

AL NOOR-ABA NEWS

18th October 2018

Message from the Superintendent

There are many reasons why I am proud of our school, some of which will be known to you and perhaps shared by you. For the most part, you will hear about the school through your own children. However, much goes on across the whole school which we try to highlight through the newsletter and our social media platforms.

With respect to students, there are many activities that involve students that are above and beyond our normal curriculum including: active student council initiatives; musical rehearsals; multiple sports activities every day of the week, themed assemblies, new developments in our curriculum eg. Niqash in the Middle School; celebratory events such as Peace Day and field trips eg. Grade 11 trip to Rusail Power Station.

Teachers continue to undertake professional development with weekly sessions on Tuesdays focused on curriculum development eg. Mathematics, spelling, reading development and language acquisition; attendance of IB courses and the annual conference; and leadership courses.

Members of the SLT have also offered opportunities for the community to engage with the school on topics of interest whether it is child protection, DP, MYP, PYP, e-assessments, our libraries, IT and more.

And then, of course, we have our terrific PTA and Booster Club - I have just returned from the successful 'Spike, Strike Score' fundraiser... There is a lot going on.

Every now and again, our students go beyond success at school and really make a name for themselves in the wider world. Siddhant Gavankar (Grade 10) has been called up for the first stage of trials for the Oman under 19 national cricket team this week while Ayman Al Busaidi (Grade 7), has been selected to represent Oman in the Under 15 National Golf team at the Pan Arab Golf Championships to be held in Casablanca, Morocco from 12th to 17th November 2018. Still further, Lara Al Yafei (Grade 11) became the first ever girl swimmer to represent Oman, participating in two swimming events at the Youth Olympic Games held in Buenos Aires last week. These are fantastic achievements about which we can all be proud.

However, it is not only in sports where our students are having an impact. Raising money for a good cause is also very much something worth noting so I also want to bring to your attention a crowd-funding initiative by Santrupth G.R. Vedanthi (Grade 12) who is supporting the Oman Cancer Association. Please keep your eyes open for this.

All in all, the start of our 18.19 school year at ABA is a vibrant one that truly reflects the dynamic spirit in the school.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Upcoming Dates

22-29 Oct	MESAC Tournaments
23 Oct	PTA Tuesday Talk & Travel PTA Room 7.40 - 9.00 am Board Meeting Elementary Library 5.00 pm
25 Oct	Spirit Day - Whole School Free Mufti Wear Blue & Yellow

*Simon Taylor
Superintendent*

Message from the Middle School

Middle School Coffee Morning

We will host Middle School Coffee Mornings on the first Wednesday of each month, beginning Wednesday 7th November 2018 in the PAC, 7:30 - 8:30.

We will follow the High School Coffee Morning procedure where parents submit their questions beforehand. Please submit your questions [here](#) or use this link: <http://bit.ly/MSCMQuestions>
Please submit all questions by Monday 5th November.

Mathematics Problem of the Week - 18th October 2018

Thank you to everyone that submitted an answer to last week's problem 67% of our responses were from parents and 33 % from students. All submitted answers were correct! We hope to receive more responses to this week's problem. You can submit your answer [here](#).

Use the digits 1-9 once each to make three 3-digit numbers that sum to 999.

Last week's problem was:

A, B, C, D and E are all non-zero distinct single digit whole numbers.
What are the values of A, B, C, D and E?

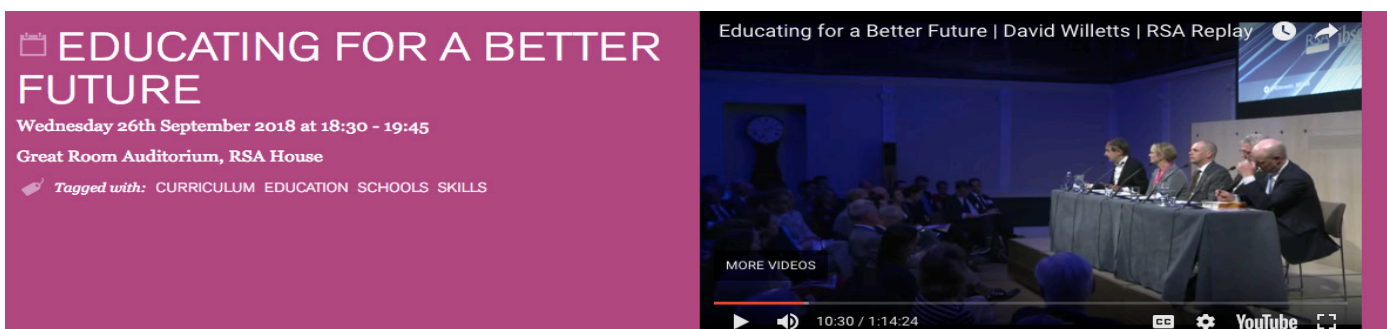
$$\begin{array}{r} A B C D E \\ \times \quad 4 \\ \hline E D C B A \end{array}$$

Answer:

$A = 2 \quad B = 1 \quad C = 9 \quad D = 7 \quad E = 8$

Kathleen Bowin
Middle School Principal

Message from the High School



The image shows a YouTube video player interface. On the left, there is a purple sidebar with white text: 'EDUCATING FOR A BETTER FUTURE', 'Wednesday 26th September 2018 at 18:30 - 19:45', 'Great Room Auditorium, RSA House', and 'Tagged with: CURRICULUM EDUCATION SCHOOLS SKILLS'. The main video area shows a panel discussion with five people seated at a long table on a stage. The video title is 'Educating for a Better Future | David Willetts | RSA Replay'. The video progress bar shows 10:30 / 1:14:24. The YouTube logo and other interface elements are visible at the bottom.

As part of the International Baccalaureate's 50th anniversary celebrations a number of different events have been organised. One of these was a panel discussion organised by the RSA about an IB education and 'Educating for a better future'. You can access a video recording or the podcast via the links below.

<https://www.thersa.org/events/2018/09/educating-for-a-better-future>

https://soundcloud.com/the_rsa/educating-for-a-better-future

Theory of Knowledge (ToK) 'magic' with Mr Ashok

When reflecting on what makes ABA a unique learning community, it is with an ease that I can find examples which prove that very statement. How many international schools have a 'magician' as a staff member?

My belief that ABA is unique because of the diversity among students, parents and staff was reinforced once again recently.



Mr Ashok, who works in our bookstore has, yet again, shown 'magic' to students at ABA. Our Grade 11 students were introduced to the ideas of knowledge and ways of knowing in the Theory of Knowledge course. In a session on a recent Sunday, Mr Ashok demonstrated that our sensory perception (vision) is truly limited in many ways and that someone with skill could easily make us believe in 'magic powder' from Mr Ashok's pocket. Later, our students reflected on their experience of 'magic' further and discussed limitations we might have when gaining new knowledge and what implications this fact may have for studies in different disciplines. This is, in essence, what ToK is about, critically looking at the knowledge we acquire. In this course we inquire into the process of knowing, rather than learning a specific body of knowledge. Mr Ashok has helped the students to test the limits of sensory perception as a way of

knowing. Later in this course we are going to explore how other ways of knowing work, and how they work together, both in the context of different subjects and in relation to the individual knower.

An example like this and many others make for so much joy being a part of ABA and working with people from such diverse backgrounds. Needless to say, the session will probably be a highlight of the year for ToK students. If you could help enriching our ToK programme by speaking to students about how knowledge is gained or applied in your field of work, please don't hesitate to contact me. My email is:

rshaymardanov@abaoman.org



*Ruslan Shaymardanov
ToK coordinator*

Thought provoking discussions around the dinner table

This [article](#) is thought provoking and might lead to interesting conversations around the dinner table.

<http://time.com/5210848/prestigious-college-doesnt-matter/>

Grade 9 and 10 Coffee Morning

Our next coffee morning will be for Grade 9 and 10 parents, 7:30- 8:30 on Tuesday October 30th in the Middle School Common Room (formerly the Grade 6 Common Room).

Please submit questions via the link below:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeQ3Zgc080tO9mIQUlkgIomAmN8x-pR9BZ-LTNWe1ixMug8cw/view-form?usp=sf_link

*Simon Walker
High School Principal*

Micro-Lending

Thank you for the continued support of our micro-lending program - LOMA (Lenders of Monetary Assistance). ABA's contributions over the past several years have resulted in lending to over 400 borrowers in 64 countries. During the recent high school teacher night, parents helped select borrowers in need of essential capital. Thanks again for making this program successful. [ABA Portfolio Link](#)

The LOMA Team

Message from the Extra Curricular Program

Whole School Spirit Day

Thursday October 25th is NOT A MUFTI, it is a SPIRIT DAY. Students are encouraged to wear their ABA navy blue, yellow (athletic gold) school uniform or their MESAC polo. The Activities Council and Booster Club will be at every entrance of the school with face paint, stickers and tattoos for sale (200 bazia each or 3 for 500) Come and support the MESAC teams. Go Vipers!

MESAC

Final preparations are being put in place for all the MESAC teams. There is less than one week to go before our swim, golf, varsity volleyball and academic games teams depart for their tournaments in New Delhi and the UAE. On Wednesday 24th October, ABA will welcome the MESAC JV Volleyball teams.

We wish all our teams a fulfilling and successful tournament as we know they have spent many hours preparing before and after school. The MESAC experience is challenging and rewarding and will provide our students with a unique opportunity to make lasting friendships that are cherished and nurtured. We are sure our teams will represent our school with pride.

Live streaming - there will be no live stream for Golf

Swimming live stream: <https://daalive.wordpress.com/>

Academic Games live stream: <https://www.youtube.com/user/ASDubaiFalcons/>

Varsity Volleyball: <https://www.youtube.com/user/AESDelhiVideos>

JV Volleyball Tournament web site: <https://sites.google.com/abaoman.org/mesac/home>

Dates for your diary

21st October: MESAC Travel meeting (Golf, Swimming, Academic Games and Varsity Volleyball) in the Lecture Hall, 5:30 - 6:00pm

21st October: MESAC Hosting for JV Volleyball meeting in the HS Cafe, 6:00 - 6:30pm. Host families are essential to a successful and memorable experience for our visiting students. Thank you for opening your doors.

30th October: Season one MESAC Achievement Awards in the MPH, 6:00 - 7:30pm

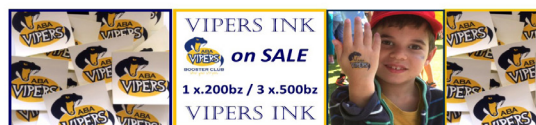


Wear your colors
navy blue & athletic gold



SUPPORT OUR VIPERS JV Volleyball Teams!!

FREE MUFTI, FREE STICKERS, FREE FACE PAINTING



MESAC Achievement Awards Evening - 30th October

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 to be held in the MPH from 6:00pm - 7:30pm on Tuesday 30th October.

The awards night is for the following teams only:

MESAC Swimming
MESAC JV Volleyball
MESAC Volleyball
MESAC Golf
MESAC Academic Games

Tickets for the event will be on sale over the MESAC JV Volleyball weekend at the booster club concession stand and at the Admin building on the following dates; 22nd - 23rd inside the Admin Building and on 28th - 29th in the morning outside of the Admin Building. Tickets will be 3 OMR.

Tickets will not be sold at the evening so you need to purchase a ticket prior to the event to be part of the evening. Everybody needs a ticket to enter the MPH. The ticket price will cover a sit down buffet dinner from Mani's cafe.

Dress: All students are to wear their VIPERS TRAVEL POLO with long pants.

Muscat Secondary Sports League (MSSL)

Another dominating volleyball performance by our JV teams this week. Both teams were undefeated for the season and they followed this up by winning the MSSL tournament on Monday night convincingly. The closest any school got to our teams was within 7 points.



MESAC Achievement Awards
Tuesday 30 October @ 6.00pm
SEASON 1
OPEN TO PARTICIPANTS, PARENTS, & PEERS

come celebrate the dedication & achievements of the MESAC teams in the ABA Multi Purpose Hall (MPH)
... enjoy a delicious buffet catered by MANI'S CAFÉ

show your ticket on the night for a chance to win a lucky door prize sponsored by the VIPERS Booster Club

This event is proudly supported by the VIPERS Booster Club. Ticket price covers food & drinks only.
Thanks for your continued support!

Tickets can be purchased from ABA Admin ALL DAY 22-23, JV Volleyball 25-27 & 28-29 October from Booster Club!

NO ticket sales on the night!

BUY TICKETS

Games/events for next week are listed below.

22nd October	U14 Boys MSSL Volleyball Tournament @ BSM	3:20 - 6:15pm
22nd October	U14 Girls MSSL Volleyball Tournament @ TAISM	4:00 - 6:30pm
22nd October	U12 Boys Vs TSS @ TSS	2:45 - 4:00pm
22nd October	U12 Girls Vs TSS @ TSS	2:45 - 4:00pm
25th - 28th October	MESAC JV Volleyball	All Day

Season two for Middle School and High School

Season two begins the week of November 4th for MESAC and Middle School teams. Messages via the daily bulletin and email have been sent to the students outlining the first day practice schedule.

The practice schedule can be found on the ABA website - see link below:

<http://abaoman.org/wp-site/secathleticprogram/3190/>

We are needing to hire fields for the soccer season. A bus will transport some of the teams to and from ABA to the MQ and Bousher field. Players will need written parental permission given to the coach if they walk home from training at these fields. Parents picking up their child at the fields will need to be at the field before the end of training. If a parent is not present at the field for the end of training, the students will be bused back to ABA. Parental permission is also needed if a student is picked up from the field by another parent.

Soccer players need to ensure they have shin pads, soccer boots, long socks and a water bottle for every training and game. The ABA school socks will be sold from the Booster Club for 3 OMR per pair. Grades 6 - 8 players will need a Blue pair only, MESAC teams will need a Blue and Athletic Gold pair.

Season Two

Middle School	High School	
Gr 6 Boys and Girls Soccer Gr 7 Boys and Girls Soccer Gr 8 Boys and Girls Soccer Gr 6-8 Cross Country	Boys and Girls Soccer JV Boys and Girls Basketball Boys and Girls Tennis Cross Country	Senior Fine Arts

Players are to sign up directly with their coaches on the first day of training. We have tried our best to schedule MS sports on Monday and Thursday however some teams eg. XC, need to train on Monday and Wednesday.

First day practice and try outs - MESAC Sunday 4th November

Team	Time	Location	Coach
JV Girls Soccer	3:00pm - 5:00pm	ABA Field	Raymond Bailer
Varsity Boys Soccer	2:30pm - 4:30pm	MQ Field (A bus will transport the students to and from ABA)	Mr James
MESAC Cross Country	2:30pm - 3:30pm	Meet outside the main gym	Adrian O'Byrne and Kristin Westby
MESAC Tennis	2:30pm- 4:00pm	Tennis Courts	Pro Tennis and David Mulholland
JV Boys Basketball	3:00pm -5:00pm	Gym	Tamer Melek
MESAC Girls Basketball (Jv and Varsity)	3:00pm - 5:00pm	MPH	Julia Hall

MESAC Monday 5th November

Team	Time	Location	Coach
Varsity Boys Basketball	2:30pm - 4:30pm	Main Gym	Nicole Morgan and Mark Sueyoshi
JV Boys Soccer	3:30pm - 5:00pm	ABA Field	Gareth Owen
Varsity Girls Soccer	3:30pm - 5:00pm	MQ Field (A bus will transport the students to and from ABA)	Megel Barker

Middle School Monday 5th November

Team	Time	Location	Coach
Cross Country	2:30pm - 3:30pm	Meet outside the main gym	Kamilia Al Marhubi
Gr 6 Boys soccer	2:30pm - 3:30pm	ABA Field	Tom Chambers
Gr 6 Girls soccer	2:30pm - 3:30pm	ABA Field	Cesar Roldan
Gr 7 Boys soccer	2:30pm - 4:00pm	MQ Field (A bus will transport the students to and from ABA)	Mario Giraldo
Gr 7 Girls soccer	2:30pm - 4:00pm	MQ Field (A bus will transport the students to and from ABA)	Glenda Semple
Gr 8 Boys soccer	2:30pm - 4:00pm	Bousher Field (A bus will transport the students to and from ABA)	Neil Cook
Gr 8 Girls soccer	2:30pm - 4:00pm	Bousher Field (A bus will transport the students to and from ABA)	David Wood

*Paul Brace
Athletics Director*

Sibling Photography



Introducing
ABA'S NEW SIBLING PHOTOS

New for
2018/19

SIGN UP NOW!

<https://goo.gl/j4QXyw>

, 30TH OCT - 1ST NOV - AFTER-SCHOOL - PAC

Introducing ABA's New Sibling Photo Opportunity

This year we are offering parents the opportunity to have their siblings photographed as part of their school photos. These photos will be taken after school in the PAC, between 2:30 - 4:00 pm from:

Tuesday 30th October to Thursday 1st November.

If you would like your children to have their photograph taken, please click on the link [here](https://goo.gl/j4QXyw) and fill out the short Google form.

*Peter Wadsworth
Director of Technology*

Message from the PTA

PTA Website

Check out all the new information available on the PTA website.
 Visit <http://abaoman.org/wp-site/pta/>



Building our community together!

Tuesday Talks & Travel


Sign-up form online for Sidab Women's Group Breakfast. Payment of 5 OMR at ABA Finance. Please upload a picture of your receipt with your sign-up form. Deadline is October 27, 2018.

Click [here](#) to sign-up:


<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1y22TY7kRPD3AoyXHsWh0wDuTKZaPMvK8qhUBoOCcBTs/edit?ts=5bbaf097>

22 Oct	CPR course - Part 1
23 Oct	CPR course - Part 2
	Spooktacular Ticket Sales
27 Oct	TTT Payment Deadline-Sidab Women
1 Nov	Spooktacular
2 Nov	Flea Market
5 Nov	PTA Open Meeting
11-15 Nov	National Day Pop-up Shop
18 Nov	Oman National Day Celebration
27 Nov	TTT-Sidab Women's Breakfast

TUESDAY TALKS & TRAVELS 2018-2019



OCTOBER 22-23 2018
 TIME: 7:30-12:30
 VENUE: PTA Room



Priority sign up at PTA Open Meetings

Places confirmed after payment.
 Payments made in ABA finance office.

Up Next!	Date & Time	Notes
Breakfast at Sidab Women's House	Nov 27 2018 9am-11am	Max of 20 people
Bandar Khairan Boat Trip	Dec 11 7.30-1pm	Max of 25 people
CPR & First Aid Course	Jan 8-9 2019 7.30-12.30	Must have 10 people
Wadi Hike & Picnic	Jan 29 7.30-1pm	Wadi TBD.
CPR & First Aid Course	Feb 19-29 7.30-12.30	PTA Room
Exploration of Muttrah Souq & Visit to Majlis Al Shura	Mar 26 TBD	Matrah
Days for Girls Charity Workshop	Apr 30 7.30-10am	PTA Room
Jumpstart to Summer (Zumba/Yoga)	May 28 7.30-10am	@ABA

1 BEAT HEART ABA

WINTER MUSIC FEST

CALLING ALL MUSICIANS!

DO YOU PLAY AN INSTRUMENT? DO YOU SING? WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

SEND YOUR AUDITION VIDEOS OR SOUND BITES TO HEND VIA WHATSAPP 96896990748

Deadline: Monday Nov 12th
 Event Date: Dec 6th 6-8pm
 ABA Pitch

table registration now open

MARKET and Bake Sale

Book and pay for your table at the Accounts Office

For further details, contact Evelyn @ 95231828

FRIDAY 2 NOVEMBER 3-5PM

Dear ABA Community,

Our Spooktacular Trick-or-Treat preparations are well underway! Thank you very much to those community members who have volunteered to host a "door"we currently have 12 confirmed with themes along the lines of Jungle/Safari, Narnia, Hansel Gretel, Halloween, the Riddler, Nautical, etc. Please note that "door" themes can be very simple! Choose a costume for yourself, decorate a table with some pumpkins or other Halloween themed items and hand out candy! Our goal is to have at least 20 doors or more in order for the kids to really enjoy the Trick-or-Treat experience, so we need a few more volunteers! Please email trick-or-treat@abaoman.org if you would like to volunteer or get more info!



Can't host a door? No problem, please consider supporting our event by donating some treats. With about 600 trick-or-treaters expected, we need a lot of goodies to give out at each door. Great things to send in are wrapped candies such as lollipops, hard candies, Toffees, chewy candies, chocolates, packages of cookies, packages of crisps, etc. Please remember, we cannot give out items that are not wrapped or that have past expiry dates.

Back by popular demand is our Pumpkin Carving/Decoration contest! We will begin selling pumpkins the same day that tickets go on sale – Tuesday, October 23rd. Each year we are amazed by the transformed pumpkins that get delivered the morning of November 1st and look forward to seeing what this year brings! Start planning your design now!

Your PTA
'Building Our Community Together'

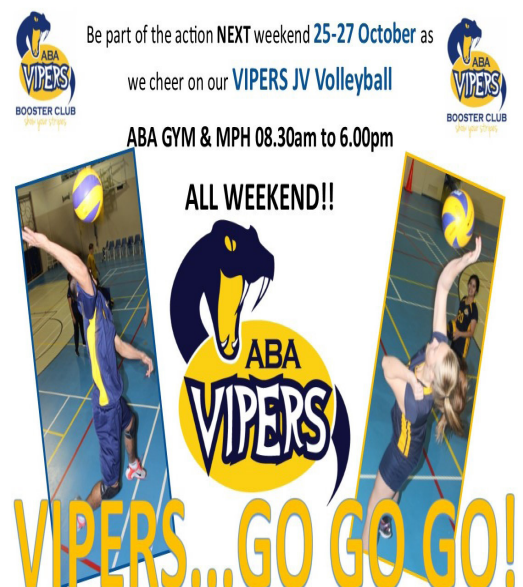
Message from the Booster Club



GOOOOOOO VIPERS!

We are thrilled to welcome all our international participants, coaches, and supporters from Abu Dhabi, Dubai, New Delhi and Doha to ABA next weekend 25 - 27 Oct for the MESAC JV Volleyball tournament. We look forward to showcasing our ABA hospitality & VIPERS pride over a weekend of exciting competition. Come watch all the action LIVE Thurs, Fri and Sat as we cheer on our VIPERS. Enjoy a scrumptious homemade burger or hot dog from the Booster Club BBQ, grab some official VIPERS merchandise, and join in the fun!

If you can help make this MESAC Season the best one yet, please fill in the 'food donation' or 'volunteer' (or both) spreadsheet sent to you via email this afternoon. ALL DONATIONS of food or time WELCOME!



MESAC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Season 1

Tuesday 30 October – an exciting way to celebrate our athletes & artists ... 'grab a seat...we're all on the same team!'... tickets on sale from 22-29 Oct (see flyer attached). These awards are an Athletics Department initiative, supported by the VIPERS Booster Club.

SPIRIT DAY – Thursday 25 October...come dressed in your VIPERS colours... free stickers, free face painting, and tattoos for sale from 07.00am...and best of all Booster Club BBQ / Concession stand is available ALL DAY! So bring your baizas!!!!!!

Sports Gear Sale Update

Donations welcome from Sunday 04 November. Collection bins will be available outside the sports hall from this date.

If you would like to know more about the Booster Club, simply email us boosteclub@abaoman.org. Booster Club is a great way to 'support our kids' while making new friends and having fun.



ABA VIPERS BOOSTER CLUB
SHOW YOUR STRIPES

ALL WEEKEND
25-27 October
(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!



WANTED
sports gear

ABA VIPERS BOOSTER CLUB
SHOW YOUR STRIPES

DO YOU HAVE SPORTS GEAR YOU HAVE
OUTGROWN, NO LONGER USE, OR
NO LONGER NEED??

Booster Club will be collecting 'gently used' sports gear for
our inaugural 'Sports Gear Sale' on 29 November.

*Collection boxes will be available outside ABA Gym from 04-25 November

WANTED in all sizes ... football boots, shin pads, knee pads,
running spikes, tennis racquets, badminton racquets,
swim fins, swim paddles, basketball shoes, travel polo!!

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

Yours in community spirit
VIPERS Booster Club