



Newsletter

Vol 1 number 3

December 2016

Term 1 at REA has been the one of the quickest terms I can remember completing. Everything has gone so fast and well. The pupils and staff have settled into the English / Palestine curriculum extremely well. I am delighted with the academic progress of the pupils both in KG and the Primary Department. Our pupils are trying really hard to master English and it is so good to hear them trying to talk to teachers and myself in English rather than rely on an interpreter. This is after a very short 3 months. After three years everyone will be fluent in English and Arabic.

REA is much more than academic excellence. We try to ensure all cultures and religions are treated equally and the behaviour of the pupils towards each other is as high as expected. There are some incidents between pupils as there are in all schools. However what is important is how these are dealt with. Discipline is firm at school but based on fairness and common sense. Our pupils are showing good signs of developing mutual respect and acceptance of others in the school.



The early success of events out-of-class show the level of involvement our pupils have towards their school. The Stepathon raised 5000nis for a less privileged school in the Jordan Valley, the Cake sales raised 3000nis for lunchtime equipment and a donation to a local charity and events such as the Olive Picking and Trip to Jerusalem Zoo were enjoyed by all. We were able to get permits for pupils who have never been to Jerusalem before so a big congratulations to our Admin Staff and Rawabi City Support Staff.

Hopes and expectations for Term 2.

There are already plans for Term 2 in place and how we want the school to develop further.

PTA

Every parent will automatically be part of the REA Parent Teachers' Association which we want to establish in 2017 but we need some who are committed to arranging events. More in January.

Staff Recruitment

As numbers increase in 2017 we will be looking to bring more teaching staff to the school, both from the UK and from Palestine. We want to ensure we have the best to deliver the philosophy of independent learners in CIE and IPC classrooms.

Term 2 Introduction of REA House System

A House system is where pupils from different year groups are placed together as a team to work together through the year and compete against each other in friendly competitions. eg Inter House Spelling, Inter House Sports. Pupils from 1-5 support each other and encourage each other. It helps the older pupils take responsibility to work with the younger ones, and it shows the younger ones how to be more responsible while working with older pupils. The first thing we need to do next term is decide upon the names of the 3 Houses. We need names that are significant in Palestinian life. More of this next term.

Enrolment Sept 2017

We already have a waiting list of parents wishing to join the school in Sept 2017. It is important that current parents remember the enrolment dates in order to secure a place in Sept 2017.

Project Work Term 2

There will be no formal school exams in Term 2. Having exams every term does not give pupils an opportunity to display other skills and abilities. Each subject will coach the pupils into how to do a piece of extended project work and how to present the results to either their class or another. This type of assessment develops skills of creativity, personal research, team work and presentation skills

Best wishes over the Winter Break

Both myself and the entire staff wish to thank everyone for their support this term and for working together to produce a great school in Rawabi.

I hope everyone enjoys the break and returns safely.

**The school re-opens on Monday 9th
January 2017**