

AL NOOR-ABA NEWS

14th November 2019

Message from the Head of School

Dear ABA Community,

It is with great anticipation that I look forward to National Day on Monday, November 18th. I feel privileged to be in a country where education is valued along with safety, hospitality, mutual respect and even classical music. The lovely atmosphere here in Oman, as modeled by His Majesty, is a gift given to each person. Our older student dancers have been practicing and the youngest students have been preparing all week for the festivities. I am very excited!

My thoughts about this past week have focused on MESAC. Yes, we were particularly jubilant at the many successful athletic and academic achievements by our students and their coaches. Congratulations to every participant, to be sure. For me, the real story is the Booster Club and the message these volunteers sent to the visiting schools while they were on our campus.

I heard over and over again that visiting athletes, coaches and parents looked forward, year to year, to the ABA Burgers! Moreover, they were "sure" that their parents on their home campuses would not be bringing in baked goods, or flipping burgers all day long. The message reverberates to other communities that there is something special going on at ABA - that this is an especially good place to be! That there are parents here who want to participate and join is to help out at the school. Thank you! Go Viper Parents Volunteers! Thank you, Booster Club. I received many notes after MESAC - congratulating the School, and particularly Paul Brace, on the excellent organization of the weekend. The notes all had a variation of this message:

"Kudos to your entire staff and community for hosting the MESAC volleyball 2019 tournament. (Paul continues) to impress me and all those attending with your commitment and energy. And your parents have been a delight...hosting all the athletes and feeding everyone at the booster stands. What an impressive development of your community in support of MESAC. It would not have been impossible without you and your team. Well done."

It is wonderful when a school community pulls together. It is good for the students within that school community. Bravo! See you on National Day!

Sue
Dr. Susan R. Groesbeck



Upcoming Dates

17 Nov	Mesac Awards Season1 MPH 6pm - 7:30pm
18 Nov	Omani National Day Celebrations Whole School
20 - 21 Nov	Grades 6 - 12 No School Parents / Teachers Conferences
22 Nov	Flea Market MPH 3pm - 5pm

Message from the Library

Dear Parents,



It's Book Fair time again! And just in time for some holiday gift shopping. Leaflets will be sent home with students on Thursday, 14th November which have a sampling of the books available. See the website for a much wider selection of quality books from the UK: <http://world-schools.scholastic.co.uk/americanbritish-academy>

All orders must be placed [online](#), and directions on how to place your order were shared by homeroom teachers on Seesaw for ECE and Elementary, and the grades 6-8 parents have been emailed with details. The price of books includes all VAT, duties and shipping from the UK to school.

Kindly note that the online order closes Saturday November 23rd, 2019 so that books can arrive before the Winter Holiday!

Thank you for supporting our school and encouraging students reading for pleasure.

Mara Hakim and Courtney Park - ABA Librarians

Message from the Extra Curriculum Program

Grade 2-3 MPSL Benchball Tournament

This event is always a favourite with the students and was held at ABA on Tuesday 12th November. ABA entered three boys and two girls teams and they competed against teams from PDO and ABQ.

The boys teams played a round-robin system of games to decide the winner. ABA teams started cautiously but soon found their groove and improved as the tournament progressed. Games were fast and furious but the boys demonstrated the skills they had learned at practice.

All three boys teams finished with a mixture of wins and losses, placing second, third and sixth.

The girls tournament contained fewer teams so the format included both round-robin and playoff games. ABA 2 finished in fourth place, showing improvements in their passing and pivoting from game to game. In an exciting final, ABA 1 tied with PDO which meant a period of overtime. This remained scoreless until the last three seconds when ABA snatched a dramatic point to take first place.

Congratulations to the students who took part and thank you to the large group of parents who came out to support.

What's up next?

U9 Boys Football tournament is on Wednesday 20th November

U9 and U11 Boys Development Swim Meet is on Monday 25th November.

U11 Boys Football tournament is on Monday 2nd December.

Raewyn Jack - Activities Coordinator



MESAC

Last weekends Varsity Volleyball tournament is one that we hope the players and the community will not soon forget. Thanks for all those involved in making this a successful weekend. Whether it be the highs of a hard fought win or the lows of a disappointing loss, the boys (gold medalists) and girls (5th place) worked through adversity and became closer as a team. This weekend presented opportunities to showcase our players and the community spirit of our school.

To all those involved in the MESAC weekend here at ABA, thank you! The feedback we had from players, coaches and visiting families was amazing. They loved how friendly and welcoming our school community is. The Booster club and the parent support was outstanding. They worked tirelessly over the entire weekend ensuring everybody was well fed and the service always had a smile. To the student body and parents who came to cheer the players on, thank you. I have not seen the gyms so packed before. It was deafening in the gyms with drums, cheers and applause. Congratulations to all of our community for a fantastic tournament. Thanks to Mr Atiq Hussain for putting together a highlight reel of the varsity volleyball <https://youtu.be/EsRInTGfXes>

Not only was there great success at ABA over the MESAC weekend but all our other MESAC teams were all part of something special. They represented ABA with pride and played or swam not for themselves but for the team and their school. The outstanding results of MESAC season one (listed below) is the most successful to date.

Golf: **Silver medal overall**

Our top scorer, Max Coventry came 4th overall narrowly missing the bronze and our team had 4 players in the top 11 best total scores.

Day 1

Alice 200 IM Silver
Muna 100 Breast Bronze
Lydia 50 Fly Bronze
Carlos 50 Fly Bronze
Connor 50 Fly Gold
Muna 100 Free Silver
Mathew 100 Free Gold
JV Girls IM Relay Bronze- Lila, Elodie, Muna, Lydia
JV Boys IM Relay Bronze- Mohammed, Carlos, Oscar, Mathew

Day 2

Will 400 Free Bronze
Alice 400 Free Gold
Muna 400 Free Bronze
Lydia 100 Back Bronze
Will 100 Back Silver
Zoe 100 Back Bronze
Nicolas 100 Back Bronze
Carlos 50 Free Bronze
Mathew 50 Free Silver
Lydia 100 IM Bronze
Carlos 100 IM Bronze
Alice 100 IM Bronze
Conner 100 IM Gold
Boys JV 400 IM Relay Silver (Will, Stuart, Oscar, Mohammed)
Girls V 400 IM Relay Silver (Zoe, Muna, Alice, Katie)

Day 3

Will 200 Back Gold
Alice 200 Back Bronze
Alice 100 Fly Bronze
Muna 50 Breast Bronze
Will 50 Back Gold
Stuart 50 Back Bronze
Alice 200 Free Silver
*JV Boys 200 Free Relay Gold (Will, Mathew, Carlos and Stuart)
V Boys 200 Free Relay Bronze (Connor, Declan, Danil and Nicolas)
*JV Boys 400 Free Relay Gold (Will, Mathew, Carlos and Stuart)
V Girls 400 Free Relay Gold (Zoe, Muna, Alice and Katie)

The asterisk denotes 2 new MESAC records!!!!

Overall

JV Boys Gold, JV girls 5th, Varsity boys 4th and varsity girls 4th



Academic Games

JV:

Team B - **Silver** medal in Humanities Olympiad
Team B - **Silver** medal in Maths Olympiad
Team B - **Bronze** medal in Geography/Science Olympiad
Team A - **Bronze** medal in Geography/Science Olympiad
Team B - **Gold** medal in Arts/Culture Olympiad
Team B - **Silver** medal in the Academic Bowl

JV: Overall **Gold** medal

Volleyball

JV Boys: **Bronze** medal
JV Girls **6th**
Varsity Boys: **Gold** medal
Varsity Girls **5th**

Varsity:

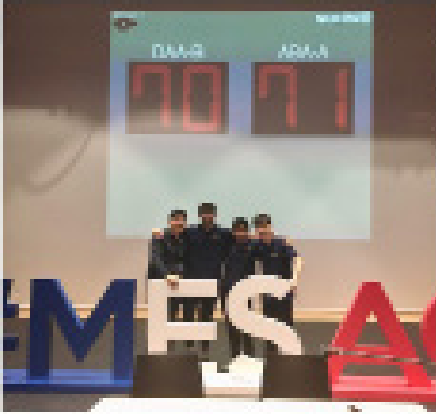
Team A - **Bronze** medal in Humanities Olympiad
Team A - **Silver** medal in Current Events Olympiad
Team A - **Bronze** medal in Geography/Science Olympiad

Team A Academic Bowl **Gold medal** won in a thriller

Varsity: Overall **Bronze medal**

Paul Brace - Athletics Director





Message from the PTA



"Building our community together!"



Omani National Day

It's just around the corner! A day to celebrate Oman, this lovely country we live in. All activities will be during school hours and children have the option to wear traditional Omani clothing or colors of the Omani flag. Two Omani women will be baking Omani bread (khubuz irkhal or khubuz irgag) all day long for the children to enjoy, free of charge.

A big thank you to ABA's Omani community for donating the cost of the band that will lead the in-school parade.

In ECE and Elementary we are looking for parents to help set up a craft and provide one Omani snack for their classes.

In Middle School, we are asking parents to provide one snack to each class after 9:40am. Please organize with your classroom HRP if you would like to volunteer.

Flea Market

Here's your chance to declutter - the first flea market of 2019-20 is coming up on Friday 22nd November. We are also looking for volunteers to help at the popcorn and drinks tables.

Table reservations are open - remember to reserve yours! For queries or to volunteer please contact Meeta on 97893131.

Santa's Workshop

Santa's elves have been busy sourcing quality gifts to make our young people's shopping experience worthwhile! This year they will have a choice to buy from RO1 and RO2 presents for their loved ones. The workshop will be on Monday 2nd December during school hours for Elementary students. Remember to send in change if you would like your child to participate.

Volunteers to sell at the workshop can sign up at: Volunteer@Santa's Workshop

Winter Festival



Do you remember as a child the excitement and expectation of a special event in school or the community? The magic of twinkly lights and the fun shared with friends! Counting the days until it happened and afterwards wondering how quickly it went by! The Winter Festival Committee is working hard to provide an evening of winter cheer infused with all that is special at this time of the year in a "Spirit of Giving"



PTA DATES

Mon. Nov. 18th @ABA
National Day Celebrations

Fri. Nov. 22nd @ MPH
Flea Market: 3.00 to 5.00 pm

Mon. Dec. 2nd @MS common room
Santa's Workshop: 7.40 - 2.00 pm

Thu. Dec 5th @ ABA Pitch
Winter Festival: 6.00-8.00 pm

Mon. Dec. 9th @ PTA room
Community Meeting: 7.40-9.00 am



We're planning lots for all the family and community to enjoy, such as delicious seasonal food - savory and sweet, Santa of course in his Grotto, seasonal choral music, an exciting bazaar to buy those all important presents! Festive games and crafts to keep our little people occupied.

Enriching Volunteer Opportunities

Your festive personality is required for various roles, for example, to open the gates to our Winter Wonderland and manage Ticket sales for an hour of your choice

5.45 - 6.45 pm

6.45 - 7.45 pm



Please contact the team on Winterfest@abaoman.org, Alison on 95188959 or Theresa on 93391639 or Nandita on 79039623

Have a wonderful weekend!

Your PTA - 'Building Our Community Together'

Message from the Booster Club

What a momentous weekend and what an amazing 1st Season for our VIPERS MESAC participants!!!

Our players brought back a plethora of medals across the board! While that is impressive on its own, their determination, sportsmanship, dedication, and above all, their true VIPERS spirit were truly awesome to behold.

On our home turf, the gym and MPH were alive with the resounding cry of VIPERS supporters for our Boys and Girls volleyball teams, finally cheering on our Varsity boys as they brought home the gold medal! What a nail-biting final match that was to watch!!! Well played, ABA!

A HUGE thank you to all our VIPERS families for your support over the weekend. Thanks for the delicious food donations, generous time, energy, and enthusiasm (particularly while showing off your BBQ skills flipping over 600 burgers and 250 sausages). The feedback from participants, coaches, and visiting parents from all schools has been incredible. None of this would have been possible without our AMAZING community.

Thanks also to the Activities Council and ABA Ambassadors for your time and energy to help wherever needed over the weekend.

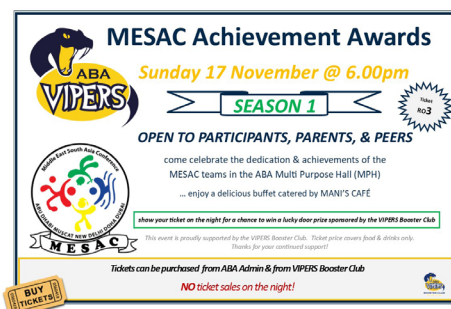
And, of course, we cannot forget our Booster Club team of volunteer parents that have worked tirelessly to ensure all our VIPERS and visiting teams, coaches, and families were well fed, watered, welcomed and celebrated. Thank you, ladies, for being there and for doing it all with warm smiles on your faces!!

We can safely say, the VIPERS pride and community spirit is alive and thriving at ABA.

On 17th November, 2019 we will celebrate the success of the VIPERS Season 1 participants with the MESAC Achievement Awards to be held at ABA at 6:00 pm. **Tickets will be sold all day in the Admin on Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th November and on Sunday 17th November in the morning, only until 8 am.** Please note that there will be no tickets sold at the door.

GO VIPERS!!!!

Note: *VIPERS Booster Club next Pop-up Shop will be on Monday 25th November, 2019 from 7:00-7:45 am in front of the ECE as usual.*



Yours in community spirit - VIPERS Booster Club

