



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

THE RISING TIMES



Volume Number 3
Issue Number 2

The Rising Times aims to provide the latest news,

tips, and advice through various sources by stu-

dents for students. The Rising Times expresses

students' opinions on school safety, health, and

politics. A newspaper which envisions improving

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A'A Everyone!

We hope you are as excited to read our 2nd issue for the 2017-2018 school year, as we have been putting it together! Jazakum Allahu Khair to all our writers and readers!

-RSA Newspaper Staff

"Work for your worldly life as if you are living forever, and work for your Hereafter as if you are dying tomorrow."

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RSA high school students step out into the community for their Islamic Studies Dawah Project.

Career Corner: Forensic Pathology

Have you ever watched NCIS, Criminal Minds, or any other crime show and were fascinated by the puzzle solving work that individuals did in the lab where they examine bodies? Want to know more about what they do and possibly consider it as a career? Well if you are, this article will give you an introduction to this interesting career known as forensic pathology.

Forensic pathologists, or medical examiners, are specially trained physicians who examine the bodies of people who died suddenly, unexpectedly, or violently. The forensic pathologist is responsible for determining the cause and manner of death. To do this, they study the medical history, evaluate crime scene evidence, including witness statements, perform autopsies to uncover evidence of injury or disease, and collect medical and trace evidence from the body for further analysis. A city, county, or state, may appoint a forensic pathologist to act as a medical examiner and examine living patients. This is usually in cases where crimes, such as abuse is suspected. Once all the evidence is analyzed, the forensic pathologist prepares a written report and may also testify to these findings in court.

Becoming a forensic pathologist is not an easy path. It takes at least 13 years of education and training after high school. You also have to have a strong stomach because it can be a gruesome, smelly, and disgusting job. In addition, you need to have a lot of confidence in order to defend your conclusions in the face of opposition from lawyers, the media, and even the victims' families. If you are interested in this field, you will need to be strong in all areas of science. Forensic pathology draws on biology, physics, chemistry, even psychology and anthropology. Communication/writing skills are also important, since half the job of being a forensic pathologist is writing reports and giving testimonies. In college, a forensic pathologist trainee must first earn a bachelor's degree, then a medical degree.

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The Importance of Community Work

Ibn Umar reported: The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, **"The most beloved people to Allah are those who are most beneficial to the people. The most beloved deed to Allah is to make a Muslim happy, or to remove one of his troubles, or to forgive his debt, or to feed his hunger. That I walk with a brother regarding a need is more beloved to me than that I seclude myself in this mosque in Medina for a month. Whoever swallows his anger, then Allah will conceal his faults. Whoever suppresses his rage, even though he could fulfill his anger if he wished, then Allah will secure his heart on the Day of Resurrection. Whoever walks with his brother regarding a need until he secures it for him, then Allah the Exalted will make his footing firm across the bridge on the day when the footings are shaken."** This hadith is telling us that Allah (swt) loves those who help others in any way they need and will reward us on the Day of Judgement. One of those rewards is that Allah will help you walk on and pass across the Sirat with ease, the bridge that is thinner than a strand of hair that lies over hellfire.

Alhamdulillah as a Muslim community we have many mosques, but when do you ever see any of these mosques giving back to their general community and helping people in need? It is important to maintain our communities, build our mosques but we shouldn't aim only to help the Muslims, we should help the community as a whole.

If the older generation isn't taking action to reach out to the broader community than it's up to the younger generations of Muslims (US) to go out and help those in need. As I was volunteering at BBNJ (Building Blocks of New Jersey) one of the brothers in charge was telling me how they plan more food drives and volunteering projects with churches and non-Muslim organizations then they do with the masjids in our community. It's time to give back to the community and break the chain of arrogance and laziness, this is our responsibility. We can break this chain by giving up some of our time to volunteer in the few Mosque led community service events, by working with our mosques to organize more events to help the needy in our community. Coordinating events ourselves is important because that is how you can spark change. If we don't do this, we won't be following the Prophet's (PBUH) example and people in need will continue to suffer. Ibn Abbas reported: The Prophet (PBUH), said, **"He is not a believer whose stomach is filled while the neighbor to his side goes hungry."**

So ask yourself, what have you done today to help someone else?

Omar Abdelmenam, Alumni Class of 16'

Egypt supports Trump's Jerusalem move?!

As we know, Donald Trump gave a speech some time ago recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. Egypt, as well as many other Arab countries have condemned and disapproved of this catastrophic decision but they haven't shown any acts of opposition. However, leaked tapes showed that Egyptian government and media are accepting Trump's decision behind closed doors. A



state intelligence officer reportedly worked behind the scenes to get influential hosts to convince their audiences to accept the US decision. "I was just calling to let you know what our public stance is, so if you go on TV or speak in an interview, I am telling you what is the stance of Egypt's national security apparatus and what it stands to benefit from in this matter of announcing Jerusalem to be the capital of Israel, okay?"

Continued on Page 2

After this, additional education and training is required, including four to five years of training in anatomic, clinical, and/or forensic pathology and a one-year residency or fellowship in forensic pathology. Once training is completed, a forensic pathologist must take an exam to become board certified.

In high school, you can start preparing for your career



path by taking classes that would contribute to your training in that field. You should take advanced math, science, and English courses. You should develop strong writing skills and practice public speaking in class and participate in extracurricular activities that require public speaking such as the debate team. Doing these activities and taking these classes will give you a great head start to your training and prepare you for the extensive studying that college and medical school would require. When you are in college, you can choose any undergraduate major, including a humanities degree, but make sure to take all the science and math courses required to get into medical school. If you are enrolling in a forensic science program, make sure the program is accredited and includes at least 24 semester hours of chemistry, or biology and math, as well as all the necessary requirements for medical school.

Now, you are probably wondering what a typical day as a forensic pathologist is like. Their workplaces can be in the city, county, or federal government, while others work in hospitals, medical schools or with a private or group practice that contracts autopsy services to government agencies. Forensic pathologists spend most of their time in the lab, performing autopsies or examining tissue samples under the microscope. A typical workday can last 10 to 12 hours or longer, particularly if the forensic pathologist must examine a distant death site. The physical demands are not great, but over time, the forensic pathologist may become emotionally affected by the grisly violence they are exposed to.

Joammi Abbasi, 11th Grade

Teacher Spotlight

3 adjectives about yourself

Helpful, passionate, brave

What is your educational background?

I have a bachelor's degree in Astrophysics that I got in 2006, graduating top of my class. After that I got a job in Cairo University teaching. In 2015, I got my Master's degree in Quantum Physics, continued to teach in the university, while working part-time in many other private universities in fields like IT. Also, in 2010, I traveled to Switzerland to conduct high energy nuclear research. I then traveled and taught at Qatar University, lecturing in the faculty of engineering.

As a kid, when you were asked what you wanted to study, or what you wanted your career to be, what did you answer?

As a kid I wanted to be a surgeon, but at the time my grades did not meet the expectations to study what I wanted, so I worked very hard, and decided that I was going to challenge myself with the hardest field in science, quantum physics, and was successful.

To what teams or clubs did you belong to as a student?

As a high school student I was part of the theatre club, or theatre. I played soccer, and was part of political clubs too.

If you could pick one city to live in, what would it be and why?

If I could pick one city to live in it would be Geneva, Switzerland. This is because when I stayed there for three months I enjoyed my time very much.

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Student Spotlight

What makes a good teacher?

In my opinion, a good teacher is someone who is patient and kind. One who has a good personality, and uses different teaching methods. One who takes their time explaining, and explains the lesson in different ways so everyone can understand.

Give me 3 adjectives about yourself

Creative, kind, humorous

Do you know of or have any career plans or study ideas?

Yes, I want to become a cardiovascular surgeon. This is for many reasons, the first of them being that my mother, my biggest role model, works in the medical field. Another reason is that my father had an open heart surgery, and that inspired me to look into cardiology more.

What brought you to RSA?

The most prominent reason is that the school I previously went to ran only until 8th grade, so I needed to find a high school to transfer. Another reason I came to RSA, is when I used to go to school competitions like Science Olympiad and Model UN, I used to see RSA do very well in these competitions, so that inspired me to enroll. Lastly, I chose this school and not any other one because of its proximity to my home.

Is this your first time in an Islamic school?

No, this is not my first time in an Islamic school, I grew up going to Islamic schools and in an Islamic environment.

What are some of your strengths and weaknesses?

Some of my strengths are that I can say I am good at science and math. I like to cook, I am social, confident, and always open to meeting new people and trying new things. A weakness of mine, is that I can be self-conscious sometimes. Both a strength and weakness I can say of mine is my generosity. Being generous can be both a blessing and a curse.

If you were in a job interview and were asked, "what do you offer to this position?" what would you answer?

I would say that I am first and foremost always open to the things people have to tell or any criticism or contributions they have. Another characteristic of mine is that I always get the job done, once I put my mind to something, I am determined to do it. I am diligent, and always on time with my work, or whatever it is I have to do.

From: Citizen To Stranger

From citizen to stranger she goes so quickly.

She began to doubt if she ever was one to begin.

They said she was a stranger.

They said she was danger.

This is her story, read and you'll know that there is nothing but glory. She is a girl, a Muslim...

She wakes up early and prays like a soldier.

She puts her books under her arm, and away she goes to school reciting her favorite verses from the Holy Quran.

How can you call such a person danger??

She isn't in the top of her class

but everyone is proud for what she is today.

She doesn't care what others think about her, it is Allah alone she decides to obey.

She wears the hijab not to show regards for others, But regards to herself.

She helps people when in need,

Her own food to the hungry she is willing to feed - Everyone knows her for her humble good deeds.

How can you call such a person a danger?



Kholi said in a conversation with Saeed Hassaseen, a TV talk show host and a member of the Egyptian Parliament. This isn't the first time Egypt has sided with Israel.

So called "president" Al-Sisi reached out to Israeli citizens in his speech at the UN by making a passionate appeal to the people of Israel to support their Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for the sake of building peace and ending the conflict. He specifically addressed Israeli citizens by saying "Stand behind your political leadership and support them." "Do not hesitate," he urged, "and do not hesitate. We are all with you for the success of this attempt and this opportunity may not present itself again." As you can see, Al Sisi specifically reached out to Israel, but what happened to Palestine?! This argument has been very controversial for many years because many people are not acknowledging what's happening behind closed doors. The media does this to destruct and disconnect it's citizens, and that is why we need to educate and learn more about our world; to form our honest opinions, so that we can educate others and become united.

Ali Eldeeb, 10th Grade
(Political Cartoon by Aysha Mohdi)

The Ghost of the White Deer



A brave, young warrior for the Chickasaw Nation fell in love with the daughter of a chief. The chief did not like the young man, who was called Blue Jay. So the chief invented a price for the bride that he was sure that Blue Jay could not pay. "Bring me the hide of a White Deer" said the chief. The Chickasaws believed that all white animals were magical. "The price for my daughter is one white deer." Then the chief laughed. The chief knew that an all white deer, an albino, was very rare and would be very hard to find. White deerskin was the best material to use in a wedding dress, and the best white deer skin came from the albino deer. Blue Jay went to his beloved, whose name was Bright Moon. "I will return with your bride price in one moon, and we will be married. This I promise you." Taking his best bow and sharpest arrows Blue Jay began to hunt. Three weeks went by, and Blue Jay was often hungry, lonely, and scratched by briars. Then, one night during a full moon, Blue Jay saw a white deer that seemed to drift through the moonlight. When the deer was very close to where Blue Jay hid, he shot his sharpest arrow. The arrow sank deep into the deer's heart. But instead of sinking to his knees to die, the deer began to run toward Blue Jay, his red eyes glowing, his horns sharp and menacing. A month passed and Blue Jay did not return as he had promised Bright Moon. As the months dragged by, the tribe decided that he would never return. But Bright Moon never took any other young man as a husband, for she had a secret. When the moon was shining as brightly as her name, Bright Moon would often see the white deer in the smoke of the campfire, running, with an arrow in his heart. She lived hoping the deer would finally fall, and Blue Jay would return. To this day the white deer is sacred to the Chickasaw People, and the white deerskin is still the favorite material for the wedding dress.

(Adopted from a Native American story)

Zane Bacha/Bilal Ahmad, 8th Grade

Wonder Book Review
By R.J. Palacio

Wonder was a book I enjoyed reading because it was so interesting. This book is about a ten year old boy named August Pullman who has a facial difference, and has been homeschooled his whole life. When Auggie’s parents decide that they want him to go to middle school, he is a little nervous about what the other kids would think, and what they would say about his face.

Personally, I like the way this book was planned out. For each main character there is a section, and that section tells you what’s going on in their own point of view. If you like an interesting story that has unexpected plot twists, this is the perfect choice for you!

When I went to see the movie “Wonder”, I noticed some things were different. First of all, I didn’t expect Auggie to look anything like how he looked in the movie. It was way different than what I was imagining. Second, it had those sections for each character, which I applaud, because I wasn’t expecting that. Third, I Like how this movie was extremely similar to the book, which you don’t always get. Overall, I give the book a ten out of ten, and the movie a ten out of ten. I definitely recommend both the book and the movie.

Layan Ahmad, 5th Grade

(Continuation of Teacher Interview)

What makes a good student?

A good student is one who has good work ethics. One who is hardworking, pays attention, and loves what he is doing.

What do you think is the greatest challenge facing students today?

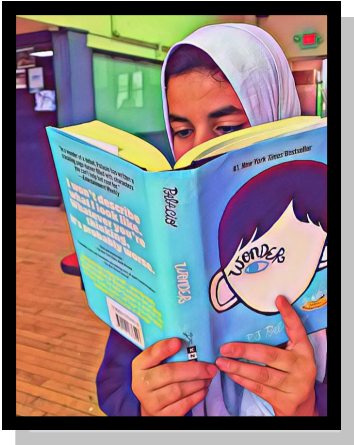
I think the greatest challenge facing students today is that they value social media/the internet over books.

What is one of your weaknesses?

One of my weaknesses is my leniency. I am too kind when it comes to my students, and when they ask me for stuff my emotions get the best of me. It is hard for me to tell them no.

What is a question you are asked that typically bothers you?

Something that usually bothers me is when students ask me who my favorite student is. I don't like this question because if I answer I have one pleased student while making the rest mad.



The Bulbul and the Mouse

As Yaseen proceeded to take the last slice of pizza from its box and hide it from his brother Yunus, his mother spotted him. She asked, “Yaseen what are you doing?” “I’m hiding the last slice of pizza so when Yunus comes he won’t see it and eat it.” said Yaseen. “That is very selfish and greedy of you Yaseen, you shouldn’t be greedy towards your brother, you guys should share everything you have. Do you not know the story of the bulbul and the greedy mouse?” Said the mother. “No I don’t”, said Yaseen.” “Here, come sit and I will tell you it my son”, said the mother, and she began . “Once there was a bulbul with a beautiful voice and a greedy mouse living near the same tree. The bulbul mostly kept to herself



Aysha Mohdi, 11th Grade

while the mouse was always deceiving people into taking their stuff. So one day the bulbul was looking for food and she found a worm to eat, she grabbed it and held it in her mouth, and as she was about to swallow it, the mouse came running. He said, “bulbul bulbul! Quick sing to me, let me hear your beautiful soothing voice. Your voice is unlike that of any other bulbul.” As the bulbul was so flattered by the mouse’s compliments, she began to sing, forgetting that there was a worm in her mouth. As she opened her mouth to sing, the worm fell out and into the mouse’s hands. He took the worm and ate it happily. The bulbul felt very stupid at that point, the mouse had just deceived her to take her food because he was so greedy. But the next day, something happened. The mouse didn’t wake up, he was dead! When the animals investigated what happened, they found out that the worm he had eaten was poisonous, and that was the cause of his death.

“So, my son”, said the mother, “understand that nothing good comes from being greedy and selfish, rather, good comes from generosity, caring and sharing with others. Whenever you think of being greedy and deceptive- think of the bulbul and the mouse. If the mouse didn’t trick the bulbul into taking the worm, he would have been spared his life. And because the bulbul had good intentions, God spared her her life. God knew that all the bulbul wanted was to find something to eat because she was so hungry. And God also knew that the worm was a poisonous one, so he sent the mouse to trick the bulbul into taking the worm, because God wanted to punish the mouse for being so greedy while also saving the bulbul’s life. Because she had good intentions and all she wanted to do was eat.”

Mariam Siam , 11th Grade

LeBron “The King” James VS Kevin “The Snake” Durant



People who don’t watch basketball tend to compare KD to LeBron, where KD is nowhere near LeBron. LeBron has 4 MVPs, whereas, Durant only has one. Also, when OKC lost to the Warriors after blowing a 3-1 lead against them KD signed with the Warriors. Whereas, when The

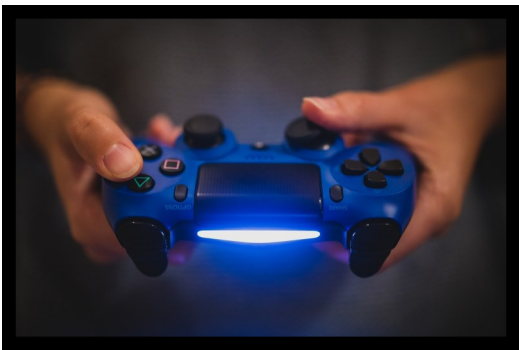
Miami Heat lost to the Celtics, LeBron didn’t need to join the team that beat him, he joined the Heat and played alongside Dwayne Wade, only to become one of the best duos the NBA has ever seen.

Durant needed to join a 73-9 team to chase a ring, whereas, LeBron joined the Heat when they weren’t the top seed in the East. LeBron is one of the best All-Around players the league has ever seen, he can shoot the ball decently, and is a skilled passer. He knows when and where his teammates should be, and I am not going to lie, he can play defense, but he isn’t as good as a defender as Kawhi Leonard. LeBron is capable of leading his team to the Finals as he casually does. Although he is a small forward he played as the team’s Point Guard when Derrick Rose got injured early this season. LeBron hit 30,000 points in his career, something only 6 other NBA players have done. LeBron has been in the league for only 4 years more than KD, but that’s an invalid excuse, saying LeBron had “more time” than KD. I will give credit where it is due, KD is an extremely good offensive player, but he won’t end his career better than LeBron will.

Hamzah Mansour, 11th Grade

Fortnite 101

You’ve probably heard about or played the most trending game by now: fortnite. The competitive game enters you into a world with 99 other people, consisting of 18 different regions, each comprised of different weapons and materials that you can obtain. The goal of the game is to be the last man standing, and if you do so you’re rewarded with a “victory royale” screen, which means that you’ve won. Throughout the game you can see the amount of people remaining and there’s also something called the storm and the storm eye. Every specific amount of time (depending on what stage of the game you’re at) the storm eye shrinks, which means that you’re forced to move into the storm eye or else for every second that you’re not, a specific amount of health is taken from you. The more health per second that is removed while you’re not in the eye and if you don’t make it to the eye in time, you may eventually die. The purpose of this is to make sure that everybody ends up running into each other because as the eye gets smaller, everyone is closer to each other, and eventually if there are still people remaining while the storm eye is completely shrunken, the eye disappears and you battle it out while health is being removed, but this rarely happens. There are three different types of online modes to play: solo, duos, and squads. In solo it is simply every man for himself with 99 other people (if the lobby is full). In duo you and one teammate battle with other duos. And in squads it’s you and a max of three other teammates going up against other squads. The key difference between solo and duo/squads is that in duo or squads, you are with your teammate(s) if someone kills you, and your teammate(s) is still alive, so they have a chance to revive you and has 50 seconds to do so because it takes 2 hp per second while you are waiting to be revived and you have 100 hp in total. It takes 10 seconds to revive a teammate but once you start reviving them the 50 seconds pause. So for example, even if you start reviving when they have 2 hp left (1 second) you can still revive them in 10 seconds. Guns are rated from colors white to golden. A white gun is called common, and is the weakest color; a green gun is an uncommon, and is the second weakest; a blue gun is rare, and is the median of colors; a purple gun is epic, and is the second strongest; and a gold gun is legendary, and is the strongest of the 5 colors. When you kill somebody, all of their loot and whatever they had obtained throughout the game gets dropped and you have the opportunity to go pick it up and swap it for yours. Every player can hold up to 5 things at a time varying from weapons to any type of healing material, such as: bandages or med-kits. Fortnite is a trending game that is very popular, fun, and competitive, and can be played on PlayStation, Xbox, or PC. This game is played internationally, in all different regions of the world. Go play and earn yourself a victory royale!



Yusuf Haddabah, 9th Grade

The Quran: A Miracle

A miraculous Book that is truly one of a kind
Witnessing its beauty will definitely blow one’s mind
Not only is every word in the Quran precise
But it is this Book that will be the key to Paradise
And the great Prophet risked his life in order for this to spread
He even went as far as to set a decoy in his bed
The difference in speech proves the Quran to be divine
The Prophet’s poor poetry skills should be a clear sign
“I am the son of Abdel-Muttalib and do not lie”
Isn’t it clear that a great writer could not be this guy?
Just as the author says, there could have been no secret teacher
Would a teacher really hide such attractive features?
Where are the other works of said teacher anyway?
The people loved poetry, which was a perfect opportunity for him to display
Such a statement defeats any ideas of a secret wordsmith
The Quran’s beauty continues to defeat myth after myth
What about those who claim the devil is the true poet?
It clearly isn’t, the degrading towards the devil is enough to show it
For words to be so detailed and exact
Allowing readers to find new meanings to extract
With original copies from over 1400 years ago
Its words are still authentic and continue to flow

Basheer Muhana, 11th Grade

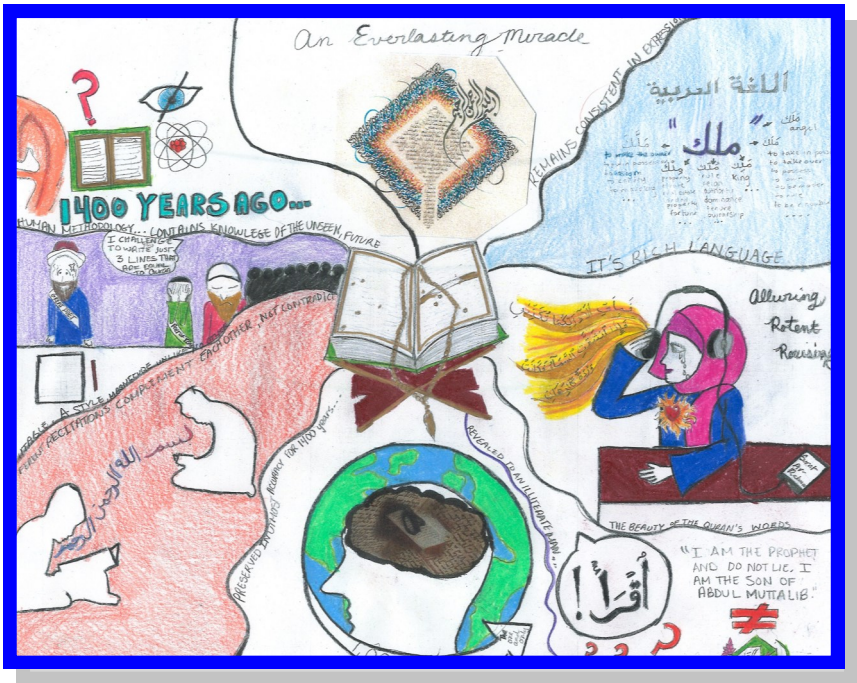
Jokes

- 1. A dad and his son were riding their bikes and crashed. Two ambulances came and took them to different hospitals. The man’s son was in the operating room and the doctor said, “I can’t operate on you. You’re my son.” How is that possible?
- 2. What is so delicate that saying its name breaks it?
- 3. How many months have 28 days?
- 4. A horse is on a 24 foot chain and wants an apple that is 26 feet away. How can the horse get to the apple?
- 5. What is always coming but never arrives?



Sana Elasmr, 11th Grade

Student Art Corner



Joammi Abbasi, 11th Grade

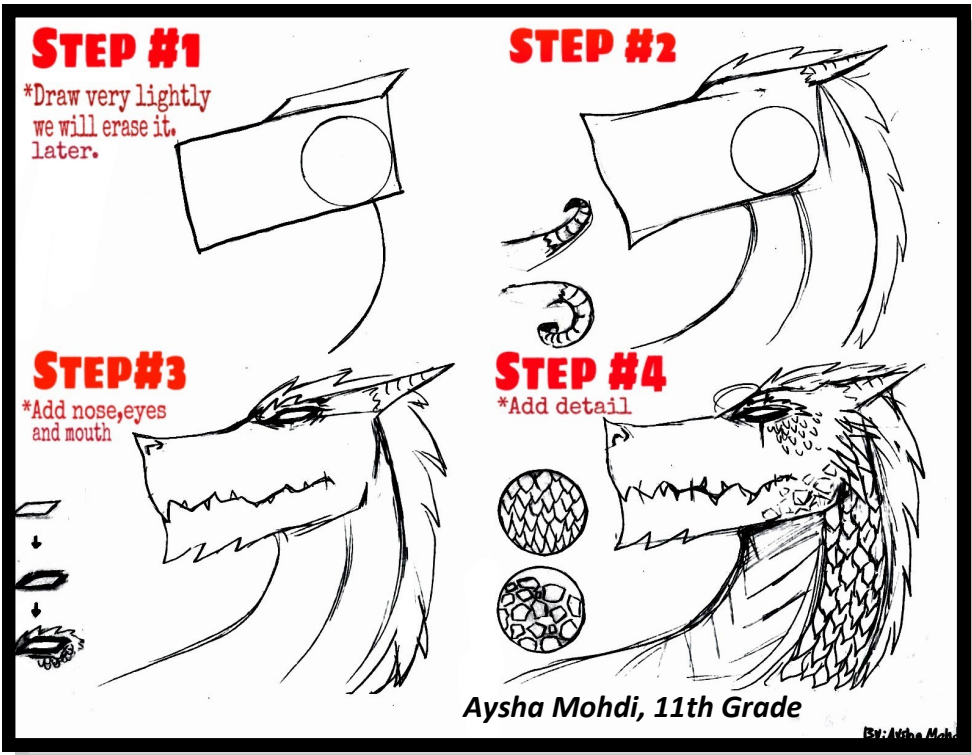


Tayyiba Sheikh, 5th Grade



Aseel Saadeh ,5th Grade

Learn To Draw a Dragon With Aysha!



Aysha Mohdi, 11th Grade

Student Survey

- Student’s Respond! What was your favorite moment of this year?**
- * Winter Break.- Hamzah Mansour, 11th Grade
 - * Science Olympiad.- Abdel Rahman, 9th Grade
 - * The Hijra play.- Mohamad Darwish, 6th Grade
 - * Spring Break.– Aya Darwish , 11th Grade
 - * Finally being done with Science Olympiad- Hathem, 9th Grade
 - * Getting acknowledged at the Debate Tournament– Nuralhoda Elsaid, 10th Grade
 - * Sr. Ahlam reading a book to us, “what would you do with a chance”. –Nael Ahmad, 12th Grade
 - * Hearing RSA’s name at the Debate Tournament when 1st Place was called. –Eaman Kaddour, 10th Grade
 - * Our Islamic Studies class discussions with Sr. Fatima Abedrabbo. - Nemarik, 9th Grade
 - * Getting to meet amazing people. – Salma , 10th Grade
 - * Hijrah Day. - Sana Elasmr, 11th Grade
 - * Apple picking because I had a fun time with my friends. - Roa, 8th Grade

Answers:

- 1. The doctor is his mom! 2. Silence 3. All 12 months! 4. The chain is not attached to anything. 5. Tomorrow