



# Inside I.C.

## AT IC WE ARE ALL LEARNERS





**A**t IC we believe that in order to help our students learn better, we should be learners ourselves. Pre-service sessions are scheduled throughout the month of September to train teachers, coordinate with colleagues between and within cycles and campuses, and plan for the academic year. “A major focus of our pre-service has been the integration of technology in our teaching,” said Dr. Mahmud Shihab, director of the ERC. Along with Mrs. Paula Mufarrij, and Mr. Farid Karam, he provided teachers of the IB and French Bacc classes with their first Moodle training session on September 2. Teachers developed new courses on Moodle and added to the impressive number of courses already in place. We now have 838 established courses in English, French and Arabic designed for the Secondary, Middle, Elementary, and Preschool.

The newly formed group of Educational Technology Facilitators were recruited from all the levels of the school and will be supporting teachers throughout the year. They include Carole Katrib, Rabih Natour and Diana Ghalayini (Ain Aar Lower School), Nadine Karam and Walid Matta (Ain Aar Upper School), Rosy Khalil, Hiba Jizi and Rasha Fakhreddine (RB Preschool) teachers can consult facilitators Robert Ledford, Jinane Masri and Nadia Farah (RB Elementary School), Samar Kandil, Fida Malak and George Hanna (RB Middle School) and Dagher Mehanna, Nabih Lahoud, Souheil Zarifeh, Josephine Bou Dagher, Iskandar Bou Kasm, Farid Karam and Chaza Kalach (Secondary School) Facilitators will be developing Educational Technology training documents, offering in-service and on-demand training, helping with

training on Moodle, ActiveBoard, Online Tools and other educational technology applications. Look for their short how-to demos during faculty meetings as well. These 21 Educational Technology Facilitators received training on September 5 and then delivered Moodle training sessions to all teachers of the school on September 9. September 12 saw the Educational Technology Facilitators giving further training to all the teachers of the school on the ActiveBoard. Other professional development sessions included PYP sessions, two seminars led by Mrs. Ghada Maalouf and Dr. Shihab on differentiated instruction for the leadership teams as well as vertical and horizontal coordination meetings between teachers of Ras Beirut and Ain Aar at all levels. ■



## Discovering Barouk

In the process of improving the quality of learning of our students through exposing them to real life experience, the social studies department with the collaboration of the Arabic department organized a trip for the brevet classes to the natural reserve of Arz Shouf. The purpose of this trip is to improve our Brevet level students' understanding of the physical geography of Lebanon through action-oriented learning tasks. The trip included a hike in the cedar forest, and then students headed towards the top of the Barouk Mountain to observe the Beqaa valley and the Anti-Lebanon mountain range. ■



## Ain Aar Athletes



The upper elementary athletic program has been launched. 64 enthusiastic upper elementary boys and girls gathered on a glorious Saturday morning to join the track and field and football practices. The AA football pitch has opened up many new opportunities for the students and it certainly has changed school life at Ain Aar.

“The interest among our younger students is considerable with 39% of our upper elementary population taking part in the athletic program. A great deal of potential and talent has already been spotted” says Ms. Jaana Lundholm. We wish our young athletes, footballers and their coaches Roy Najm, Jad Habib and Assad Hajj a great year. Go Cougars go! ■

## Interdisciplinary Projects in a complex world

In the second week of school, the Middle School administration and teachers organized an “open house” at Sage Hall on where the Middle School programs were presented to all parents. Teachers from all departments and levels prepared presentations about the program of studies in all disciplines and at all levels and the parents spent the afternoon getting to know the Middle School curriculum. 19 rooms were used and they were fully occupied with the 400 parents who attended! ■



## Challenge 20/20

«Little did we know when students and teachers got involved in the Challenge 20/20 program last year that we would soon get hooked on this project which turned out to be an amazing experience for us all,” says Mrs. Maha Shukayr. “Premiere B, in collaboration with the high school students of Sandia Preparatory School, (Albuquerque, NM, USA), investigated the topic of corruption as an obstacle to the development of countries, with a specific focus on poverty. Through great engagement and hard work on the students’ part, they researched and presented some solutions to the problem. Creating a virtual collaborative classroom between two overseas schools and establishing



communication among students of different countries, cultures and mostly through different time zones was not an easy task, but as Premiere B students told me, “Madame, nous sommes prêts à relever le défi! And they did!

Today when I read in the news that this year the United Nations’ priority is to increase awareness concerning corruption and the means to fight it, (<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourperspective/ourperspectivearticles/2013/09/30/the-time-is-right-to-place-governance-and-anti-corruption-at-center-stage-rebeca-grynspar.html>) I feel more than proud of my students who identified and tried to find solutions to this daunting global issue raising its importance well before the UN did!” ■

## Parents' Orientation at AA

On the day before school started, parents joined the director Lina Mouchantaf in three orientation sessions about sharing a common vision and mission: that of IC’s. Education for peace, effective communication, and addressing difficult situations with a positive attitude were the highlights of the discussion. During the afternoons of the first week of October, teachers of the Lower Elementary led parent orientation sessions. Curriculum, daily routines, and actions to support learning drove the meetings. ■



## Parent Orientation in the Elementary school

**T**o launch the school year, a strange phenomenon occurred... the students sitting in the classrooms suddenly appeared considerably older and more mature. What was going on? These 'students' were in fact parents who had come to the Parent Orientation at RB Elementary school.

Parents came to learn more about what their children would be learning throughout the year as well as classroom expectations and procedures. The Learner Profile, Central Ideas, Themes, and Assessment were some of the new ideas that the parents were exposed to through the various activities.

Parent Orientation proved to be a valuable experience for both the parents and the teachers as it brought them



together in a common cause – the happiness, well-being, and success of our students and their children.■

## Vive la rentrée

**A**u début de l'année, après des semaines de vacances, il est toujours bon de se rappeler les règles de fonctionnement de la classe et de l'école. Pourquoi nous avons un règlement ? Doit-on le suivre ? Et pourquoi ? Toutes ces questions auxquelles les enfants vont essayer de répondre durant les premières semaines, dans le cadre du thème transdisciplinaire « Comment nous nous organisons » Les règles sont faites pour une bonne organisation et pour la sécurité. Pour bien illustrer ce concept, les enfants de la G.S. (RB) sont sortis de la classe à la recherche des panneaux de signalisation et des pancartes autour de l'école. Ils ont tous pris part à ces recherches avec beaucoup d'intérêt et de compréhension. L'année commence donc avec succès.■



## Back to School!

Students of KGI are very excited to be back at school. They explored their new classrooms, ran in the hallways and played with their friends

in the playground... They expressed their feelings and emotions enthusiastically.

Mathew: "School is so much fun! It has a playground, a library and too many books! We read and listen to stories."

Jad: "And we have so many new toys! Look!!"

Jana: "We even have a smart board. We can do so many activities. School is very fun!"

Jeo: "At school, we get to be the helper and do the calendar."

Nour: "I love school! We do our birthdays and we share our copybooks. We read books and pretend we are princesses. We even have costumes."

Issam: "The toys at school are more than the ones at home. Also at school our friends help us build and we make bigger things."

Zeid: "I draw a lot of nice things in class." ■



## Ma rentrée

Le mercredi 18 septembre, les portes de la nouvelle école élémentaire ont accueilli les élèves après de longues vacances d'été. J'étais excitée et pleine d'énergie pour commencer une année scolaire merveilleuse et fructueuse. J'ai couru à grands pas sur les escaliers afin d'arriver à ma classe et discuter avec mes amis avant que la cloche ne sonne. Les professeurs se sont présentés tout en nous conseillant d'être sages et coopératifs durant cette année... Vers deux heures, j'ai entendu un bruit strident qui attira mon attention et celui de mes camarades. Et bien c'était le moment de rentrer à la maison tout contents de raconter à nos parents notre merveilleux et inoubliable jour à l'école. (Leen Chanouha –CM2)  
My first day at Elementary School



of Ras Beirut was unique. I was a bit nervous but I met friends easily. I started to get to know school better and better. I enjoyed the teachers and

the school. At the end of the day, I didn't feel so nervous anymore, so basically IC is a nice place after all (Haddy Al Chaer – G5) ■

## Portes Ouvertes à Ain Aar! Avant la rentrée !

**L**a matinée du 17 octobre, parents, enseignants et élèves des cycles 1 & 2 s'étaient tous retrouvés à l'école. On circulait partout, dans les couloirs, dans les cours de récré, dans les classes pour se familiariser avec le cadre scolaire de cette année. Des questions émergeaient: "Qui sera mon prof de français?... Tiens nous aurons un nouveau prof d'EPS !"... "Ah, je serai avec mon copain, dans une même classe... Les enfants guidaient leurs parents, les accompagnaient dans les classes... des " bonjour, Bonne rentrée, Tiens tu as grandi, Ah c'est ma classe, mes maîtresses ...« Demain c'est la RENTRÉE !!! ».■



## Nous avons encore de la place !

**L**a cloche sonne! On se précipite tous vers la porte principale pour retrouver maman. Mira et Zayane courent vers l'école primaire pour chercher leurs frères Ramzi et Sami. Ils se tiennent tous les mains et se baladent, souriants, à la recherche de leurs aînées, Anwar et Nadim. Le cousin Zane est aussi en attente pour rejoindre la foule qui quitte l'école chaque jour en « covoiturage » ou « Car Pooling ».

« Malgré le fait que nous soyons entassés dans la voiture, comme une boîte de sardines, j'attends impatientement le moment où on est tous ensemble! » s'exclama Mira.

« Je profite du moment où on est bien assis pour raconter ma journée » constata Anwar.

Nadim ajoute : « J'aime le covoiturage car on économise de l'énergie, » et pour Zayane c'est une opportunité de discuter avec Mira de leurs petits secrets.

Ramzi et Sami adorent le covoiturage car maman leur donne parfois des carottes.

Finalement, pour Zane (section anglaise): "I love



carpooling because I get to catch up with my cousins and talk about their day and mine... I also get to unwind in the car after a long day at school. It's fun." And don't forget: it is better to share a car ride than to add to traffic in the streets.■

## LGBC Awareness and Education Committee

In celebration of World Green Building week 2013 The Secondary School Hosted a presentation on discovering sustainable building concepts through a dynamic visual interactive green demonstration room in presence of Dr. Nada Raad PhD Leed AP Environmental Engineer-Lebanese Green Building Council; Mrs. Hana Alamuddin RIDA, LEED GA Architect. LGBC Chair of Technical Committee; and Mr. Tarek Chehade: Mechatronics Engineer  
General Concepts of Sustainability were discussed. Recycling, water harvesting, hydropower, green roofs, light elements and building material were highlighted as means to sustain a green healthier living space. Our New Green Elementary School was hailed by all presenters. We are proud.■



## Green Apple Day

September 27 was Green Apple Day. Students discussed the causes and effects of indoor air pollution and then got into groups for a hands-on activity on the dangers of poor indoor air quality. The end results were Venn diagrams that contained ideas about how to prevent and remedy the problem of indoor air pollution.■

## Les aides jardinières au boulot!

During the week of the Pré-rentree, tout le monde s'activait ! Les profs principaux, les employés des bureaux et bien sûr les Aides jardinières !  
Melle Mouchantaf a regroupé l'équipe des Aides jardinières dans son bureau. Ce fut d'abord un bref aperçu de leurs rôles en classe et en dehors de la classe. Puis toute l'équipe a pris part à une activité...du papier, des gros feutres. Un travail à deux pour tracer des colonnes, dresser des listes, commenter " c'est comme vous faites en PYP" a relevé l'une d'elles ! En effet, une discussion positive et fructueuse qui a conduit à des accords essentiels et à des prises d'actions, au fait c'est vrai ! à la façon PYP!■



## What does our PE classes look like?

I C's guiding statements highlight life-long learning, initiative and responsible citizenship. Lower Elementary students at Ain Aar started their PE classes by working on Essential Agreements. They discussed what is important for them in PE and with their teacher, Nivine Shmaitelly, wrote down what they all agreed upon. The students were working in groups, discussing, reflecting, writing and sharing their ideas. Transdisciplinarity in action! Agreements will be posted on bulletin boards in the PE area. Our young students have organized themselves and set the platform for collaboration, respect and harmony in their PE class. ■



## Celebrating IDG- International Day for the Girl

D uring the transdisciplinary theme Who We Are, entitled “Rights and Responsibilities”, Grade 3 AA students will focus on children’s right to education, addressing more specifically Girls’ rights. They will research the history of education in

our region and across the world, watch many YouTube documentaries and read different stories. After inquiring, discussing and sharing different perspectives, students will write an extended paragraph on Girls’ rights. Across the world institutions will celebrate IDG on October 11th. ■

## Les droits et les responsabilités en saynètes!



D ans le cadre du thème “Qui nous sommes”, Mme. Céline Abou Rahal et les élèves du CE2C ont créé des saynètes pour illustrer les droits et responsabilités des membres d’une communauté. Nos acteurs en herbe ont fait preuve d’une grande créativité dans leur choix de scénarios. Ils ont montré à leurs camarades comment traiter autrui avec respect dans leur vie de tous les jours. ■



## First Day of School!



The students of Nursery/P.S. first footprints in school were amazing. The first day was memorable as they were introduced to their classmates and teachers. The children enjoyed spending a couple of hours with their parents in the classes and playgrounds. This day will be cherished for life!■

## Two in one

Grade 3 / CE2 students were treated to a presentation on human rights from Mr. Wa'il Kheir, a former IC student and head of Lebanon's Association for Human and Humanitarian Rights. The most important areas of human rights covered were Survival, Education and Development. This presentation ties in perfectly with the students 'Who We Are' planner. IC students are learning to be global citizens with rights and responsibilities!■



## Presentation to parents in the Middle School



During the first week of school, Mrs. Wadad Hoss, director of the middle school, introduced the program of studies, policies and procedures to incoming parents. The Irani auditorium was full!■



## Safety first!

Once again the Ras Beirut Parents Committee have come through for IC! A group of them got together and raised funds to purchase and fully equip an ambulance for IC's use. A training session was planned during the In-Service day so that PE and infirmary personnel can learn to use the emergency car effectively. According to Mrs. Lina Assaf, "The vehicle conversion meets international standards and was completed by the same company that provides the International Red Cross ambulances."

Mrs. Zeina Adra added, "The vehicle includes back board with head immobilizer, an extrication device, oxygen kits, trauma bag, cervical collars, splint sets, and fire blankets. The Nissan Uvan also contains a



glide evacuation stair chair which allows for the transportation of a patient down stairs without carrying or lifting."

Thank you to each and every parent who has a partner in our mission to provide a safe and secure school for our children!■



## Swimming Competition

Abdullatif Hassan and Nour Awar in Brevet participated in the Lebanese National Championship which took place in September at the Rimal Resort. Abdullatif won two gold, three silver and two bronze medals and Nour won a silver medal. Both their teams won trophies!■

## Chess Competition

Abdullatif Hassan was chosen by the Lebanese Chess Federation to represent Lebanon (age group: 14 years) in a pan-Arab Chess competition held in Amman Jordan. He won once and reached a draw twice. He ranked eighth in the Arab world in his age group!■



## PLENARY SESSION LAUNCHES YEAR 2013

President John Johnson welcomed the faculty and staff of IC at the 2013-14 plenary session. The President thanked the faculty for all their work and described the compensation study that was undertaken by the College last spring. He also announced the new stages of the Master Plan to improve facilities to deliver a quality education. Mrs. Mourani, summarized the academic projects for the year, including the emphasis on educational technology integration, and initiatives that will help IC meet its commitment to global citizenship. She shared the results of the Class of 2013, congratulating the teachers

“Our 146 BREVET students outdid themselves this year, with half of the IC students obtaining honors both at Ain Aar and at Ras Beirut.

Once again our IB results have been great, with all but one of our students obtaining their diplomas, and averages well above the norm. Four of our students obtained exceptional scores above 40. Our average score of 5.40 per subject has been the highest since we started offering the IB diploma, and so has the mean total score of 34. For comparison purposes, the average score per subject worldwide last year was 4.67 and the



mean total score was 29.77.

We have had outstanding Lebanese Baccalaureate results this year, with our students performing above the average of the country in every single subject including Arabic!

All of the 93 candidates passed, and 80% received cumulative averages above 12. This compares favorably with the French Baccalaureate results, where we obtained 84% mentions with 100% honors in the Mathematics and Sciences options.

LEBANESE Ranking in LEBANON	BACCALAUREATE Ranking in BEIRUT	July 2013	
General Sciences	Ahmed Ghalayini	1	AUB MERIT SCHOLARSHIP*
	Daniel Farhat	2	
Ahmed Ghalayini	3rd	Dana Karout	10
			LEBANESE REPUBLIC FULL SCHOLARSHIP
Life Sciences	Omar Najjar	1	AUB MERIT SCHOLARSHIP*
	Omar Itani	3	
Omar Najjar	4th	SamerSalame	6
		TarekAridi	8
			LEBANESE REPUBLIC FULL SCHOLARSHIP
Economics and Sociology	Rawan Mahfouz	5	

\*GIVEN TO 10 HIGHEST ACHIEVERS AT AUB- COVERING ALL EXPENSES 8 IC students occupied 10 highest achiever slots in the LEBANESE BACCALAUREATE EXAMS. Among those, 2 were IC Scholars, 2 started with us at the Middle School- one from Ain Aar and one from Ras Beirut and 4 started at the PRESCHOOL level.

In conclusion, you will be pleased to learn that all our graduates are college-bound. 92% of our applicants were accepted to AUB, and their SAT scores were higher than those of the total applicant population.

In terms of overseas admissions, our graduates were accepted to some of the best universities abroad, including NYU, Cornell, U Penn, Yale, Penn State, Wake Forest, Boston University, the UCs – UCLA/San Diego, Irvine, Berkeley, Santa Barbara, UM Amherst, University of Miami, Tufts, Trinity, USC Chapel Hill,

Syracuse, UT, GWU, McGill, U of Toronto, University of London, University College London, Exeter, Bristol, Glion, École Hôtelière de Lausanne ...

These outstanding results could not have been possible were it not for the concerted efforts of our entire faculty at all levels to provide quality instruction, high expectations, and support to their charges. On behalf of our students: THANK YOU, IC EDUCATORS!”

The directors then introduced new faculty members and welcomed them to IC. ■

The Inside I.C. Team: Lara Kasparian, Jocelyne Kobeissi, Hanan Loulou Ouri, Mishka M. Mourani, and contributors from the I.C. family.