



# Newsletter

Vol 1 number 2

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## School

The whole school looked good together for the first complete school photograph. As the years go by and the numbers increase and we will be able to look back at where it all started.

The pictures that were taken of the school have been shared on many peoples' social media sites and the interest in the school has multiplied. We already have a list of applicants for September 2017

We will be taking individual pictures during November for the first Year Book and we will make them available for parents to have.



## Health

Hadeel, the School Nurse, has completed the first round of medical checks and will continue to monitor the health and welfare of the pupils as well as dealing with accidents. Personal hygiene is an important part of growing up and pupils need to be aware of keeping hands and hair clean. Hadeel will be talking to all year groups about health issues – how to be healthy, eat healthy and stay healthy.

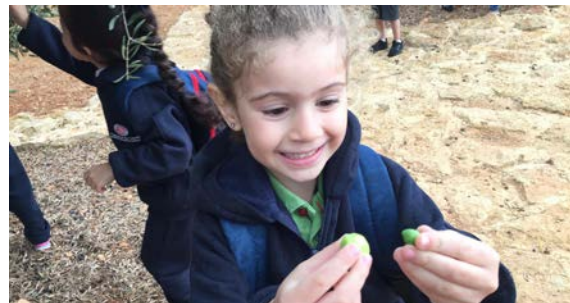
It was good to see so many parents attend the first **Parent Teachers' Meeting**. These are very important meetings to make progress. One thing we learnt is that 2 hours is not sufficient for all parents to see as many teachers as they would have liked. In future we will hold the Meetings over the entire day and parents can arrive with or without their children. This will give everyone more time to get important information from the teachers.



### **Stepathon.**

This was a great event for our pupils to be involved in. They took a great deal away from completing the task and for working with each other. We have discussed with the school we are helping in the Jordan Valley what they would like from the money collected and we will be taking a group of pupils to donate the items.

It is always good to see children learning outside of the classroom. KG pupils spent a morning experiencing picking olives (in the rain) and taking them back to school to process them. Everyone enjoyed the event.



### **December Exams for Y3 – 5**

These will take place on Thu 8<sup>th</sup> Sat 10<sup>th</sup> and Mon 12<sup>th</sup> December between 8.00am 12.15pm (morning sessions) These dates will give a day between each set of exams in order to do some final preparation. There will be 2 ‘academic’ exams each morning, and one practical exam eg Art, ICT Music. Each exam will be 45 mins long. Rather than close the school at 12.15 each day it will be better to do this only on Sat 10<sup>th</sup>. An exam preparation schedule will be given to pupils three weeks before the exams in order to help them organise their revision time. Exam times should not be stressful if they are handled correctly.

### **Y1 -2**

There will be no formal exams for the lower years. They will receive a Teacher Assessment based on all the classwork and homework completed over the term.

### **Does Finland have the answer?**

Education in Finland is highly regarded around the world. So how do they get such good results from starting school at a later age, have shorter days and have no homework? Many people put it down to the trust there is in the system, a reluctance to tinker with it and constantly alter it, and trusting the quality of their teachers. Food for thought.

**I am open to any Community Group wishing to hire the school facilities during evenings or weekends. We have soccer, basketball and volleyball courts and a large indoor room suitable for exercises/yoga etc.**

**The school is closed for Independence Day on Tuesday Nov 15<sup>th</sup>**