

AL NOOR-ABA NEWS

26th November 2019

Important Notice: Kindly note that there was a date error in the PTA calendar for the return date after winter break. The school will re-open on 5th January 2020.

Message from the Head of School

Dear ABA Community,

What fun for Mark and me! Good friends from our hometown in the US are disembarking from a ship on Wednesday and we are able to show them around Muscat. Mark and I have carefully planned our route for showing them "our new home". Imagine that we get to play "host" ! Aren't we lucky that we had Batool as our first guide to Muscat and that we paid attention.

This past weekend, I represented ABA at a teacher recruitment fair in Dubai. I was able to speak with teachers from multiple continents who yearn to work at ABA. They have researched schools and they know of the excellent reputation of high standards here. They believe in the IB curriculum, fair evaluations, our investment in professional development, bright students and supportive parents. The ABA recruitment table had a very long line of hopeful teachers.

Due to the celebration of National Day, it is a very short week of school. For some American families at ABA, the Thanksgiving holiday is also celebrated on Thursday. It is a time of gratitude and taking stock of the many special gifts of family and friends. I wish you all a pleasant four-day weekend.

Sue

Dr. Susan R. Groesbeck

Upcoming Dates

27-28 Nov	Public Holiday
02 Dec	Santa's Workshop MS Common Room 7:00 am - 2:00 pm
03 Dec	Early School Dismal Elementary 12:20 pm Secondary 12:20 pm
05 Dec	Grade 10 Personal Project Exhibition Gym 3:00 - 5:00 pm Winter Festival ABA Carpark 5:00 - 8:00 pm
10 Dec	Board Meeting Elementary Library 4:30 pm

Message from the Elementary School

Parent workshop - Maths in the PYP

Last Tuesday night more than 50 parents came to school in the evening to learn more about how Mathematics is taught in the PYP and in particular at ABA. The parents were involved in hands on activities as they experienced mathematics learning for themselves. 14 teachers were involved in presenting and running activities. An important part of the evening was sharing the newly created Math Continuum and how this impacts learning and teaching at ABA. A new format for reporting Mathematics was also shared with the parents. The continuum can be found on the ABA website. A big thanks to all those who attended for your enthusiastic participation and positive feedback.



Parents were asked to complete the thinking routine: "I used to think... Now I think..." Here are just a few of their responses:

- I used to think that math is about abstract numbers and ideas. Now I think that maths can be learnt through play and taught through real-life examples.
- I used to think that maths was boring and feel nervous about getting it right. Now I think maths is so very interesting. I could end up loving maths for the first time ever!
- I used to think that math is a fixed science. Now I think it is flexible and liveable.
- I used to think that math was a lonely introvert subject. Now I have experienced that it can be a fun and social activity with compassion and sharing.



Congratulations to Illeana Gabriela Tudor from Grade 5, who represented Oman at Sharjah International Karate Championship last weekend. There were 767 participants from 32 countries and Illeana brought back a well-deserved bronze medal. Well done Illeana!

Sam Cook - Elementary Principal

Message from the Middle School

We have been very busy here in the Middle School with MS Explores!, National Day celebrations, a rain day, Middle School assembly and Parent-Teacher Conferences. Everyone is looking forward to the winter break and over the next two weeks students will be involved in a multitude of engaging learning activities. As we look towards the new year, we will resume our monthly coffee mornings on Wednesday 15th January and would greatly appreciate your input on Middle School topics for these mornings. Please use this form to submit any suggestions. As always, Claire, Kathleen and Megel are available to meet with you should the need arise. We wish you and your family a happy and safe National Day Holiday.

Kathleen Bowin - Middle School Principal

Message from the Extra Curriculum Program

Games for next week

1st December	U16 Girls Soc vs BSM @ BSM	4:15 - 5:15pm
1st December	U16 Boys B'Ball vs TAISM @ ABA	4:00 - 5:00pm
2nd December	U12 Boys Soc vs BSM @ ABA	2:45 - 3:30pm
2nd December	U12 Girls Soc vs BSM @ ABA	2:45 - 3:30pm
2nd December	U16 Boys B'Ball vs BSM @ ABA	3:00 - 4:00pm
4th December	U19 Boys Soc vs BSM @BSM 4:20	4:15 - 5:15pm
4th December	U16 Girls Soc vs TAISM @ TAISM 4:00	4:00 - 5:00pm
4th December	U19 Girls Soc vs TAISM @ TAISM 4:00	4:00 - 5:00pm
4th December	U19 Boys B'Ball vs TAISM @ TAISM 4:00	4:00 - 5:00pm

Paul Brace - Athletics Director

Message from the Fine Arts Department



MYP Art Exhibition at Parent Teacher Conferences

For our MYP Art exhibition during the parent teacher conferences we used some student work samples of both process and finished work to give parents and the entire community a broader idea of what goes on in the art classroom.

Students were able to talk about materials used and narrate the different stages of their inquiries. Plaster and Papier Mache masks, color theory application in flat design, drawings of hands using value and shading, linocut prints and portraits were displayed along with some sketchbooks and different tools used. A big 'Thank You' to Ms Malena and Ms Andrea for organising this interesting, colourful journal of student process.

Anthony Langrish - Fine Arts Director

Middle School Drama Production

There will be a meeting to give Grade 6, 7 and 8 students information about participation in the Middle School Production at 12.30 sharp in the Black Box on Monday December 9th.

J. Pugh - Drama Teacher

Message from the PTA



"Building our community together!"

Thank You

The Flea market was a success and despite the worries about stormy weather, there was a large turnout of sellers and buyers. Meeta Khira, thank you for organizing this event! There was lots of positive feedback from everyone and the Thai food and baked goods were a hit. We look forward to the next one.



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 RO.1 and RO.2 presents for the loved ones.

PTA DATES

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

All Middle School students will have access to Santa's workshop during their breaks. 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

The countdown is on!
 Nine days to go until Winter Festival. We on the team have worked hard to ensure a memorable evening of winter cheer:

- Fun Games
- Cute Crafts
- Delightful music from the Muscat Singers
- Melodies from the ABA band and choir
- A cafe to relax in
- A wonderful bazaar
- Santa in his grotto



We seek your support in one area --Festive Food-- for our baked goods stall; minced pies, gingerbread men, and other traditional contributions from home.

We look forward to seeing you. In anticipation, hohoho!
 Alison, Nandita, Theresa, Minita, Paola, Malinka, Christine, Bex, Bokamoso, Penny and Meeta.

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

