



# Inside I.C.

WINTER 2017

## IC Choirs Celebrate the season





## CIS/NEASC Preliminary Visit

A team of four visitors, Dr. Lesley Stagg and Mrs. Anne Akay from CIS and Dr. Kenneth Imperato and Mrs. Amal Farhat from NEASC, toured both campuses of the school and talked with teachers, students, parents, and support staff. In preparation for the visit, Dr. Shihab gave presentations to the school's faculty and staff on both campuses, informing them of the purpose of the visit, which is the culmination of a preliminary study; a task which was guided by the ERC. Chairpersons of the report committees included Dr. Bergman, Mrs. Mourani, Dr. Mahmud Shihab, Mr. Talal Jundi, Mrs. Hiba Chaaban, Mrs. Marie Assir, Mr. Riad Chirazi, as well as all the school directors, Mrs. Paula Mufarrij, Ms. Wadad Hoss, Miss Julia Kozak, Mrs. Fatima



Kammoun, Miss Diana Abu Lebde, and Miss Lina Mouchantaf.

visit culminated in a day-long workshop conducted by CIS representative Dr. Lesley Stagg. During the workshop, 30 faculty and leaders were informed of the accreditation process, new protocols

and expectations.

The next step for us will be a comprehensive self-study which is expected to take a year and will culminate in a full accreditation team visit sometime in March of 2018. ■

## Caritas



As part of the community service projects, the students of 1ère S3 collaborated with Caritas to renovate three houses in Koura. Prior to their visit, a volunteer from Caritas met with the students during their advisory hour to explain the situation of each family and the type of work they will be doing. On Saturday November 26, students split into 3 groups and spent a full day renovating the houses: cleaning and painting the walls and entertaining the children. They felt very happy for making a difference in those people's lives. A rewarding experience indeed. ■





## The Whole Child: A Green Child!

How "green" is your life? Students at IC live each day thinking about and taking action to practice the 5 R's—Respect, Rethink, Reuse, Reduce, Recycle. Grade 5/CM2 have learned much about how the ecosystem in Lebanon needs our full attention to keep our country green, instead of brown. Ask any Grade 3/CE2 student about the water cycle, and they can tell you that water is vital to keeping us green.

During IC Green Day, the Grade 5 / CM2 Special Arabic students at Ras Beirut listened to a story entitled, “”. They succeeded in connecting its events to the PYP five essential elements, in addition to the concepts which drove them to take action for the welfare of the environment. The students also succeeded in determining the profile, attitudes and skills exhibited by the heroes in the story, who sorted garbage, planted trees, designed posters and invented poems to raise awareness about the importance



of protecting nature. Finally, the learners explained how the story reflected IC's mission statement and the PYP framework. ■

## Earth Day

For Earth Day, the Ras Beirut Middle School observed several energy saving activities. The "environmental pioneers" participated in two activities, they went on a heritage trip picking olives using an eco-friendly method, and on a trip where they visited a solid waste

recycling plant. The Arabic department trained IC students to act as environment patrol officers. The students monitored green action in the classrooms and eco-friendly behavior during the recess. The class of 6ème presented a project on water pollution. ■

## Eau rare, eau précieuse !

Pourquoi l'eau potable est-elle nécessaire à la survie de l'être vivant? Quelles sont les difficultés rencontrées par les pays en voie de développement pour jouir du minimum vital en eau? Quelles sont les solutions? Ces questions ont été posées par nos petits chercheurs donnant lieu à des réponses bien recherchées. Suite à cette recherche faite dans le cadre du thème « Le partage de la planète », les élèves de CE2 B ont inventé, écrit et réalisé des saynètes portant sur la préservation et la conservation de l'eau. Ils ont, par la suite, présenté leur travail aux élèves de CE1B. ■





## Trust for Sustainable Living Essay Writing Competition

Once again, Ras Beirut and Ain Aar students have been working hard compiling their essay submissions for this international essay writing competition on sustainability. The focus of this year's competition is a letter to the new UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres. Students' suggested a plan to combat climate change in Lebanon and globally. This is specifically tied to UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goal number 13: Climate Action. After attending informative sessions, either in presentations or electives, the students from RB Elementary and Middle, as well as AA Lower and Upper, have all strived to make the world a better place. Let's hope Mr. Guterres is listening! ■



## Tis the Season!



The Nursery Red Group students at RB came into class to find a brand new tree! However, there was a dilemma... It had no decoration on it and there weren't any at school. After thorough thinking and discussing, the children thought that they have a lot of colorful toys they can use to embellish the tree. Each student had a say in which toy to use! ■

## Nursery's tree

Ain Aar Nursery students started wondering about the different decorations they have in class. The first thing they asked for was a tree. The little inquirers started researching different ways to make their own tree. They looked around the classroom and found recycling materials which they used and transformed to create a marvel. ■





## The tree did not go to waste

A Ficus tree at the entrance of Rockefeller building died and had to be cut. Instead of letting the tree



go to waste, the community service department, in collaboration with the physical plant, decided to work on an upcycling project. A group of seconde and grade 10 students were happy to volunteer. They brainstormed and researched ideas and decided that, for two weeks, they would gather in the mezzanine that was turned into a workshop, and work on their crafts. An exhibition was held at the entrance of the secondary school. Students and teachers shopped for gifts for their beloved ones. All the proceeds of this exhibition will be used to create a project for an underprivileged group. ■

## Arc EnCiel

To promote Green Day at IC Ain Aar, the students of grade 5/ CM2

attended a very interesting assembly given by members of the Arc EnCiel Organization. The students showed great attentiveness in all the different projects that this organization works on. The interactive assembly allowed the students to gain perspective on the subject of recycling. This assembly was a great way to help raise awareness to all about the



problem of garbage that we suffer from. The organization will add on to the recycling bins that we already have in school and this way we will have a Green Lebanon.■

## Bio – Garden of IC

At the Ras Beirut Elementary, the teachers have been busy creating IC's first Bio-Garden growing many natural vegetables and herbs. Asked to develop a wooden growing structure, the carpenter, Joseph Riachi, created a strong, bright and moveable stand. Elham Hachem, brings great experience from her own garden at home and is the person responsible for this first Bio-Garden on campus. She planted seeds and now in January they are growing well. The only additional element used to help the saplings grow is water and of course plenty of sunshine! No chemicals are added at all. And now, after all that hard work, the produce is ready to be picked! We can now enjoy products including lettuce, radish, citronella, hindbeh "dandelion", thyme, lemon grass, basil, and rosemary on a daily basis. This touch of GREEN outside the library is very appealing to the eye as well. ■

## The Lost Treasure

As part of "Sharing the Planet" theme, Grade 3/CE2 students had the pleasure to attend "The Lost Treasure". This play highlights the problem of scarcity of water and its impact on living things. At the end of the play, students concluded that water is the most precious treasure on Earth and that there is no life without it! ■





## Tree Planting at Horsch Beirut

RB Elementary students visited the Beirut Park as part of their tree planting initiative. Thanks to an ongoing relationship with the Beirut Municipality, the school is helping to develop the landscape design of the park with specifically requested plants. And what a lovely way for students to aid the environment and themselves! This green action improves city air quality and is aesthetically pleasing, whilst at the same time allowing students to feel connected to nature despite being in the urban Lebanese capital. ■



## Hygiène et Santé



En réponse à l'invitation des titulaires de classe de CE1/Grade 2, Mme Dalida Sayah, l'infirmière de l'école à Ain Aar, est venue en classe partager son expertise sur le thème de l'hygiène. Une séance de questions-réponses a suivi la présentation, qui a suscité un vif intérêt de la part des élèves. ■

## Lire ensemble

Lire, une activité essentielle pour le développement de la langue française. Si la lecture est faite en groupe et si elle est interactive, elle devient tout de suite plus amusante et cela dès le plus jeune âge.



Les élèves de CP ont pu le vérifier lors de leur visite au Salon du Livre Francophone dont le slogan était cette année « Lire ensemble ». A cette occasion, ils ont pu rencontrer un auteur qui leur a fait la lecture d'une de ces histoires accompagnée de quelques enfants qui la mimaient. ■



## Rugby Saturdays – A Unique Event

IC has been host to a unique sporting experience every Saturday afternoon this term. Head Rugby Coach, Richard Bampfylde, has worked hard to encourage the sport across both campuses in recent years and, along with the support of directors, Tarek Moussally and Jaana Lundholm, and the commitment and endeavors of Coaches Ryan and Nichole McKinnie, it is true to say that rugby is now very much part of IC life. With a bus from Ain Aar bringing rugby players to Beirut, accompanied by Coach Bassel Haddad, teams are created, mixing all ages and both genders. Activities include touch rugby, diamonds, kick tennis and of course plenty of fun fitness drills! All students (Grades 6-12) as well as families are welcome to watch. The squad's first tournament success occurred at AUB in the first social touch rugby tournament of the season. ■



## Coton ou papier-verre ? À toi de décider !

Durant la semaine de la gentillesse à Ain Aar, Mme Joy Barbara a rendu visite aux élèves de Grande Section B pour lire une histoire à propos de la gentillesse. Elle a ensuite distribué du coton à tout le monde et elle leur a demandé de décrire ce qu'ils ressentent quand ils touchent le coton puis elle a fait passer du papier-verre pour que les élèves le touchent et le comparent avec le coton. Elle leur a expliqué que les bonnes actions et les mots gentils sont comme le coton, ils nous rendent contents tandis que les mauvaises actions et les injures sont comme le papier-verre, elles nous rendent tristes. Les élèves ont conclu et promis qu'avant de faire quoi que ce soit ou avant de dire n'importe quel mot, ils vont penser au coton et au papier-verre. Ils ont ensuite dessiné une action « gentille ». ■





## ECE Workshop

On November 26, the second set of workshops in the Early Childhood Education Workshop series for Preschool and Lower Elementary teachers took place.



The day-long workshops were attended by 48 participants from 23 private schools across Lebanon. The workshops offered during this session included "Drama with Children" presented by Mr. Riad Chirazi, "Différenciation en langue" presented by Mrs. Dania Baghdadi and Mrs. Asma Doughan, and "Differentiation" in Arabic presented by Mrs. Fatima Kammoun. "The activities provided new and useful methods and teaching tools to fit our teaching needs," commented teachers. "The workshop helped me as a teacher, but it also will help my students express themselves better." ■

### Manger sain, manger équilibré!

Tel est le slogan pour être en bonne santé, quoi de mieux que d'avoir une alimentation variée. Les élèves de CP/ Grade 1 ont reçu la visite de Jessica Chamoun, diététicienne, pour les aider à s'alimenter de façon équilibrée.

Après la théorie, place à la pratique. Les élèves se sont alors amusés à composer leur sac à goûter en



y incorporant les aliments idéaux: un sandwich, des fruits, des légumes, une boisson.... Que c'est amusant et facile de faire attention à son alimentation tout en mangeant ce qui nous fait plaisir! Il suffit juste de trouver le bon équilibre! ■

## Exploring Materials in KG1

As part of the unit "How the World Works" students in KG1 Yellow and Blue at the RB preschool investigated the central idea of "understanding the way materials behave and interact determines how people use them to meet their needs". Students experimented with different materials in the science center, observed the original state of various materials, then mixed them with other materials to see how they changed. Students looked at liquids and solids, and classified materials according to color, shape, texture and uses. The students then reflected on the various ways that we can use materials to meet our needs. This hands on, inquiry based unit helps students make generalizations about new concepts and make connections to their everyday lives ■





## Le monde fonctionne



Les élèves du KGI et de la M.S. ont essayé de comprendre que la manière dont les matériaux se comportent et interagissent, détermine la façon dont les gens les utilisent selon leurs besoins.

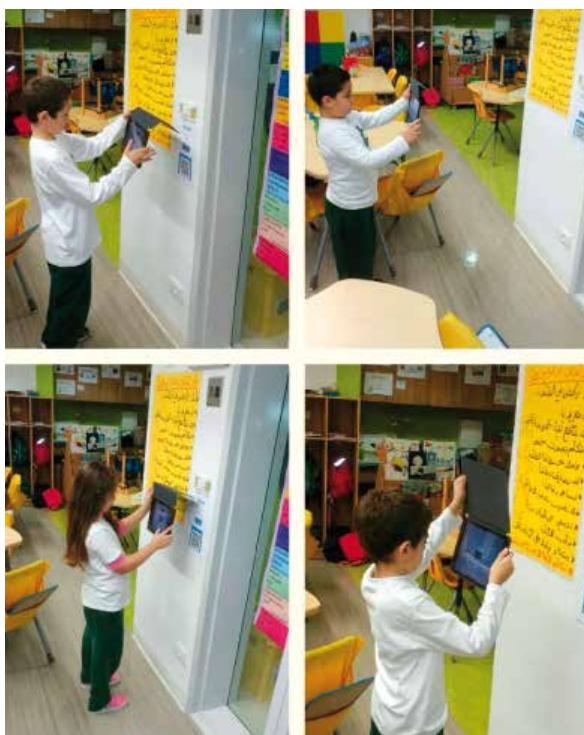
C'est à la suite d'une variété de remue-méninges, de plusieurs manipulations et modifications des propriétés de matériaux dans des buts spécifiques , de beaucoup d'analyses et de discussions diverses effectuées en classe d'art, qu'ils ont adopté la technique du papier mâché.■

## Être créatifs

Adieu collier en pâte à sel et empreinte faite dans du plâtre ! A Ain Aar, les élèves de la MSA ont utilisé rouleaux de papier toilette, bouchons de bouteilles en plastique et autres matériels de récupération pour créer des châteaux, des tours et d'autres modèles...■



## La nouvelle ère numérique



Permettre à l'élève de déposer ses réalisations dans un endroit auquel il aura accès autant à l'école qu'à la maison, un endroit que son enseignant et ses parents pourront consulter, est un progrès remarquable dans le monde de la technologie ! Le cycle 2 révèle son aspect novateur pour le mois de décembre: le Seesaw.

Il s'agit d'une application à triple voie qui met en relation l'élève, le maître et les parents. Elle permet de former des portfolios numériques et de remplacer par la suite les fiches d'application. En joignant le groupe classe, l'élève peut y déposer des photos, des vidéos, des dessins, des enregistrements, des notes et des hyperliens qui représentent ses apprentissages. Il peut aussi enregistrer ses réflexions et organiser ses productions. Le professeur à son tour poste des documents collectifs mettant en valeur les activités de classe et les interactions lors du travail en atelier. Le parent qui a installé l'application n'a accès qu'au dossier de son enfant. Chaque parent peut commenter ou recommander un document favori grâce à la fonction «Like» mise à disposition sur la page. Ainsi, le Seesaw est une excellente base pour la métaréflexion que prône le programme primaire.■



## CM1 Grade IV Jour J

This fall the Grade 4, CM1, and CM2 students conducted a "How we organize ourselves" Unit of Inquiry. They inquired into the interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities; the structure and function of organizations; societal decision-making; economic activities and their impact on humankind and the environment. Specifically they focused on how social organizations affect the well-being of individuals through the development of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs).

The students were able to identify needs in their community and international communities, research established NGOs, invited guest speakers to share their experiences working with NGOs, and developed their own NGOs based on observed needs. From here, the students initiated an action plan to help others in need. Students decided to conduct a fundraiser to support the two NGOs that presented as our guests here at IC.

We held the Jour "J" (The Big Day) in the courtyard



at IC Ain Aar and invited the Grade 3 and Grade 5 to attend. Students sold, handmade cards, books, crafts, gently used toys, Christmas items, and home baked goodies. Funds will go to the local NGO Canneet Coeur and the international NGO St. Vincent de Paul. ■

## Grammar and IC's Mission Statement

The Grades 4/CM1 and 5/CM2 Special Arabic students enjoyed watching a video that the teacher, Miss Jana Bayoud, took during recess time. They reviewed nouns and verbs, and deduced the negative and positive values of their actions in the playground. Then, they discussed the value of their actions at home and in society. They understood that International College aims at developing citizens who take positive actions. Consequently, students reviewed IC's mission statement and its alignment with the PYP vision. The grade 5/CM2 students enjoyed listening to a story during the "Sharing the Planet" planner, and enjoyed extracting from it all the verbs which had reflected a positive action towards the environment. The story helped them write some solutions to different kinds of pollution. The children related those solutions to the positive values that the PYP program encourages students to embody, and which are embedded in IC's mission statement. ■





## Counseling awareness session



Ras Beirut Middle School counselor Diala Itani has been offering awareness sessions to all Middle School students. Students in grades 6/6ème and 8/4ème attended a session on stress management; students in grade 7/5ème attended a session on self-esteem; students of grade 9/3ème attended a session on the 7 habits of highly effective teens. The presentations were informative, interactive and lively, and the students were engaged and involved. The role of the counselor in maintaining the well-being of students at school was emphasized. ■

## Coffee and a chat

The Ras Beirut Middle School counselor, Ms. Diala Itani, started a monthly awareness session for teachers that tackles a topic of interest to them related to counseling and the issues students are facing in the classroom. Every session is open to all. The initiative is named Zahweh wkhabriyyeh and the discussions will be informal.!■



## Community service project: The janitors' annual Christmas dinner



A group of seconde and grade 10 students organized the janitors' annual Christmas party. The event took place in the multipurpose room of the secondary school. The students catered the food, decorated the place, chose the music, handled the entertainment and displayed a video of the president, students, teachers and staff members expressing their gratitude and thanking the staff for all the good work they do all year long. At the end of the dinner, the students offered the janitors gifts as a sign of appreciation. A big thank you for Ms. Myriam Abou Atmeh and a group of 1ere students for taking the time to choose the gifts and for participating in the dinner!■



## Psychology and Yoga

Join the IB Psychology Class on their Yoga Experience! Part of the syllabus of this year covered in the IB II Psychology class includes the topic of stress, more specifically, what causes stress, what the effects of stress are and how one might be able to control it. One of the primary methods to relieve stress was Yoga, a mental and physical practice that integrates physical exercise, regulated breathing and meditation for the physiological benefits of decreased heart rate

and blood pressure, and the cognitive benefits of enhanced concentration and mental stability. In order to make the class more interactive, and to provide the students with an opportunity to actually experience what they have learned, Mrs. Abdul Rassoul, a certified yoga instructor, was kind enough to give students a yoga class, which took place in the gym for maximum space. Everyone participated in the class. She demonstrated a variety of breathing techniques

that aid in the reduction of stress, and that were very easy to integrate into everyday life. As students who experience pressure and stress daily, these techniques could be adopted as habits in order to regulate anxiety and alleviate tension for the betterment of our daily performances All participating members in the yoga class reported feeling content and relaxed after the class, and many openly expressed their wishes to make yoga class a weekly occurrence. ■



## Faculty Book Club

The Secondary School Book Club meets once a month, usually on a Thursday afternoon at 4:00pm in the LMC. It is hosted by Central Librarian Silvana Bartlett, who welcomes the members with a smile and some refreshments. The members are both English and French, mostly teachers and librarians, although ex-staff members and other guests are also welcome. At the first session in October, people book-talked what they had read over the summer. The subsequent meetings were theme based. To honor Bob Dylan as recipient of the 2016 Nobel Prize for literature, the November book talk revolved around

music. In addition to *Like a Rolling Stone: Bob Dylan at the Crossroads* by Greil Marcus and *All the Songs: The Story behind every Track* by Philippe Margotin, about Dylan himself, the books discussed included *The Song of Names* by Norman Lebrecht, *The Last Interview* (with John Lennon), *Nocturnes* by Kazuo Ishiguro, *This is Your Brain on Music* by Daniel Levin, *Sing You Home* by Jodie Picoult and *Bel Canto* by Ann Patchett. The next meeting will be on January 25, and everyone will be reading a book about China or written by a Chinese author. Please join us. We are waiting for you! ■



## Quiz Show



The LMC hosted its first Quiz Show last month. Around fifty students turned up for the contest. The three categories of questions (ten in each category) were World History/Geography, Sports People and Events, and The Arts (Literature, Music, Theater, and Art). Teams of 4-5 people sat together and raced to get the right answers to these General Knowledge questions. The winners were given gift voucher coupons for Classic Burger. The next quiz show will take place in January and will encompass: Cinema, Current Events, and Science. ■

## Student Book Club

The Student Book Club and the Student Creative Writing Club meet on alternate Tuesdays at lunch in the Library. The Book Club group is comprised of both teachers and students who like to discuss many topics in popular culture including books, films, and music. A recent discussion revolved around Japanese manga culture and graphic novels. You are all invited to join in these free and open discussions. Just contact Mrs. Bartlett. ■



## GREANG

IC hosted the teachers of English in the French Baccalaureate for their monthly GREANG (Groupe de Reflection de l'enseignement de l'anglais) meeting. These meetings are led by M. Lionel Di Gennaro, the coordinator of English language teaching in the French Bac. Our faculty who teach English in the French Bac program and the English Department

chairperson usually attend these meetings together. This is the second time that IC hosts the GREANG meetings; other schools that offer their campus are the Lycee and College Protestant. The purpose is to review assessment components and methods. Students at IC have traditionally had an outstanding record in their official exams. ■



## Equestrian Competition

Two IC students, Angelina Chami 6ème and Michel Rahbani Gr6, took part in a jumping competition in the Zeghrine Equestrian Club . Michel made multiple entries by riding up to six different horses. The height granting Michel a second place was 85 cm and Angelina successfully rode her own horse Spirit to victory by jumping 105cm. Bravo! ■



## Shaun Agostine- The pianist



Shaun Agostine is not just a student at IC Ain Aar. He is the fourteen-year old pianist and composer who has mesmerized his audience on every occasion since he started composing and playing his music in Lebanon and beyond. He has been invited to play his music at several prestigious events such as the TEDX LAU Conference in Beirut, the official re-opening of the Lebanese National Museum after 40 years of closing, and at the Governor's Palace and the Monte Libano Club in Sao Paolo, where he was recognized by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Gibran Bassil.■

## Les bottes du Père Noël

Quoi de plus inhabituel que de se mettre dans les bottes du Père Noël et d'exprimer, chacun à sa façon, son exaspération ! Le 19 décembre, les parents et les élèves de 6èmeB se sont retrouvés au CDI et ils ont écrit... Ils ont écrit la lettre du Père Noël, celle dans laquelle il dit haut et fort son ras-le-bol...

De beaux messages ont émané de cet atelier d'écriture. Des messages de gentillesse, de partage et d'empathie qui n'ont fait que donner encore plus de charme à cette magnifique fête.■





## Promising team of young runners at Ain Aar

On December 17 students from Ain Aar took part in a cross country running event at IC Ras Beirut/AUB. This fun but challenging course proved to be a fabulous experience for the young runners. They showed dedication, hard work, collaboration and that track and field is a team effort and not an individual sport by running together on an almost same pace. They finished the race together thus collecting most of the points, which earned them the trophy! ■



## 3Cs : Color, Community, Cooperation!

The community we live in was a focus for both CP-Grade I and CE2-Gradelll Ain Aar students through two different units of inquiry. Can we consider our school as a macro-community? How does it function? What is our role as "artists" in our community? What better way to answer these questions than through a common project between the two levels. We were able to discover hands-on the rights and responsibilities of each member of this community and how to interact with each other harmoniously.

Together, we came up with the idea to use recuperated plastic sheets on which the students drew and colored bright motifs. These sheets were then baked and formed into twirling colorful shapes. The two levels got together and in pairs chose the sequence and style of the wooden beads and plastic sheets combined to create these mobiles.

The result, a beautiful array of mobiles decorating a corner of our school. ■



## IC Alumni panel

For the second year running, the College Counseling Office organized an IC Alumni Panel for students in Grade 11. The 11th graders went down to Irani Auditorium to listen to what ex-IC students had to say about their college application process and their experience after leaving IC. Reem Husseini from Yale, Adam Jammal from LAU, Ali Saadidine from Columbia, Juliette Jabra from AUB, and Alexandra Badaoui from AUB addressed the questions asked by our current students and gave them advice based on their own experiences. ■

## Community Service Hosts Party for public school students

Grade 10 students have been visiting a public school near IC and teaching young children English. On December 21st, our students hosted a party for these kids in the multipurpose room of the secondary school. Students bought the food and the beverages, decorated the venue and played music. They all spent two hours dancing together, laughing, singing and some even put on a small talent show! After the party, kids left very happy and joyful! ■



## Our visit to the soap factory

As part of our unit How the World Works, KG1 Students had the chance to visit a Soap Factory in Sidon. They were so excited to find out how soap is made and what are the ingredients needed to make soap! Before going on their field trip, students thought of and predicted how soap is made and what materials are used to make it. At the Soap factory, they observed how the soap is formed, how it transformed from liquid to solid and they also saw how it changed color. They also got soap to take home! ■



## Acteurs de génie !

Dans le cadre du thème transdisciplinaire « Comment nous nous organisons », les élèves du CE1A ont mis en scène un problème de voisinage en tentant d'y apporter des solutions. Ainsi, ils ont pris leurs rôles très aux sérieux en gardant en tête l'idée maitresse « pour vivre ensemble, les habitants d'un même voisinage partagent des responsabilités communes» nous laissant découvrir de vrais acteurs de génie ! ■



## La joie partagée !

Dans le cadre du thème du voisinage travaillé dans toutes les matières, les CE1 ont partagé la joie des fêtes en chantant à deux différentes communautés voisines. Un groupe s'est rendu chez les personnes âgées de l'association Saint Vincent de Paul; et l'autre groupe a reçu les enfants de l'IRAP à l'auditorium de l'école.

Cette bonne action a beaucoup marqué les élèves surtout quand les personnes âgées ont essayé de communiquer par leurs gestes et leur regard. C'était pareil pour les enfants qui ont partagé

leur bonheur en chantant Noël à l'aide des signes avec les malentendants. C'étaient des moments très émouvants.■



## Music and Emotions!



How can we be aware of our emotions better than through music? During the launching session in Arabic, of the new unit of inquiry "Who we are", with the central idea "Understanding emotions and others' perspectives helps people regulate their behavior", the Ain Aar Grande Section students were engaged in free drawing using different colors while listening to Chopin's "The Spring Waltz". Then they explained to their classmates how the drawings reflected what they were feeling at that moment. ■



## We are Different!

"If you judge people you have no time to love them" – Mother Teresa. When we get to learn about others and respect our similarities and our differences, we get to learn so much more about the world and ourselves. While working on our transdisciplinary theme "Who We Are", AA Grade 1 students inquired

about the importance of accepting, respecting and showing empathy towards each other's differences and similarities. One student took action and invited her aunt who has Anoxia neonatal or infant brain damage to class in order to shed light on how important it is not to judge others by their differences. At the end of the

visit they noticed that they have a lot of similarities with Elizabeth such as drawing and swimming. This special visit was a reinforcement to the central ideal "Accepting our differences can help us live with others" and the students realized that with acceptance you can live in harmony and peace. ■

## La gelée, c'est bon!



Le nouveau thème transdisciplinaire "Comment le monde fonctionne" entamé en Moyenne section traite des changements qui peuvent être opérés lorsque différents matériaux interagissent. Les élèves de Ain Aar ont pu initier et observer ces changements et cela lors de l'expérience de la gelée. Émerveillés et engagés, les apprenants ont vu et décrit les différentes étapes "la poudre fond", "la gelée est solide" mais surtout "c'est bon"! ■



## Multiplication !

What does multiplication mean? Why do we multiply? How can we use multiplication every day? These are some of the questions that the third graders are exploring in their math unit. They use manipulatives, hands-on activities, and find patterns around them in order to understand this mathematical concept. Some have even started writing their math stories that involve multiplication. ■



## Sharing the Fun!

Grade 2 and CE1 learners decided to wrap up their unit of inquiry "Who We Are" by sharing the fun with their parents and teachers. Parents were invited to take part in a P.E Fun Hour, at Anwar el Mulla football field! Enjoyment and amusement prevailed. Food Fat Attack was the event's finale, parents and children attacked unhealthy food, raising awareness of the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle. ■

## Swimming Champions!

A group of 13 elementary-aged swimmers had the opportunity to participate in an international swimming competition in Amman, Jordan. The races took place over a three-day period with the last day being used to tour the Dead Sea. The students performed well and placed in several categories of the competition. Overall, this experience gave the students a significant boost in self-confidence and a true learning experience in what it means to be a global citizen. ■





## Celebration of International Day of People with Disabilities



To raise awareness about differences, visitors with disabilities (physical, blind and deaf) from The Forum for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and from the Lebanese School for Blind and Deaf came to RB Elementary. Children in Grades 1-3/ CP -CE2 learned about how people with disabilities live and enjoy life. Grades 5/CM2 had the opportunity to watch paraplegics play basketball. Our students now understand that despite a physical disability,

people are able to live a full and happy life. The Learner profile could be seen in action.

Among the questions asked by the students were: "How did you learn at school?"; "Do you have friends?"; "How do you take a shower and get dressed?"; "Why can't you be enrolled in a regular school"? and, "What happened to you?" The visitors enjoyed their encounters and were really impressed by the level of awareness and curiosity the students showed. ■

## Kermesse des fêtes

Un air de fête a réchauffé le couloir des CM1 de Ras Beyrouth ! À l'occasion des fêtes de fin d'année et afin de soutenir trois ONG libanaises, les élèves de CM1 ont confectionné et préparé toutes sortes de décos, bracelets, marque-pages, cartes de vœux ainsi que de délicieuses pâtisseries et autres gourmandises. Les enfants ont eu la joie d'organiser leur propre marché afin de vendre leurs créations aux parents, aux professeurs et aux autres élèves. Cette démarche a permis à nos petits créateurs, touchés par la cause défendue par IRAP, SESOBEL et l'École des aveugles et des sourds-muets, de récolter une belle somme d'argent de 3.750.000 LL et de les leur redistribuer. Ils avaient visité ces trois organisations afin de comprendre comment les organisations sociales influent sur les conditions de vie des individus dans la société. Un beau message d'altruisme et d'empathie en cette fin d'année 2016! ■





## Coding at the Elementary School



Students and teachers were very busy being part of Code.org's global initiative "The Hour of Code." Many classes have been logging in, learning and trialing their coding skills. The students learn what an algorithm is and how to achieve an end product by following simple steps. It is very clear that this

learning is vital so all students have an understanding of code and how our society connects through online platforms. It is also very clear how much fun the students are having experimenting and no doubt they will continue their new-found fun at home too! Why not try it out for yourself at [www.code.org](http://www.code.org). ■

## Un rendez-vous pour développer une mitoyenneté harmonieuse !

Dans le cadre du thème transdisciplinaire « Comment nous nous organisons », les CE1 ont profité d'une matinée dédiée au respect de leur entourage. En effet, nous avons eu le grand plaisir de recevoir des policiers qui ont eu la patience de nous parler de la sécurité de notre voisinage ainsi que de la manière dont nous devons nous comporter pour respecter la sécurité de chacun. Suite à la projection d'une vidéo, une discussion fructueuse et animée a suivi, démontrant la richesse de la connaissance de nos petits apprenants à ce propos ainsi que leur conscience très développée par rapport à la définition d'un voisinage harmonieux. Nous, enseignantes, en étions très fières !

Sous la supervision de cette équipe de policiers dynamiques, plusieurs activités physiques faisant appel à des réflexes et des connaissances en matière de code de la route se sont déroulées dans la cour de récréation. Ainsi, c'est dans un



climat chaleureux et propice au partage et à la bonne entente que nos chers apprenants ont pu exprimer à travers des jeux divers leur sens de la responsabilité vis-à-vis des autres ainsi que leur sens de la communauté.

Nous tenons à remercier à cet égard d'une part la gendarmerie pour sa sollicitude et d'autre part la « British Policing Support Team » pour son effort dans l'organisation de cette intervention ainsi que pour les cadeaux reçus par nos élèves. ■



## Un projet sans frontières

À la suite du succès du projet de correspondance l'année passée entre les élèves de CM1 A et une classe d'Auvergne en France, nous avons décidé de reconduire cette activité cette année. Nos élèves ont pu partager avec joie et curiosité leurs goûts et leurs différences culturelles avec leur correspondant. Echange de courrier électronique, de lettres et rencontres interactives étaient au programme,

Après avoir reçu par la poste un dossier culturel sur l'Auvergne, la prochaine étape sera de préparer à notre tour un dossier d'informations sur le Liban et des photos personnelles à envoyer à l'école de Lussat afin de faire découvrir notre belle et riche patrie à ces enfants qui connaissent si peu notre pays.

L'activité va être reprise l'année prochaine avec, en vue, la participation d'autres classes de notre école et d'autres institutions à l'étranger. Nos élèves sont des citoyens du monde ! ■



## Le système d'enseignement supérieur français

Jeudi 12 janvier dernier, l'école secondaire accueillait le professeur Franck Violet, ancien doyen de la faculté de droit et actuellement vice-président de l'Université catholique de Lyon en charge des relations internationales. Une vingtaine d'élèves de classes de première et de terminale accompagnée de 4 enseignants (Mmes Abdel Malak et Kojok ainsi que MM. Le Dû et Dewailly) eurent la chance d'assister à la présentation de M. Violet portant sur le système d'enseignement supérieur français et universitaire plus particulièrement. Puis, durant le reste de la séance, l'assistance put questionner notre hôte au sujet des études supérieures en France.

Aussi, au cours de son intervention, M. Violet insista sur les spécificités du système français tout en attirant l'attention sur deux difficultés à prendre en compte : vivre loin de son foyer et être moins directement encadré. Ses recommandations peuvent se résumer ainsi : « La vie d'étudiant peut nuire à la vie d'études ! » Toutefois, et au-delà de cette mise au point initiale, M. Violet insista surtout sur la qualité des formations proposées tant à Lyon qu'ailleurs en

France. Il dressa le panorama d'une offre de cursus de plus en plus conséquente notamment pour ceux dispensés partiellement ou intégralement en langue anglaise (le nouveau programme Bachelor de l'École Polytechnique par exemple, et pour lequel nous saluons cette année la présélection aux épreuves orales de l'une de nos élèves de TSM, Cynthia Hitti).

M. Violet était très satisfait de son passage et des échanges qu'il eut avec les élèves qu'il trouva fort pertinents. Il a exprimé sa disponibilité pour échanger par téléphone ou par skype avec certains, voire même la possibilité de les recevoir lors d'un éventuel passage en France, afin de mieux les renseigner sur leur avenir. Il s'est dit intéressé pour revenir nous voir lors d'un prochain passage au Liban (entre novembre et janvier 2018), pays qu'il fréquente au moins une fois par an pour dispenser des enseignements en Droit des affaires et des brevets à l'USEK. Il peut assurer une intervention en langue anglaise.

Les élèves présents ont également beaucoup apprécié son intervention et la matière à réflexion transmise. ■



## L'IC engagée dans le prix littéraire des lycéens du Liban 2017

18 élèves de l'Ecole secondaire (issus des programmes du Bac français et de l'IB) participent cette année au Prix littéraire des lycéens du Liban sous la coordination du professeur de français Sarah Ghazal. Le 10 novembre dernier, ils se sont ainsi rendus au Salon du livre dans le but d'assister au lancement officiel du prix et d'y représenter l'IC. Arrivés sur place, ils ont été agréablement surpris de voir une salle regorgeant de participants enthousiastes et curieux, provenant de douze établissements différents. Après le mot de bienvenue de la médiatrice, les lycéens ont écouté la présentation des six œuvres au programme, faite notamment à travers une lecture d'extraits poignants et une interview de quatre écrivains francophones : Baptiste Beaulieu, lauréat du Prix 2016, Ramy Zein, dont le roman *Tribulations d'un bâtard à Beyrouth* fait partie de la sélection du Prix 2017, Thomas Reverdy et Mohamad Kacimi, tous deux invités respectivement

par le Lycée Verdun et le Lycée Nahr Ibrahim. A la fin de la séance, les élèves ont pu poser leurs questions directement aux auteurs ainsi que leur faire part de leurs premières impressions.

Cette année les élèves auront le bonheur de lire les 6 romans en lice et de débattre entre eux de leurs choix.

Voici la liste des romans : Sylvie Germain : *À la table des hommes* Olivier Bourdeaut : *En attendant Bojangles* Ramy Zein : *Tribulations d'un bâtard à Beyrouth* David Foenkinos : *Le Mystère Henri Pick* Philippe Claudel : *L'Arbre du pays Toraja* Lyonel Trouillot : *Kannjawou* ■



## Creative Writing

As part of the commitment to media literacy, this year IC is focusing on writing across the curriculum, with a focus on creative expression. Both fiction and non-fiction writing activities are the target, to encourage students to enhance both their reading and writing skills. Creative writing in the Secondary School is an activity targeting both

students and teachers. Mrs. Mourani is conducting these sessions. Students meet on Tuesdays during the lunch break. Teachers meet on Wednesdays at 2:00 pm. As the activity runs for each group on alternate weeks, the participants have enough time to do more writing and/or to edit the creative exercises that were started during the session. ■

## L'écriture, réalisation de l'imaginaire

Du gribouillage des petits enfants au dessin du préadolescent, c'est toute une évolution qui aboutirait ainsi à une représentation de plus en plus poussée du réel.

Percevoir un simple détail, l'imaginer, l'illustrer et le décrire ! Voici une simple activité stimulante qui va aider nos élèves de CP à déployer leur créativité et enrichir leur style.

Un simple tracé d'une ligne courbe sur une feuille vierge a généré chez nos petits écrivains en herbe des idées débordantes.

« C'est un extraterrestre qui vole dans l'espace... non, c'est une baleine qui dévore un poisson ou plutôt une fleur qui s'ouvre dans le jardin » ....

Ecrire est devenu pour nos jeunes apprenants un vrai plaisir, un moyen de grandir dans la confiance et dans la joie. A partir de cette activité, plusieurs aspects peuvent être abordés : l'imaginaire, le fantastique mais aussi le ludique et l'affectif. Il s'agit de développer chez l'enfant une possibilité d'expression, qui s'oriente vers le langage oral et écrit. Nous rejoignons alors l'un



des grands objectifs des arts visuels : développer les capacités d'expression de l'élève.

Laissons à nos jeunes apprenants le temps de rêver ; ce monde imaginaire qui n'existe pas pour de vrai leur est indispensable ! ■



## Pen International writers at IC

Last November IB1 and 6th CPP students headed towards Imad Taher Auditorium in anticipation of an international cultural event. Four authors from around the world had been invited by the Lebanese chapter of PEN INTERNATIONAL to address students in various schools. Iman Humaydan, the president of PEN LEBANON brought Marijn Knol (Dutch), Vamba Sherif (Liberian), Witold Szablowski (Polish), and USHA KR (Indian) to talk to our students about the life of being a writer. The authors in the panel were eager to elicit questions from the audience, and they answered them willingly. They even invited a few students to come up and join the panel with their direct questions. Some of the questions they



asked were: Do you have a special time when you write? How long does it take you to finish a book? What are the themes of your novels? What are some of the challenges of writing? What about censorship? Gender discrimination? Interviewing my students afterwards, I found that not only did they enjoy learning outside the classroom but also articulated their interest in authorship and felt encouraged to write! ■

## An Elective to Share!

As a finale for the first trimester electives for Grade 8/4ème level, the students from all the different elective courses got together in the auditorium to share their experiences. The students' enthusiasm for the different electives was apparent in their very interactive and well-prepared presentations. The electives included writing workshop, media literacy, karate, Spanish, cine club, math, and lab applications, and the students seemed very involved and encouraged their peers to join what they have experienced. ■



## A Media Literacy Group!

Students in the Media Literacy elective for grade 8/4ème level engaged in a variety of topics during the first trimester. They enjoyed the different themes that they dealt with which included online identity, cyberbullying, body image, among others. Students were also given the opportunity to bring their own devices to this elective, and this allowed them to produce a variety of projects with ease. ■

