



ABS TIMES

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**Don't forget to wear a
mask and
STAY PROTECTED**



**Get to read special
student articles on
page 17**



Message from the Editor

Happy New Year to all of the ABS family from us here with the ABS Times!

Can you believe that we are already halfway through the school year? With students being back in school, the time really seems to be flying. This second quarter was filled with fun activities that we all missed while being online, from sports day to international day and everything in between. We were all so grateful to be able to safely have these events that our students and staff love so much after having to miss them last year due to being online. I know that we all very much look forward to other events that will come in the next semester.

Our students have been putting so much effort into their work and I think we should all take a moment and appreciate them for it. Coming back to in-person schooling after a year and a half online has not been easy, but our students are trying their best and performing greatly! Especially as we just had our semester tests and AP mock exams, for which students spent a lot of time studying, we can all say that we are proud of them and the effort they put into all of their work.

With COVID-19 on the rise again, we wish our ABS family good health and safety! I know we are back to stricter mask-wearing and are doing our best to staunch the spread of COVID at ABS and hope everyone in Kuwait continues to do so for all of our safety.

We look forward to seeing you all during the rest of the school year!

Message from the ABS Journalism Team

Welcome to the home of the ABS WILDCATS

Advertisements



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One-on-one college admissions support!

Get help with international college admissions applications

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Trained College Advisors.
- One-on-one personalized assistance & coaching.
- Progress report and consultation.
- Select from a variety of available packages.

CONTACT INFORMATION

kcap@abs.edu.kw

Oxford Learning Center - Al Shaab Area



Kuwait College Advising Program
@ Oxford Learning Center



Program Highlights

- Trained College Advisors.
- Select which advisor you would like to work with.
- One-on-one personalized international college application assistance & coaching.
- Support and guidance throughout the whole process!
- Consultations are available for the price of 50 KWD between student, parent(s), and advisor, to determine the student's needs and best path forward in their collegiate journey. If a session package is purchased after the consultation is completed, then this cost will be counted as payment towards the overall package cost. Please ensure students bring the following to their consultation-transcript, SAT/MAP score results.

Pricing & packages:

Sessions	Price
10 sessions	500 KWD
16 sessions	800 KWD
20 sessions	1000 KWD

You may purchase a package at the ABS Accounts desk, starting from Sunday, September 26. After purchasing, you and your student will have the chance to select an advisor to work with and set your schedule.

Each package includes

1 progress report consultation half-way through the package with advisor, student, and parents.

Your student may speak to their ABS HS Counselor for more information or details.

You may also email **kcap@abs.edu.kw** for any questions or concerns.



All sessions are conducted at The Oxford Learning Center in Al Shaab Area. Scan QR code for the location.

KG Super Stars

Every Thursday, the KG Department has a Superstar Assembly. One special student is chosen from each class for excellence in academics, behavior, or citizenship. The students wear a regal cape and crown, and are honored with a certificate, story and special surprise!

November 11th 2021



Deema Al-Duwaikh
PreK



Abdullateef Al-Ali
KG1A



Nourah Al-Measab
KG1B



Khaled Al-Rabiah
KG1C



Fatemah Al-Khalifah
KG2A



Taibah Al-Noumas
KG2B



Nadiah Al-Rashoud
KG2C



Meshari Al-Wuqayan
KG2D



December 9th 2021



Hussain Ashkanani
PreK



Ali Al-Wazzan
KG1A



Afnan Al-Degbhasi
KG1B



Abdulaziz Al-Omani
KG1C



Othman Al-Roomi
KG2A



Loulwah Al-Osaimi
KG2B



Laura Al-Rashidi
KG2C



Mezayeen Al-Mujaweb
KG2D



CONGRATULATIONS KG SUPERSTARS

KG Super Stars

In order to teach our students positive behavior and to develop their social and emotional skills, the Kindergarten Department held two virtual assemblies in October to celebrate our KG Superstars. Children were encouraged to sing and dance with their teachers and peers in their classrooms while parents were invited to attend the assemblies. We were all so excited to share this happy moment.

January 6th 2022



Ali Al-Humoud
PreK



Omar Al-Radaan
KG1A



Yousef Habeeb
KG1B



Waleed Al-Otaibi
KG1C



Thamer Al-Rasheed
KG2A



Khaled Khalifouh
KG2B



Loulwah Al-Darran
KG2C



AlKadi Al-Otaibi
KG2D



January 13th 2022



Ahmad Al-Nomas
PreK



Bibi Shehab
KG1A



Talal Al-Enezi
KG1B



Muneerah Al-Zoabi
KG1C



Hind Al-Osaimi
KG2A



Ali Al-Batni
KG2B



Abdullatif Al-Maatouq
KG2C



CONGRATULATIONS KG SUPERSTARS



Commendations - Elementary & MSHS

Exceptional Members of the ABS Family

Here at the American Baccalaureate School, we believe in showing our appreciation for hard work and doing an exceptional job. Each month, both the students and the staff are recognized for going above and beyond as role models for others. These individuals are honored by being named the students, teachers, or staff members of the respective month. We appreciate these outstanding individuals and want to recognize them once again for everything they do for us and for ABS. The next time you see one of these wonderful Wildcats, tell them how much you appreciate them and congratulate them for being student of the month.

Students of the Month - Elementary



Deema Al-Ajmi
Grade 1B
Student of the Month
November



Amer Sadeqi
Grade 2B
Student of the Month
November



Ahmad Abdulrahman
Grade 3B
Student of the Month
November



Abdullah Al-Rasheed
Grade 4B
Student of the Month
November



Salman Al-Zuwayer
Grade 5E
Student of the Month
November



Azyan Al-Ahmad
Grade 1C
Student of the Month
December



Yousef Al-Othman
Grade 2C
Student of the Month
December



Tawfiq Said
Grade 3C
Student of the Month
December



Abdullah Shuaib
Grade 4C
Student of the Month
December



Mohammad Al-Hassem
Grade 5C
Student of the Month
December

Students of the Month - Middle School



Qais Al-Weqaiyan
Grade 6BA
Student of the Month
November



Khaled Al-Ryahi
Grade 7BB
Student of the Month
November



Faleh Al-Salem
Grade 8BA
Student of the Month
November



Jana Meshari
Grade 6GA
Student of the Month
November



Fawzeyah Al-Aradah
Grade 7GB
Student of the Month
November



Halal Al-Jabri
Grade 8GB
Student of the Month
November



Commendations - HS Students



Yousef Al-Tabtabai
Grade 6BB
Student of the Month
December



Salem Al-Duwaillah
Grade 7BA
Student of the Month
December



Khaled Al-Kandari
Grade 8BA
Student of the Month
December



Faeqah Al-Refaei
Grade 6GB
Student of the Month
December



Zainab Al-Ansari
Grade 7GB
Student of the Month
December



Alya Al-Saffar
Grade 8GA
Student of the Month
December

Students of the Month - High School



Abdulaziz Al-Enezi
Grade 9BB
Student of the Month
November



Mutlaq Al-Otaibi
Grade 10BC
Student of the Month
November



Zainah Al-Awadi
Grade 9GA
Student of the Month
November



Laila Al-Rubaie
Grade 10GA
Student of the Month
November



Zaid Al-Kazemi
Grade 11BA
Student of the Month
November



Yaseen Al-Ebrahim
Grade 12BA
Student of the Month
November



Alzain Al-Salem
Grade 11GB
Student of the Month
November



Fatemah Al-Saffar
Grade 12GA
Student of the Month
November



Mohammad Al-Harbi
Grade 9BA
Student of the Month
December



Abdulwahab Al-Mattooq
Grade 10BB
Student of the Month
December



Rahab Al-Owayed
Grade 9GA
Student of the Month
December



Layan Al-Rokhayes
Grade 10GA
Student of the Month
December



Nasser Al-Lafi
Grade 11BA
Student of the Month
December



Waddah Al-Falah
Grade 12BA
Student of the Month
December



Latifa Al-Kharafi
Grade 11GB
Student of the Month
December



Fetouh Al-Bader
Grade 12GB
Student of the Month
December

Commendations - Staff

Staff of the Month - Elementary



Vanessa Molina
Teacher of the month
November



Rania Mowafi
Arabic Teacher of the month
November



Madusha Gunasinghe
TA of the month
November

Staff of the Month - MSHS



Arika Beverly
Staff of the month
November



Jude Addo
Teacher of the month
November



Sara El-Sayed
Arabic teacher of the month
November



Bushra Abdul Qayyum
Teacher of the month
December



Abeer Mustafa
Arabic Teacher of the month
November



Mahnoor Omer
TA of the month
November



Mohammed Ali
Teacher of the month
December



Mohamed Medhat Ahmed
Arabic teacher of the month
December



Staff of the Month - KG



Dana Dakroub
Teacher of the month
November



The 2021-2022 school year has been an historical one; none of us foreseen this coming, yet we have adapted seamlessly. The success achieved this year could not have been accomplished without the dedication of our teachers. We are extremely proud of all of our staff.

In particular we would like to spotlight the staff who have gone above and beyond in setting exemplary standards for students and staff alike. We appreciate you! Your work and dedication are invaluable. Thank you for making the 2021-2022 school year possible!



KG Events

STEM Career Day

STEM is the abbreviation for Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math. It is an integrated approach to learning that encourages students to think more broadly about real-world problems. This is why STEM deserves a day of celebration and exploration every year. Our KG Department held a special celebration to highlight the importance of the STEM Career on November 4th. Children were invited to come to school wearing a costume of their choice related to STEM. We started our Day with an assembly where kids and teachers showed their excitement to describe their costumes related to STEM jobs. During this time, we talked about what a community is, how to help our community and jobs in our community. This day was filled with fun, learning activities where children pretended to be doctors, engineers, teachers, scientists and many other professions. At ABS, we believe that today's students are tomorrow's leaders!



International Day

Our Kindergarten Department celebrated International Day with an educational, multicultural assembly on November 25th, 2021 with a wide variety of games and activities; this event provides knowledge and understanding in an interactive and entertaining way. KG classrooms were decorated in themes that highlight the culture of different countries from all around the world. The Passport activity was a great opportunity for kids to travel between classes and to encourage students to embrace other traditions and culture.



KG Events

Book Fair

ABS had the pleasure of hosting a Book Fair between November 29th and December 2nd, 2021. The Book Fair is a bi-annual event that encourages students to read by offering them a wide selection of books to choose from. It also helps children to develop a love for reading. We believe that a love of reading is a stepping stone to becoming an enthusiastic learner and a confident reader, writer and speaker. With confidence and enthusiasm, children can enjoy a wonderful world of learning and exploration.



Sports Day

The KG department held Sports Day on December 2nd, 2021. In the morning, Ms. Adela held a pep rally and then all teams made their way to the Big Gym for a fun-filled Sports Day! KG classes were divided in teams and they had the opportunity to play eight different games: Hurdles Obstacle, Potato Sack Race, Relay Balls Race, Balance Game, Soccer, Running Obstacle, Egg & Spoon Race and Bicycles. Sports Day was a fun day focused on promoting physical activity and healthy competition for all the KG students! It was a fantastic way to practice exercise and good health with the students!



Elementary Vibes

International Day

ABS celebrated our International Day on Thursday, November 25, 2021. International Day is a celebration of the diversity of our world. It included wearing traditional costumes, sampling and sharing each country's traditional food, and decorating classes and hallways accordingly. Each grade level represented a continent and each class a country. We had a Parade of Nations where each class performed a greeting or dance representing their country. Doors were brightly decorated, and the halls became an international thoroughfare. Students and teachers enjoyed sharing international cuisines during lunch time, and truly celebrated as an ABS family.



STEM Career Day

On November 4th, 2021, ABS Elementary students came to school dressed up as their future career. Students had various STEM activities that incorporated reading and writing. The goal was to foster collaboration, communication, critical thinking, and creativity. The day included dynamic, engaging presentations about STEM and STEM careers. Teachers shared various tools to help students plan and prepare for work, post-high school education and more! STEM Career Day celebration teaches young people about hidden figures in STEM and modern-day innovators.



Elementary Vibes

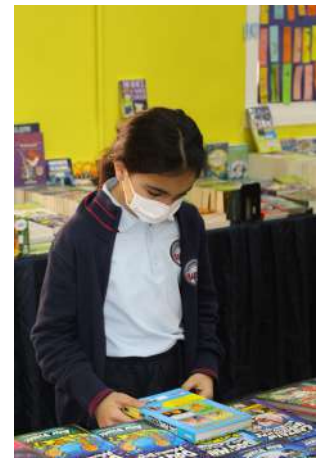
Assemblies

Assemblies are back! Assemblies are held twice a week in the Elementary Department-one in the courtyard, and one in the classroom. Both assemblies begin with the Kuwaiti National Anthem and Qurán Kareem. Sunday Assemblies are filled with celebrations; birthdays, Pat on the Back, Student and Teacher of the Month, and Cup Recognition-where the best attendance is recognized. They highlight special upcoming events, the “Word of the Week,” and offer a space for the whole department to come together. On Thursdays, teachers lead “Homeroom Assemblies” where students can reflect on the week, the word of the week, and specific topics that encourage the social and emotional well-being of the community.



Book Fair

“When you open a book, you open a new world.” This year, ABS students were able to do just that. From November 29th- December 2nd, ABS hosted “Reading in a Winter Wonderland” Bookfair with SpectraWide Books. Students were invited to visit the bookfair with the ELA teachers and purchase books of their choice. We were delighted to see the excitement for reading as students from all grades browsed through the large collection of books. Leading up to the fair, Elementary students competed for book vouchers by designing bookmarks, book covers, and synopsis paragraphs-which decorated the walls of the event. We look forward to holding our next book fair in the Spring.



Elementary Vibes

Character Education and Anti-Bullying Campaign

The aim of this campaign is to send a clear message that bullying will not be tolerated at ABS, to understand what bullying is and to share with students strategies and tactics to stop bullying. Students have had an opportunity to consider the effects of bullying, ways they can contribute to an anti-bullying atmosphere, and the actions they can take if they come face to face with bullying.



Students can learn how to resolve their conflicts and disagreements nonviolently. Effective conflict resolution involves applying a variety of character skills to listen, communicate, and compromise to come up with peaceful and fair solutions. When students learn to resolve their conflicts peacefully, they feel better about themselves and gain confidence in their capabilities.



MSHS Corner

Sports Day

A day of fun that students look forward to every year is Sports Day. This year, of course, was no exception, as this was a day of fair-play, sportsmanship, and friendly competition. Classes competed against each other for various gold medals, those for success on the field, and those for kindness being shown to fellow classmates. First, the middle schoolers had their days and the high schoolers' followed. The competition was fierce and many teachers joined in the fun to help their class be crowned victorious. "Sports day always reminds me just how kind ABS students are to each other! Even in the midst of competition, you can see students helping those who have fallen to make sure the game can go on without injury," said one of the high schoolers. What a day to remind us all that even when trying to win, being kind is more important!



STEM Day

Article by : Wahj Al-Duwaisan

The fourth of November was especially memorable this year as the day focuses on the advances of science, and all classes were adjusted that day to cater to more scientific topics. For example, the Pre-Calculus class has drawn a unit circle on these massive Styrofoam boards which displayed engineering and mathematics. During physics, Mr. Darwiche has decided to conduct experiments using toys and other objects and allow students to infer as to why certain events have occurred. Lastly, the AP Language course has allowed students to tinker with making their own creations by recreating inventions in the renaissance, and debate on who would have the best invention. All of these will be shown below.



The AP Language course, taught by Ms. Caitlin Widman, has allowed the students to go above and beyond. Ice cream was brought and made within class, and some eleventh-grade students have had so much energy in conducting a high-level and interesting debate. It was all around exceptionally fun and allowed students to learn whilst being creative.

MSHS Corner

Science Fair

On Thursday, December 9th, the Middle School Science Department hosted the annual Science Fair. Students showcased their projects that they had worked on for weeks and presented this to their peers and teachers. Students learned valuable skills about the scientific process and experimental procedures during these weeks and were able to communicate these findings effectively and professionally.



International Day

Article by : Rawa Al-Shallal

International day was a parade of nations, whereby each class represented a country by wearing traditional costumes, trying, and sharing each country's traditional food, and decorating classes and hallways in accordance; it was a wonderful way to celebrate our world's diversity. The International Day Celebration is a full day of "traveling around the world," with each group moving from one classroom to another learning about various cultures while also hosting other groups to showcase their own. Diversity plays an important role in the American Baccalaureate School in providing students with global education and giving students the chance to understand different cultures around the world.



MSHS Corner

MSHS Assemblies

MSHS recently had assemblies based on anti-bullying. At ABS, bullying of any kind, by any person, is unacceptable. All students should be free from worries about being bullied. During the assemblies, students discussed their experiences and signed a pledge in order to come together and show support for the anti-bullying campaign. The assemblies were led by the student council who did an exceptional job. The student council also did a campaign throughout the school to emphasize the importance of mutual respect.



NHS Elections

The NHS students took part in an Election ceremony whereby selected members applied for Officer positions. Students gave excellent speeches and the rest of the students voted for who they would like to be their student leaders. We are very proud of their effort and dedication.



MS Student Council Field Trip

The Middle School Student Council members attended a field trip to escapeland to build their relationships with each other, promote thinking outside the box, and task persistence. The students enjoyed the fun filled day and look forward to using those skills in their positions in Student Council.



MSHS Corner

Anti-Bullying Campaign

During the month of December, ABS has displayed its intolerance of bullying and support for those who face this issue. This event was kicked off by a presentation by the student council about bullying, how to stop it, and how to prevent it. These presentations really opened the students’ eyes more into the different types of bullying and how we all can help defend our peers moving forward. The last day of school is a spirit day in which we all wear red to stand up against bullying. The number of students and staff members who wore red in support of this cause really shows just how much ABS cares about every single person on this campus.



SAT Exam

An early Saturday morning, ABS students piled into the Big Gym, bleary eyed, but ready to take on the challenge present to them, the SAT. There were students from all over Kuwait, but this exam had a large number of ABS students there to take this exam and next step toward the future they can achieve. This exam went off without a hitch and had students feeling good about their preparation after the fact. One student even said how their ELA classes really helped them to ace the reading and language portions of this exam!



Book Fair

The book fair came to ABS and featured many young adult books to promote further outside of class reading for ABS students. Students were taken out of their ELA classes to be given a chance to peruse the stacks of books in hopes of finding one to take home and encourage their love of reading. The few days in which the book fair was at ABS were a joyous occasion and more books have been seen around campus since. Hopefully, this event will foster a love of reading in all who attended that will last a lifetime!



Student Articles

A Letter of Apology to Mother Nature

On October 31st, the United Nations held its annual Climate Change Conference, more commonly referred to as COP26. The 26th summit was held in Glasgow, Scotland from October 31st to November 1st, 2021. These summits serve as formal meetings to evaluate progress in dealing with climate change, and to establish legally binding obligations for developed countries to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. COVID's impact on the environment has been positive and negative alike but has given many nations the chance to reflect on how they handle the environment and sustainability. The Earth is being thrashed by ever more extreme heatwaves, flooding, and tropical storms charged by rising seas. This year's climate summit cultivated several initiatives and sparked major debates, so its outcomes were plentiful. The world's biggest carbon dioxide emitters, the US and China, pledged to cooperate more over the next decades. Leaders from more than 100 countries promised to stop deforestation by 2030. More than 100 countries have now joined coalition to cut 30% of methane gas emissions by 2030, a significant step towards limiting one of the major culprits of climate change. The summit negotiations ended on November 13th with a final deal among nearly 200 nations that targeted fossil fuels as the key driver of climate change for the first time. Most commitments made at COP will have to be self-policed, as only a few countries are making their pledges legally binding. Some argued that the results of the Glasgow summit were insufficient to address the severity of the climate crisis. Others also sharply criticized it as an exclusionary fortnight of talks that became a mere public relations exercise. Director General of Kuwait's Environment Public Authority Sheikh Abdullah Ahmad Al-Sabah stressed Kuwait's commitment to international agreements related to climate change. It was agreed countries will meet next year to pledge further cuts to emissions of carbon dioxide. Next year's COP27 summit will be held in Egypt. In the meantime, ice caps will continue to melt, ecosystems will continue to collapse, and people will continue using oxygen tanks and gas masks to breathe. Mother Nature has run out of patience. It's as if this pandemic was nature's way of punishing us so that we could meet the victims of our foolishness. We look at our leather bags and our shoes that left the forest, never to return, only so we could satiate insatiable fashion trends. Here are the trees that we stripped from their roots to make our doors from, here they are avenging their dignity by imprisoning us. Here we are wrapped in the same plastic gloves that we used to suffocate the oceans. We are all here to apologize to Mother Nature for our idiocy and interest in the most trivial of things. We thought that we owned this Earth, but here it is continually reminding us that it owns us. Here it is educating us and returning us like bratty genies into our little lamps. Now that we left the lamp, let's not forget this quarantine and how it's been a lesson from a mom who gave up on only nurturing and caring for us and decided to finally discipline and raise its children.



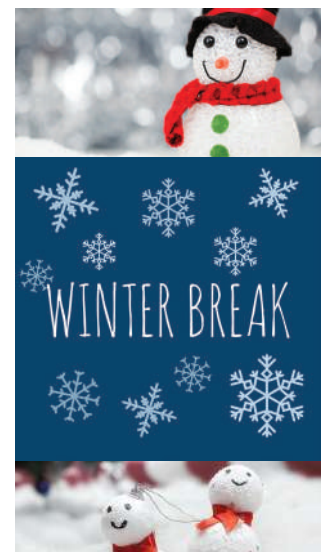
Article by : Mulukey Al-Mazeedi



Winter Break

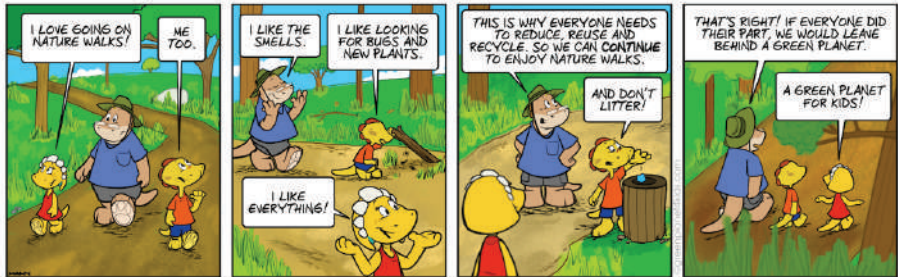
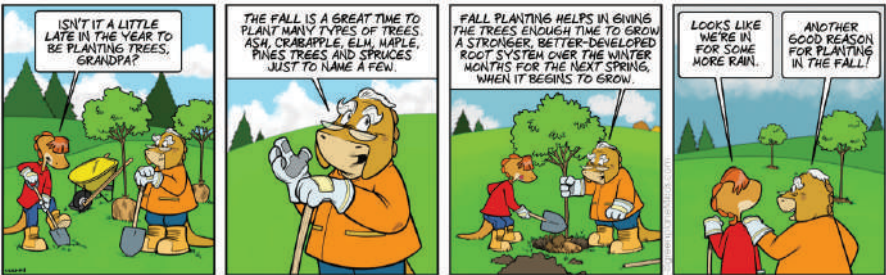
Article by : Noor Al-Majed

On December 16th, 2021, ABS started winter break. This is a time where students, staff members, and teachers get to relax and take a break from any stresses. Following the challenging shift from online school to in-person school, everyone is counting on this well-deserved break to de-stress. Students have been counting down the days for a while now. Everyone is excited and looking forward for this wonderful time of the year! The ABS students and staff have been under stress for a long time. It has been four months of nonstop work: tests, quizzes, homework, and class work. This will be their first long break where students can relax and have fun, as well as plan their schedules for the finals after the break. Those staying in Kuwait will be able to enjoy the beautiful weather, seasonal events, and get plenty of sleep! Others who are travelling will experience exceptional adventures and will venture into new places. Hopefully, all students and staff will return feeling refueled and energized to tackle the final exams and the remaining second half of the year.



Entertainment

Educational Comic



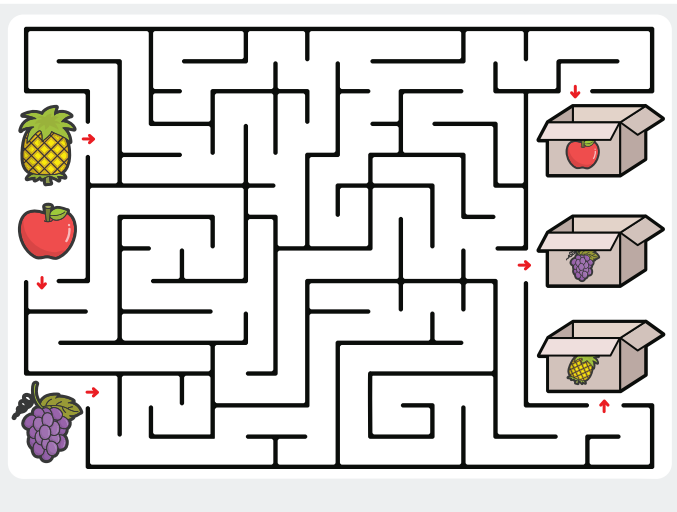
For more comics visit:

<https://greenplanet4kids.com/eco-family-comic-strip>



The Maze Challenge

Complete the maze



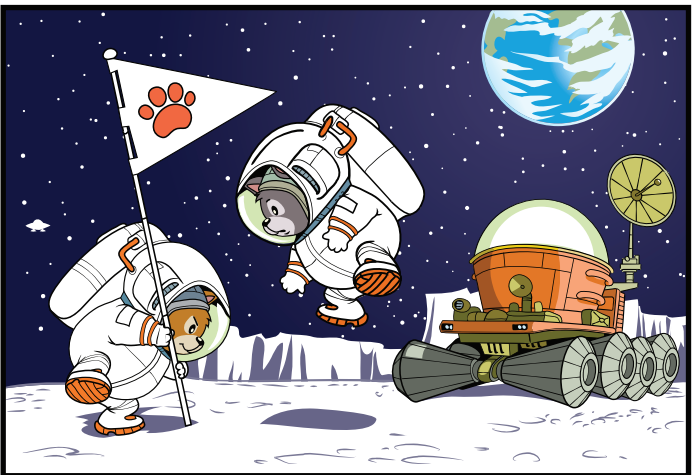
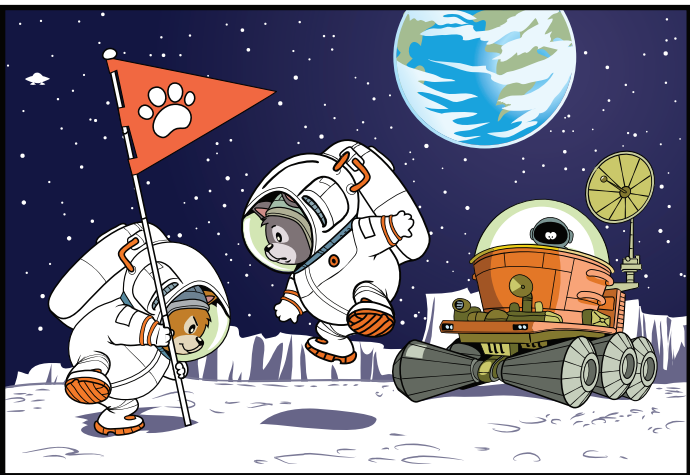
Coloring Book

Match the colors



Spot the difference

Find 10 differences



Deans', Coordinators' & Counselors' Section



"The fact is there is a huge difference between online learning, and having students on campus. School environment was missing our students, who are playing a main role at ABS. They returned to their seats, learning, interacting with their friends, socializing and sharing good moments. However, there were some fears of returning back on campus, but we all make it easier and more natural."

Sahar Nabtiti – Elementary Dean of Students



"Since the return of students our campus has been rejuvenated and we couldn't be happier to have them back on campus. We've all learned to adapt, and the students have been mature and extremely responsible. For instance, students often wear masks even when optional, such as while walking around outside. They may push the lines, but they get it. They're smart kids, and they want to do what's right."

Sanaa Noor – MSHS Dean of Students



"Being back on campus has been a pleasure for both students and teachers. The sense of loss that we experienced last school year, has inspired us all to be more grateful for this school year where we can achieve our full potential together. The return of our Sunday morning assembly has been a wonderful start to each week and has really added some positive spirit. Students are more organized, engaged, and energetic. Now, students are appreciating the time they spend at school. It is such a pleasure to hear the students' voices in the courtyards, the classrooms, the labs, the gym, and the cafeteria. They truly are the heartbeat of the school."

Dima Khaddage - Elementary Counselor



"I am over the moon to have our students back on campus this year. Being limited to online interactions due to the pandemic was difficult for both teachers and students alike. For me, the experience served to remind me of why I pursued a career in academics and filled me with a renewed sense of gratitude for the opportunity to work closely with young people on a day-to day basis. I am certain that our students will continue to thrive during second semester to reach their academic goals. We will continue to provide a positive learning environment with opportunities for our students to develop and grow academically and I wish to remind you that I am here to support you in any way that I can."

Diana Garcia - High School Counselor



"It has been fantastic having students back on ABS's campus and seeing them get back into the swing of things. After a year and a half of online learning, students are back in the classrooms and interacting with their friends and teachers in person again! Students have swiftly adapted and are working hard to finish out the first semester strong!"

Ashley Jackson - High School Counselor



"We are back on campus and having an amazing experience. Students are back in the classroom learning, interacting, and exploring the world around them. Students faced an entire year of online learning and missed out on social interactions with their friend and teachers. Being back on campus allowed students to join clubs like, National Honor Society, Student Council, Model United Nations, and other organizations."

Jamala Spencer - High School Counselor



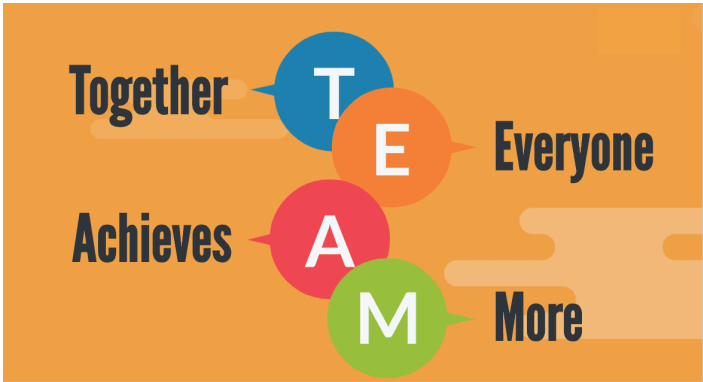
"Since students have returned to campus, we have seen a positive impact on the students' academics, mental and social skills. We have seen increased engagement in classes and positive interactions with peers which is not only due to the support of the teachers and staff but the intrinsic motivation in the students. As we move forward in the year, we are confident that students will continue to grow as learners and citizens of the world."

Arika Beverly - Middle School Counselor



"Teaching and learning feel more precious and more important than ever in the time being. Returning to school campus had lots of positive highlights on teachers and students. Learning in class is now enjoyable as it fits the level of need and capability of each child. Children have a chance to get feedback and improve their work! Recess offers students cognitive, social, emotional and physical benefits. It's an absolute pleasure having students on campus!"

Marian Sami – Elementary Curriculum Coordinator



Administrators' Corner



"Happy New Year ABS. As the school year begins with a 'bang' and we welcomed students and staff to an 'in-class learning environment', I noticed that many of ABS students showed great interest, enthusiasm and were in high spirits. As the school year progresses, I am encouraging all of us to continue to work together - students, teachers, and administrators. It is with great joy that I come to work because of the smiles that I see on the faces of many students and staff. I urge you to keep working, striving and reaching the goals that each of you have set for yourselves. I am proud of each of you for following all the policies, procedures, regulations, and guidelines that are constantly changing."

Amal Al-Minawi - Senior Principal



"Returning to on-campus learning was surrounded with uncertainty as we continued to face unprecedented challenges. However, I think we can all agree that the transition back into school life was an important and necessary step which proved to be a great decision! In KG, we have had a wonderful first semester filled with memorable events such as STEM Career Day, International Day and Winter Wonderland. We are looking forward to more fun-filled learning as we approach Quarter 3.!"

Jennifer Naser - KG Vice Principal



"Welcome back everyone! KG's transition to on-campus life has been long-awaited and I almost can't believe it's real. It is such a joy to see our students in person! I have been waiting for the day to hear our hallways full of Kindergarten voices, laughs, and games. What a wonderful year we have ahead! Good luck to all."

Rachelle Parsons - KG Coordinator



"Students have expressed their pleasure at being back on campus this year. They have taken health precautions seriously, to protect others and to avoid returning online. Partaking in STEM Career Day activities among a group of classmates, was an exciting event. Costumes and collaborative projects were also observed. Many missed these activities last year. Having the student council members visit classes with an anti-bullying campaign has also felt rewarding. These students have been showing leadership among their grade level peers. We look forward to more experiences for students this welcome back year. We all must work hard to make up for lost learning time. We can work hard and have fun at the same time."

Alicia Szydlowski - Elementary Principal



"Having students back on ABS campus has resulted in several high points for me: the gratitude of parents and students; a much greater appreciation for the importance of school and dedicated teaching staff who have been leapfrogged into opportunities of identifying new strategies, that if sustained, can help young people get an education that prepares them for our changing times."

Shereen Kroutz - Elementary Vice Principal



"After over a year of online learning, a highlight of being back on campus is seeing students and staff in community with each other again. For so many, the pandemic represented a time of isolation and fear. Being back on campus, students especially are recognizing that they are not alone and that there is so much hope for their futures and the world around them. It has been a gift seeing students and teachers encourage one another to be the best versions of themselves- academically, physically, and socially."

Jaclyn Guzman - Elementary Vice Principal



"For an educator, nothing can be more delightful than greeting students every morning. After more than a year combatting the struggles of online schooling, both the students and faculty are once again reunited under the prosperous environment of learning. Being on campus ensures the overall well-being of our students by taking part in different academic and extra-curricular activities. We are excited to welcome back our students, and we hope that learning like it is now will not be hindered and rather progress forward, as we work together to revive the spirit of ABS as was before Covid-19"

Mian Sadiq - Middle School Principal



"A lot has changed since the world first went into Covid-19 lockdown in March 2020. At ABS our students have done a tremendous job assimilating to the 'new normal'. It has been a pleasure to see the students on campus interacting with their teachers and friends. Being back on campus makes us feel like a community again."

Kayla Johnson - MS Vice Principal



"Parents and Students, as we complete our first semester at ABS, we are excited to have our students back on campus full-time. I understand the difficulty with the transition from a virtual model of learning to a face-to-face model, but our students handled it admirably. I know that each one of you will continue to flourish second semester to reach your academic goals. We will continue to provide a positive learning environment with opportunities for each one of you to develop and grow academically each day. Remember that the purpose of learning is growth, and our minds, unlike our bodies, can continue growing as we put our maximum effort forward."

Todd Thompson - High School Principal



"It has been extremely fulfilling seeing the students return to campus this year. There have been so many positive highlights, however, the biggest one is seeing students walk through the gate daily with huge smiles on their faces. It has been wonderful to see the students interacting, collaborating, and building relationships with their peers and teachers in the traditional way. We want to extend a huge amount of gratitude to our parents and students who have made the transition seamless and ensured it has been an extremely positive one with and abundance of highlights."

Calicia Daniel - High School Vice Principal