



# Newsletter

**AUGUST, 2017**

## **SCHOOL EVENTS – SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2017**

- 31 August – 4 September Eid Al Adha Holiday
- 5 September Day 1 for Kindergarten students
- 22 September Hijri New Year *tbc*
- 26 September Academic Information evening for Parents
- 2 October – 3 October Awards Ceremonies
- 5 October Student Council elections
- 8 October House Activity
- 9 October Open Day (KG2 – Grade 12) / Semester 1 ASA program starts
- 17-30 October International Activities Preparations
- 31 October International Activities Celebrations

---

**Mr. Terry Swain**  
*Principal*

### **WELCOME BACK**

It is with great pleasure and a wonderful sense of anticipation that I welcome you all to the 2017-2018 school year. I trust that you have had an opportunity to rest, relax and recuperate – but most importantly, to enjoy the unstructured time to be with family and friends and do the things you wanted to do over the summer break.

I wish to extend a special word of welcome to all of our new families who have joined us. We look forward to forging strong and lasting relationships with you, in support of your child's life-journey at Hay Al Sharooq International School (HASIS). To our existing families, we look forward to welcoming you back to a new chapter in the lives of your children – one in which we trust that they will continue to grow: as communicators, as self-motivated learners, as critical thinkers, and as positive contributors to the school and wider communities.

At HASIS we are committed to building a strong learning triangle: parent-teacher-student. The key is regular and effective dialogue between these three parties in order for each student to best utilize the wide array of opportunities that are made available through the school. While academic success is at the heart of our school mission, HASIS is equally committed to the education of the whole child by providing a full range of activities that build character, foster dedication to community service, and create future leaders.

*continued on next page...*

We want to see our students to excel to the best of their abilities through a love of learning, and a love of our school and its community. To support this endeavor we will strive to focus on:

- Developing goals, targets and action plans for every student where students are setting their own individual targets and are assisted by their teachers to achieve the very best possible result.
- Creating leadership potential in every student and, in doing so, ensuring our students have the capability to actually make a difference to the school, Sur, Oman and the world.
- Cultivating and continuing to reinforce a strong sense of self worth and respect for others.
- Cultivating school pride, ensuring a positive climate of fun and learning.
- Enhancing communications with the home and having an open dialogue with all stakeholders.

I wish to extend a challenge to all parents to take an active interest in your child's education and schooling. Do not wait until there are issues or problems; instead be proactive and discuss daily with your child what he/she is learning at school. We all lead busy lives but it makes a huge difference when parents put aside their working lives to take an active interest in their child's education. Ask our staff and ask your child questions. Take up the opportunities to attend Parent/Teacher conferences, information sessions, community events, etc.

There is a real sense of excitement from both staff and students and I would like to take this opportunity to wish every student the very best for the year ahead. Please know that our doors will always be open to our community. Feel free to call upon us if you should have any questions or concerns as we know and understand that communication is a key ingredient to a successful year.

## **NEW STAFF**

Please join me in welcoming our new staff for this coming school year. It would be great if you took the opportunity to introduce yourself to them as they work to get to know your children.

### Kindergarten (KG) & Primary

- Ms. Wedad Samaneh (Grade 1)
- Ms. Marina van der Westhuizen (KG)
- Ms. Helen Hannie (KG)
- Ms. Marlene Dosold (Grade 1)
- Ms. Devandry Jooste (Grade 1)
- Ms. Jo-Anni Erasmus (Grade 3)
- Ms. Isabella Helberg (Grade 4)
- Mr. Frank Lewthwaite (Grade 4)

### Secondary

- Mr. Grant Hayward (English)
- Ms. Christine Lewthwaite (English/Social Studies)
- Ms. Dallas Hayward (Mathematics)
- Mr. Amit Kaliden (Science)
- Mr. Hatem El Mashad (Arabic)

*continued on next page...*

- Mr. Mohammad Moghawry (Arabic)
- Mr. Ragab El Hamid Salama (Arabic Social Studies)
- Mr. Mahmoud Ibrahim (Islamic Studies)

#### Specialists

- Ms. Cecilia Peyer (Special Education)
- Ms. Marwa Al Uraimi (Counselor)
- Ms. Mai Al-Esawy (Special Education)
- Ms. Atarid Al Alawi (French/Arabic)
- Ms. Hana Eleish (Art)

#### Support

- Ms. Afnaan Al Maqimi (Receptionist)
- Ms. Nawal Al Kamali (KG Assistant)
- Ms. Fathiya Al Salti (KG Assistant)
- Ms. Rahma Al Sulti (Special Education Assistant)

---

**Mr. Mostafa Saudi**  
*Assistant Principal for Arabic*

#### **PARENT ORIENTATION MEETING FOR NEW FAMILIES**

An orientation meeting was held on Wednesday 23 August for all of our new families. The purpose of the meeting was to:

- welcome new families to HASIS;
- introduce parents to the HASIS Administration Team;
- share key information about the school.

Parents in attendance were provided with the opportunity to write down any unanswered questions they still had following the presentation. Responses to these questions were then prepared and shared with parents. For anyone who was unable to attend this event and who would like to receive a copy of the evening's responses to parent questions, please contact Mr. Mostafa Saudi (qsma0@olngschool.onmicrosoft.com).

#### **BUS ROUTES SCHEDULE**

We will continue to monitor this schedule over the next few weeks to determine its effectiveness. If you experience any problems or issues with our bus service, please do not hesitate to contact **Ms. Huda Al-Khadoori** on the following number: 25562118.

**Ms. Raewyn Eagar**  
*Assistant Principal for Secondary*

**GRADE 9-12 MOTIVATIONAL DAY**

On Sunday 27 August, our Grade 9-12 students participated in a series of sessions designed to guide them in identifying and developing skills and attitudes critical for their future success. Some of these sessions included work on being able to:

- identify short and long term goals;
- discuss how to develop resilience and perseverance;
- determine how motivation can be used for personal gain as well as helping others;
- identify and respond positively and proactively to bullying;
- discern whether or not information taken from the internet is valid and/or reliable;
- use force field analysis to identify how to overcome barriers.



Our School Counseling team also spent time with students discussing the importance of being fully engaged in their learning, what it means to be a student leader, and the School's expectations of them.



**AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES (ASA) PROGRAM**

During the month of September, we will finalize details for our ASA program that will be offered for Semester 1 and share this information with students and parents. The ASA program will begin on Monday 9 October, 2017.

---

**Ms. Saleema Al Aرامي**  
*Head Counselor*

**MORNING ARRIVAL OF STUDENTS**

Parents are reminded that students should not arrive at school *before* 6:30am as there is no supervision provided before this time. **Please note that if you send your child(ren) before 6:30am they are not supervised and HASIS cannot take responsibility for them in the case of an accident.**

**Ms. Rene Smal**  
*Assistant Principal for Kindergarten & Primary*

We are very proud to share some of the exciting changes and events that have happened in our Kindergarten (KG1 & KG2) and Primary sections of the school since our last academic year. The ex-Seashells School has been fully converted into the 'KG2 Village' - an exciting place where we are looking forward to welcoming all of our KG2 students this year. We have also refurbished our KG1 Villa and created a child-centered area to support and enhance our STEM program.

Our Primary students celebrated their first day of school with fun, interactive activities, school tours and buddy tours. This was designed to help all of our students (new and returning) quickly assimilate into life at HASIS. In the coming weeks, we will continue to provide opportunities for parents to engage with the school through Open Days, Information afternoons/evenings and many other school events. With the continued support and collaboration of parents and teachers, we are confident that this will be a successful year for all.

---

"Not one of us can perform his duty properly unless he is armed with knowledge. By this I mean 'genuine knowledge', not just the outward and visible forms of knowledge; in other words, deep knowledge and a real knowledge about things, matters and affairs."

~ His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said during an address to students (2015) ~

