



THE ABA WEEKLY



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ABA THIS WEEK

SCHOOL UPDATES

ABA is required by the Ministry of Education to maintain up to date records of students' Covid 19 vaccination status. If your child has recently been vaccinated against Covid-19, please send a copy of their vaccination certificate to **secondaryoffice@abaoman.org**

The MOE also requires us to have a copy of all residence/civil ID cards on file for all students. If you have recently obtained an ID card for your child, please send a copy to **registrar@abaoman.org**

Less than 45 Days to go | ABA Al Irfan

Less than 45 days till we walk through the gates of our new home! Mark your calendars! Our middle school students are super excited about the upcoming move. Take a look at



**THIS WEEK'S
CAFETERIA
MENU**



PROFESIONAL DEVELOPMENT



While High School and Middle School students were not in school today, teachers were working with their colleagues from High School, Middle School and Elementary School to continue reflecting and refining our written curriculum. IB schools typically go through an ongoing curriculum review to ensure what students learn continues to be relevant and builds upon what individuals already understand and can do. Following the curriculum work, all staff visited the new campus to continue getting ready for our big move.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

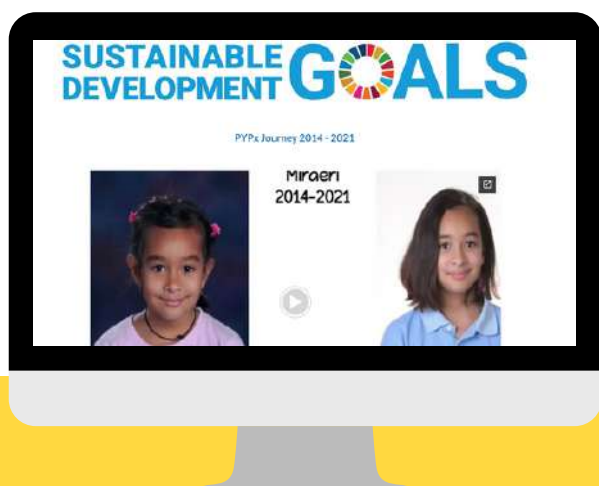
ON CAMPUS NEXT WEEK

We are fully prepared for students to return to campus on Sunday, and are hopeful for a return to normality. All being well, ASA season 2 will resume on Sunday, and we will share updated season dates as soon as possible.

PYP EXHIBITION

The PYP Exhibition (PYPx) has begun! The Grade 5 learning community gathered in the PAC on Sunday 6th February to officially start their PYPx journey. Students have begun to identify their passions, connected to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), and teachers across the Elementary school will mentor students with similar interests to their own.

At an incredibly exciting time for our Grade 5 students as they embark on this wonderful learning journey as Elementary students. For more information about the PYPx check the **ABA PYP Corner website**.



WHOLE ELEMENTARY UNIT OF INQUIRY - WHO WE ARE

As we prepare to make the significant transition to a new campus, the ES team has been exploring the opportunity to approach our inquiries for the remainder of the year in a new and innovative way. For the first time in ABA history, we will be implementing a whole school unit of inquiry under the transdisciplinary theme 'Who We Are'.

Why? Identify the need for change...

- The campus move will generate a lot of emotions, stress and anxiety for students, teachers and the parent community.
- We need time to focus on the move, the new campus and planning new learning spaces together as a community.
- This is an innovative responsive planning approach to a significant event for the ABA community, and provides an opportunity to develop the ES culture of learning.



What? Imagining new possibilities...

- Develop a whole school 'Who We Are' unit of inquiry that connects us as one elementary school community of learners.
- Provide flexibility and authentic learning opportunities for our students during the campus move.
- Demonstrate the ability to adapt to shifting and dynamic change and hook into student agency - choice, voice, ownership - the 'heart' of PYP.
- We have in place a flexible POI that shifts and moves with student inquiries and connects to significant events for the ABA learning community.



How? Leads to action...

- Whole school 'Who We Are' unit of inquiry with the same central idea from FC to Grade 5.
- Different key concepts and lines of inquiry for each grade level.
- Language and mathematics learning outcomes will continue to be woven across units of inquiry for each grade level programme of inquiry.



Our Team Coordinators brainstormed and crafted the central idea for our whole school Who We Are unit of inquiry. The central idea is:

**IN MOMENTS OF TRANSITION, COMMUNITIES
REEVALUATE THEIR IDENTITY, VALUES AND
PURPOSE.**

During this week's staff meeting, teams spent time crafting enduring understandings connected to key concepts. From here they developed lines of inquiry for their grade level context. Teachers selected subject focus, related concepts and identified learner profiles. This is called BIG picture mapping and is the process that teaching teams work through before starting a unit of inquiry.

This is an incredibly exciting time for the Elementary team and ABA! By taking an innovative responsive planning approach to a significant event in the history of ABA, the hope is that we develop an even more aligned and connected community of learners.



MIDDLE SCHOOL

MS REPORTS

The Middle School Semester 1 reports were due to be published to the Parents Portal on iSAMS on February 9th. However, there was a delay and so the reports will not be ready for publication.

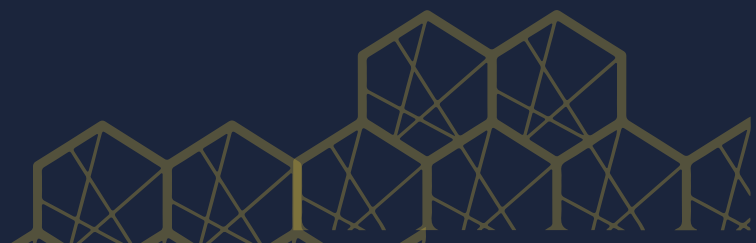
MS are still awaiting a confirmed date from iSAMS UK, who are handling the preparation of the new report template but should be ready by next week. We will keep you informed. Our apologies for any inconveniences caused due to this delay.



MS LIFELONG LEARNERS



The MS Grade Level Leaders and Assistant Principal attended a COBIS CPML course for Leadership on Saturday and Sunday at BSM; they are working towards the improvement and enhancement of an area of Middle School, through their Leadership Challenges.





MS SOLVES TWIST BOXES

Our creative Arts Teacher Ms. Andrea designed and implemented an MS Solves activity; students were excited and engaged, communicating and working collaboratively on a class and group themed task. Once completed the 'Twist Boxes' will be displayed and shared with the MS Community.




RESCUE DOES NOT
MEAN DAMAGED
IT MEANS
They Have Been
LET DOWN BY
HUMANS



NO MATTER HOW
BAD YOUR DAY HAS
BEEN... YOUR CAT
CAN ALWAYS MAKE
YOU SMILE :)



THE BEST THERA-
PIST HAS FUR AND
FOUR LEGS.



THE BEST
THINGS
IN LIFE ARE
RESCUED.



MY THERAPIST
HAS PAWS AND
WHISKERS :)



MS CREATES: CATS & DOGS GROUP

For Middle School Creates, the Cats and dogs student group have been finding ways to raise awareness for cat and dog shelters. Students have been helping wild animals all over Muscat!

HELP!

Help cats and dogs in Oman



Contact organizations if you find
a cat or dog in need of help

Omani paws:

<https://www.instagram.com/omanipaws/>

<https://omanipaws.weebly.com/about.html>

TTBT:

https://www.instagram.com/ttbt_oman/

Wave Cats and Dogs Rescue

<https://www.facebook.com/wavecatsanddogsrescue/>

PLEASE HELP THEIR LIVES!!!



<https://animal.rescue.me.org/om>

**Please
Help!**
**Cats and dogs are
living beings too!**



Contact Organizations in Oman
to help if you find an animal hurt

<https://www.instagram.com/omanipaws/>
<https://omanipaws.weebly.com/about.html>

**YOU CAN'T BUY
LOVE
BUT YOU CAN
RESCUE IT.**

~ Sealnow Animal
Shelter



~ H.L. George

HIGH SCHOOL

DRESS CODE



Students are responsible for being neat, clean and dressed appropriately for school. ABA has adopted an established dress code which attempts to provide a sense of school identity, recognize climatic and cultural restrictions, yet offer some individual flexibility. Students are expected to take responsibility for their attire based on these codes and come to school dressed in an appropriate manner.

In respect of our host culture, all clothing should be loose-fitting and plain. The following items must be worn at or below the knee and loose fitting.

- A (not too tight or short) ABA polo shirt of colours white, navy blue, light blue, and yellow.
- Plain navy blue, black, khaki trousers/shorts/skirts

ABA ATHLETICS

We saw the concluding practises for HS Season 2 this week and celebrated the season's success with internal scrimmages among HS squads or within the sport. A big congratulations to our Viper student Athletes who showed up in good numbers each practice in a very disruptive season

Season 3 Registration for JV and Varsity closes this week and coaches involved in Speech and Debate, Badminton, Track and Field will be in contact with signed up students following the sign up, with all the details to their season ahead.



MS students involved in Football Season 2 had their season extended until February 23rd, with Season 3 registration opening next week. Grade 6-8 students will also start their season at differing times given the imminent move to the new campus during this timeline.



Good luck to our very own Viper Georgia Isles, who will be competing in the Middle East and Open Swimming Championships in Dubai this weekend. Georgia won 10 medals in the Season 1 MESAC event with multiple golds and we wish her continued success in this main regional meet of the year, this weekend over the border!

UNIVERSITY UPDATES

A great way to learn about specific majors is to attend university taster sessions and subject exploration events.

Bridge-U presents Spring 2022 Subject Weeks: a series of interactive webinars and Q&A sessions designed to facilitate exploration of various degree programmes.

Exercises like these can help students/parents make informed choices. Register and get involved!



Spring 2022 Subject Weeks

Compare courses, countries, and curricula...
and get the inside scoop from current students
and university representatives alike!

Find more details here.




SUBJECT SHOWCASE SERIES

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PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION



PARENT ACTIVITIES & LEISURE

On Tuesday morning (Feb 8th) we visited the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque for our first PAL (Parent Activities & Leisure). The mosque is always amazing and the weather was gorgeous, but what was even better was the company! We had a lovely time chatting and even enjoyed some delicious tea. Thank you ladies for joining! We hope to be able to have another 'live' PAL soon.

PAL GALLERY



The next PAL is a photography workshop by Ingrid on 15th of February at 9 am online. Join with the link below. See you on the 15th
<https://meet.google.com/aag-fxvo-rai>



Do you like to take photos, but do not own or use a camera other than your phone? No problem! We will be looking at composition during the workshop, and with some tips and tricks, we are sure you will be able to capture better photos instantly!

KAHOOT

We are excited and working hard on Kahoot for the International Cultural Festival! In order to make it a real ABA community event, we need your support!



Please send us a short video clip, image or photo in 'landscape' mode with a question that is unique to your country/culture - it could be a special dish, spice, ingredient, festival, proverb, famous personality, music, dance, book, gesture, a word, just about anything that is typical or traditional from your home country!

With your video/image or photo email 4 options/answers (feel free to include some funny ones in there) and don't forget to let us know the correct answer!

By sending in a question (and answers) you will know at least 1 Kahoot question! Also don't forget that you have a chance to win something exciting if you submit your entry to **PTAevent@abaoman.org**. We hope you use the extra day off to work on this and can't wait to see what you come up with!

VIPERS BOOSTER CLUB

POP UP SHOP

Thank you all, who came by at this week's pop up shop! All profits from the merchandise bought goes back to our students, so your ongoing support is very much appreciated by all of us!

Mark your calendars - **March 7th** will be our last "real" pop up shop before we move to the new campus. Let's celebrate that one. More information to follow closer to date.



At the VBC we often talk about MESAC, but do you know what it stands for?



MESAC stands for Middle East South Asia Conference (MESAC). It's an athletic and academic conference consisting of six top international schools in the Middle East and India.

The schools competing are ABA International School - Oman - American Community School of Abu Dhabi - UAE American Embassy School - India - American School of Doha - Qatar - American School of Dubai - UAE. Dubai American Academy - UAE.

It was formed in 2010 for the purpose of creating a smaller, more intimate medium for athletic and academic competitions. Events are hosted at one of the conference's six schools in India, Oman, Qatar, and the UAE.

Under normal circumstances MESAC events take place as follows :

Season 1 (Aug - Nov) Academic Games - Golf - Swimming - Volleyball

Season 2 (Nov-Feb) Basketball - Cross Country - Fine Arts - Soccer/Football - Tennis

Season 3 (Feb -April) Badminton - Speech and Debate - Track and Field



The teams are divided into Junior Varsity (Grades 8-10) and Varsity (Grades 11-12) age categories although some teams are combined (Golf, Cross Country, Fine Arts, Speech and Debate, Tennis)



All events except Speech and Debate, Academic Games and Fine arts have separate male and female competitions, though both teams in the Junior Varsity or Varsity category will travel together.

Most of the MESAC coaches are ABA faculty who readily coach, mentor and travel with the student athletes or performers



Even though Covid 19 has canceled many MESAC sports competitions in the past 2 years, others have successfully been switched to virtual events - Events such as Speech and Debate, Fine Arts, Cross Country, Swimming, Track and Field and Academic Games have all been amazing events in this unique way with very few other International Schools Sports Leagues having these opportunities. During these ABA hosted events, many of our own community were involved in official capacities as judges, marshalls and timekeepers.

ABA in this season three ahead will be hosting their own Track and Field meet along with hosting the entire MESAC Speech and Debate event online.

Next year we hope to see a return to normality in travel and sports opportunities with ABA already penciled in to host MESAC Golf, Varsity Football and Track and Field.



Over the next weeks we will share a bit more about the individual events, so stay tuned!



Our faculty and staff had an amazing time exploring our new Al Irfan Campus today! Big smiles all around. And on that note..

Have a happy Weekend!