

# SCHOOL NEWS



Mrs Sandra Matthews

## FROM THE DIRECTOR...

*"Great is Thy Faithfulness" Lamentations 3 vv22-23*

A few weeks ago the school celebrated its 60th 'Birthday'.

It was in 1962 that the building was changed from being a hospital and adapted into the school site we see today. As I look back at photographs of past students and staff, I feel an enormous sense of privilege to be the new School Director at AISJ.

Throughout our lives we all experience change. This may be change in where we live, where we work or where we study. At AISJ our aim is to be a welcoming school, where every child and adult feels valued and accepted for who they are.

As a staff we recognize the uniqueness of every child, and whether a student is new to AISJ or has studied here for many years, we want to see all our students happy, confident, and prepared to take their place in our ever changing World.

As a school, we recognize that we do this with you, their families, and we look forward to developing our relationships with you over the coming school year.

Best wishes to you all.

AISJ celebrates 60 great years of educating children from around the world! We look forward to many more to come.



## WELCOME TO NEW FACULTY MEMBERS



**Mrs Sandra Matthews**

I have spent my entire working career in Education, and have been a Headteacher for just over 20 years.

Throughout that time, I worked in multi-cultural schools that received students from diverse backgrounds.

Whilst holding that role, I was also a school Inspector at County and National levels, but never lost my enjoyment of being with students of all ages.

I am married with 2 children and 4 step children, and am also an ordained Anglican Priest, who feels

"called for such a time as this". Esther 4 vv14



**Mr Oliver Vince. Mathematics**

I hold a first class honours BSc in Mathematics from University College London. My educational pathway could have led me to Ancient Greek, Latin and modern languages - I am fluent in German. But my passion for mathematics was ignited during my schooling when I discovered I could 'do it' - through determined application! My interests outside the classroom range from music and chess to theology, history - especially the extensive history of maths - running and climbing. When opportunity arises I expand my piano playing repertoire. With prior experience teaching at the Fulham Boys School in London, I now teach a wide range of classes from MY1-DY2 at AISJ. I am driven not only to improve myself but also to improve the lives of others. What a great privilege it is to have an opportunity early in my career to pass on knowledge whilst it is fresh from my own studies. I love the ethos of AISJ and am excited to see students discover the adventure of problem solving which has such wide application in the modern world.

**Amanda Abel, Social Emotional Counselor**



My name is Amanda Abel, I was born in the US in Indiana. When I was beginning my career as a teacher I moved to Zimbabwe to teach children in the bush at a community called Mashoko. From there my family moved into South East Asia: Cambodia, Vietnam, and China. My four children are TCK's and we have continued to travel together and enjoy other cultures across the globe. I enjoy sand tray and art therapy with my students and have had the privilege to work with students from all over the globe. I seek to discover the student's strengths and goals for their lives and help them overcome obstacles so as to reach the destiny that our Creator had in mind from the beginning of time. I find great joy watching our students become servant leaders of integrity and empathy. Social Emotional Wellness is a lifestyle that I see as foundation block, for the success of all of our youth.

In my free time, I have enjoyed photography of flowers and bird watching. I now have three married children and one single; I am blessed to see three grand-daughters come into this world-Kamea, Charlotte, and Dalia. I live with gratitude and optimism, as I reflect on the goodness and mercy of a loving God. We are all blessed, to be a blessing.

## MYP NEWS

**"Everybody can be great because everybody can serve." – Martin Luther King, Jr.**

Our annual "MYP Service in Action" day took place on Wednesday, November 2, 2022

This year, our students served in 2 separate locations.

The MY1-3 students served the wider community by harvesting olives at the Augusta Victoria Hospital, all funds will go towards caring for the children who are sick in the hospital.



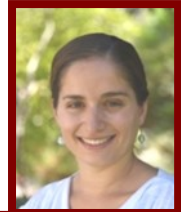
The MY 4-5 students served by harvesting vegetables at Leket organization, aiming to eradicate hunger through various projects.

Students were blessed with the opportunity to feel for others who are less fortunate in several ways.

A big shout out to our wonderful students who have given their time to help others!

## MORE MYP NEWS...

Congratulations to all the MYP students who are just about finished with their first semester this year. As we prepare for exams and reports, I would like to take the opportunity to briefly discuss assessment in the Middle Years Programme (MYP).



Mrs Meira Yan  
MYP Co-ordinator

First off, each of the 8 subjects in the MYP is evaluated using 4 criteria. These criteria differ per subject and an example of the Mathematics subject specific criteria is provided below.

A final grade for each subject is calculated using the 4 subject specific criteria and the MYP grade boundaries (provided below).

We are very proud of the effort and hard work of all of our students at AISJ and are looking forward to a meaningful and successful close to semester 1 and a bright start to semester 2.

### Mathematics Criteria

Criterion A	Knowing and understanding	Maximum 8
Criterion B	Investigating patterns	Maximum 8
Criterion C	Communicating	Maximum 8
Criterion D	Applying mathematics in real-life contexts	Maximum 8

### MYP grade boundaries

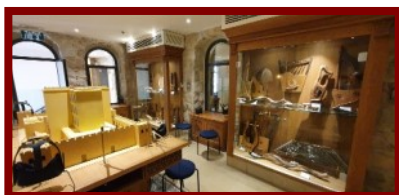
MYP final grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sum of subject criteria	1-5	6-9	10-14	15-18	19-23	24-27	28-32

On Wednesday, November 9, the **MY4 and 5 Hebrew class** enjoyed a trip to the Hebrew Music Museum. The Museum is next to Kikar Ha'musica, where there are nightly musical performances.



The students experienced an exhibition of a wide variety of rare and ancient musical instruments from different historical periods. We had a guided tour through four different rooms of the museum to understand how different cultures have influenced Hebraic music. Cultures from India, Syria, Europe and the Middle East in general.

The tour took us on a musical journey throughout the world, across different cultures, time periods, regions and continents and led us to recognize the deep healing and spiritual value of music when perceived from special points of view.



The students also had the opportunity to interact with some drums in an impressive drumming session, led by the very experienced and entertaining tour guide.

Thank you to all the parents who contributed to the success of the Christmas Fair.



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AISJ is an internationally accredited pre-Kindergarten to Grade 12 (ages 3-18) school, dedicated to preparing students to succeed throughout the world, in schools, universities, future responsibilities and careers, and is founded upon Christian beliefs and values.

Our mission is to:

Lead the way, every day to deliver the best world class education.

Teach within the best methodology available and within the highest standards of Christian ethics and values.

Value, care for and encourage every child to learn to the best of their ability and to prepare them to take their place as a world citizen.

Value and professionally enhance every staff member.

Assist every school family to partner in the learning experience of the child within this unique and special location.

## BOARD BUSINESS

The end of the year approaches. For many of us holidays like Channukah and Christmas combined with the end of the calendar year, give us moments of reflection. For Christians, the time of year is called Advent, a season similar to the Days of Awe (slichot).

Sometime between 200 and 180 BCE a Jerusalem scholar, probably a lawyer, wrote a book filled with reflections on life. His name was Yeshua ben Sirach. The book is a bit autobiographical and influenced by wisdom literature. Wisdom is "the ability to judge what is true, right, or lasting."

Below is a tiny sample from what later editors organized as chapter 14:

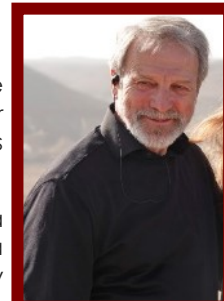
"Blessed is the man who meditates on wisdom and who reasons intelligently.

He who reflects in his mind on her ways will also ponder her secrets.

Pursue wisdom like a hunter, and lie in wait on her paths.

He who peers through her windows will also listen at her doors...he will be sheltered by her from the heat, and will dwell in the midst of her glory."

As I look back on this past year and our aspirations as a school, we are and always will be committed to more than academic excellence, because we desire all our AISJ graduates to enter the world not only as people of character, but also as young people who value and seek wisdom.



**Daryl Fenton,  
Chair of the Board**

## INCLUSION NEEDS

The Inclusion Needs Department runs through the school to address all students' individual needs, at any point in their AISJ journey.

We are proud to have a well-staffed department which is remarkable for a school of our size, and many different forms of support are available. Being a non-selective school, we pride ourselves in including all kinds of learners.

Some of our students need support acquiring English, others need help adjusting to our learning styles and our curriculum after coming from different educational frameworks. Some of our students have diagnosed needs and some of our students are on our radar for possible unidentified needs. The aim of our Inclusion Needs department is to deliver individualized support until the student can thrive at school independently. A large percentage of students at AISJ receive some form of support from IN at some point in their school careers.

If you have any information on your child's learning needs or would like to share any concerns, please inform the homeroom teacher, or Fay Blau (Elementary Inclusion Coordinator): [fay.blau@aisj.co.il](mailto:fay.blau@aisj.co.il), or Malika Levi Beiruti (Secondary Inclusion Coordinator): [malika@aisj.co.il](mailto:malika@aisj.co.il) if you have not already done so.

Wishing us all a joyful new school year.

## Magic in MYP STEM club

During STEM club, students have been having fun exploring

the magical world of science. They have made levitating hovercrafts, turned copper coins gold, made objects disappear, created 3D holograms and extracted limonene from oranges, witnessed some explosions, created a magical snake and used putty to build a working electrical circuit.



**Attention Parents!**

**If you have changed your contact details, please let the school office know!**

**[office@aisj.co.il](mailto:office@aisj.co.il)**