

MARCH 5, 2020

AL NOOR - ABA NEWS



Dear ABA Community,

Amidst all the worry about COVID-19, we are still managing to have joy on the campus and classes are in full swing. Our Middle School Sports Day was full of fun for Grades 6 - 8 and there is serious business going on for our grade 12 students as they really hunker down for the final lap of their studies. I spoke with a Senior just coming out of a Spanish Oral Exam and there was such a relief. This was normal and good relief. The Grade 2 Assembly on Our Galaxy was superb!

As you know from my recent email notification, we have a new section on our [website](#) focused on COVID-19. Please refer to it with vigilance as it is updated frequently. In times of stress, we know it is a human trait to want to share lots of information. There is unfortunately an increase in the spread of misinformation, particularly through WhatsApp groups. Rather than speculation and nervous discussion which contribute to anxiety, please stay focused on the facts which can add to calm and deliberate decisions. The school is a haven for your children and we will protect their environment and their learning as best we can.

As decisions are made, I will update the community and be in constant contact with you. That is my commitment to you.

Dr. Susan R. Groesbeck
Head of School

UPCOMING EVENTS

8 March

CIS UniversityTour (12 Universities)

Student Lecture Hall
10:15 am - 11:15am
(cancelled)

8 to 12th March

Language World Cup

Football Pitch
First Break

9 March

PTA Community Meeting

PTA Room
7:40am - 8:40am

13 March

Prom

W Hotels
7:30pm - 12pm
(postponed)

MESAC SEASON 3

The Heads of School and Athletic Directors from the MESAC schools all met today by video conferencing and we agreed to the following statement. It is with sadness that the season-3 events are cancelled but we believe in preventive measures for the cause of wellness and good health benefits.



MIDDLE EAST SOUTH ASIA CONFERENCE (MESAC)

MESAC TOURNAMENTS: At this time, all MESAC schools have made the decision to cancel all season-3 MESAC events. MESAC Heads of School/Superintendents and Athletic Directors met via a conference call today to discuss the COVID-19 virus situation and its impact on season-3 MESAC events. The decision to cancel was based on the varying restrictions affecting our MESAC schools and the lack of authentic practice time that students would have to prepare for competitions. We also recognized that a last-minute decision to cancel would have a financial impact on parents, students and the schools that host the events.

MESAC schools in the UAE, including ACS Abu Dhabi, the American School of Dubai, and Dubai American Academy, have all received directives from authorities that all extra-curricular events including all games, practices, and travel are suspended. These schools will be transitioning to remote-learning. The American School of Doha has suspended all out of country travel. ABA Oman has suspended all off-campus activities and AES Delhi is beginning to restrict visitors to the campus.

We are saddened to make this announcement, however, the health and safety of our students, faculty, coaches, and parents will always take precedence.

Please contact your school's administration with any concerns or comments.

MESAC Heads of School/Superintendents and Athletic Directors

OUR SUPPLIES ARE HERE!

On Wednesday, our shipment of hand sanitizers arrived. We quickly delivered them to our 80 classrooms.

Please remember that hand sanitizer is just one of many steps you can take to keep healthy.

Please refer to our [website](#) for more tips.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU

We'd like to say a big thank you to Mr Dawood Al-Abood, father of Zainab in Grade 2, who generously purchased a collection of new Arabic books from the recent book fair to add to his son's Arabic class library.

The children are delighted.

GRADE 3 HOW THE WORLD WORKS MINI-X

As part of the Grade 3 unit of inquiry, we have been exploring the ways the Earth is constantly changing. The Mini-X was a time for students to informally share their research journals, information reports and 3D models.



GRADE 5 TRIP TO SIFAH



U11 BOYS BASKETBALL

With our Grade 5 students away on their Sifa Camp, we had a young team travel to TAISM to compete in the U11 Boys Basketball Tournament. Our Grade 4 boys did a fantastic job, working together as a team to dribble and pass the ball down the court to score a basketball. Our team made it through to the finals which were a close game. ABA narrowly missed first place by one basketball. Fantastic performance and a great experience for our students, some being first-timers to an MPSL event.



MUSCAT PRIMARY SPORTS LEAGUE (MPSL)

It is a busy time of the year for our elementary sports events. Last week saw our Grade 4 boys compete in the U11 Boys Basketball Tournament. This week we had 16 students competing in the MPSL Biathlon Meet.



U9 and U11 Biathlon

WOW! What a performance by all the ABA athletes. They certainly did themselves and ABA proud. U9 boys and girls swam 100m and ran 800m while the U11 boys and girls swam 150m and ran 1km.

Here are our results:

U9 Girls

- 1st - Bayanne Caunt
- 2nd - Antonella Garcia
- 3rd - Hind Al Humaidi
- 5th - Angie Froude



U11 Girls

- 1st - Anahira McCutcheon
- 2nd - Amber Ross
- 3rd - Luka van Schie
- 4th - Tessneme Al Huthaili



U9 Boys

- 1st - Rashid Al Bawani
- 2nd - Yousef Al Khonji
- 3rd - Kamen Zranchev
- 6th - Koga Ebihara



U11 Boys

- 2nd - Tane Brace
- 3rd - Louis Vallancey
- 5th - Ahmed Chibani
- 6th - Jose Ignacio Garcia

MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS DAY

On Monday, February 2, Middle School Sports Day was held on the ABA Grass pitch. Students across Middle School were divided into separate teams but competed as Advisories. The event was a smashing success with students having an enjoyable, entertaining time..

With Grade 10 students playing the role of Sports Day officials and activity leaders, the Middle School students experienced over 20 different activities in the two and a half hours they were on the grass pitch and tennis courts. The activities varied from tug-of-war, darts, shooting footballs, relays, and bowls with students changing location every five minutes.

In the end, it had to come to a close and winners for each year group were acknowledged with a trophy. For MYP 1, the winners were 6.1, for MYP 2, 7.2 and for MYP 3, 8.5.

A great big thanks to all the teachers who supervised different activity stations, the Grade 10 students who planned and coordinated the entire event as an MYP assessed task, and importantly the PHE team for facilitating this enjoyable experience for 250 middle school students.



DESIGN TEAM TRIP TO MAKERS OMAN

On Thursday 27th February, the Design Team and Mrs. Bowin were invited to tour the new Makerspace facility situated at Innovation Park Muscat.

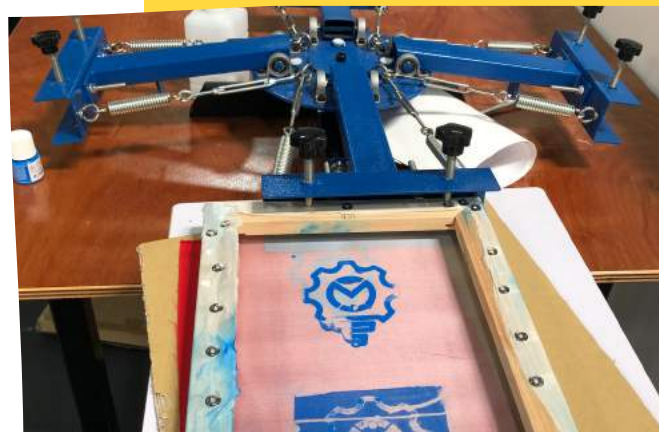
The aim of the Design Team's trip was to see if ABA students could benefit from using the facility and its high-end machines, ranging from prototyping equipment such as 3D printers, UV printers, laser cutters, and CNC embroiders to full workshop equipment including, but not limited to, CNC routers, CNC milling machines, center lathes, and MIG/TIG welding.

The Design Team's goal is to provide students with the best opportunity to become Global Learners through providing a range of real-life problems that push the students to inquire, diversify and research into areas that interest them. Gone are the days of making a product for themselves or a relative, as many of us did in our woodwork classes.

The school has invested in a laser cutter, 3D printers, and a CNC turning/milling machine. We have been able to use these to introduce students to the industrial practices and qualities that are required in the MYP and DP courses. However, the introduction and availability of the new Makers Oman facility and its vast array of equipment will only enhance the breadth of solutions our students will be able to explore.

The Design Team will now spend the rest of the academic year analyzing and structuring the units to make the most of this inspiring facility.

WWW.MAKERSOMAN.OM



Tuesday Talks & Travels 2019-20

CPR & FIRST AID COURSE

17th - 18th March 2020

7.30 am - 1 pm

PTA Room



POSTPONED

Cost: 65 omr - Payable @ ABA finance dept by
10 Mar 2020

Maximum 9 Persons - First come basis

Sign-up confirmed upon payment

Contact: PTAvice@abaoman.org



PTA DATES

Flea Market @ MPH
Rescheduled

Tue. Mar. 9th @ PTA room
Community meeting @ 7.40 -8.40 am

ICF- A World Without Borders
Postponed till further notice

Tue. Mar. 10th
TTT hike club @ 7.30 am - 1 pm

Thu. Mar. 17th & 18th @ PTA room
CPR & First Aid @ 7.30 am - 1.30 pm

OUR FIRST FUND REQUEST HAS BEEN FULFILLED!

You will recall that the Music department had placed a fund request for a 'POP UP OPEN MIC SET' and the same had been voted for by the community in the last meeting. Teachers and students interested in booking the equipment should contact Ms. Zita.

"A huge thanks to the PTA for buying the new sound equipment. I think our students and wider community will really benefit from this.

Greg from House of Music presented the equipment with an interactive working display to students."



Mr. Anthony Langrish
Secondary Music Teacher

TUESDAY TALKS & TRAVELS

THE HIKE TO RIYAM -MUTTRAH



Building our community together!



Thanks Francisca for the stick and thanks everyone for having a hand when someone needed it! Another great morning with the PTA ladies.

Going up and down the hills, crossing boulders, also flowing and still waters of wadi, and finally ending up at our exit point, the graveyard.

Hey Sylvia, your stick was magical, it gave me wings 🥰. Thanks 🥰.

Thanks Laila for repeating this track this time I made it!

Thank you for a lovely morning. Always something special to connect with others while being active and discovering Muscat outdoors.

Yeah thank you Laila for a great hike. I cannot move now 😊.

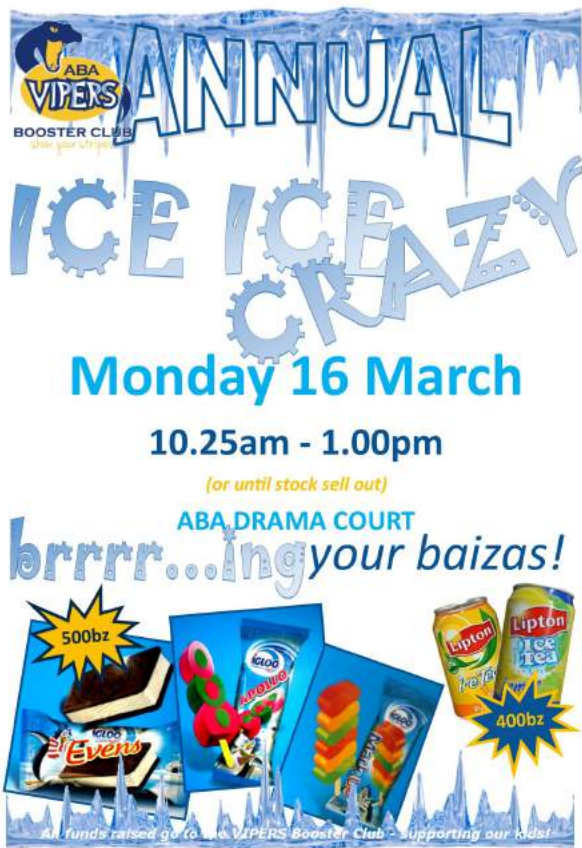
Thank you for such an enjoyable morning, as usual. What a great way to do exercise and enjoy the omani nature with lovely company. It makes me feel so good 😊

As Ayşe has nicely summed up the hike, "this hike is like life. We go up n down in life, through good times and tough times, and finally we come to the resting place, the grave".

Thank you Laila for yet another good hike .. awesome scenery and great company 🙌

Thanks Laila for a challenging hike with lovely company 🌸

OTHER ACTIVITY




ABA Vipers
BOOSTER CLUB

ANNUAL

ICE ICE CRAZY

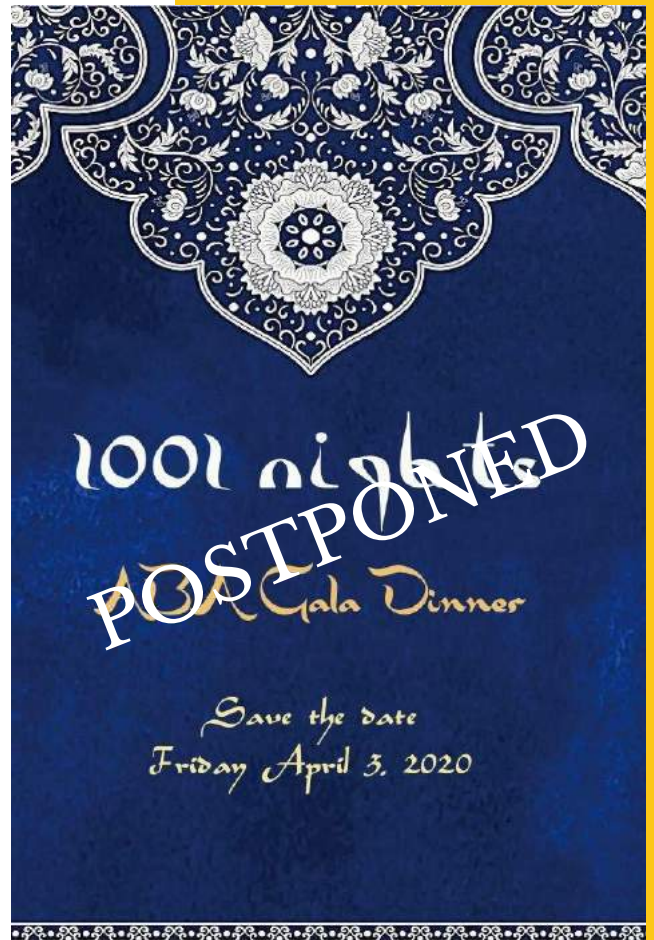
Monday 16 March
10.25am - 1.00pm
(or until stock sell out)
ABA DRAMA COURT

brrrr...ing your baizas!



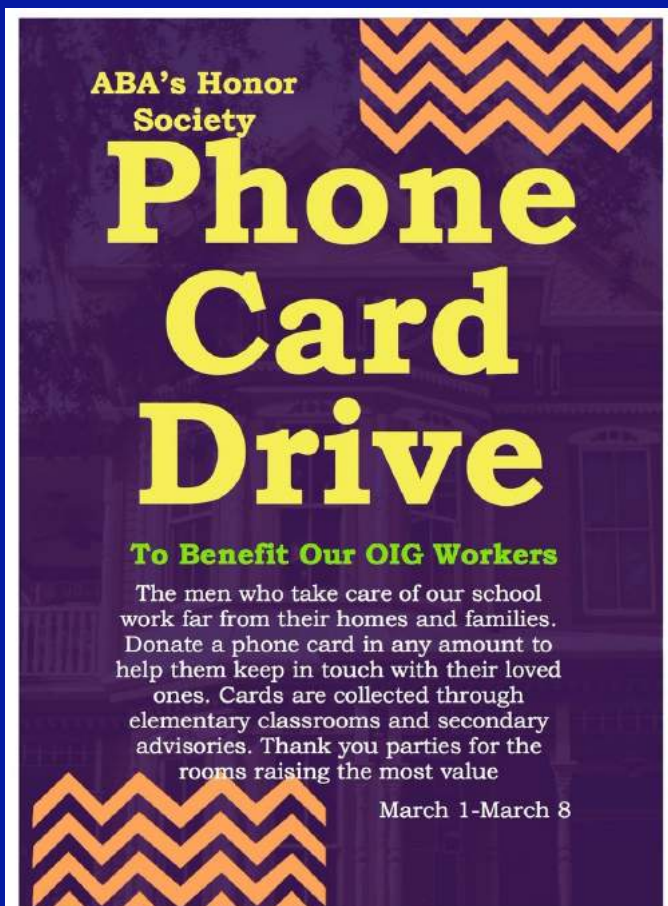
500bz
400bz

All funds raised go to the Vipers Booster Club - supporting our kids!



2001 Nighted
POSTPONED
Gala Dinner

Save the date
Friday April 3, 2020



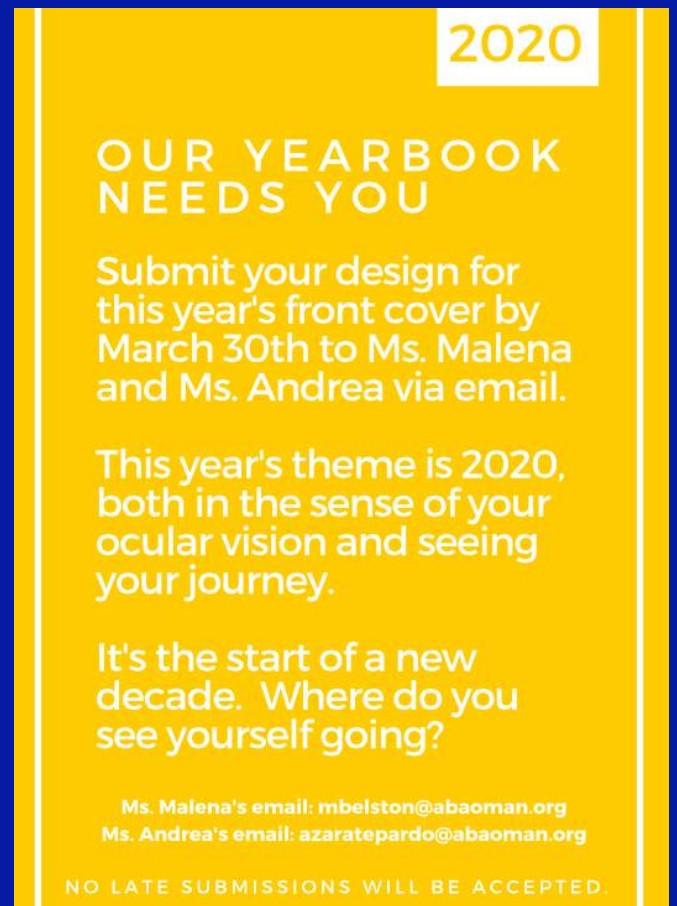
ABA's Honor Society

Phone Card Drive

To Benefit Our OIG Workers

The men who take care of our school work far from their homes and families. Donate a phone card in any amount to help them keep in touch with their loved ones. Cards are collected through elementary classrooms and secondary advisories. Thank you parties for the rooms raising the most value

March 1-March 8



2020

OUR YEARBOOK NEEDS YOU

Submit your design for this year's front cover by March 30th to Ms. Malena and Ms. Andrea via email.

This year's theme is 2020, both in the sense of your ocular vision and seeing your journey.

It's the start of a new decade. Where do you see yourself going?

Ms. Malena's email: mbelston@abaoman.org
Ms. Andrea's email: azaratepardo@abaoman.org

NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.