

PARENT NEWS

Middle East International School

June 2017

Dear Parents,

This year has been filled with excitement!

Our students have excelled in school as evidenced by their MAP testing, improved attendance, and improved behavior. Student grades reflect their hard work and we are proud of the work they have done this year.

Our teaching has been noted as high quality through our QNSA accreditation. And, our staff are feeling very satisfied with the recognition of their outstanding skills and talents.

Our management team has continued to enhance the use of technology, has improved our building and grounds and created more access to resources for our staff and students.

In summary, we have had a wonderful year and we thank you for your part in making it exceptionally successful.

We are looking forward to 2017-18!



Chairman Salem Al-Mohanadi

Calendar Changes

Exam schedule on pages 8-9.

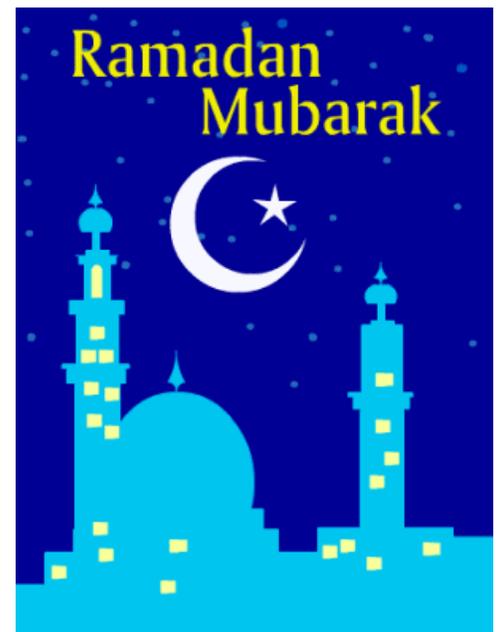
The last day of school has changed.

Grades 6-12 Final Exams

As exams will be coming soon, please be aware of the exam dates. They are provided in this newsletter.

In addition to the exam schedule, we have changed the last day of school. It is now three days earlier for students.

Exam Pointers were shared with students in May. Please contact your classroom teacher if your student has misplaced the Exam Pointers.



June 22

**Distribution of Report
Cards**

9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

School Calendar

The 2017-18 school calendar was emailed to you on March 21st.

As always, we encourage student attendance on-time each of the 180 days of school. Missed school days and late arrival are the top reasons students do not progress academically.

Learning is the Work, Together

In every newsletter this year, you have seen our focus for the year, “Learning is the work, together.” Learning together and growing as an organization is imperative to the success of our students. That learning is exceptionally hard work on top of the already busy schedules of our staff. However, as a model for lifelong learning, our Chairman not only encourages our learning, but is working toward fulfilling Vision 2030, the national vision for the State of Qatar. As our role model for “learning is the work, together,” Mr. Salem is both a teacher and a learner. At a recent conference, he participated as a Chamber of Commerce member to encourage learn-



Our Chairman (right) with HE Sheikh Khalifa bin Jassim Al Thani and conference sponsor, HE Dr. Mohammed bin Abdul Wahid Al-Hammadi, Minister of Education and Higher Education



Our Chairman works with the delegation from Oman.

MAY Students of the Month

KG—Aseel Omer Abdelraouf

Grade 1—Sarah Al-Otaibi

Grade 2—Ma. Mikeaila Prudente

Grade 3—Zaina Ashraf

Grade 4—Leo Draganic

Grade 5—Abdulrahman Iwan

Grade 6—Tim Billy Tizon

Grade 7—Mohammed Amer

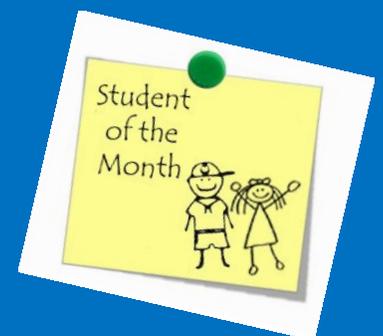
Grade 8—Dinara Rakhmetova

Grade 9—Farah Kamila

Grade 10—Mohammed Zaina

Grade 11—Ana Albertine Mendoza

Grade 12—Deya Aldeen Tawfik



June Events

- June 8 Early Dismissal for at 12:30 p.m.
- June 8-15 Final Exams Grades 6-12
- June 15 Kindergarten Recognition from 9-10 a.m.
- Elementary Recognition from 10:30-11:30 a.m.
- June 22 Distribution of Report Cards 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.
- June 22 Graduation Ceremony at 9:00 p.m.



Academic Night

Thank you for a very successful Academic Night on May 11. Students were able to showcase their very best work across the subjects.

We appreciate your attendance that evening and look forward to providing more of these opportu-



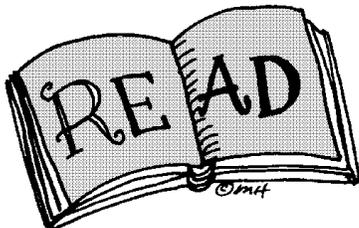
How can I help my child be ready for school in September?

Parents often ask this question of our teachers at the end of the school year. The answer is:

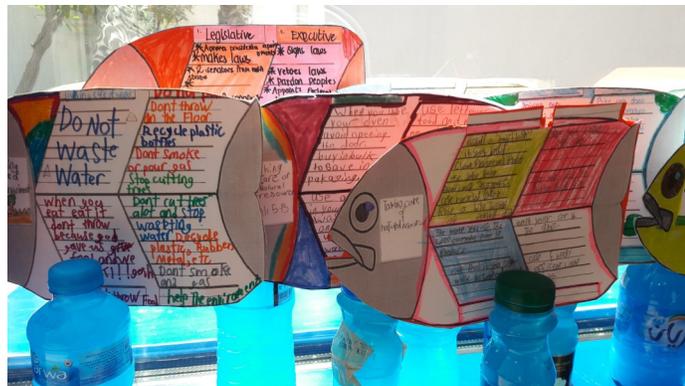
READ

READ

READ



Read to your child, read with your child or encourage your child to read anything.



A Friendly Reminder: Please return all library materials before the end of the school year!

As the end of the second semester quickly approaches, our School Librarian would like to remind all students to return borrowed library books before June 15.

Students should be aware that the late return of any library books may result in a delay or hold on your final report card.



Competition Successes!

This year, our students have been enormously successful at competitions in Qatar! We want to celebrate with a complete list of those successes in our final newsletter of the year.

- ◆ **“Our Future Lies in our Health” Campaign, October 2016**—Hosted by the Ministry of Public Health (Winner of the competition was a student last year: Rachel Cortez, grade 8-A)
- ◆ **“South Africa as I see it” Art Competition, December 2016**—Winner: **Annisa Rahman (grade 11)**
- ◆ **First Lego League (FLL) Robotics Competition, February 2017**—Ten students from grades 7-10 made it in as the top 10 finalists.
- ◆ **Georgetown-Model United Nations Conference, February 2017**—Best Delegate Awardees: Mohamed Hisham (grade 12) and Omar Barghouti (grade 10)
- ◆ **Alice Competition, February 2017**—Ten students from grade 7 and 8 won 5th place.
- ◆ **Interschool Arabic Story Writing Competition, “Future Writer”, February 2017**—1st place winner (out of 114 story entries): **Saad Mohammed Al-Muhannadi (grade 12)**
- ◆ **Holy Quran Memorization Competition, February 2017**—Thirty-four of our students from grades 1 to 10 won at different levels of the competition.
- ◆ **Mindstorm EV3 Robotics Girls Competition, March 2017**—Four students in grade 12 won **3rd place**.
- ◆ **Museum of Islamic Arts Ambassador Program competition, March 2017**—Seven students from grade 10 won **2nd place** out of 46 participating schools in Qatar.
- ◆ **Destination Imagination, March 2017**—Seven students from high school won the grand **1st place** in the regional segment of the competition!
- ◆ **Rashed Quran Competition, May 2017**—1st place winner: Mohamed Abou Mustafa (grade 8), 2nd

Community Partnerships

Msheireb Museum

At a banquet celebrating International Museum Day, two MIS teachers were recently honored for their partnership with the Msheireb Museum. Ms. Marina and Ms. Shondale have been certified as “Friends.” Friends of the museum have been trained to lead tours of the museum after extensive training in the content. Msheireb Museum focuses on Qatar history and culture and is located near Souq Waqif.



What is the Difference between ACT& SAT?

Many students and parents begin the college prep process by comparing the ACT and SAT.

Two of the most common questions they ask are:

- Is the ACT easier than the SAT?
- Do colleges prefer scores from the SAT or ACT?

	SAT	ACT
Why Take It	Colleges use SAT scores for admissions and merit-based scholarships.	Colleges use ACT scores for admissions and merit-based scholarships.
Test Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading• Writing & Language• Math• Essay (Optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• English• Math• Reading Science Reasoning Essay (Optional)
Length	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 hours (without essay)• 3 hours, 50 minutes (with essay)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 hours, 55 minutes (without essay)• 3 hours, 40 minutes (with essay)
Reading	5 reading passages	4 reading passages
Science	None	1 science section testing your critical thinking skills (not your specific science knowledge)
Math	Covers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arithmetic• Algebra I & II• Geometry, Trigonometry and Data Analysis	Covers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arithmetic• Algebra I & II• Geometry and Trigonometry
Calculator Policy	Some math questions don't allow you to use a calculator.	You can use a calculator on all math questions.
Essays	Optional. The essay will test your comprehension of a source text.	Optional. The essay will test how well you evaluate and analyze complex issues.
How It's Scored	Scored on a scale of 400–1600	Scored on a scale of 1–36

The SAT and ACT generally test the same types of content. Both ACT and SAT scores are used for college admissions and merit-based scholarships. The biggest differences between the tests are that the ACT has a Science Test, and there's one SAT Math Section for which you cannot use a calculator. Colleges don't prefer one over the other, so explore both tests to decide which one is right for you.

The best way to decide if the SAT or ACT is right for you is to take a timed full-length practice test in each. Since the content and style of the SAT and ACT are very similar, factors like how you handle time pressure and what types of questions you find most challenging can help you determine which test is a better fit. For example, the pace of the SAT gives you a tad more time to think through problems, while the ACT can be more of a time crunch. Some students really thrive under the pressure of the clock, while others prefer the extra time to ponder a question.

Communications “One Drive” is working!

We recently added a new feature in One Drive called the Communications Folder. Many of our most important communications are in that folder and available to you to review. Please take a minute to scan the list and see if there is anything you missed with regard to circulars or newsletters.

Just as a reminder, if you have multiple emails, the link you are sent works **only with the email registered with us**. If your link is not working, please contact Mr. Baiju.

Teachers will no longer send an email with attached weekly lesson plans or other documents. As parents, we count on you to check the link you were sent regularly. You can count on us to post the weekly lesson plans!

If you cannot access these folders, please send an email to:

baiju.baby@misqatar.com

Please include your child's name and section.

Business Office Summer Hours

Our Business Office is open Sunday-Thursday in July and August from 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

**June 15—Last Day
for Students**

Pictures

Thank you for all your help getting our class pictures taken. You will receive a link from your homeroom teacher. You can use this link to download the picture and print a copy.

Our students are so very important to us. We hope that taking a small amount of time to capture this year of school will be a memory that lasts for you and for them.

Learning is the work, together.

Senior Letter

Parents of Seniors have received a special Senior Letter that details the events of senior year. This letter was sent in English and Arabic in hard copy. It was sent via email and it is in the Communications folder on One Drive.

Please ensure you have read the Senior Letter as it details the important things you need to know for all Senior events.

Ramadan Reminders

First, and most important, for our families celebrating Ramadan, we would like to wish you a joyous celebration as you honor the holy month.

Ramadan begins on May 26 (Friday).

For all of our families, the school makes some changes during Ramadan.

- **School day is from 8:15 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.**
 - The day is shortened by two hours. KG ends at 1:00 p.m.
- **The canteen is closed from May 26 until the last day of school.**
 - There are no food sales at school. Students and parents are reminded to pack a lunch and use only the cafeteria for eating. Out of respect for those in our community who fast, there is a space to eat, but that space is the only space where food should be consumed.
- **Water coolers are available throughout the building at all times. The water coolers remain on until the last day of school.**
- **Exam schedules for Ramadan are different than first semester.**

Last Day of School Has Changed

The Leadership Team has given some thought to the timing for the last day of school, completing grades and graduation.

At this time, we would like to announce that the **last day of school** is now:

JUNE 15: KG—Grade 12

This is a change from the original school calendar. It is a change to both the exam dates and final day for students.

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE FOR Grade 6-12

Date of Exam	Time	Schedule
June 6, 2017 Tuesday	8:15—9:15 am	ICT*
June 7, 2017 Wednesday	8:15-9:15 am	Islamic Studies*
June 8, 2017 Thursday	8:15 – 10:15 am	Economics and Marketing/ AP Micro and Macro-economics/ Social Studies
June 11, 2017 Sunday	8:15 - 10:15 am	Math
June 12, 2017 Monday	8:15 - 10:15 am	World Language
June 13, 2017 Tuesday	8:15 - 10:15 am	Science
June 14, 2017 Wednesday	8:15 - 10:15 am	Language Arts
June 15, 2017 Thursday	8:15– 10:15 am	AP Exams
June 18 and June 19 (8:15–10:15 am): Graduation Practice		
June 22, 2017 (9:00 to 10:30 pm): Graduation Ceremony Students should arrive in the gym at 8:30 p.m. to dress for the ceremony on June 22, 2017.		
Final report card distribution : June 22, 2017		

On exam days, students that use the school bus will leave at 1:00 pm with the Elementary & KG students whose regular school timings are 8:15 – 1:00 pm.

Students that are staying back till 1:00 p.m. can utilize their time to review for the next exam with their respective teachers, who will be available in the library or auditorium. All students that stay back must move to the auditorium and wait until 1:00 p.m.

CLASS LIST CREATION

Creating class lists is a challenge at all schools because of the wide range of students we work with. Many hours are spent on this complex project. At MIS, our philosophy is to create heterogeneous groups based on data and our experience from grades KG-8.

Students who perform at a high level as determined by their MAP scores are identified as gifted or honors and they have opportunities for extension activities within the regular section.

Students who may need remedial assistance in any part of their learning have opportunities during and after school to ensure that any questions are clarified.

In the creation of class lists, we take into consideration the following as we strive to balance classes:

- Academic levels in all content areas for each student
- Emotional levels for each child and the class composition
- Behavioral concerns for each child and the class composition
- Balancing the boys and girls in each class composition
- Teaching style of each teacher on our staff and the best fit of that teaching style with a group of students

We do not believe it is in the best interest of students to have parents create class lists. Rather, we believe that it is best left to the professional teaching staff who have worked with the students in the academic setting. We know that students often perform differently in the low-demand setting of the home versus the high demand setting of school.

In the past, MIS has occasionally had a parent request a change in the assigned room or share a preference for one nationality over another as the assigned teacher. Please know that we do not change classes. And, please know that we do not assign students based on the parent request for a specific nationality.

Our mission speaks to “learning at high levels to be competitive in the international community.” We believe this means that our students must be able to work with any of the 25 nationalities represented in our teaching staff and 65 nationalities of students. Our staff is highly qualified and have been a part of two accreditation processes – one nationally and one internationally – that demonstrate their extraordinary abilities to work with a wide variety of learners. In addition, our staff continue to meet our high standards as demonstrated in regular announced and unannounced observations.

Parent often also worry about their child making friends. Children are encouraged and assisted in helping to establish new friends and, therefore, to develop socially. Please allow the professional staff to help your child grow in their social and emotion skills. These skills, we believe, are as important as the academic skills.

Often parents may feel they have the best interest of their child at hand, but as a school we must make these decisions very carefully by considering the best learning situation for all of our children.

Finally, class lists are shared in late August or early September.

CLASS LISTS ARE NOT FINAL UNTIL THEY ARE PUBLISHED BY THE SCHOOL IN LATE AUGUST OR EARLY SEPTEMBER.

We will communicate the official publication date and time via a message to all parents and on our website. Why? With our unique situation of serving ex-pat families, we often need to make changes to the class lists up until the release time to achieve the best balance and we may even have the unfortunate circumstance of losing a teacher. So, we wait until we are most sure.

Learning is the work, together.

Ramadan Bell Schedule

Because of the short day, classes are also short. We hope this bell schedule helps you plan for the school days between May 28-June 15 (Last Day). It is very helpful for students to be in all classes during this time period to prepare for exams and finish the school year.

Period 1 is 35 minutes

Periods 2 to 8 are 30 minutes

Period 1 8:15 a.m. to 8:50 a.m.

Period 2 8:55 a.m. to 9:25 a.m.

Period 3 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. (Elementary Recess)

Period 4 10:05 a.m. to 10:35 a.m. (Middle School Recess)

Period 5 10:40 a.m. to 11:10 a.m. (High School Recess)

Period 6 11:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

Period 7 11: 50 a.m. to 12:20 p.m.

Period 8 12:25 p.m. to 12:55 p.m.

Investing in MIS—Summer Projects

Each month we highlight a few of the investments we are making to continue to develop MIS as a center of learning in the country. Here are some new additions coming this summer:

- ◆ Painting the entire courtyard area
- ◆ Adding some elementary play equipment
- ◆ Replacing damaged floors
- ◆ General maintenance on door handles and doors
- ◆ Replacing any projectors or bulbs not working in classrooms
- ◆ Tune up for the A/C units

In addition, we have placed our book orders and will receive those over

Student Exchange Trip with China sister school



MIS is planning to send 10-12 **high school students** to visit our sister school, Shijiazhuang Foreign Language School, in China next year.

The tentative dates of the trip are March 25 to April 2, 2018. Students will be sight-seeing and attending the sister school in China. They will have the wonderful opportunity to visit places like The Great Wall, Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square, Temple of Heaven, and Imperial Gardens as well as a city tour of Shijiazhuang. They will also be immersing themselves in the classrooms of Shijiazhuang Foreign Language School and spending time with their host families during their stay.

Students who are interested and eligible for the student exchange trip may email our Head of School, Dr. Sue, at [su-](mailto:sue@su.edu)



STUDENT POETRY

Family is Life

My family, my happiness
My family, my dream
My family, my hopes and aspires
My family, the breath that I take

The family that raised me
The family that made me
The family that taught me
The family that thought of me
It is with every passing moment
That I find joy
That I find pleasure
In all my family moments

I am not complete, and I am not whole
Without my family

Family

Future and hope
Awesome and precious
Morals and values
Insights and wisdom
Loyalty and respect
Youth and old



Why Son

Oh Son
Why do you do
All the things that you
do
Even when I tell you not
to
Oh why

Cinquain, Nunurayi,



HEART

Help others
Empathize and
Achieve to
Reach your goal for
Tomorrow
Acrostic, Fabiha, 10a



Dear Ronna

You always question
On how people perceive you.
Don't think about that.
What is more important is
How you choose to see yourself.

-A Tanka poem by Farah, 9a

The Right Thing To DO

Start looking forward,
And Stop looking back,
Even if it's impossible
To turn back time,
And erase what happened,
It is possible
To look to the future,
And fix what will happen,
Even if it's too late
To change what you've done
In the past,
It is never late
To change what you'll do
In the future,
So start looking forward,
And stop looking back.

Silly Sally

When Silly Sally irons her clothes,
They come out looking awful.
She did not read the label, and her iron
Was meant to waffle.

Writing a poem

Not very easy to do

My one true Struggle

-Haiku, Mirna, 10c



You are convinced that **Y**ou are not worth it.

Your friends tell you otherwise, but their **wO**rds just go over your head.

When will you realize that you are **mU**ch more than you think?