As we come to the end of the first term of this academic year, the children continue to work really hard. During this half term the school has taken part in National Anti-Bullying Week with the theme being ‘Change starts with us’. We would like parents to work with us and help with the aims of Anti-bullying week by:

- Listening to children and young people and taking their concerns seriously
- Having a conversation with anyone you think is struggling, to ask if they’re okay
- Thinking about the impact of words and actions, how they can hurt others and how they can be perceived - remembering that children often copy their adult role models.
- Being aware on social media and making sure not to ‘like’, comment on or share hurtful posts
- Campaigning for social media and gaming platforms to change the way they address bullying and for them to set children’s default privacy settings to the highest level
- Understanding the technology that children use and speaking to them directly about bullying using these platforms and how to report it.

Islam teaches us to be kind to one another, to show respect for one another and to treat others the way we would like to be treated. So let’s work with our children and teach them the importance of respecting one another.

Recording has been made of all the children’s efforts and they are very proud of themselves and their achievements. They have all been very successful in their individual work and have shown a great interest and commitment to their studies. Thank you very much to all our parent who have worked with us and supported the children at home.

I would also like to thank all parents who have attended workshops in IQA, English and Mathematics as well as Phonics, and SATS workshops.

The first 10-weeks of the Nurturing Programme this year has been completed and parents who have attended have given positive feedback on how this has helped them. Please put your name forward if you are interested in the next one, which is starting in January 2020.

I would also like to thank all parents who attended parents’ consultation meeting before half term. It was good to see so many of you attend. Attending parents’ consultation meetings is a very crucial part of ensuring we work closely together to achieve the best outcomes for our children.

**Arrangements in the event of extreme weather conditions.**
In the event of extreme weather, such as when heavy falls of snow develop overnight and continue into the following day or extreme icy conditions occur, parents should take the following advice about the possibility of school closure. Whenever possible, Al-Furqan Primary School will remain open. However, we have to consider the safety of all our children and staff. In the rare event of EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS across the whole of the City, the Local Authority (LA) may decide to close all schools and centres that are maintained by BCC. This will be announced through the BBC website on the radio stations BBC WM, Free Radio and through social media.

On the occasion where school will need to close because of factors unique to them e.g. local weather conditions, burst pipes, heating failure or because of particular physical difficulties of the school site, a decision will be made by 7.30 am if the school is to be closed. A text message alert will be sent informing you of the school’s closure. (Please make sure you have updated the school office with your contact details)

Please check for a text message and/or listen to one of these stations: BBC WM (95.6 FM) or Free Radio (96.4 FM) if heavy snow is falling, has fallen overnight or if there is other extreme weather.

Hope you all enjoy the holidays Insha’Allah, school will be open on **Monday 6th January 2020** for all pupils and staff.
Al-Furqan Primary School 2019 statutory Assessments

Early Years Foundation Stage Profile

| Achieving good level of development | 76% |

Phonics screening check

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Pass</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 re-sits</td>
<td>97%</td>
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</table>

Key Stage 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>At the Expected Standard</th>
<th>Above the Expected Standard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key Stage 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>At the expected standard</th>
<th>Above the expected standard</th>
<th>Average scaled scores</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>106.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar, Punctuation and Spellings</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>109.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>107.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading, Writing and Mathematics combined</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Average progress scores</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To see how we compare with national schools please see web link below:
Head of School Surgery


Parent support drop-in sessions for special educational needs and behaviour concern

Every Monday, from 9:00-10:00am and 3:30-4:30pm, Ustada Susanna (Inclusion and Designated Safeguarding Lead) is available at these times to see parents regarding their children with special educational needs.

Family Support drop-in

We are continuing with our family support drop-in sessions where parents can come and discuss any issues affecting them and/or their family with our Family Support Worker, Roohi Dodhy. These drop-in sessions are held on Mondays from 9.00-10.00am.

Programs & Courses

Parenting skills Programme

10 WEEK PROGRAMME

The sessions aim to help adults understand and manage feelings and behaviour and become more positive and nurturing in their relationships with children and each other. It encourages an approach to relationships that gives children and adults an emotionally healthy start for their lives and learning. The sessions will also help deal with challenges so that you can have a calmer life.

Topics covered

Understanding why children behave as they do
Recognising the feelings behind behaviour (ours and theirs)
Exploring different approaches to discipline
Finding ways to develop co-operation and self-discipline in children
Learning the importance of looking after ourselves

Who to contact: Roohi Dodhy (Family support)
Telephone: 0121 777-2222

The sessions will be held at: Al Furqan Primary School
Reddings Lane
Birmingham B11 3EY
Starting Date: Wednesday 13th January 2020
Time: 9.30am – 11.15am
Crèche not available
**Attendance and Punctuality**

Child Absence – Parents and carers must call school each day their child is absent from school. The call must be made before 9am and a message needs to be left on the school message service. The number to call is 0121 777 2222 Option 2. Please state your child’s full name, class and reason for absence. If a child arrives in class after registration closes, they will be marked as late.

Persistent absences, without contacting the school, will be referred to the Local Education Authority (LEA) and may be subject to a fine.

Leave in term time –

It is the responsibility of the parent to make the school aware if they are thinking of taking pupils on holiday in term time before they book the holiday. This should be done by completing a ‘leave in term time request form’ before booking any flights. Parents will be contacted to arrange a meeting with the Head of School to agree/deny this leave of absence. Any leave in term time is not permitted unless there are extenuating circumstances.

Late arrival –

All children must arrive into school before 8.55am. For any children who arrive after this time, it is the responsibility of parents to sign children in on the Inview system that is located by the school office. If children are not signed in they will be recorded as absent.

Signing in/out –

If you take your child out of school for any reason or bring them back, you need to sign them in or out on the Inview system.

Al-Furqan Primary School is working in partnership with parents and the Local Authority to improve school attendance and punctuality. We would like to congratulate and thank the many parents who make sure their children attend school regularly and are therefore benefiting fully from their educational opportunity.

**Attendance Data : 4th September 2019-6th December 2019**

**KS1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>RK</th>
<th>RL</th>
<th>RM</th>
<th>1K</th>
<th>1L</th>
<th>1M</th>
<th>2K</th>
<th>2L</th>
<th>2M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance %</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>94</td>
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**KS2**

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<th>5K</th>
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<th>6K</th>
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<th>6M</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance %</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Well done to 3M, 3K, 3L, 4K, 4L, 4M, 5K, 5L, 5M, 6K, 6L, 6M for the best overall attendance at 96%+ Ma sha’ Allah!
The importance of respecting parents

“He who is not merciful to our young (people) and who shows no respect to our elderly is not one of us.” [Tirmidhi, Al Birr (Virtue):15]

“Your Lord has commanded that you worship none but Him, and that you be kind to your parents. If one or both of them reach old age with you, do not say to them a word of disrespect, or scold them, but say a generous word to them. And act humbly to them in mercy, and say, ‘My Lord, have mercy on them, since they cared for me when I was small’ (17: 23-24).

IQA learning grid

The IQA grid will be given to the children this week which explains what the children are going to be learning in their IQA lessons. It will also show how you could help your child to achieve the best in shaa’Allah.

Reminder

We would like you inform you that the IQA Hifz Trophy Achievement for KS1 & KS2 deadline has been modified to 31-01-2020. Jazakum Allah khair for your cooperation.

SPORTS

On behalf of the P.E. Department we would like to thank all staff and parents for their continuous support, it’s been a busy term with so much happening and a lot more to come. Children have participated in a mixed year 5 and 6 indoor Athletics competition. Children competed to their highest levels of different types of races and off track activities. Well done to our year 5 and 6 who finished fourth out of ten other schools.

Our year 3 and 4 group also participated in a Gymnastics competition which they really enjoyed, this gave the year 3 and 4 children an insight of the type of effort and core strength that is needed for Gymnastics (it’s not all about cartwheels). Children found this fascinating. Year 5 and 6 girls also took part in a level 2 football match which was hosted at Al Furqan Primary, the girls thoroughly enjoyed this event!

“The game was amazing so much energy was needed, Even though I got hurt and we didn’t win it was very enjoyable. We should trial for a girl’s football team”
Sadieem Yr 5

Keep an eye out for further dates for upcoming events, and once again thank you for the support. Reminder please continue to support your child/children in bringing in the correct P.E Kit. We hope you have a good break and we look forward to working along with you and your child/children in the new term insha Allah
EYFS

We have now reached the end of the Autumn Term and would like to thank all parents and carers for their continued support for the school routines since the children have settled into full-time school days.

We would like to take this opportunity to update you on some of the learning we have been doing in Reception since the last update, children have been learning about ‘Dinosaurs’. We captured Dina the Dinosaur on CCTV. Dina the Dinosaur visited our classrooms and left us some eggs to take care of. The children explored the eggs and wrote letters to thank Dina the Dinosaur and update her on the hatching of her babies.

In literacy, children have been learning to sequence the sounds they can hear in words in order to write simple words and sentences. You can support with this at home by asking children ‘What can you see?’ and allowing children to answer using a complete sentence. The development of language will support children’s literacy learning.

In Maths, children have been working with numbers to 5 and have enjoyed using Cbeebies Numberblocks to support their learning. They have been comparing quantities, looking at and identifying more and fewer, one more, one less and composition of numbers to 5. To support this learning at home, use the language of parts and whole to look at what parts of a whole number there are, e.g. the whole number is five. 2 is a part and 3 is a part and the whole number is 5. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those parents that attended the Reception Maths Mastery Workshop and we hope you have found this useful in supporting your child’s learning at home.

Reminders

We would like to remind all parents and carers that children’s homework books, reading books and IQA diary are all due to be returned every Monday. It is important that you attempt to read with your child and complete some homework each week in order to sustain your child’s learning at home.
YEAR ONE

We have had a wonderful Autumn term, that has been packed with excellent learning made by the children. We are very proud of children's work in Mathematics and English. They have worked hard on the number operations – addition and subtraction using a variety of methods such as; part, part, whole and ten frames. They have also enjoyed many stories in Literacy. Their unanimous favourite was creating a mini-adventure for Traction Man. In shaa Allah we will continue to build on this work for the rest of the academic year.

Both children and teachers have enjoyed this half term’s topic ‘The Gunpowder Plot’. Children have learnt about History in this topic. They really enjoyed learning about Guy Fawkes and his plan.

Finally, we would like to say a big Jazak Allah kheirun to parents for attending our assemblies about Prophet Yunus (AS) and also working hard to help children learn their lines!!!

First and foremost we would like to thank all parents for their support during this term. Thank you also to all the parents who make a comment in their child’s reading diary as this is very important. We would also like to stress the importance of ensuring that children read every day at home, this will not only develop their phonic knowledge but also their imagination. We challenge all our children to read every day during the holidays, we don’t mind what children read – school or home books, magazines, newspapers, comics or internet articles – just keep them reading!

During Art lessons children have been learning about LS Lowry and his artwork. Children have recreated their own Lowry City Collage. They explored how he used 5 paint colours to make other colours that he used. The children enjoyed mixing the paint in order to make the colour needed and then painted their background.

Well done to the children in Year 1, who have been working diligently during their Maths lesson to identify and represent numbers. They used base 10, numicon, ten frames and teddies in order to do this. Following this they then compared the amounts using the representations. We have so many of fantastic mathematicians on our hands.
YEAR TWO

Year 2 children have had a fabulous half term with lots of learning and fun taking place.

Children have been learning about their local area. Children have had the opportunity to explore maps and look at photos of their local area. Children were introduced to the term physical and human features. Ask your child what the physical and human features are in their area.

Children had the opportunity to walk around their local area and visit the parks, River Cole and look at the different buildings. Children then devised a map of the local area using a ‘KEY’ to highlight different symbols on their map.

Your child has been learning how to use locational and directional language to describe the locations of features and routes on a map – Well done!

Well done to all the year 2 children for participating in their assemblies and it was a pleasure to see so many parents attend their child’s assembly.

The theme was for children to wear odd socks to represent that we are all different and that we should respect each other.

We would like to thank children for raising money during Anti-bullying week.
YEAR THREE

It has been a very busy exciting half term in year 3. The children have enjoyed learning about maps and have learnt the skills needed to interpret maps.

In science they have been learning about plants and carried out investigations to find out ‘What do plants need to grow well?’ and ‘How temperature affects water transportation?’.

In English children enjoyed the traditional tale ‘The Old Lady and Her Son’ and a narrative written by Anthony Browne called ‘Into the Forest’.

In Maths children have developed their understanding of multiplication and division using the 3, 4 and 8 times tables. It is important that children continue to practise their times tables and try to recall them quickly.

As you all know reading is a very important skill and has impact on all areas of learning. We would like to encourage children to read more and to visit a library over the holidays.

In Year 3 we are encouraging children to bring their favourite books from home and share them with other children.

In Art they have been inspired by the work of Barbara Hepworth and have used her designs and shapes to create their own sculpture jewellery.

Finally we thank you for your continued support.
YEAR FOUR

This half term in topic we have been learning about Vikings and how they came to Britain. The children have taken part in many role-plays and enactments to enhance their understanding.

In English we have been reading ‘The Ice Palace’ by Robert Swindells. Year four have been eagerly awaiting to know who Starjik is and now their wait is over, please ask your child about this story. Reading for pleasure is something else that we love in Year 4. Children have been bringing in their favourite books to share with their class mates. They have also had opportunities to recommend books to read. Please continue to read at home with the children and listen to them read. It is very important for parents to read with their child and write a short comment in their blue reading diaries. Reading books should be brought to school every day along with the blue diaries.

Maths has been fun and we have been learning about measurement and perimeter. Next term we will be looking at area and division. As you know this year is an important year for our Year 4 children as they will be formally tested on their multiplication tables in June 2020. Children need to learn facts up to 12x12. The test will last for about five minutes and children will be required to answer questions by selecting the correct answer on a computer or tablet. It is essential that the children can recall the facts quickly and accurately. Games like ‘Hit The Button’ and ‘Times Table Rock Stars’ can aid with this. In school we are practising our multiplication tables weekly. Please do this at home as well. The benefits of recalling facts quickly will impact on learning in future years.

Finally, we would like to thank the children for working so hard this term and making it through the assessment week.

Please have a peaceful break and we shall see you all next year, Insha-Allah.

YEAR FIVE

In year 5, the children have been working on multiple, factors, prime numbers and area and perimeter. They had a lot of fun working in groups to solve a puzzle which involved multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000.

Next term, we will be working on multiplication and division using formal written methods.

In English, the children studied a picture book, ‘The Viewer.’ They explored the different themes throughout the text. The children in year 5 have written some fantastic stories full of suspense.

We are now reading a book called ‘Treason’. This has a historical setting and children will learn about Tudor Britain.
**YEAR SIX**

During this half term pupils in year 6 have been learning about rivers. They have learnt about how a river is formed; looked at the effects of flooding and have understood which flood management strategy is the most effective. All pupils have really enjoyed this topic and we hope they can use this knowledge in the outside world. Also in maths all classes have now been taught place value and have moved onto understanding fractions. In English pupils have written a range of genres such as a formal complaint letter, short story and an informal diary extract. All students are trying to improve their spellings and develop their grammar and punctuation so that they can use it in context effectively. Next term pupils will be learning about World War Two and will be visiting Cannock Chase – a museum which will really help pupils develop their knowledge about the Home Front.

**We Are Learning About Our Rights**

This half-term pupils have learnt a range of rights and understood the importance of all of them. All pupils at Al-Furqan Primary School know that these rights are breached around the world. This means millions of children are not receiving these rights. Pupils at Al-Furqan Primary School have been learning about these rights during assembly and in their classrooms. Pupils have been learning about the importance of a toilet for every child.

**The following rights have been taught:**

Article 2 – Every child has the right not to be discriminated against.
Article 27 - Every child should receive a good standard of living.
Article 28 - Every child has the right to a good education.
Article 38/39 - Every child has the right to be protected from war.

Article 23 – Every child should be treated well even if they have a disability.
**Office News**

**Reception Application Forms**

If your child is born between 01.09.2015 and 31.08.2016 and due to start in Reception, September 2020 please collect an application pack from the school office. You will also need to complete a Local Authority application form online at www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions. The final deadline is Wednesday, 15 January 2020.

**Lunch Payments**

Lunch payments must be made on Parentpay no later than 12.00 pm every Thursday for the following week. The school office provide the kitchen with the following weeks figures every Friday morning. If you have been unable to make a payment please provide your child with a home lunch.

If your Parentpay account goes over £20.00 in arrears school will not be able to provide lunch for your child so please provide a packed lunch form home until paid. You will have received a letter/email advising you of the amount outstanding.

**Parent Lite App**

Please return your email details to the school office ASAP in order for us to introduce a new online app called Parent Lite. This will allow parents to update their own contact/address details.

**Anti-Bullying Odd Sock Day**

£81.00 raised for Anti-Bullying

**Online Safety - useful information**

Technology is continuously changing, at the same time it is extremely important to ensure children are kept safe when using it. There is continuous awareness about keeping safe. Additionally, our school website has some fantastic resources for parents about keeping children safe online. We have some useful leaflets placed in the main reception area for parents. Further information can also be accessed from: https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/

Everyone has access to the 'E-Safety' with useful information page on our school website.
http://www.al-furqan-pri.bham.sch.uk/e-safety/

Parents, please ensure you have registered for the online safety course, accredited by National Online Safety. These courses are extremely useful and have a lot of resources about keeping children safe online. Upon completion of your course you will be awarded with a certificate and this will also contribute towards whole school 'Online Safety Award' for our school. Sessions will be arranged for parents to do their course in school soon.