

## « Graines de Poètes » 2017



La 17ème cérémonie de la remise des prix du concours interscolaire « Graines de Poètes » 2017 a eu lieu le 5 mai, dans une atmosphère de convivialité et de bonne humeur en la présence de notre vice-présidente et indéfectible supportrice, Madame Mishka Mourani, de Madame Mufarrij, Directrice du Secondaire, de Madame Aboulebde, Directrice des cycles 3 & 4 du campus d'Ain Aar et de Monsieur Serge

Tillmann, conseiller de coopération adjoint chargé de l'enseignement français qui a prononcé, à cette occasion, un important discours sur la francophonie.

La cérémonie était animée par Monsieur Marty, délégué de notre établissement auprès du SCAC et de l'AEFE.

Quant aux prix, ils ont été partagés entre 7 des 12 établissements participant au concours :

### CATEGORIE 3ème

**1er prix** - Inès MATHIEU- Grand Lycée Franco-Libanais (GLFL)

**2ème prix**- Tendra EID - Collège Notre-Dame de Jamhour

**3ème prix ex aequo** - Tiffany SAADÉ - Collège International Ain Aar

**3ème prix ex aequo** - Lynn TOUMA - Collège de la Sainte Famille Fanar

### CATEGORIE 1ère

**1er prix** - Céline HALABI - Collège Notre-Dame de Nazareth

**2ème prix** - Karim NAJIM - Lycée Franco-Libanais Verdun

**3ème prix ex aequo** - Sonia BASMAJI - Collège Louise Wegmann

**3ème prix ex aequo**- Chloé ZEINOUN - Collège Notre-Dame de Nazareth

**Les lauréats du 1er prix** de chaque catégorie ont été, comme d'habitude, récompensés par un billet d'avion, gracieusement offert par M Pierre Doumet dont la générosité date du début de ce concours et nous l'en remercions vivement. Les autres élèves récompensés ont gagné des bons d'achat de 200 \$ (2ème prix) et 100 \$ (3ème prix). L'ensemble des candidats ont reçu un diplôme de participation et un petit souvenir de l'événement.

Nous remercions les 12 établissements et 47 poètes

pour leur participation. Toute notre gratitude et tout notre respect vont aux membres du jury : Madame Nayla Tamraz , chef du département de Lettres à l'USJ, Madame Lydia Cardinal, professeure de Lettres à mission de conseil pédagogique pour la zone Proche-Orient, Madame Salma Kojok, professeure et écrivaine, Monsieur Serge Tillmann, conseiller culturel adjoint et M. Antoine Boulad, poète et initiateur du concours.

À tous nos très chers candidats, nous disons : « Toutes nos félicitations et à l'année prochaine ! » ■



## Outside the Box!

Fulfilling IC's mission statement of embracing "the education of the whole person", grade 8 and 4eme students at Ain Aar were taken on a "classes without walls" experience! In addition to working on academics, students took part in various engaging activities to enhance their "wellness". Students worked on an interdisciplinary challenge involving science, math, social studies, and all three languages. The challenge, which was conducted "en plein air" raised awareness about the importance of having a clean environment. Students were able to conduct a successful campaign through the use of striking research results, essays, and slogans. ■



## Mme Amal Charara décorée

Madame Amal Charara a été décorée Chevalier de l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques le mois passé dans la salle d'exposition de l'Institut français du Liban entourée de sa famille. Cet insigne lui a été remis, au nom de la Ministre française de l'Education Nationale, par Monsieur Tillmann, conseiller de coopération adjoint, chargé de l'enseignement français, sous le regard bienveillant de son prédécesseur Monsieur Roesch. Parmi les nombreux invités, étaient présents : Dr Donald Bergman, Président de l'IC, Madame Mishka Mourani, vice-Présidente senior, Mesdames Paula Mufarrij, Wadad Hoss, Lina Mouchantaf et Diana Abou Lebdeh, directrices, et de nombreux collègues et amis.

Trois très beaux discours ont été prononcés, par Monsieur Tillmann, par Madame Mourani et par

Madame Jocelyne Kobeyssi, qui ont mis en valeur les grandes qualités humaines et professionnelles de Madame Amal Charara dont le parcours professionnel a été jalonné de projets pédagogiques et de succès. Tous les intervenants ont souligné son attachement aux valeurs éducatives et ses compétences exceptionnelles pour mener à bien le travail en équipe.

Pour ne citer qu'un seul passage du très beau discours de Monsieur Tillmann, s'adressant à Madame Charara avec le lyrisme qui le caractérise : « Vous êtes une femme des rivages, celui de l'océan Atlantique que les Anciens désignaient sous le



vocabulaire de la grande mer océane, et celui de la Méditerranée, notre mer à tous. De Dakar à Beyrouth, votre parcours a le parfum d'une Odyssée.»

La récipiendaire a elle aussi prononcé un discours très remarqué pour remercier tous ses supérieurs, ses collègues et sa famille.

Félicitations à Mme Amal Charara pour cette distinction bien méritée et qui honore, à travers elle, toute la communauté éducative de l'IC ■



## IC continue à célébrer la Francophonie

L'Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie invite, depuis des années, tous les pays francophones du globe à célébrer un "bien" qu'ils ont en partage : la langue française et la culture qu'elle véhicule. Il est vrai que la langue de Molière est fêtée le 20 Mars, mais les francophiles du monde entier ont besoin de tout un mois pour promouvoir et célébrer le français dans toute sa diversité.

Ce mois de mars 2017, les jeunes de l'IC Ain Aar ont exprimé à leur façon leur amour pour cette langue qu'ils parlent et écrivent depuis leur tendre enfance. Ils ont tapissé le mur du couloir de l'entrée de leur collège des plus beaux mots et expressions de la langue française qu'ils ont illustrés de couleurs festives et "au pied de la lettre". Ainsi, à Ain Aar, on avance avec "Amour" et "Harmonie" pour découvrir l'"Infini" de cette culture qui nous laisse sans voix. Quant à la bibliothèque où les jeunes ont découvert les pays francophones



et leurs particularités langagières, elle a été le siège d'ateliers créatifs autour des "Dix mots sur la toile". Les jeunes "fureteurs" sont descendus de leurs "nuages" et avec leurs "avatars", ils ont créé des textes astucieux où les "pirates" de l'époque de l'informatique n'ont pu "télésnober" une langue qu'ils adorent tous. Vous "donnez votre langue au chat" ? Gardez-la plutôt pour continuer à faire la fête... en français!■

## Media Literacy at AA through Mother Nature



The students of 5eme Ain Aar were involved in a real-life challenge that encouraged them to effectively use media and spread a positive message about nature and the environment. After having read the novel *The Secret Garden* in their English class, the students were asked to conduct a talk show about the book and create either a meme or a 6-second video that included a message about nature. On the day of the presentation the students accessed social media websites in class to show the successful role media has played in spreading a message about the importance of nature through displaying the number of "likes" they have collected. The students worked on the project enthusiastically and were eager to leave their own positive footprint in the media world.

Check out their work on Instagram: #mothernaturespeaks ■

## A Unique Visit to Ain Aar!

Grade 3, Ain Aar, chose Fiji to represent on International Day. The Consulate of Fiji contacted the UNIFIL troops in the south of Lebanon. Soon eleven guests from Fiji visited IC. They spent four hours with us, and we discovered that this small country enjoys a culture and people who are fascinating. The UNIFIL troops taught us some steps for our dance, sang for us, played their instruments, performed a traditional 'meke' dance, and prepared a PowerPoint on their country. The day concluded with a Lebanese lunch.■





## IC hosts NASA Astronaut Dr. Donald Thomas

IC welcomed NASA astronaut and scientist, Dr. Donald Thomas to speak to Middle and Secondary students. In his presentation, entitled "Overcoming Obstacles to Achieve Your Dream in Life", Dr. Thomas admonished his listeners to "choose to be a winner regardless of the circumstances." He gave examples from his own struggle to become an astronaut, his dream since childhood, and told how his application was

rejected three times. However, he persevered and worked hard looking at other fields related to space science before finally being accepted for training as an astronaut at the age of 39. Dr. Thomas then flew four memorable missions on the Spaceship Columbia as a research specialist. Throughout his presentation and the question and answer sessions, he told students that to achieve their



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dreams they must persevere, work hard, expand their horizons and explore various aspects in their chosen field and, most important of all, don't ever give up. ■

## Banque du Liban

IB 2 economics class took a trip to the Central Bank to understand its role, how money is produced and how the World Trade Organization (WTO) operates. "Dressed formally, the day mostly consisted of lectures in the central conference room. We met high ranking employees, and learnt about monetary policy and the historical relevance of the bank itself. Lebanon's past conflicts have thoroughly tested the banks' ability to stabilize the economy. The lecture increased our appreciation of the Central Bank, for it was its actions during crisis that gave way to the lifestyle we currently cherish. The information about monetary policy was interesting since the manipulation of monetary supply characterized the economy as a living breathing system, instead of a set of rules. After a break we attended lectures about the WTO and the physical properties of the bills we

use every day. The production of bills, and more importantly the security measures imbedded within the notes, were especially striking... The trip ended with a visit to the banks museum... It is only through understanding and study that we can materialize the change we preach." ~Tarek Bou Nassif ■



## IB Job-a-like



Mrs. Rasha Daouk, Chair of the Association of IB World Schools in Lebanon organized a job-a-like session for Diploma Program teachers of groups 1 (language A), 2 (languages B and Ab initio) and 3 (Individuals and Societies) at Wellspring Learning Community School. The previous job-a-like session was organized last academic year in December at IC for groups 4 (sciences) and TOK. Fifty teachers from different IB DP schools (9 from IC) attended this session which involved an exchange of practices among teachers. ■

## TOK presentations

IB II students did their TOK presentations at school. Twenty one different sessions were conducted and assessed by the TOK teachers: Mr. Bruce Bartlett, Mr. Jared Rock and Ms. Julie Halterman, and represented the TOK official internal assessment. The audience consisted of IB I and IB II students who supported their colleagues and participated in discussions at the end of each session.

Among the topics were: *Who are you listening to? Your heart or your head; How did Trump do it?; Are you a racist? Yes; Shocking your audience: how far can you go? ; The power of rumors on the world-wide web; Privacy: Apple vs. the FBI; Want to escape reality; Why do teenagers act so crazy?; When the head doctors get it wrong: how reliable are the psychiatric diagnosis? ; Stem cells; A medical breakthrough; Letting your car do its own driving.* ■



## A Special Visit to the President of the Republic



Grade 3, Ain Aar, were very fortunate to visit the Presidential Palace in Baabda and meet President Michel Aoun. IC was among five other schools present in the meeting. Raymond Doumit, addressed the president said: "Mr. President, we, the students of International College, want to express our gratitude and admiration. We look up to you as a role model who serves his country in thought, words, and deeds. We thank you for striving to make Lebanon a land of peace, health, and opportunities for all citizens and especially for the young people who dream of their country holding the highest rank in the world. Thank you. God bless you. God bless Lebanon!" ■



## A la découverte de Jabal Moussa

Être dans la peau d'un explorateur n'est pas chose facile. À Ain Aar, les élèves du CE2 ont exploré la région de Jabal Moussa, l'une des 3 réserves de biosphère au Liban, pour découvrir les vestiges historiques de l'empire Romain. Entre l'an 64 av. JC. et 249 après JC, l'Empire romain a construit une voie routière pour relier la côte à l'intérieur, en passant par les montagnes. Les inscriptions de l'ancien Empereur romain Hadrien et les escaliers romains demeurent. Au sommet de la montagne, 3 vieilles maisons magnifiques, de style local, révèlent les traditions de l'architecture libanaise.

La randonnée est particulièrement intéressante car elle combine un riche patrimoine culturel et naturel. ■



## La semaine nationale de la lecture



Dans le cadre de la semaine nationale de la lecture les élèves du préscolaire et bas élémentaire de Ain Aar ont rencontré plusieurs auteurs : Mme Margot Khoury, Mme Jihane Hachache, et M. Ali Ezzedine. Les élèves ont profité de leur présence, pour apprendre plus sur les métiers du livre (auteur, illustrateur...). Et qui sait ? Peut-être que cela fera naître en certains élèves une vocation ? De plus, plusieurs activités ont été réalisées autour de l'album, telles que des livres accrochés dans la cour de récréation, des lectures de contes dans la langue maternelle des parents (portugais, arménien, espagnol...). ■

## Teachers' Sports Event

Last month, Grade 3 and CE2 at Ain Aar organized a Teachers' Sports Event to fundraise for water filters in two public schools in Metn. As part of their unit of inquiry on water and the importance of conservation, the students visited the public schools and noticed that they do not have safe, clean drinking water. Action time! By the end of Sports Day, after much cheering, the children had enough money to get the filters. Thank you teachers and students who participated to support the cause, Rotary Association Lebanon that took care of the logistics, and WaterMaster for explaining to our students how water filters work and what equipment needs to be installed at schools. ■





## A Different National Reading Week

In the Ain Aar pre-school library, a corner has been set for foreign language books: including Urdu and Russian. This corner has been growing for the past three years and it was time to use it to promote international mindedness. During National Reading Week, parents read books in Armenian, Danish, German, Greek, Polish, and Spanish. The parents also taught the learners a few words in those languages. ■



## Un peintre en détresse

À Ain Aar, les élèves de la PSB ont été appelés à la rescoussse d'un peintre en détresse! Que lui est-il arrivé ? Il a perdu toutes les couleurs de sa palette! Les élèves de la PSB, étant altruistes et engagés, ont décidé d'entamer une action pour aider le peintre en question. Ils ont profité du printemps et avec un peu de science et beaucoup de patience, ils sont parvenus à trouver en pleine nature les couleurs perdues. Ayant frotté les différentes plantes sur leurs palettes en papier, les élèves ont obtenu les couleurs désirées. ■

## UNESCO program

Last month, 7 students of IC Ain Aar were invited to "reach for the stars" at the Young Leaders development Program. The goal of this association is to inspire from within and expose adolescents to real life challenges. The conference featured the co-founder and CO of YLDP Malih Al Yaman, who shared

his past experience in learning how to start and maintain professional skills and how to capitalize on relationships. He introduced the 9 Ps of a successful professional approach. He emphasized being prompt, passionate, productive, and punctual. Mr. Al Yaman described both sides (positive and

negative) of a first impression (genuine smile, body language), and we learned that the influence of the words we say is 7 %, the tone we use is 38% and the rest is body language 55%.

Tiffany Saadé 3e A IC AA ■





## Media Literacy or Literature?

The students of Grade 7 Ain Aar worked on a project that asked them to select the appropriate social media application to re-tell the famous literary work "Where the Red Fern Grows". The task transported this 1961 novel to our current times as students used various social media tools such as hashtags, comments, re-sharing to highlight major themes, literary elements and characters' feelings from the story. The students were asked to create a poster in which the major character and narrator of the novel shared their life through entries on social media. The students' final product also included an oral presentation in which they explained their choice of social media in an attempt to answer how social media applications can be used to analyze literary works. ■



## IC - Science Fair

« Cette année, nous avons eu la chance de participer au "Science Fair" pour la première fois. C'était une expérience riche et intéressante à la fois. Nous avons appris à mener un projet scientifique depuis les recherches jusqu'à sa présentation finale. Stressées et fières à la fois, nous avons réussi notre défi en montrant qu'un train peut fonctionner non pas avec l'électricité mais grâce au rejet de deux aimants.»

Yvanna-Maria Mourad et Jade Flouty – 6ème B ■

## AUB and USJ - Science Fair

"A couple of weeks ago, we, the students of Grade 7, participated in the USJ and AUB science fair. Other students from other levels in the middle school from IC Ain Aar also participated in the USJ Science Fair. It was a great privilege to attend both competitions. It was a great honor to win 2nd place at the AUB. It was a very beneficial experience that allowed us to interact with other competing projects from other schools. This fun experience also helped us learn new ideas and improve our presentation and communication skills. Finally, it has definitely encouraged us to participate again next year.

Isabelle Sayegh, Rita Abou Jawde et Rayan Saoud – Grade 7 ■





## LAU Science Fair 2017

« Le 20 avril, mon groupe Karim, Nicolas, Carl et moi sommes partis avec l'école au Science Fair de la LAU Jbeil pour participer à la compétition du Line-Tracking (Robotics). Au moment de la compétition, notre robot a eu un problème et nous étions sur le point de sortir de la compétition mais,



heureusement, nous avons trouvé une solution et nous avons gagné le 3ème prix. C'était une des meilleures expériences que j'ai vécues ! »

Rafi Chahine – 6ème A

Après avoir remporté le 1er prix à l'école dans la catégorie « Modèle et démonstration », les membres de mon groupe John, Joseph et Ralph et moi sommes partis parmi d'autres élèves à la LAU Jbeil. Après avoir assisté à toutes les autres compétitions comme le robot SUMO fight, et le up-cycling challenge, c'était notre tour. Une fois le juge arrivé, nous avons dû traduire toute notre présentation en anglais, puisqu'il était anglophone. C'était difficile ! Mais nous avons relevé le défi en gagnant le 1er prix dans la catégorie Open Science Compétition Engineering...Notre Bateau Espion est un projet gagnant !

Gérard Barsoumian – 6ème A ■

## Le festival de la lecture

Les élèves de G.S/KG2 ont clôturé "La semaine nationale de la lecture" en préparant un festival durant lequel ils ont présenté les histoires qu'ils ont créées aux élèves de M.S/KG1. Ils ont utilisé diverses façons pour transmettre leurs histoires et ceci à travers des livres, des saynètes, des spectacles de marionnettes, des peintures et des constructions. Une journée captivante pour les élèves alliant le divertissement et l'amour de la lecture! ■





## Stage DGESCO en France

« Dans le cadre de son dispositif de formation continue, l'AEFE organise le stage DGESCO de près de 10 jours au sein d'une académie en France. Cette année, j'ai eu la chance d'être parmi les 60 enseignants retenus pour vivre cette expérience exceptionnelle à l'Académie d'Amiens.

Nous avons été chaleureusement accueillis par les organisateurs, les formateurs et les éducateurs, et notre parcours d'apprentissage s'est étendu du 27 mars au 6 avril 2017. Venant de tous les

recoins du monde, nous avions tous deux points en commun : la pédagogie et l'enseignement de la langue française. Très vite, un petit groupe hétérogène de 29 enseignants s'est transformé en une équipe pédagogique.

Nos journées étaient chargées : des formations, des échanges et des interventions dans des classes étaient au programme. Bien que nous soyons tous différents, il était très intéressant de témoigner que nous partageons tous les mêmes pratiques, les mêmes stratégies

et... les mêmes soucis !

La richesse de ce vécu ne se limite pas aux apports pédagogiques et professionnels. La diversité culturelle des participants transmettant les valeurs et les coutumes de leurs pays fut en soi formatrice.

Cette expérience unique restera gravée dans nos mémoires à tout jamais. Deux semaines intenses, riches en tout point de vue. J'en ai encore la tête pleine ! »

Rana Awkal ■

## Discovering snails in our school



During outdoor playtime, KG1 started their own inquiry with snails. For almost two weeks, a group of KG1 children were intrigued with the snails that they've found. Not only were they inquirers but they were also risk takers for holding the snails on their hands and feeling the snail move to make a silvery trail on their skin. They asked many questions like, "What do snails eat?" "Why do snails get bubbles?" "Is the sun too hot for snails?" They also made homes for the snails using soil, leaves and grass and discussed what part of the family is each snail in, "This is the baby and this is the mommy! Look the baby is kissing the mommy! Ooh they're so cute!" They also used their math skills to estimate which snail will reach first. KG1 children were also talking about the shape that snails have and saw that most snails' shells are a spiral shape. Furthermore, they used their thinking and research skills when they were comparing snails to turtles. The learning was extended in the classroom when children used their research skills to learn more about snails and answered questions that they wanted to know. ■



## Gymnastics Competition in Dubai



Our IC gymnastics team traveled to Dubai to participate in an international gymnastics competition. Twenty-three athletes competed over two days in Dubai and Abu Dhabi. The president, Dr. Bergman and Mr. Jundi were there to offer their support. Our champions showed enthusiasm, dedication and a high level of performance enabling them to win eleven gold medals, twelve silver medals, and twelve bronze medals. The trip would not have been complete without a small amount of leisure time at Wild Wady and Legoland aqua parks. This was an opportunity for all to relax and enjoy the atmosphere of Dubai! We are all proud of our young champs. GO COUGARS! ■

## Another Successful Exchange Visit in 2017

The Ras Beirut Elementary School Special Arabic instructor and coordinator Jana Bayoud, and Art teacher, Layla Hamasni traveled to Connecticut USA and visited four public schools: Danbury High School and New Fairfield; North Salem Middle High School, New Milford High School, and Stepney Elementary School, Monroe. They attended several language and art classes, from KG to secondary, and exchanged teaching experiences, in addition to sharing expertise and new insights into how American schools can improve their curricula, and ensure the alignment between their theories and practices. They did not only benefit from the exposure to new things during their visit; but it also gave them a renewed appreciation for their own beloved school, IC, and its accomplishments. The teachers were also interviewed by a reporter from the News Times Magazine. "Culture" was a basic theme around which the interview revolved. Our teachers exchange program definitely promotes international mindedness and global citizenship.. ■





## National Reading Week

Ras Beirut, Elementary School engaged in "Reading Week", from April 24 to 28, across languages and across grade levels. Our library and the patio adjacent to the library were very busy places. Classes gathered for buddy reading, cross-age reading, and just reading for the fun of it. Guest readers even came to join in the joy of reading. Daily announcements from students across grade levels revealed "Reading" secrets throughout the school. The book "Character Parade" was a highlight and secondary student Hadi Bizri recorded it using our drone camera. Every morning began with quiet reading time in the classrooms and throughout the school as relaxing music playing in the background. It was a magical week. So as when it is time to head out to the beach or the mountains, grab a good read and keep the joy of reading alive! ■



## Grade 4 Field Trip to AUB Museum



Have you ever wondered where we come from? As part of the unit, "Where we are in place and time" grade 4 students visited the AUB Archaeology Museum the week of May 1.

During their trip, the students met with a resident archaeologist and learned about the various periods of Lebanese and Middle Eastern history. They conducted a "Scavenger Hunt" in the museum to locate artifacts. The students were fascinated to see and know more about Lebanon's place and time over the ages.

Students will use information gathered on the trip to help them in their research for a final unit project where they will demonstrate their understanding of their place in history. ■

## Ras Beirut Elementary Teachers Go Coding

At the Elementary School in Ras Beirut, we have been finding ways to integrate the idea of coding more and more into our teaching and learning. Starting a couple of years ago with the Hour of Code, these initiatives would later grow to include simple programming and robotics with drones and Spheros. This year a Coding Study Group is trying to bring the idea of coding and computational thinking to all teachers in a friendly, understandable way that gets them excited to move forward with these new ideas.

At a faculty meeting last month, teachers started thinking about

the concept of algorithms and sequencing - notions that are quintessential not only to computer science, but also to other parts of life. Teachers shared about knitting, dancing, and other endeavors where direct connections could be made to concepts in computational thinking. Then, various 'plugged' and 'unplugged' engagements were planned in order to reinforce this understanding. During these engagements, teachers programmed drones to fly and practiced using simple coding

languages on the iPad. They also moved tangrams around and stacked cups according to strict parameters meant to mimic the parameters a programmer faces in her efforts to get her program the way she wants it to. ■





## Une unité de recherche dynamique où l'art a été mis à l'honneur !!

Dans le cadre de l'unité de recherche « Comment nous nous exprimons », les apprenants du CE1 ont pu exprimer leurs sentiments les plus profonds à travers une sélection d'activités toutes aussi passionnantes les unes que les autres.

C'est dans une ambiance pleine de joie et d'énergie positive qu'ils ont reçu à l'auditorium le groupe de percussions Walkabout Drum Circle. Ce dernier les a fait danser et chanter aux rythmes de percussions africaines. La célèbre artiste libanaise Flavia Codsi a également pu intervenir dans les classes exposant ainsi son travail et surtout racontant son histoire de vie à savoir ses motivations, ses aspirations, ses peurs et ses joies. Elle a ainsi pu répondre aux questions motrices de ce thème telles « Comment devient-on doué ? », « Est-ce qu'on naît talentueux ? » ou encore « Comment je peux savoir que je suis un artiste ? ». La « Fashion Designer » Karen Karam est également venue partager son histoire, une histoire ponctuée d'anecdotes. Elle a insisté sur le côté ambitieux et volontaire qui nous permet d'explorer notre unicité.

Les apprenants ont aussi utilisé durant ce thème le

baromètre des émotions, exprimant librement leurs sentiments et le partageant avec leurs camarades pour trouver des solutions adéquates à leurs soucis quotidiens. Parallèlement à cela, les apprenants ont utilisé les chapeaux de réflexion De Bono afin d'utiliser différentes démarches dans la compréhension d'un phénomène. Cela leur a permis de faire preuve d'ouverture d'esprit. Cette méthode a créé un climat de discussion cordial et créatif et a facilité la contribution de chacun. Elle a fait appel à l'énergie créatrice des apprenants ce qui représentait l'un des objectifs du thème travaillé.

Dans une même optique, Lina Mahmassani et Mahmoud Houdeib sont venus animer une séance de mimes durant laquelle les élèves ont appris à s'exprimer avec des gestes précis traduisant des messages ciblés. Pour clôturer ce thème passionnant et plein de vie, les apprenants ont pu visiter le village des sculpteurs Basbous, pionniers de l'art moderne au Liban, à Rachana. Une sortie dotée d'un cadre inspirant et reposant, propice à une réflexion artistique et qui a représenté un excellent contact avec le patrimoine libanais. ■





## "This is a no-bullying zone"



The Middle School at Ras Beirut participated extensively in the all-College anti-bullying campaign. In addition to activities that are done each year during advisory sessions such as role play and creating scenarios and solutions, viewing YouTube segments on bullying in adolescence and leading discussions on the subject, creating slogans, researching photos and articles that are used in multimedia projects and shown on the TV screen in sage Hall, individual reflections and group discussions, the Middle School

counseling team organized a campaign for the first week of May where the counselor prepared YouTube lead-in segments related to cyber bullying with prompt questions for the advisor to facilitate discussions and write reflections. Middle school students also signed a pledge against bullying and wore bracelets with the slogan: kindness makes a difference...pass it on. All Middle School faculty, staff and students came wearing white as a statement against bullying.■

## Founders' Day Reunion



The Fourth Founders' Day Reunion took place at IC in May, bringing together schools from Turkey, Greece and Bulgaria including Tarsus American College, American Collegiate Institute in Izmir, American College in Greece and the American College of Sofia.

Our schools were established by the same founders - The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM) in Turkey. With the onset of troubles in Turkey during the 1930s, some moved to other countries and some chose to stay on. More than 70 years later, the American Collegiate Institute (ACI), held the first reunion in Izmir (Smyrna), the birthplace of IC. Since then schools have met at the Uskudar American Academy (Istanbul) and at the American College in Greece (Athens).■



## Vertical Committees Meet to Discuss Progress of their Accreditation Self-Study Reports

On Wednesday, May 10, around 100 chairpersons and committee members of the ten vertical committees for Section B Teaching and Learning met in the Secondary School Auditorium to discuss the progress and next steps for finalizing their Accreditation Self-Study Reports. In a PowerPoint Presentation, Dr. Mahmud Shihab and Mrs. Connie Hadba provided guidelines and explanations pertaining to the

writing of the final draft of the reports. All attending committee members received copies of the Preliminary Report comments as well as first draft copies of their own subject reports. Concerns were addressed during a question and answer session following the presentation. The final versions of the reports were presented to all teachers during the May 26th In-Service Day. At that time, all teachers of the school were

given the opportunity to see their department report and approve or make further suggestions for the report.

After approval, the next step for all the vertical committees will be to begin gathering electronic evidence that supports the report statements. Deadline for this evidence gathering will be October 2017. ■



### “Beirut: Memory and Dream”



The Ras Beirut Elementary have had quite a unique experience recently visiting the old (and beautiful) Al Zaher house in the Zarif area. Tom Young, the British artist and resident in Lebanon, has been working with the children of Dar Al Aytam Al Islamiyah and last month showcased much of his own work as well as work of those children. Several classes visited the exhibition and were fortunate to see this old home (once the British Ambassador's residence) restored to close to its former glories as well as to meet Tom Young in person. Indeed, one class were so fortunate that they were treated to a private viewing of Mr Young's studio there and even saw him painting! The experience afforded the children the understanding of how art can be used to express yourself as well as for the good of the community. After this success, and his previous success at the Rose House in Manara, we wish Mr Tom Young all the best in his next adventure and we are sure Beirut, and particularly its old heritage, will benefit greatly. ■



## AMIS: THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF ZUG LUZERN

Seven girls from the Ras Beirut and six girls from the Ain Aar Middle school campuses participated in the European Honor girls' choir conducted by Lisa Ross from the American School in London.

"It is so great to see that girls who never met before can become friends in no time and come together as one." Said one participant.

"We had a special moment -A snow day- in spring, and school had to close because of 50 cms of snow. But we still enjoyed rehearsing at the Hostel and having a lot of fun." ■



## L'IC au prix littéraire des écrivains du Liban



Les élèves de l'école secondaire participant au Prix littéraire des lycéens se sont rendus, vendredi 5 mai, accompagnés de Sarah Ghazal, à la salle Montaigne de l'Institut français dans le but de participer au grand débat final et d'assister au vote du jury, permettant d'élire l'un des six romans au programme de cette année (le lauréat : Tribulations d'un bâtard à Beyrouth de Ramy Zein, élu au premier tour). Leur surprise fut immense lorsqu'ils découvrirent une salle pleine à craquer d'élèves impatients de prendre la parole. Une dizaine d'écoles étaient présentes et chacune d'entre elle représentée par un juré (Nour el Houda Omeirat, seconde D, pour l'IC). Les jurés se sont exprimés tour à tour sur chacun des six livres en relevant

leurs points forts et leurs faiblesses, les passages bouleversants et les différentes leçons à en tirer. Des thèmes passionnants ont été abordés (Comment accepter la mort d'un proche, le communautarisme, les relations interreligieuses, la violence et la haine des hommes etc.), et ont profondément touché les élèves de sorte que les discussions se révélèrent particulièrement intenses, tant entre les différents membres du jury que parmi le public. La profondeur d'analyse dont ont fait preuve les élèves, les divers points de vue confrontés ainsi que les arguments solides et illustrés par des exemples tirés des textes ravirent les professeurs présents, impressionnés par le niveau du débat. ■



## Le « king of street art » de passage à l'IC

Les apprenants de la classe du CM2 B ont eu l'immense plaisir de recevoir l'artiste Jorge Rodriguez-Gerada dans le cadre de leur projet PYPX. L'artiste cubano-américain, de passage à Beyrouth, est venu leur présenter son travail et partager son expérience relative à l'art urbain. Il est depuis quelques années la figure emblématique du « Culture Jamming » employant des méthodes et des techniques différentes dans la réalisation de son travail. Il puise dans l'expérience de vie de la société pour réaliser ses projets qui sont tous porteurs d'un message social révélateur. M. Rodriguez-Gerada a bien insisté sur l'art urbain en tant que moyen puissant de cohésion sociale ainsi que moyen de communication et d'expression des sentiments très efficace. Nous espérons le revoir très bientôt à l'IC dans l'espoir de pouvoir réaliser avec lui un projet plein de vie.■



## 2nde Classes Community Service Project

A group of 2nde students went to Mtein with the collaboration of the Lebanese Mountain trail NGO. Jackie, a guide from the NGO explained to the students their environmental work from the south to the north of Lebanon. The students hiked and cleaned the paths of Mtein. They enjoyed being in nature as well as taking part in this environmental initiative.■

## Rencontres Théâtrales 2017

Dans le cadre des activités culturelles impulsées par la Mission Culturelle Française au Liban, les élèves de l'option théâtre en classe de seconde de l'IC, dirigés par Mme Andrée Nacouzi et Mme Nisrine Abi Samra, étaient parmi les 20 troupes qui ont participé aux « Rencontres théâtrales francophones 2017 ». Les rencontres théâtrales ont pour finalités de promouvoir le théâtre au sein des établissements scolaires, de faire expérimenter la scène grâce à un projet artistique et de former à un esprit critique sensible à la diversité culturelle. Le thème des Rencontres 2017 était: « Voyage, voyages ! » La journée finale de présentation était le jeudi 6 avril au théâtre du lycée Abdelkader. Notre troupe a remporté « Le prix d'engagement » et « Le prix du jury » et a été



primée et retenu pour la soirée de gala qui s'est déroulée le mardi 9 mai à la salle Montaigne de l'IF. Félicitation au département d'art dramatique et aux jeunes acteurs de l'IC : Omar Tayyara, Ali Alameh , Karen Bakhos, Tamara Zard Abou Jaoude, Mariam Younes, Samer Hanna, Tala El Kadi, Nour Kanaan, Malek Mneimne, Lisa Raphael, Cindy Farhat et Maria Paoli.■



## Kunhadi awareness session

Two awareness sessions were held by Kunhadi NGO for grade 10 students. During the sessions, Mrs. Lena Gebran displayed a video about Hadi's life. She then discussed with the students the main reasons for road accidents and explained the road signs that they should be familiar with. At the end, the students were divided into groups for a competition. ■



## UNGC Competition

As teenagers, we often hear people tell us, "You are the Future" and "Be the change." Growing up, unaware of what's around us, we start off as watchers, impatiently waiting to enter the real world. But as we grow older and more mature, we get the chance to become actors in our own society and this is what the community service program at IC is all about.

The UN global Compact Network Lebanon invited IC to be part of its Sustainable Minds Competition. The competition invites grade ten students to submit short production

videos demonstrating their understanding of the ten UN Global Compact Principles that include topics regarding human rights, labor, and the environment. With the guidance of the community service advisors, Ms. Zeina Chahine and Ms. Cynthia Jabbour, seventeen of our students found it a great opportunity to reinforce individual responsibility towards society and the environment. Two of the three groups ended up winning the 2nd and 6th place among seventy groups. The 2nd place winning video was about

corruption, while the other winning video was about labor rights. Our IC students also left with a much greater prize: Learning that in their own hands, they had the power not only to raise awareness but to make a change in this world. Participating students: Celine Samadi, Ghada Bakri, Joseph Faissal, Raja Haroun, Rim Annan, Romy Faisal, Tala Kadi, Omar Tayyara, Maha Andari, Ali Alameh, Karim Nakfour, Layan Wahidi, Layan Barhoumi, Wael Osman, Aya Chahine, Mira Beydoun and Razan Hishi.

Tala Kadi ■



## TEDx Youth



On the 29th of April, IC held its first TEDx Youth event. Six grade 5/CM2 Ras Beirut students shared their personal stories, all pieces of the “puzzle of life” Every speaker and performer was free to shine, to shine and mesmerize the audience. The onlookers responded with cheers, applause, words of appreciation, and even tears of joy! The hosts, Omar Atassi, Karim Beydoun, Saria Zakaria and Saria Rasamny made sure that each speaker was introduced properly. Aya Fawaz, Mayis Isaac, Tala Mekkawi, Ahmad Yamani, Amin Itani, John Melhem, Aya Abdel Wahab, and Hassan El Hajj, the TEDx speakers, showed courage, inner strength, passion and tremendous talent. “TEDxers became our new family and we are very proud of our achievements!”

This TEDx Youth event was a success thanks to several people primarily Lina Mahmassani and Dala Mounzer. ■

## Robotics Team

Our Robotics team, and after coming in the 6th place in the national First Lego League (FLL) Robotics competition, was selected to take part in the FLL European Championship. Nine middle school students are members of the IC team accompanied by two faculty members and two parents traveled to Denmark on May 25 to take part in the FLL OEC2017. The competition will be held in Aarhus. IC wishes the IC Robotics team all

the best in this competition.

The Team Members: Haddy El Chaer, Elias Farah, Habib Khoury, Noureddine Atassi, Ramzi Doughan, Marwan Chehade, Malek El Ahdab, Mohamad Hassouna and Khalil Alameh.

Thank you to faculty chaperones Samar Noueihid and Hoda Tarraf; parent chaperones Nada and Elie El Chaer; And Trip Coordinator Riad Chirazi ■





## 2nd annual social entrepreneurship Pitch Night

During the past two years, and in accordance with the strategic initiatives set by IC, the International Baccalaureate students attended several boot camps and training sessions conducted by 'Ahead of the Curve', a leading social business dedicated to the promotion of sustainable management practice (inclusive market growth and social innovation). During the boot camps, students were exposed to Social Entrepreneurship concepts and techniques including: Building a creative Team, Mind Mapping, Choosing a business idea, Sensing, Business Model Canvas, Introduction to Financial Modeling, Customer Journey, Value Proposition Canvas and Building a prototype.



As a culmination for this whole experience, the IB II students presented their startup ideas/Prototypes that addressed a current social/educational/environmental problem during the 2nd annual pitch night which was held at the G&R Irani Auditorium. The jury panel was composed of: Mr.Yasser Akkaoui, Dr. Bijan Azad, Dr. Teresa Chahine, Mr. Stefano Fallaha, Miss Kim Issa and Dr. Dima Jamali. At the end of the presentations, they awarded the following groups:

**1st place winners:** Cigarette --Tala Soueid, Cedric Gulumian, Tamara Abdallah, Tammar El Adai, Dalia Barazi and Sam Kebbe

**2nd place winners:** Ex Aequo Organice -- Anthony Flouti, Beatrice Doumet, Jad Alame, Lara Chehabeddine, Nadine Ayoub and Tarek Bou Nassif And Green Skies-- Arkan Siblani, Aya El Husseini, Karim Itani, Reine Jamali, Sana Mansour and Ziad Hawa

**Special thanks to:**

**ATC Team:** Ms. Dina Sherif (CEO), Mr. Tarek Fahmy, Mr. Amr Tobgy and Ms. Malak EL Masry

**IC Team:** Mr. Riad Chirazi, Ms. Sawsan Husseini, Ms. Rawan Naja Ajam and Mr. Mohamad El Rafii■

