

Elementary School Newsletter

June 7, 2018



Message from the Elementary Principal

Dear Parents,

Over the past 9 months, our students have been engaged in learning activities which have helped them explore, make connections, have fun and grow. In what seems like the blink of an eye we have arrived at the end of our school year.

As a staff, there were two general themes to our work this year. The first was looking for ways to make meaningful experiences for each child in their learning; to "make their moment." I truly hope you and your child can recall those experiences and moments at TAISM that have been significant and meaningful to them.

The second theme for our staff this year was to help our students look with wonder and inquiry at the world we live in. As we head into the summer, I invite you to think about their year of learning. You may want to even go back and look at your child's work, their pictures and anything else from the beginning of the year. Making connections with peers and the world around us has been a purposeful part of our work. In a lot of ways, the students' growth is a great example of the wonderment of change and learning.

We wish you a summer full of wonderful memories, time to recharge and safe travels. For our families returning in the fall, we look forward to welcoming you back to school during our Registration Days on August 26th and 27th and school starting on August 28th, 2018. For our families leaving TAISM, we wish you well on your educational and life journeys and hope to cross paths again someday. Please make a point to stop back and see us! Many do! And to everyone in our TAISM community, thank you for the opportunity to work with your children and share in making TAISM such a great place to learn and grow.

Sincerely,
Dan Hovland
Elementary Principal

Goodbyes

**Thank you to all of our departing staff for all you've done for and meant to our TAISM Community.
Wishing everyone well on their journeys beyond TAISM.**



DeLana Brink - Kindergarten

After over a decade of teaching at TAISM, Mrs. Brink is stepping out of the classroom as she returns to the US. She has been a calm and caring presence in the Kindergarten program for many years. Previous to that, she also taught in Early Childhood and Student Support. Wherever she has been, she's always an advocate for her student and learning. Mrs. Brink will be spending time in both the US and Oman next year so be sure to greet her when you see her around TAISM.



Carla McCleod - Early Childhood

Carla is moving back to her home country, New Zealand. She's been an integral part of our early childhood program, always wearing a smile and going the added distance to ensure meaningful learning and social experiences in her classroom. Her enthusiasm and nurturing demeanor will be greatly missed.



Aaron Braszell - Grade 3

Mr. Braszell has spent the last 3 years providing students with fun and meaningful learning experiences. He will be moving on from TAISM to teach next year in Brazil. His presence in the third grade as well as on the TAISM pool deck will be greatly missed.



Chris Lang - Grade 4

Mr. Lang has been a part of our fourth-grade team and elementary staff for the past 4 years. He is returning to teach in his home state of California. He'll be remembered for his enthusiasm for learning and his care for his students

Message from the Director

Dear TAISM Parents:

As the 2017-18 school year comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support of your child's education in partnership with the school. For those families who are relocating, we offer our best wishes as your children progress onward in their education. For those returning, we look forward to seeing you at the Student Final Registration on August 26-27.

Please note TAISM's office hours for the summer 2018.

Sincerely,
Kevin Schafer, Director



TAISM Office Hours during Summer

During Ramadan (June 10-June 13):

Office hours will be from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Eid Holidays (June 14-18):

School offices will remain closed from June 14 to June 18 in observance of the Eid Al Fitr Holidays. Offices will reopen on Tuesday, June 19

After Eid (June 19- July 31):

Office hours will be from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. School offices will be closed on July 23 in observance of Oman Renaissance Day

August 1 onwards:

School offices will resume its normal operating hours from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Message from the Parent Volunteer Coordinator

Uniform Sales:

In the SY 2018-2019, there will be a uniform sale during the student registration days and during the first week of school. This uniform sale is managed by our parent volunteers. We need your help and support with this uniform sale and also to assist new families during the registration days.

If you are here during that week, please do consider volunteering. Please copy the below mentioned link in your browser to sign up for any of the available slots. You can sign up for more than one slot.

<http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0D4FABA92FA0F49-school1>

Room Parents:

Room parents are the magic ingredient of every elementary school year. Without these critical volunteers helping our teachers, planning celebrations and communicating with parents in the classroom, school would be a much duller and less organized place.

If you are an ES parent and, are interested in being a room parent for your child's class, for the SY 2018-2019, please complete the form by accessing this link:-

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfsq8px5xXFnhqSvcPdT5prTjzrW9Eh9TTi3WOfTaJpf38wTQ/viewform>

For any further information, please contact Natasha Fernandes, Parent Volunteer Coordinator at

fernandesna@taism.com

Grade 5 Promotion Ceremony



Grade 1 Publishing Party



Grade 2 Publishing Party



Message from the Health Office

The end of the school year is fast approaching. It's been a busy year in our office and we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your assistance and cooperation concerning the health of your children.

The health of the students is always our top priority and with this in mind could we ask you to check any immunizations or booster vaccines that might need to be given over the summer holidays. If there is any new health information or updates that need to be done, please let us know and we'll update your child's healthcare documentation.

We wish you a happy and healthy summer vacation and we're looking forward to seeing you in August.

For those families who are moving on, we wish you well in your new ventures.
Nurses Carla, Deb & Lea



Thank You Bus Drivers and Monitors

In recognition of the exceptional work done by the bus drivers and monitors for the school year 2017-18, TAISM and the contracted transportation company, Sahban United LLC, awarded the drivers and monitors a certificate and a letter of appreciation on Monday, June 4, 2018.

Ali Al Yaqoobi
Saif Al Jalboobi
Dawood Al Shukaili
Abdullah Al Sinaidi
Saif Al Yaqoobi

Jennifer Clive
Mercy M
Mumtaz S
Sathy Babu
Fathima Roshana



Message from the ES Library

At TAISM it has been a tradition to encourage students to read throughout the summer. Research has shown that students who engage in reading over the summer can prevent the loss of reading skills developed during the school year. However, we do not want reading to become a tedious chore for the students or parents over the summer. Students were given a chance to set their summer reading goal.

Students decided what or how they might read this summer. Some students have chosen to read a book a week or a certain amount of pages. Other students continued with a different approach like reading a certain amount of time each week. The library encourages all types of goals including wanting to become an expert in a subject, reading through all the books in a new series, reading all the books by a specific author. The main focus is that students will be encouraged to continue reading and learning in a way that is not restrictive or binding.

As an additional extra, we will create a collage of students reading during the summer. If you can take a picture of your child reading over the summer and send it to us. We will feature all the students reading to achieve their goal in a display outside of the library. To keep the process simple for parents, just attach the photo of your child reading to an email to eslibrary@taism.com with Summer Reading in the subject line. Photos can be submitted at any time during the summer.

Parents should have received their child's summer reading goal on Tuesday this week. If you did not receive an email it is most likely your child was absent when we set reading goals. To set a reading goal or replace a goal that is set below or beyond their reach, please use [this link](#) or the QR code pictured. This will take you to a form to fill out. Once the form is submitted, a computer will send a document to the email specified in the form with the summer reading goals. These goals are to encourage students to continue reading during the summer months.



TAISM Summer Reading

Keep flexing your reading muscles!

This resource guide includes fun, educational websites and databases for kids as well as articles for parents.

Have a great summer!

ARTICLES

Tips for parents to get kids reading [Get kids reading](#)

No More Dreadful Summer Reading Lists Please! [No lists please](#)

How to read aloud with your kids [Read aloud](#)

Reading tips for parents [Tips for parents](#)

Ideas, goals and tips [bookopolis](#)

Bookopolis -select grade for reading suggestions

- ❖ [Grade 2 book list](#)
- ❖ [Grade 3 book list](#)
- ❖ [Grade 4 book list](#)
- ❖ [Grade 5 book list](#)

Read Books Online

Tumblebooks

Username: taism
Password: books

Online collection of animated, talking picture books. Includes read alongs, e-books, graphic novels, audio books and educational videos.

2018 ALSC Summer reading list

American Library Association Summer Reading. [Birth-Grade 8](#)

Safe Internet Searching & Other Fun Online Activities

Great Websites for Kids 
American Library Services for Children
<http://www.ala.org/>

National Geographic Kids 
<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/>

Internet Public Library for Kids 
<http://www.ipl.org/div/kidspace>
Guided internet searching on vetted websites

Brain Pop Jr. 
<https://jr.brainpop.com/>

Username: taismpop
Password: 371eagles

Learn about variety of subjects through video clips, interactive games, and more.

Start Squad [start.squad](#) 

Guided internet searching on vetted websites.

Literacy & Learning

Mind/Shift: Summer Learning Series <http://www2.kqed.org/mindshift/tag/summer-learning-series>

Reading Planet [reading planet](http://readingplanet.org/)

Livebinders: Literacy Resources for Parents <http://www.livebinders.com/play/play?id=1627632>

PBS Kids <http://pbskids.org/>

Databases

Bookopolis [bookopolis](#)

Pebblego 
<http://www.pebblego.com/login>

Username: muscat
Password: muscat

A fun new database that includes videos, sounds and interactive learning about animals, earth, space and biographies of famous people.

World Book Online 
<http://www.worldbookonline.com/>

Username: taism
Password: eagles

Summer time is coming and students will have a chance to read all day long, if they wish. Unfortunately, the school library is closing for the summer. For students who are not traveling to another country, we have an online resource to provide books to your child. Tumblebooks is a subscription service all of our students can use. Tumblebooks has over a 1000 books online as e-books. To access the site, go to tumblebooklibrary.com. In the upper right corner, you will see the login and password. Use 'Taism' as the login and 'books' as the password. There are many of the same types of books you will find in the library. For other resources click the links above.

Enjoy reading and have a great summer.

Elementary School Library

