

IC Newsletter Summer 2010

#### INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

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### EDITOR'S NOTE

Let me start by thanking each and everyone of those who welcomed us during our travels. So many of you made pledges to our Capital Campaign and so many of you donated on the spot towards our Annual Fund.

For that, I am deeply grateful.

IC grows stronger everyday. Just visit our annual Art Festival, attend our International Day, enjoy one of our performances or come root for our athletic teams.

In this issue we bring you the story of one of our students; a little girl called Daniella. I wish you could have seen the hospital's hallways when the word spread that she had cancer. The IC family rallied around her and gave her the support that she needed.

For this is who we are: a family. And you are still part of our family. And as grown up children often do, you are now giving back. Shukran.

Best wishes always,

Bus

Moufid Beydoun "64 Vice President for Alumni & Development



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DEVELOPMENT

ALUMNI

KIDS

NEWS



CAMPYS

NEWS

# Mission Green: **SAVE LEBANON'S FORESTS**

The Ain Aar administration did not have to think twice when Ain Aar's parents committee approached them earlier this year with the idea of launching a "Mission Green" project aimed at getting students involved in reforesting parts of the country.

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"I was very happy to know that the parent's committee is thinking in the same direction as us as a school" said Diana Abu Lebdeh Ain Aar's Upper Elementary and Middle School director. "Having the support of parents is crucial in any big project that the school has to undertake. And our aim is always to produce role model citizens.".

The idea was that while younger students develop a nursery at school, older ones go out and plant the shoots.

"The ultimate goal is to create awareness and sensitize the students on the importance of the trees for the environment," said Ghada Abela, the head of the IC Ain Aar Parents Committee. "It's

a wake up call for the Lebanese community in general and for students in particular."

And so began the fundraising efforts. By March, the committee raised \$2500 enough to cover the cost of planting and maintain-

ing 250 trees.

It was a good beginning. On a cold March morning, students were driven to Cornet Chehwan and Mtayleb, not too far away from Ain Aar.

After a brief planting lesson, the work began. Despite the cold and drizzle, students dug, mulched and planted. Each tree was lovingly labeled with "IC Ain Aar", class level and academic year.

For many students, it was a new experience. "I like it," said Ayman Akl, 14. "I usually help my uncle water some trees and plants at home. But I would like to plant myself some trees." According to the Association for Forests, Development and Conservation (AFDC), about 1,500 hectares of woodland are burned in

Lebanon every year. In 2007 alone, more than 4,000 hectares of forests were lost in the worst fires to hit Lebanon for decades. Last summer, fires destroyed over 15 million square meters of forests.

With the ongoing rise of temperatures, caused by climate change, forest soils are drying, humidity is decreasing and trees becoming drier. Forest fires are starting earlier and have become more brutal.

Thirty-five percent of Lebanon was covered with trees in 1965. Today, only 13% of





land is covered with forests. It is predicted that Lebanon could completely lose its forests in 15 to 20 years if large-scale uncontrolled forest fires continue at this rate. Replanting the trees is crucial to avoid landslides and provide clean air.

As the students filed back on the bus, they seemed proud of their work. "I'm going to get my parents to bring me back here to check up on the trees I planted," said Sara Azar, 15.

As the buses drove away, 16-year-old Mohamed, part of the maintenance crew hired to look after the trees, slowly approached the shoots and checked that each one was properly planted. "I may not know how to read or write," he chuckled. "But I do know how to plant and care for trees. And I'll do that well."

The Ain Aar parents committee plans to make "Mission Green" a yearly event and "will try to pass it on to future committees," said Abela.



# Daniella's book

Daniella Asfour takes one look at the class with the "big kids" and hides behind the lockers in the middle school hallway. Her older brother and mother cajole her. She finally enters the class clinging on to her mother. She had things to say but looking at the sea of faces in front of her, words fail her. Finally, her mother talks to the class.

"Daniella is pleased to be here," she said. "She and her friends created this book to help other children suffering with cancer."

She holds up a book. "Once upon a drawing by the KGII and GS students" is a collection of stories and drawings. The first page includes Daniella's drawing. Underneath is its dedication: From Daniella and her friends at IC to the Children's Cancer Center of Lebanon.



The drawings are based on the KGII and Grande Section's interpretations of Henri Matisse's works of art led by preschool art teachers, Mona Nashawati and Joumana Boukhaled.

On February 7th, Daniella was diagnosed with cancer. A heartfelt shock vibrated through IC. IC administrators, parents and friends got together to produce this book.

"It just wasn't fair for a young child to go through this," said Ghada Maalouf, Director of the Preschool, "I felt the need to do something. A book was the best tool by far."

Proceeds from the book go to the Children's Cancer Center.

For Daniella, the Cancer Center has become another home. Daniella shows her 'butterfly' inserted under skin just above her chest- a surgically placed catheter to allow chemotherapy to enter the bloodstream.

Every two weeks, she heads to the Center to receive her chemotherapy.

"It doesn't hurt," she said. "Not even when they take my blood."

She has new friends at the Cancer Center. Abbas, 9, who is bedridden and Tina, 4, who comes in every week for her chemotherapy sessions.

Daniella plays with them both. "Tina likes puzzles the most and Abbas likes to listen to the news all day long," she said. At times she gets really tired and doesn't want to go to school. Other times she can't be bothered to play or eat. Other times she feels queasy. Sometimes her hair falls out in class. She doesn't like that. But her friends at IC pick it up for her.

Only a few weeks ago, Daniella was celebrating her 6th birthday with her friends.

There was no warning of what was coming ahead. Her energy was high and her appetite great. In fact, she was a little too fond of sweets which is why perhaps she was developing a small 'tummy' or so thought her mother. Unbeknown to them, Daniella was a 'ticking time bomb', as her mother puts it.

It was a simple fall that saved her life. She tripped and fell as she played in her home. A short while after, Daniella vomited several times. Her parents took her to the emergency room just "as a precaution" recalled Asfour.

It was the doctor's face which gave it away. "Just tell me," Asfour told him. "I can take it."

And he did. The 'tummy' turned out to be a 2kg tumor in her kidney which was pressing against her diaphragm. Without surgery and treatment, Daniella would die in two months.

Asfour felt her world collapsing. She stared at her child in fear. But then, she heard her own mother's voice in her head. "You can do it, Carla, you can do it."

At 17, Asfour fell from the fourth floor of a building. Her prognosis was bleak. Doctors predicted that she would either die or become a paraplegic.

"No, she won't," said Asfour's mother firmly. "She will get through this." Asfour did. After a year of intensive rehabilitation, she learned to walk again. Asfour turned to the doctor

"Daniella is going to make it," she told him determinedly. "She will get through this."

Daniella underwent an operation and the kidney was removed. The chemo sessions began shortly after and will continue for another year. A native of Guatemala, Asfour felt alone. She longed for her mother and sisters.

"I felt that I couldn't do this alone," she said. But as the news spread about Daniella, throngs of well wishers – IC parents, teachers, administrators, and friends - filled the halls of the American University Hospital for days on end.



"The support I received has been amazing," she said. "I don't think we would have made it without them. I never really expected to have such a big family."

Doctors predict that Daniella will make a complete recovery. The grateful Asfour family now spends a lot of time at the Cancer Center creating arts and crafts activities for the young patients. We are fortunate," said Asfour. "We have been given another chance with Daniella. I am so thankful. Daniella is our miracle child."

Once Upon a Drawing by International College KGII/GS students is on sale for 20,000LL at the Preschool office. All proceeds go to the Children's Cancer Center.



# THE LAST OF THE GLASS BLOWERS



Mahmoud Khalife sits in front of the furnace open doors with ease. The blats of waves of orange heat blasting in his face and eyes, doesn't seem to phase him. "I'm used to it," he said grinning. Deftly he inserts a thin long tube around laden with a piece of molten glass into the kiln, pulls it out, blows into the tube forming a bubble at the end, swings the tube in circles to elongate the molten glass and inserts it back in. The blob of glass begins to take shape. A small glass pitcher, then a spout appears, the open neck and finally a stamp of "IC" is gently placed on it.

He takes another blob of molten glass and repeats the whole procedures again. One by one the pitchers displaying the IC logo are inserted into another oven to dry. Many hours later, they are ready to be collected.

For Mahmoud and his father, uncles, and cousins gathered around, it's just part of the job.

"I was a small child when I first started learning the trade," said Ali Khalife, Mahmoud's uncle. "And my brothers and I have trained our boys since the age of 12."

It takes eight years to master the trade – a trade the Khalife family is immensely proud of.

The Khalife's family works in Sarafand, a small coastal village just south of Sidon – once known as Sarepta, a Phoenician port where the art of

blowing down a thin hollow tube to shape glass was invented more than 2,000 years ago.

Today the Khalife family business is the last glass-blowing enterprise in Lebanon. Once a thriving business, orders are few and far between.

"We used to have a lot of work and rarely turned the oven off," said Nisrine Khalifeh who runs the family's shop just a few meters in front of the furnace. "But now we only turn it on if it's worth the cost."

It takes 24 hours to heat up the home-made kiln to the required 2,552 degrees Fahrenheit (1,400 degrees centigrade) and this alone generates huge costs. The family has to amass several orders before firing it up and then work 24 hours a day to complete the orders.

The family recycles glass donated by households or organizations. School children on a field trip often stop by to see the family at work.

The Khalife family depends on orders – like IC's request for souvenir pitchers – to keep its business going. "It would be sad if Lebanon lost its glass blowing business completely," he says.

IC pitchers are available at the Alumni Office.

FEAT

# A Happy Ending:

FEATU

# IC CHOIR GOES TO MUSCAT

Things were not going exactly as planned. Two girls were sobbing. The boys looked despondent. All were begging for their choir director to remove the Lebanese song from the final performance at the International Muscat Festival of Choirs where 16 IC students joined other student choirs from over 30 nations to take part in the International festival last February.

The source of their unhappiness was finally revealed: The Turkish students had made fun of them.

Choir director, Randa Sabbah, sighed. Had she gone too far in encouraging her students to do some dabkeh movements with their song? Had she somehow infringed on the teenage code of "coolness"?

It was a shaky start from the beginning. The choir director of the festival was just not communicative. He kept snapping his fingers expecting students to understand his cues. There was little input on his behalf. Students were at a loss on how to sing their newly assigned parts in the song. After hours of practice, the mood was somber.

"I thought that our being here was such a mistake," said Sabbah. "It was very frustrating for the kids."

Finally, accompanying teachers decided to take things in their own hands by teaching their students the complicated rhythm of the selected songs.

As teachers began training their own groups, the choir began to come together. Finally, the director began moving to the different tempos and "the choir grasped the tempo," recalled Sabbah. "By the end of the day, they made it."

The somber mood began to lift. Training continued normally.

As every with every festival, each visiting choir was given ten minutes to perform their own song during the final performance. IC stu-



arms and yell out the traditional Lebanese "hey" during the song. During rehearsals, the Turkish students began to mock and laugh at the IC students.

IC students' faces fell.

Later on, they begged Sabbah to remove the song from the repertoire. She looked at the sobbing girls and glum faces of the boys and could only think of one thing to do: make them run around the room and do jumping jacks. They started to laugh. The students then took a decision: they will not be intimidated. They will perform their song as scheduled. The performance day arrived and the unified voices of the choir sang beautifully. Then came the turn of Lebanese song. Holding their breath, IC students stepped on stage and gave the audience their best - including all the 'heys'.

The audience erupted into applause. Choir directors praised them heartily. The Lebanese ambassador congratulated them.

Peering into the cheering audience, IC students could make out their most enthusiastic fans:

The Turkish students clapping fervently and asking for an encore.







### Grade 3 to the rescue!

Abu Bilal had almost given up when his phone rang. "We are calling from the International College and have collected some money to buy you water pumps," said a female voice. "We understand that you need them."

Abu Bilal was stumped. It was an answer to his prayers. "I couldn't believe it," he recalled. "People still cared after all."

Homeroom teacher, Reem Sardouk and her grade 3 students had heard that Mar Elias camp residents were not getting adequate water to their homes. The solution was simple: water pumps. At \$55 per pump, the poverty stricken camp residents were unable to buy them. As head of the Popular Committee in the camp, Abu Bilal turned to various NGOs. To no avail. Until he received Sardouk's phone call.

This page: Mar Elias pump or 1: Maya Marmar is thrilled to get a strong jet of water

Next page: grade 3 kids. Bottom: Elementary school director, Julia Kozak, is given a tour of the camp to see the pumps at work. "We have 25 water pumps ready for you," continued Sardouk who later relayed every word of her conversation to her excited students. In the other grade 3 sections, advisors Diana Kaaki and Mona Beyhum were doing the same with their students.

For the past few weeks, they have been earning the money for the water pumps. Layan Barhoumi, 8, washed the dishes, helped prepare meals and cleaned her room. "I felt bad," she said. "We're all children. We're all the same. But we have water and they don't."

For his part, Mohamed Khalil, 8, babysat his cousins and tidied up his little brother's closets. For each chore, he earned LL1,000. He proudly deposited LL15,000 into their fund. "I am so proud that I'm doing something to help those people," he said. "I'm luckier than they are and I should help them."

As part of the PYP program, grade 3 has been studying about water. Part of the unit requires them to take action "for a social justice," said Sardouk. "Kids have to do something to show that they have learned. It's not a paper and pencil thing. They must respond to the problem. They must make a difference."

Word reached them about the water shortages in the camp. Grade 3 they set to the task. There was one strict condition though: every lira had to be earned. Parents were hassled for more and more chores.

"I did so much at home except vacuuming,"

said Aya Shahine, 9. "My mom didn't let me do that. I felt relieved that I was doing something for those families."

Alia Bsat, 9, helped her mother serve her guests and then charged her for it. "It's the first time that I feel that I'm actually making a difference in someone's life," she said.

Altogether the group amassed about 2m LL - just enough to buy the needed 25 pumps for the camp.

Abu Bilal immediately set to work installing the pumps (seven have been installed so far). He later visited IC and presented grade 3 with a hydrangea plant.

"I couldn't believe that it took little kids to help us," he said.

As Elementary school director, Julia Kozak, visited the camp, he proudly showed her the pumps – now providing water to many residents.

She met Najida Marmar and her daughter, Maya, 10. It used to take Marmar a whole day to wash the dishes, do the laundry and take a shower with the trickle of water they received everyday.

"I couldn't wash the dishes if I'm doing the laundry or if someone was taking a shower," said. "We always had to wait for this or that to finish."

Today, a strong jet of water spurts from the faucet.

In his office, Abu Bilal is beaming. "That's one problem solved," he said. "I only wish we can solve the others. I'm very grateful to the IC kids. I don't know what we would have done otherwise."

Back in her class, Sardouk has noted a distinct difference in her students.

"I see a certain maturity level," she said. "Instead of throwing away pencils, for example, they want to give it to someone who needs it. Unfortunate people have become real for them."

And back in the camp, Maya, can finally take a shower – a real shower - at her whim. "I don't have to wait for the dishes or laundry to be done," she said. "It's great!"







SAN





# Reading Week

Dr Arthur Charles, former IC president visited IC during Reading Week and spent an entire day reading books to elementary school students.

Students in elementary school visited preschool classes and read to them.

As an extra perk for elementary school teachers, IC seamstress Rita Jadam, sewed together over 80 shaped doorstops and presented one to each and every teacher.



# Teacher's Day

Over 300 teachers and staff gathered at the Bristol Hotel on March 8th to commemorate Teachers' Day. Awards were presented, teachers appreciated and staff thanked for their support.

#### Retirees

Mr. Samir Richmani, Mrs. Hanan Shawwaf, Mrs. Laudy Fadel, Mrs. Falak Renno, Miss Leila Kaidbey, Mr. Garabed Hindoyan, Mr. Joseph Youssef, Mr. Issam Sarrieddine, Mr. Ghannoum Bashir

25 Years of Service Mr. Ghannoum Bashir, Mrs. Connie Hadba, Mrs. Nawal Hammoud, Mr. Reda Saleh

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> 35 years of service: Mrs. Mishka Mourani, Mr. Wadih Jabir

45 years of service: Mr. Elie Sfeir

#### "The Albert Abela Distinguished teacher Award":

presented in 2009-2010 to members of the IC faculty who have distinguished themselves as teachers and instructional leaders and developed a lasting commitment o the valued embodied in the IC Mission Statement.





Recipients of Abela Award: Rony Asmar, Nada Bekdache, Nayla Ejjeh, Nahla Jamaleddine, Hala Khoury, Fida Malak, Samir Richmani, Reem Sardouk, Maha Shukayr, Maya Tabbarah.

Recipient of Tohme Award: Ghada Maalouf, Preschool Director

Recipient of Randa Khoury Innovation in Teaching Award: Nayla Hamadeh, Social Sciences Instructor

Recipients of George O. Debbas Award: Hanan Loulou, Administrative Assistant Dalida Sayyah, Nurse Ain Aar





Randa Khoury Award



## IC students wins Youth Essay Contest

Nadine Abi Kanaan (3eme Ain Aar) won the youth essay contest for CEDAW, group 1 (14-18 years). Nadine was selected among top five world finalists. Results were announced at the 54th UN commission on the status of women in the world on March 5th.

### IC students win Concours de Chant Francophone

Two proud IC students walked out with a trophy and a \$100 gift certificate at the Concours de Chant Francophone held on May 7 at Unesco Palace.

Rayan Husni-Beyin, 4eme and Dina Achi, Bacc Français competed against 42 students from 22 schools and won first prize. The final competition came after an audition and a semi-final were held at IC in February.



# A new football field in Ain Aar



The new sports field at Ain Aar is now open. A ribbon cutting and opening ceremony was held in mid May and the football team already had its first session in the new field. There are still some additional modifications to the fences, walkways, and providing spectator seating in the near future, but essentially the field is done.



Ribbon cutting ceremony From L to R: Board Member Maya Tohme, Board Member Imad Taher '58, AA Director Upper/Middle Diana Abou Lebdeh, Senior Vice President Mishka Mourani and IC President John Johnson.

> The master plan for Ain Aar calls for many improvements in the facility in the future.

The new field is just the beginning.









# IB Art Exhibit

IB2 art program boasted 10 students this year exhibiting their work.

"The program is becoming more and more popular," said Samia Boulad, head of the Art Department. "Every year, we have more students joining."

Every year, IB students exhibit their work in all kinds of media – the essence of their entire IB art program. Each student is required to submit between 12 and 18 art works accompanied by their 'investigation workbook.'

Their workbooks explain in details the before, during and after thoughts and techniques they used to produce their

work. It also includes the hurdles they encountered and ways they overcame them.

"For many, these art works became a way for students to discover themselves or explore an issue very deeply," said Boulad. "They are the ones who chose their themes. My role was the facilitator."

Indeed, judging by the artworks and the workbooks, many students seem to have gone through a roller coaster of emotions.

The result was a brilliant exhibit. An international IB examiner arrived in Lebanon in March and held an "external assessment exam" – a one to one session with each student. Results will be out in early summer.









# Art Festival 2010



### Art revisited "Métamorphoses Artistiques"

IC proudly launched its 20th Art Festival in May. This year's theme was "Art revisited: Métamorphoses Artistiques".

Students across both campuses learnt to analyze art works of selected 20th century artists from different styles and "through these artists they created some art works by the process of transformation and metamorphosis," explained Samia Boulad, Head of the Art Department.

The art department's thirteen art



teachers met throughout the year and came out with various ideas to meet this year's challenge. Every class adopted different artists.

The result is a city of artists "Artistville" – including rooms of a house, shops, restaurant, a garden, the sea – completely influenced by artists' work. For example, Vincent Van Gogh's bedroom was created after studying his painting and "reinterpreting it into an installation," explained Boulad. Henri Matisse's painting of the dinner table Harmony in Red was faithfully reinterpreted into an installation of a red dining room.

There was a restaurant with people dining – thanks to a deep understanding of Gustav Klimt's art work, the three musicians of Picasso, the bridge and water lilies of Monet, sculptures in the park by Miró and Calder, etc... "It's not a copy," said Boulad. "This is where art teachers make a lot of effort to have creative work because there is no copying from the masters. It is a reinterpretation."

For the first time since the inception of the festival, students – and not only teachers – were on hand to explain their artworks and answer questions.

# A new mural at the Elementary School

Grade 2 students decided that the walls of the elementary school playground are just too bare and said so. Art teachers didn't need to be told twice. Before long, grade 2 students were busy painting a colorful mural to brighten up their playground.





# Fashion Show 2010



# Camival 2010

There was something different about this year's carnival: IC had special guests. Amongst the hundreds of people who showed up on May 8th to play games, enjoy various performances and jump on inflatables, secondary school students were running after 55 Iraqi children.

The children, from the Janah NGO, were "adopted" by the secondary school students for the day. Senior students made sure that their charges had a good time.

The IC Carnival began more than 50 years ago and is regarded as one of the school's annual highlights. All proceeds went to Financial Aid.





# International Day

Over 1,000 people showed up to IC's Ras Beirut campus to celebrate the 5th International Day held at IC on April 24.

Dressed in the country's local costumes, students from elementary and middle school from both campuses put on dazzling performances representing the countries of: Chili, Holland, Thailand, Australia, Greece, England, Mauritania, and Morocco. Over 560 students participated in the event as did their teachers and families. Students have been extensively researching their assigned countries since November with the help of their teachers and a group of parents. Their research included the local customs, food, history, geography, music and dances of the countries.

Following the performances held at the IC greenfield, guests were treated to spectacular displays along the campus which included a variety of delectable dishes, items and researches representing the eight nations.







# CAMPUS NEWS

# Senior Fun Day











### IC wins all titles at the Alton Reynolds Football Toumament

IC's Senior Varsity and Junior Varsity Boys and Girls teams won all titles at the Alton Reynolds Football Tournament held in March. Participants in the tournament included the Amman Baccalaureate School and Naseem International School from Bahrain.

# IC wins Basketball

Toumament

CAMP'JS NEWS

Boys and Girls Varsity Basketball teams won the basketball tournament at Amman Baccalaureate Basketball Invitational in March. IC players Ramzi Al Amine and Nada Alameddine won the tournament's Most Valuable Player, Best Point Guard and Best Scorer titles.







Switzerland



### SWITZERLAND

DEVENOPNIENT

Chairman of the Board, William Turner and IC President, John Johnson flew in to Geneva in March to hold a special reception for alumni and friends organized by Board member, John McCarthy, Lynn Khalidy '86 and head of the IC Geneva Alumni Chapter, Ayman Abou Chakra '83. Sponsored by Bank Audi and held at the Hotel Metropole in Geneva, the reception attracted over 80 alumni and friends who eagerly listened to Mr Turner and Mr Johnson description of IC's Capital Campaign and construction plans of the new Elementary school.

Among the attendees were Senior Vice President and Director of Development in NY Peter Gerard and Vice President of the Alumni and Development **Moufid Beydoun '64**.

#### SAUDI ARABIA

In early May, IC's Moufid Beydoun travelled to Riyad. He met with Board Member **HE Sheikh Mohammed al-Soleiman '59** and thanked him for his generous donation to the school.

Mr Beydoun also met with HRH **Prince Faysal al Sudairy '75** who showed much interest in contributing to the Capital Campaign and helping out with other prospects.

A dinner with **Sheikh Abdulrahman Alissa '59** followed who promptly increased his usual generous donation.







Sheikh Isam Kabbani '51 and Moufid Beydoun '64



Moufid Beyoun '64 and Sheikh Mohammed al Soleiman '59

In Jeddah, Mr Beydoun met with Sheikh Mohammed Basamah '65, Nabil al Zaben '68, Saeed Hatlani '72, and Tahsin Jarrah '69. They talked about the Capital Campaign and all showed interest and willingness to participate and help.

He also met with **Mohammed Zamali '81** and a group of 12 IC alumni. The group immediately established the Jeddah Alumni Fund and decided to collect funds for a naming opportunity.

Mr Beydoun also met with **Isam Kabbani '51** and thanked him for his generous contribution to the Annual Fund. Mr Kabbani made a generous pledge to the Capital Campaign.



Dubai



#### DUBAI

In mid-May, IC president John Johnson and Moufid Beydoun travelled to Dubai and met with the head of Dubai chapter, **Elias Hanna** '71 who held a small dinner at his home for Dubai's alumni.

Mr Johnson talked about the Capital Campaign in details and showed them the plans of the new elementary school.

The Dubai alumni decided to set up a fund for IC in the name of the IC Dubai Chapter. John Johnson, Mr and Mrs Naaman Atallah '83



John Johnson, Mr and Mrs Karim Ghandour '89, Karim Jawad '92, Elias Hanna '71 IC NEWSLETTER -SUMMER 2010 25





The legend of giving continues

**Mr Patrick Chalhoub '75**, CEO of the Chalhoub Group met with Mr John Johnson and Mr Moufid Beydoun '64 and handed them a generous gift to go towards the Capital Campaign.

Established in 1955 by Michel and Widad Chalhoub, the Chalhoub Group is a leading retail, distribution and marketing powerhouse for renowned brands in the beauty, fashion and gift sectors. The Chalhoub Group represents some of the finest international brands in the region.

Patrick Chalhoub joined the Chalhoub Group in 1979

DEVELOPMENT

and since then – following his father's footsteps - developed the company's strategic development to ensure long term success.

Continuing his parent's legacy, he has taken a keen interest in promoting and developing French culture and language in the Middle East by forging special ties with the region's schools and universities.

"It's wonderful to see our successful alumni remembering us and the wonderful education they received at IC," said Beydoun. "They feel that is now their turn to give back."



Gathering Class of 1964 on January 14th at Diwan Al Sultan



Yahya Iskhak '76 visits IC after 30 years.



Tayma Khalil '02, Kamal Khayat '03, Tamara Khalil '04, travelled to Tanzania to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro. At the top, the group planted the IC "so we can raise it at the highest peak in Africa," said Khayat. Dear IC,

You ask for "Funny interesting stories from your years at IC." I read your newsletter regularly and enjoy it tremendously. There are the touching stories, such as Ms. Sabra's choir boys, the achievement news describing an IC student who climbed to the top of MT. Kilimanjaro and others who achieved academic excellence. And then there are articles that open amazing horizons for IC students especially when officials from Yale University visited IC and offered scholarships to potential students. So I decided to write back about much humbler times, but no less important. Your request reaches me 25 years after graduating and plunges me into thought. The eighties were not funny years, but it is through IC that we became adults. As a parent in 2010, I wonder now, how such a school functioned under very scary times. Not only did it open its doors everyday, it gave us a world class education. The 25th reunion of the class of 84' last summer brought forth successful doctors, lawyers, business men and women and the woman who would become a few months after the reunion, the Finance Minister of Lebanon.

Aside from education and in the midst of war, IC offered extra curricular activities. To this day, I feel that the club I joined during those years has defined my personality. With the Social Service Club, we collected clothes 25303for war refugees, fund raised for the needy, hosted orphans at IC every Friday afternoon to entertain them...the list is long and its effects on me even longer. Through this club, we learned cooperation, team work, leadership and most importantly empathy. The friends I made in that club are still my friends today and yes we are in touch. IC was a wonderful place to be in the middle of the chaotic and turbulent times of the eighties. In retrospect, the teachers who arrived daily to school (not an easy task those days) and the administrators who ran the school so admirably are nothing short of heroes. Thank you IC.

Rula Haddad Norregaard '84

#### Dear IC,

IC, like Lebanon, isn't just a school, it's a state of mind - an institution. I haven't known a single human being who was indifferent (Luke warm) to IC - Either you loved it, or not so much, BUT you had strong feelings about it either way. The overwhelming majority of us loved it, thought highly of it, respected it, and are very "protective" of it and it's reputation - not to mention bragging that we were IC, and being cocky about it -:)

What's not to like: The grounds? Rock & Sage? the football field, the auditorium, the sea, Bliss street, ACS, AUB, Hamra, Hanna, Tarazi, Mehio, Marrouch, Shawqi, Socrates, Edison, long hair, the girls who started becoming a way of life

from Brevet on, the fights, the arguments, the english section vs the sectioniyye, selling our year-old books

in "the alley" just before the school year started, the many many clubs that existed, or the endless lunch hour especially for non-gharbiyyeh students like me? - Mr. Schuller, Mr. Omar, Monsieur Dumont, Mr. Hourani, Mr.Weaver, Mr. Mr. Mr. Mr... And last but most: THE LEISURE CENTER - The epicenter of social activity and endless fun and spending our hard earned (aka given) quarters (Rib3 Lira) - Riz-Alla - Never thought we would think like our parents when we were young and invincible and knew everything!

Let's also not forget how cool it was to be a fawdaji, a smoker, a loud-mouth, an opiniated person, a political activist, and an all-around gift to humanity...

Wazwaz-Shabbi7-Sammim-Wa7sh-Fa7l, and many others I can't recall anymore come to mind when describing our lingo. We were IC, and therefore we were more.

It wasn't all fun and games and endless excitement on a daily basis, but it sure "remembers" that way. It was the American proposition of free speech, high achievement, and democracy, in an exciting and hopeful "Oasis" called Lebanon - America at that time was almost everybody's dream of what a Modern society was supposed to be like.

Meen baddu yitsalla wa yitghazza?

I am happy and proud to have been an IC student and will be an IC alumnus till the end.

Chahine Saleeby '73



This mini craft takes

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only a minute or two to assemble, and it's just right for launching in a pool or bathtub. Materials: Small triangle cut from a plastic bag, tablecloth, or other item , Thin twig, Modeling clay, Clean shell Instructions : Trim the plastic triangle to resemble a sail. Cut off the very upper tip (this will prevent the top of the sail from flopping over later), then snip a series of tiny openings along the edge where the mast will go. Thread the twig through the openings. Press a small lump of clay (if you use too much, your boat might not float) into the shell hull and plant the mast firmly into its center.

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### CLASS OF '50 - '59

Abdur-Rahman Saghir '53 is a Consultant in Weed Management and Sustainable Development. One of his activities is to advice the Institutions of Social Welfare on their vocational agricultural program at Nebras which he helped in establishing in 2002. He is preparing now a reference weed management book for Arab Countries to be published in 2012.

He is living in Beirut with his wife, Rajiha and daughter, Dima. His son, Mazen, is Prof.of Computer Eng.at Texas A &M in Qatar and his other son, Bashir, is a Land scape Architect with Dar Al Handasa. They are both living with their wives in Doha, Qatar. "I am always glad to receive IC News Letter, and read about alumni achievements around the world," he writes. "I keep in touch with few of my classmates such as Fawzi Saba ,Monther Bsat,Ibraheem Dabous, H.E.Annwar Al Khalil and others."

Dr. Philip Salem '58 is the director of cancer research at the St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital. The Hospital recently announced the Philip A. Salem, M.D., Chair in Cancer Research, established to honor Dr. Salem's contributions to cancer medicine. "We are enormously gratified to announce that St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital has formally established the Philip A. Salem, M.D., Chair in Cancer Research to serve as a lasting tribute to his leadership and vision in the field of oncology," said Margaret M. Van Bree, CEO, St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital, and senior vice president, St. Luke's Episcopal Health System in a press release. "He has spent his professional life overcoming challenges that others only dreamed of conquering and this chair recognizes his contributions to advances in cancer treatment."

CLASS OF '70 - '79

Patou Majd Fathallah '74 lives in Northern Tuscany and is a renowned sculptor. http://www.majdsculpture.com/ ALUMNI UPDATES

### CLASS OF '80 - '89

Mike (Mohamed) Shami '80 resides in Sacramento, California with his beautiful wife and two teen age kids. He works as a Senior Bridge Engineer. He teaches part time and coaches youth football (we call it soccer here) and he still kicks the ball at least twice a week. "There were nice memories at IC that always bring a smile to my face when I think how we where 30 years ago" he writes. "We were free spirited, no worries despite the ugly Civil War, and yes we had lots of happy moments because we made them. We were different but so closed. We had fights (I call them disagreements) and we had nice gatherings. Our parents were young and our brothers and sisters were even younger than us. Now, life has changed. We grew older, have families of our own, some of our parents passed away, our close friends got busy with their families and daily life so we lost contact.

I still do the things I enjoy but it's different now and whatever you do today will never be like tomorrow so enjoy your years at IC with your friends and do the things that makes you happy. Finally, let your parents be proud of you because you will be a parent one day.

I'd love to hear from my old schoolmates so here is my contact email: shamimike@yahoo.com''

**Wassim Halawi '82** and his wife, Joumana, were blessed with a baby boy, Malek on May 12th, 2010.

Razek Tarazi '82 lives in Vancouver since

2007. He works mostly for the Pulp and Pater Industry. He is married with three children. "Who does not remember Tarazi ice cream?" he writes. "The best!!"

### CLASS OF '90 - '99

Wissam Akkawi '91 is the owner & GM for Fiesta Group (supply events with Styrofoam décor, balloons decoration, fireworks for indoor & outdoor. Retail shops for balloons, gadgets and wrapping Wholesalers for balloons, party supplies and gadgets ). He is also a partner in AV Concept/Audio Visual Concept sarl: lighting, sound and event planner, Archiline 4 contracting sarl: Construction and factory for carpentry and Contract sarl: Architectural office. He is married with three children.

**Ramsey Tabet '92** moved to Australia 11 years ago with his family. Three years ago, he met his childhood friend Rasha Hassanieh and got married to her. The couple now lives in Adelaide. Last year we were blessed with a gorgeous baby boy Tameem who is 14.

**Rola Zuhayr Chbaklo '93** is happy to announce the birth of her first child, RHEA Zein born on January 23rd2010. Rola got married to Rami Zein in 2009, and is currently working at the Social Welfare Institutions in her capacity as Director of the Support & Development Division. After graduation from IC, Rola received her BA and MS from AUB then moved to Abu Dhabi where she worked for 3 years as a Population Specialist. In 2006 she received a master degree from the University of Turin (Italy) in Management of Development. The couple lives in Beirut.

Shadi Ahmadieh '94 and wife Nisreen, are happy to announce the birth of the second baby boy (Sami) on April 7th,2010 at AUH. Moreover, Sami's elder brother Fadi, have been accepted to join IC- nursery class Fall 2010, and by that becoming Ahmadieh's 3rd generation at IC."

#### Mosbah Jalloul '94 and Hiba Darghawth

**'98** have recently relocated from Dubai to Switzerland where Mosbah is working with Robert Bosch Headquarters as an Area Manager for Eastern Europe and Turkey. They would also like to announce the birth of their first baby girl, Luna, born on August 19, 2009.

**Abdo Saad '97** has completed his fellowship training in geriatrics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in June 2009. He is currently enrolled at the University of Missouri-Columbia for the fellowship training in Gastroenterology. He expects to finish in 2012.

Farah Dakhlallah '99 is currently Public Information Officer for UNHCR Syria, one of UNHCR's largest and most complex operations in the world, due to the Iraqi caseload. She was previously a Producer/Reporter for Reuters TV in London. MSc Media and Communications LSE, MSt International Relations University of Cambridge, BA Audiovisual Studies Universite Saint Joseph.

Hana Hamadeh '99 obtained her BA from AUB in 2002 and will finish her MBA thesis in the summer of 2010 from AUB. She is currently working at UNDP - Lebanon as a Business Development Specialist on the ART GOLD Project. Prior to that, she was working as a project consultant with the World Bank (Lebanon) on a project about reforming the Lebanese Social Security Fund .

### CLASS OF '00 - '09

**Dima Tabraoui '02** studied graphic design at AUB and is currently living in Florida. "I hope to hear from my beloved teachers and directors from IC," she writes. She can be reached dimatabraoui@hotmail.com

Nader Houélla '02 is currently working in the LEBANON OPPORTUNITIES MAGA-ZINE as a PROJECT MANAGER since April 2010 in Beirut, where he is in charge of managing new initiative projects for the company. He used to work in ENDEMOL MIDDLE EAST PRODUCTIONS where he was the production coordinator of the DEAL OR NO DEAL Program.

**Sara Mukallid '02** completed her Masters degree in Educational Psychology from the American University of Beirut and is currently the Educational Psychologist at Hariri High School II, responsible for the development and implementation of a comprehensive school guidance and counseling program across the elementary school level.

Maher Abdel-Sattar '03 graduated from UCLA (University of California, Los Angeles) in 2007 with a B.S. in Molecular, Cell, & Developmental Biology and a minor in Human Complex Systems. He is currently finishing his first year as a student pharmacist at UCSF (University of California, San Francisco) which is the number one school of pharmacy in the United States. Aside from his academic responsibilities, he holds the office of presidentelect for the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy at UCSF among other leadership roles on campus. He hopes to pursue a career in either pharmaceutical industry or in managed care pharmacy which is a field that focuses on improving profitability, maximizing practice efficiencies, and reducing financial burdens for both patients and health care institutions. In April. he was nationally recognized for winning the "Pharmacy & Therapeutics" annual competition where he got to represent UCSF by competing against students from various other schools of pharmacy. The purpose of the competition was practice evidence-based decision making by debating whether certain drugs should or should not be covered under an insurance plan according to their safety & efficacy data in addition to their economic models & estimated financial impact. "I still has fond memories of my experience at IC and am very proud of his sister (Rana Abdel Sattar) and her exceptional and well-deserved academic and athletic achievements at IC," he writes.

Huda Dimashkieh'04 and her husband, Hadi Bakhour, were blessed with a baby girl, Lara in May 2010.

Alaa El Ladkani '05 graduated from the Lebanese American University with a BS in Economics with emphasis in finance. He received the Fulbright scholarship and is currently pursuing a master's degree in applied economics with emphasis in financial economics in Marquette University in the US.

Rasha Fakhreddine '06 graduated in June 2009 from the American University of Beirut with a BA in Elementary Education, specialty Math & Sciences. She is currently a Nursery homeroom teacher at Wellspring learning Community, in Beirut-Lebanon. "I miss the days I spent at IC, and I'm looking forward for teaching hopefully one day in the future at IC," she writes, "the school that I spent 15 years at and graduated from. I am always up to date with its recent updates, and in contact with some teachers and friends. Hope everyone out there is doing well, and it would be great to meet again someday soon by having some IC Grad's reunion!"

> We regret to inform you that Dr Ihsan Dogramaci '32 passed away on February 25, 2010. IC staff and faculty send their deepest condolences to the Dogramaci family.

We regret to inform you that Fady Cap-

tan '67 passed away in January 2010. IC staff and faculty send their deepest condolences to the Captan family.

We regret to inform you that Wael Dbouk '06 passed away in January 2010. IC staff and faculty send their deepest condolences to the Dbouk family.





### WTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

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