



Together
WE
grow



INSPIRE • EMPOWER • EXPLORE



MISSION

We are a dynamic IB Continuum school, working in partnership with our diverse community. Together, we inspire and empower learners to explore their unique pathways to success.



VISION

Innovative and authentic learning in a diverse and creative community where sustainability and individual growth are to the betterment of all.



VALUES

Our values are encapsulated in the **IB LEARNER PROFILE** and **THE ABA WAY**

IB LEARNER PROFILE

THE ABA WAY



INQUIRERS



OPEN-MINDED



KNOWLEDGEABLE



CARING



THINKERS



RISK-TAKERS



COMMUNICATORS



BALANCED



PRINCIPLED



REFLECTIVE

The ABA community lives its mission and exemplifies its values on a day-to-day basis to fulfill its vision. The ABA Way thrives through its active local and global citizenship, creating a collective responsibility to maintain a positive climate of mutual respect, fostering trust, and celebrating differences. Our diversity is our collective strength, and we strive to safeguard, value and nurture each member of our community.

Together We Grow



Dear ABA Community,

The creation of our yearbook is a wonderful opportunity to reflect upon and commemorate the triumph of operating from our magnificent new campus for a full year. This has been a remarkable voyage, and we are thrilled to witness our students and staff flourishing in our novel learning environment. Furthermore, this year represents ABA's 35th anniversary, a significant milestone that attests to our school's pledge to offer superior education and cultivate a sense of camaraderie among our students, parents, faculty, and staff. It is an honor to be a part of this exceptional organization and anticipate numerous successful years ahead.

I would like to extend my felicitations to our students on their triumphs this year. Your unwavering perseverance and commitment have not gone unnoticed, and we take pride in all that you have acquired and achieved.

Additionally, I would like to express my profound gratitude towards ABA's remarkable faculty and staff for your steadfast commitment to our students' learning and well-being. You have all made a positive impact on the lives of our children, a feat that cannot be overstated.

A special note of gratitude goes out to ABA's parent-volunteers who devote countless hours to support the institution we all hold dear. Specifically, I would like to acknowledge the Board of Directors for their ethical and mission-oriented governance, the PTA for providing avenues for our community to come together, and our Booster Club for their contributions towards our student-athletes and ABA's all-encompassing athletic programme. Thank you all for your unwavering support and dedication.

Lastly, to the ABA graduating class, congratulations on all that you have accomplished! You have evolved and achieved significantly during your tenure at ABA, and we wish you the very best in your future pursuits as alumni. Please remember that ABA will always be here to support you.

As the academic year comes to a close, I would like to wish everyone a well-deserved summer break. Make the most of your time with loved ones and return rejuvenated and prepared for another successful year at ABA or beyond.

Sincerely,
Craig Williamson
ABA - Head of School





An incredible journey of

ABA
AN IB WORLD SCHOOL

35 glorious years...







June 26, 1987
Starting work on site with tractor



1987
Lowering of pre-cast concrete



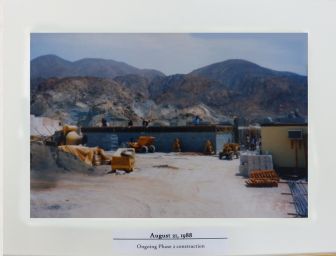
A Tribute to ABA's 35th Anniversary...

“ In 1987 as the founding Head or Superintendent of the ABA, I was privileged to work closely with an extraordinary team of colleagues, who believed passionately in the need to create a truly international school in Oman. The impossible was made possible because of their hard work, values and vision which allowed us to transform a dream into a reality.

Over the years, ABA has grown and developed from its small but auspicious start into today's large, vibrant, international school which is globally recognised and enjoys an enviable reputation, as well as an outstanding new campus. Yet, it is the spirit of the ABA which has distinguished it and has bound its community together both past and present. For the reality is that every individual who has attended, worked, and supported the ABA, has contributed to its current success and achievement.

Our early dreams have been more than fulfilled and today it is a source of great pride and joy for me to be able to recognise and celebrate with you the 35th Anniversary of our school. Warm congratulations to all members of the ABA and best wishes for the future of the school as it continues to move forward.”

~ **Philippa M.C. Leggate**
Founding Head of ABA
1987 - 1991



August 25, 1987
Clearing phase construction



September 26, 1987
The first concrete slab is poured
into the ground floor



August 20, 1987
Old grades building being constructed



June 15, 1988
Transfer of old grades building
to new day classes building



June 15, 1988
Transfer of old grades building
to new day classes building



June 15, 1988
Transfer of old grades building
to new day classes building



December 26, 1989
Old grades 1 & 2 building completed



November 11, 1987
Speech by U.S. Ambassador Montgomery
at the official opening ceremony



October 24, 1988
Class of 1988 seated in the front row at the
first U.S. Day celebrations on campus

#OurCommunity...

“Thank you for inviting me to contribute to this momentous occasion in ABA’s journey to greatness. I take this opportunity to congratulate the ABA board, leadership team, faculty and staff, students and community at large (present and past) on ABA’s 35th Anniversary. Together we have worked on providing our students with a high quality international education so they can serve as leaders and contributors throughout the world.

I had the privilege of serving ABA for 18 years from 1996 – 2014. Throughout my tenure, I witnessed many of ABA’s accomplishments including: ABA’s expansion of purpose-built facilities and student growth at the Al Khuwair campus. ABA’s transition to offering the IBPYP and IBMYP alongside the IGCSE and IB Diploma programs, and its recognition as the first school in the Middle East to offer all three IB programs.



Most importantly, countless ABA alumni have taken the time to embrace the lessons learnt at ABA and are sensitive to the problems of society. They are exerting their positive influence to bring about the change they know is needed to help our troubled world. They are allowing the ideas gained from their ABA education to spill onto what may at first seem like infertile ground to touch the seeds of minds waiting to be presented with another point of view.

Moving forward, ABA must continue to educate our students so each individual can contribute to the betterment of humanity and the survival of our planet.

Happy 35th Birthday ABA! Inshallah, you will enjoy many more successful years as a leader in international education."

~ Mona Nashman-Smith
ABA Superintendent
1996 - 2014



“All schools have their own character, yet ABA has something special. While a school’s location and campus contribute to the feel of a place – no more so than Oman which offers a warm welcoming environment - it is truly the people who create the culture and maintain the spirit. It is not only those who live and breathe in the school today who shape it, but also those who have played their part over the last 35 years. It is through their efforts that ABA has reached this milestone.

It is said that seven dog years are equal to one human year. With schools, I think it is two per human year. It seems to me this is worth mentioning as the move to the new campus equates to a coming of age. In the first '17.5 years', the school experienced the wonder and joy of being; an increasing awareness and appraisal of self; and the strengthening of confidence in its purpose, direction and vision. It will be for the staff, students and parents of today’s ABA Oman to enjoy carrying this forward.

Leaving one’s childhood behind is not always easy but when looking at the possibilities ahead, one can only be excited. As Superintendent of ABA from 2015 to 2019, it was my privilege to lead the school and take it through one part of its life journey.

I congratulate the staff, students and parents on this anniversary and wish everyone all the very best at the beginning of a new era."

~ Simon Taylor
ABA Superintendent
2015 - 2019

#OurCommunity...



“Thirty five years. Time sure does fly. From a school of under 200 students to one with more than 900 and over 70 different nationalities. What a long way we have come. As a school. As a community.

My husband and I chose ABA not only for the IB (although that was a huge part of it), but for the community. It was important for us that our children are brought up in a community with different nationalities and exposed to different cultures. We strongly believe that it's through these differences that one learns how similar everyone really is. We are unique because of our diversity. No matter where we are from, everyone has a place in ABA. Everyone is at home here.

I still recall my children's first day in ABA. It was 2016 and my eldest son was about to begin grade 6. It's now 2023 and that son is about to graduate. I told you time flies.

As part of the ABA community I've worn a few different hats: Home Room Parent, volunteer, Board Director, Board Chair.... My favorite? Being an ABA mother to kids I have watched flourish and thrive. A friend to mothers who have shared this journey with me. The ups and downs. Part of a team that brought our students to this state of the art campus in hope that it gives them more learning opportunities and helps prepare them for the challenges that lie ahead.

Wishing ABA all the luck and success in the coming years. Here is to the next 35!"

~Lamya Al Kiyumi
ABA Board Chair 2017 - 2022

“ABA has been part of many milestones in my life. Graduating from high school in 2005, ABA established many friendships which I cherish till today and prepared me to take full advantage of the opportunities that life has provided since. In addition to being an alumni, I am a proud ABA parent with both of our daughters, Anaya & Zoya, loving their own experience at the school.

As an alumni, I was biased in choosing where our children studied, however, for Puja and I, the most important aspect of where our children study was a community that stood for tolerance and is truly international. Finally, Puja has served on the board of ABA over the past two years, and her commitment to support the school maintain and build on its solid foundation has further cemented our love for ABA."

~ Aaditya R Khimji
ABA alum and parent



“It is such a pleasure to see ABA reach new heights at the Al Irfan campus. The students, the community and most importantly, the teachers bring a new level of life and excitement onto the campus. The new Mission, Vision and Values of the school along with the new Strategic Plan will be our guide for the future of ABA. I am both excited and proud to be a part of the journey and can't wait to see all the exciting things that are yet to come for ABA."

~ Puja Khimji
British Embassy Appointed
Director and Vice-Chair

#OurCommunity...

“ Over the last 10 years ABA has become our 'home away from home'. Attracted initially by the IB program and the school's values, our decision to join the school was validated by the welcoming community, the plentiful opportunities to get involved and the continuous focus on improving the school's programs.

During our time MESAC was kicked-off, parents founded the Booster Club, the Arts department grew by leaps and bounds and the school added and expanded its programs in psychology, design, computer science, economics and business, providing students with an abundance of opportunities to explore their passions.

Our favorite experiences would have to be our daughters service trip to Tanzania, MESAC competitions and the amazing annual drama performances.

For me personally the relationships and friends made while working with the PTA and serving as a Board Director are especially meaningful and culminated in delivering our beautiful new campus!

This being the 1st full year there, we can see all the potential for even more program enhancements and we look forward to seeing what the future will bring!

Happy 35th Birthday ABA!"



~ Clauss Niazi
Former Board Director
and PTA Chair



“ Our family joined ABA when our eldest son started his educational journey in K1. What made us choose ABA was the IB curriculum, the welcoming atmosphere and the wonderful accounts we heard from friends and family about the quality of the teaching and learning at the school.

As new parents, the teachers at ABA welcomed us and our children and encouraged us to be partners in their educational journey. Almost 17 years later, this still holds true. No school is perfect, but I am happy to say that our children's individual educational experiences catered to their unique interests, abilities and needs.

The safe, empowering and inspiring environment our kids learned in allowed them to explore their strengths, work on their weaknesses, make friends with children from diverse backgrounds and build lifelong connections with them. It has been a pleasure seeing our children involved in the school activities, clubs and various initiatives available to them at school.

Over the years, ABA has become akin to a second home to us, the place where we, together with teachers and other parents, have the privilege of witnessing our children grow into the knowledgeable, global minded, confident and caring young people they are today."

~ Jinane Helou
University Counselor
and former Board Director

#OurCommunity...

“For 19 years, ABA has been more than just a school to us - it has become an extension of our family's home in Oman. From our children's earliest days in K1 to their final year in Grade 12, ABA has played a central role in shaping our family's journey.

The cultural diversity fostered at ABA has been invaluable to us. We have built connections with families from all over the world, embracing a global perspective while staying grounded in our South African identity. During cultural festivals, we revelled in the vibrant tapestry of cultures, taking immense pride in waving our South African flag by sharing our famous boerewors, and cherishing the inclusive atmosphere.

Beyond academics, ABA has provided us with extraordinary opportunities. As parents, we actively served on the Board and PTA, contributing to the growth of the school. Our children have enjoyed a myriad of enriching experiences, traveling on exciting school trips worldwide, representing ABA at prestigious conferences like THIMUN and MESAC, showcasing their talents in school plays, performing arts festivals and WSC Finals at Yale.

We hold deep gratitude for ABA and its incredible community. As we bid farewell, we extend our heartfelt wishes for a prosperous future for ABA. With confidence, we know that it will continue to shape the lives of generations to come. Go Vipers!"

Bernhard, Marinda, Janka, Stefanie and Anja van der Merwe



~ **Marinda van der Merwe**
ABA parent (2004 - 2023)

“It's 21 years since Sultan and I made the decision to enroll our children at ABA! At my first experience of the ABA International Cultural Festival, I particularly remember the diversity of the attendees, being fascinated by the eclectic variety of national dress, and the tremendous interest in our bookstall, the curiosity of elementary and high school students and despite sales being brisk opportunities to chat with lots of friendly, interesting people, adult and children alike. In a momentary lull I went to check out the other stalls. I was spellbound by the extraordinary creativity I saw, the richness and diversity of cultures represented, gastronomically, musically, artistically, linguistically, each stall proudly showcasing some of the best traditions of their cultures! I knew if I was going to spend my life in Muscat and had children, the school of my choice would be ABA!



As a fully signed up IB family, our learner profile development has been profound and our youngest child of 5 is the last of our children to attend ABA. As long term stakeholders we have witnessed and actively supported so many important milestones achieved by the school thanks to the continuous wise stewardship of ABA management. Throughout, ABA has retained its unique quality of fostering intercultural understanding and respect, retained its dynamic, creative, pioneering spirit, always with an eye to the future. Our family has been, and continues to be, enriched by the many friends we have made through the years - teachers, students, parents, and support staff.

ABA's inception 35 years ago was initiated by a brave, risk taking group of parents and teachers who laid the foundations of the highly respected institution it has become today, locally and internationally. As they were, we are baton bearers. May ABA long continue to thrive and progress as it has from its inception all those 35 years ago."

~ **Alison Al Maskari**
ABA parent (2002 - present)

#OurCommunity...

“Nearly 20 years ago, the ABA I arrived at was a school of about 575 students, K-12. I was immersed in teaching PYP grade 5 and grades 6-9. At the time, music stopped at grade 9. In my second year we had permission to take music to grade 10 and IGCSE music. ABA had its first rock band as a result. The School Musical ensued called 'Wind in The Wadis' which I set to the music of Queen.

From a meeting with the South African Ambassador, ABA initiated Africa Unity Day and I directed 3 years of shows with ABA's hugely diverse African community. This was followed by directing a number of whole school UN Day performances which were the artistic highlight of the school year.

ABA then joined MESAC and I worked to create a concert band. This was so successful that the school at one time had ten concert bands. The HS band played for many school events plus great days out playing at TSS, GUtech and BSM.

A highlight was the Junior Fine Arts performance themed 'The Dhow that Rocked', where students from the MESAC schools joined together to work collaboratively on the theme of the ship sunk in the war, off the coast of Oman. The music and the whole theme was composed by my father as a special commission, and I had the honour to conduct and direct.

Over the years, ABA has given me and my family so many wonderful memories to cherish..."



“ Now being 10 years since I graduated, ABA has been a part of my life for the better part of my life, as a student, alumni and now a faculty member. It certainly has influenced and shaped who I am today, to the point where I returned back here!

The bond and relationships that I forged here in my school days carry on to my life nowadays in a way that I have not seen nor experienced any place else. In fact many of us continue to be close friends to this date. We certainly are deeply grateful for the environment and experience that ABA gave us to help us grow into the successful individuals we are today.

From the experiences of going on Discovery Week together in Grade 1, the banter in the classroom all the way through our graduation ceremony in Grade 12, our cohort grew together.

It is certainly the same that I see today as a faculty member and being on "the other side", I feel I have grown with the school and feel a part of its growth with new faculty, new leadership and of course, a new campus."



~ **Anthony Langrish**
ABA Faculty



~ **Nikhil Narayanan**
ABA Faculty

3 decades with ABA...

Anwar Al Raisi
PR Director



...a warm and welcoming multicultural community, just like our beautiful Oman.

Ann Smith
Admissions Director



...an incredible journey that has brought many wonderful experiences, friendships and memories. I am so privileged to be a part of a truly international and vibrant school community and to be the one setting students off on their educational journeys as they enter the school.

ABA
is...

Vasudevan KV
Operations Director



...a truly international melting pot of cultures, perspectives, languages, ethnicities that make up one big global family where we celebrate and embrace our differences.

Nandakumar MK
Maintenance Supervisor



...my second home for 33 years... and the wonderful team here has been a huge source of strength and support for me and my family.

#WeAreABA

A beautiful depiction of the old and new ABA campuses by our talented parent Rebeca Nigris

ABA Al Khuwair



ABA Al Irfan



Can you identify some of the other popular monuments in Oman?





BALL IN THE BUCKET



CARNIVAL

ABA
OMAN
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



1987 - 2022
35th ANNIVERSARY
EXCELLENCE



ABA's 35th ANNIVERSARY



