



AL BATEEN ACADEMY NEWSLETTER



Photo: Warrior Challenge 2016

Dear Parents

As we start a new term, it is always fascinating to speak with students to discover what they did during the vacation, whether it be staying in Abu Dhabi or travelling with their family.

As an educator, the hope is that each student does not completely forget their studies, yet I recognise that this is a time to rest, recharge and spend time with family. Studies show that there is a reported decrease in the time children spend reading independently at home so I took it upon myself to speak with as many students as possible in week 1 to ascertain whether they read at home, for fun, and why they like to read. Why do students often slow down with their reading at secondary school? What motivates a student to read? Whether it be Harry Potter, The Hobbit, or The Maze Runner Series, the students I spoke with enjoy reading on a daily basis – in both holiday and term time.

These students have discovered a favourite author, or series, or

character. Many mentioned that the stories are imaginative, creative, and 'hook you in' so that you want to find out more or what happens next. It is interesting to note they have developed a habit of reading, or rather, they are able to select a book and sustain their concentration for a long period of time.

They read for fun rather than necessity. The mind-set is not one of I have to read, but I want to read. At the start of 2017, please encourage your child to read more at home, on a daily basis if possible, if they do not do so already. It does not have to be a fiction book, it can be non-fiction, a newspaper, a magazine. "Young people who read outside class daily are 13 times more likely to read above the expected level for their age." (National Literacy Trust, 2012).

Thank you to all parents that completed the Parent Survey at the end of Term 1. In summary, 90% agreed that their child is happy at school; 96% agreed that their child feels safe at school; and 95% agreed that their child is well looked after.

Please be assured that we do recognise that there are areas that need developing and will carefully consider all feedback and suggestions so we can further improve the school and provision for your child's education.

Best wishes

MR DAVID HUTSON
PRINCIPAL

يقوموا بعمل ذلك مسبقاً. فليس عليهم قراءة كتب خيالية فقط، يمكنهم قراءة أي شيء مثل الكتب غير الخيالية، جريدة أو مجلة. "الشباب الذين يقرؤون خارج الصف يومياً هم ثلاثة عشر مرة مما هو متوقع لسنهم. الوطني لمحو الأمية، ٢٠١٢

أريد أن أشكر جميع أولياء الأمور الذين قاموا باستكمال استبيان أولياء الأمور في نهاية الفصل الأول. ملخصاً النتيجة، ٩٠% أجمعوا على أن أبناءهم يشعرون بالسعادة في المدرسة، ٩٦% أجمعوا على أن أبناءهم يشعرون بالأمان في المدرسة و ٩٥% أجمعوا على أن أبناءهم يحظون بالاهتمام والعناية الجيدة. يرجى العلم أننا ندرك أن لدينا مناطق تحتاج إلى تطوير و سوف نهتم بجميع التعليقات والاقتراحات حتى نتمكن من تحسين المدرسة وتوفير أجود مستوى تعليمي لأبنائكم

ديفيد هوتسون
مدير المدرسة

إلى أولياء الأمور الكرام

مع بداية فصل دراسي جديد، دائماً من الرائع التحدث مع الطلاب لاكتشاف ما قاموا به خلال العطلة، سواء كان ذلك البقاء في أبوظبي أو السفر إلى الخارج مع أسرهم. كمعلم، أتمنى من طلابنا عدم إهمال الدراسة أثناء العطلة، ولكنني أعلم أن العطلة وقت للراحة، وإعادة شحن الطاقة وقضاء بعض الوقت مع العائلة. تشير الدراسات أن هناك انخفاض في قضاء الأطفال وقت للقراءة بمفردهم في المنزل. ولذلك قررت أن أتكلم مع أكبر عدد ممكن من الطلاب في الأسبوع الأول من الفصل الدراسي والتحقق إن كانوا يقومون بالقراءة في البيت، من أجل المتعة، ولماذا يحبون القراءة. لماذا يقوم الطلاب في كثير من الأحيان بتقليل القراءة عندما تبدأ المرحلة الثانوية؟ ما الذي يحفز الطالب Harry على القراءة؟ سواء كان ذلك Potter، The Hobbit، أو The Maze Runner Series.

الطلاب الذين قمت بالتحدث معهم يستمتعون بالقراءة بشكل يومي و ذلك خلال العطلة والفصل الدراسي. وقد قام هؤلاء الطلبة باكتشاف كتابهم المفضل، أو سلسلة كتب أو شخصيات. وذكر كثيرون أن القصص تكون خيالية و مبدعة، وتجذبهم كثيراً لمعرفة المزيد أو ما سيحدث بعد ذلك. من المثير للاهتمام أن القراءة أصبحت عادة عند هؤلاء الطلاب. فهم قادرون على اختيار كتاب، والحفاظ على تركيزهم لفترة طويلة من الزمن. فهم يقرؤون من أجل المتعة و ليس لأنها ضرورة. في بداية هذا العام، نطلب من حضراتكم تشجيع أبنائكم على القراءة أكثر في المنزل بشكل يومي إن أمكن، إذا لم

1ST FEBRUARY

Year 9 Parents
Evening.

2ND FEBRUARY

Year 13 IB DP & Year 12
AS Mock Examination
results formally
distributed. Parents
invited to attend at 2pm.

HEAD OF YEAR UPDATES



YEAR 7 END OF TERM 1 AWARDS.

Choosing students for awards is always a difficult task and this term it has been even more challenging with a high number of very talented students. The theme for our Celebration Assembly was the new school Values. The assembly showcased performances from many students demonstrating our Values. The school Values are part of lessons, extra curricular activities and school life.

Subject awards are awarded to students who; make fantastic progress, show dedication and commitment and always try their best.

Many students received Subject Awards, and their teachers spoke very highly of them. Congratulations to the following students who won these prestigious awards.

English
Leen Shanwar (7A)
Dawar Khan (7B)
Accelerated Reader Award
Leen Shanwar (7A)
Maths
Lilia Aissaoui (7F)
Abdullah Kadri (7D)
Islamic
Ammar Bedair (7E)
Nour Barham (7C)
Lenore Libab (7A)
Abdullah Kadri (7D)
Arabic
Sami Tashamneh (7A)

Dawar Khan (7B)
Music
Amani Perera (7H)
Mankush Gandhi (7F)
PE
Rebecca Patterson (7E)
Isaac Hinds (7D)
History
Afra Bin Jerais Al Ali (7D)
Adam Fadlullah (7C)
Social Studies: History
Afsheen Nishad (7C)
Maaluv Gandhi (7D)
Geography
Saif Al Hammadi (7E)
Gabrielle Bautista (7E)
Geography: Be the Best
Hamza Khan (7B)
Amani Perera (7H)
Mohamed Al Mualla (7G)
Social Studies:
Geography
Lilia Aissaoui (7F)
Umaima Khan (7G)
Social Studies
Ammar Bedair (7E)
Reem Alkaabi (7B)
Science
Bianca Marotta (7A)
Aakif Umar (7F)
ICT & Computing
Amani Perera - (7H)
Adam Fadlullah (7C)
DT
Reem Alkaabi 7B
Rawan Najim 7F
Drama
Rebecca Patterson 7E
Lara Annesley (7A)
Languages: Spanish
Leen Shanwar 7A
Gabrielle Bautista 7E
Languages: French
Obaid Al Marri (7C)
Afsheen Nishad (7C)
Art
Leen shanwar (7A)
Salem Al Haira (7F)

7D achieved recognition for the best attendance of the

term. A tremendous achievement, with the group averaging 99%. As a result they currently hold the Minion Mascot!

Student Council Award:
Presented by Year 7 Student Council Members; Zayed Al-Nahyan 7E, Jumana El Merhebi 7D, Alyazia Alshehhi 7F and Leen Shanwar 7A.

This award is to thank a member of staff on behalf of all Year 7 students and is awarded to a member of staff who makes a huge difference to Al Bateen Academy. This term the award was presented to a member of the schools security team; Roshan Mohammed Khan. Thank you to Roshan for his commitment to the Al Bateen community.



Female Student of the Term: Leen Shanwar, 7A.

Leen has made a very positive start at Al Bateen Academy. Her academic record during term 1 has been excellent. She has been involved in many school community initiatives; from the Student Council to BESLA and not forgetting her tremendous support with transition events.

'It was such an honour winning Student of the Term, in my first term at Al Bateen I did as many things as possible from the Student Council, The Sports Council, BESLA and much more. I will continue to get involved in as many activities as I can this term. I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw my name in the board. Sometimes I still think it's a dream, a dream that came true.' Leen Shanwar 7A



Male Student of the term: Mankush Gandhi, 7F.

Mankush has worked hard to exceed in his studies and has been involved in several key transition events with Year 5/6 students. He sets a superb example to other students with his fantastic attitude and dedication to his work and the school community.

'My first term went great, all the teachers and the older students were really helpful and made it easier for me to settle in well. I also got involved in as many things as possible so that I could experience new things. On the last day of term we had a Celebration Assembly Mr Smith gave awards to different students for many different things, and at the end Student of the Term was announced and I had been selected, I was so shocked! So in the end I had an OUTSTANDING First term.' Mankush Gandhi, 7F.

Tutor Group of the Term: 7E.

This was a very tough decision and I could have justified picking any of the Year 7 Tutor Groups. I considered a number of factors including, attendance, organisation, participation in our year 7 quiz, and generally showing an active involvement in the school community.

After much deliberation I decided on 7E as term 1's Tutor Group of the Term as overall they had the best record.

'7E are very proud and pleased to have won Tutor Group of the Year. We have worked hard as a class to

maintain high standards and always strive to be the best we can. We have thoroughly enjoyed term one, and all the activities and events we have participated in. Some of our favourite activities were, BateenFest and the Warrior Challenge where we came first in the year group! We are looking forward to being just as successful in term two! Mrs Barnett and Mrs Atkinson.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all year 7 parents who have been incredibly supportive of the school during the first term, this has really helped Year 7 students settle into their new surroundings.

I look forward to celebrating further success with Year 7 during 2017.

MR MATTHEW SMITH HEAD OF YEAR 7

YEAR 8

The Celebration Assembly in December was such a great way to close Term 1. There were various awards including: subject awards, attendance, Student of the Term and Tutor Group of the Term.

Subject Awards:

Arabic- Native

Farah Abu Assali

Jawad Abd el

Arabic- Non Native

Bhargavi Ritolia

Tania Abou Shakra

English

Liyan Mustafa

Saif Matrooshi

PE

Isabel Sutherland

Karim El Kobrosi

Music

Peter James

Haya Bu Ali

History

Yaroslava Politova

Josef Majeed

Geography

Bhargavi Ritola

Lana Mustafa

Social Studies: History

Shaikha AlNasri

Jawad Abdulwahab

Social Studies:

Geography



Yazan Atout
Khaled Al Shareef
Science
Yumna Muhammad
Guglielmo Persi Paoli
ICT & Computing
Bhargavi Ritolia
Elise Fowler

DT
Bhargavi Ritolia
Saif AlHammadi
Drama
Ruqaiyah Rupawala
Liyan Mustafa
Languages: Spanish
Dana Alkaabi
Maram Ahmed
Languages: French
Zizou Al Shouly
Amina Noshi
Art
Alice Ferrarese
Islamic- Native
Obaid Al Nasser
Lana Mustafa
Islamic - Non Native
Aya Muhammad
Abdulah Eminovic

Student of the Term: The winners for this award were Bhargavi Ritola (8C) and Peter James (8B).

Congratulations to the both of you and thank you very much for your contributions to the Al Bateen community.



Our attendance within tutor groups was phenomenal with 5 out of 6 tutor groups over the 95% attendance mark, which saw 8B and 8F joint 1st place with 98%. We also had a high number of students gain the Bronze Award for a perfect 100% attendance record in Term 1. Well done and I look forward to handing out the Silver Attendance award at the end of term 2.

It also gives me great pleasure to announce that the Tutor Group of the Term Award was presented to 8F for having such a positive first term in year 8. Well done!



In addition, we would like to celebrate all of those students whom received a House Award for achieving either 75 House points for a Silver Award or over 100 House points for a Gold Award. A special congratulations to Guglielmo Persi Paoli 8F and Liyan Mustafa 8F these students achieved the Gold House Point Award.



During the Celebration Assembly the Student Council awarded our Facilities Manager, Mr Bernard Usana the Community Award in recognition for all of his hard work, here at Al Bateen.

This week I had the privilege of sitting in a Student Council meeting. It was lovely to see our students rising up to the challenges of further responsibility and discussing and debating ideas, which have been raised by Al Bateen students. Year 8 had a large presence at the meeting and have been involved in various small projects. Well done to our Year 8 Student Council members!

We would also like to welcome Ms. Jasmin Ferguson to the Year 8 Tutor team.

All the best for an equally memorable term.

**MISS LEANNE CANHAM
HEAD OF YEAR 8**



YEAR 9

Firstly, happy New Year!!!! I wish you all the very best for 2017. Term 1 culminated in a fantastic achievement assembly, students were acknowledged for their efforts and academic attainment that they demonstrated throughout the term. It gave me a sense of great pride to present these awards to students, as a school we really do appreciate all of their hard work and progress during term 1.

The first accolade awarded to students was for 100% attendance. This is a fantastic achievement and the winners of this award should be proud of their resilience and determination. Unfortunately there are too many winners to name, however well done to everyone who achieved this award.

The next award was presented to students who have demonstrated their commitment and appreciation to the UAE throughout term 1.

These students have been involved in a variety of whole school events which included National Day Celebrations, UAE Flag Day and Martyrs day.

The names of the winners included: Saif Al Hebsi, Habroosh Al Suwadi, Shaikh Abdulla Al Mualla, Sultan Al Zaabi, Mohamed Al Zaabi, Rashad Al Suwadi, Abdulaziz Al Khoori, Abdulla Al Mhairi, Saif Al Quabaisi, Matar Al Mhairi and Ahmed Al Shehhi.



Well done to all those students and keep up the hard work.

There were also many students who won subject awards and were acknowledged for all their hard work and outstanding progress. A special mention goes to Sara El Kasabi, Kylde Gironella, Mukund Shankar, Elisya Faizul and Karim El Kobrosy who were nominated for multiple subject awards.

I would also like to say well done to Lina Awad who was awarded the Accelerated

Reader award for her progress, hard work and commitment to the Accelerated Reader Programme during term 1.



The assembly concluded with the three most prestigious awards. Female Student of the Term was awarded to Elisya Faisul for her all round excellence and achievement, the Male Student of the Term was Karim El Kobrosy for his progress during the term.

Finally Tutor Group of the Term was 9F. 9F made an outstanding contribution to term 1, getting involved with all aspects of school life. I would like to say a huge well done to all the award winners and further encourage all students to aim to win an award in term 2.

**MR SEAN CLARKE
HEAD OF YEAR 9**

YEAR 10

Much like the weather, it's been a calm and settled start to the New Year for us in Year 10. The students have come back to school and are straight into their lessons and are plugging away in every subject. Once again, there's been a cornucopia of different events to report on from the last few weeks of Term 1.

Warrior Challenge was another example of how Al Bateen Academy can take on a challenge head on. Every student who participated showed strength and determination to finish the course - with some students completing it four times in one hour. That's impressive - one attempt was too much for me!!!

I saw a different side to many students on the day, with many students who do not normally compete in athletic competitions showing that they can undertake a huge physical and mental challenge and compete outside of their comfort zone. It was a real spectacle, and a great example of how this fantastic year group can work as a team.

Some students wowed the audience at the Winter Concert. I have been inundated with praise from friends of our students, parents and staff, recollecting on the fantastic talent that was on show. Well done to all of the students, from all year groups who were part of such a fantastic and memorable concert.

Two lucky Year 10 students, Khalifa and Lea, had a fantastic time on the ski trip to Verbier in Switzerland. What a way to spend the winter break! They have both come back in one piece and are raving about the great trip that they had.

To finish Term 1, we hosted





a Celebration Assembly which was inspired by the famous Academy Awards, this event celebrates the contribution and achievements of the first

Arabic (Native)
Abdulla Al Shehhi
Farah Abo Asali
Arabic (Non Native)
Aryan Sood
Arabic Writing
Competition
Saif ElDawla Taha
Art
Aliza Solatorio
Emily Sullivan
Business Studies
Nikola Stamenkovic
Lea El Maalouf
DT
Aryan Sood
Lea El Maalouf
Drama
Jennifer Bridle
Economics
Aryan Sood
English
Sara Al Shehhi
Ahmed Al Qemsi
Geography
Jawad Abdulwahab
Ali Al Sahn
History
Nawal Ismail
Joao Ribeiro
IT & Computing
Fatima Al Rousi
Mohammed AlKhyeli
Computer Science
Jawad Abdulwahab
Islamic (Native)
Humaid Al Mazrouie
Hager ElKasabi
Islamic (Non Native)
Maryam Al Shibibi
Riad Al Asadi
Languages
Joao Ribeiro
Fouad Korban

Camila De Leo
Alice Ferrarese
Mathematics
Lujayne Rashid
Jawad Abdulwahab
Music
Yaser Yaser
Xinyu wang
PE
Layan Askar
Seb Hinds
Psychology
Ava Mussayeva
Alice Ferrarese
Science
Sai Danthakani
Nawal Ahmed Ismail
Aryan Sood
Farah Abo Asali
Hager El Kasabi
Essam Al kadomi
Sociology
Ava Mussayeva
Maria Khakimova

school term. We had an impressive haul of names to congratulate on their achievements.

Our special guest, 'Justin Bieber' (Better known as Mr Sonsin) (Better known as Mr Sonsin) opened the event to a raucous crowd, which also included a Mannequin Challenge, different form classes competed against each other for this prestigious accolade. Well done to all students who won awards!!!

It has been a tough start to the year for our Year 10 students, as it is their first taste of IGCSE's, but the students who won the awards have taken to the task really well. A massive well done to Alice Ferrarese and Aryan Sood

who were awarded the Student of the Term award's for their performance across all subjects.

A special mention also goes to 10A who won the Tutor Group of the Term Award- consistently the best uniform, attendance, punctuality and also the quiz winners. They devoured a HUGE pizza and some Jelly Beans as a reward. Congratulations to all of the winners, and keep up the good work!

MR SAMUEL BARNETT
HEAD OF YEAR 10

YEAR 11

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a happy new year and welcome our students back to the start of a brand new, exciting yet extremely busy term! I am looking forward to the results of our forthcoming IGCSE Mock Examinations; Just a reminder that the examinations will take place between Sunday 22nd January and Monday 30th January.

Needless to say that punctuality and attendance is integral to the success of our students during this time, these examinations are essential practice for the 'real thing'.

Firstly I would like to celebrate the success of our top 12 students as deciphered from the review of our end of term reports.

Aaliyah Khwaja
Agnes Widensky
Antonio De Leo
Diana Majeed
Fiona McGeachy
Hamad Al Qubaisi
Trishan Dissanayake
Mohammad Sohawon
Mohanad Ahmed
Sarah Abdalla
Zayed Al Mazroui
Zeyad Wadi

Also, I would like to thank and celebrate the success of the following students who all won prestigious awards

in our end of year Celebration Assembly, something all of our students should be striving for.

Arabic (Non Native)
Sara Abdoullah & Saif Rajab
Business Studies
Shaymaa khan
D & T
Agnes Widensky & Farah Azzouz
Drama
Blen Tamrat
Economics
Sameed Ahmad
Geography
Agnes Widensky
History
Isabella Schwarz & Agnes Widensky
IT & Computing
Mohammed Babu & Ali Majeed
GCSE Computer Science
Hisham Sohawon & Shaymaa khan
Islamic (Native)
Zayed Al Mazroui & Thuria Hashem
Islamic (Non Native)
Lina Said & Muhammad Ahmad
Spanish
Sally Amir
French
Luna Korban & Alex Azzawi
Music
Rowan Yousif & Lisa Williams
PE
Christina Kennely & Adeeb Chilmeran
Psychology
Fiona McGeachy & Diana Majeed
Biology
Zeyad Wadi & Thuraya Hashem
Chemistry
Mohannad Ahmed & Carla Nahar
Physics
Bryan Quadras & Waleed Andari

I would like to thank all of our dedicated staff and students and wish everyone good luck for the forthcoming examinations. Remember preparation is key!

MISS LISA HANDY
HEAD OF YEAR 11

INTERNET ADDICTION: TOO MUCH TIME ONLINE?

Across the world, parents and teachers are becoming increasingly concerned at the amount of time their children are spending online. One recent report suggested that some children are spending as much as 44 hours a week (a 3 fold increase in the last 10 years) in front of some form of digital screen, be it computers, mobile phones, gaming consoles or television.

At school we try and limit this time by enforcing policies regarding the use of mobile phones etc. We genuinely want students to communicate with each other by talking, to become social and engage in real world experiences. Whilst we all acknowledge the positive power of the internet and digital devices and the huge value they can have on learning, it is clear that many of our students are spending a disproportionate amount of time in the evenings online, gaming and using social media. This week when I asked one exhausted looking year 10 student what time he went to sleep, he replied 'my game finished at 3am!'.

As a pastoral team, we are only too aware of the potential dangers to our students who are spending too much time online:

- They may frequently arrive late to school and miss important notices

- Students who are tired cannot concentrate or learn effectively. Academic progress will be limited, leading to lower grades

- Students become more irritable with lack of sleep. Decision making is affected and confrontations increase
- Social media issues increase.

Experts agree that children with excessive usage are also at risk of:

- Increased obesity
- Interrupted sleep patterns and problems sleeping
- Increased risk of depression

Some warning signs of compulsive internet use:

- Preoccupation with the internet
- Defensive about time spent online
- Failed attempts to control behavior, including aggressive behavior
- A heightened sense of euphoria while involved in computer and Internet activities
- Loses track of time while online
- Sacrifices needed hours of sleep to spend time online
- Becomes agitated or angry when not online or online time is interrupted
- Checks messages compulsively throughout the day
- Spends time online in place of homework or chores
- Prefers to spend time online rather than with friends or family
- Disobeys time limits that have been set for Internet usage
- Seems preoccupied with getting back online when away from the computer
- Loses interest in activities that were enjoyable before he or she had online access
- Depression.

Source: www.webroot.com

What's the answer?
Monitor and regulate time spent online. The key is to understand the difference between normal internet usage and compulsive internet usage. We all spend time online and are prone to losing track of time.

Source: www.webroot.com

What's the answer?

Monitor and regulate time spent online. The key is to understand the difference between normal internet usage and compulsive internet usage. We all spend time online and are prone to losing track of time.

However, research shows there is a growing number of children who spend most of

their waking hours in front of a screen, ignoring family, relationships, homework and the world!

It is widely agreed that time spent online must be regulated and balanced against time spent with family and friends, doing homework/study, sports and other leisure activities. This sometimes means removing devices from children's bedrooms, using permitted time-online as a negotiation tool and encouraging other activities.

At school we offer many avenues for support. If you have any questions please seek advice from myself, your child's Head of Year, our School Counsellor and/or our ICT department. Also, please share with us your successes and positive strategies. I am sure our parent community would love to hear what has worked for others!

MS RACHEL SMYTH
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - PASTORAL

PARENT WORKSHOPS

Dear Parents

Parent Workshops (adults only) are up and running! They provide all of us the privilege of learning from one another in a safe and non-judgemental space. Please feel free to bring friends. All are welcome. Workshops are located in the library from 6.15-7.15pm.

Remaining Workshops
January 24th: Anger Management Part 2. Working With Anger & Young People

January 31st: Working With Children & Teenagers Using Mindfulness and Social

Emotional Learning Techniques.

February 7th : Digital Addiction Part 2- What We Lose Versus What We Gain And Its Impact On Our Youth.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

MS LAURA BRENNAN
SCHOOL COUNSELLOR

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY NEWS: TERM 2

MasterChef.

Mrs Atkinson is pleased to announce the dates for the annual Al Bateen Academy MasterChef competition. The competition will start on Sunday 19th March until Thursday 23rd March and is open to all year groups, do you have what it takes to receive this prestigious award? Start thinking about your recipes now... More details to follow!

The Wizard of Oz.

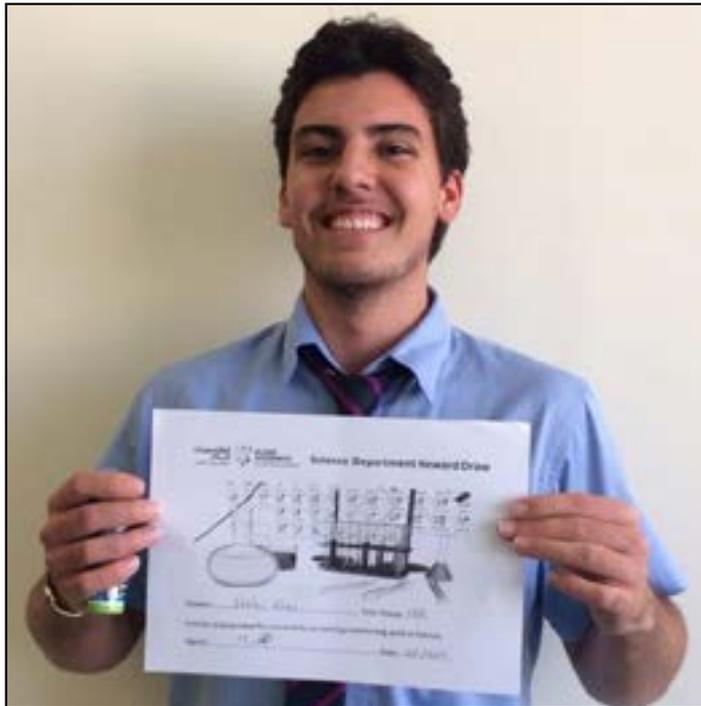
Come and join the CAS activity club on Monday after school from 2.30pm-3.30pm to design and make costumes for the whole school production of The Wizard of Oz. Please see Mrs Lucy Coulthard for details in Textiles.

Booster sessions for DT.

Booster session will run every Monday and Tuesday from 2.10 – 3.30pm for all year 11 Design technology students to ensure success in their coursework projects.

MRS JILL ATKINSON
HEAD OF DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT REWARD DRAW



Every Thursday on the bulletin Mr Wolstencroft will announce the student prize winners for the Science Department Reward Draw.

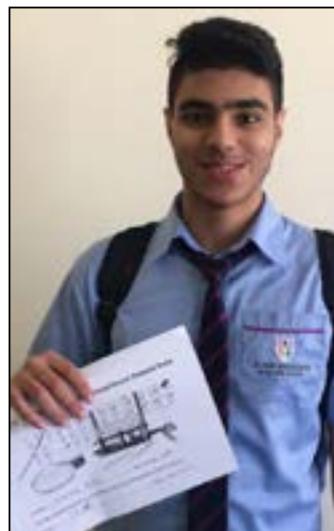
This will take place every Wednesday lunchtime for those students that gained a reward ticket from their teacher for excellent work in Science that week.

Congratulations to the first ever winners of the Science Department Reward Draw.

They are:

- Fatima Al Zaabi 9D (Mrs Clarke)
- Mohamed Al Kuwaiti 9A (Mrs Clarke)
- Blen Tamrat 11B (Mrs Riaz)
- Omar Al Mutawa 10F (Mr Wolstencroft)
- Ezaldeen Arafat 12A (Mr Horsburgh)
- Stefan Vasic 13D (Mr Horsburgh)

**MR MARK WOLSTENCROFT
HEAD OF SCIENCE**



CAN YOU HELP?

The Art Department will be creating sets for the school production. The art team require clean plastic bottles and large cardboard boxes.

If you would like to donate these items

please ask students to deliver the required items to the Art Department. Thank you for your support.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC LESSONS

Last week at Al Bateen Academy we had a very musical start to the day. On entering the school, students were met with a performance by two of our instrumental music teachers.

These mini morning recitals were an opportunity for students and parents to meet the new instrumental team and to see and hear the instruments that are available including: piano, strings, woodwind, brass, drums and voice.

Please visit: <http://www.musicart.ae/lesson/school-al-bateenacademy>

For further information and to register for instrumental lessons for this term.

The Master Chef Competition will run from Sunday 19th March—Thursday 23rd March 2017 and will be open to all year groups. Prepare yourself for the challenge and start thinking of possible recipe ideas! Details to follow.



AL BATEEN'S WINTER BREAK SKI TRIP

On the 14th of December 2016 a group of 23 students and 3 teachers embarked on the trip of a life time! In the early hours they set off on their journey leaving the balmy temperature of the sandy deserts in their rear view mirror and set their sights on the snow covered and freezing cold mountain tops of Verbier, Switzerland.

A mixed group of students ranging from year 8 to 12 along with Miss Handy, Mr Horsburgh and myself, took on the challenge of either learning, or improving their skiing skills. The students were divided into four groups according to their ability ranging from beginner to expert, and regardless of skill all students had a fabulous week and did some serious skiing!

The expert group made up of a group of year 11 and 12 students hit a top speed of 80km as they sped down the red and black runs of Mont Forte. The intermediate groups made progress from snow ploughing down blue slopes, to parallel skiing

down red and black runs by end of the week. Let's not forget about the beginners group, this is the group that made the most progress over the week; as they started their lessons they could not even stand on their skis!!!!

Screams were heard as they took off backwards on the gentle slope, they were often found lying down on the ground... just to take a break from falling over.... BUT by

the end of the week they all made a very nervous journey up the main ski lift and successfully made it the whole way down the mountain with the skill and proficiency of a seasoned skier!!

Besides the main event of the trip - skiing - the Les Elfs Ski School hosted a whole range of activities for the students and teachers to engage in. From a fire torch lit walk through the



mountain, ice skating, and discos. Students were never short of activities and fun; the days ended with students and teachers retreating to their rooms and collapsing into bed.

Congratulations to **Habiba** (year 12) and **Khalifa** (year 10) who were voted Skiers of the Week, based on their improvements, engagement in all activities, team spirit and collaborative approach to the week. Further congratulations to the students who won their group races.

We are all looking forward to next year already!!!

MISS KELLEHER
HEAD OF BUSINESS AND
ECONOMICS

Quotes from teachers and students on the trip:

'Our 6th annual ski trip saw us return to the birth place of the trip, Verbier. The highest of all Les Elfs Ski School's mountain range locations and therefore guaranteed the most snow at any time of year, an incredible town, world famous for its style as well as it's skiers and snowboarders. I am privileged to be afforded the opportunity to run a trip where we see such growth from every single student in just 6 days of 'independent'



living. The students are given the opportunity to be independent in the safety of a fun and caring environment where their teachers are never more than a minute away, students interact with their peers, old and new alike.

Students form bonds and new relationships with the Les Elfes staff and other students from schools sharing the same collective experience. It is an honour and a pleasure to be lead teacher on this trip and I'm already looking forward to next year!

MISS LISA HANDY, LEAD TEACHER.

'This has been my second year going to the annual ski trip to Switzerland and it has been fantastic, it enables you to develop and gain new skills. The ski trip allows you to learn how to become

independent and see different places from your own perspective. I highly recommend this to all students as it is a new experience that you can do independently or you can share with friends. Skiing down from the Mont Forte highest point in Verbier was the most unexpectedly, amazing thing that any of us could have imagined, as it was a big shock that most of the students were capable of maintaining the correct form going the whole way down the mountain.'

HABIBA HAMDI YEAR 12

'This ski trip was so interesting. Mainly because of the people that were on the trip. It was an amazing experience. This is the second time I have been on this trip and I loved it every single minute of this year even more than the last. This year there were certain

memories I will never forget; such as me wiping out Miss Kelleher, tumbling down the slopes laughing all the way, but most importantly the bonds that have been made with all the students on the trip.'

FARAH AZZOUZ YEAR 11

'Although it was very cold, I enjoyed the ski trip so much because I learned how to ski with my best friend, cousin and our 3 amazing teachers. This trip wouldn't have been

the same if it weren't for all of Miss Handy, Miss Kelleher and Mr Horsburgh's efforts and hard work to make sure we had the best time. Thank you!!'

ELINA FAKHOURY YEAR 8

'I enjoyed the skiing part of this trip, but I also enjoyed the socialising and fun times we had in the afternoons with the Les Elfes team.'

MOHAMED AL AREIMI YEAR 10



Principal's Award



In December the school launched a competition, to celebrate Creativity, one of the school's 5 values. Students were encouraged to submit entries, in any format, that shows creativity.

Thank you to everyone that entered the

competition, it was no easy task to select 3 winners. The winning entries will shortly be on display in the school.

After great deliberation, congratulations to:

Leen Shanwar (7A) - whale painting

Eshita Batra (9F) - book carving

Vandita Ritolia (12D) - photo collage

Well done to:

Hamdan Al Mazroui (9D) and Abdulaziz Al Khoori (9E) whose reading ages

have increased by 8 months and 2 years, respectively, following 2 months of intensive reading - after school - with Ms Greaney.

**MR DAVID HUTSON
PRINCIPAL**

International Day Monday 6th February

Al Bateen Academy would like to invite all parents to come and take part in this year's multicultural celebrations.

To find out more details on how you can help and make this a great day for not only the students but the Al Bateen community please contact
Reem Al Abed, Head of the PTA
reem_abed@hotmail.com




Al Bateen Academy Presents

Performances

Mon 20th

Tues 21st

Wed 22nd

Single ticket

25AED

Family ticket

2 adults

2 children

90AED

Al Bateen

Auditorium

Doors open 6:30pm

WIZARD

OF

OZ



The Global Fringe Festival

An

International Celebration of Music, Arts, & Culture

As Part of

Al Bateen Academy's

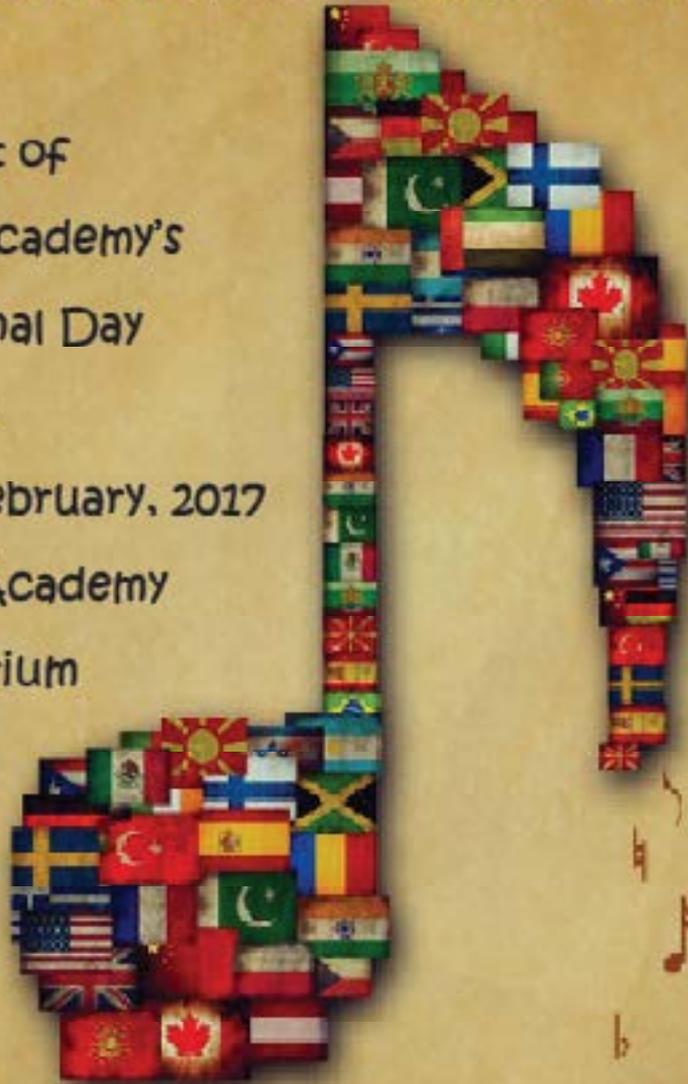
International Day

3pm

Monday 6th of February, 2017

Al Bateen Academy

Auditorium



ALDAR ACADEMIES
AL BATEEN ACADEMY

MUSIC

EXCELLENCE
CREATIVITY
PASSION
RESPECT
COLLABORATION