

JUNE 18, 2020

AL NOOR – ABA NEWS



Dear ABA Community,

It has been a Wild Ride!

It seems like yesterday that we were welcoming the new 2019-2020 school year. Some of the events from 2019 included MESAC, Season I victories, The Addams Family Musical, a fun Spooktakular, an amazing National Day and then Winterfest. We turned the corner into 2020 mourning the passing of His Majesty, the late Sultan Qaboos, a fire in the grade 5 classroom, unusual rains, locusts during MESAC Season II, and then as if that wasn't enough, COVID-19 hit and our lives have been altered ever since.

We have admirably made it through to this last day of school together - with great teachers supported by ABA families, a volunteer Board who gives generously of their time. There have been sorrows and some joys. We celebrate our Seniors and send them on to their next chapters with our best wishes.

For our ABA families who are moving to new addresses in the wide world, we send you with our love and best wishes. Come back to visit. The IB curriculum and their ABA teachers have prepared the children for their new schools. We wish you well. We will miss you.

Craig Williamson is excited for his arrival at ABA in early August. He and his young family are packed and leaving Latvia. They will have a visit in Canada before coming to settle in Muscat.

Mark and I thank you for welcoming us to ABA and to this community. We will never forget this Oman hospitality we have experienced. ABA is a very special place. Go Vipers!

Best,

Dr. Susan R. Groesbeck
Head of School



[click here](#)

Welcome

PLEASE JOIN US IN WELCOMING THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF OUR FACULTY!



FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE



ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY REPORTS

click here to see full reports!

Happy Summer Reading!

We have been busy reading in MS! Hope you enjoy our creative responses in [this video](#).

Grades 5-9, don't forget to enter the [Language and Literature Summer Challenge](#).

Check out our [Secondary Library Stats!](#)
-Ms Park.

2019/2020

ABA Elementary School Library Report

Total Checkouts until March 15th

24,060



Top Circulating Series

Dog Man
Elephant and Piggie
Diary of a Wimpy Kid
Big Nate
Captain Underpants

Top Circulating Titles

Dog Man unleashed
Dog Man
Lord of the fleas
Dog Man and Cat Kid
Brawl of the Wild

Top Circulating Grades

Grade 2
Grade 4
Grade 3
Grade 5
Grade 1

Top Circulating Homerooms

4S
2L
2G
3O
4R



ABA Secondary School Library 2019-2020 Report

Total Checkouts This Year

6,886

Most Popular Book



Most Popular Series



Checkouts by Groups

Top Homerooms

6/1 SJe: 783 checkouts
7/4 BSc: 618 checkouts
8/2 KWe: 457 checkouts

Grade 6: Ernest - 254
Grade 7: Vojin - 165
Grade 8: Chang - 126

Top Patrons



MS DESIGN CHALLENGE

There are many ways to make an action happen. We can turn on a light by moving a switch, clapping our hands or just moving in front of a sensor. [Rube Goldberg](#) liked to make drawings of complicated, but fun ways to complete simple actions. People eventually began making Rube Goldberg like drawings into live machines. These Rube Goldberg machines move an object through a route and past several obstacles to eventually complete a task. People from all walks of life joined in the challenges. [Honda](#) created a Rube Goldberg machine to start it's new model car, and [students](#) from around the world have created the machines as part of their educational journey.

The final design challenge for MYP 1 - 3 (grades 6-8) this year was to create their own Rube Goldberg machines. They were encouraged to work with siblings who were also design students. They applied the [MYP Design Cycle](#) to the creation of their machines by beginning with research into the machines themselves and how they work, then coming up with possible materials to use, tasks to complete and paths for the machines to take. They built and tested the machines, and after many [failures](#), managed to get the working machines recorded and shared with the rest of the Design students. Mr. Rosslee, Mr. Downey and Ms. Schwarzkopf were very impressed with the creativity of the students during this challenge. They took risks, reflected on [failures](#) and thought critically on how to make changes that enabled the success of their machines. I was a fantastic way to end the year in MS Design!

Please go to the Flipgrid pages below with your child to see the fabulous machines the ABA students have created.

[Grade 7](#)




[Grade 6-8](#)

[Grade 8](#)



Design 1

This is design 1

1. The ball will roll down the drop system.
2. The ball will go down a ramp and hit the dominos.
3. The dominos go up blocks that act as stairs and hit a hockey ball.
4. The hockey ball will go down a ramp and hit the cover of the book.
5. The cover of the book will fall down and close the book and the air from the book will blow out the candle.




*this includes the hula hoop and there are more than one of each item



Design 2

This is design 2

1. The ball will go down the drop system.
2. The ball will fall down a ramp and hit the book cover.
3. The cover of the book will fall down and close the book and the air from the book will blow out the candle.



GRADE 6 & 7 WORK TOWARDS THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

“My job now is to try and help people understand every one of us makes a difference. And cumulatively, wise choices in how we act each day can begin to change the world.” Dr. Jane Goodall in an interview with The Washington Post

Grade 6

From April to June, our Grade 6 Individuals and Societies students investigated the beauty of our planet and the resources it provides. In the unit, we studied some of these resources, such as water, and how it is being impacted and threatened with pollution and depletion, becoming a ‘hotspot’. Important concepts such as adaptation and sustainability were highlighted

as we explored how communities have survived but are now under threat. The culmination of the unit was in a Service As Action project whereby students could choose an issue on a resource, such as our oceans, and connect to one of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), ‘Life Under Water’. They would plan an action, however small, that would help solve the problem and meet the goal in some way.



Students chose from a list of issues such as deforestation, gender inequality and lack of education and explained its connection to an SDG. Using their own interests and talents, they were to research the issue using three media sources and one other tool, such as an interview, a survey or detailed observations. This method has been adapted from a classroom tool used by Cathryn Berger Kaye, a renowned workshop leader and advocate of Service Learning whose aim is for students to investigate and take action using what they have learned in the curriculum. Once students finished the research they were then tasked with taking action in their chosen way. Actions taken by our Grade 6 students included a beach clean up, writing a powerful haiku, recommending a Meat-Free Monday, a video on renewable energy, detailed and arresting illustrations of climate change, planting trees, starting a compost heap at home and creating a website informing the audience of the problem and solutions and what organisations to contact.

We are very proud that students worked so independently at home with this project, consulting sources, acquiring skills and making connections with their local environment as well as with global challenges, and then sharing their plans and action.

Grade 6 students will begin the new academic year of 2020-21 in Grade 7 sharing their own action with the ABA community and beyond (where possible) to make connections with the curriculum. The lockdown has made implementation of their action challenging and they have yet to assess their impact. Some students have managed to act in their local communities and make change already by their beach clean-up. They have shared their experience briefly in assembly this week and will build on these ideas and actions to form a coherent action plan for each grade in the next academic year.

We look forward to using their ideas and resources to become a more sustainable community at ABA, in Oman and beyond.

Grade 7

Having completed their own Service As Action project last year in Grade 6, our Grade 7s wrapped up this year with an investigation into a Sustainable Development Goal of their choice possibly following up on their choice of SDG from last academic year. They were asked to explain what the SDG meant, why it is a critical issue in our world, to what extent they believe the goal has been achieved and examples of countries who are experiencing success and those who are experiencing a crisis.

Leena

My level: As an individual, I could donate to fundraisers that would help solve these issues to make sure the world have less conflict. To donate more money, I could find a way to raise more money. For example, I could have a garage sale where I sell things I don't need anymore or I could do a bake sale.

ABA's level: The school could have it's own fundraiser (once COVID-19 is over) where the students/teachers can have a bake sale or any other way to raise money. With all the money the school makes during the fundraiser, they can donate it, and can help goal 16 (peace, justice and strong institution) become more successful in achieving it.



The investigation finally requested that students consider what actions could be taken by them as individuals, by ABA in the future, by their local community and at national government level. They used a tool they have become more familiar with during lockdown, Flipgrid, to communicate their knowledge and critical thinking and to share with others in their class. This has been a significant opportunity to consider the world around them now and to plan for the

future using their thinking skills, both critical and creative.

Both Grade 6 and 7 have shown great resilience and resourcefulness in considering solutions to current local, national and worldwide issues. These attitudes and skills will provide an excellent basis for problem solving and innovation so necessary in these challenging times. We are very proud of their efforts and most importantly for bringing alive the curriculum to take action every day to make a difference.

MILLION REP CHALLENGE

For the past three weeks, students from Grade 6 to 9 have been working on their physical fitness with the goal of achieving a combined Secondary PHE total of 1,000,000 repetitions. Students had the choice of either using workouts planned for them by PHE teachers, or creating their own. After many workouts, the total was achieved at 12:15pm on Monday 15th June by Grade 8 student Yelena Van De Coevering.

The final rep count total was: 1,061,028.

Well done to all students who participated in the event.



ABA DANCE TROOPERS

We are pleased to end the year with some fun! First, we would like to share our [Bad Guy](#) dance video that the Dance Trooper Leaders choreographed. All members of the team have worked very hard to make this dance video possible. Secondly, thank you so much for everyone who participated in our ABA Dance Challenge, which was choreographed in order to raise the school spirit during the present circumstances. We hope you enjoy this [compilation](#) of all the entries we received from our ABA community.

From ABA Dance Troopers Leaders-
Aamuktha Samrajyam, Sarah Al Barwani and Jessica Beniston

GRADE 8 SCIENCE

In their final science unit this year, Grade 8 students have been learning about Ecosystems & Ecology. They have finished the year producing their own projects, where they researched and presented specific examples of their choice to show how just a change in one species can have a huge impact on the whole ecosystem. We hope you enjoy watching the videos Zoey, Yelena and Jumie have produced, it has taken them a huge amount of time and effort and their teachers are super proud of them.

click here



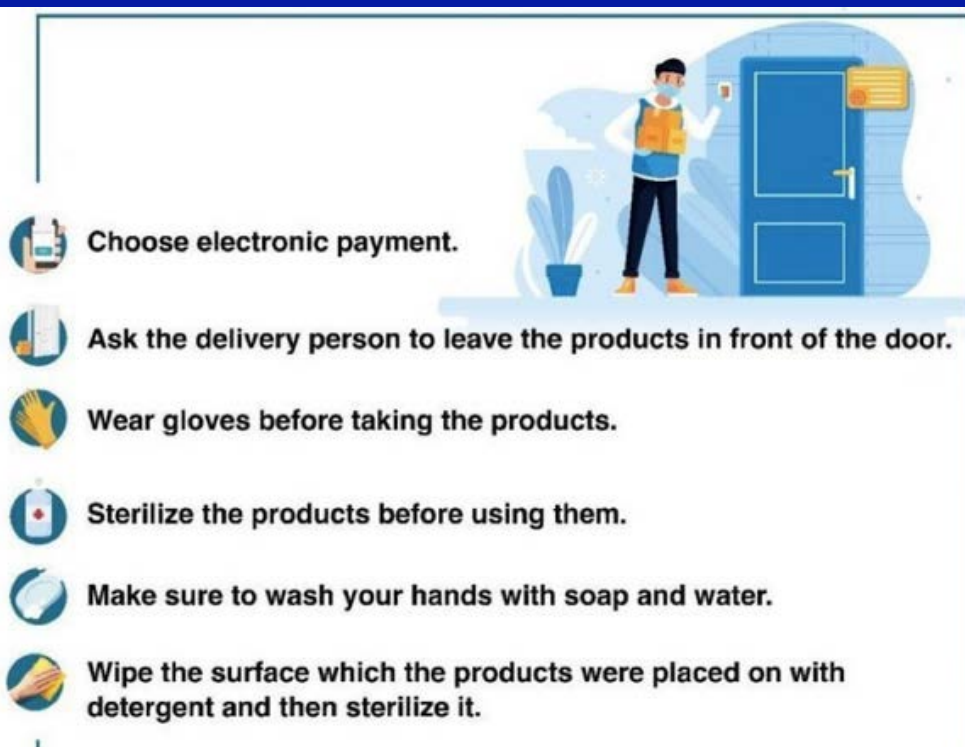
what if BEEES
went extinct?

SCIENCE PROJECT - TROPHIC CASCADE SUNFLOWER SEA STARS

PTA

[Online ordering/ Home delivery options](#) & [Fun for Teachers, Parents and kids of all ages](#)

Check the link for ordering options. We hope that this comes in handy. Do note that we have tried some but not all the items posted. Some delivery times may be a week away others deliver within 48 hours.



In case you do order online, the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MOCI)** and **Riyada** have asked customers to follow **preventive measures when receiving orders from delivery companies.**

Some delivery times may be a week away others deliver within 48 hours. Please drop us an email if you find a vendor that is not listed or if one of the vendors on this list is no longer operational.

YEARBOOK

Meet Gul Risvi in grade 11. She won this year's 'Design the Cover' contest. 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 and where do you see yourself going?

Well done Gul!



**HAVE A SAFE,
HEALTHY, FUN
SUMMER!**