



Inside I.C.

Issue 6 - March 2017

Nos jeunes champions!

Makram Bekdache in 4ème won the first prize of Questions Pour Jeunes Champions for the third consecutive year! Christopher Mouawwad in 6ème won the third prize in his category! ■



La semaine de la francophonie



Dans le cadre de la semaine de la francophonie, les élèves de la CM1 B - Ras Beyrouth ont réalisé des exposés, une pièce de théâtre sur Paris et sur les Seychelles, une recherche sur Alpha Blondy , chanteur et militant politique Ivoirien, une recherche sur la Belgique et ils ont dégusté un poulet au lait de noix de coco. Les élèves étaient très motivés. Suite à cela, une mise en commun a été organisée. Elle a permis de multiplier les échanges et de stimuler la réflexion des apprenants.■

La francophonie

Apprendre une autre langue, c'est comme le commencement d'une autre vie.

Comme chaque année, les élèves de l'IC à Ain Aar célèbrent la francophonie à leur manière. Leur but est d'échanger, de partager et de communiquer avec autrui. Ainsi, les apprenants de Grade 2 ont visité la classe de CE1 A afin de partager avec eux les petits gestes qu'ils ont décidé d'appliquer dans leur quotidien pour préserver la nature. Les élèves de CE1 ont apprécié leurs efforts pour parler français.





Francophonie !

Dans le cadre du mois de la francophonie et de la semaine de la presse (20-24 mars 2017), les élèves du Secondaire du programme anglais (Français 3ème langue), ont travaillé sur les différents thèmes de la presse: les métiers, la déontologie, le circuit de l'info etc... En travaux de groupe, encadrés par leurs professeurs de FLE, Mme Véronique Aoun et Mme Ghinwa Sabra, les élèves ont présenté des projets oraux et écrits qui ont fait l'objet d'une exposition dans le hall principal du bâtiment Rockefeller. Les classes participantes sont les 5th (Programme libanais et CPP), les 6th (Programme libanais et CPP) et les terminales Bac libanais. Vive la France, vive la francophonie! ■



Bienvenu !



Le mercredi 15 mars, notre établissement a été honoré de la visite de Monsieur Vin-Datiche, Inspecteur général de l'éducation nationale, doyen du Groupe "Établissements et vie scolaire". Dans le cadre du suivi de notre homologation par l'AEFE, M. Vin-Datiche a d'abord été accueilli par Madame Marie-Christine Mourani, puis par Mesdames Paula Mufarrij et Wadad Hoss, Directrices du Secondaire et du Complémentaire de notre campus de Ras Beyrouth, et par M. Ludovic Marty, délégué de l'IC auprès de l'AEFE et du SCAC. Ensuite, il a pu rencontrer les responsables de la Vie Scolaire, Mesdames Ghada

Jalloul-Itani et Rindala Abdel Baki, des représentants des élèves et des professeurs pour des échanges informels placés sous le signe de la bonne humeur.

A sa demande, M. Vin-Datiche a effectué plusieurs visites de classe au collège et au lycée. Il s'est félicité de la grande qualité des cours, de la modernité de nos équipements et de l'excellent niveau de nos élèves. Il a particulièrement apprécié la belle coexistence de nos trois cultures d'établissement, « ces trois fils intimement tissés pour n'en former plus qu'un, riche, solide et dynamique ».

Avant son départ, M. Vin-Datiche a pu brièvement s'entretenir avec le Président, Dr. Donald Bergman, Monsieur l'Inspecteur a alors souligné l'importance pour l'AEFE d'un établissement tel que le nôtre qui bénéficie d'une excellente synergie entre le souci constant pour garantir, tout au long des carrières, une formation professionnelle à chacun, pour mettre en œuvre les innovations pédagogiques dignes d'une école du XXI^e siècle et tout cela dans le respect de nos valeurs et de notre mission. ■



Partons à la découverte de la Belgique !

Cette année encore, les élèves de CP à Ain Aar ont profité de la Semaine de la francophonie pour découvrir un nouveau pays francophone: la Belgique.

Pour ce faire, ils ont visionné un diaporama contenant quelques éléments de la culture belge. Ils ont ainsi appris que le pays est gouverné par un roi, que Stromae est un chanteur belge ou encore que les Schtroumpfs viennent du pays des moules frites.

Pour finir, les enfants ont dégusté un biscuit qu'ils connaissaient tous mais dont ils ignoraient la provenance: des spéculoos. C'était délicieux !

Les enfants étaient ravis! ■



Journée pédagogique à Ain Aar

Le 23 mars, l' IC Ain Aar a accueilli la quatrième réunion des RPP (Responsables pédagogiques du 1er degré). Durant cette journée pédagogique, le conseiller pédagogique auprès de l'AEFE, M. Jean-Marie Jaouen, a présenté deux séances. L'une portant sur des stratégies pour soutenir les néo-recrutés dans leur classe, et une deuxième sur les domaines à évaluer lors d'une observation de classe. Il a clôturé sa présentation en partageant des outils électroniques dont l'importance est primordiale pour nos apprenants du 21ème siècle. Cette rencontre permet un échange bénéfique et une communication ouverte entre plusieurs établissements homologués dont l'IC. ■



La semaine de la francophonie à la maternelle



Les élèves de la maternelle RB ont découvert que ce n'est pas seulement en France qu'on parle français ! Ils ont fait des recherches sur divers pays francophones comme la Belgique, la Suisse, le Maroc, la Tunisie et bien sûr, la France ! Aussi, des parents et des collègues ont présenté leur pays aux élèves et le conteur Ali Merghache les a ensorcelés par ses contes merveilleux.

Le tout a été couronné par un délicieux petit déjeuner francophone. Des fruits exotiques (Afrique), des croissants et pains au chocolat (France), des gaufres (Belgique) et du gruyère (Suisse) étaient au rendez-vous. Les élèves se sont régaliés ! Vive la francophonie ! ■



SSS Collaborating on Office 365

We are launching of the collaboration space in the Office 365 platform beginning with the Student Support Services department. Elementary Special Needs instructor Bahera

Abbas and Secondary School Head of Counseling and Student Support Services Maya Bou Hamad met at the ERC to learn more about Office 365 from ERC Director and Head of Technology Dr. Mahmud Shihab who gave them an introduction to various components of the program. Office 365 is an anytime, anywhere online

platform that will allow the special needs teachers and counselors to communicate across the college and share information, documents, and resources online. They will also be able to schedule online meetings and participate in online Professional Development through the Skype link. ■

Middle School MUN – LAU

For the 7th Consecutive year, our Middle School MUN club took part in the GC LAU MUN training sessions and conference. The program consisted of several training sessions that increased the students' awareness about the UN, the research and interpretation skills, rules and procedures in the UN conferences, public speaking and writing a position paper. At the end of the training sessions, the students took part in the final conference where they played the roles of ambassadors in UN committees. This year, three of our MUN delegation won awards. Lina Jaafar, Diplomacy Award; Haddy El Chaer, Position paper award and Leen Chanouha, Position paper award.



MUN delegation: Nadim Chahine, Leen Chanouha, Haddy Al Chaer, Lina Jaafar, Lana Younes , Yara Zgheib and Mia Arakji. Thank you MUN Club Advisor Miss Lori Baitarian and MUN program coordinator Mr. Riad Chirazi ■

Robotics National Competition



The FLL (First Lego League) is a robotics competition that stirs the students' creative and technical skills by challenging them to design, build, and program a robot which completes missions on a set table map. The national competition was held in Balamand University on the 4th of March. Teams from all over Lebanon went through testing sessions (programming, missions, core values, etc.) throughout the day. At the closing awards ceremony, the IC CyberForce team was entitled to receive the Inspiration award.

Robotics club: Haddy Al Chaer, Mohamad Hassouna, Nadim Hatoum, Elias Farah, Khalil Alameh, Marwan Shehadeh, Ramzi Doughan, Malek El Ahdab, Noureddine Atassi and Habib Khoury.

Thanks to Robotics club mentor Raha Itani and Club advisor Mr. Abdallah Chbaro. ■



A promising young swimmer

Romy Machalaany is a swimmer of rank, who has been swimming since the young age of 3. She took part in the Lebanese Championships 2016 in the age category 9-10. Her results were extraordinary achieving double gold in 50m breaststroke and freestyle. Bravo Romy! ■



Celebrating Our Published Work!

It is time to congratulate Grade III and Grade IV (Ain Aar) on publishing their recent writing effort. At this point students have worked hard to complete their writing assignments and are developing strong writing strategies to improve their writing. We joined together to reflect and share with another class on what we are proud of and strategies we would like to improve on. Grade IV published their informational non-fiction writing that focused on an endangered animal and Grade III has just completed their folktales. It was a great opportunity for all students to recognize and get feedback from their audience, and to examine and reflect on our purpose for writing through the different forms that were shared. ■



Our Visit to Grade 6

"Survival necessitates adaptation", in accordance with this central idea, the grade 5 have decided to be well prepared for any obstacle that might arise. Visiting grade 6 allowed the students to be better prepared for their life in middle school. On March 15, the grade 5 students spent three periods and a recess in the grade 6 class. "All of the students were nice and welcoming to us" observed one of the grade 5 students. "They have so many teachers, but they are not so stressed like I thought they might be" mentioned another. "Just like us, when the bell rang they all raced to recess!" exclaimed another. When asked to set some goals for next year, so their transition would be smoother, a grade 5 student wrote: "I need to concentrate



more, write notes and I should never forget to check the test calendar."

"Grade 6, here we come!" ■



Today's Plantation, Tomorrow's Life

Field trips give students educational experiences away from the regular school environment. Students visiting different educational facilities learn in hands-on and an interactive manner. The grade V/CM2 classes went on a field trip to Horsh Beirut with a mission to plant trees. The students were given the instructions on how to plant these trees and how they can help the environment. The experience was both enlightening and fun. Working together to plant trees helped make the work not only worthwhile but enjoyable too. The thought of having just given a living niche to spread its roots is of great satisfaction to the kids. Every

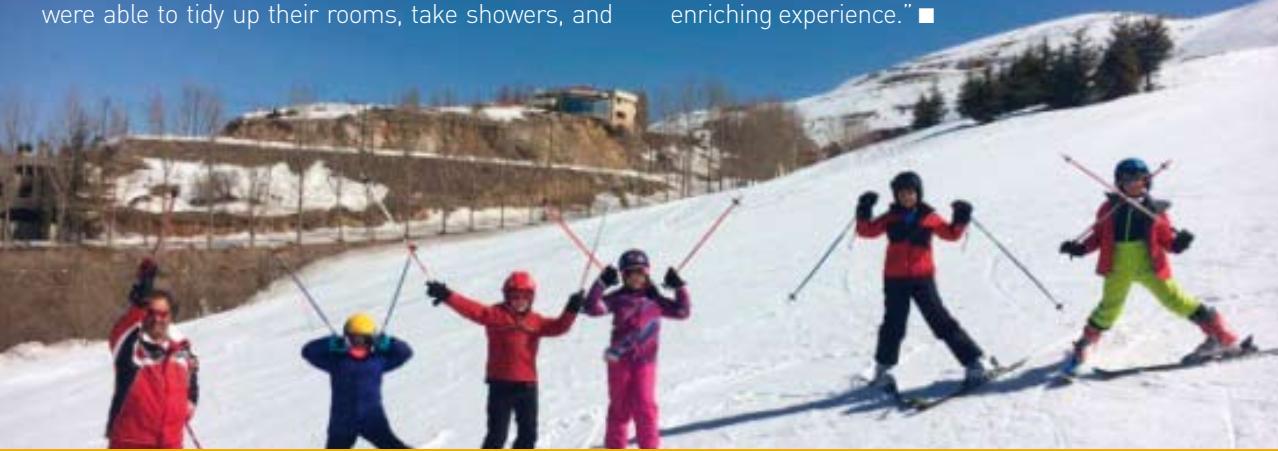
child at the site actually felt that he/she is doing something for our mother earth. ■



Ski Trip: A One of a Kind Adventure!

During a sunny March weekend, grade 4 students went on their very first school-sponsored ski trip. Miss Ghania Kabbara was among the chaperones accompanying the group for the first time too! When asked to reflect on her first experience, she said, "I was impressed with their level of autonomy. They were able to tidy up their rooms, take showers, and

were always ready to help one another. While skiing, I saw risk-takers and courageous students. During the party, I was amazed with their dancing talents. Last but not least, while building a snowman, the students demonstrated creativity and engineering skills that left me speechless. I will forever remember this enriching experience." ■



Un partage de la planète réussi !

Cette année, les trois sections du CE1- Ras Beyrouth ont eu le grand plaisir de présenter un spectacle commun afin de clôturer la fin du thème « Le partage de la planète ». Ce fut une belle expérience de travail, riche en contributions et en interactions. Les enseignantes du CE1 ont chacune divisé leur classe en 3 groupes donnant ainsi l'occasion aux apprenants de s'intégrer au groupe d'activités de leur choix : expériences, théâtre, poèmes, danses, chants, mimes et bien d'autres activités étaient

au rendez-vous. Chaque apprenant a pu ainsi s'identifier au rôle de son choix. Les enseignantes étaient présentes pour guider les apprenants au niveau du contenu en leur laissant la liberté du choix des mots et des textes à produire. Les élèves se sont ainsi approprié le travail et le résultat était une présentation empreinte d'imagination et de créativité. A travers leurs prestations, les apprenants ont pu faire passer un message important: la planète est en pleurs, soyons responsables, protégeons-la!! ■



Educational Technology Integration with Art

During the art classes at the Ras Beirut Elementary School, Mrs. Nadia Farah Marchi is integrating educational technology in different types of art projects. By using Power Point, all classes are able to create a drawing to express different ideas. Grade 2 / CE1 worked on Paul Klee drawings with geometrical forms using the shapes tool. Grade 3 are designing Peru photos for International Day while CE2 are preparing photos about Angola using internet images to import background, costumes, and their own face into a finished portrait. Grade 4 / CM1 prepared Mass Media projects for the art festival using tools, such as crop and removing background features. Grade 5 / CM2 are working on Kandinsky and mass media using picture tools to create a two-layered drawing. The students were highly motivated in their learning and are now able to use these techniques in future class projects. ■



Aya Katergi

A Celebration of Uniqueness

A yearly tradition is learning about different celebrations and traditions during our unit of inquiry "How we express

ourselves". This year's celebration was full of wonderful wanderings and curiosity. The first graders showed creativity and imagination while creating their own celebrations. Celebrations that might come alive one day, were created from the tiny but motivated learners.

1A celebrated a Crazy Hair Day, 1B a Confidence Day and 1C Swapping Day. The children planned different parts of the celebrations such as food, music, traditions, decorations peers designed gorgeous invitation cards. As a whole grade one community, parents were invited to a musical celebration in the Irani Auditorium. The children sang different songs and presented a variety of dance shows. ■



Teacher's Day

Ras Beirut grade 3B students wanted to present their homeroom teacher, Mrs. Hannah Thraikill, with a gift that would portray their appreciation. Each child prepared a portrait of her. Some children were more comfortable writing so they wrote a sentence or more about what she means to them. Those little portraits/notes were collected and then given to Sarah's Bag's atelier. At the atelier they were scanned, designed and finally produced into a tote bag. ■





Vertical Agriculture: Make It Grow

In partnership with AUB's Landscape Design department, Ras Beirut Elementary and Middle School have initiated a frankly wonderful project. Making use of funds made available by the 'Make It Grow' initiative, and working in conjunction with IC's very committed team of gardeners, the students created boxes full of herbs (coriander, parsley, thyme and arugula) and began the



growing process with the boxes horizontal. The key idea to having this successful vertical garden is that the boxes are then turned to a 45 degrees angle after two-three weeks and then vertical after another two-three weeks, finally being hung on stands crafted by the Physical Plant. In doing so, the garden is sustainable in terms of decreasing water consumption and reducing land usage. The site is now being integrated into the school curriculum, with, for example, Grade 3 students conducting Math measurements for perimeter and area. Positioned at the far side of the ImadTaher court, the garden is both visible and accessible and, as you can imagine, a great many students now regularly pass to touch, smell and, of course, taste! Spring planting will soon commence and you can expect even more species to taste before the summer. Indeed, this project is to be replicated in Ain Aar very soon too. The original is of course available to Ras Beirut's Pre-School and Secondary School students too. ■

A 100 days at School

A 100 days at IC, Ain Aar!! A 100 smiles, a 100 friends, a 100 hugs, a 100 poems read!

How can KGII students show you what a 100 things mean to someone as small as them?

4 sets of 25 or 10 sets of 10? With pretzels, golden fish crackers and smarties to count, here are the different ways they can show you how! ■



Dégustons!



Il n'y a pas de meilleure façon de découvrir la culture d'un pays qu'à travers ses différentes coutumes. A Ain Aar, les CE2 A ont choisi pour cette occasion de goûter à la gastronomie dominicaine.

Une ambiance particulière régnait en classe le mardi 14 mars. Dans le cadre de notre quatrième thème « Où nous nous situons dans l'espace et dans le temps », nos mamans chefs ont concocté pour cette occasion quelques plats traditionnels de la Dominique.

Au menu : Bandera (Boeuf et haricots rouges) Moro grandules (riz avec des pois d'angole et viande de porc)

Emportés par les bonnes odeurs qui réveillaient les papilles, les élèves se sont pris au jeu et ont dégusté de nouvelles saveurs. ■



Portfolio Session Focused Faculty Meeting

The Ras Beirut Elementary School's last faculty meeting focused on our upcoming portfolio sharing session. The school has been making the transition from paper portfolios to electronic portfolios using the application Seesaw. The first half of the meeting was a reflection time on the school's portfolio journey over the years. Teachers noticed the changes that the portfolio has gone through over time. We also brainstormed questions we have about where the portfolios will go next. Teachers expressed their wonderings about the e-portfolio. Time was spent examining the major differences and similarities between the traditional paper portfolio and the e-portfolio. We concluded that the success of the portfolio is not determined by how it is shared but if it shows the child's growth and learning process overtime. The meeting concluded with a sharing session



from Johannes, Ryan, Hannah, Fatmeh, and Faten. These teachers shared successes with the e-portfolio and answered many key questions that the faculty has. The meeting was an important time to reflect and learn more about how we use this wonderful assessment tool with the portfolio session quickly approaching. ■

Défi technologique !

Voilà les CE2 B de Ain Aar qui s'apprêtent pour participer au défi technologique qui aura lieu le 11 mai au collège des Pères Antonins. Pour cela, les élèves mettent la main à la pâte et découvrent le phénomène « flotter/couler » en essayant de faire flotter un bout de pâte à modeler dans une cuvette remplie d'eau. ■



Quand le Petit Prince décide d'atterrir sur la planète de l'IC à Ain Aar

Quid'autre que le danseur contemporain, M. Pierre Geagea, pourrait mieux symboliser le nouveau thème, « Comment nous nous exprimons? ». En alliant son art, la danse, et sa langue maternelle, la langue des signes, Pierre a si merveilleusement exprimé son unicité. Les CE1 et les Grade 2 se sont préparés à la visite de l'artiste en visionnant des clips de son spectacle, The Mother Tongue, en lisant un article à son sujet et en formulant des questions. Le jour de la visite, ils ont été transportés par la danse que Pierre a choisie et ont écouté attentivement son interprétation. Sa danse n'était autre qu'un dialogue, une conversation d'un enfant malentendant avec les objets scolaires du quotidien tels que la table ou la chaise, et en particulier le compagnon d'enfance de Pierre, le cube Rubik. ■





Tapas Españolas in the Secondary School

IBI and 1ère French Bac students who are studying Spanish, went for a lunch organized by their teachers Mrs. Imane Jawhari and Mrs. Ghinwa Sabra in a Spanish restaurant in Badaro “Centrico” The topic of the unit studied was typical food of Spain. This activity was done with the objective of exposing them to the Spanish culture and offering them an opportunity to practice the language with each other. ■



La fête des mères en Petite Section

Etre maman, c'est déjà le plus beau cadeau du monde. Pour célébrer la fête des mères, quoi de mieux que de recevoir un cadeau personnalisé par les touches de l'enfant.

Les élèves de la petite section se sont amusés à composer des petits tableaux créatifs pleins d'amour, de joie et de couleurs, pour les offrir à maman chérie. ■



Every activity is a learning opportunity

In connection to the unit of Inquiry “How We Express Ourselves”, the KGII/GS students visited the Arabic Book fair that took place in the Elementary school. Accompanied by some parents and their Arabic teachers, children toured the exhibition and were encouraged to explore, select, and buy age appropriate Arabic stories that will help them advance their thinking and communication abilities, as well as develop their enthusiasm, confidence, and creativity in the Arabic language. ■



Fin de thème



Dans le cadre du thème transdisciplinaire « Qui nous sommes », les élèves de la petite section bleue ont célébré leur apprentissage devant les parents sous forme d'exposition. Cette nouvelle stratégie de travail a donné aux élèves l'occasion de montrer ce qu'ils ont appris et de démontrer qu'ils ont acquis les bonnes qualités de l'apprenant. Ils ont communiqué de manière efficace leurs objectifs de travail à leurs parents, ainsi que les critères de réussite et leurs plans d'action. Ainsi cette exposition a assuré la participation de tous les élèves en tenant compte de leurs centres d'intérêt, de leurs différents styles d'apprentissage et de leurs besoins éducationnels. ■



Badminton news

Mira Hussein Agha from 6ème (Ras Beirut Middle School) Participated in the Lebanese National Badminton Tournament and ranked first in her category. Anwar Hussein Agha in 4ème also participated in the same tournament and ranked third in his category. Mabrouk to both, we are proud of them. ■

Counseling news

Ras Beirut Middle School counselor, Diala Itani, addressed the students of grades 8 and 9 / 4ème and 3ème about time management, organizational skills and the importance of avoiding procrastination. She focused on the reasons behind procrastination, causes and negative effects and then outlined ways to overcome poor time management and tips to enhance organizational skills. ■



Math and Science Fair at AUB

5 projects were entered from IC - Ras Beirut and 1 from Ain Aar

I Technology project won from Ain Aar

Heating lunch box - 2nd prize

2 Math projects won from Ras Beirut

Math en Forme - intermediate - 3rd prize

Télévision courbée ou plat- Secondary - 1st prize

2 Science projects won from Ras Beirut

Solar lunch box- intermediate- 2nd prize

Cardboard chairs - intermediate - 2nd prize ■



IC Heliocentric at Earth Hour Concert



As part of the Earth Hour festivities, the IC instrumental club "Heliocentric" performed live at Beirut By Bike on stage. Their performance was exceptional, emanating their positive vibes to the audience and the whole region. Way to go IC band!

Band members: Suha Zreik, Ramzi Fathallah, Rami-Joe Najd, Noor Harajli, Luayldriss, Lynn Chamout, Yves Achdjian. Band Advisor: Miss Hanan Halwany ■



Tony Asfour Travels Back to Grade One

Having the chance to give back to my school has not only been a blessing but a life changing experience. Having been an IC student for so many years, this school has always been a very important part of my life and I will always cherish every single moment I've spent at it. Coming back to where I once was and seeing it all through this whole new perspective really leaves me breathless.

Helping at the Ras Beirut, Elementary School has truly been an exhilarating experience. Spending time with so many incredible young minds and seeing them tackle and overcome so many challenges is amazing. The Grade 1 team has shown me that making a positive impact on a child's life is certainly the most rewarding experience anyone could ask for. It is this notion that makes me feel as though this year, in itself, has given me so much more than I could have asked for. I now recognize the endless gratitude I have for all those who have helped me become who I am today. I am honored to have met such

an extraordinary spectrum of characters and I am truly excited to see the positive impact they are going to have on the world in a few years.

Tony Asfour ('16) ■



6thC Community Service Project

The Community Service projects continue in the second semester starting with the 6th C visiting the Municipality of Aintoura, Zouk. Upon arrival, the Mayor explained to the students his environmental initiative. He invited them to see his sorting facilities. Next, the students hiked the path of the moon and spent two

hours cleaning it. It was an environmental activity by excellence! Despite the physical effort and fatigue, the students were happy and productive. The project's positive echoes reached other classes who are asking for similar projects! ■

MUN I training Sessions and Conference – LAU

For the 12th consecutive year, our Grade 10 Model United Nations Club took part in the training sessions and the conference organized by the Lebanese American University. The aim of the training sessions is to give our students the proper skills to build a coalition, negotiate, debate, write resolutions, learn diplomatic skills and simulate the work of the UN. After acquiring the proper skills and after going through different Mock simulation under guidance of the MUN I club advisor, our club members took part in the final conference which was held at LAU – Byblos on the 4th and 5th of March. Our delegation debated current issues over the course of two days and our delegate, Adam Hariri won the diplomacy award and was selected to take part in the final selection for the NY Global Classroom Conference.

MUN I Delegation: Cindy Farhat, Adam El-Hariri, Tala



Kadi, Grace Moucharafieh, Rida Mroue, Judy Naamani, Mia Natour, Suha Wazni, Kareem Wali, Nadim Zard, Karen Bakhos, Jana Idriss, Farah Idriss, Kinda Maad, Radah Al Khateeb, Sarah Ibrahim Basha
MUN I club advisor: Miss Lori Baitarian and Program Coordinator: Mr. Riad Chirazi ■



MUN III Conference – Warsaw Poland

The Grade 12 Model United Nations Club took part in the British School of Warsaw Model United Nations conference. This year's topic was: "Maintaining Order and Preventing Crime in the Cyber age" The participants were encouraged to consider the solutions to global issues taking into account the rapidly changing world around us. Over the course of three days, our club members were engaged in several debating sessions and they also had the



chance to take part in several cultural activities.

MUN III Delegation: Jirji Haddad, Nour Chanouha and Fouad El Amine.

MUN III club advisor: Miss Mariam Rifi and Program Coordinator: Mr. Riad Chirazi. ■



Pre CAS – Moadieh Elderly Center

As part of the Pre CAS program, the 5th CPP students, under the supervision of Mr. Mohamad El Rafii, visited the Moadieh Evangelical Center in Hamra for Elderly care. Students went on a Tuesday afternoon and they designed and implemented activities with the residents. The activity went smoothly, leaving both the residents and the students in a state of calmness and gratitude. ■

Pre-CAS Dar Al Amal

The Pre-CAS program is designed to get students enthusiastic about creativity, activity and service through direct interaction with a broad spectrum of people and places. As part of the Service strand, the 5th High School students, under the supervision of Mr. Mohamad El Rafii, went to Dar Al Amal centers in Sabra and Nabaa areas. There they implemented various fun activities with the underprivileged children (face painting, bowling, UNO, dancing, musical chairs, etc.). All participants left the activity with a smile on their faces and a wish to meet again! ■





Alma Mater

Noa Dahan, AA Grade II student, sent a letter to President Don Bergman inquiring about the fact that our Alma Mater lyrics are not in Arabic despite the fact that Arabic is our mother tongue. President Don Bergman visited Noa's class and explained that IC is an International school that has a clear mission of developing the sense of international mindedness across all the components of IC curriculum. The Alma Mater lyrics will be translated to Arabic, however it would be challenging to adapt the Arabic lyrics to the Alma Mater music. ■

Outreach Workshops

The ERC's second Outreach Workshop day for this year was a very successful one for presenters and participants alike. The workshops were held on the Ras Beirut campus on February 25 and were attended by 371 participants from 90 Lebanese public and private schools. The 20 different interactive workshops offered topics on Art and Drama, Sciences, Mathematics, languages, Library, and Educational Technology as well as general workshops for teachers of all school levels. The participants found their presenters to be well-organized, knowledgeable, pleasant and enthusiastic about their subjects. They enjoyed the fruitful discussions and found their workshops both entertaining and informative. "It was interesting to see how IC is implementing 21st century learning and teaching with such positive teachers," observed a participant. "Your positive energy was reflected on me as a participant, and I enjoyed seeing



how you implement such teaching strategies in your classrooms," stated another. Those attending the workshops appreciated the opportunity to explore and learn new ideas, strategies, techniques and classroom routines to help make their classes more productive and interesting places for student learning. "I really enjoyed and benefitted from the workshop. I am eager to attend more." "I will go back to my class with some important tips that would enhance the teaching and learning process," commented other participants. ■

March In-Service



Friday March 10 was a busy day for all IC teachers as they gathered at the Ras Beirut campus. The main focus was to address the various sections of the joint NEASC/CIS Self Study Accreditation report. The day began with an explanation of the process and goals for the day by ERC Director Dr. Mahmud Shihab. He reminded everyone of the Opinion Survey which all teachers, administrators, and as many parents as possible should complete online. The Survey is integral to our response to the report in general.

Teachers then divided into their respective departments and disciplines to study and respond to Section B: Teaching and Learning. In all of the Self-Study workshops, committee members looked at the indicators for each of the standards in the section, came to a consensus, and then rated the indicators and standards. In addition, they brainstormed evidence to support their ratings. A major part of our Self Study has been started which will lead the way to completing the rest of this very important report ■



Teacher Exchange, 2017

Each year since 1999, IC teachers and administrators travel to schools around the world participating in IC's Exchange Teacher Program. The program provides opportunities for IC teachers to visit international schools and for teachers from those schools to visit IC. The purpose of the visits is to exchange educational ideas and practices and to gain a better cultural understanding of the host country. The visit usually includes classroom visits, meetings with teachers and administrators and participation in school activities. It is always fun to tour the area around the school and learn more about the country and its customs.

So far this year, four IC teachers and one administrator have participated in exchange visits. Ras Beirut Elementary teachers Layla Shatila and Nesrine Habib along with Ain Aar Lower Elementary instructor Joelle Abboud traveled to Jordan from February 8 to 12. They visited the Ahliyyah School for Girls

to explore and exchange ideas about the PYP program there. All three IC teachers enjoyed visiting the school and the professional development opportunity their visit offered.

From February 6 to 10, Ras Beirut Elementary director Julia Kozak and PYP coordinator Rola Hajj Ismail traveled to Vietnam and visited Ho Chi Minh City School there. They were very enthusiastic about their visit, considering it to be a "rich professional learning and personally enjoyable experience". In May, IC is looking forward to welcoming two of HCMC Elementary teachers and to making their experience here in Lebanon both professionally enriching and enjoyable. Ho Chi Minh City School is a new school to our program, and we look forward to their continuing participation in our Exchange Teacher Program.

The Teacher Exchange Program would not be complete without IC receiving visiting teachers

as well. From March 6 to March 10, IC welcomed two secondary humanities teachers from Choate Rosemary Hall in Wallingford, Connecticut, USA. Ms. Eera Sharma is a Spanish teacher and Director of the Summer School session at Choate Rosemary. Mr. Philip Kojo Clarke is a French instructor there. Both were welcomed at our Secondary School where they visited a variety of subject classes (Spanish, French, English, Philosophy, Advisory, and TOK), spoke with fellow teachers and visited offices, including the Secondary School Director, College Counsellor, Guidance, Social Services, IB Coordinator and the LMC. Their evenings in Beirut were hosted by Middle School Mathematics instructor Lama Shihab and LMC Librarian Mariam Labban. During Teachers' Day and while IC teachers were busy with In-Service, Eera and Philip took the opportunity to visit Lebanese historical sites in Beiteddine and in Deir al-Qamar. ■



Honoring IC Personnel

Awards

- *Edmond Tohme outstanding Award:* Mrs. Mishka Mojabber Mourani
- *Randa Khoury Innovation in Teaching Award:* Mrs. Asma Dibsi
- *A Call Beyond Duty Award:* Mr. Youssef Sayah
- *Albert Abela Distinguished Awards:* Mrs. Line Abou El Khoudoud - Mrs. Nayla Owayshek- Mrs. Carla Asfour - Miss Maya Chebaro- Mrs. Samar Noueihed-Mr. Iskandar Abou Kasm- Miss Myriam Abou Atmeh- Mrs. Lara Mansour- Miss Leila Kobeissi-Miss Mimosa Arawi
- *Georges O. Debbas Staff Awards:* Mrs. Samar Gerges - Mr. Mohammed Harb - Mrs. Marcelle Jabre



Retiring

Mr. Fadi Abou Abdallah - Mr. Iskandar Abou Kasm- Mr. Fawzi Abou Khater – Mrs. Randa Azkoul - Mrs. Juliette Bikhazi – Mr. Hatem Chalak - Mrs. Samiha Ghusayni - Mr. George Hanna- Mr. Nabih Lahoud- Mrs. Mishka Mojabber Mourani- Mrs. Suha Salka

35 Years of Service

Miss Nicole Bachour

25 Years of Service

Miss Hania Abou Rihan – Mrs. Lina Arayssi Noueiry- Mrs. Myriam Bouzakhm- Mrs. Wissam Hanna - Mrs. Marie -Thérèse Jouën -Mrs. Samiha Ghusayni - Mrs. Lina Kaddoura- Mrs. Lina Melki - Mrs. Baria Shawwa - Mrs. Sana Sidani Yamout – Mrs. Fatima Taha ■

