

MAY 14, 2020

AL NOOR – ABA NEWS



Please complete the International Schools survey regarding our COVID-19 response. Last day to submit is MAY 15th!

[Click Here](#)

Dear ABA Community,

An academic project this week led me to research an article by the IB Director General Siva Kumari. Following the announcement of the cancellation of the Diploma Programme May 2020 examinations, I wanted to fully understand how the schools would be supported in the grading of the student course work that was submitted by our DP students for the April 20th deadline. Keep in mind that over 500,000 pieces of work were submitted along with teacher comments and predicted grades. This dedication worldwide during the COVID-19 pandemic is indicative of the IB network of schools.

The method that is used by the IB to assess the coursework involves over 13,000 trained external examiners. The educational statistical specialists have checked the method against five year sets of data to provide reliable and valid grades for our students. For those who like these things, the results are both valid and reliable. I watched two videos links which gave "further details" for these unprecedented circumstances because I love statistics and I care about our DP students and their work. I listened to Paula Wilcock who is the Chief Assessment Officer and I am convinced with the methodology.

The International Baccalaureate intends to release the results as planned on July 5th, 2020 (students will receive results on July 6th). This herculean task, despite the COVID-19 constraints, demonstrates collaborations and support to our students in extraordinary times.

When all is said and done for our DP students, my research yielded the following quote:

"Equally importantly, we are grateful that the students have been well prepared by you for two years and the experience they have gained in the IB programmes will last them a lifetime."

Siva Kumari, IB Director General

Stay safe and well.

Best,

Dr. Susan R. Groesbeck
Head of School

May 18
Board Meeting (Online)
5pm

VIRTUAL LEARNING SPACES IN K1A



Our Virtual Learning Classrooms have found a way to make the learning more accessible to the students and are a great addition to the choice boards on Seesaw. These pages provide a space for students to revisit some of the read alouds, sing and dance to their favorite songs from class, practice new skills, and reflect on the progression of the UOI. Current plans include creating a Bitmoji for each student to make these spaces even more personal.

2L GUESS WHO GAME

In their last WebEx meeting, the children in 2L had loads of fun playing the Guess Who game with their friends and teacher. They could guess their friends' names even before seeing their faces. Loud screams and laughs filled the chat room!



TRANSITIONS & CHANGE

Please join the ABA Counselors for a Parent Information Webex.

Who: Parents K1-Grade 11

When: Wednesday 20th May 10:00-11:00AM

Format: All: Presentation Break out rooms: ECE/Elem, Middle and High School to continue the discussion.

Information Includes:

- TCK - Third Culture Kids
- Stages of Transition
- Leavers & Stayers
- Unsure if staying or leaving
- Preparation: Building your RAFT
- Questions

Please let us know if you will attend and share questions [here](#).

Please note

- Grade Level Transition Plans will be shared at a later date
- Grade 12 Transition materials will be shared separately.



NEWS FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

“Well-managed transition can add significant value to a life and a learning journey.”
(Hattie, 2016)

At ABA, we understand the profound effect mobility and transition have on our students and families, and we are supporting you, and your Middle School child, to negotiate the changes that occur at this time of the year. The end of this semester will be like no other and MS Advisors are creating a safe space where students can debate and listen to other opinions, as they navigate the significant changes that will occur in their academic and social settings here in Oman and beyond. Through group work and discussions, the importance of self-awareness in dealing with change was highlighted, and strategies to cope with being a Successful Stayer or Leaver were outlined.



Students leaving ABA will meet in small group settings in the coming weeks with Ms. Anthony to ensure they are prepared to say a ‘good’ bye, enabling them to say a confident ‘hello’.

MYP 1 and 2 students returning for the next academic year are encouraged to complete their shared google form by Sunday 17th May, identifying students they work well with in school.

Extra-Curricular Activities for Middle School Students

We are excited to announce extracurricular activities and clubs are available at various times each week for the remainder of the school year.

Students are welcome to join as many as they like and choices include The Tribe: Dance Challenge: Random Acts of Kindness: Learn Mandarin: Chef’s Club and Cell Phone Photography: and many more.

Students have received information on these productive activities.

Please contact a member of the Middle School team for additional details.

Ms. Bowin - kbowin@abaoman.org

Mr. Barker - mbarker@abaoman.org

Ms. Anthony - canthony@abaoman.org



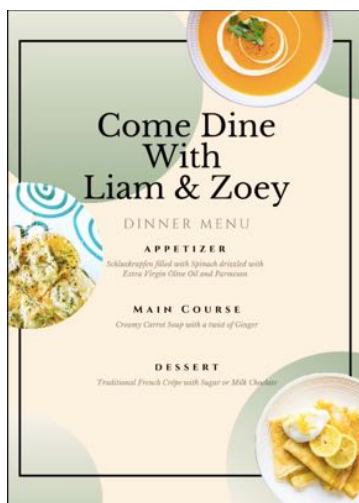
MIDDLE SCHOOL COME DINE WITH ME!

During this time of staying inside and learning online, the Design team thought it might be fun to apply skills learned in the [Design](#) course for some offline activities. Students in MYP 1 - 3 (Grades 6 - 8) were challenged to design and make food for their families. They went to work applying the [design cycle](#) to their inquiring, ideating, planning and making.

They began by utilizing critical [thinking skills](#) after learning about nutrition and dietary requirements and were then able to revise their understanding of what a healthy meal or dish includes. After completing this step, the students made use of [creative](#) thinking skills to come up with ideas for their final projects. By using a variety of different mind maps they generated ideas for meal themes, recipes and ways in which to present their final products.

MYP 1 (Grade 6) students created healthy snacks that everyone in their family could enjoy. MYP 2 (Grade 7) created a main dish for their family and MYP 3 (Grade 8) created at least two dishes as part of a family meal. Students met family dietary needs, created menus to go along with the food and some even used their creations to help make their families's Iftar dinners.

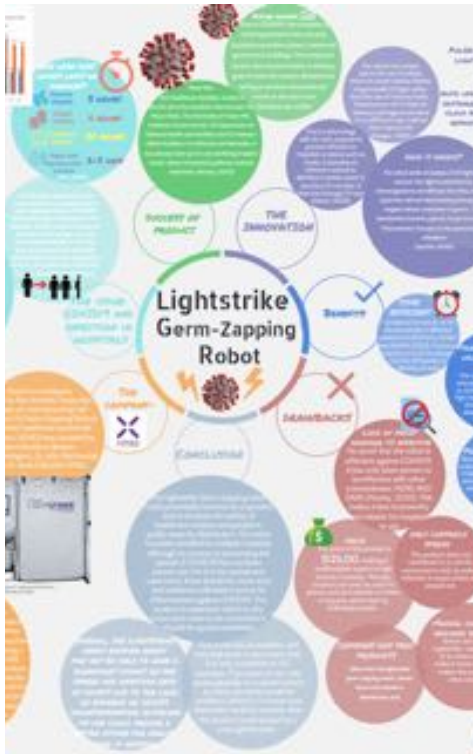
Many IB schools have kitchens as part of their Design labs. Food units at these schools are part of the curriculum. [MS Online Learning!](#) has provided ABA middle school students with the opportunity to extend their [design thinking](#) to areas that are unattainable at school with the added benefit of contributing to the well-being of their families.



GRADE 10 SCIENCE MIND MAPS

As a final project in Grade 10 Chemistry, students researched an innovation that has been developed to help society with the current Covid-19 pandemic. Students then made a Mind Map with their findings and evaluated the innovative product on its ability to have a significant impact on the situation. Students felt inspired by all of the science being put to good use right now. Ms Cole hopes these examples will also make you feel inspired!

Click on each picture to access each mind map.



Yara A



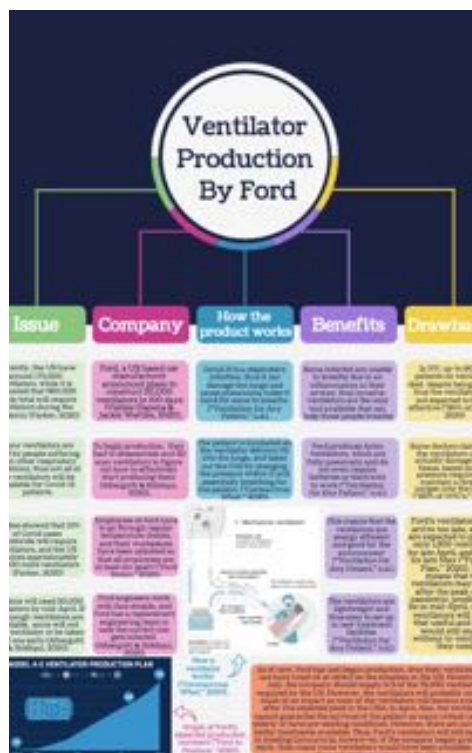
Jenin A



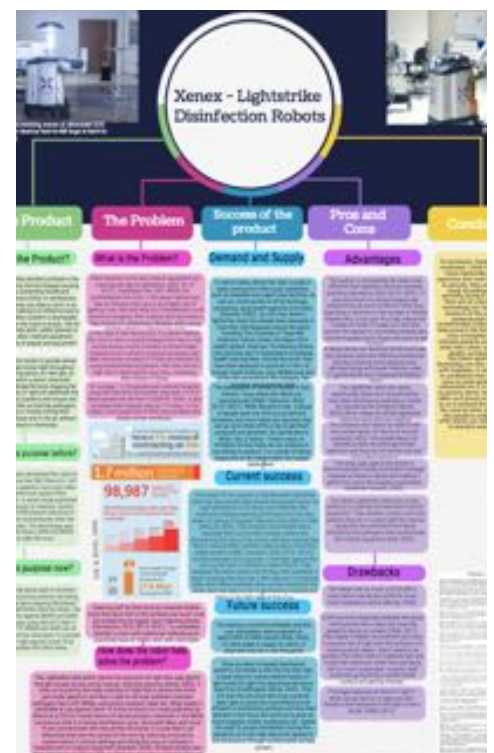
Irina K



Perrine L



Ksenia M



Ishita S

VIPERS SWIM TEAM

ABA Vipers swimming coaches believe that the lockdown offers an opportunity to put a premium on developing strength and conditioning despite not getting into a pool!

Having you all; Swimmers and Parents, believe in the ABA Vipers vision and mission means we are getting a lot of essential work done with or without equipment. With stretch cords, and weights V1 are working on developing strength endurance and power. All squads are working with body weight to improve posture and body position along with squats to further develop effective starts and turns..

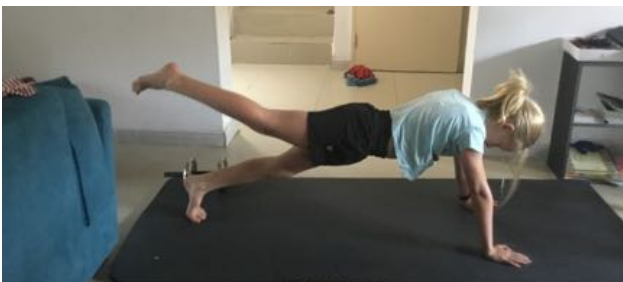
The pre-recorded videos and your daily online live interaction with us is highly appreciated. Our swimmers are improving dramatically, and that shows through their weekly challenge performances and logbook completion.

V1's Online daily workouts are so exhausting yet so much fun, they're full of interaction and motivation. Swimmers believe that seeing each other on the screen can be more interesting than staring at the tiles for 2 hours in the pool.

Working with a team like this is a great pleasure. We love your work, keep it up Vipers!!

Don't forget this week's challenge.. send us a Video or a photo of something that reminds you of ABA Vipers Swim Team.

Swimmer	Squad	45sec Sit-ups
Muna Al Mugheiry	V1	45
Mohamed Mourad	V1	45
Stuart Sutton	V1	42
Josu Vallancey	V1	40
Fynn Vallancey	V1	38
Oscar Vallancey	V1	38
Zoe Niaz	V1	37
Daniel Doyle	V1	37
Ali Zeinelabdin	V1	37
Yelena Van De Coewering	V1	31
Tane Brace	V2	40
Kya Brace	V2	37
Asser Mourad	V2	33
Louis Vallancey	V2	33
Cristian Zranchev	V2	27
Samuel Karshenas	V2	
Liam Robinson	V2	25
Amber Ross	V3	35
Kamen Zranchev	V3	27
Luka van Schie	V3	27
Jashvandhan Khireji	V3	25
Christiaan De Bruin	V3	25
Tia Sampat	V3	25
Abdullah Khurram	V3	25
Nye Khasawneh	V3	23
Yukta Matai	V3	23
Vincent Rabie	V3	14
Allison Andrade	V4	30
Jiya Matai	V4	19
Emelina Vansteenkiste	V4	13



Dear ABA Community,

From all of us to all of you, we send our thoughts and prayers and hope you are well and COVID19 free or better yet, immune.

Volunteer for PTA 2020-21!

There are several positions to select from - just get in touch with the member holding the position currently to know more about the role.

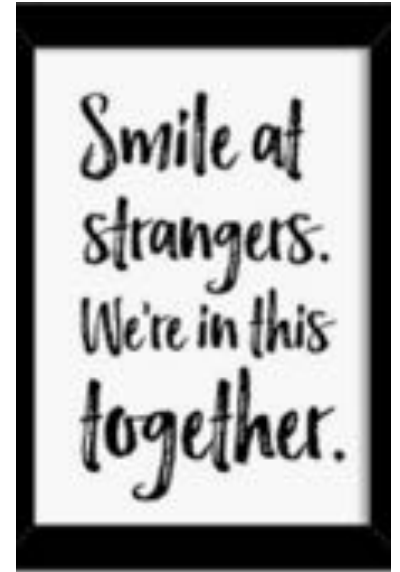
Chair	- PTACHair@abaoman.com
Vice Chair	- PTAVice@abaoman.org
Secretary	- PTASec@abaoman.org
Treasurer	- PTATreasurer@abaoman.org
Logistics	- PTALog@abaoman.org
Communications Liasion	- PTACom@abaoman.org
EC & Elementary Parent rep	- PTAErep@abaoman.org
Middle School Parent rep	- PTAMrep@abaoman.org
Secondary School Parent rep	- PTASrep@abaoman.org
New Parent rep	- PTANew@abaoman.org

Useful links:

- [How else can we help you?](#)
- [Online ordering/ Home delivery options](#)
- [Fun for Teachers, Parents and kids of all ages](#)

Stay home, stay safe!

Your PTA
'Building our Community Together.'



Ramadan Goodwill Drive

Donations cans still be made directly to Dar Al Atta using the listed payment options.

