

AL NOOR-ABA NEWS

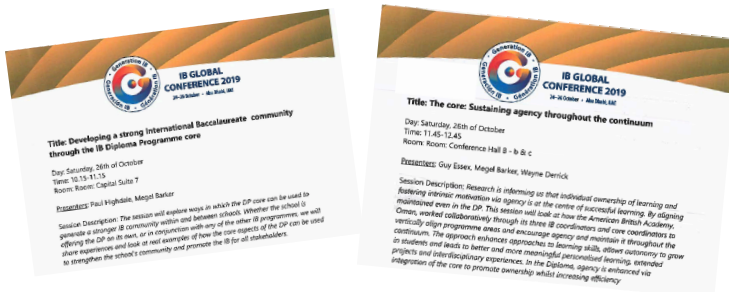
24th October 2019

Happy Diwali 

Message from the Head of School

Dear ABA Community,

This is a week to celebrate three adults in our midst. As a result of attending last year's IB global conference in Vienna, Wayne Derrick from the Elementary School, Megel Barker from the Middle School and Guy Essex from the High School were asked to present reflections to the Senior Leadership Team.



They began to notice “strands” as running from PYP all the way through MYP to DP. They described these strands as the ‘core’ of the IB programme. Wayne, Megel and Guy have been invited to present this material at the IB Global Conference 2019 in Abu Dhabi, UAE with a presentation titled “Sustaining Agency throughout the Continuum.” They will represent ABA so well at this international conference and we are proud to send them off to Abu Dhabi! Megel will also give a second talk titled: “Developing a strong International Baccalaureate community through the IB Diploma Programme core.” Way to go, Wayne, Guy and Megel!



I had the exciting opportunity this week to meet the American Ambassador, The Honorable Marc Sievers. He is just ending his tenure here in Oman but loves the country so much he is planning on living here. I can understand his desire to live here!

We look forward to supporting and celebrating many events in the coming weeks. The students have been working hard on Addams Family, The Musical. I know you will enjoy it. Athletics abound and I enjoy watching our successful volleyball teams. It's about the students at the school and our mission is to focus on their achievements and needs at ABA.

Upcoming Dates

- 28 Oct University of Manchester
S9 - 7:30 - 8:00
- University of Brighton
S9 - 10:30 - 11:00
- 29 Oct Grade 9 and 10 Parent Coffee
PTA Room - 7:30am - 8:20am
- Team Canada University Visit
SLH - 10:15 - 11am
- K1- G5 Goal Setting Conferences
2:30am - 4pm
- Addams Family The Musical
PAC - 6pm - 8pm
- 30 Oct K1 - Gr 5 Goal setting conferences
No School for Elementary
- Grade 9-11 PSAT Exam
SLH - 7 am - 1pm
- Scotland Universities Presentation
SLH - 5pm - 6pm
- Addams Family The Musical
PAC - 6pm - 8pm
- 31 Oct Omani Tree Day
Free Tree Day Mufti
- Spooktacular PTA Event
5pm - 7pm

Best regards,

Sue

Dr. Susan R. Groesbeck

Message from the Elementary School

Goal Setting Conferences

We hope you are looking forward to the upcoming goal setting conferences between teacher, student and parent; they are scheduled for the following times next week:

- Tuesday 29th October 2019 2:30 - 4:10pm
- Wednesday 30th October 2019 7:30am - 4:10pm (no school for students)

You should by now have signed up for your preferred time slot. The final schedule will be shared by each teacher on Sunday 27th October. If you would like to meet with specialist teachers, please contact them directly by email to make an appointment, once your homeroom appointments are confirmed.

These conferences are student-focused. If you have a need to discuss issues without your child present, an additional appointment should be made for a confidential discussion.

Some pointers for a successful three-way conference:

- Let your child do the talking - listen actively
- Address your child (not the teacher) with questions or comments
- Acknowledge and celebrate your child's strengths and successes
- Offer support in the areas that your child has identified for growth
- Enjoy the opportunity to be part of a conversation where all three contributors are equally valued

Diwali Dress Day - Sunday 27th October

Due to Diwali coinciding with a school day, Sunday 27th October, students that mark this holiday and will be attending school can wear traditional dress associated with Diwali. Children must be able to participate in all aspects of the educational process (swimming, PE, break, labwork, etc). Their outfits should be comfortable and simple enough for them to adjust and wear on their own. Students should also have a uniform if the teacher finds the outfit to be too much of a distraction to the child's learning.

- Elementary photos are scheduled for Sunday 27th October - please ensure that your child has an ABA shirt to wear for their photograph.

Happy Diwali to all who celebrate.

Elementary School Photographs

The school photographer will be here on Sunday through Tuesday next week. Your child's teacher will let you know when their class is scheduled to be photographed. If your child is dressing for Diwali and is scheduled for a Sunday photograph, please remember to send an ABA shirt.

Oman Tree Day - Thursday 31st October

Oman Tree Day is marked every year on 31st October, as a time when people start planting tree seedlings for the winter. As this year there is a school-wide focus on environmental issues, our Eco Team has planned some special events for Thursday 31st October, with the aim to build interest in the trees and biodiversity in our school community. Events will include a special guest speaker, a scavenger hunt, a whole school community tree collage and the planting of trees on our campus. Children may choose to dress in green or other earth colours if they wish.



Sam Cook - Elementary Principal

Message from the Middle School

MS Serves!

MS Serves! is the Middle School's response to fostering global citizenship in our learners. The goals of the initiative is to inculcate the ABA spirit of service as part and parcel of Middle School life. The MS Serves! launch, a few weeks ago, engaged students with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals for 2030 agreed by nations at the United Nations. We at ABA will be doing our part to support the achievement of these goals.

In continuing to provide a stimulus for action, Middle School students will be given the opportunity to consider how they could offer service and avenues within which to express their actions. With this in mind, we have invited H.H. Sayyida Tania Bint Shabib Al Said, President of the Environmental Society of Oman (ESO) to have Niqash with us about her vision. H.H. Ms Al Said will share her journey behind the development of the first ever environmental Non-Governmental Organisation to be formed in Oman (NGO), officially recognised 15 years ago. Her passion is with ocean animals, such as whales, dolphins and turtles but her love for the environment and her passion for its sustainability is unquestionable. More about her work can be [found here](#).

ABA Middle School welcomes this Omani trailblazer as she shares her remarkable story with our students. Her talk will be on Monday, 28th October, at 8:20 am in the PAC.

Middle School Team



Message from the High School

University Application Season

It's that time of year: application season is in full swing for our seniors. Juggling the demands of their IB Diploma studies and various extra-curricular activities, our Grade 12 students are now also fully absorbed by completing application forms and submitting supporting documents. They have invested valuable hours in doing research, drafting college essays and having consultations with the counseling team as well as university reps to ensure that they are on the right track.

Having done all of that preparatory work, they are probably feeling slightly less anxious as deadlines draw closer, but it is still worthwhile being mindful that they are under an immense amount of pressure at the moment. On the matter of deadlines, some have now passed and I am pleased to announce that a number of students have already submitted their applications as they needed to do so by October 15. In fact, one of our students, Vida Delghandi, has already been accepted by 2 US universities - one with the offer of a full scholarship.

Dates for submission vary according to institution and type of application. Some universities also have rolling admissions which means that they accept applications at various points throughout the year. Some of the most common key dates are indicated below:

University Application Deadlines



These are just some of the main deadlines for applications submitted through the common application portals. Universities in some countries have later deadlines; others have rolling admissions. Dates may vary for those submitted directly to institutions - **always check university websites to be sure!** Ensure that all components of the application are submitted well before the deadlines to increase chances of acceptance and scholarship consideration. For the US, **11:59 pm local time** on the date stated is the cut-off point and **6pm UK time** for applications to the UK.

As is the tradition at ABA, our students have an interest in pursuing their tertiary studies in a range of countries across the world. For our current graduating class of 72 students, applications are being sent to: the UK, USA, Canada, The Netherlands, France, Spain, Germany, Austria, Malaysia, The Philippines, India and Australia. We wish our hardworking and ambitious seniors the best at this crucial time.

Thanks to Grade 12 parents who have submitted additional information that can be included in students' letters of recommendation. If you haven't yet done so, there is still time. For the families of our students in the earlier years of High School, you will hear more from us next week about the guidance that is being provided for those grade levels (9-11). Look out for details about a Grade 11 Parent Information Evening scheduled for Wednesday 13th November at 5:30pm.

Denise Barker - University Counselor

Message from the Extra Curriculum Program

Elementary After School Activities

Season Two Elementary After School Activities (ASAs) will begin on Sunday 10th November and finish on Wednesday 30th January. Our elementary ASAs are held on Sunday, Monday and Wednesdays and run from 2:15-3:00pm.

Sign ups for these activities opened on Wednesday and will remain open until 6:00pm Sunday 27th October. If you have not signed up yet and are would like to, please refer to my email sent this week regarding the sign up procedure.

Below you will find the activities on offer and the descriptions of each activity can be found on our ABA website under Activities in the Student and Parent tabs ([here](#)).

Season Two

Grade	Sunday	Monday	Wednesday
2	Soccer Yoga and Mindfulness	Arabic Reading Construction Art Club	Ballsports Stitching Drawing techniques inspired by stories
3	Soccer Yoga and Mindfulness	Arabic Reading Construction Art Club DoInk Green Screen	Ballsports Stitching Drawing techniques inspired by stories
4	Yoga and Mindfulness Basketball Scrabble Maths Games	Art Club Homework Club DoInk Green Screen	Arabic Reading Indoor Cricket Tag Rugby
5	Yoga and Mindfulness Basketball Scrabble Maths Games	Homework Club DoInk Green Screen	Arabic Reading Indoor Cricket Tag Rugby

Raewyn Jack - Elementary After School Activity Coordinator

MESAC Travel and Hosting Meetings

On Sunday 3rd November we will be hosting a meeting for the parents of the children that are travelling to MESAC season one (Golf, Academic Games, Swimming and JV Volleyball). The meeting will be held from 5:30 - 6:00pm in the lecture hall (beside the HS cafeteria).

If you are hosting our visiting MESAC Varsity Volleyball students we will be conducting a meeting on the same night (Sunday 3rd November) at 6:00 - 6:30pm in the HS cafeteria. Host families are essential to a successful and memorable experience for our visiting students. Thank you for opening your doors.



Save the date: MESAC Achievement Awards Evening - 17th November

Season one is soon coming to an end. It is time to celebrate the success of the teams. I would like to invite the teams and parents to the Season One MESAC Achievements Awards evening held in the MPH from 6:00pm - 7:30pm on Sunday 17th November. Save the date more information to come.

Team Photos for Middle School Sport and MESAC Teams

Team photos are on Sunday and Monday during break times. Can you help remind your child to bring the appropriate clothing for their team photo.

Sunday 27th: Golf, Academic Games, Gr 7 boys and girls Volleyball, Swimming, Gr 8 boys volleyball, JV and Varsity girls Volleyball

Monday 28th: JV and Varsity boys Volleyball, Gr 8 girls Volleyball, Gr 6 boys and girls Volleyball.

All MS Volleyball teams will get their uniform on the day. Players are to wear the ABA PE shorts for the photo and have their sports shoes on.

MESAC teams will be in the following uniforms:

Golf: White Golf shirt

Academic Games and Swimming: Travel Polo and black pants

JV and Varsity Volleyball (Boys and Girls) - All teams in Athletic Gold tops, Libero in Blue

Whole School Spirit Day

Thursday 7th November is NOT a mufti day, it is a Spirit Day. Students are encouraged to wear their ABA navy blue, yellow (athletic gold) school uniform, MSSL Viper shirts or their MESAC polo. The Activities Council and Booster Club will be at every entrance of the school with face paint and stickers on 7th. Come and support the MESAC teams playing in the MESAC Volleyball tournament on 7th - 9th November. Go Vipers

Muscat Secondary Sports League (MSSL)

Another dominating volleyball performance by our varsity boys volleyball team this week winning the MSSL tournament convincingly. The varsity girls were runners up in their tournament while the U14 girls and boys were third.



Games for next week

27th October	U16 Girls MSSL Volleyball Tournament @ TAISM	3:40 - 6:40pm
27th October	U16 Boys MSSL Volleyball Tournament @ ABA	4:00 - 6:40pm
28th October	U13 Girls MSSL Volleyball Tournament @ ABA	3:15 - 6:00pm
28th October	U13 Boys MSSL Volleyball Tournament @ BSM	3:15 - 6:15pm
28th October	U14 Boys vs TSS @ TSS	4:00 - 5:00pm
28th October	U14 Girls vs TSS @ TSS	4:00 - 5:00pm
29th October	U12 Girls MSSL Volleyball Tournament @ AGS	3:30 - 6:15pm
30th October	U12 Boys MSSL Volleyball Tournament @ BSM	3:45 - 6:45pm

Paul Brace - Athletics Director



From a training camp in Tunisia to a Gulf tournament in Kuwait, Noor Abdulkareem Al Balushi, (Grade 9) student has been travelling and playing with the Oman National basketball team for the past few weeks.

As Noor’s coach, I’d like to congratulate her on being a fine ambassador, representing both ABA and Oman in a sport she loves. Congratulations, Noor!

Julia Hall, MESAC Coach



Message from the ECO Team

ECO SPOT

Middle School Garden

The Eco Warriors have met for the first time and are meeting again. They were tasked with getting a recycled box for composting in their class and to start collecting compost, and for asking their class about what actions the ABA community can take to be a more environmentally sustainable environment. The garden is getting ready for planting and students will be designing and painting the tables and tree pots in the next few weeks.



Message from the PTA



Building our community together!

We hope you had a great break and have returned well rested! Get ready for exciting events around the corner!

Spooktacular

Tickets for **Spooktacular Trick-or-Treat** and for the **Pumpkin Carving Contest** have begun! Trick-or-Treat tickets are 2 rials and pumpkins will be priced starting at 2 rials depending on size. This year and in keeping with environmental practices, please bring your own trick-or-treat bag.

Tickets sales will take place from:

7:00 - 7:30am each morning

2:00 - 2:30pm each afternoon

We are selling tickets for specific time slots:

5:00 - 5:30pm (reserved for families with children in KG1,2,3 & Grade 1)

5:30 - 6:00pm

6:00 - 6:30pm

6:30 - 7:00pm

Please note that time slots will be strictly enforced.

Save the Environment...
**Bring Your Own
Trick-or-treat
Bag!**



PLEASE NOTE: Trick-or-Treat has sold out each year, so please buy your tickets ahead of time to avoid disappointment on the evening.

Teal Pumpkin Project

This year the Spooktacular team is offering an option to children with food allergies so that they too can enjoy trick-or-treating! We will offer non-food treats at all stops for those children only. Be sure to purchase the special teal ticket at the ticket table. These tickets are the same price as Candy tickets.

Candy/Treat Bin is ready and waiting for your donations in the Admin building! With plans for 500 Trick-or-Treaters this year, we need your candy/non-food treat donations! Many thanks in advance for supporting this event!

Volunteer to be a Door!

We are still looking for a few more "Doors" for our trick-or-treat neighborhood! Please consider volunteering for this role, we guarantee you will have a lot of fun!

Questions? Please don't hesitate to ask via email trick-or-treat@abaoman.org.

Flea Market

Looking to declutter? Here's your chance to do away with some of your things! The first flea market of 2019-20 is coming up on the 22nd November.

Table reservations are open - remember to reserve yours! For queries please contact: Meeta at 97893131.

TRICK OR TREAT
TICKETS ARE ON SALE!

TRICK OR TREAT

- "DOORS" - A COUPLE SPOTS IN THE TRICK OR TREAT LANE ARE STILL AVAILABLE. DON'T DELAY GRAB ONE TODAY!
- CANDY - DONATE A BAG OF WRAPPED CANDY, 1 OR 2 OR MORE! NON-CANDY ITEMS ALSO WELCOME!

PUMPKIN CARVING & DECORATING CONTEST

- PUMPKINS CAN BE PURCHASED AT DROP OFF OR PICK UP
- DROP OFF IN ADMIN BY 9:00AM THURSDAY 1ST OF NOVEMBER

AT THE EVENT

- HAUNTED HOUSE & NOT SO SCARY HAUNTED HOUSE
- GHOULISH GAMES
- FOOD AND DRINK
- MUSIC

COUPONS AVAILABLE AT THE EVENT

Contact us at trick-or-treat@abaoman.org or drop by the Trick or Treat table

TRICK OR TREAT
Candy Donations

This year's event is going to be as exciting and fun-filled as last year's!

With all the creative "doors" to stop at our trick or treaters will ENJOY themselves!
BUT...

WE NEED CANDY!

Please drop a bag or 2 or 3 of wrapped candy into the green candy donation bin in Admin!

THANK YOU!

PUMPKIN CARVING & DECORATING COMPETITION
OCT 31ST

Start planning your design for this year's

JACK O LANTERN COMPETITION

Prizes for

- BEST CARVED
- BEST DECORATED
- MOST OUTSTANDING
- MOST SCARY

Pumpkins on sale October 31st

table registration now open

ABA FLEA MARKET

Book and pay at the Accounts Office

7 OMR - Table
3 OMR - Clothing Rail

Contact Meeta @ 97893131

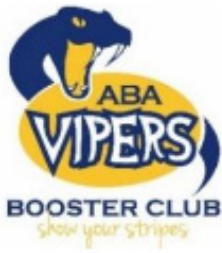
FRIDAY 22 NOVEMBER 3-5 PM

Have a wonderful weekend! For the families who are celebrating, wish you a "Happy Deepawali" in advance!

Your PTA

'Building Our Community Together'

Message from the Booster Club



Pop Up Shop - Monday, 28 October

The VIPERS Booster Club will be having their monthly Pop Up Shop on Monday, 28th October, 2019 in their usual spot outside the ECE. Come and

get your merchandise and spirit wear just in time for the upcoming MESAC weekend!

Hoodie orders will be taken from 7:00 am - 7:30 am on Monday as well. If you've already ordered your Hoodie, but haven't picked it up yet, Monday will be your chance.

VIPERS HOODIES
ORDERS - only taken at Booster Club MONTHLY Pop-Up Shops / Special Pop-Up Shops - **NO** email orders.
COST - QMR15,000 pre-payment ONLY
 • quality cotton navy blue hoodie with front pocket (NO ZIP)
 • light grey cotton hood insert
 • full colour embroidered VIPERS logo on front left chest (personalised custom name on back (see requirements))
DESIGN - by the students in coordination with Booster Club.
SUPPLIER - Booster Club work with a reputable supplier in Dubai. Orders coordinated by Booster Club volunteers. All hoodies are made to order!
ABA HOODIE POLICY - hoodie / clothing policy are implemented by the school administration. Booster Club provides hoodies to the ABA community as part of our continued support.

PERSONALISED VIPERS HOODIE

NAME options (only):
 1. First Name (PRAL)
 2. Surname (BRACE)
 3. Initial & Surname (P. BRACE)
 4. Name & Initial (PAUL B.)
 5. NO Name

SIZES
 Elementary (K-4th)
 K-5, K-6M, K-7, K-8L, K-9OOL
 Standard (Intermediate)
 S M L XL

ONLY available from VIPERS BOOSTER CLUB pre paid orders ONLY - get your NOW!

Booster Club Pop-Up Shop
 Get your official **VIPERS MERCHANDISE**
Monday 28 October 2019
 07.00-7.45am
 come see our friendly team outside the ECE Building
HOODIE ORDERS AVAILABLE!!



Spike Strike Score Event

What an amazing turnout for the Strike Spike Score event today! The kids (and teachers) had an absolute fantastic time trying out their volleyball skills. It was wonderful to see everybody so enthusiastic and supportive of MESAC Volleyball!

Upcoming MESAC Varsity Volleyball

We ask all kids and parents bring that amazing VIPERS Spirit to the MESAC Varsity Volleyball tournament which will be held on November 7-9 at ABA. Our Varsity Volleyball Boys and Girls will compete against international teams from Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Qatar, and New Delhi, and they would love to have their friends and family there cheering them on!



Wear your colors navy blue & athletic gold

SUPPORT OUR VIPERS Volleyball Teams!!

FREE MUFTI, FREE STICKERS, FREE FACE PAINTING



Come watch all the action LIVE all weekend. Grab a burger from the Booster Club BBQ and an array of official VIPER merchandise and be there to cheer on our VIPERS!

The Booster Club will once again be looking for your support in the way of volunteers and food donations for both weekends. Keep your eye out for our email next week!

Yours in community spirit - VIPERS Booster Club

BBQ

ALL WEEKEND
07-09 November
 (from 10.30am - 4.00pm)

YOU'VE BEEN SERVED!

BEEF BURGER = 1.500ea
 HOT DOG = 1.500ea
 *VEG BURGER = 1.500ea (limited stock)

All proceeds from sale of BBQ items go to VIPERS Booster Club - supporting our kids!

