3rd Grade: “A Melting Pot” on Multicultural Day
By: The 3rd Grade Class

In ELA, students are studying the Unit on cultures. We are studying how each culture is unique in its own way. We’ve explored the different traditions, foods, clothing, beliefs, and many more attributes of different cultures in our lessons. In order to celebrate the beauty in differences of cultures, we had a Culture Day party. Each student brought in a dish that represents their culture to share with the class. Along with their dish they also brought in an item, picture, or story that they felt was unique to their culture to share with the rest of the class. Some items that were presented were a flag, bangles, and a calendar among many other items. Each child shared how the items they brought in was special to their culture. Dishes such as samosas, dolmas, biryani, and pasta were among the many delicious dishes.

The goal of the event was to promote differences and similarities in our cultures. Some cultures that were represented include Turkish, Bangali, Pakistani, Indian, Moroccan, Italian, Puerto Rican, Afghan, Native American, Egyptian, Tunisian, and Hispanic. After presentations, students joined together and had lunch tasting the different cultural foods. It was a very memorable day for each student in 3rd grade. They ended the event learning something new about each of their classmate’s culture.

Photo of the Month:

A sketch by Mashal Farooqi, of Grade 9, representing the internal struggle of some teenaged girls, which is overcome by the beauty of the Hijab and the confidence Muslim women who wear veils possess.

“It’s Alive”!
By: Mehreema Yasin/Grade 12

Steve Petra came to MDQ Academy to teach our students, AHS to 5th grade, about health. His show was called “It’s Alive. He used puppets and humor to teach children about how their bodies work and the importance of taking care of them. To quote a student from Pre-K, “STEVE WAS AWESOME”!
Steve calls on student volunteers to help in his visual demonstration, teaching the audience how long intestines actually are. Human intestines (uncoiled) have an average length of 25 ft in length, subhanAllah!

The Poetry Corner
Secrets
By: Laiba Ahmed/Grade 11

So many secrets
Locked up in a cloud
The darkest of them all
Will follow you around

But once it comes out,
It will never go back
It will improve you
And it will leave a crack

From the edges of darkness,
You cry inside
No one can know about it
But you have to fight

You won’t get hurt
Not anymore
Being filled with bloody lies
There is another door

You won’t be the shadow
You will be the sun
You won’t keep falling
You will run

No more staying quiet
Just scream and shout!
You won’t be hidden
You will come out

Students teach their classmates all about their culture, using props and creative presentations!

The 3rd graders got to experience the different cultures through a taste-test.

Khutbah Reflection
By: Khizer Nasir /Grade 7

Last week’s Khutbah was led by Br. Adeeb, and involved Prophet Yusuf and his brothers. He was the most loved by his father, Yacqub (AS). One day Yusuf had a
dream and his father interpreted it to be about him becoming a prophet. Yaqub warned him not to tell his brothers, out of fear that they will harm him. His brothers ended up throwing him into a well and telling their father he was eaten by a wolf. It was very easy for them to tell another lie, and the lesson there is that eventually lies will consume you and become second nature.

Years pass by, and Yusuf is promoted to a high ranking position, in a country with a lot of wealth and produce. At the same time, his siblings are experiencing hardship and famine. They travel to him, not knowing that he is the brother they had dumped into the well years ago. Eventually, he forgives them and grants them a second chance. The theme of the story is no matter how severe your actions, or sins, the door of repentance is always open. Allah will always forgive our sins if we have the willingness to close the door of sinning.

**Art Gallery**

![Mashal Farooqi/Grade 9](image)

![Samah Ismail/Grade 7](image)

**Upcoming Events**

- **Monday April 24** - In-Class Spelling Bee
- **Tuesday April 25** - Spelling Bee Finals

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