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روح المبادرة

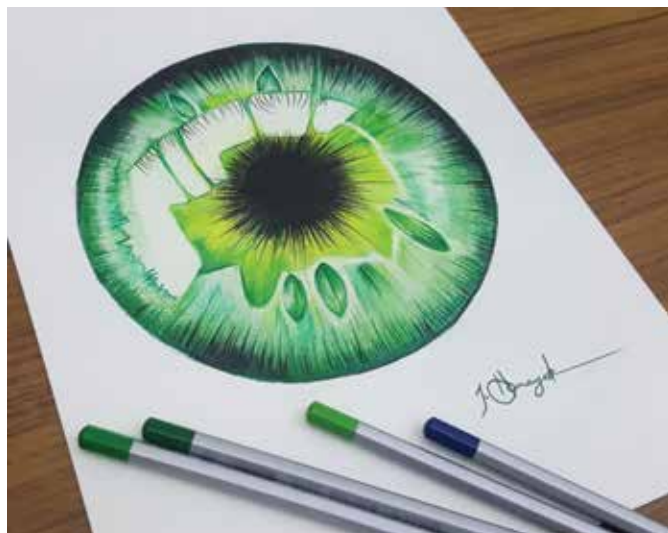
بين المبادلة والمبادلة والمبادرة أحرف قليلة تتبدل لتنتج ثلاث كلمات تختصر معاني الشعار العام لهذه السنة الدراسية "In Spirit nous".

أمّا المبادلة فهي أولى القيم التي تميّز الإنسان العامل والمُعلم، إذ إن عدم الاكتراث يجعلنا نعبّر أمام الأمور دون أن نرى الجوهر فيهما، فلا نميّز بين المهمّ والأهمّ. أمّا المؤمن المحبّ، فهو الذي يهتمّ لأجل خطيئته ويهتمّ بالآخِر لأجل خلاص النفوس.

والمبادلة هي في أساس حياة الجماعة، لا بل هي من ركائز الكيان الإنساني. فأدّم طالب برفيقة له على شبهه. ومن أبرز الوصايا الإلهية أن «كَمَا تُرِيدُونَ أَنْ يَفْعَلَ النَّاسُ بِكُمْ كَذَلِكَ افْعَلُوا أَنْتُمْ بِهِمْ». وكما في كل جسد حيّ، يتكامل الأعضاء ويتبادلون المعلومات والإفرازات، كذلك في المجتمع الإنساني الحي يتبادل الناس الأفكار والخبرات ليعمل الكل بتناغم وتجانس كجسم واحد في تكامل المواهب.

ولئن الموهبة زرع الله، والزرع ينمو بحسب الأرض التي عُرس فيها، فلا ينبت القمح بين الشوك أو في الصخر، على كل منا أن يفتح قلبه ليستقبل نعمة الروح الإلهي المزروعة فيه، ويعمل ليضاعف الوزن المعطاة له. والذي يفعل ذلك يكون أميناً. هكذا، يذوب الأنا أمام فعل الروح المدبّر الذي يهبّ حيث يشاء، ليصير هو محرّك المبادرة المثمرة في الواجد وفي الجماعة.

هذا كله لا يعني أبداً الغرق في النظريّات والاسترخاء أمام جمالها. على العكس، إنها دعوة لكل واحد منّا للسعي والجهد ابتداءً من الذات. هذا ما تصبو إليه مدارسنا من خلال مقاربتها التربوية، وخصوصاً من خلال البرامج المتنوعة التي تحقّق المربّين والمتعلّمين على اتخاذ المبادرات الإيجابية بفرح، فينتشر الأمر كالعدوى في قلوب الآخرين ويحوّلها.



When drawing upside down

Time to Blossom



Educationally Speaking

Easter Celebration



Creativity and Beyond

Albert Einstein once stated these words of wisdom, "Creativity is intelligence having fun!" The major fun your mind can engage in is by taking up challenges geared in ways that appeal to your intelligence. With this starting point, fourth graders were able to successfully think outside the box, break patterns, and showcase their creations.

In the initial phase, we embarked on a journey of self-discovery: Each learner passionately explored and untamed the "Crea-Artist" within him or her. Learners were arranged in groups according to their multiple intelligences: visual, musical, bodily kinesthetic and intrapersonal intelligences. Subsequent to that, they demonstrated their thinking and listening skills in teams by being considerate of their teammates' opinions and building up on each other's responses.

Right afterward, a moment of exposed creativity happened in front of our very eyes! Learners were able to create poems, visualize a mind map, make interesting origami shapes, or write a thorough and well-planned self-reflection that depicted their personal growth. Celebration was a must! We celebrated our collaboration, bravery, and glorious uniqueness. Finally, fourth graders shared their insights on this enriching experience. It was a pure delight to hear statements like, "I can be creative whenever I want!", "Creativity is daring to make mistakes", or "Creativity is making connections." Isn't this the beauty of creativity? It's all about realizing that we are equipped with being creative yet working restlessly. It's also about getting to see how things can be rather than how they are. Creativity does give rise to the original out of the familiar! Let's pass on our sense of contagious creativity and create the world where dreams and reality harmoniously coincide!

Ghada Kanaan Hibri - English Teacher - UE - BAC



Classrooms: Creativity and Engagement

Learners are not a whole lot different from adults. If they are not interested in what is going on, they will find something else that does. As teachers, the task of keeping learners interested and engaged can often feel like an overwhelming challenge. It may be hard to compete with distractions and demotivation, but it is a worthy challenge nonetheless. Learners always perform best when their learning atmosphere is exciting. The following steps keep the learners active during the learning process.

1- Music

There is a reason behind remembering song lyrics for a lifetime and forgetting the notes a teacher discussed an hour later. If everyone listens to some form of music, why can't teachers utilize it to engage learners? In class, learners can listen to songs related to their Science and English lessons or make their own songs. This will help them understand and retain the information.

2- Use Movements to Get Learners Focused

Dancing is one of the effective ways to get learners focused and eliminate dead time. Through dance, learners develop spatial awareness and pay more attention to others sharing their space. In LE classes, the educator creates a rhythm with finger snapping and hand clapping, and learners echo back. She varies the rhythm and pattern to challenge them to pay attention and join in. This way, they will find a sense of unity, express themselves, exercise, and have fun.

3- Asking Questions

To make sure that all learners are actively thinking and joining in, the educator regularly asks questions to which everyone must prepare at least one answer. Teacher waits for all learners to signal that they are ready, and then she allows multiple answers and explanations. The lesson will become more interesting when it is directed by the learners' answers. This technique will help them pursue knowledge on their own, develop critical thinking skills, and review learning.

Sara Khalifeh - Science Teacher - Grade 3 - BAC



La littérature enfantine

"Un adulte va lire un livre pour se distraire, un enfant va lire un livre pour se construire." Joann Sfar.

La littérature enfantine est l'ensemble des écrits destinés à un public en pleine formation avec des besoins spécifiques : les enfants. Lire, raconter une histoire à un enfant est fondamental pour son développement. Cette activité littéraire nourrit, mobilise et enrichit leur créativité et leur imaginaire. À l'école, l'enseignante qui raconte et lit des histoires à ses apprenants n'enrichit pas uniquement leur culture, elle est d'autant plus en mission : celle d'aller à la rencontre de l'imaginaire de l'apprenant et de construire avec lui sa perception de la réalité.

En effet, l'univers des histoires éclaire le réel à travers la fiction : beaucoup de textes de la littérature enfantine interrogent l'histoire, la société, les problèmes de l'enfance. Les héros sont souvent des enfants, ils ressemblent à leurs lecteurs et, comme eux, sont confrontés à des problèmes complexes : la famille, la rivalité, la différence... À travers les histoires racontées, les jeunes auditeurs se représentent non seulement ce que les choses sont, mais ce qu'elles peuvent, pourraient, auraient pu être, et même ce qu'ils ne voudraient surtout jamais voir arriver. À travers les histoires lues et écoutées, les enfants se sentent moins dépourvus devant les imprévus de la vie et cherchent à puiser, dans les problématiques des récits, des solutions à leurs problèmes.

En classe, la lecture d'histoires préconise l'échange. C'est un moment de partage qui tisse des liens humains entre l'enseignant(e) et l'apprenant, facilitant, pour l'enfant, l'acceptation de l'autre, de sa différence. En maternelle, en leur lisant des récits à haute voix, l'enseignante aide les enfants à entrer dans le récit à travers une lecture dramatisée : elle diversifie les manières de lire le texte pour dire aux apprentis lecteurs ce que le texte ne dit pas explicitement, en particulier les pensées des personnages, leurs émotions et leurs affects. Les jeux de sa voix (ceux du ton), le rythme de la diction (celui de la respiration) doivent traduire une forme de « plaisir » pour les jeunes apprenants. Cette « première » rencontre entre les apprenants et la « connaissance compréhensive du texte écrit » produit l'interaction souhaitée entre le lecteur et son jeune public : l'enfant regarde, touche, écoute en même temps. Grâce à la lecture d'histoires en classe, le livre devient un temps privilégiant les échanges et le vivre ensemble.

La lecture des contes développe également les moyens de produire des images mentales : par la forme, en l'occurrence le récit, et par l'univers créé, la fiction. La forme du récit, sa structure, certaines formules (« il était une fois » ; « dans un pays lointain » ; « il y a bien longtemps ») touchent les enfants et mettent en mouvement leurs pensées. La répétition des lectures crée une sorte de « sécurité » ; elle rend sa vie intérieure équilibrée.

Familiariser les apprentis-lecteurs le plus tôt possible avec la structure d'une histoire (début, aventures,

Du point de vue éducatif



fin, présence de connecteurs logiques et temporels, concordance des temps) leur permet de raconter eux-mêmes des événements ou des histoires de manière logique et chronologique. Ce genre de lecture stimule l'audition et la vision de l'apprenant par le lien image/mot. L'apprenant, au fil des écoutes, mémorise des passages, des expressions et progresse dans la capacité à restituer quelques phrases, un court dialogue. Cette progression favorise, par conséquent, l'apprentissage et la mise en place du langage.

En outre, choisir une œuvre de littérature enfantine est une activité primordiale et très importante qui précède toute lecture. Une œuvre littéraire doit stimuler l'imagination de l'apprenant, prolongeant ainsi le jeu par la lecture des dessins qui foisonnent de détails, de références et de couleurs. Le conte choisi doit certes le divertir mais surtout se terminer bien, c'est-à-dire, lui permettre de s'identifier à son héros/héroïne, à résonner davantage en lui selon la période de sa vie et de son développement. Un livre bien choisi est celui qui laisse l'apprenant rêver, espérer, vivre...

Pour encourager nos tout-petits à lire, lisons devant eux, lisons-leur des contes, des récits divers, faisons de la lecture un moment de plaisir qu'on partage avec eux, des moments pour les faire grandir... car la lecture est l'un des moyens les plus importants pour diminuer la violence et la solitude.

Mouna Massalkhi - Enseignante de Français en KG2-KG3 - BAC

Everyone Is Special

Heartwarming Life Experiences

It's a sunny March afternoon at BAC and we are patiently awaiting the arrival of Hadi Kaissi, a former learner. We were too eager and excited to talk to Hadi as part of our aim to shed light on learners who were enrolled in the Special Education Department and who are currently pursuing their higher education.

Hadi had attended a technical school to attain a degree in accounting and is now in American University of Science and Technology (AUST), with a plan in mind: to graduate, obtain a training position in one of the top international companies, and then go for a Certified Public Accountant degree (CPA). We were so proud to see the persevering learner turn into a confident man who knew what he wanted and went for it. On his experience in the technical school, Hadi stated that it took him time at the beginning to cope with the new environment and approaches, and he struggled at first with the language of instruction that was mainly Arabic, while he wanted to maintain a good level of proficiency in English. Reflecting on his choice to leave after Grade 9 to join a vocational path, Hadi reported that it was not easy at all even though he had familial and school support. He and his special educator had to research his options, and he needed to be convinced before taking that bold step. Hadi recalls that some of his peers and, unfortunately, people in his surrounding community had the prejudice that only failures shift to a vocational path. However, he proved them wrong; Hadi, at 21, has a degree from a technical school, has a year left to graduate college, and freelances the account of a café.

On the second day, we met with Dimitri Abdouche, who had a combination of confidence and humility that was quite pleasant. Dimitri commenced by stating that he had never felt less or different in the negative sense. He, also finished vocational school, and is now enrolled in Université Saint-Esprit de Kaslik (USEK) to obtain a degree in Interior Design. Dimitri communicated that teachers can make or break us, he remembers having a rocky relationship with his Math teacher and a great relationship with his Arabic teacher; which affected his performance respectively. Dimitri reported that he uses technology to assist him with homework and that helps him get by. Dimitri works with his father in the family business, which is related to the degree he is working on; having flexible working hours is a plus. The whole EDUATION community is proud of Hadi and Dimitri and wish them the best in their future endeavors.

Zahraa Ghabriss - HAD of SED - George Habib - Special Educator



"Your loving Spirit helped me find my own"

Happy Mother's Day

You taught me the right from the wrong.
You sat up with me through the nights so long,
On days when I was feeling sick and bad.
Today, I just want to tell you mother, it is only you who understands.
Happy Mother's Day!

Judy Fares - G6B - BAC



The Writer in You



The Story of a Brave Fighter

It was just few days before my third birthday. I was buying a new dress to celebrate it. I remember quite well it was a light-blue dress with glittery pink flowers on the waist. My mom told me to wait in the car for her to pay, and by the time she got back, I got dizzy. I lost all my energy, my lips turned purple, and my skin was white from the lack of blood, and my cheeks were swollen. My mom took me to the hospital straight away. As she waited impatiently for my blood test results, the doctor finally approached her with a concerned look and said, "It's hard for me to say this, but your daughter has blood cancer. We have to start the treatment straight away." From antibiotics to doctor appointments and injections to the worst part of all, operation rooms; that was my life for five years.

I remember my first operation, I was terrified. There were doctors with masks and gloves all around me, and an oxygen mask on my face. My mom had to stay outside. As she let go of my hand slowly, I started crying. The doctors tried to make me feel better, but I

wasn't listening until one doctor approached me and gave me an injection in my shoulder to put me to sleep. Many hours passed until finally I woke up and found myself in a hospital room with my dad and sister carrying suitcases into the room. When I asked my mom what was going on, she wiped a tear and said that I was diagnosed with cancer. I had no idea what it meant. I was scared. My grandma came in with all my family and friends supporting me, and most importantly my teddy bear. At that moment, I realized that everything will turn out great, and it did. My doctors and nurses were like family. We enjoyed many Christmases with them, the food was delicious, and so the five years went by as fast as light.

This whole experience made me realize that after my fifth operation, five years of treatment, over 10000 injections, and more than 20 medications, I was ready to overcome anything, including cancer.

Yasmine Farah - G8B - BAC



سنا قلعه جي - الصف الثانوي الثالث (فرع علوم الحياة) - مدرسة البشارة الأرثوذكسية

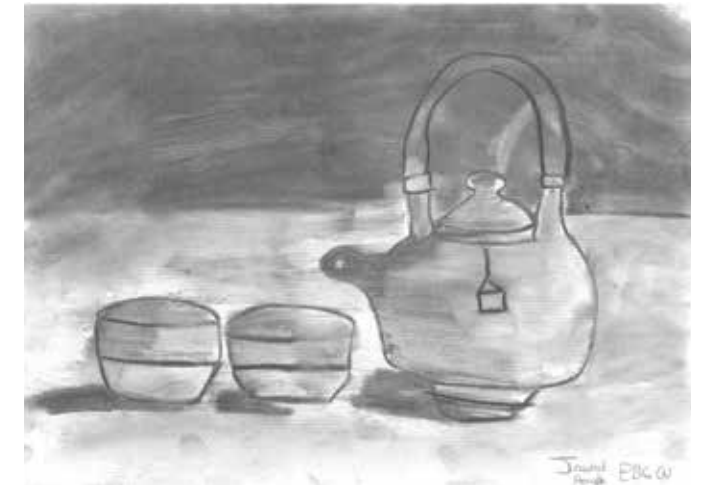
Fires of New Year

Late at night, so hard to see
We await a fate yet to be
From a distance yet still so near
Wish we could see but it isn't so clear.

I sit comfortably on my chair
And out the window I stare
At a scenery so beautiful, so rare.

My book and pen in my hand
Hot chocolate on the stand
I begin to write an adventure to take you by the hand.

Sarah Abdallah - G11S - SMOC



مشوار راقق عمري

«لا شيء يُدرك في الدنيا بلا تعب من استهني الحمر فليزرع ذوابها»
أما إذا انتقلنا إلى الامتحانات الرسمية وهي من أهم التحديات التي لا بد لنا من مواجهتها، فعلى التحضر لها من أجل الحصول على المعدل الأعلى المطلوب. وحدها كيفية الدراسة الصحيحة تساعدنا على اجتياز العائق. لذا، علينا ألا ننسى أن نهتم بأنفسنا قبل كل امتحان فنأخذ قسطاً جيداً من الراحة والتوهم، كما علينا أن نهتم بغذائنا فنتناول الطعام المفيد مبتعدين عما هو غير صحي. إضافة إلى ذلك، علينا أن نقوم بتنظيم وقتنا فئساوي بين الراحة والدراسة بوضعنا جدولاً.

... والمحظة الأخيرة التي علينا التوقف عندها هي اختيار الاختصاص المناسب والجامعة التي نريد الالتحاق بها. على المتعلم أن يدرك ما هو مقبل عليه، أي من واجبه التعمق في معرفة الاختصاص الذي سيحدد مصيره ويرسم مستقبله المهني. من المهم أيضاً أن يعرف تاريخ آخر مهلة له للتسجيل فلا يتجاوزها ويأخذ معه كل الأوراق المطلوبة عند تقديمه طلب الالتحاق. يجب أن يكون الاختيار نابعاً منه شخصياً دون التأثر برأي أي شخص آخر، لأنه يقوم باختيار مهنته المستقبلية التي سترافقه مدى الحياة. أخيراً، على جميع المتعلمين أن يستمتعوا بكل لحظة تمر بهم وهم على مقاعد الدراسة وبخاصة في السنوات الدراسية الأخيرة لأن هذه الأيام لن تتكرر أبداً وسيظل ذكرها خالداً فينا.

ها هو عاونا الدراسي الأخير يوشك على الانتهاء، يستعد ليغلق الأبواب خلف سنوات مضت، فيفتح لنا أبواباً أخرى. لقد مرت الأيام متسارعة، حصداً في ساعاتها أجمل المعارف وقطفنا في أيامها أنفع العلوم، وتعلمنا على مدار رحلتنا أرضي القيم وأسلم المواقف. قضت الأيام لتبقى لنا منها ذكريات تملأ قلوبنا، لن ننسى هذه المرحلة بكل مواقفها وتجاربها، فمن خلالها أضحتنا أكثر نضجاً وخبرة لما ستعرضه الحياة علينا من تحديات في شتى المجالات. ولعل التحدي الأكبر والأصعب في هذه الفترة هو امتحان SAT الذي يخضع له المتعلمون في المرحلة الثانوية، لأنه مؤسس قبول مغمود في الجامعات الأميركية. وهو امتحان فؤاد ومعتز به عالمياً ينصح بإعداده أكثر من مرة لأن الجامعات تختار المجموعتين الأعلى في كل من مادتي الرياضيات واللغة الإنكليزية فتقوم بجمعهما. وقبل الخضوع للامتحان، يمكن للمتعم أن يسجل حساباً على موقع «khan academy» يخوله أن يتحضر لل SAT. كان يحل عدداً كبيراً من التمارين، على قدر استيعابه، وفي الوقت عينه عليه أن يعرف ماهية أخطائه لكي يتفادها في المستقبل، فيبعض الأخطاء قد تنجم عن قلة التركيز، أو عدم تنظيم الوقت أو عدم فهم السؤال. أيضاً، عليه أن يحفظ جميع القواعد والقوانين الرياضية المطلوب معرفتها. يمكنه اتباع طريقة استيعاد الإجابات الخاطئة أثناء حلّه وهي أكثر الطرق فعالية. كما على المتعلم أن يعتاد حل الأسئلة في المدة المحددة لها. وأخيراً، عليه ألا يستسلم في حال لم يحصل على علامة جيدة، بل من الطبيعي أن يُعيد التجربة لأن درب النجاح طويل وقد يكون وعراً وشاقاً ولعل أجمل شاهد على كلامي هو قول الشاعر إيليا أبو ماضي:

Reveal your talents



Talent Show

As Kevin Durant once said "Hard work beats talent when talent fails to work hard." Nonetheless, our school accentuates the importance of each learner's unique talent since childhood. EDUATION School Network provides learners with an environment that encourages the discovery and upheaval of one's talent through both education and innovation.

In fact, the first thing we are taught is that every single one of us is born with a blessing of a talent that is yet to be discovered. Not only that, but it is also through the many extra-curricular activities and workshops that learners become aware of their talents, and are given the opportunity to work hard on them and stand out.

In this sense, and that of the current school theme, "In Spirit nous بدر", Grade 12 learners have initiated the organization of a "Talent Show" that shows the talents of the Secondary learners and their creativity. The seniors have worked really hard. The talent show is named "La Forte" which conveyed the learners' strengths and skills that they excel at. The acts varied from dancing, singing, playing different instruments, to many new creative concepts, such as live painting, a cappella, and many others talents. Most importantly, several of these acts were done by the whole class or even two classes together which focuses on our unity. These are some of the best memories of our school life with our childhood friends, which we will cherish forever.

Dana Srour - G12 LS - BAC



Insights

Annahar Visit



In January 2018, the Sophomore learners, taking the Media and Communication elective course, paid a visit to Annahar Newspaper to learn about the importance of media in our society and discover the history, evolution, and current role of print media in Lebanon. During their visit, our learners gained knowledge of how print media is affected by the technological development, and the challenges it is facing in the era of social media.

Once there, they watched a documentary about



Annahar Newspaper and its development through time which was followed by a question and answer session lead by Mr. Ayyad Wakeem.

The learners visited different divisions of the newspaper and got introduced to press terms such as editor, writer, and editor in chief. Their visit also included the online news desk where they met some of Annahar writers. At the end of the visit, the learners stopped at Gebran Tueni's office and were impressed that nothing had ever changed since his assassination; even the newspaper is still delivered to his office daily.

Suha El-Banna - Economics Teacher - Sophomore Class - SMOC & BAC

Words of Wisdom



One question students often find themselves asking when having graduated is: what now? I studied and graduated, and now I have to study again to graduate again?

It's a vicious cycle we all have to deal with, which is why we can use all the help we can get. Adults, being raised differently than us, do have a decent arsenal of advice as it turns out, and when faced with my question "What advice do you give students who are about to face the real world independently?" they proved to be helpful. Here are the best answers.

- "Well university isn't exactly "the real world" it's just some more education, but you should take advantage of every second of it because they're the best days of your life. Making connections, finding new hobbies and interests, it all matters because they are the experience you need for your life. Sure, the actual education is important but you're not going to use most of it at your future job, just the basic knowledge, and then, you're on your own because work life requires a daring personality and perseverance."
- "What I consider to be the most important thing in your life is trust. You have to be cautious with whom you trust, because not everyone will have your best interests in mind. However, at the same time, don't over-worry that everyone you'll meet is only there to cause you pain. You also need to trust."

- "You have to face reality. Real life is not like how you learned it in school and in books. You have to adapt to your new surroundings, especially if you are studying abroad. You have to be open minded about it. Life is not theory and practice; it is just first-hand experience you gain. Your life starts from scratch from now on. Accept help from others and help others. Good luck!"
- "Accept others and accept necessary change. Be open-minded. Change aspects of your life that need to be improved but do not do it to please the people around you. Accept that you cannot control everything and everyone, so don't over stress yourself if your life isn't going as planned. Face it with a smile, and trust yourself to do well."
- "Try to save up your money and spend wisely, when needed. One must take things seriously, and show responsibility. Respect people and plan for the future."
- "You have to know that the atmosphere that the school puts you in is really different from that the university. Parents can control what happens in school, whereas in the university you are considered as an adult. You will be judged according to your actions so make sure to make good decisions. There is no guidance and limitations, except if you impose them, and stick to them."

Karine Ballout - G12SE - SMOC

Here and There

Charming Lebanon



When asked about future plans and dreams, a majority of learners would mention touring the world and discovering various cultures. Upon further inquiry, those learners aspire to roam the streets of France or sail across the Pacific for a change. However, they have neither roamed the rails of their nation nor have they tested the waters of their homeland, so why do they prefer traveling abroad when they don't even know what lies within their country's borders?

The moment someone starts up a conversation about Lebanon, what directly comes to mind is the cuisine, dance, and the well-known temples of Baalbek, Tyre, and Sidon, but this affiliation does the country no justice. Even the country's residents would fail to present a well-rounded introduction to the Phoenicians' land. Located in the heart of the Middle East, Lebanon has been the meeting point for numerous nations thus infusing different cultures yet emerging with one of its own. So Reader, regardless of your nationality, I present to you a hidden side of Lebanon.

1. Palm Island, Tripoli: While some have heard of the islands located a little of the northern coasts, they fail to realize that it is the home for fauna species that were thought to be extinct in Lebanon, the likes of loggerhead turtles, seals, and over 300 types of birds. As such, a boat trip in the summer would lead to diving activities, wild life observation, or just a picnic with loved ones on a mesmerizing shore boring no buildings and polluting sites.

2. Oyoun El Samak: As the last drops of rain cascade down the Lebanese grounds, one would anticipate the approach of spring. And what better way to embrace it than to let one's spirit come in touch with blooming flowers hugging the sky-blue water underneath the bask of sun rays? Wedged between the peaks of Wadi Nhannam, there rests waterfalls unleashing sparkling water into endless pools of blue.

3. The Grudge: The story behind this is that a feud between two brothers has led to the construction of the thinnest buildings in Lebanon, which are quite a funny and refreshing site to look at. Two brothers inherited a piece of land from their father but due to failing at agreement, one of the two decided to get back at the other and build a house that would block the other's view of the sea. The house is too thin from one edge yet expands a bit to resemble a ship.

4. Abandoned Train Station in Chouit, Araya: Many would find this baffling for the train rails in Lebanon have long been neglected. However, taking a hike into the heart of Araya shows how Mother Nature has weaved its vines and trees around the rusty metal

of the tower along with the remaining cubicle of the train and this has rendered it a scene of out Alice in Wonderland. This would be the ideal destination for a peaceful promenade or a vintage photoshoot.

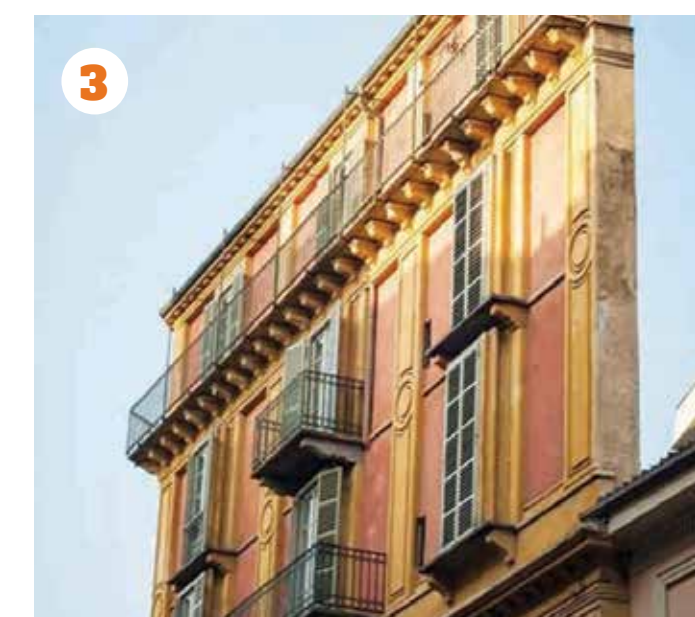
5. Water Breaches in Tannourine: Even though the place is known, what is secluded are the deep openings of the layers of rock that lead to the endless portals of mineralized waters. The rocky waterfalls, which resemble vertical tunnels, allow adventurers to hike downward by rope and explore the accumulation of such waters. In addition to that, the shallow ones would serve as the optimal site to go swimming with friends. Who said that it was only restricted to Mexico?

6. Kefraya: Why visit the outskirts of Rome to hold a once in a lifetime gatherings in vineyards like ones seen in movies when all that is available just two hours or less from Beirut? Kefraya is situated in the western region of the Beqaa valley and is home to endless fields of crops and vineyards. This alters it into the ideal location for a family gathering out in nature.

7. The Oldest Men: Last but not least, are the backbone of the nation which are Lebanon's oldest trees. As portrayed on the flag, Lebanese people take pride in their trees and take them as a symbol of nobility. As such, it is a must to visit Lebanon's oldest cedar trees which age more than thousands of years. Moreover, pay a tribute to Lebanon's 6000-year-old olives tree in the village of Bechaaleh.

In the end, there is so much more to Lebanon. However, with upcoming generations failing to see this side of Lebanon and opting for a life elsewhere, how can we preserve the beautiful landscapes that have made Lebanon what it is? This serves as a wakeup call for each teenager to seek his country and for each parent to indulge and engrave that love of the country into his child.

Reina Dib - G11S - BAC



Spring Out



Spring Out Towards Success and Prosperity

Reaching the Secondary Level means knocking on the first big door to our future. Through that door, we will spring towards a whole life that will be shaped by what we decide now. This fact leads us to take the initiative to properly model the path to our future through engaging ourselves in a set of enriching and developmental workshops and competitions that our schools granted us the opportunity to be part of, such as University and Career Fairs, YES NDU Competition, The Council Soft Skills – Level 1, The MUN, and many others. Such activities will help us take the lead and head forward with our lives towards success and prosperity.

A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way. John C. Maxwell

Every Saturday morning, the learners of EDUVATION School Network come together to experience a revolutionary leadership session presented by Mr. Jihad Yaacoub, a certified member of the John C. Maxwell team. We were given an amazing opportunity that will permit us to set our vision, to have a purpose, and most importantly to become leaders in the future. This program is teaching us, at this early stage in our life, skills that will sharpen our saw. It is a benefit, because it develops our life skills and helps us become a more efficient and effective version of ourselves. The program is teaching us how to work in a team, inspire others, coordinate and guide to achieve our objectives, and to influence others to cooperate for strategic goals. Moreover, it improves our negotiation skills, capabilities to solve conflicts, and to become eloquent and influential speakers.

Peace is not absence of conflict; it is the ability to handle conflict by peaceful means. Ronald Reagan

Starting from 10th grade, we see a group of 11th graders running around writing speeches, taking Saturday trips to the LAU campuses, and necking deep in research about several topics. Then we discover that they are working on finding practical and reasonable solutions to global problems. "If the biggest forces of the world could not, a group of teenagers would!" that was the first thing that came up to our minds until we became part of that process – the MUN, an acronym for Model United Nations. MUN, from its name, is an imitation of the procedures and flow of debates held in the actual United Nations, that teaches us how to think critically in a more diplomatic way and listen to others carefully in



order to reach our goal in resolving disputes peacefully. This, in turn, allows us to carefully reflect on situations and analyze what possible solutions can be put forth. It has also shown us how hard it is to maintain peace in the world, because solving international issues is not as easy as it seems. Several key factors play a role in the mediation process. There are country policies to consider, and values that countries simply will not let go. Yet, solutions are always possible. MUN gives a new outlook on life and teaches to simply analyze instead of criticize situations. It opens our eyes to global issues the world is facing today that we are too distracted to see, and gives us the chance to boost our confidence as we present, debate and support the solution we have proposed.

If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door. Milton Berle

Another opportunity that helps us properly model our path to the future is the "Career Fair", where we can meet people who already tried and are living by the conditions of the career they chose. Their experience and knowledge brighten our minds and clear out the picture of where we are heading and how well we can manage our own future based on our choices. This is a great opportunity and a wide door that helps us see clearly and advance with steady steps.



Imagine with all your mind, believe with all your heart, achieve with all your might.

One of the myriad opportunities the school presented to us is participating in the Young Entrepreneur Showdown (YES) competition at NDU, where we were required to conceive an innovative business idea and think like entrepreneurs, after getting, in a previous session, a list of crucial business operations that we needed to work on. In fact, it is truly a unique chance to uncover our latent potentials. In our movement towards achieving our goal, we learned how to work within a team, how to cope with deadlines, how to deal with competition, and we acquired heaps of information and new concepts in the business field. Being leaders of a new innovative business idea that we had to promote is indeed a huge profit at this early stage of our lives.

Secondary Learners



Spring Out

Get Ready for the Future!

The future and what it holds has bloomed a lingering anxiety in almost every one of us. The fear of the unknown, the fear of failure, or the fear of inevitable unhappiness has become rooted in our minds. Learners struggle too, as the pressure of what lies ahead of them becomes more suffocating.

Why is it that learners are more anxious now about the choice of their soon to be profession than any other previous generation? Maybe it is the failing and unsteady economy or maybe it is the Lebanese society's love for stereotypes and prestige that has caused learners to be wary of their options. However, despite the stress and the tension that result from such a conundrum, choosing the right major is crucial, and it is important that adolescents are aware of that.

First, it is important to realize that one's interests, values, passion, and abilities are a full package and not isolated entities. In other words, for a major to be right for you, you must make sure that those elements are present. You may be passionate about something you are incapable of pursuing, or you may be a genius in something that does not necessarily spark your liking. However, if the career of your choice satisfies these qualities, then it promises great success.

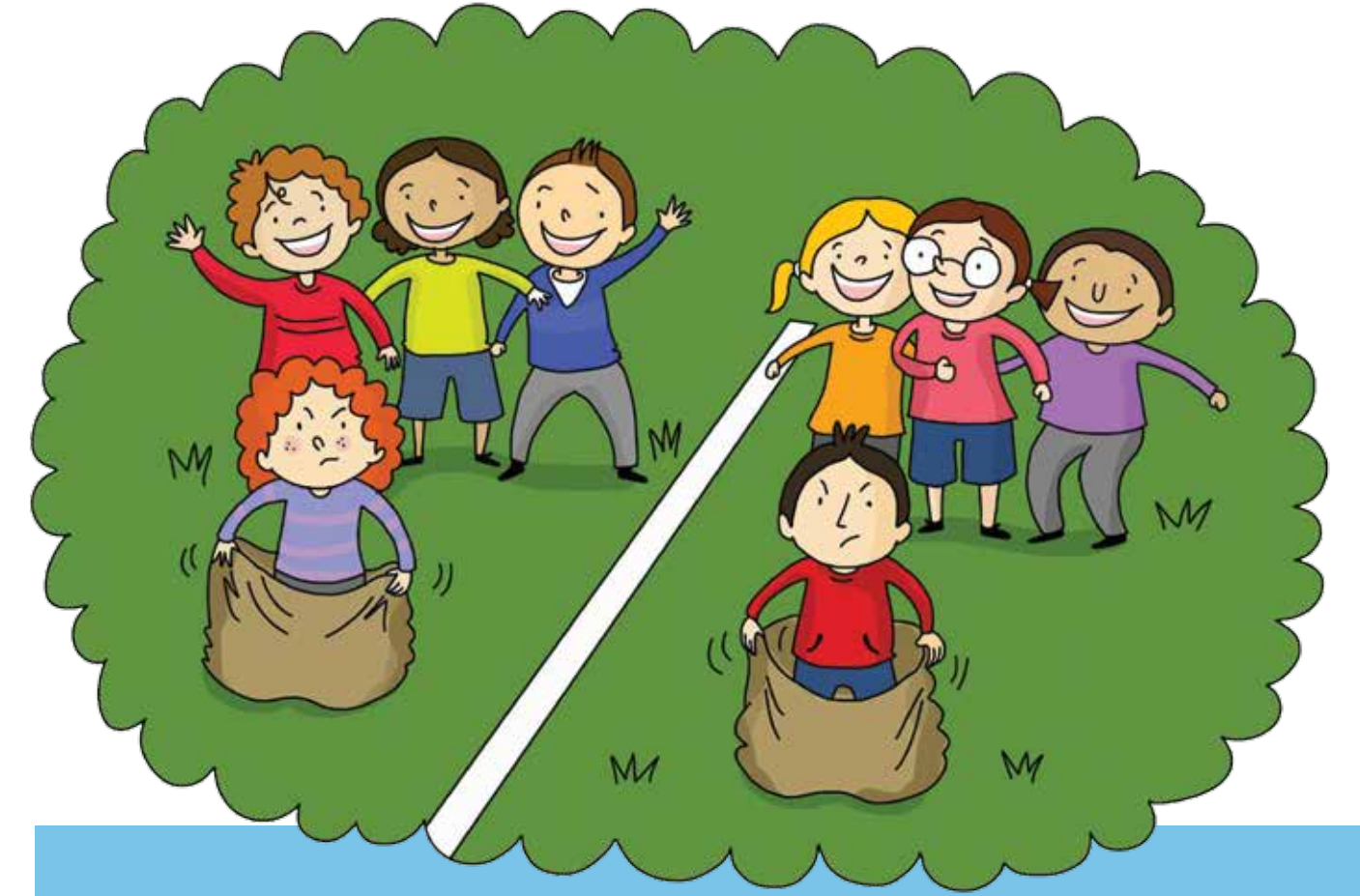
Now of course, thinking of what the future might be like rarely brings forward an accurate prediction. Thus, it is important to take the slap of reality when it hits us. There are two questions to consider. First, will you be able to work in this field for a long time? It is important to take note of the employment rate and opportunities that your major may offer you. In the end, college degrees need more recognition than the adoration it receives hanged up on a wall. Second, will you enjoy working in this field for a long time? Do you see yourself fifty years from now, living happily based on that career of your choice? This question needs to be considered without any bias. In other words, setting aside the possible income you are to receive or the conviction that this is the optimal choice, do you truly believe you would want to spend your life with such a career?

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, make this decision yours and not anyone else's. This is your life, your future, and a choice you have to make for yourself by yourself. Of course, seeking advice and insight is always helpful; however, the judgmental eye of society and sometimes even our family tend to waver our certainty, and we become vulnerable enough to let others make the decision for us. Take the risk, and study what you love. Passion and dedication hardly ever leave you fruitless, and success is hardly ever not on the other side of fear.

As learners drift towards adulthood, the grounds beneath their feet become unsteady and the choices that lie before them dawn harder to make. One's career is a large chapter of life, and making the decision is often tricky due to many misguiding and controlling voices disorienting us. Too often, learners have acquired an inaccurate definition of the concept of profession seeing it as a duty rather than a journey of dedication and discovery, as it was initially formed to be. For in the words of Dutch artist, Vincent Van Gogh, "Your profession is not what brings home your weekly paycheck, your profession is what you put here on earth to do, with such passion and such intensity that it becomes spiritual in calling." It is never too late to make the right choice, and there's always time to think again and reconsider options. If it means opening the right door for yourself, do not be afraid to start over countless times or venture in a world that spreads beyond your comfort zone.

Amanda Bitar - G11SE - BAC

Keep on Moving



الرياضة غذاء الروح

الإنسان في حالة مزاجية أفضل يستجيب من خلالها لحاجاته النفسية ويفرغ فيها طاقاته الداخلية.

لذا، تسعى مدرستنا لخلق رابط قويّ يجمعنا نحن المتعلمين بالرياضة لنكتسب مهارات جديدة تعوّي شخصيتنا وترفع من مستوانا الصحيّ لتصبح قادرين بعدها على التكيّف مع مختلف النشاطات التي بوسعها أن تزيل مختلف الضغوط التي قد نتعرض لها في حياتنا اليومية. والجدير بالذكر بأننا وفي هذه السنة الدراسية اخترنا ولأول مرّة فكرة القيام بنشاطاتنا الرياضية في نواحي مختلفة تختص بمختلف أنواعها البدنية، هذا ما جعلنا ننتظر تلك النشاطات بفارغ الصبر لنرقه عن نفسنا ونخرج من بيئة الدراسة ونتخلص من ضغوطاتنا التي من شأنها أن تعكّر مزاجنا وتدخلنا في حالة نفسية مزريّة.

وأخيرًا، الرياضة هي ذلك الفيل الذي يشعل في النفس البشرية روح الإبداع والتطور لأنها تدفعنا نحو الرقيّ والتقدم فهي تخلق البيئة الاجتماعية السليمة التي توحد الشعوب فتزرع البسمة على وجوهنا وتعرّفنا على مواهبنا واهتماماتنا الدفينة.

علي قلعه جي - الصف الثانوي الثاني (علمي) - مدرسة البشارة الأرثوذكسية

لطالما كانت الرياضة البدنية من أهمّ النشاطات البشرية التي بزغت منذ العصور الغابرة لتصبح الآن وسيلة لتوحيد الشعوب وتحقيق الرخاء الفردي والسلامة الصحيّة. فالرياضة فنّ يتجسد بحركات بهلوانية تزرع في البعض الظمائية وتغرس في الآخرين روح المتعة، كما أنها تعزز الثقة في النفس من خلال التفوّق في الألعاب الرياضية. لذا، تعدّ الرياضة من أهمّ المجالات التي تراقق الإنسان في حياته لأنه يستطيع ممارسة أي نشاط رياضي في أي وقت كان وفي أبسط الأماكن. وتتميز الرياضة بتشعب نشاطاتها فهي تتصلب بمختلف الاهتمامات والمواهب فنرى بأن النشاطات الرياضية لا تعدّ لا تُحصى لأنها كثيرة تطوّرت مع تطوّر البشر وتكاثرت لتراعي كافة الناس ومختلف الأشخاص.

وبالإضافة إلى ذلك، تتّصف الرياضة بكونها العامل الأساسي للاستقرار الصحيّ لمختلف البشر، لأنها تساهم في تقليل نسبة الدهون في الجسم، وترفع من حدّة التفكير، وتقوّي جهاز المناعة وتُحفّز عمل الدماغ نظرًا لصعوبة المواقف التي قد يواجه فيها الإنسان في بعض الرياضات والتي تتطلب منه التركيز والتفكير السليم. كما أنها تلعب دورًا أساسيًا في التخلص من بعض المشاكل النفسية مثل الاكتئاب، والغضب واللجوء لأنها تضع

Picture Perfect



Integrated Event



الحوقة الموسيقية تكرم الياس الرحباني



Let's Think & Play

Family Games

1- Tear It Up

You will need: at least 2 toilet paper rolls, long stick, chairs, rubber bands, 2 empty plastic water bottles with lids.

Put toilet paper roll on the stick and hang the ends on the chairs (or let family members hold it). Get empty water bottle, open the top, put a sheet of toilet paper roll and put the top back on. Let the bottle hang.

Challenge: Using rubber bands and paper "bombs" shoot the toilet paper until it rips and falls together with the bottle. Check out our rubber band slingshot station we made the other day.

Who wins: Time it and see who is the fastest in ripping the toilet paper.



2- I Spy

A great game for your child to get to know the world around her. For a child who has never played, you can start by picking out an object within plain view, not mentioning the object, and saying "I Spy something blue." If there is only one child, then she can keep guessing until she gets it right. If there are multiple children then they can take turns looking around and guessing. The first child correct gets to spy something next. Simple and fun!

Variations - Limit the number of guesses each child gets. Or, say things like "I Spy something that is a circle." The difficulty is easily changed by what you are actually spying (smaller or less obvious things) and how you describe what is spied (bumpy or soft things, for example).

3- Build a Tower

Use fruit or veggies to build towers. Whoever builds highest structure in 1 minute WINS the game.

4- Chocolate Face

You will need: chocolate bar. (You can also use candy or cookie).

Challenge: Place it on the upper cheek and using your facial muscles get that piece of chocolate in your mouth. And eat it! Don't use hands.

Who wins? Whoever eats the chocolate fastest - wins the game!

Warning! The ones with a very sweet tooth are known to cheat. Watch them!

5- Hot Potato

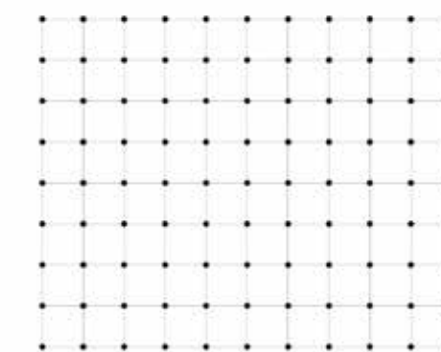
This game will have everyone giggling. Ask the kids to

sit on the floor in a circle. Turn on some tunes and have them pass the potato (a bean bag or soft ball) around the circle as fast as they can. When the music stops, the player holding the potato leaves the circle. Keep going until only one player is left and wins the game.

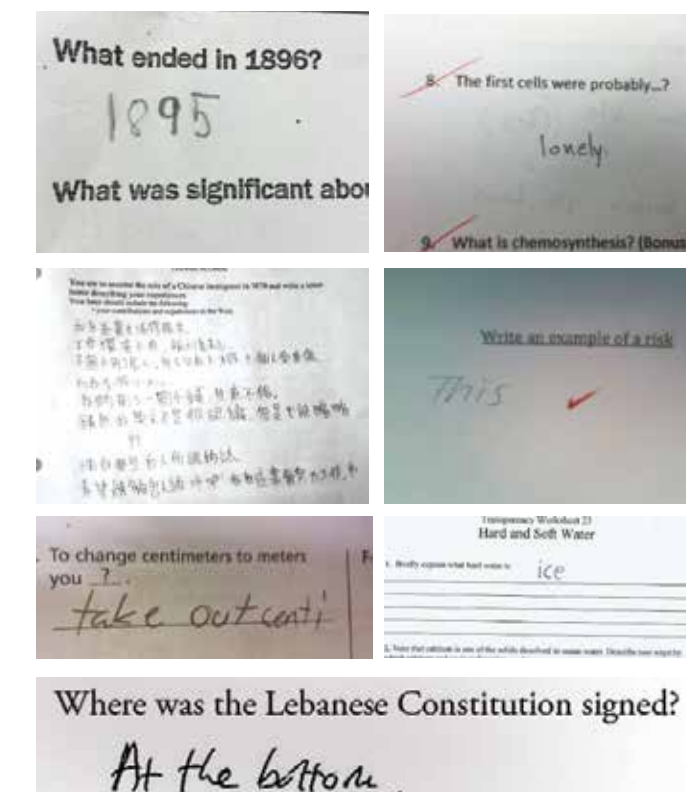
6- Dots and Boxes

A pencil and paper game for two players, Dots and Boxes begins with an empty grid of dots. Players take turns adding a single horizontal or vertical line between two un-joined adjacent dots. The player who completes the fourth side of a 1x1 box earns one point and gets another turn. Players write their initials in the boxes to indicate who completed each. The drawn "board" can be of any size. If you have little time to play or are just learning how to play, try a 2x2 box. A 5x5 box works well for experts. Dots and Boxes ends when there are not more lines that can be placed. The winner is the player with the most boxes completed.

Dots and Boxes



Humor



SUDOKU

2	5		9		4
				3	7
7		8	5	6	1
4	5	7			
	9			1	
			2		8
	2	4	1	8	
6	8				6
1		2		7	8

		6	9	2	
		7	2		
	9	5	8	7	
9			3		6
7	5				1
1		4			5
	1	3	9	8	
		2	1		
	9	8	1		

			8		
7	8	9		1	
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		3	2		
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8	3	1	1	8	6	4	9	9
6	8	7	9	1	2	1	2	8
9	6	9	8	8	2	3	7	9
7	6	9	8	1	9	4	3	9
4	7	8	2	1	8	5	2	8
8	3	8	7	8	6	3	9	8
9	7	1	2	3	3	1	7	2
8	7	1	2	3	3	1	7	2
8	7	1	2	3	3	1	7	2
8	7	1	2	3	3	1	7	2

7	8	1	4	9	6	2	9
6	9	1	2	3	8	7	9
4	2	1	7	3	8	4	1
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9	6	2	4	1	7	7	9
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5	8	7	6	9	1	7	2
2	8	4	9	5	9	6	8
3	6	9	1	7	3	8	4
6	1	2	4	9	8	4	8
7	4	2	4	1	1	9	2
4	9	8	6	7	3	8	1
4	9	8	6	7	3	8	1

: SNOIUNIOS



Puberty 101

Everyone over the age of 18 has won the ruthless and acne-filled war against their own mind and body. Many leave with battle scars; even more end up with new weapons and loot, while some change their whole arsenal. Puberty is the process of enduring pain, healing, getting back up, and repeat. It is the inside-out moulding of our strengths weaknesses; we all go through it and come out sturdier, stronger, and better. Here are some tips to make the process pass smoothly:

- Learn about your own cases through research and asking your parents to try to understand how your body works and why each change happens.
- Do not worry about not being pretty or skinny enough, there will always be someone better. Be the best you can be by comparing yourself only to yourself.
- Eat whatever you want as long as you get enough nutrients, vitamins, energy, and water. You are growing, so your body is going to need fuel.

- Get used to random mood swings, which is normal. Your hormones need a lot of time to stabilize, and you'll have a hard time mastering your feelings, but when you do, everything will seem easier
- Everyone grows hair everywhere, everyone's voice changes, everyone gets fatter or skinnier, and that is NORMAL. You look your best when you're being yourself, so do not change what you have, improve it.

Chakib Khoury - G12 LS - BAC

What's New?

AI: A Possible Future

We have all watched 'The Transformers' at a certain point in our lives and wondered whether this would become a reality sometime in the future, but we didn't expect that this would happen so suddenly - so hastily. Have you ever imagined encountering a talking and walking robot? Have you ever thought of having robots that would function exactly the way humans do?

Artificial Intelligence is definitely an interesting topic to be discussed; however, we will never be able to tackle it from all aspects be it the pros, the cons, the influence on economy, or the threats. Therefore, I choose to confer with you the term Artificial Intelligence and its role in the field of education. What kind of role can AI take in education?

1. Automating precise activities:

Teachers frequently complain about the load of correction they have to implement which occupies almost 50% of their time when this time could be invested on professional development, interacting with

learners, or even preparing creative activities. While AI cannot fully replace teachers' grading, it is now able to grade fill-in-the-blank and multiple choice questions. In addition to that, essays today can be dealt with smoothly through the use of the essay- software which is currently being improved.

2. Education Software

Nowadays, individualized learning software has been trending to assist learners in focusing on certain topics, terms, and concepts which they haven't mastered. These systems respond to the needs of each learner. This tailored kind of education will facilitate the learning process and improve outcomes in different aspects.

3. AI feedback

We, as teachers, know that sometimes we have to tailor the lessons based on learners' needs. AI is able to provide teachers with feedback on the learners' performance. Schools that have online admission and registration are



now using AI to help teachers constantly and instantly follow up on learners' performances.

In other words, AI systems do not only help teachers, but they can also assist learners to improve their overall performance in all subject matters.

4. Data driven by AI will change how schools back up learners.

Whenever AI systems are provided with all the data about a certain learner, it will back learners from recruiting to choosing the best-tailored courses that match their goals.

Amal Hamade - English Teacher - UE - BAC

Development of Medicine

Over the centuries, the medical field has developed a lot because technology improved the way doctors treat and take care of patients and helped medicine with the use of robots. According to a recent report by Credence Research, the global medical robotics market was valued at \$7.24 billion in 2015, and is expected to grow to \$20 billion by 2023. As a result, a variety of robots is being produced and developed to serve in many roles within the medical environment. Clinicians are using robots to treat people who live in remote areas. "Specialists can be on call, via the robot, to answer questions and guide therapy from remote locations," says Dr. Bernadette Keefe, a Chapel Hill, NC-based healthcare and medicine consultant. In addition, robots are being used to assist surgeons with performing operations. The surgeon is in entire control of the system consistently; however, the machine has more reach and flexibility so smaller incisions can be made with more precision, and the robot can access the problem areas easily. There are also the rehabilitation robots that play an essential



role in the recovery of people with disabilities, including improved mobility, strength, and coordination. These robots can be automated to adapt to the illness of each patient as they recover from strokes, traumatic brain or spinal cord injuries, or neurobehavioral or neuromuscular diseases such as multiple sclerosis. Furthermore, there is a unique robot that can reduce the number of hospital acquired infections by using high intensity ultraviolet light. The light will cause cellular damage to microorganisms so they cannot multiply. Some robots are designed to be able to carry the repetitive tasks such as taking blood samples. Robots come in all shapes and sizes. The origami robot can be swallowed as a form of capsule; the capsule containing

it dissolves in the patient's stomach and unfolds itself. The robot can safely remove foreign items such as swallowed toys by the help of magnetic fields and the control of a technician.

In the near future, we will certainly work with medical robots. Today, if we take the crucial steps to acquire a better understanding of their mechanism, the transition could be easier and simpler.

Sana Kalaji - G12LS - BAC

