

AL NOOR-ABA NEWS

30th May 2019

Message from the Superintendent

Dear Parents,

It's Graduation Day tomorrow, a wonderful occasion that reminds us that the end of the school year is all but upon us. The Grade 12 students will be very looking forward to the next stage in their lives, albeit with a degree of apprehension. No doubt they will also reflect on their school days as that chapter closes. For some, ABA, has always been "school" and a second home to them. For others, ABA will have been one part of their educational journey. In both cases, their reflections are important to us as we review our High School programme. All at ABA wish our students the very best for the future.

Your reflections are equally important. So today, I am providing you with a link to a community survey provided by the Council of International Schools (CIS). It should take you 10-12 minutes to complete. For those of you who were with us during our last CIS/MSA accreditation self study, you may remember a similar survey was undertaken. By using CIS surveys, we are able to get a vertical perspective on how the school is developing. In short, we would like you to gather your thoughts on ABA and give us your opinion on various aspects of the school. Thank you in advance for your support in completing the survey.

Survey link: <https://survey.cois.org/s3/Parent-2018-19-ABA-IB-World-School>

Simon Taylor - Superintendent

Message from the Elementary School

WH@ABA

Every few weeks, the Student Council leads an assembly for the Grade 1-5 students, known as What's Happening@ ABA (WH@ABA). It's a wonderful round-up of what has been going on in the Elementary school, and builds community spirit amongst the students, as we hear about and celebrate all the recent goings on.

At our most recent assembly, we celebrated the achievements of the teams that represented us at MPSL events, including under-9s T-Ball, girl's swimming, and a Handball clinic. Go Vipers!

We learned a little about Qaranqasho, a mid-Ramadan celebration for children, and listened to Grade 2 students perform a Qaranqasho song. We enjoyed remembering World Book Day, looking through images of just a few of the creative and amusing costumes.

Upcoming Dates

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|--------------|--|
| 31 May | Grade 12 Graduation Ceremony 3 - 4 pm |
| 01 - 13 June | Tanzania Trip -(Grade 7) |
| 04-06 June | Eid al Fitr Holidays School Closed |

We saw a slideshow sharing the learning from every grade; the Grade 5 exhibition; thinking like a scientist in Grade 4; Grade 3 exploring environmental choices; learning about history through artefacts in Grade 2; and Grade 1 learning about different kinds of energy, including light and sound.

One of our favourite features is VOX POPS - the question this time was: "What has been your favourite event or moment this year?" View some of the responses here: [VOX POPS](#)

What was YOUR favourite event or moment this year?



Sam Cook - Elementary School Principal

Message from the Middle School

Grade 5 Fly Up Day

Tuesday 28 May was an exciting day in the Middle School. We hosted Fly Up Day for our incoming MYP 1 students (Grade 6). A half day was planned for them to spend time with our current MYP 1 students, meet the Middle School Team, Ms. Bowin, Mr. Barker and Ms. Anthony as well as spend time in some classes with our teachers in Mathematics, Arts: Drama, Design and Science. Here is a [link to some photos with the students interacting in their mini drama lesson](#). The opening presentation can be viewed [here](#).

After the day, our Grade 5 teachers asked their students for some feedback, here is what some of the students had to say:

"The activities were really fun!"

"I liked the science part because we get to see a couple of REALLY cool experiments performed by Mrs. Ritchie. One piece of advice that a student told me was to relax, and I liked her advice."

"I like grade six and why can't we go now to grade six and I liked math."

"I liked the way they brought in new kids from others schools to help them for example so they know who they can go to next year."



As the end of the school year rapidly approaches, we are looking forward to our second annual MS Creates! scheduled for 18 and 19 June 2019. For those that are not familiar with last year's MS Creates! MS students will engage in activities which involves learning, innovating and/or creating. These activities are designed and facilitated by our teachers. Some examples from last year, Up-cycling Furniture, Fantasy Homes, Creating Escape Rooms, Learning Origami and Creating a video to document the entire day are just a few examples. On Thursday 30th May, students received a list of the activities that are being offered and were asked to identify four activities which interest them. These will be two fun filled days where everyone is engaged in the learning process and utilizing approaches to learning skills.

Save the Date - 17 June 2019 14:30 - 16:40 in the PAC

Our MS Student Council is hosting a free movie in the PAC for all MS Students. The movie is [Antman and the Wasp](#). [Common Sense Media rate this movie 12+](#). Students will receive a link to a Google Form they must fill in if they are considering attending the movie as we want to ensure any student under 12 has parental permission. If their name is not on the list, they will not be admitted to the movie. Please remind your child that they must sign up via the Google Form the MS Student Council emailed to them.

Kathleen Bowin - Middle School Principal

Teenage Safety

Alli Hostetter, Peter Wadsworth and Claire Anthony invite parents of secondary school students to attend a presentation on Tuesday, June 11th at 7.40 am to discuss Teenage Safety. Health (e-cigarettes), Risk-Taking Behaviour and Online Safety will be the main topics for discussion. If you would like to attend this event, please access <https://forms.gle/Ka4MLoEYMLFetKaE6> to RSVP. Once we know approximate numbers, we will communicate the on-campus venue with you.

Counseling Department

Message from the PTA

The PTA AGM was held on 27th May 2019 in the Middle school common room.

Last year the community decided to change the PTA structure, however, after a year using the new structure the PTA found that some positions were redundant and others unnecessary. At the AGM, the community discussed and voted for the PTA proposed trial structure. The only addition being the position of a Vice Chair. There will be no immediate change to the PTA Articles of Association. Any changes will become part 2 of this process if the new structure is deemed viable.



Building our community together!

The new trial PTA structure includes the following positions and we are happy to announce the new PTA committee for 2019-2020:

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|--------------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------|
| Chair - | Lama Samman | High School Parent Rep - | Kami Al Sharif |
| Vice Chair - | Laila Al Mawali | Middle School Parent Rep - | Rebecca Mitchell |
| Communications Liaison - | Nandita Shukla | ECE/Elementary Parent Rep - | Vanessa Mehri |
| Treasurer - | Paula Colaco | New Parent Liaison - | Anjum Khan & Penny |
| Logistics Coordinator - | Laila Al Mawali | Two Teacher Reps (ECE/Elementary & Secondary) | |
| Secretary - | Bokamoso Kumwenda | (Awaiting confirmation) | |



Teacher Appreciation

As we come to the end of another academic year, it's time to thank and cheer our wonderful ABA faculty.

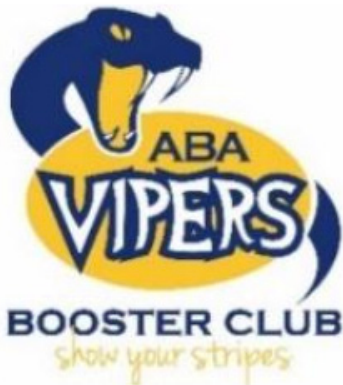
PTA will be hosting a royal Teacher & Staff Appreciation on 10th June 2019 in the staff room all day. As always, this event is dependant upon your generous donations of sweet treats and savories. Just drop them off all day from 7am to 1.30pm in the Teachers' lounge upstairs in the Admin building.

We are grateful to Mae, the owner of Ayana Spa for providing head and shoulder massage sessions for the teachers and staff.

Parents, click [Teacher & Staff Appreciation 2019](#) to see what is being donated and add the items you will be delivering. Please label your dish to specify if it contains gluten, gluten free, nuts, spice, dairy or any other allergens.

Your PTA - Building our community together!

Message from the Booster Club



That's a wrap...or is it?

That's a wrap for Booster Club events, pop-up shops, and hoodie orders for this year...but Booster Club will be back to start the new year with our 'Back to School Pop-Up Shop' 26/27/28 August 2019. We will have our great range of VIPERS merchandise ready for the start of the new year along with our next hoodies orders.

With the end of any academic year some of us see our kids graduate and move onto bigger and better opportunities, some see families and friends change jobs and with that most often locations, and some of us undoubtedly say fond farewell to friends as they move onto their next adventure. These experiences shape us both as individuals and as a community leaving an indelible mark on our time here in Oman.

On behalf of Booster Club we wish all our VIPERS students and families, leaving us this year, all the best for your 'next adventure'. We hope you will look back fondly on your time with the VIPERS as a fun, positive and enriching experience.

We would also like to thank Mr Simon Taylor for his support of the VIPERS program and particularly the Booster Club during his time as superintendent. Inspire, encourage, and support are the key ideals of the Booster Club and we thank Mr Taylor for his belief and support in our VIPERS. We wish Mr Taylor all the very best for his next 'adventure' and are sure he will take the VIPERS spirit with him into his new role.

The 2019/20 Booster Club calendar will be available in next weeks newsletter. Lots of great events, fundraisers, pop-up shops, and opportunities for all our VIPERS families. If you would like to know how you can be part of the Booster Club for 2019/20, simply drop us a line at: boosterclub@abaoman.org.



Yours in community spirit – VIPERS Booster Club