

# Edmonton Islamic Academy

RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE, SUCCESSFUL, LEADERS AND CONTRIBUTORS TO SOCIETY.



# WELCOME BACK

A NEW YEAR, A NEW JOURNEY

## GRADE 9 | NEWSLETTER

### Welcome Letters

September 6, 2018

## VICE PRINCIPAL

Bahja Mahmoud //  
[bahja.mahmoud@islamicacademy.ca](mailto:bahja.mahmoud@islamicacademy.ca)

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

Assalamu Alaikum and welcome to the 2018/19 school year!

My name is Bahja Mahmoud and I am honoured to continue to serve you in the Vice Principal role for the Secondary Department. I look forward to work with Mr. Abougouche, and all our staff to provide a positive learning environment and advance the students' achievement. It is a great pleasure to work with highly qualified teachers who are dedicated to the success of every student.

A little background about myself: I graduated from the University of Alberta in 2007 with a Master degree in Chemistry. I also obtained a bachelor degree in Secondary Education with a major in chemistry and a minor in mathematics from the same university. I am currently pursuing a Master degree in education, which I expect to complete during this coming year insha'Allah.

The students of the Academy are the future, and it takes all of us to be actively involved in their education. Your role as a parent is essential in helping your son/daughter meet and exceed the expectations we have set for him/her.

Please feel free to stop by and say hello. My door is always open. You can also contact me by e-mail

Sincerely yours,

Bahja Mahmoud

## ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL & ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Mr. Yahia Dalloul //  
[yahia.dalloul@islamicacademy.ca](mailto:yahia.dalloul@islamicacademy.ca)

Asalamu alaykum,

Dear parents and guardians, I'd like to welcome you all into our upcoming school year. My name is Yahia Dalloul (Mr. Dalloul). As I enter my 4th year of teaching at the Edmonton Islamic Academy, it is with great pleasure and excitement to embark on a new journey as Assistant Principal and Athletic Director. I look forward to take on these roles and hope to do so with much sincerity and honesty.

A little about me: Much of my life was spent in Halifax, Nova Scotia. I graduated from St. Francis Xavier University with a background in Physical Education, and I have been teaching for 8 years (and counting). I spent some time teaching internationally in China, and Qatar. My decision to become an administrator came from a desire to make a positive impact on an entire school, not just my classroom of students.

The students of EIA are the future, and it takes all of us to be actively involved in their education. I encourage you to help our students to meet and exceed the expectations we have set for them. I am very much looking forward to meeting each of you over the course of the school year.

Please know that my door is always open to help support you and focus on what is best for our students. I encourage you all to stop by, as I would love to meet the great families of our school!

Respectfully,

Yahia Dalloul

# ISLAMIC STUDIES 9A, 9B, 9C

Fatima Bensassi //  
fatima.binsassi@islamicacademy.ca

Dear Parents and Guardians:

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

I hope that you and your families are in the best of your Iman and Health. I am pleased to be joining your son/daughter on their days through the school year (2018/19). I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Fatima Bensassi, I am teaching Islamic studies teacher for grade 9. I graduated from Al Qarawieen University (Morocco) with a bachelor degree in Islamic Studies and law. I have over 14 years of teaching experience in this field, 6 years in Saudi Arabia and 8 years in Edmonton .

My objectives during this academic year, insha-Allah, is to enrich students' asset in Islamic knowledge and culture. Our focus this year is to build and strengthen relationship with the holy book of Quran among our students, and to demonstrate a deep understanding of the Pillars of faith -Iman and its relevance to contemporary life. Hopefully, each student will enjoy and get the essential Islamic teaching that help them and enlighten their path through their journey of life.

I believe that in the profession of teaching, every day is a challenge to be the role model of what we want our students to look up to. I am very enthusiastic and passionate to be here, and look up to working with your child and maintaining a positive learning environment in our classroom and our school for the whole year. I have very high expectations of myself as a teacher as well as of my students insha- Allah. I aim for this year to be productive, memorable and enjoyable for all of us.

Communication between teacher, students, and parents play an essential role for success and for achieving our goals. I look forward to meeting you and work together as a team, insha-Allah, throughout the year; I will be using Remind for communication; please sign up and keep connected. Also, I will be using Google Classroom for more class notes and worksheets.

Sincerely,  
Fatima Bensassi

## RESOURCES:

- ★ Email:  
Fatima.Binsassi@islamicacademy.ca
- ★ Remind: @islamicfat

## ARABIC 9A, 9B, 9C

Dina Saleh// dina.saleh@islamicacademy.ca

It is with great pleasure I introduce myself, Ms. Dina Saleh, as the grade Nine Arabic Studies teacher. I was born and raised in Ontario, then moved to Jordan where I received my Bachelor degree from the Jordan University of Science and Technology. I have 4 years of teaching experience in Jordan, and 6 years in EIA. I feel very fortunate to be part of the EIA family, where I feel a sense of belonging! I have a passion for teaching, and my main focus is students' interaction in the classroom and their wellbeing. Establishing a good relation that is based on mutual respect is key for students' growth and love for any subject. I look forward to working with you and your child.

I have an open door policy if you need to communicate with me when I am not teaching. I can also be reached through e-mail and remind.

For remind communication please enter this number : 780-666-7334. Then text this message : @grade9ara

## RESOURCES

- ★ Handouts and worksheets

## LANGUAGE ARTS 9A, 9B, 9C

Amanah Eljaji// [amanah.eljaji@islamicacademy.ca](mailto:amanah.eljaji@islamicacademy.ca)

Assalamu Alaikum,

In the name of Allah, the most Beneficent and Merciful, we will commence the 2018-2019 school year. Although I have had the pleasure to meet most parents throughout the years, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Amanah Eljaji. I have been blessed by Allah to undertake the responsibility of being the 9C homeroom teacher. Furthermore, I will have the opportunity to teach all grade 9 Language Arts.

Alhamdulillah, I graduated from the University of Alberta with a Bachelor's degree in Secondary Education. Immediately after graduation, I began working at the Edmonton Islamic School where I taught grade 8 and 9 for almost eight years. Then in 2006, I moved to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia where I taught grade 11 and 12 English and English to first year university students. But, since returning to Canada in 2013, I have returned to Edmonton Islamic Academy where I have returned to my roots of teaching grade 9. As well, I also serve as the Humanities Coordinator for grades 7-12.

As a teacher and mother, I believe that every student has an individual way of learning and their own set of needs and gifts that are brought to the classroom. Therefore, my classroom is student centered and it is my responsibility as a teacher to expound on their gifts and provide an environment that will foster maximum learning and meet each child's individual needs. Accordingly, I teach in a way that employs a variety of teaching strategies. As a result, in my classroom students learn from each other and learn to work together and explore concepts and apply them at high-order thinking levels. I also believe that the standard set for the students should be reachable, but high as each student deserves to be challenged to reach the fullest of his/her potential. I will do my utmost as their guide to reflect on the process and make necessary adjustments to motivate them to learn and prepare them for today and tomorrow as Muslims.

I look forward to working constructively and cooperatively with you, so that your child may mature intellectually, physically, emotionally, socially, and spiritually in a supportive Islamic environment. Also, I sincerely encourage all parental involvement in your child's learning. Please never hesitate to contact me by leaving a message at the school at 780-454-4573 or emailing me at [amanah.eljaji@islamicacademy.ca](mailto:amanah.eljaji@islamicacademy.ca) or contacting me via Remind (@mseljaji to the number 587-316-2969), whenever you have concerns regarding the welfare and progress of your child. May Allah bless us in making this 2018-2019 school year successful!

Sincerely Yours,  
Amanah Eljaji

### RESOURCES

- ★ Email: [amanah.eljaji@islamicacademy.ca](mailto:amanah.eljaji@islamicacademy.ca)
- ★ Remind: @mseljaji
- ★ Google Classroom code: 9hvck
- ★ Class handouts and materials; Google classroom for other materials, The Key

## SOCIAL STUDIES 9A, 9B, 9C

Mr. Husam Charkeih // [husam.charkeih@islamicacademy.ca](mailto:husam.charkeih@islamicacademy.ca)

Salam, and may peace be upon you.

My name is Husam Charkeih. I will be your child's Social Studies teacher for the 2018/2019 school year. This will be my second year with the Edmonton Islamic Academy.

I am a graduate of the University of Alberta, with a major in Mathematics, and minors in Social Studies as well as Physical Education. Aside from teaching, I compete in running and cycling, while enjoying skiing, skating, and more.

My teaching philosophy in Social Studies is using research and current case studies to draw connections between student learning and real-life scenarios which occur in our political system. Homework and assignments will be largely research-based: students' academic success is contingent on them being socially aware of current events in North America firstly, and secondly



## SCIENCE 9B, 9C

Ms. Sajeda Tarabain // [sajeda.tarabain@islamicacademy.ca](mailto:sajeda.tarabain@islamicacademy.ca)

Assalamu Alaikum Dear Parents,

My name is Sajeda Tarabain, and this is my third year teaching at the Edmonton Islamic Academy. As an Edmonton Islamic Academy alumnus, it is an honour and a privilege to come back and teach at the school that fostered my love for education from the start. I attended the Islamic Academy from preschool in the Al Rashid Mosque until grade nine in the academy, where I was a part of the first class to have a graduation celebration in this remarkable building. I then went on to graduate with a Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Alberta with a major in General Sciences and a minor in Mathematics.

My goal as an EIA teacher is to convey to students the practicality and value of science and mathematic education, while integrating Islamic values into my instruction, so that they may cultivate an intrinsic desire to seek knowledge and to become lifelong learners. It is important to me that all students are provided with an equal opportunity to learn and grow in an environment that is both safe and enjoyable. Through learning, students can then move on to be skilled, contributing and connected members of their community.

This semester, I will be teaching Science for 9B and 9C. We will be covering many exciting concepts, however, this is the first year that your child, and possibly yourself, will experience semestered courses. This means that science runs from September to January, and we will be writing our PAT exam in January. After the PAT exam, science ends and math begins. Although this system has proven to be effective in preparing our students for high school, I would like to emphasize that this will be a fast paced course, and students cannot afford to fall behind. For that reason, I encourage you as parents to regularly keep updated with the school newsletter. The weekly newsletters will let you know all upcoming tests, assignments and concepts that will be covered. In addition to the weekly newsletter, there are other ways to stay updated, and I will outline them all in the course outline given to students on Tuesday. They will also be

added to this newsletter beginning next week. These include the Remind app, Google classroom, and email.

I look forward to meeting and working with you and your child this year, Insha Allah!

Warmest Regards,  
Sajeda Tarabain

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION / OUTDOOR EDUCATION 9

Zakaria.Mahmoudi // [zakaria.mahmoudi@islamicacademy.ca](mailto:zakaria.mahmoudi@islamicacademy.ca)

Mr. Mahmoudi is a graduate of the University of Alberta where he earned a degree in Physical Education and French Language. Mr.Mahmoudi originated from Tunisia moved from Manitoba to Alberta four years ago to pursue his study and continue with his passion to work with the outdoor sports activities. Mr.Mahmoudi a Canoe Kayak Instructor and high performance Coach spent many years working at the International Canoe Federation as Technical Expert and Consultant for African and Asian countries and work with Olympian athletes. Mr.Mahmoudi is an avid outdoorsman and enjoys spending his spare time running, hiking, canoeing and biking. Zak brings a wealth of experience to this program having worked for Greater Edmonton Racing Canoe Kayak Club and the Sport Athletic Fitness programs. Zak has a strong background in the outdoor education; he enjoys the challenge and satisfaction of being the Program Leader in our school.

## ART 9

Lin Ye // [lin.ye@islamicacademy.ca](mailto:lin.ye@islamicacademy.ca)

Dear parents,

Please refer to Science 9A section for my introductory letter.

Beside Science as my academic major, I have been passionate about art since I was a toddler and I am

thrilled to teach art this semester. You can contact me through any method below.

Best regards,

Lin Ye

## RESOURCES

- ★ Remind: [art9linye](#)
- ★ Google Classroom: [i0fz44i](#)

## CTS 9

Rania Mohamed // [Rania.mohamed@islamicacademy.ca](mailto:Rania.mohamed@islamicacademy.ca)

Assalaam Alaikum Dear Parents,

My name is Rania Mohamed I am the Technology Coordinator in the school and I will be teaching the following courses during the 2018-2019 academic year:

- Computer Programming optional course for Junior High Students

This is my fifth year in EIA and my ninth year in teaching. I have an engineering degree in electronics and communication. When I discovered my passion for education I started a Bachelor of Education and followed it by a master's degree in Educational Leadership while I was teaching.

I believe that communication between teachers and parents is vital for students' success. Hence, I will be in contact to keep you up-to-date regarding important dates for tests, assignments, as well as your child's achievement and progress. I am also available for meeting on campus whenever needed. Please feel free to email me [rania.mohamed@islamicacademy.ca](mailto:rania.mohamed@islamicacademy.ca) with any questions, comments, and/or suggestions.

I am looking forward to working with your child and you and wish both of you a great and a successful year.

If you would like to receive daily remind messages, please enter this number: 587 801-0984

For the Junior High computer Programming Course: text this message @ jhcode

For your name please provide your relationship and name of child. For Ex. Mother of Aseel this will help me identify you.