

Thursday | 21st April 2022



THE ABA WEEKLY



www.abaoman.org



BOARD ELECTIONS

Would you like to join a team of dedicated volunteers committed to supporting the mission, vision and values of ABA through strategic planning and good governance?



Click this image for more information on how to apply. Applications will be available online until the **16th of May 2022**.

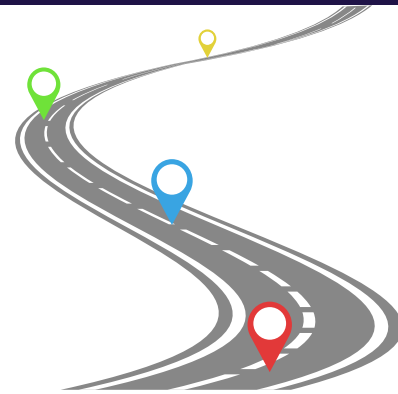
CAFETERIA



ABA THIS WEEK

As our High School students join us at the ABA Al Irfan campus, we have made some adjustments to the drop-off and pick-up procedures. Please refer to the email sent by the Head of School which includes maps and explanations of the new routes.

As previously communicated, the **start and end times at the Al Irfan campus will remain the same for this school year**. Adjustments will be made to the school day for the 2022/2023 school year.



2021- 2022 School Year

Drop-off (all students)	From 7:30 am
Registration (all students)	07:50- 08:05 am
End of day (Family Class)	1:30 pm
End of day	2:45 pm

2022- 2023 School Year

Drop-off (all students)	From 07:15 am
Registration (all students)	07:35 - 07:50 am
End of day (Family Class)	1:15 pm
End of day	2:30 pm



FAMILY ACCESS TO THE AL IRFAN CAMPUS

- To access the campus, family members must wear their ABA lanyards at all times.
- If you have not yet applied for the family ID card, please contact admin@abaoman.org requesting the link for your child/ren specific year group.
- If you have forgotten your ID card or have not yet applied, you may still access the campus by providing the security guards with a valid ID card, who will then provide you with a visitors gate pass.



- Whilst collecting students from the swimming programme, ASAs, etc., please ensure to supervise accompanying siblings at all times.
- Please be respectful of our security staff whilst they enforce ABA regulations.
- To maintain safety, security and cleanliness of the campus, security will block off some areas of the campus after the end of the school day.
- Visitors are restricted to the area(s) associated with their visit.
- Please be respectful of our security staff whilst they enforce ABA regulations.
- As per ABA child protection policy, we ask everyone to ensure that they only use restrooms/changing rooms designated for adults whilst visiting the campus. Parents of young children who require adult assistance must accompany them to the adult restrooms.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

OUR FIRST AL IRFAN GUEST SPEAKER!

The Grade 4 team were lucky to experience a very interesting session with our first ABA Al Irfan guest speaker, Mr. Robin Keuning on Thursday. Mr. Robin shared his knowledge with students about his role as a Project Manager. Students were highly engaged and really enjoyed finding out more about some of the projects Mr. Robin has managed, and in particular his role as the project manager for the ABA Al Irfan campus.

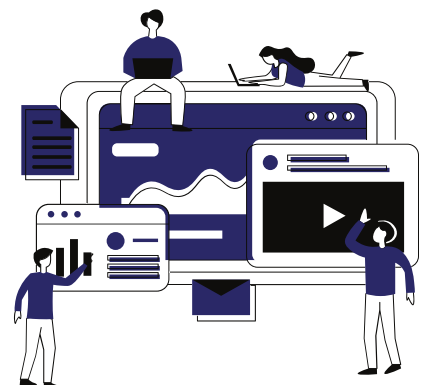


There were lots of thoughtful questions connected to the challenges faced and how they were overcome with a solution-focussed mindset. A big thank you to Mr. Robin for sharing his time and knowledge with our Elementary learners.

CALLING ALL PARENT EXPERTS



Would you like to inspire our Elementary students? Would you like to share your knowledge and expertise from your chosen field of study or employment? Grade 5 students in particular would really like to speak with experts connected to their selected area of research for the PYP Exhibition. Please send Bronwyn Matamu an email at bmatamu@abaoman.org for more information.



ELEMENTARY STUDENT COUNCIL AND ECO RANGERS

The Elementary Student Council has been busy in the first few weeks on the new campus. In addition to the student council helping our younger students find their classes the first few days at ABA Al Ifran, they have also been reviewing feedback from Grades 1-5 on breaktime expectations. They then gave their input and revised the finalised expectations for all play spaces, considering safety, respect and responsibility in the different areas.



The Elementary Eco Rangers, in collaboration with the Student Council, have been **planning a week of fun activities to celebrate Earth Day** which falls on April 22nd every year. This collaborative planning has included organising for each child to plant a seed and creating a digital assembly.



The theme this year is Invest in Our Planet. What small actions could you take at home to make a sustainable change?

#EARTHDAY #ABAOMAN #ABALEARNS



**INVEST
IN OUR
PLANET**

MS PODCASTS



MIDDLE SCHOOL

MS STUDENT COUNCIL

Al Rahma Association for Women and Childhood strives to help less fortunate families in Oman, providing them with the necessary financial and non-financial support. If you would like to support, vouchers can be purchased from the MS StuCo Representatives for 1 Rial.

Ramadan Food Drive

The PTA's Ramadan Food Drive has begun and will be ongoing until 2nd May. Can you donate some non-perishable food items or a Ramadan box? Donations can be left in the entrance to the Athletics Centre by the parking area from 8am to 1pm. Next week, Grade 7 & 8 students will be collecting any donations from advisories in morning registration.



REPORTING MID SEMESTER

The mid semester reports consist of the grade synopsis, ATL skills, and MYP levels. These will be available on April 25th.





STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES - APRIL 26TH

SLCs will convene between 8am - 1pm for all MS Students. All MS Advisors have sent an email invitation to you, to sign up for these on Google Calendar. Please make your appointment.

MS CONNECTS



Students spent Tuesday's MS Connects classes preparing their digital student portfolios for the upcoming Student-Led Conferences. The calibre of work is extremely high, and students put in huge efforts to create unique, personal and detailed portfolios. Students then spent time rehearsing and sharing their portfolios with their peers. Prepare to be impressed on April 26th.




**YOUR
SCHOOL
NEEDS
YOU!**

MS Connects

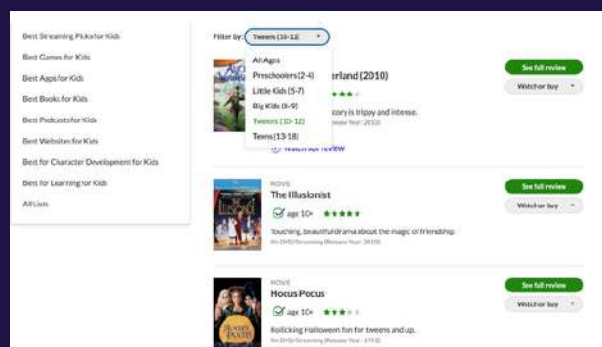
Speakers for our MS Connects
Interdisciplinary & Holistic Curriculum

Speaker talks **provide an opportunity for students to hear from those outside the school system.** ... you may be sharing insights on a topical issue, your job, experiences you've had, hobbies or something related to a subject or topic the students are studying.

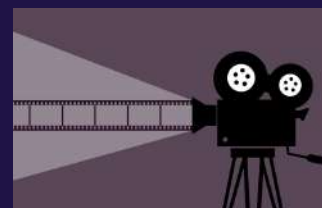
Please email tvharmelen@abaoman.org if you are in keen to get involved

SOMETHING FOR THE WEEKEND

Commonsensemedia.org is an invaluable resource for Middle School staff and parents. This organisation provides feedback on apps, games and media which is age-appropriate, impartial and takes into consideration the opinions of adults and children. This week they have highlighted the function on their website which gives you lists for Family Movies, so rather than scroll through Netflix and hope that the PG/12 rating is appropriate, this enables you to choose a suitable movie for the whole family to enjoy.



Have a great Movie Night!



HIGH SCHOOL

GRADE 12

Grade 12 students have completed their last day of formal lessons. We wish all G12 the very best for the forthcoming examination period.



DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

Please refer to the email communication from the Head of School.



SCHOOL DAY

Until the summer the timings for the day will be slightly different, the daily schedule can be accessed from **HERE**. Students will be permitted to enter the campus from 7:30am and must be in mentor classes by 7:50am.

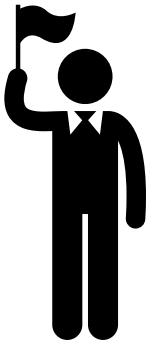
Students arriving after 7:50am must sign in late at Reception. This is also where students can sign out if permitted to do so during the day. High School students must use the two middle entrances into the main block to enter the campus.

Students will follow the same timetable but rooms will obviously change once on the new campus. Students can view the rooms being used by High School **HERE**. If unclear then students should check with their Learning Mentor and or classroom teacher.

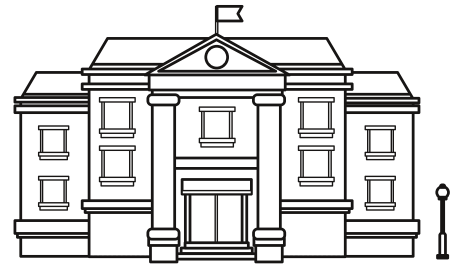
AL IRFAN MOVE FOR HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 9-11 will begin lessons at the new Al Irfan campus on Monday 25th April (online learning on Sunday 24th). The MYP Onscreen examinations (Grade 10) and the DP examinations (Grade 12) will be held at our current, Al Khuwair campus.

ORIENTATION



Periods 1 and 2 on Monday 25th April will be used for student orientation with Learning Mentors. Students must meet in their mentor class by 7:50am (double check with your mentor that you know where to meet). This will include a campus tour and the sharing of key information including evacuation routes, location of the nurse, where to go at break time etc.



LUNCH

Students will have access to the cafeteria during both breaks. They can eat a packed lunch in the cafeteria or purchase from the caterers. If students already have a COMO card they may continue to use this on the new campus. Next week, high school students can top-up/purchase COMO cards from 7:30am to 15:30 pm everyday.

WI-FI



There is Wi-Fi available throughout the campus; the password will be shared with you when you are at the Al Irfan campus.

MOBILE PHONES

High School students are permitted to have mobile phones, but these cannot be used indoors unless specific permission is given by a teacher for a classroom task.

LIBRARY

The library is a shared K-12 learning space and all students must be respectful of this. The library is open to High School students between 7:30am and 3:15pm (after Ramadan this will extend to 4:00pm). Within the library there is a separate Diploma study room which is for silent/independent study.

LOCKERS

There are enough lockers for all students on the 2nd floor. These are not lockable but can be used to temporarily store items (not valuables). Further information will come from Learning Mentors.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

The Student Support Services area is on the 1st floor (around from the library) and this is where students can find social and emotional counselling, university counselling, learning support, English language support and help with using IT for learning (Ejaz IT support is also on the 1st floor but in a different location). Mr Essex is also in this area to provide students with support as needed.



Naturally it will take some time to settle into our new ABA home. Students and parents are encouraged to reach out to Learning Mentors if you have any questions or feedback during those first few days. We are all here to help and will do our best to help students settle quickly.

WORLD BOOK DAY

Sightings of Alice in Wonderland, Dog Man, and at least a dozen Harry Potters were reported at ABA on Thursday, as the Elementary school celebrated World Book Day. The hallways were filled with characters from books of all kinds - even characters from books written by students themselves. Also, many classes enjoyed special library lessons with our World Book Day guest, Ms. K.



ABA ACHIEVER

Our grade 10 student, Ayman Al Busaidi, won the silver for the Oman under-18 national golf team at the GCC Championships held at the Abu Dhabi National Golf club. The event played over 3 days had some of the most talented under-18 golfers from the region compete for the coveted prize.

Ayman's next major event will be the R&A Junior Golf Championships to be held at Montleith golf course in Scotland in July. A very prestigious event where he will play against the best juniors from around the world. Well done Ayman and good luck!



As a community, it is amazing to celebrate achievements, big or small, of our students, faculty and parents. If you would like to share your accomplishments or inspiring stories with the world, please write to us on marketing@abaoman.org and we would love to feature it!

ABA ATHLETICS

MESAC Speech and Debate continues this weekend with rounds 3 and 4 with the region's best student speakers and debaters awarded the much sought after MESAC medals on Finals day, Saturday. Well done to our 18 S&D students and 3 coaches and thank you to the wonderful ABA faculty and parents who judged rounds in a very challenging and intense competition. Big high-five to ABA Faculty member Atiq Hussain for his extraordinary technology assistance in this virtual event, over the last two weeks in particular.

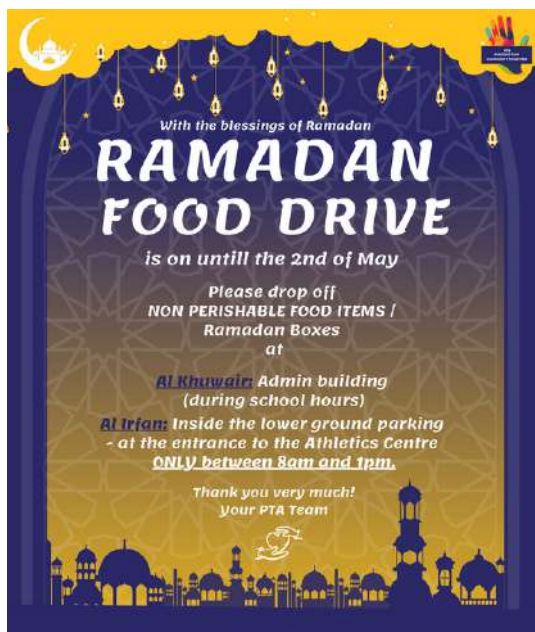


PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

PTA RAMADAN FOOD DRIVE

The PTA Ramadan Food Drive is still on until **May 2nd!** You can drop off non-perishable food items / Ramadan boxes between 8am and 1pm at the entrance of the Athletics Center (at the Lower Ground parking lot, Al Irfan).

If it is more convenient, you can drop off donations at the Admin building of the Al Khuwair campus during school hours too. We saw a few more donations coming in this week! So, again we'd like to thank the families who already donated!



PARENT ACTIVITIES & LEISURE

For **PAL**, Ann-Katrin hosted a workshop with the Points of You® tools on Monday April 18th in the teacher's lounge at the Al Khuwair Campus. The group was small, but the workshop was enjoyed by all.


Did you miss it? Or do you want to join in again? On **May 26th** from 11am to 1pm she will be doing the last workshop for this school year. In each session different photo-word tools will be used. What remains the same is that you will be guided to pause, take time for yourself, self reflect, gain a new perspective and above all have fun. **Sign up here!**





The PTA has been working hard this year to be visible and organize interesting and fun activities for parents and students alike. Behind the scenes, we have also been working on streamlining some processes and revising the **PTA Articles of Association**.

The revision of the Articles was necessary, as the existing version catered to a dual campus model. Additionally, some minor updates have been included.

 **Click here for the proposed Articles**. From page 15 onwards, the existing articles and proposed changes are highlighted. Please direct any comments or queries to PTAchair@abaoman.org

We hope that Articles can be voted in at the Annual General Meeting **on May 16, 2022. (Please note that a wrong date was stated in the email sent out on Monday)**. At this meeting, the new PTA team will also be voted in.



PTA ELECTIONS



Join the 2022-23 PTA committee! On April 19th we had a lovely 'meet and greet the PTA for all interested future PTA committee members.

Please go to our website for job descriptions and self nomination.

Alternatively you could direct any queries to PTAchair@abaoman.org



VIPERS BOOSTER CLUB

The Vipers Booster Club settled into the new home and sorted all the exciting merchandise. We are looking forward to the shop opening very soon. Stay tuned for the date and more details.



VBC ELECTIONS

Another school year is nearing the end and before the summer the VBC has some key positions to fill. We believe we have a fantastic community out here to step in!

[Click here to visit our website](#) to find out how you can get involved.



[Click here to hear what Vinnie the Viper has to say!](#)



If you have any questions please do reach out to us under boosterclub@abaoman.org and we are looking forward to having YOU on the team next year!



Invest In Our Planet

22.04.2022

ABA — **OMAN** —
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

