Dear ABA Community,

As shared in the Board communication dated December 16, 2021, we are embarking on an inclusive and authentic project to review and revise our Mission, Vision and Values (MVV) and formulate a new long term strategic plan.

The first step will be a series of focus groups with students, teachers, staff, parents and alumni. Next week a Google form will be emailed to ABA stakeholders requesting interested community members to sign up to be a part of the process which we are targeting to begin the week of January 30th. More information as to what is entailed will be included with the Google form.
ABA THIS WEEK

Thank you to everyone who has applied for their family ID cards. The distribution process has started for students in Grades 5 to 12; please remind your child/ren to give them to you. If you haven't applied for a family ID card, you may still do so by completing the google form sent to your email on December 23rd.

As mentioned in last week's communication, we are currently studying the feasibility of offering a bus service to the ABA community. Please complete this form if you are interested in your child/ren using a bus service provided by the school.

Moving forward, students and their parents will only be able to purchase/top up the prepaid cards on Mondays in the Admin building from 7 to 9 am. Students can also purchase top/up their cards on Mondays in the cafeteria from 9 am to 3 pm (excluding break times).

From next week, the vendor will no longer accept cash as payment for food items/beverages. The minimum amount to purchase a prepaid card is 10.500 (inclusive of vat). Minimum top up is five rials, however, please top up according to your needs whilst remembering that you can only top up on a Monday.
On Tuesday we had our first MS Virtual Assembly of the year; advisory teachers joined the Google Meet and the assembly was projected onto classroom screens for all to enjoy.

Dr. Barker led the assembly along with Mrs. V and Ms. Anthony. Topics for discussion included COVID safe protocols, MS reports, the cafeteria, uniform expectations, MS Podcasts and MS Explores, and Angela Jabbour spoke on behalf of the Student Council.

Ms. Anthony discussed the importance of each student being a piece in the Middle School Community jigsaw puzzle with each part being equally important and worthy.

This strong poem called ‘The Human Family’ by Maya Angelou was shared with the MS Students

Click the video to watch.
The start of the Day
Please ensure all Middle School students are arriving on time and in advisory by 7.25am for important messages and daily communications.

End of the Day
At the end of day pick up, please ensure you drive all the way round and not stop to collect your child half way, which results in stopping the flow of traffic. Thank you for your understanding.

The cafeteria culture is thriving, with Middle School Students selecting delicious and healthy meal options. From next week onwards, students must have a cafeteria prepaid card.

There will be an MS coffee morning on Monday 24th January with Dr. Barker, Ms. Anthony, Mrs. Brotherton and Mrs. V. Topics include - What's happening in MS and reports, conversations with your child, MYP assessment and MS Connects updates. Join the meet using the following link: **MS Virtual Coffee**
HIGH SCHOOL

DRESS CODE

Please ensure all High School students are arriving on time (seated in mentor classes by 7:20am) and following the dress code which is communicated via our website.

GRADE 9-11

High School Semester 1 reports (G9-11) are due to be published on Thursday 3rd February

GRADE 9

January 25th-27th
Duke of Edinburgh International Award Bronze (G9) Practice & Qualifying

GRADE 10

Arts and Design ePortfolio (off timetable): Wednesday 26th January

GRADE 12

Congratulations to Grade 12 for completing their mock examinations. Any student who missed an exam must check-in with Mr Essex to make the necessary arrangements. Grade 12 returns to lessons as normal on Sunday.

Parent Teacher Conferences
(by invite only)
Monday, February 7th
G11 CAS Excursions

Congratulations to students and thanks to teachers for taking part and leading/organising the CAS Experience Week. Particular thanks to Ms Cole for her organisation in the background.

This academic year our programme included; learning how to scuba dive (thank you Ms Nausia Bonet and Ms Kemper), kayaking and hiking expedition (thank you Mrs Walker and Mr Elderkamp), learning to cook at the National Hospitality Institute (thank you Ms Philips and Mr Monclar), conducting flora fieldwork (thank you Mr MacKenzie and Ms Michan), an artistic retreat (thanks you Ms Belston and Ms Birchall) working with artists based in Muscat and sailing (thank you Mr Zwart, Mr Willms, Mr Narayanan and Ms Cole).
We enjoyed our first competitive match on campus in nearly two years as our Grade 8 Boys Football Team took on the Junior Varsity. There will be a number of fixtures like this in the next couple of weeks and these will prove to be just as enjoyable and keenly contested as any other inter school match (to which we still cannot participate in under the current COVID mandates). Well done Vipers!!

UNIVERSITY COUNSELLOR

Our seniors have done an amazing job of balancing their study obligations with the demanding university application process. 35% of the graduating class have already secured at least one acceptance from a university of choice.

Class of 2022: Early Acceptances

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cardiff University</th>
<th>Indiana University Bloomington</th>
<th>King’s College London</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michigan State University</td>
<td>Newcastle University</td>
<td>NSU Florida</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen Mary University of London</td>
<td>Ryerson University</td>
<td>Swansea University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas A&amp;M University</td>
<td>University of Amsterdam</td>
<td>University of Birmingham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Bristol</td>
<td>University of Calgary</td>
<td>University of Delaware</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Essex</td>
<td>University of Exeter</td>
<td>University of Groningen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Kent</td>
<td>University of Leeds</td>
<td>University of Liverpool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Nottingham</td>
<td>University of Manchester</td>
<td>University of Massachusetts, Amherst</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Southampton</td>
<td>University of South Florida</td>
<td>University of Stirling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Sussex</td>
<td>University of Western Ontario</td>
<td>University of Westminster</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We are delighted to share a snapshot of our early application successes for this year’s graduating class. Best of luck to those who are currently working on applications or awaiting responses.
Please complete and submit this form if you are interested in participating in '14 Talks by Age 14' book club. When: 4 x 1 weekly Google meets online on Thursday's at 9:00am - 9:45am.

Meeting 1 - 3/2/2022
Please read Chapters 1-3 to discuss in the meeting. Vote on Chapters to discuss in the next meeting.

What: School Counselors Claire Anthony(MS) and Colette O Driscoll(ES) are running a book club based on this book.

Who: It mainly focuses on children Gr 4-7 and of course anyone else is welcome to join.

Why: Keeping the lines of communication open helps everyone

Please read some reviews here to see if this book club is for you.

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

The PTA's first announcement is that we are canceling our online community meetings for the time being... but we are convinced that this is a good thing! We will be updating you weekly on the Social Media channels and through the Weekly Communication you are reading right now. It might seem that we are going for a one way communication, but we would love to hear your feedback and/or answer any question you have. So please do not hesitate to send an email to PTAchair@abaoman.org at any time.
Instead of preparing for a community meeting we will use our time to organize fun activities! Do you remember the Tuesday Trips and Travels? On Tuesday 25th January we will be visiting the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque. If you are interested, please find out more and sign up here.

We realize that unfortunately ES parents might not be able to join us due to the online learning. However, we hope to organize more and see you in the (near) future.

VIPERS BOOSTER CLUB

MS and HS Ice Frenzy you don’t want to miss it!

On Wednesday, 26th Jan during both recess at the drama court. Make sure you have 500biaza with you for a cooling treat!