Dear Children,

All Praise is for Allah, Lord of the worlds, prayers and peace be upon Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم his family, his Companions and all those who follow in his صلى الله عليه وسلم footsteps until the Last Day.

Eid is a time for celebration. We have all been looking forward to this joyous occasion. Let us ask Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَ to help us celebrate this happy day in a manner that will please Him.

Umm Ilhaam
Let's Celebrate Eid
All around the world, Muslims celebrate Eid, which is our festival.

Men and women, the young and the old, not forgetting little children look forward to celebrating this happy occasion, called Eid.

Why do we call it Eid?

One of the scholars said,

"Eid was named Eid, because it returns every year with renewed happiness."*

*Lisan ul Arab
Anas رضي الله عنه said:

“The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم came to Madeenah and the people of Madeenah had, in Jahileeyah two days for play and amusement. So the Prophet said, "I came to you and you had, in Jahileeyah two days for play and amusement. Indeed Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَ تَعَالَى has replaced them for you by that which is better than them. The Day of Nahr (slaughtering) and the day of Fitr (breaking fast).”

So from this Hadith we are able to understand that we Muslims have only two celebrations.

The Eid ul Fitr and the Eid ul Adhaa.

Ahamed
This Hadith also shows that it is Allah ﷺ who has granted these two days of celebration.

So for us Muslims, Eid is a religious festival.

Even while celebrating, we have to do it in the way the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ has taught us.
We are all looking forward to wearing lovely new clothes and shoes.

Let us not forget our poor Muslims who would also like to have at least a few things.

Eid is a very good time for us to help the poor and needy Muslims all over the world.

So let us try to help them and earn rewards on this happy day.
We should not celebrate the Eid in any way that will displease Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَلَّى our Creator.

We should wear proper Islamic clothes and avoid dancing and listening to music.

If we do this we will be disobeying Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَلَّى.

Little girls can play the duff* and sing during Eid. But remember that the words of the songs should be to encourage us to do good deeds and to help us to behave ourselves.

It should also be Islamically correct. We cannot sing songs that ask us to do bad deeds or to do sin or to be disobedient.

*A simple hand drum, similar to a tambourine without bells. Sahih al Bukhari
We should take a bath and wear our best clothes.

The clothes we wear on this day need not have to be new.

But they should be clean and they should also be the best clothes we have.
Fasting on the day of Eid is not allowed. It is one of the days in which fasting is haram (forbidden).

But this does not mean that we overeat.

We should not think that Eid is a day only for eating and drinking.
Then we leave to the Musallah
(that is the prayer place).

The Musallah is a large open place.

This is, so that a large number of Muslims can get
together and pray their Eid prayer in one place.

By doing this many people get a chance to meet
and greet each other.

Everyone should attend the Musallah.
The men, the women and children.

As Saheehah by Shaykh al Albaanee
Saying the Takbeer is important on the day of Eid.

“When the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم would go on the day of Fitr, he would say the takbeer until he reached the musallah (prayer place), and until he performed the prayer. When he had performed the prayer, he صلى الله عليه وسلم would stop the takbeer.”*

We should say the Takbeer aloud on the way to the Musallah.

But we should not all say it together, in unison.

We should not forget to say it, or think it not important.

Because from the hadeeth we can see that the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم did it and we should follow him.

*As Saheehah by Shaykh al Albaanee
Some of the Sahabah (Companions) of the Prophet used to say the Takbeer in the following manner.

Ibn Mas‘ood رضي الله عنه used to say:

اللّهُ أَكْبَرُ، اللّهُ أَكْبَرُ، لَا إِلَىَّ إِلَّا اللّهُ،
وَاللّهُ أَكْبَرُ، اللّهُ أَكْبَرُ وَلِلّهِ الْحَمْد


Allah is the Greatest, Allah is the Greatest. There is none who has the right to be worshipped except Allah. Allah is the Greatest. Allah is the Greatest and to Allah belongs all praise.

There are a few other ways of saying it as well.
When we recite the Takbeer we do not forget that Allah سبحانه وتعالى is the Greatest.

And that we are all His humble servants.

People sometimes forget Allah سبحانه وتعالى when they are happy. This should not be so.

When we say the Takbeer we bring Him back to our minds again and praise Him and thank Him for all the blessings He has given us.

So as Muslims we remember Allah سبحانه وتعالى not only when we are sad and need Him, but also when we are happy and celebrating.
The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم used to take one route to the Musallah.

After the prayer, he would change his route and come back some other way.

So we should also try to follow his صلى الله عليه وسلم example.

Sahih al Bukhari
It is important for us all to pray the Eid prayer.

The Prophet صلی الله عليه و سلم never missed this prayer, and he also commanded all the people to go for it.
On the day of Eid ul Fitr, the Prophet would eat some dates, before he went to pray.

But on the day of Eid ul Adhaa, he would eat only after he returned from the prayer.

Sahih al Bukhari, Ahamed
The Eid prayer is a prayer that has only two rakats.

We start praying like in the normal prayer with Takbeeral-TUl Ihram.*

Then we have to say another seven Takbeers (that is saying Allahu Akbar).

Then in the second rakah we have to say another five Takbeers.

The rest of the prayer is the same as the other prayers we normally pray.

*This is the first Takbeer of the praying person.  
Abu Dawud and Ibn Majah
After the prayer is over, the Imaam will give a sermon.

The Prophet ﷺ used to proceed to the musallaa on the day of Eid ul Fitr and Adhaa, and the first thing that he would begin with was the prayer. After the prayer he would move and stand in front of the people - the people being seated in their rows - and he would admonish, advise and command them ..... 

We can stay and listen to the sermon if we wish, or we can leave.

Sahih al Bukhari
We can greet each other by saying

\[ \text{Taqabbala Allahu minna wa minkum} \]

May Allah accept it from you and us.

Fath ul Baaree
So let us enjoy ourselves and be happy.

But let us not forget to remember Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَلَّى our Rabb.

Let us ask Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَلَّى to increase our Eeman and strengthen it.

We ask Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَلَّى to help us to obey Him in doing deeds that will please Him.
A Word to Parents

We as parents are responsible for our children and we should not consider our children too young, to start teaching them the etiquette of Islam.

The Learn About series of books are colour coded, and broadly divided into three levels. Primarily for easy selection and identification. However, all books contain information on morals, manners etc. in Islam, that maybe useful not only for older children, but for adults too.

Level One - These books are primarily designed for very young children. The books may have to be read to them, and explained. It is an initial introduction to Islam.

Level Two - These books are for children who need to be taught more about the basics of Islam and may have started to read already.

Level Three - These books are recommended for older children who already have the basic understanding of Islam.

Please note:- It is recommended to read to children and teach them, irrespective of the level of the books. They retain information, and form perceptions from a very early age. They need to be instructed and taught Islam in their formative years.