

# ***RAWDAT EL ZUHUR***

## ***QUARTERLY REPORT***



**June 2009**

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## **Morning Prayer At Rawdat**

If you ever visit Rawdat El Zuhur you will hear the prayer that the children say early in the morning as they stand in their lines . We share with you the prayer translated from Arabic.....

Teach me your love, lord

If you give me money don't take away my happiness

If I am offended by people give me the courage to forgive

If you give me success ,keep me humble

If I offended somebody

give me the courage to apologize



## Time to have fun

The beginning of April is time for the annual story-reading week at Rawdat El Zuhur! Teachers, mothers and children all joined efforts to make the week a successful and enjoyable one. It seemed like the school was turned into a beehive with everybody running around, helping organize the event.

During the first two days teachers read stories for all classes and organized activities related to the stories. Following was mothers story telling day for all classes. Mothers from the PTA (Parents– Teachers Association), dedicated and helpful as ever read stories to each class.

In the course of the week the children enjoyed a day in the open air in Ramallah in cooperation with Tamer institute. Activities included painting a mural related to Jerusalem, story telling and individual painting and drawing of children.

The week ended with an open day that embodied the so – called “city market” . The main gate of the school was decorated symbolizing Damascus gate in Jerusalem . The children dressed in typical Jerusalem vendor outfits used their imagination to play the role of a typical vendor selling his products in the old city of Jerusalem. These were merchants, coffee shop owners and passers by.

That was so much Fun!

There was a section of real market that included homemade bakeries, cakes, sweets, and typical Jerusalem ka'ek. Everything was prepared by teachers and mothers who got all involved to prepare an appetizing menu. It is indeed this kind of pleasant spirit and tight cooperation that you rarely see elsewhere except in Rawdat El Zuhur!

The day ended with a story teller who walked through the market just like in old times and the vendors of shops all followed him of thirst to hear good stories



## Shining Stars

A group of eight children performed at a Dabkeh festival in Frères College in Jerusalem. Out of many competing groups Rawdat El Zuhur children received first prize for their outstanding performance. It is a great honor indeed!



The children also participated in a Dabkeh festival organized by the Ministry of Education, again the children were honored for their lovely performance.

We are also very proud to announce that Rawdat's Dabkeh group will also perform in October 2009 in Washington DC at the annual Fundraising dinner held by ANERA.



Rejoicing the prize

## A day out.....

A tour around Jerusalem and the old city was organized by Al Quds Jerusalem studies for all classes.

Visiting and learning about historic and religious places that are plenty in our Holy Land, was all what the children needed to enjoy an outdoor sunny day and get connected with their hometown.



## The Tree of ethical values

The tree of ethical values hanging on the second floor helps us set a value system for the children which we hope they would implement in their lives.

It makes us very proud to say that the spirit that we try to instill in our children is by being a role model and with the help of PTA mothers who share their stories and thoughts with the children on a weekly basis.



### Special word to our volunteers:

We are blessed at Rawdat El Zuhur with the help of the Parents Teachers association who's dedication and loyalty are enormous. Their help in implementing and organizing various activities is indispensable and we realize that much have been possible with their cooperation and lively spirit. So a very big thank you for the team.

A big thank you as well for the wonderful team of graduates who give from all their hearts and volunteer in all kinds of activities around the school. Their help is greatly appreciated as they are always there and whatever the job takes.



PTA at mothers day

## LAST DAY AT SCHOOL ... NEVER ENDING FUN



**On the last day of school the children spent an enjoyable day with the clown whose funny gestures made the children laugh like they Never did. This was possible through a donation of Anton Hallac.**



Liza Burn a long time friend of Rawdat El Zuhur, helping out with the library

## French Day

Bleu, Blanc, Rouge  
The French day was celebrated with children performing in French beautiful songs and short plays. Guests from the French Consulate attended and were delighted with the talents of the children in the French language



All dressed up for the French day



With Ribbons wrapped around their hands with the colors of the Palestinian flag and cards with the colors of the French flag , solidarity of the two people could not have been expressed in a better way.

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## Staff News

In cooperation with the Palestinian Counseling Center a series of sessions were organized for the teachers to discuss classroom issues and behavioral attitudes and the best approach methods. This is a very unique program as the psychologist himself attends classrooms and documents his findings and later on would pass his recommendations. We are glad to say that we are able to help a child overcome his academic slackening and fear of exams

Upon a visit from the French Consulate to enhance the French language at Rawdat, the French teacher Mrs. Juliana Makari received a scholarship to study in France for one month.

Maha Meo will attend the general assembly meeting of the Global Ministries that will take place in July 15,2009 in Indianapolis.

Dina El Basha, Kindergarten teacher will participate in a workshop in Italy in Bologna.

## **Prospective projects**

- ◆ Through a generous contribution from the pontifical mission an agreement was signed to help build bridges and enhance activities with graduates in the alumni club.
  
- ◆ Renovations of the library have already taken place, ex– students are helping out with the classification of the books. Hopefully at the beginning of the school year the students will be delighted with newly furnished and colorful library.

## Congratulation!

The graduation of twenty six students took place in the school's playground. The canopy that covered the playground was donated by the Trinity Presbyterian-Church. The ceremony started with singing the Palestinian national anthem, followed by a speech from the school principal Mrs. Zananiri who welcomed everybody present and stressed on the importance of ethics and education that form the basis of a good society. Mrs. Zananiri thanked the teachers, PTA, workers and Rawdat El Zuhur alumni students for their efforts in making this day special.

## Congratulations for the thirty eight group of graduates!



All ages big and small gather to make the graduation day a very special one-



The celebration included a variety of paragraphs Dabkeh and national songs. The performance of the children was outstanding!

A speech from a school graduate followed and later on from one of the parents who commended on the role of the school, teachers and board members to upgrade the educational level in Jerusalem. The ceremony was concluded by the graduates receiving their certificates and gifts.

All the best for them all and we pray that they will continue to embrace the ethics and good morals that have been encouraged to adopt at Rawdat El Zuhur.

## Graduates never fail to give a helping hand



**VISITORS— (March – June 2009)**

**It's always a privilege to welcome visitors at Rawdat El Zuhur, as their visit give us and the children a great pleasure .**

**Jenny Bond**

**Elizabeth Salmon**

**Mel Salmon**

**David Reed**

**Roberts Banesh**

**Mayle Wilson**

**Jan Watts**

**Jane Legh**

**Basem Hishmeh**

**Yacoub Zayed**

**Liana Bader**

**Linda Kjeldgaard**

**Mary Robinson**

**Connie**

**Michael Austin**

**Liz Denarest**

**Nada Dajani**

**Brigitte Guillen**

**J. Francois Canteneur**

**Chantal Juge**

**Fadwa El Hussein**

**Abed El Qader Hussein**

**Lorisa Farror**

**Erwin Fine**

**Bill Corcoran**

**KIND DONORS : ( March—June 2009)**

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Ted King and St. Andrew Church

John and Brenda Spencer

Ranya Baramki

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Bazaar international

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Basem and Muna Hismeh

Mona Shubeita

Palcraft aid

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Maurice Michon

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Janice Watts

Samia Khoury

Samia Khoury in memory of Ellie Garrett

Yacoub Abu Arafah

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Sawsan Abu Khalaf

Trinity Presbyterian Church

John and Lois Scott

Pontifical Mission

Faisal Hussein Foundation

Anton Hallac

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**Arab Bank—El Bireh/ West Bank**

**Swift Number: ARABPS22030**

**Fax: + 972 -2- 295 9588**

**Tel : + 972—2- 295 9581**

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**Arab Bank 73 Brook Street**

**May Fair**

**London W1K 4HX, UK**

**Tel: +44 (0) 20 73158609**

**Fax: +44(0) 20 74994193**



**Rawdat El Zuhur**

**P.O.Box 19796**

**Fax: 972-2- 5834058**

**Tel : 972 -2—6282062, 972—2—6287842**

**Email: [info@rawdat.org](mailto:info@rawdat.org)**

**Website: [www.rawdat.org](http://www.rawdat.org)**