

NEWSLETTER

Boys School Newsletter

As we move through the second semester we are already beginning to think about the next academic year. To this end the timetable and curriculum are being reviewed and planned for. A particular highlight for me will be the introduction of "Global Perspectives " into our curriculum next year.

This a very busy time of year for any school, but in particular our High school prepares our students for our external Cambridge examination series for IGCSE, AS and A2 exams. We also must not forget students who will participate in the SAT exam. We are nearing the end of teaching content and looking at how our students can be best prepared for the rigour of these exams.

We have also had a busy few weeks in the rest of the school which has seen a very successful options evening in the middle school, and the completion of our CAT 4 diagnostics testing which will support us in developing our teaching styles.

Our PE department is also busy preparing for swimming competitions both at AGS and the MOE. In addition, we can also look forward to competitive football and basketball matches with other schools.

Boys primary (Grade 4 – 6)

Coronavirus Awareness

With the Outbreak of the new Coronavirus (COVID -19) in China, AGS immediately organized a workshop in collaboration with the Bugshan hospital to present our Students with information on the new virus.

With the help of our school doctor (Dr. Alawi) and other medical professionals from the Bugshan hospital, a successful workshop was held educating the students on preventative measures as well as on how to deal with symptoms. The workshop included live demonstrations on “how to wash hands” and the “correct way to cough” in order to avoid the spread of the virus.

Our students took a keen interest throughout the whole presentation. We noticed application of some of the mentioned preventative measures that same day! Students were sent home with information packs to help educate not only themselves but their families also.



Safer Internet Day

On the week of 2nd of February 2020 students of Grade 5B2 in commemorating “Safer Internet Day”, presented an assembly on “Internet Safety” to the rest of the students of grade 5. The assembly started off with questions posed to the students, which resulted in many interesting ideas and information being shared in the assembly.

The presentation included a couple of videos showing examples of how to browse the internet safely. The overall experience was enjoyable and very informative as many students increased their awareness on the benefits and dangers that the internet poses.

Key topics in the assembly covered were:

- *The addiction of social media.*
- *Being aware of fraud and scams within internet.*
- *Being aware of who you come in contact with, within the internet.*
- *How to safely manage your time browsing the internet.*

School Trips

The boys had fabulous trips organised to support their learning and improve their skills.

- Sports City in Al-Andalus Mall.

The students engaged in various sports activities to build teamwork and leadership skills such as: Rock climbing, football, laser tag, billiards and video games.

Football and laser tag were quite popular amongst the students. The boys competed in small teams and against each other and most importantly, they had a lot of fun.

The staff at the centre were very helpful and added table tennis as another option to build on individual skills.

Another activity which was popular was the rock climbing. Students found it challenging and raced each other to see who could achieve the best times. These were amongst many other activities that were at the student's disposal.

The trip was finished off with a nice meal of Al Baik which the students thoroughly enjoyed.

"This was our chance to "connect" again in a fun and light-hearted way, before the short and intense term began" one of the teachers commented at the end.



- **Al Fakeeh Planetarium.**

The trip was on 23rd February 2020. We left the school at 9am and got back at 1:45pm. The Students were taken through an informative picture tour of all the planets in our solar system. Then they were made to watch 3 educational videos about astronomy, astronauts and the solar system, all in 3D. The videos were followed up with quizzes about what they had watched, and prizes were given at the end. There was also an activity where students were provided with resources to make a replica of space.

The experience was very educational, engaging and had an aspect of enjoyment very suitable for their age. One of the boys commented, "I felt like I was flying in space, maybe I want to become an astronaut"



Arabic language Day

On Thursday 6th February 2020, Grade 4 boys had an Arabic Achievement Celebration Day. It was to honour students who have made tremendous progress and achieved good results in the Arabic language.

The proceedings started with a short introduction by Khalid al Nahdi as the master of ceremony. This was followed by a nasheed (poem) as a tribute to the mothers for their contribution to educating their children. A short sketch was delivered by the Arabic support students which was very well received by the audience. Mr Saad Al Qarni – The Saudi principal – gave the closing remarks. Thereafter, awards were handed out to all deserving students who were excelling in Arabic.

Generally, the event was a success, and everybody left on a positive note.



Anti-Bullying Campaign

An anti-bullying campaign was implemented in AGS from Sunday 23rd February to Thursday 27th. This included a display of Anti-bullying posters and banners around the school in all corridors and classrooms, followed by an anti-bullying presentation held in the main auditorium by Mr. Hussien Alsugair. This was to raise students' awareness on bullying from an Islamic moral perspective. It was concluded with presentations on bullying during the weekly assemblies led by students from each grade level.

Boys middle school (Grade 7 – 8)

The Science Fair was an amazing opportunity for our students to demonstrate their love of science and their inquisitive minds. There were some truly excellent exhibitions. Well done to all involved.

The Options Evening marks another important milestone in the lives of our students, where they now begin to focus their studies towards their desired profession. This is something the pupils need to consider very carefully.

We are pleased to see the response from the students especially during pastoral time, we have been focusing on how we are perceived by others and how we want to be perceived. This is important for pupils to have a wider understanding of their actions and how they affect others. As a result, we have begun to see pupils approaching situations in a more mature manner.



Primary Girls School:

The past months has been incredibly busy and exciting for Primary. Not only did we have our wonderful Zumba Day where the girls and their mums jumped, danced and skipped in brightly coloured clothes to some fantastic dance music, we also had our boys Football Gala. The teamwork, unending support and sense of fair play the children demonstrated throughout the games, was so impressive. These two events not only showed the incredible fitness of our students and mothers but also the children's enthusiasm for taking part in sporting events and demonstrating an understanding of having a healthy, active lifestyle.

We also celebrated our Dr. Suess and International Book week, where the children spent the week engrossed in a variety of activities that brought reading and book to the forefront of their mind. This wonderful week ended in a fantastic display of costumes with children dressing up as their favourite Dr Suess and book character.

Learning happens not only in the classroom behind a desk but in the engagement of learning experiences outside of the normal structures we associate with learning. Books, trips and activities help develop skills that expand friendships, problem solving skills and real-world experiences which are essential in the development of lifelong learners.

