

ACST
OPENING DOORS, HEARTS AND MINDS

# Welcome Back
## FROM FALL BREAK!

October 19, 2026

**READY, SET, RECONNECT.**

## 💬 Message - From Dr. Zak Palsha, School Superintendent

Dear ACST Community,

I hope you and your families had a wonderful fall break and are returning rested and ready for the weeks ahead. The first part of the school year has been filled with energy, connection, and many opportunities for our community to come together, and I am pleased to share a few highlights as we look toward the months ahead.

One of the exciting developments this year has been the launch of the Falcon Family Association (FFA). Their first major gathering, the FFA Ice Cream Social, was a wonderful way to bring families together and begin building a strong foundation for parent involvement and community engagement. We are grateful to everyone who has contributed their time and enthusiasm to this new chapter.

Our Elementary and Secondary Open Houses also gave families an opportunity to step into their children's learning environments, meet with teachers, and gain a deeper understanding of the experiences taking place across our school. Alongside this, our sports teams and After School Activities continue to provide students with opportunities to pursue interests, develop skills, and build relationships outside the classroom.

There is much to look forward to as we move further into the school year. The Association General Meeting, our ACST-hosted Soccer Tournament, and International Day, organized by the FFA, will offer opportunities for our community to connect, participate, and celebrate. We look forward to sharing these experiences with our students, families, and staff in the months ahead.

Strong relationships between school and home are essential to student success. We value the trust our families place in us and appreciate the many ways you remain engaged in your children's education and in the wider life of our school. Your partnership continues to be an important part of what makes ACST a connected and caring community.

Thank you for the continued support. We look forward to all that the remainder of the school year will bring and to seeing our community come together in the many opportunities ahead.

# ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING

## SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 23, 2026, 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 23 | Association General Meeting (AGM) \| AGM Agenda |
| NOVEMBER 10 | Board Meeting |
| DECEMBER 8 | Board Meeting |

# THE FALCONS ARE READY

# ARE YOU??



# ACST Hosted
# Soccer Tournament

## OCTOBER 30 AND 31

📍 ACST FIELD & MENZAH FIELD

MORE DETAILS SOON

# 📅 UPCOMING FFA EVENTS

## ⚽ Falcon Fuel x ACST Hosted Soccer Tournament

FALCON FUEL

X

ACST Hosted Soccer Tournament

ACST is excited to host a Soccer Tournament, with 9 teams participating: 5 boys' teams and 4 girls' teams.

We will welcome more than 150 guests to campus from Egypt, local schools, and soccer clubs.

Falcon Fuel will host its concession stand during the tournament, and we need your help to make this a great event for our athletes, visiting teams, and school community!

### HOW CAN YOU HELP?

🧁 Volunteer to make a snack item or homemade baked good for the concession stand.

🙋 Volunteer for a shift at the Falcon Fuel concession stand.

📱 Scan the QR codes to join one or both groups.










## Get ready to show your Falcon spirit!

We apologize for the delay, but the wait is over!

Our Falcon T-Shirts are nearly here and will be ready before the tournament.

Get ready to show your Falcon spirit and support our teams! 🏆



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# INTERNATIONAL DAY

*Celebrating Cultures Around the Globe!*

## SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 7

## TIME
10:30 AM TO 02:00 PM

## WHERE
ACST CAMPUS

## EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- 🌍👘 Flag Parade
- 🍜🌮 Food Fair
- 🎲🌐 Games & Activities
- 🎉🎁 Many more surprises!

*Different cultures, One community*

# UPCOMING FFA EVENTS

## Baron d'Erlanger Museum Tour



Step into the enchanting world of the Baron d'Erlanger Museum (Ennejma Ezzahra), a true cultural treasure nestled in the heart of Sidi Bou Said. Discover its beautiful architecture, rich history, and unique charm, all while taking in breathtaking views over the sparkling waters of Tunis Bay.

A timeless Tunisian experience and a classic not to be missed.

Website of the museum: https://www.cmam.tn/




## Jaou Festival Exhibtions

Explore JAOU Festival, a major contemporary art festival in Tunis bringing together artists and creative voices from Tunisia and around the world. Visit the festival's exhibitions at Caserne El Attarine in the Medina and B7L9 in Bhar Lazreg, two unique spaces showcasing contemporary art and creative expression.

A great opportunity to discover new artists, ideas, and perspectives while experiencing two of Tunis's distinctive cultural spaces.

Website of the museum: https://jaou.tn/

## The Giving Tree

This year, ACST will be supporting Manouba Orphanage through our Giving Tree initiative.

The Giving Tree is a community giving project where members of our school community help make the holiday season special for children in need.




**Dates, participation details, sign-up information, and more will be shared in the FFA WhatsApp Channel.**

# WHAT ARE PARENT COFFEES?

Parent Coffees are informal gatherings where parents meet with school leaders, teachers, or members of the school team to learn more about school programs, discuss topics related to their children's education, ask questions, and share feedback. They provide an opportunity for open conversation, strengthen communication between home and school, and help parents stay informed and connected with the school community.

# PARENT COFFEES SURVEY RESULTS

Based on the survey of 33 respondents regarding Parent Coffees, most parents expressed a preference for monthly gatherings, A large majority of parents selected 8:00 AM as their preferred time to attend, while midday, 2:00 PM, and after-school slots received equal, lower interest.

In terms of discussion topics, parents showed the highest interest in Academics, Social Emotional Learning, and Child Development, alongside moderate interest in Co-Curriculars, Meeting School Leadership, and Meeting Board Members.

# UPCOMING PARENT COFFEES

| | |
|---|---|
| OCTOBER 22 | Parent Coffee: Elementary School Flex Time |
| OCTOBER 29 | Parent Coffee: Responsible AI Literacy (RAIL) |
| NOVEMBER 5 | Parent Coffee: Understanding the Progress Report: Standards Based Grading and Reporting |

Join us for daily updates on 'What's Happening Next Week', school lunch menus, and reminders.

Whatsapp Channel

## DON'T HAVE A SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNT?



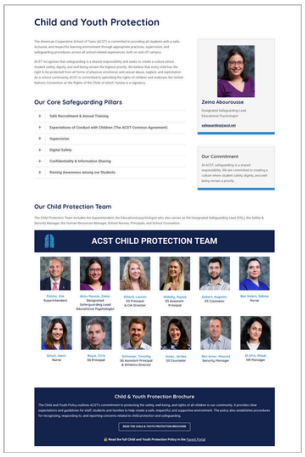

You can still see all the fun and exciting moments happening at school by visiting the Feed page on our website.

ACST

# UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

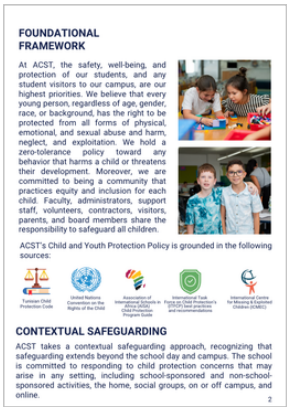
| | |
|---|---|
| OCTOBER 20 | 📸 School Pictures |
| OCTOBER 21 | 📸 School Pictures |
| OCTOBER 22 | Parent Coffee: Elementary School Flex Time<br>📸 School Pictures |
| OCTOBER 29 | Parent Coffee: Responsible AI Literacy (RAIL) |
| OCTOBER 30 | 🎃 ES Halloween Parade<br>🎃 SS Halloween |
| OCTOBER 30-31 | ⚽ ACST Hosted Soccer Tournament ⚽ |
| NOVEMBER 5 | Parent Coffee: Understanding the Progress Report: Standards Based Grading and Reporting |
| NOVEMBER 7 | 🌍 International Day |
| NOVEMBER 12 | 🏁 Session one ASAs End<br>Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences 🚫 No school |
| NOVEMBER 13 | 🏁 Fall Athletics End |
| NOVEMBER 16 | 🏁 SS Winter Athletics Begins<br>🏁 ASA Session 2 Begins |
| NOVEMBER 18 | Faculty in-Service - 🕐 12:30 pm Student Dismissal |
| NOVEMBER 23 | 🏆 Fall Team Awards Night<br>Session two ASAs Begin |
| NOVEMBER 26 | 🍂 Thanksgiving 🚫 No school |
| NOVEMBER 27 | 🍂 Thanksgiving 🚫 No school |
| DECEMBER 3 | 🎤 ES ACST's Got Talent |
| DECEMBER 8 | 🎶🎨 SS Music Winter Concert & Art Show |
| DECEMBER 11 | 🎤 SS ACST's Got Talent 🕐 12:30 pm Dismissal |

# CHILD & YOUTH PROTECTION:
# UPDATED RESOURCES




As part of our ongoing efforts to increase awareness and accessibility of safeguarding and child protection information, we have updated our Child & Youth Protection webpage on the ACST website and added a Child & Youth Protection Brochure.



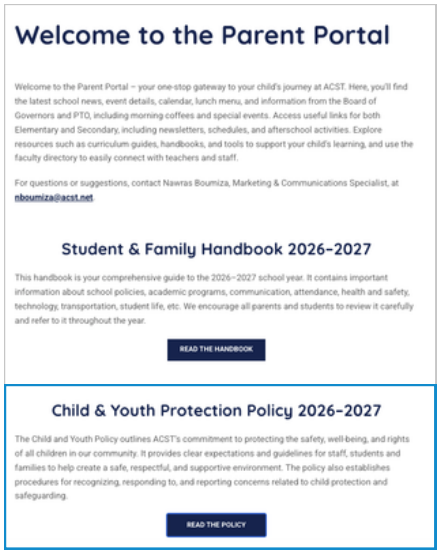



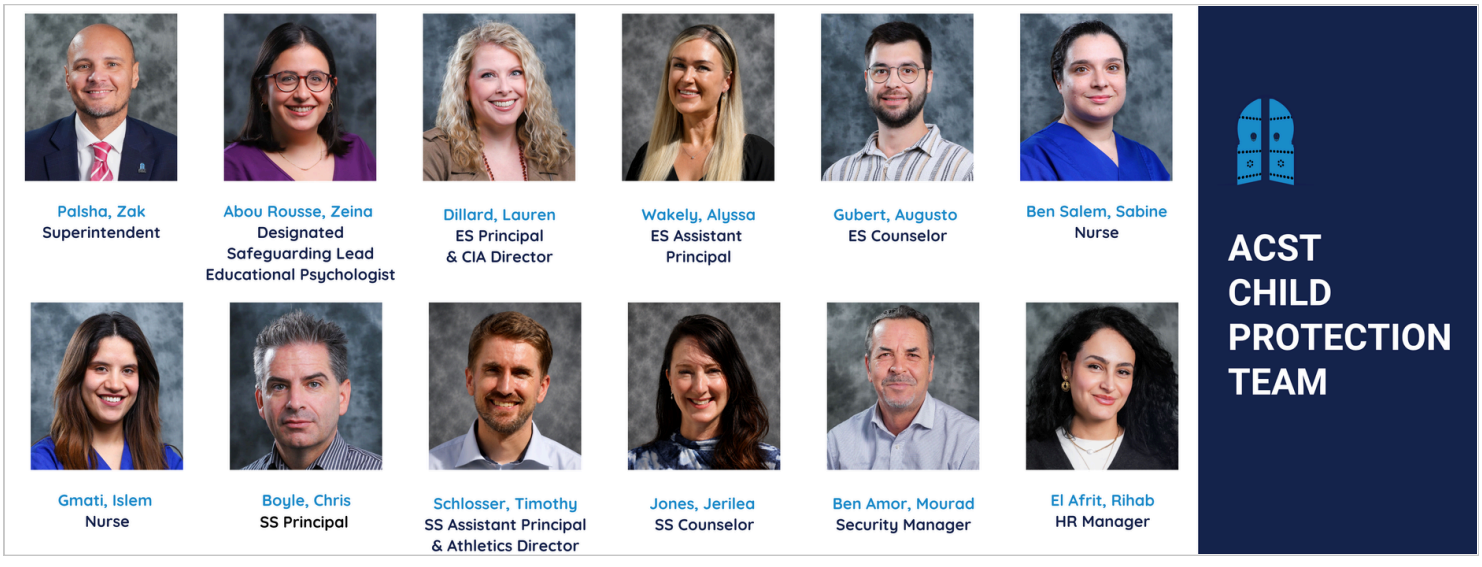

The brochure provides a concise, easy-to-read overview of our Child & Youth Protection Policy, including key definitions and important information about safeguarding and child protection. It is designed to provide families and members of our community with an accessible introduction to our child protection framework.

The full Child & Youth Protection Policy outlines ACST's commitment to protecting the safety, well-being, and rights of all children in our community. It provides clear expectations and guidelines for staff, students, and families to help create a safe, respectful, and supportive environment.

The full policy is available through the Parent Portal. Parents can also find information on Reporting Safety Concerns in the Parent Portal, including the different reporting pathways available to our community.

If you have trouble accessing the portal, please contact Nawras Boumiza, Marketing & Communications Specialist, at nboumiza@acst.net.



# CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS: FROM SUMMER TO TODAY

Check the renovations completed by our Facilities Department from the summer through now.

BEFORE





AFTER

Renovation of the open space on the second floor of Block C

BEFORE



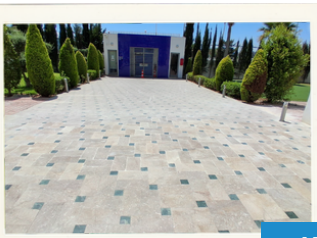


AFTER

Soccer field maintenance, including SBR granule replenishment

BEFORE



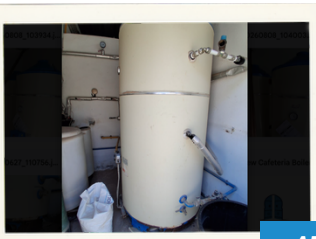


AFTER

Repair the damaged ground entrance to the Bloc A outside corridor.

BEFORE





AFTER

Installation of a new hot water generator for the cafeteria





Expansion of the Archive Storage Area in Basement

BEFORE

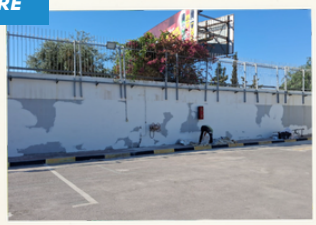




AFTER

Fire detection system

BEFORE





AFTER

Bus Parking Walls Repair and Painting

BEFORE





AFTER

Replacement of damaged flooring in classrooms E101, E102, E103, and E104

BEFORE



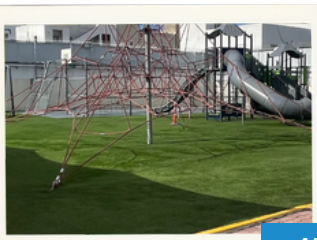


AFTER

Leveling of the soccer field track

BEFORE



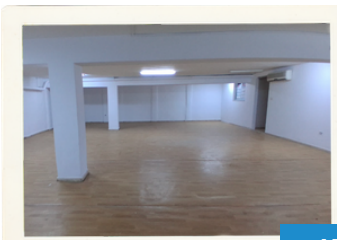


AFTER

PLAYGROUND maintenance, including SBR granule replenishment

BEFORE





AFTER

Repair and repainting of the Block C basement walls





Installation of the Block A basement smoke extraction system

BEFORE





AFTER

Replacement of the canopies above the entrances to the gyms with polycarbonate canopies

BEFORE



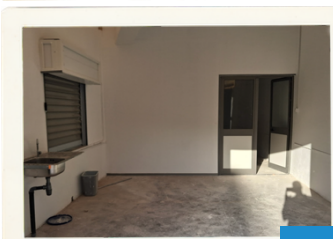


AFTER

Replacement of the canopy over the Block D staircase

BEFORE





AFTER

Renovation of the rear parking storage area

BEFORE



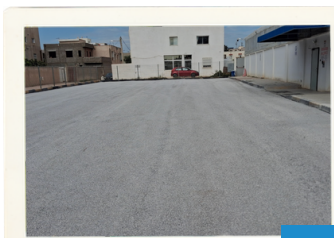


AFTER

painting of the school's exterior perimeter wall

BEFORE





AFTER

Paving of the Parent Parking Lot

This improvement was completed during Fall Break and will make accessing campus easier and more convenient for our families.

## A SHOUTOUT TO OUR FACILITIES TEAM

A special shoutout to Wasfi Limem, Facilities Manager, and the entire Facilities team for their hard work and dedication.

Their efforts continue to make a meaningful difference across our campus, and we look forward to keeping our school environment safe, welcoming, and continuously improving for our students and community.

# A RECAP SINCE THE START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR



## PRE-SERVICE WEEK

We kicked off the year with our pre-service week, held from August 11 to August 14, centered around the theme “Guided by Purpose.” 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 17, 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 18 marked the first day of school. We warmly welcomed all our students, both new and returning, as we began the year together.



## FFA ICE CREAM SOCIAL

On August 28, our Falcon Family Association (FFA) 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.











## FFA MEDINA TOUR

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









## ES ASSEMBLY

On Early Release Wednesday, September 23, our Elementary School held its first assembly of the year, featuring our newly elected Student Council.

It's always wonderful to see our students' learning come to life and to see them proudly share and showcase their work.







## BLUE VS WHITE SWIM MEET

On September 26, we held our Meet and Greet. It was wonderful to connect with new and returning families as we started another exciting year at ACST.



## TUNISIAN STUDY TRIPS (TST)

Between September 29 and October 2, 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.





