and the best way to do that is by keeping him /her at home.
- **Vomiting.** Aside from the fact that your child won't be comfortable, he/she could vomit again. Keep him/her at home until he/she has gone 24 hours without throwing up.
- **Cough.** Coughs can spread infection to other students. If your child has a serious cough, particularly if it's accompanied by breathing troubles, call your doctor and keep him/her home.
- **Rashes.** Skin rashes could be a sign of a contagious infection, such as impetigo. You should have a rash evaluated by a doctor before sending your child to school.
- **Pinkeye** (conjunctivitis). This infection can quickly and easily spread from one child to another. Keep your child home until the doctor says he is no longer contagious

Again, trust your instincts. If your child seems lethargic and just not him/herself keep him/her home and monitor for any signs of illness before you send him/her to school.

Accreditation
These are exciting times at ISRI as we celebrated our 10th anniversary in 2014 and towards our mission to achieve accreditation. Throughout the year, we will be turning to your support and participation for surveys, feedback etc. to reflect upon the school's performance. It is clear that these successes are the results of everybody's contributions.

We hope these preparations will assist you and your child to sail smoothly into the 2014 – 15 academic year.

If you need any clarifications, please don't hesitate to contact the school on contact@isrionline.org or401-821-8700. We look forward to welcoming you on Tuesday, September 2, 2014.

ISRI Administration