

AJS/Cir/2017/1704/PPI/Sept 2017

Date: 20.09.2017

### **AI HIJRI 1439- NEW YEAR 2017 HOLIDAY**

Dear Valued Parent,

***Praise be to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds, and blessings and peace be upon our Prophet Muhammad!***

Muharram is a blessed and important month. Muharram is so called because it is a sacred (Muharram) month. It is the first month of the Hijri calendar and is one of the four sacred months. According to the authentic traditions, these four months are Dhul-Qa'dah, Dhul-Hijjah, Muharram and Rajab. It is mustahabb to fast on both the ninth and tenth days of Muharram, because the Prophet fasted on the tenth, and intended to fast on the ninth.

The Hijri Calendar, which is based purely on lunar cycles, was first introduced in 638 C.E. by the close companion of the Prophet (PBUH) and the second Caliph, `Umar ibn Al-KHattab (RA) (592-644 C.E.). He, along with his advisors, finally agreed that the most appropriate reference point for the Islamic calendar was the Hijrah\*. The actual starting date for the Calendar was chosen (on the basis of purely lunar years, counting backwards) to be the first day of the first month (1 Muharram) of the year of the Hijrah.

For religious reasons, the beginning of a Hijri month is marked not by the start of a new moon, but by a physical (i.e., an actual human) sighting of the crescent moon at a given locale.

[\*The Hijrah, which chronicles the migration of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) from Makkah to Madinah in September 622 C.E., is the central historical event of early Islam.]

#### **Please note:**

**School will be closed on Thursday 21 September 2017 in celebration of the Islamic New Year 1439**

***Al Ain juniors Management, Administration, Faculty and students wish one and all a Happy New Year!***

We would like to take this opportunity to pray to "Allah" to preserve the safety, security and welfare of the United Arab Emirates. We ask "Allah" to safeguard his Highness Shaikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the president of The United Arab Emirates, His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, His Highness Dr Shaikh Sultan Bin Mohammad Al Qasimi, Supreme Council member and Ruler of Sharjah, their highnesses members of the Supreme Council and all the people and residents of the UAE, and the people across the world. Let us pray that it will be a year with new peace, happiness and abundance for all. May Allah bless you throughout the New Year, Amen!

Thank you for your support and co-operation!

AJS Administration