

March 19, 2020/ Rajab 24, 1441 AH

As Salam Alay Kum Parents and Students,

Over the last two days we have been working hard to ensure that we follow both the Alberta Education and the District's mandate to continue providing education for our children. Our reality is that the situation is constantly changing so we ask that you please be patient with us and trust us to provide you with details once we have an update.

Here is what we have worked on so far:

We outlined a few short-term priorities we would like schools to focus on in the near future, these include:

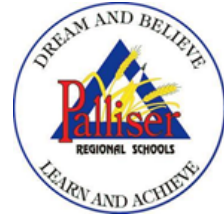
- **Connect with every student:** Before the end of the week and in the next few days, the teachers will be calling you and connecting with our students. We just want to make sure that students are okay and I am positive that they will be happy to hear from their teachers.
- **School Calendar:** Please note that OBK will be following the school calendar for the 2019-2020 school year. This means that school will be off for Spring Break from March 21- to April 5, 2020. Please do not expect any teaching to continue during the break, weekend and holidays.
- **Report Cards:** On **Friday March 20, 2020**, teachers will be emailing you a copy of the Term 2 report cards. Please check your email. For grades 2 and up, the teachers will also be mailing you the Math Assessment test - MIPI that was conducted this year for your child.

- **Plan for students (or parents) to come to the school and collect personal items:** The school will be arranging a date and time from **April 6th** onwards for parents and/or students to come to the school to collect their belongings. Instructions for the pick up will be emailed to you inshallah on April 3rd, 2020. As always, we emphasize the importance of the procedure outlined to prevent the spread of illness (e.g. less than 50 people at a time, good respiratory illness etiquette, nobody with illness in attendance etc.) is followed. The procedure required when coming into the school will be emailed to all parents and students prior to April 7th, Inshallah.
 - When you come to pick up your child's personal items, please make sure that you **return any library books** that your child may have checked out.
 - If you have any **textbooks** with you, please return them to the school at this time.
 - Those students receiving awards, **the Term Two Awards** will be ready with the student's personal belongings.

- **Resume educating students:** Inshallah from **Monday, April 6, 2020** - OBK will resume educating our students on-line. It is our intention to provide all of our students with the best education possible under these circumstances.
 - Weekly assignments for each subject with "I can statements" will be posted on-line every Friday by noon for the coming week.
 - The first point of contact regarding school work for your child is the homeroom teacher.
 - Homeroom teachers will be posting a summary by Friday March 20th, 2020 of what education will be like for each subject.
 - **Text books:** We are not sending text books home. The district is working on getting on-line textbooks and free subscriptions to help support on-line teaching/learning. The school is offering Solaro, Mathletics and Raz kids subscriptions through school cash. Please note that Muslim TV network is free and available for all grades KG - 6 students. Last day to sign up for the above programs is **Friday, April 17, 2020**.

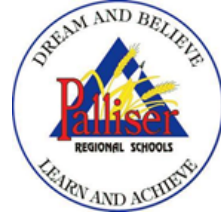
- **Arabic text books and work books are loaned** for a **\$25.00** deposit or a **\$15.00** book deposit depending on the grade your child is in. You **need to pay the deposit on school cash** and **only** then will the book be available to you. You can pick up the Arabic text and workbook on the day you come to pick up your child's personal belongings. If you do not pay by then, you will not be allowed to return to the school to pick up the Arabic books. This is your only chance.
- If your child does not have access to technology such as desktop, chromebook, ipad etc, **please contact the homeroom teacher immediately.**
- **Arabic, Islamic Studies, Quran and Tahfeeth Instruction:** As the on-line programming commences, explicit description of how on-line teaching will proceed regarding these subjects will be shared with you. Quran and Tahfeeth will be conducted through face to face on-line instruction. Arabic and Islamic studies will be conducted in combination of direct face to face as well as on-line application. The Arabic department is accessing two on-line programs for Arabic:
 - *Alif Ba Taa* - free for one month and will be used for Kindergarten to grade 6;
 - *Kutubi* - free for two months and will be used for grades 7 - 9
 - Muslim Kids TV Network is available for all KG to Grade 6 students where students can also record themselves and use many different books for Islamic, Quran and Arabic.
 - Arabic textbooks and workbooks are available for purchase through school cash. Last day to purchase will be April 17, 2020.
- **Cancellation of all programs and Field trips:** OBK will be cancelling all programs and field trips for the year.
 - Programs such as in-line skating and Bricks for Kids have been cancelled for the year.

All Field trips have been cancelled and any unused field trip money **will be refunded** back to your account through school cash inshallah by **Thursday, April 30, 2020**. Please rest assured that this is your amana and the school will be refunding all unused field trip money.



- **Society Fee:** The \$1400 that you pay is a society fee and any questions or concerns regarding refunding society fee, please contact the society (MCCF) and **NOT** the school as the school does not collect the fee.

- **Contact:** Your first point of contact is the teacher. For other questions, you can contact the front office, which is operating regular office hours unless the situation changes. The Principal, Vice Principal and coordinator are maintaining the following office hours to hold phone conversations or face to face conversations with parents. If you wish to contact the school administration, please contact the front office to book an appointment during the time provided below:
 - **Principal - Mrs. Ali**
Monday, Wednesday and Friday - 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm
Tuesday and Thursday - 9:00 am to 11:00 am
Email: raiha.idrees@pallisersd.ab.ca
 - **Vice Principal - Mrs. Sarhan**
Monday, Wednesday and Friday - 9:00 am to 11:00 am
Tuesday and Thursday - 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm
Email: fatima.sarhan@pallisersd.ab.ca
 - **Arabic/Islamic/ Quran and Tahfeeth Coordinator - Sheikh Hassan Khalil**
Monday and Friday - 11:00 am to 12:00 am
Email: hassan.khalil@pallisersd.ab.ca



Our deen teaches us to be patient and to be grateful to Allah (SWT) regardless of what challenges this *duniya* throws at us. I thank you for being patient with us over the past few days. Humans are adaptable and creative during times of adversity and inshallah if our *niyyah* is that we will continue to educate our children during these challenging times, I am confident that Allah (SWT) will make it easy for us and guide us in the right direction. Please be patient with us because this is all new for us all. Losing social interaction, as we teach your children, will prove to be challenging. However, together with your support, patience, and cooperation, we can make this work. Let us work together to ensure that our children have the access and opportunity to complete their education for this year. May Allah (SWT) protect us and guide us to do what is best for our ummah and our children- Ameen.

Kind regards,

Mrs. Raiha Idrees

Principal - Calgary Islamic School OBK Campus