



# بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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



Issue Number 1, 2015

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## Apples' Fallen

I'm pretty sure you all are familiar with this yearly RSA tradition we all love. Probably for the free cider and donuts we get every time we go. Well this year I decided not to go to the trip and here's why. I have attended this trip countless amount of times and every time bad luck never failed to punch me right in the face. I'm going to summarize the worst moments I have had on one of these trips. Enjoy!

It was apple picking and I was really excited so I came prepared. I came to the trip with a huge bag and was planning on filling it with apples not knowing that I wasn't allowed to do that. We started picking apples and everything was going just fine. I was fill my huge bag with these fruity round orbs and it started to get heavy. The ground around me was damp. I look into my bag and decided to get rid of all the small apples. I started my search for a nice apple tree and that's when I found it. I run towards the magnificent apple tree only to find that it wasn't as magnificent as I thought. Under it, there were rotten apples everywhere accompanied by some worms, and for some odd reason bees. As I back away I slip on a rotten apple falling onto my back. I began to get back on my feet when something captures my eye.

**The Rising Times aims to provide the latest news, tips, and advice through various sources by students for students. The Rising Times expresses students' opinions on school safety, health, and politics. A newspaper which envisions improving RSA student writing skills and engagement in current events and issues.**



Dangling was a beautiful apple. I stood toes reaching but I was

from a branch full juicy red on my tippy for the fruit distracted by

a familiar "buzzing" sound. I turned my face to find some bees inches away. Terror washed over me and I began to run but the bees didn't stop following me. I scurried off carrying a huge bag of apples with me. In this death run I lost almost half the apples I picked but that never stopped me. What did stop was a huge hole. I looked down to find my leg completely devoured into the ground. I tried to pull but it wouldn't budge.

I shouted for help when finally one of the teachers found me and got me out.

I sheepishly walked back and searched for my friends. The group was sitting around a bench enjoying there lunch. My stomach began to growl, I was starving. I take out my nacho lunchables and that's when I hear it again, the "buzzing" sound. I tried pinning out

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The bee was stuck in the cheese, struggling to get out. I hurled the lunchables box with all my strength. But that wasn't the only bee, as I watched around I started to notice that there were more of these mad insects. I noticed a store near by, perfect to hide in. There I bought some ice cream, inspected the condition outside, and evaluated when it would be safe to go back out. From where I stood, the state outside had settled down. I stepped out of the store and pulled open my ice cream, and with my fate another bee came diving onto the top. I chucked my cone and began to panic.

The rest of my day was spent inside that store. Surprisingly no one noticed that I was carrying a gigantic bag filled with apples but once we entered the bus the bag ripped and one by one the apples were rolling out. I went home struggling to keep them all in one place. And that, my readers, was the last time I brought a bag to the apple picking field trip. I hope you enjoyed reading this article that won't change your life in any way. Until next time.

- Aysha Mohdi

## The Opinionator: College Fair

Rising Star Academy's annual college fair is a very beneficial event which provides students with an opportunity to speak to and seek guidance from various college representatives. Many colleges and universities attend, including Columbia University, Stevens Institute of Technology, Rutgers University, Seton Hall University, Princeton, NJIT, among many others. This event has been held for the last four years, and will be for all the coming years, Insha'Allah.



As a student, I am aware of the many benefits that come along with such an event, such as having the opportunity to ask questions and learn about the many different programs that these esteemed institutions offer. It gives high school students a good idea of what to expect during their undergraduate career while giving younger students a chance to explore their academic interests. Not only does the college fair provide students with a great deal of valuable information, but it also motivates them to become serious about working hard in order to accomplish their goals and eventually become successful.

~ Tahanee Mustafa

## Don't Stress, Take a Chill Pill

Everyone faces stress in their crazy life. Whether it's with school, family, friends, or anything related with work. Stress effects our state of mind, our health, and our everyday life. But there's always a key to relieving yourself from stress.

Here are a few points on how to lower stress. The most effective way to lower stress is to meditate. The act of Tafakkur (deep thinking) draws your heart closer to Allah (SWT). Prophet Muhammad (SAW) would go up the mountain of Hira. He would go and sit in complete silence and think of the universe and its creator. Salah is a form of meditation. If you ever feel stressed out or confused about anything go make Wudu and pray. Also try to reach out to one of your friends or teachers. Share with them what's going on, don't be shy to speak out to anyone close to you to help you out. Don't stay home, go out, make plans with your friends to keep your mind off things. Keep your body active. Take a walk. A quiet stroll can do wonders for stress relief, especially when we step outdoors. Try not to rush, and take whatever pace feels most natural to you. ~Omar Abdelmenam

## Writers' Marks

### Respecting Parents

﴿ وَقَضَىٰ رَبُّكَ أَلَّا تَعْبُدُوا إِلَّا إِيَّاهُ وَبِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا إِمَّا يَبُلُغَنَّ عِنْدَكَ الْكِبَرَ أَحَدُهُمَا أَوْ كِلَاهُمَا فَلَا تَقُلْ لَهُمَا آفٍ وَلَا نُهْرَهُمَا وَقُلْ لَهُمَا قَوْلًا كَرِيمًا ﴾ (٢٣)

**“And your Lord has decreed that you worship none but Him; and that you be dutiful to your parents. If one of them or both of them attain old age in your life, say not to them a word of disrespect, nor shout at them, but address them in terms of honour.”(Surah Al-Isra; Ayah 23)**



Allah (SWT) orders us to respect our parents immediately after worshipping him, signifying the importance of how we treat our parents in Islam. If the intention is to please Allah (SWT), honoring our parents and showing them our gratitude is a form of worship. Taking care of our parents as they grow up is as important as any ibada (worship) in Islam. Our parents deserve the kind treatment they embraced us with as they raised us. Nothing will pay off all the sacrifices they made for us as we are growing up. The love and mercy that radiates from Allah (SWT) is resembled by the compassion a mother and father give their child.

Always remember to treat your parents with respect and kindness as a way of showing them your gratitude for everything they have done and continue to do for you.

~ Aseel Shehadeh



in Islam, because Prophet of Allah (S.W.T) said “Be on your guard against oppression, for oppression is a darkness on the Day of Resurrection,” “Help your brother, whether he is an oppressor or he is oppressed.” The Prophet was asked: “It is right to help him if he is oppressed, but how should we help him if he is an oppressor?” He replied: “By preventing him from oppressing others.” Meaning that if you see someone with discomfort then help him/her feel comfortable and prevent them from other discomforts.

Be the bigger and preferable person and stop a bully from bullying someone and make them feel more desirable about themselves. May Allah accept your righteousness deeds. Being bullied or a bully isn't delightful at all. It's not a pleasant deed nor is it encouraging to anyone, so please do not do it!

~Anonymous

## Poetry is a Painting that Speaks for Itself

### iPhone, iPhone

Knowledge is disappearing  
Ignorance is Widespread  
We've got Mind control devices at the foots  
of our bed  
Silencing the voices inside of our heads  
Frying out minds with these waves of  
infrared  
We've got apps for every moment of the day  
What not to love? What's their to say?  
Siri has become our mother, and Steve Jobs;  
our dearest brother  
Having four bars of Wi-Fi became our  
greatest priority  
The iPhone 6 has the highest of authority  
Snapchat, Facebook, and Instagram for all  
A unlikely demise, the greatest fall  
We need forsake these devices  
Or we'll pay our own prices  
I say these words as if I'm different, but we  
are one and the same  
We're in this together. For now and forever  
We've got no one, but ourselves to blame  
~Maryam Edris

## Bullies are Despicable

Have you ever been bullied? Well being bullied is an overwhelming feeling, because it makes you feel less than other people, and that you're not as good as them. Being bullied isn't engaging especially when a person doesn't know who you are. For me especially, I'm a very quiet and shy person and I don't talk a lot, I get told a lot that I don't communicate with anyone. But I do communicate with certain people and we have enjoyable conversations, some people sometimes think that I have an issue that I don't like anyone and do not want to interact with anyone. Being bullied is not pleasing. It makes you feel like you don't fit in with society or with anyone. Or that you're not friendly enough to talk to someone and be who you are, there's a chance you might get judged. This can put you in a state of depression for a while and nobody notices.

A bully or getting bullied is prohibited in Islam, It is an unacceptable deed. Let me tell you why bullying is unacceptable

## Politics: Election of 2016

I like following the election because I want to know whose going to be the next President of the United States of America. Is it going to be Democrat Hillary Clinton or Republican Donald Trump? Other Democrats running are Bernie Sanders, and Martin O'Malley. Other Republicans running are Jeb Bush, Dr. Ben Carson, Chris Christie, Ted Cruz, Carly Fiorina, Jim Gilmore, Lindsey Graham, Mike Huckabee, Bobby Jindal, John Kasich, George Pataki, Rand Paul, Marco Rubio, and lastly Rick Santorum! In running for President, Donald Trump said if he becomes president he will deport people who are not American citizens. Hillary is really nice and will give my mom and yours more RIGHTS! But here's the big question: Why should us kids pay attention to who is President. ~Salma El-Sharif

## Snack Time: Rice Krispies Treats

Ingredients:  
Kellogg's Rice Krispy  
Treats  
Marshmallow Fluff  
Butter

Materials:  
Medium sized pot  
Large sized spoon

Directions:

- 1) Put half a teaspoon of butter in the pot and bring it up to a boil
- 2) Then add the tub of fluff in the pot
- 3) Follow the tub of fluff with 5 cups of the rice crispy cereal
- 4) mix until all the cereal is coated with the fluff and is as even as possible
- 5) Enjoy!

Optional:

Drizzle the finished rice crispy treats with chocolate or caramel  
~Marah Siyam



## The Riddler

- ◆ Mary's father has 5 daughters – Nana, Nene, Nini, Nono. What is the fifth daughters name?
- ◆ What is the longest word in the dictionary?
- ◆ If I have it, I don't share it. If I share it, I don't have it. What is it?
- ◆ We see it once in a year, twice in a week, and never in a day. What is it?
- ◆ Take away my first letter, and I still sound the same. Take away my last letter, I still sound the same. Even take away my letter in the middle, I will still sound the same. I am a five letter word.

\*Answers in next issue!

## Writer's Marks

### Continued

## Lights, Camera, Action: Interviews

Student: Aya Darwish

- 1) What makes/brings you to RSA?  
-To learn about Islam and speak the Arabic language better
- 2) What is your Favorite subject?  
-English
- 3) Three adjectives that describe yourself?  
-Independent, responsible, friendly
- 4) Where do you see yourself in a couple of years?  
-I hope to become a cosmetologist
- 5) What does family mean to you?  
-Family is important
- 6) Who has inspired you in your life?  
-My parents because they taught me

Teacher: Sr. Rehab Eid

- 1) If you hadn't become a teacher, what would you prefer your profession to be?  
-Pastry chief
- 2) Three adjectives to describe yourself.  
-Straightforward, thoughtful, artistic
- 3) What do you like the most about teaching?  
-Spending time with the students
- 4) What is one of your weaknesses?  
-Public speaking
- 5) How do you like RSA as a first year teacher?  
-Love it!

## Word Search

A I K K G S Y B G N E Q S H A  
E L D T Q A R N A E M D P J L  
H L C U O F I E T L P C D A H  
T F R G M S L M H U L C I B A  
H A L L I M S I B T S A P Y M  
N F M R O H V Y P B N C H M D  
W Q M Y H Y A B A I U A E E U  
J Y T I M E S S K N M F P D L  
S R A T S K K O Y G K N F A I  
X V A O J E T L M O T T P C L  
Z Q C T T Q W I L S L H L A L  
W K E B S T K T N Z K B Z H A  
M D A A W C O H X R V T U G H  
Q L Y K G L H S T Z V U O P G  
L Y X H C A J I B B S A V G N

## Visiting Drumthwacket

On Wednesday November 11, 2015 the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade of RSA went on a field trip to visit Drumthwacket. Now the 5<sup>th</sup> grade had already visited Drumthwacket last year, but since the 4<sup>th</sup> grade was ever so kind they invited the 5<sup>th</sup> grade to come with them.

Now if you are wondering what the Drumthwacket is, it's the governor's mansion. Drumthwacket also means 'wooded hill', and is located in Princeton, New Jersey. As you can imagine Drumthwacket is quite big. Our students got to take a tour of the mansion and discovered the history behind each room and its owners. Here are some facts about the mansion.

-The first original owner of Drumthwacket was Charles Smith Olden.

-Drumthwacket is across the house Charles Smith Olden



grew up in.

Now readers, though I have told you some interesting facts about Drumthwacket, the only way you can find out what happened is by asking one of our students herself. I have Fatima Abassi 5<sup>th</sup> grade with me and I am going to ask her a couple of questions.

Interviewer: Fatima, what was your favorite place in the mansion and why?

Fatima: "The dining room. I picked the dining room because it had a lot of mirrors, a big table, pictures, and a big pot."

Interviewer: How was this trip different from last year?

Fatima: It didn't have the invention room this time it only had a piano".

Well there you have it! One of our students told us what she thought of it. Use this information to figure out if you might want to visit Drumthwacket next time.

~Bayann Mazhar

- Rising
- Star
- Academy
- The
- Rising
- Times
- Alhamdulillah
- Basketball
- Bismillah
- Panthers
- Allah
- Bingo
- Quran

# Laughter, Entertainment, and Athletics



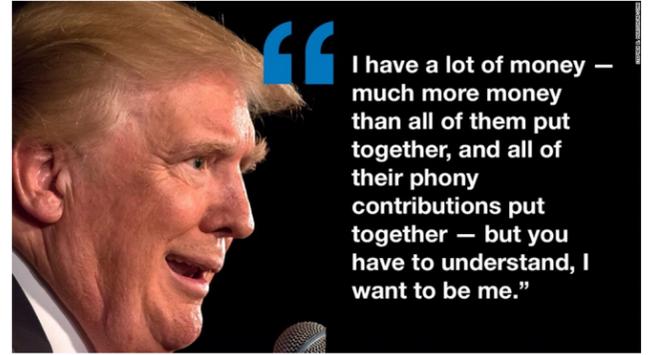
Trump: "My father gave me a small loan of a million dollars."

Trump: "The beauty of me is that I'm very rich"

## Political Cartoons



Trump posts video on Instagram and it says at end: "Are we sure it was only 40 years ago" Referring to bush smoking marijuana



GOP debate:  
Mike Huckabee: "I love Donald Trump, He is a good man, I'm wearing a Trump tie tonight.  
Jeb Bush: "Was that tie made in Mexico or China?"

~Yusef Haddabah

## FDU Game



## Jets 1968

"We're going to win Sunday. I guarantee it." -Joe Namath.

These confident and encouraging words by the quarterback of the Super Bowl winning NY Jets before the game had started, foretold this team's desire to win. The 1968 Jets won what had been a statement game to the entire organization and to the country itself as a whole. This was the first and only Super Bowl in Jets franchise history and still up till today the only one they've been a part of. The Jets went 11-3 and concluded the playoffs on a high note and with highly favoring momentum moving forward. This win for the Jets inspired the future generations of football. The game held significant importance and is remembered throughout the course of history. This very well may be the game that dictated the merger of the AFL to the NFL. At the time there were two football leagues and the AFL was considered to be weaker one so this Super Bowl win along with the Chiefs Super Bowl win the following year, held great influence in the creation of the NFL into what it is today. If not for these two teams proving their dominance and asserting themselves as being able to compete with the best, the AFL conference would have dissolved along with the inclusive teams. Not only did the Jets make a bold statement to the entire football world about an AFL team winning the Super Bowl, but they put themselves as a storied franchise with a constant and patient fan base in hopes of another championship run. This is why the 1968 Jets can inspire anybody to win as the underdog when the odds are against you.

~Omar Shafei



## FDU Game

