

READY, SET, RECONNECT.

WELCOME BACK FROM FALL BREAK!

Message - From Dr. Zak Palsha, School Superintendent

Dear ACST Community,

Welcome back! We hope you enjoyed a restful and refreshing fall break. As we return for the second part of the semester, this newsletter offers a look back at some of the wonderful moments we've shared since the start of the school year, along with a preview of the exciting events ahead.

From our joyful PTO Ice Cream Social to the engaging Elementary and Secondary School Open Houses, it's been inspiring to see our campus come alive with connection and collaboration. Our sports teams and After School Activities are also off to a fantastic start — a true reflection of our students' energy and commitment.

Looking ahead, we're eager to welcome you to two cornerstone events on the ACST calendar — our Annual General Meeting, and the always vibrant International Day, hosted by our PTO. Both offer wonderful opportunities to engage, celebrate, and strengthen the bonds that make our community so special.

At ACST, keeping school and home closely connected remains one of our top priorities. Open communication allows us to support every student's journey with clarity, care, and partnership. As always, if you have any questions or would like to reach out, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Finally, please take a moment to review the information below regarding our new grading component introduced this year — we hope you'll find it helpful in understanding our approach to student growth and achievement.

We're excited for the months ahead and look forward to seeing you on campus at our upcoming events.

ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING

SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 24, 2025, 8:30 AM, IN THE THEATER.

What is an Association General Meeting?

At ACST, the Association General Meeting (AGM) is a twice-yearly gathering of the school community, as required by our Articles of Association. These meetings usually take place in October and April, with additional meetings scheduled if needed. The AGM is an opportunity for the Board of Governors and the Superintendent to update members of the Association (that's all parents/guardians of currently enrolled students and staff members) on the school's direction, progress, and key issues.

What happens at an AGM?

The Board President prepares an agenda in advance, which is shared with the community at least two weeks before the meeting.

The agenda usually includes updates on school performance, finances, upcoming initiatives, and sometimes student performances or presentations.

Members of the Association can ask questions and give feedback. If there are any official motions or decisions, these are recorded.

Why is it important?

AGMs are part of ACST's commitment to transparency, accountability, and community involvement. They keep families informed, allow for dialogue, and ensure that the school's governance remains connected to its mission and community.

How are AGMs documented?

Minutes are kept for each meeting and are made available in the ACST office and online, so that all members can review what was discussed and decided. We also provide screencasts of the AGMs in the Parent Portal.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

OCTOBER 24	Association General Meeting (AGM) | AGM Agenda
NOVEMBER 4	Board Meeting
DECEMBER 2	Board Meeting

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UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

OCTOBER 21	📸 School Pictures
OCTOBER 22	📸 School Pictures
OCTOBER 23	📸 School Pictures
OCTOBER 25	🌍 International Day
OCTOBER 30	☕ Parent Coffee: Understanding the Progress Report: Standards Based Grading and Reporting (add linlk)
OCTOBER 31	🎃 ES Halloween
NOVEMBER 1	👻 SS Halloween
NOVEMBER 5	Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences 🚫 No school
NOVEMBER 12	Faculty In-Service - ⓘ 12:30 pm Student Dismissal
NOVEMBER 13	Session one ASAs End
NOVEMBER 14	Fall Athletics End
NOVEMBER 17	Session two ASAs Begin
NOVEMBER 19	Winter Athletics Start
NOVEMBER 21	🎬 PTO Movie Night
NOVEMBER 25	🏆 Fall Team Awards Night
NOVEMBER 27	Thanksgiving 🚫 No school
NOVEMBER 28	Thanksgiving 🚫 No school
DECEMBER 9	🎶🎨 SS Music Winter Concert & Art Show
DECEMBER 12	🎤 SS ACST's Got Talent ⓘ 12:30 pm Dismissal

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ACST
OPENING DOORS,
HEARTS AND MINDS

INTERNATIONAL DAY

Celebrating Cultures Around the Globe!

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 25

TIME
10:00 AM TO 02:00 PM

WHERE
ACST CAMPUS

💵 **ENTRY FEES:**

- Free for kids under 3 years old
- 10 dinars for students
- 20 dinars for adults

Entry bracelets will be available starting Monday October 20.

📍 ES Playground
🕒 07:45 - 8:15 am
🕒 03:00 - 3:30 pm
🕒 04:00 - 04:30 pm

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:

🌍👫 Flag Parade
🍜🍊 Food Fair
🎲🌐 Games & Activities
🎉🎁 Many more surprises!

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A RECAP SINCE THE START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

We've learned, grown, and celebrated together as a community. Here's a glimpse of the first months of the school year.

PRE-SERVICE WEEK

We kicked off the year with our pre-service week, held from August 11 to August 15, centered around the theme “One Team, One Vision.” It was a fantastic opportunity for our staff to come together, connect, and align on our shared goals for the year. The week was filled with collaborative planning, meaningful discussions, and team-building activities, all of which set the stage for an exciting and successful year ahead.









MEET & GREET

On August 18, we held our Meet and Greet. It was wonderful to connect with new and returning families as we started another exciting year at ACST.





FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

August 19 marked the first day of school. We warmly welcomed all our students, both new and returning, as we began the year together.





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PTO ICE CREAM SOCIAL

On August 29, our PTO organized an Ice Cream Social for students and families, providing a fun opportunity to connect and enjoy the start of the school year together.









ES AND SS OPEN HOUSE

The Elementary and Secondary Schools held their Open Houses on September 3 and September 10, respectively. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet the parents who entrust us with their children's education and to share our vision for a bright and successful year ahead.









PTO MEDINA ART & ARCHITECTURE TOUR

On September 9, the PTO organized a tour to explore the Medina's art and architecture. Due to high demand, the tour was offered again on September 19.









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SS SPORTS DAY

On September 13, the Secondary School Sports Day took place. The Youth Club organized a variety of games for students, and the US Marines joined to support the event.









ES COMMUNITY TIME

This year, we have introduced a new structure to our early release Wednesdays by dedicating a full hour to community time. A key component of these afternoons is creating intentional opportunities for interdisciplinary and cross-grade collaboration, with the goal of strengthening belonging and connectedness across the elementary division. During this time, homeroom teachers plan alongside specialists, learning support, and world language colleagues, ensuring that students experience a rich blend of perspectives and expertise.





Our very first community time was a resounding success. Students engaged in meaningful activities that fostered collaboration and connection, while teachers worked together in new and productive ways.



A highlight of the day was watching our Grade 1 students meet their Grade 12 buddies for the first time, beginning relationships that will continue to grow throughout the school year. This initiative is already making a positive impact on student experience and will serve as an anchor for community-building in the months ahead.

SS ATHLETICS

We've hosted three successful Friday Game days for our Middle School volleyball teams and High School soccer teams. The swim team also had a very successful Blue vs White swim meet on Saturday that finished with a parent-supported potluck.

The Falcon Parent Council hosted ACST's first Falcon Fuel concession stand on Friday for Game Day. The Parent Council partnered with our Junior AMIS participants to raise awareness of their participation in this year's festival, as well as raise funds to help subsidize their trip. The AMIS students prepared baked goods and joined the parent council in the concession stand. A huge thanks to Nadine Helm and Tricia Steeves for doing a significant amount of prep work leading up to the event, and to AMIS chaperones Ms. Hannah and Dr. Dillard for organizing the students.







TUNISIAN STUDY TRIPS (TST)

Between September 30 and October 3, our students had the incredible opportunity to embark on Tunisian Study Trips. These trips allowed them to explore Tunisia's rich history and vibrant culture.













TUNIS CULTURE CALENDAR BY PTO

EXHIBITIONS:

Automne 2025, at Aïcha Gorgi, until Oct. 26,
https://www.facebook.com/agorgi

Dans l'intimité de la contemplation by Wahib Zannad, at ArchivArts, until Oct. 27,
https://archivart.co/

A Photobook World, at B7L9, until Nov. 2,
https://www.kamellazaarfoundation.org/fr/exhibtion/photobook-world

A Certain Distance by Aymen Mbarki, at La Boite, until Nov. 5,
https://www.facebook.com/share/p/17GeNBjJBK/

Black Seeds by M'barek Bouhchichi, Selma Feriani, until Nov. 22,
https://www.selmaferiani.com/exhibitions/78-les-graines-noires-black-seeds-m-barekbouhchichi-solo-exhibition-curated-by-beya-othmani/overview/

Echoes & Tides, at Yosr Ben Ammar, until Nov. 29,
https://yosrbenammargallery.com/Expo-Main

