



16 January 2019

Dear GWA Parents:

Welcome back from the December Break and to the second half of our 2018-2019 school year. At this halfway point through the year, I want to share with you important information about our updated re-enrollment process for next year. First, though, I am pleased to share with you progress underway or planned for the coming year in areas that parents have identified through our School Climate Survey and through conversations with me and others in GWA's administration as important priorities.

**Faculty Recruitment & Retention:** While international schools worldwide regularly deal with higher rates of staff turnover, I am dedicated to doing all we can to recruit and retain the best possible faculty to teach your children. Parents noted the importance of this in last year's School Climate Survey and at the recent annual General Assembly with GWA's Board. I have worked with the Board, our Finance Department, and our Human Resources Department to craft incentives designed to encourage quality educators to come to and remain at GWA. I am pleased that these efforts have resulted in contract renewals for next year from the largest group of returning faculty that GWA has seen in years. Moreover, later this month I will lead a team of GWA administrators on a recruiting effort in the U.S. to fill those staff openings that we do anticipate for the 2019-2020 year.

**Curricular Additions and Adjustments:** We are especially pleased to announce plans to add Visual Arts to our Lower School curriculum and to reorganize the early years of our Upper School program around a genuine Middle School model instead of the Junior High model that has guided it to date. This will include adding an advisory program for Middle School students. These two areas both featured in last year's School Climate Survey as things parents would like to see. More generally, we also continue school-wide to focus on curriculum alignment and improvement.

**Parent Club:** After working with parents last year to reorganize our parent organization, this Fall we introduced the new Parent Club. The Parent Club (<https://www.gwa.ac.ma/gwa-community/parent-club>) has already contributed well to campus life, including the spectacular Moroccan Festival in December. In addition to the general group that welcomes your participation, I encourage you to explore the many Parent Club committees that would benefit greatly from your involvement.

**Strategic Planning:** We are engaged currently in a strategic planning effort to set the course of GWA for the next five years. This program began last month with "World Cafe" meetings to which parents, faculty, and students were invited to share ideas, and will climax later this month with a two-day retreat involving representatives from all stakeholder groups.



**Technology Plan:** We continue to move forward with the second year of our Board-approved five-year Technology Plan. In 2019-2020 we will increase further the number of devices across the campus; pilot one-to-one devices in grades 8 and 9; invest in many more digital learning platforms, programs, and applications; and continue to train all faculty in using devices and software in a way that enhances learning.

**Re-Enrollment for 2019-2020:** As I noted at various times last Fall, we have altered our re-enrollment procedure this year in order to be able to make more strategic and constructive admissions decisions that reinforce GWA's Vision Statement. To indicate your intention for your child/children to return to GWA next year, you must complete this form and submit it with the 1000 MAD re-enrollment fee and the 8000 MAD re-enrollment advance payment *no later than 15 February 2019* for each child you intend to return to GWA in 2019-2020. Following are the Membership fees for the 2019-2020 year approved last month by the GWA Board. We have sought to keep any increases reasonable while pursuing the staff recruiting and retention measures that will reinforce our strong faculty:

<i>Nursery/Discovery</i>	<i>67,800</i>
<i>PK-Kindergarten</i>	<i>84,500</i>
<i>Grades 1-5</i>	<i>103,400</i>
<i>Grades 6-8</i>	<i>119,300</i>
<i>Grades 9-12</i>	<i>131,000</i>

*\* The non-refundable Re-Enrollment Fee remains 1000 MAD for all students, and the non-refundable Re-Enrollment Advance Payment remains 8000 MAD for all students.*

The Finance Office will not be able to accept the form without the accompanying non-refundable fees, or the fees without the accompanying form. Starting February 18, the Admissions staff will begin considering students from our pool of candidates for any spaces left by families that have not submitted both the form and the fees.

Thank you again for entrusting your children to us and we look forward to a growing partnership going forward.

Wishing you all the best,

Dr. Audrey C. Menard  
Head of School