



LEILA C. SAAD
SABIS® School El-Metr

The SCHOOL BUZZ

Term One Issue
2025 - 2026

WADIH EL SAFI: A CULTURAL TREASURE

Our Grade 5 students combined cultural appreciation with community action through a thoughtful social responsibility initiative focused on the legacy of Wadih El Safi.



HONORING OUR HERITAGE

Our school celebrated Lebanon's Independence Day with profound pride and enthusiasm.



BUILDING A RESILIENT FUTURE

Our Grade 4 students participated in a dynamic extracurricular activity designed to connect science to crucial real-world issues.



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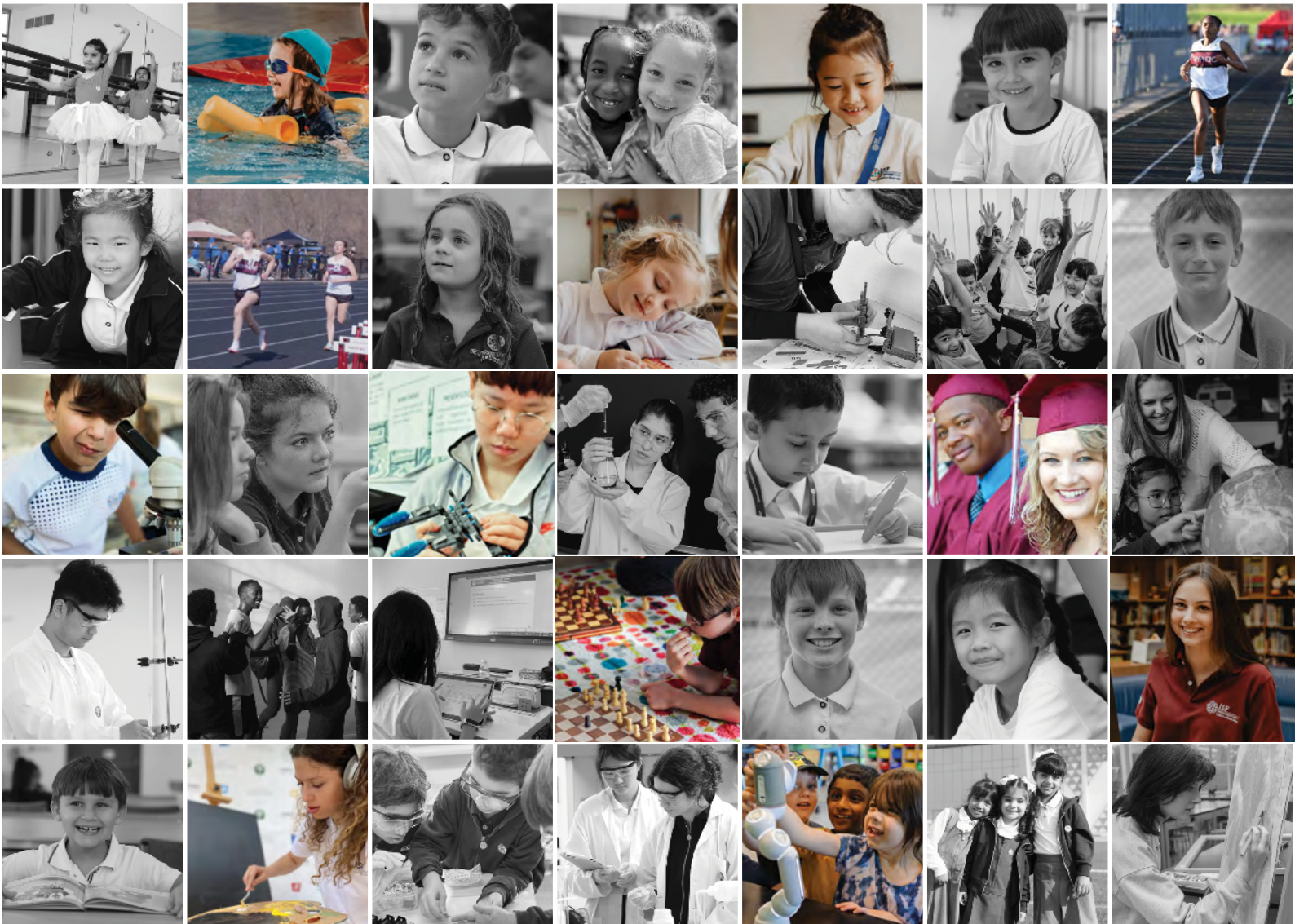


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FIND OUT WHY

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LETTER FROM DR. ZAKIEH NAIMY

4

TESTIMONIALS

Reflections from a New Teacher
Through a New Student's Eyes
An Alumnus' Inspiring Journey

5

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

United for Growth

6

ROBOTICS

Coding, Creating, Innovating

7

ACADEMICS

SABIS® Educational System: Driving Excellence through
Active Learning and Innovation
KG 2 in Action
Arabic Department
Empowering Educators through In-Service Training

8

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Music

10

STUDENT LIFE ORGANIZATION

A Message from the Student Life Coordinator
A Message from the Head of SLO
Academic Department
Public Speaking Workshop: Find Your Voice
Where English Language Becomes Art
The Power of Greek Mythology
The World in Our Hands: Discovery Day Competition
Looking Ahead: NDU Orientation Session
Marie Curie's Path through Arabic ID Cards
Symphony of Identity: Mozart through Arabic ID Cards
Wadih El Safi: A Cultural Treasure
Discipline Department
Welcome Back to School: Ready, Set, Grow!
Launch Your Legacy: SLO Job Fair
Management Department
Honoring Our Heritage
A Holiday Performance in Loving Memory
Sports Department
Footy Fiesta
Celebrating Ralph's Taekwondo Victory!
Wellness Department
Pink Beyond October: A Commitment to Health
Hygiene Week – Wash, Scrub, Shine
A Word from Sanita
Grade 12 Memory Makers
Outreach Department
Halloween: Trick or Treat
Lower School
SLO Students Inspire Young Readers
A Fairytale Comes to Life
The Desk Ninja Cleanliness Mission
Social Responsibility
Building a Resilient Future

11

TABLE of CONTENT

LETTER FROM DR. ZAKIEH NAIMY

A Legacy that Lives on at the Leila C. Saad SABIS® School El-Metn

This first issue of our school newsletter this year comes with a heartfelt tribute to Mrs. Leila C. Saad, whose name graces our school and whose values continue to shape our journey. Her vision, guidance, and unwavering commitment to education are imprinted in every corner of our campus. Her principles will remain our inspiration today, tomorrow, and for generations to come.

As we move forward, we celebrate the vibrant life within our classrooms. Our school is thriving with a large number of students across all grade levels, notably in KG 2, where our youngest learners are blossoming beautifully. Their curiosity, enthusiasm, and joy remind us why education matters and why we strive for excellence every day.

We also welcomed new staff members who have seamlessly integrated into our system, bringing energy and dedication to our mission. Their efforts, along with the hard work of our Student Life Organization (SLO), are already making a visible impact, particularly in academics. The results of Term 1 speak volumes about their commitment to excellence.

Special recognition goes to staff members who have taken on additional responsibilities, especially in academics. Their leadership and perseverance are driving meaningful change and setting new standards for success.

The Leila C. Saad SABIS® School El-Metn is more than a school; it is a special place where minds are shaped to make a difference in their communities, in Lebanon, and beyond. Together, we honor the past, embrace the present, and build a future that reflects the values we hold dear.

Zakieh Naimy, Ph.D.
Acting Director



TESTIMONIALS

Reflections from a New Teacher

I am pleased to join the SABIS® family as a Science Teacher (Biology and Chemistry). My professional goal is to support students in achieving their full potential by promoting both academic excellence and personal development, while encouraging curiosity, critical thinking, and a deeper appreciation of science. The students at SABIS® consistently demonstrate strong motivation, discipline, and genuine interest in scientific subjects, which greatly enriches the learning environment. At Leila C. Saad SABIS® School El-Metn, the structured and supportive atmosphere provides an excellent foundation for student success. I strongly believe that learning is a meaningful experience that goes beyond grades, and that respect, teamwork, and commitment within the school community are essential to maintaining a productive and professional educational setting.

Hadi Al Jammal – Science Teacher



Through a New Student's Eyes

Joining SABIS® as a new student has been an incredibly positive and rewarding experience for me. From my very first day, I felt genuinely welcomed by both students and teachers, which made settling in much easier and more comfortable than I had expected. The friendly atmosphere and supportive attitude of everyone around me helped me feel at home.

The Student Life Organization (SLO) played a major role in helping me adjust to my new environment. Their guidance and constant support made me feel included from the beginning. Whether through their activities, encouragement, or simple gestures of care, the SLO helped create a sense of belonging and made my transition into the school smooth and enjoyable.

Each day at SABIS® feels exciting and motivating, and I am already beginning to feel like I truly belong to the school's community. I am very grateful for the encouragement and support I have received so far, and I look forward to continuing to grow, learn, and create meaningful memories.

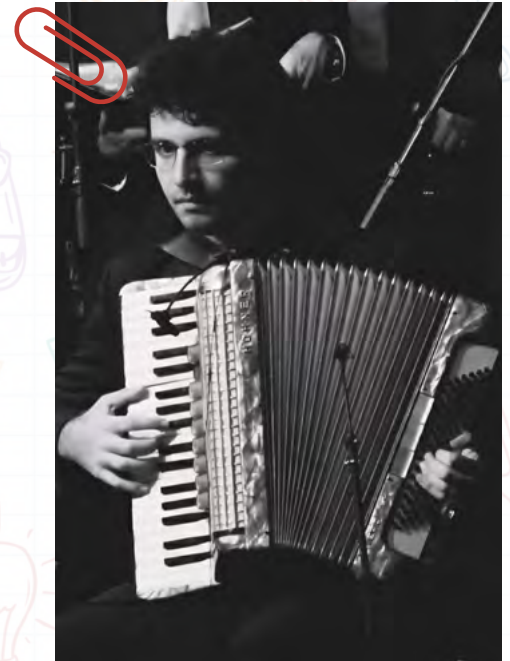
Marita Abdelsater – Grade 7 Student



An Alumnus' Inspiring Journey

My past school experience at SABIS® was a meaningful journey that enriched and shaped who I am today. Its structured learning environment, which valued discipline, consistency, and high standards, pushed me to take responsibility for my learning and achieve excellence in my work. It encouraged critical thinking and challenged me to work on myself and improve academically and personally. The guidance and support of dedicated teachers, as well as the sense of community among students, made learning an enjoyable process. Moreover, my musical skills were integrated into events and activities, including Christmas celebrations and graduation ceremonies. It enabled me to build upon them and improve, encouraging creativity. These experiences laid the foundation of discipline, confidence, and perseverance that helped form a positive mindset, and continue to influence the way I approach new opportunities today.

Mark Riachy – SABIS® Alumnus



SCHOOL COMMITTEE

United for Growth

This year marked the launch of our school's new committee, created to enhance collaboration, promote well-being, and strengthen our educational leadership culture. As the committee champion, I am proud of the meaningful initiatives we have carried out alongside a dedicated team of enthusiastic members.

Together, we organized a variety of motivational and community-building activities aimed at supporting both teachers and administrative staff. From celebrating special moments to introducing creative engagement ideas, our mission has been to cultivate a positive, energized, and connected school environment.

Each initiative is thoughtfully planned to encourage teamwork, inspire morale, and recognize the continuous efforts of our hardworking staff. Throughout the year, we have been committed to innovating, reflecting, and improving to ensure our committee remains dynamic and impactful.

It has been a rewarding journey, and we look forward to continuing our efforts to foster a strong spirit of collaboration, motivation, and well-being across our school community.

Rafka Mfarrej – School Committee Champion



ROBOTICS

Coding, Creating, Innovating

This year, our school launched its first-ever Robotics program for grades 6-8, and it has been an incredible opportunity. It allows us to finally apply what we've learned in computing class to the real world, making code and logic tangible through motors, sensors, and movement. The classroom is buzzing with the excitement of discovery as we learn to solve problems, work as a team, and see our creations come to life. It's more than building robots; it's about building confidence and a brand-new set of skills.

This exciting new program is also a major first step for our school's future. By introducing hands-on technology and engineering now, we are laying a foundation for innovation and forward-thinking learning. We're not just learning to code robots—we're helping to grow the students' creativity and problem-solving ability.

Bassem Abou Fadel – Physics and Robotics Teacher



ACADEMICS

SABIS® Educational System: Driving Excellence through Active Learning and Innovation

At the Leila C. Saad SABIS® School El Metn, my role as Deputy Director for Academics is to ensure that every student reaches their full potential. Students are consistently encouraged and motivated to give their best, and achieving high standards of excellence is a collective effort. This teamwork involves not only administrators and teachers, but also the students themselves, who are actively engaged in their own academic journey. Together, we set and communicate clear expectations and objectives on a daily basis, fostering a culture of responsibility and achievement.

Experience has shown that when high expectations are communicated effectively, students rise to the challenge and often surpass them. Over the years, I have witnessed how SABIS® teaching methods—such as the SABIS® Point System, Shadow Teaching, the Integrated Learning System, Student Life Organization, and peer tutoring—have promoted interactive learning, engaged entire classrooms, and cultivated lifelong learners who grow into responsible world-class citizens.

Building on this tradition of innovation, we are excited to announce the launch of the SABIS® AI Chatbot, a smart, conversational learning assistant powered by artificial intelligence. This cutting-edge tool is designed to support personalized learning by offering tailored exercises, real-time practice, and instant feedback. It creates a safe and focused learning environment that is integrated into our students' E-books. It also encourages curiosity-driven exploration, and adapts to individual learning needs using content from the SABIS® curriculum. Over time, this empowers students to build confidence and mastery, empowering them to take ownership of their education with intelligent support. It's also a helpful tool for teachers as it provides valuable insights based on student interactions, guiding instructional decisions and making it easier to support students effectively.

With these combined efforts, SABIS® continues to uphold its mission of excellence, preparing students to succeed academically and beyond.

Hiba Moujaes – Deputy Director for Academics



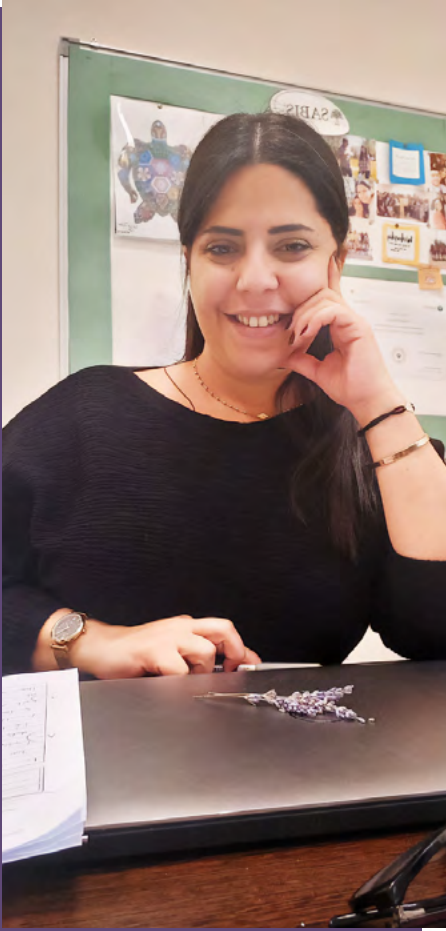
KG 2 in Action

In the KG 2 classroom, learning unfolds in a well-organized and calm setting that supports every child's growth. With the guidance of their teacher, the children demonstrate good behavior, follow classroom rules, and respect one another. The teacher manages the class effectively through clear routines, engaging activities, and positive reinforcement, allowing students to stay focused and cooperative. This supportive atmosphere helps all children learn and participate confidently.

Syrine El Awar – KG 2
Homeroom Teacher



Arabic Department



مسيرة حبّ للغة العربيّة

تُعَدّ اللّغة العربيّة هويّة وانتماءً، ولذلك نحرصُ في مدرستنا على إعطائها المكانة التي تستحقّها. ليس في اليوم العالميّ للغة العربيّة فحسب، بل على امتداد السّنة الدّراسيّة كلّها. وقد كان الفصل الأوّل حافلاً بالأنشطة المتنوّعة التي هدفت إلى تعزيز حبّ اللّغة العربيّة في نفوس المتعلّمين وتنمية مهاراتهم اللّغويّة بطريقة ممتعة وهادفة.

وخلال هذا الفصل، نظّمنا مجموعة من النّشاطات الثّقافيّة والتّربويّة، مثل المطالعة الحرّة، إضافة إلى أنشطة فنيّة تمثّلت في تزيين الأقسام بلوحات تحمل حكمًا وأقوالاً عربيّة، وكتابة عبارات تعبّر عن مكانة اللّغة العربيّة وأهميّتها.

ومن الأنشطة المميّزة التي تمّ إنجازها أيضًا إعداد أبحاث حول شخصيّات بارزة تعرّف إليها المتعلّمون خلال حصص الدّراسة، مثل الشّاعر الجاهليّ عنترة بن شدّاد، والموسيقار العالميّ موتزارت، والفنان اللبنانيّ وديع الصّافي. وقد ساهم هذا النّشاط في تنمية مهارات البحث والقراءة لدى المتعلّمين، وربط التّعلّم اللّغويّ بالثقافة والأدب والفنّ، ما عزّز قدرتهم على التّعبير الشّفهيّ والكتّابيّ.

تكتّفت هذه النّشاطات بشكل خاصّ تزامنًا مع اليوم العالميّ للغة العربيّة، حيث كان مناسبةً لتتويج الجهود المبذولة طوال الفصل الأوّل، والتأكيد على أنّ الاهتمام باللّغة العربيّة هو مسار مستمرّ لا يقتصر على يوم واحد. وقد ساهمت هذه الأنشطة في ترسيخ حبّ اللّغة العربيّة في قلوبهم، لتبقى لغة العلم والثقافة والإبداع في حاضرهم ومستقبلهم.

Rouba Mazloum – Arabic Regional Coordinator (KG – Grade 5)

Empowering Educators through In-Service Training

The in-service training session offered teachers a valuable opportunity to reflect, collaborate, and strengthen their professional practice. Through focused discussions and shared experiences, educators explored effective strategies to enhance teaching and learning. The session highlighted our commitment to continuous growth and a strong culture of professional development within the school.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Music

As an Art and Music Teacher at SABIS®, I strongly believe that learning does not happen only in the final artwork or the finished performance. It happens in the process: in the patience we teach, in the attention we give, and in the care we show to every step along the way. I truly believe that it's all in the details. When children learn to notice details, they also learn focus, discipline, and self-expression.

Myriam Bou Akl – Art and Music Teacher



STUDENT LIFE ORGANIZATION

A Message from the Student Life Coordinator

As the Acting Student Life Coordinator and a full-time English and Social Studies Teacher, I have the privilege of overseeing our vibrant Student Life Organization (SLO). This year, the SLO team started with exceptional energy. Every Department's Head Prefect immediately grasped the scope of their responsibilities and worked diligently to achieve their goals. Our Term 1 efforts were especially successful because the Head Prefects led their teams with clear purpose, resulting in efficient and meaningful activities that prioritized academic support across all grade levels.

Crucially, we dedicated significant effort to the school-wide reading program, making sure it was actively implemented and benefited all students. Furthermore, the Lower School Head Prefect was instrumental in addressing and mitigating instances of bullying, ensuring a supportive and safe environment for our youngest students. The dedication and hard work from our student leaders have already laid a strong foundation for literacy development and positive school culture this year, ensuring a highly productive period ahead.

Tamar Cholakian – Acting Student Life Coordinator

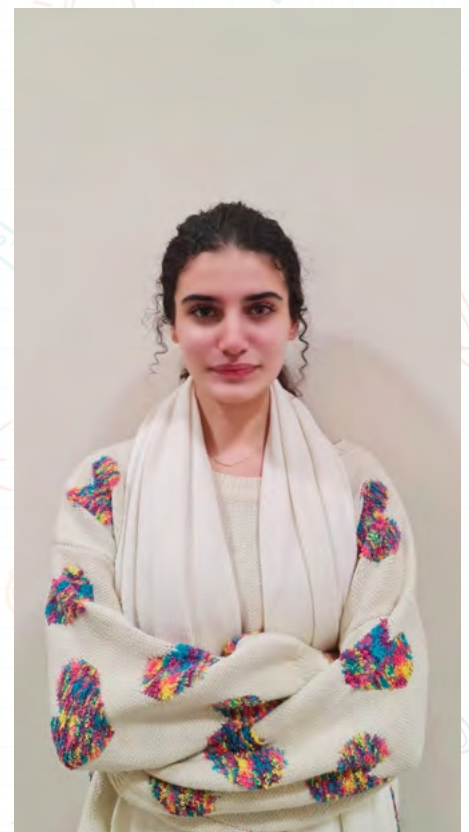


A Message from the Head of SLO

This year as the Head of the Student Life Organization, I witnessed more than just progress—I witnessed transformation. The heartbeat of our school was not only in the classrooms, but in the hallways, study sessions, meetings, and everyday moments when students lifted each other up and realized that success is not an individual journey, but a shared one.

One of our proudest accomplishments in academics was building a culture where asking for help became a sign of strength, not weakness. Through peer tutoring sessions led by student prefects, we were able to support those who struggled, while encouraging those who excelled to lead. Our goal was not only higher scores but higher belief in oneself, and that goal was met every time a student refused to give up.

Discipline was not just about rules and consequences; it was about respect. We focused on understanding, not only correcting. Instead of asking "What did you do?", we asked "Why did it happen?". We reminded each other that discipline is not about perfection but improvement. This year, we saw fewer conflicts, more problem-solving, and a school environment that felt safer and more supportive.



The SLO is more than a system—it is a family built on trust and responsibility. We learned that leadership is not the badge we wear, but the example we set when nobody is watching. This year, we achieved academically and grew in discipline. As SLO, we are not the heroes of the school—the students are. We simply helped them see the hero already within themselves. And that, more than anything else, will always be our proudest achievement.

Maven Mouawad – Head of SLO

Academic Department

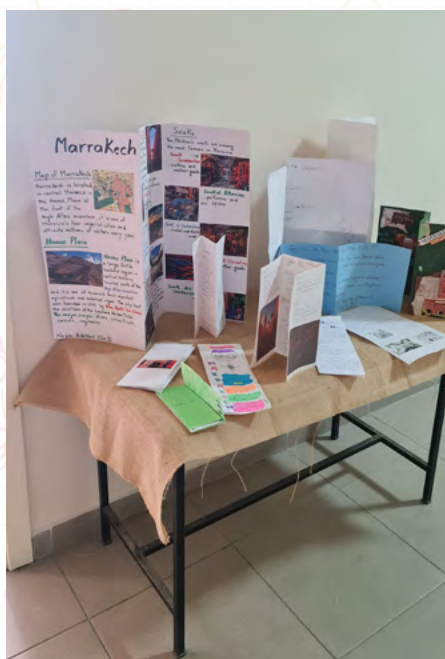
Public Speaking Workshop: Find Your Voice

Grade 10 students took part in an engaging Public Speaking Workshop designed to strengthen their communication and presentation skills. Through interactive activities, they learned how to use tone, posture, and expression to deliver powerful and confident speeches. The workshop focused on building clarity, presence, and real-world speaking techniques. A truly inspiring experience that encouraged every student to find their voice and speak with impact.



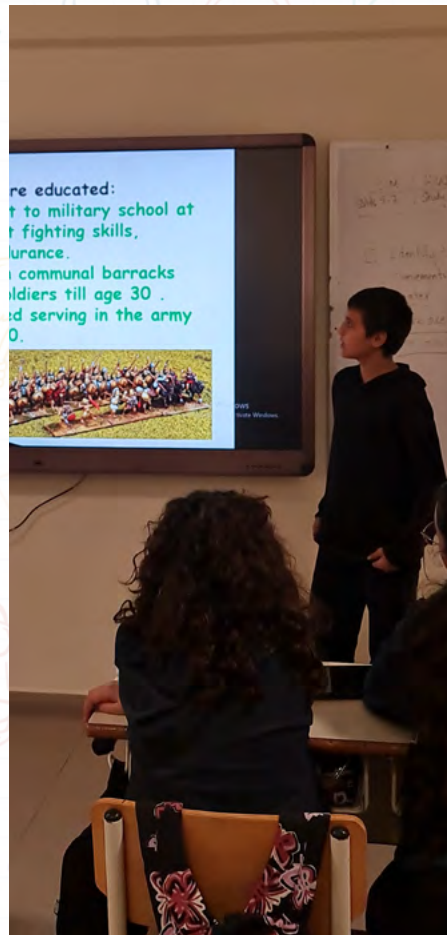
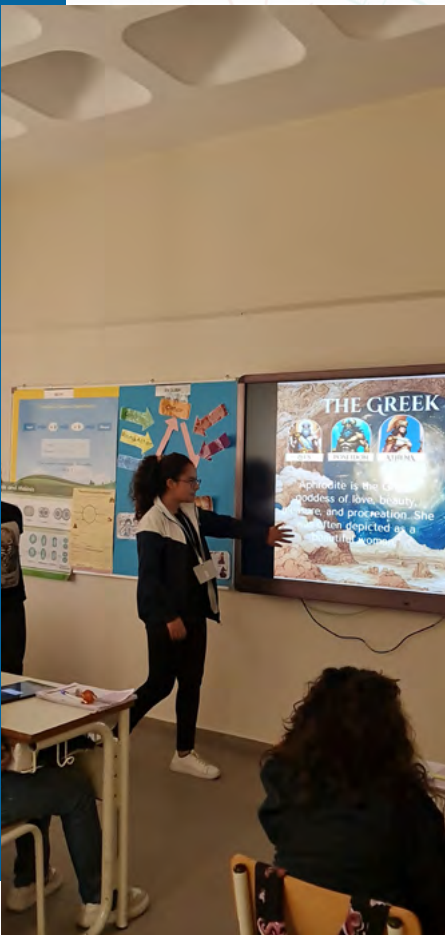
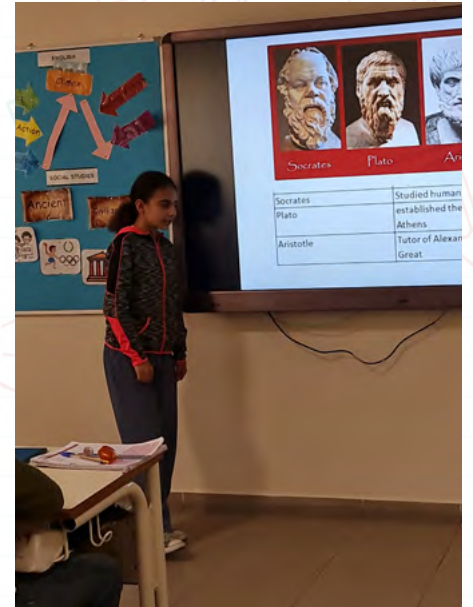
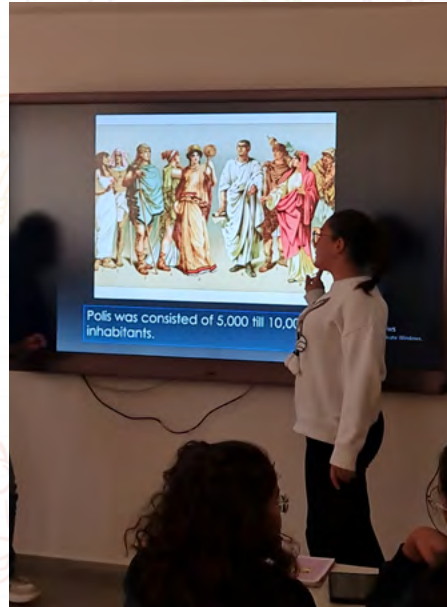
Where English Language Becomes Art

Sereen Seifeddine, a Grade 9 student, created a beautifully designed and highly creative poster about Marrakesh, Morocco. Her work demonstrated strong research skills, artistic presentation, and a deep understanding of the city's cultural and historical significance. This project highlights her dedication, attention to detail, and ability to bring information to life through visual storytelling.



The Power of Greek Mythology

Grade 7 Social Studies came alive as students stepped into the world of the Greek Civilization. Each group crafted vibrant, informative presentations that highlighted the legacy of ancient Greece—from mythology and architecture to philosophy and daily life. Their creativity and curiosity transformed the classroom into a lively historical exploration. An inspiring display of how learning can spark imagination and deep understanding.



The World in Our Hands: Discovery Day Competition

The science competition for Grades 2 and 5 was a huge success! Our young students stepped up as future scientists, demonstrating incredible curiosity and brilliant problem-solving skills. They presented a range of innovative projects reinforcing the value of hands-on STEM education and critical thinking. Congratulations to all the participants for bringing such energy and creativity to the competition!



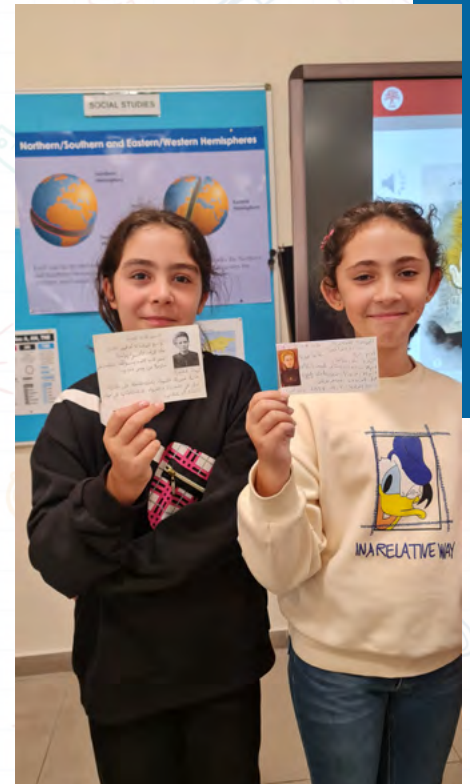
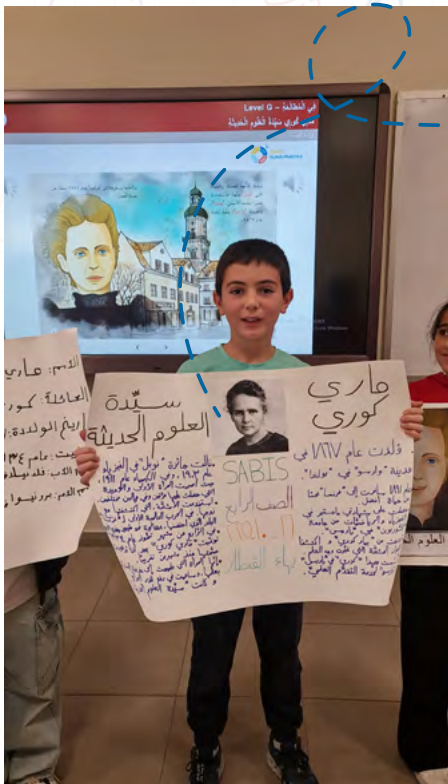
Looking Ahead: NDU Orientation Session

Our senior students attended an informative NDU orientation session designed to support their transition to higher education. The session provided valuable insights into university life, academic programs, and future opportunities, helping students make confident and informed decisions. A meaningful step in guiding our seniors as they prepare for the next chapter of their academic journey.



Marie Curie's Path through Arabic ID Cards

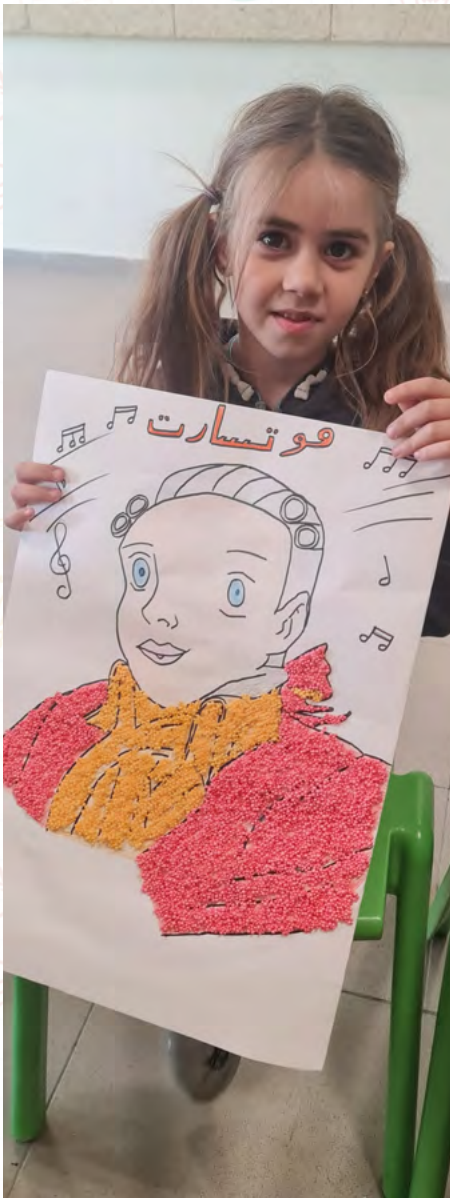
Our Grade 4 students tackled a fascinating assignment, creating personalized Arabic ID cards for their subject, Marie Curie. This activity creatively combined language arts, history, and cultural identity, encouraging students to connect historical figures to their own heritage. It was an inspiring example of interdisciplinary learning and celebrating the Arabic language!





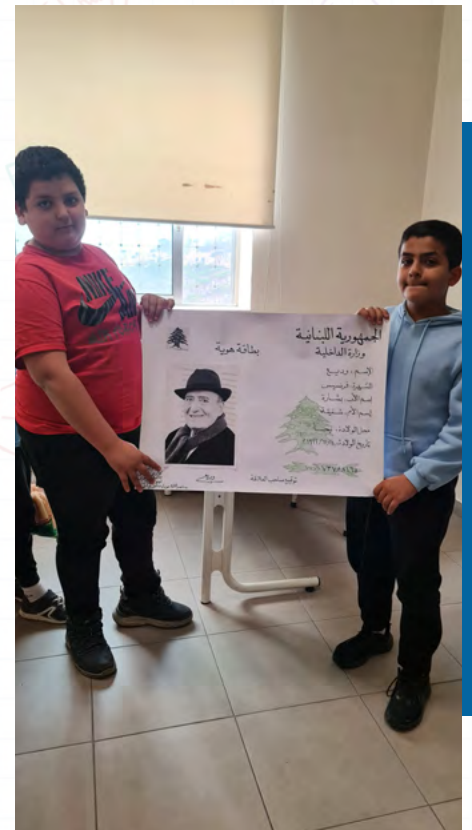
Symphony of Identity: Mozart through Arabic ID Cards

Our Grade 3 students hit a high note in this project! Students created Arabic ID cards for the legendary composer Mozart. This unique activity creatively blended music history with Arabic language arts, challenging students to apply their writing skills to global figures and celebrate the beauty of different cultures. What a harmonious way to learn!



Wadih El Safi: A Cultural Treasure

Our Grade 5 students combined cultural appreciation with community action through a thoughtful social responsibility initiative focused on the legacy of Wadih El Safi. This project encouraged students to connect with their rich Lebanese musical heritage while planning service-oriented activities. By studying El Safi's impactful life and art, students learned how cultural figures inspire dedication and positive contributions to society, reinforcing the importance of national identity and civic duty.



Discipline Department

Welcome Back to School: Ready, Set, Grow!

Creating a warm and exciting environment is key to a great start! To kick off our Welcome Back to School activities, iconic characters engaged with our students. Their presence helped ease the transition back to the routine, sparking huge smiles and setting a joyful tone for the academic year ahead.



Launch Your Legacy: SLO Job Fair

The search is on for our next dedicated student leaders! The SLO job fair was a dynamic event giving students a critical platform to explore and sign up for roles within our school's structure. This initiative is crucial for student-led learning offering valuable experience in management, teamwork, and contributing to the overall success of the school's structure. Thank you to all the student prefects who organized this insightful event!



Management Department

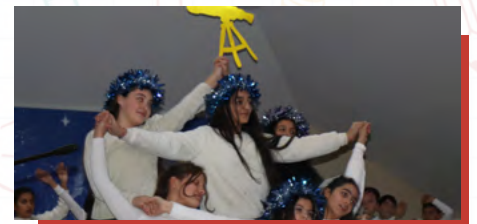
Honoring Our Heritage

Our school celebrated Lebanon's Independence Day with profound pride and enthusiasm. The festive program highlighted our rich cultural heritage through engaging sketches, patriotic songs, and a beautiful display of Lebanese traditions. It was a meaningful opportunity for our students to connect with their history and celebrate the spirit of independence and national unity.



A Holiday Performance in Loving Memory

In a moment filled with emotion and meaning, our students presented a heartfelt holiday performance in front of their parents, lovingly commemorating Mrs. Leila Saad. Through gentle melodies, expressive movements, and sincere performances, they honored her memory and kept her spirit alive in every note and gesture. The stage became a space of love, unity, and shared remembrance, reminding us that even in moments of loss, togetherness and hope continue to shine.



Sports Department

Footy Fiesta

Goal! The spirit was electric as the football tournament kicked off, brilliantly organized by the Sports Department! We saw incredible teamwork, stunning goals, and fantastic sportsmanship on the field. Congratulations to all the teams for their hard work and dedication.



Celebrating Ralph's Taekwondo Victory!

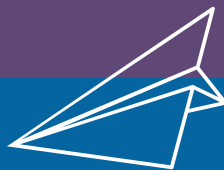
A big congratulations to our talented student, Ralph Ibrahim, for earning a well-deserved victory in his recent Taekwondo tournament! Ralph's achievement reflects not only athletic skill but also perseverance and strong character, which we value in our students. We celebrate his success and look forward to seeing him continue to shine, both inside and outside the classroom.



Wellness Department

Pink Beyond October: A Commitment to Health

Our Wellness Department successfully championed the message of hope and awareness throughout Pink October. Their campaign was dedicated to raising awareness about Cancer prevention, early detection, and supporting those affected. Students and staff showed tremendous solidarity by participating in various educational events, reinforcing the importance of proactive health checks and community support. Let's keep the awareness going all year long!



Hygiene Week – Wash, Scrub, Shine

Our Hygiene Week campaign successfully engaged students in fun and informative activities centered around essential healthy habits. From proper handwashing techniques to dental care and personal cleanliness. The focus was on establishing routines that promote overall wellness. Thank you to everyone who participated in making this week a success.



A Word from Sanita

We welcomed the experts from the Sanita company who helped raise essential health awareness at school. As part of our commitment to student wellness, Sanita provided engaging and informative lessons on the importance of personal care, germ prevention, and maintaining a healthy environment. We appreciate their partnership in helping to instill essential good hygiene practices among our students. Reinforcing those valuable lessons learned today leads to a healthier tomorrow.



Grade 12 Memory Makers

Supporting our seniors through their rigorous final year is essential! The recent Grade 12 activities featured a perfect blend of engagement and relaxation, ranging from collaborative art sessions, like painting, to a cherished shared group meal. These moments are vital for building strong bonds and encouraging peer support.



Outreach Department

Halloween: Trick or Treat

'Witch' way to the candy? Our school hallways transformed into a thrilling scene filled with spectacular costumes and grinning pumpkins for the Halloween celebration. Students and staff brought their spooky disguises, enjoying fun activities, parades, and a safe, festive atmosphere.



Lower School

SLO Students Inspire Young Readers

Our hearts melted! Dedicated SLO members stepped up as inspiring storytellers, sharing wonderful stories in the Arabic language with their KG 2, KG 3, and Grade 1 peers. This initiative promotes crucial early literacy skills and fosters a love for reading. By serving as positive peer mentors, the SLO members are actively supporting the youngest students in their language development. Reading together truly builds brilliant minds and strong community bonds!





A Fairytale Comes to Life

During their English language session, our Grade 2 students brought the classic fairytale Cinderella to life through a charming in-class performance. With confident voices and joyful expressions, the children demonstrated their creativity, teamwork, and growing language skills. The performance turned the classroom into a magical learning space, making the experience both educational and memorable.



The Desk Ninja Cleanliness Mission

Our students took part in the exciting 'Desk Ninja' activity, where each child earned a ninja badge based on the cleanliness and organization of their desk. Students had fun comparing their badges, motivating one another, and discovering how a tidy desk can boost focus and productivity. A playful and effective classroom routine that turns organization into a daily achievement!





Social Responsibility

Building a Resilient Future

Our Grade 4 students participated in a dynamic extracurricular activity designed to connect science to crucial real-world issues. Topics included the principles of sustainable energy, demonstrated through wind power models, and critical lessons in community safety, focusing on managing and understanding the risks associated with floods and other natural phenomena.





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DEBATE



POETRY
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SPEAKING



SINGING

PAINTING



CREATIVE
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