

# Arab Episcopal School

## *Home of Peace Education*



## ***Ahlan wa sahan—Welcome***

After a two-month summer vacation, classes are back in session; we are refreshed and set for a new school year. This school year brings many new teachers, students, volunteers, and new opportunities to educate and encourage our students. Every morning before the school bell rings, we begin the day by singing the Jordanian national anthem and morning exercises to awaken the students for a new day of study. Mrs. Sabah then welcomes the children and prepares them for the day ahead.



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# Summer Break

Here are some of the events that took place at Arab Episcopal School while the students were away on summer break.

## Trip to Germany

Reverend Samir Esaid and Mrs. Sabah Zurikat had the privilege to travel to Germany for twenty days in July. There they updated the supporters of Arab Episcopal School on all of the school's recent developments.

## School Renovations

During the months of July and August, the second floor of the school was under construction. Many of the floors were replaced.

## Decorating

Before the students' arrival for the 2015-2016 school year, much had to be done to prepare. First, decorations had to be hung. Nametags with the students' names in Arabic and English letters were made, "Welcome Back to School" banners were hung on the doors, and posters listing classroom rules were written.

## First Week Back

The transition from summer break to long school days can be difficult, at times. Therefore, creating an environment during the first week of school that would ease the younger students into the routine of a regular school day was essential. Students were given tasty treats, played fun games, and got to go home early.



*Top: Reverend Samir Esaid visiting a church in Germany.*



*Right: Renovations taking place on the second floor of the school.*



*Left: Fun and bright hallway decorations.*



*Bottom: Children in the nursery enjoying popcorn during the first week of school.*



# Teacher's Page

## Dead Sea Trip

Just before school was back in session, Reverend Samir Esaïd and Mrs. Sabah Zurikat took the teachers to the Dead Sea for a one-day retreat. This was not only a time to relax and rejuvenate, but also a time for the teachers to focus on strengthening their relationships with one another and for the headmistresses to further develop their relationships with the teachers as well.



*Top: Trip to the Dead Sea*

## Teacher Training

Most recently, our math and English teachers had the opportunity to attend the Queen Rania Teachers' Academy, which provides classroom training by way of workshops. The workshops aim to better the educational experience for students across Jordan by equipping teachers with the skills necessary to engage students. Altogether, five math teachers and four English teachers attended respective workshops.



*Middle: English teacher training*



*Bottom: Math teacher training*

## We Welcome...

**28 new students to Grade 1**  
**Six new teachers:**

Ms. Mariam—*French, Grades 1-10*  
Ms. Batool—*English, Grades 1-3*  
Mrs. Shireen—*English, Grades 4-6*  
Mrs. Isral—*Math, Grades 6-10; Science, Grade 6*  
Ms. Raghad—*Physical Education, Kindergarten-Grade 10*  
Mr. Khaleed—*Arabic Grades 8-10*

**Three new volunteers:**

Carlotta Cohnen—*Germany*  
Carissa Crane—*United States*  
Anke Momm—*Germany*



*Volunteers (left to right), Anke Momm, Carlotta Cohnen, and Carissa Crane*

# Peace Education

## Kindergarten News

Kindergarten is divided into two groups: KG 1, four years old, and KG 2, five years old. KG 1 has a total of 18 children and is taught by Miss Renate and Anke Momm. KG 2, on the other hand, has a total of 29 children and is taught by Miss Khawla and Miss Hadeel. The focus of kindergarten is to prepare the children for school. They often sing, dance, draw, and play games. Their favorite activity is playing with the ball and running around outside. Most recently, they were taught the basics of handling a baby, such as how to hold and wash a baby. Kindergarten is also the age at which the children begin learning about peace, how to respect and love those who are different than oneself, which is the foundation of our school. At the end of the day, the children often receive a candy surprise.



## Practicing Hygiene

As part of our mission of peace, grades two through six have been learning about staying healthy and clean. In order to enact such practices, we have been providing fluoride treatments twice a week.



## Giving and Thanking

We continue to instill the ideals of peace in our students by teaching them the importance of giving to those in need. Students from all grades have been collecting food that we have then taken to SOS. These resources feed the poor as well as orphaned children. Such a practice has led to the students realizing how thankful they should be for all the ways God has blessed them.



# Celebrations

## Celebrating *Eid al Adha*

The Muslim holiday, *Eid al Adha*, was celebrated on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015. For schools across Jordan, this meant school would not be held September 23<sup>rd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>. Before the holiday, children were given a card and some candy as a present for the *Eid*.



## Invitation to German Embassy

On October 4<sup>th</sup>, Reverend Samir and Mrs. Sabah were invited to the German embassy in Jordan to celebrate a national day of Germany. Also in attendance were many other ambassadors of Arab states and many of Jordan's princes. This was a wonderful opportunity to share with the world all that is happening at Arab Episcopal School.



*Above: Mrs. Sabah Zurikat and Reverend Samir Esaid with the ambassador to Germany during the celebration of the national day of Germany.*

## Student Award Night

On September 12<sup>th</sup>, the students with the five highest averages from each class were awarded for their hard work. The students' parents were invited to the event during which the students marched through the halls while music was playing. Presents and certificates were then presented to the students. After all the awards were distributed and pictures were taken, *knafeh* was served to all who attended.



*Above and below: Students, teachers, and faculty on Student Award night.*



## UC Mas

New this year is an educational program entitled *UC Mas*. *UC Mas* began in Malaysia and is now taught in more than 54 countries. It teaches children to think about math logically, in their minds, rather than using pencil and paper or a calculator. At AES, *UC Mas* is offered to all students in grades two through six.

Mr. Moataz Azar, the General Manager for *UC Mas* in Jordan, came to AES three times this year to introduce the program as well as train teachers on the proper methods for teaching math in such a way.

## Parent's Day

September 19<sup>th</sup> was Parent's Day at Arab Episcopal School for the parents who have students in Kindergarten and Grade 1. The parents, not the students, attended school that day—a perfect way for the parents to meet the teachers and learn what their children are learning in school each day. Parents heard talks regarding their children's abilities at that age level, possible issues that could arise in a child at that age, and the difference between KG 1 and KG 2.

Parents' Day was held a second time on October 3<sup>rd</sup> for the parents with students in Grades 2-6.



*Above: Mr. Moataz Azar, the General Manager for UC Mas in Jordan during one of his visits to Arab Episcopal School.*



*September 19<sup>th</sup>'s Parents' Day*

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