

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Thursday October 5, 2017



The HS Community Service is gearing up for WORLD FOOD DAY. On behalf of Dar-Al-Atta, we are collecting food items for the less privileged in Oman. Students & parents are requested to donate non-perishable items like the ones mentioned below:

Rice - Flour - Sugar - Milk - Coffee - Tea - Wheat Oil - Dates - Canned Food - Legumes

Boxes are located in the HS Atrium. Please donate before 9th October. Your contributions will be much appreciated.

Give a Little!!

PSAT/NMSQT is a standardized test that provides firsthand practice for the SAT Reasoning Test. It also gives students a chance to enter National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) scholarship programs. The PSAT measures critical reading, math and writing skills developed over many years, both in and out of school. The test measures a student's reasoning and critical thinking skills. The test provides feedback about an individual student. Colleges do not see the results of the test as it is only a practice test.

*Ms. Kelly met with the Grade 10 students; and Ms. Brown has met with all Grade 11 students. In the meetings, information was given about the PSAT tests. On **Wednesday, October 11th**, the PSAT will be given to interested grade 10 and all grade 11 students @ TAISM. Students have also received a brochure with information on the PSAT which included a practice test. The students were asked to take the brochure home and share it with their parents. Please ask them for the brochure!*

If you have any question regarding the PSAT, please contact Ms. Brown (brownnc@taism.com).



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear TAISM High School Parents:

Life is filled with wonderful and inspiring experiences. For me, it is hard to beat the wonder and inspiration associated with learning, for myself and for others. It is wonderful to witness the confidence and joy that accompany a student's newly found efficacy. A student's perseverance when facing a concept they haven't mastered yet or a skill they can't perform yet is inspiring. Our TAISM Mission and Core Beliefs guide us to these and similar goals for student learning.

Learning is an ongoing process, and periodically we pause and take greater notice of the growth that is occurring. It is our plan that in two weeks, on Thursday, October 19th, first semester progress reports will be shared with high school students and parents via email. These progress reports will be written during the next two weeks, first by the students as they complete their self assessments next week, and then by each student's teachers when they write their comments the following week. I encourage you to inquire about the self assessment process with your daughter or son during the coming week.

Student self-assessment has been shown to contribute positively to learning. The process of goal setting and self-assessment provides students with opportunities to develop the mindsets and skills necessary to take greater ownership of their own learning. As part of the high school progress reporting process, each student will assess their academic achievement and their level of performance on the High School Behaviors That Support Learning (preparation, organization, engagement, perseverance, collaboration) for each of their courses. They will do so by describing their academic achievement and performance on the Behaviors That Support Learning, and by citing evidence to support their claims. Teachers will respond to and give feedback on each student's self-assessment. Thus, each student's progress report will consist of the student's self-assessment and the teachers' feedback and comments for each of their courses.

Academic Achievement: Each student's academic achievement in a class is assessed with reference to well-defined learning outcomes (what a student needs to know, understand, and be able to do) for that class. These outcomes are based on standards for that class, and they are communicated to students in a variety of ways. There are course descriptions outlining the key learning outcomes associated with each class in PowerSchool, which can be accessed through the Student/Parent Portal.

Behaviors That Support Learning: A student's academic success is significantly influenced by behaviors that include preparation, organization, engagement, perseverance, and collaboration. Because of their importance, and in order to maintain the integrity of our reporting on student learning, these Behaviors That Support Learning are assessed and reported separately in our grading and reporting process.

In the paragraph above I referred to students' "mindsets necessary to take greater ownership of their own learning." These mindsets include Carol Dweck's concept of a growth mindset, which I referenced in newsletters last year. Dweck writes that in "a growth mindset, people believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work - brains and talent are just the starting point. This view creates a love of learning and a resilience that is essential for great accomplishment."

A growth mindset is nurtured by teachers and parents in a learning community that believe in the potential for each student to grow and develop, and it is facilitated by processes that include goal setting and self assessment. We believe that the purposeful and guided inclusion of self assessment for our students supports and helps them further develop this growth mindset. Learning isn't something that happens to them, they are an active participant in their own learning.

If you are interested in learning more about Carol Dweck's work, the following items can be found online:

- Education Week article titled **Carol Dweck Revisits the 'Growth Mindset'**
- Two similar video presentations by Carol Dweck, each
- approximately 10 minutes in length:
 - Carol Dweck **Developing a growth mindset**
 - Ted Talk titled **Carol Dweck: The Power of believing that you can improve**

Sincerely,
Richard Petersen
High School Principal



**STRONG SWIMMERS
CONFIDENT KIDS**

Learn to Swim Session 1
Saturday, October 21:
Assessment & Registration
@ the TAISM POOL.

Saturday, November 4: Lesson #1
Saturday, November 11: Lesson #2
Saturday, November 18: Lesson #3
Saturday, December 9: Lesson #4
Saturday, December 16: Lesson #5
Saturday, January 13: Lesson #6
Saturday, January 20: Lesson #7

*Contact Ms. Cori Lee (Aquatics Coordinator) on
leec@taism.com if you have any inquiries*

Lunch Menu



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Pepperoni OR Margherita Pizza Garlic Bread Garlic Bread Steamed Finger Carrots	Spaghetti with Chicken OR Vegetable Alfredo Raw Cut Vegetables	Beef OR Chili Bean Tacos Guacomole Sauce & Lettuce Raw Cut Vegetables	Grilled Chicken Sausage OR Cottage Cheese Sliders Steamed Rice / Mashed Potato Steamed Broccoli	Mini Beef Burger OR Veggie Burger Roasted Potato Chips Mayo Coleslaw Frozen Fresh Fruit Juice (Healthy Ice Cream) Fresh Fruit Juice/Milk/Water
Whole Fruit Fresh Fruit Juice/Milk/Water	Mango Mousse Fresh Fruit Juice/Milk/Water	Whole Fruit Fresh Fruit Juice/Milk/Water	Chocolate Cupcake Fresh Fruit Juice/Milk/Water	Fresh Fruit Juice/Milk/Water
Soup: Lentil Salad Bar (1.000 OMR)	Soup: Leek & Potato Salad Bar (1.000 OMR)	Soup: Cream of Tomato Salad Bar (1.000 OMR)	Soup: Cream of Mushroom Salad Bar (1.000 OMR)	Soup: Cream of Broccoli Salad Bar (1.000 OMR)

HS ART



HS Painting 2 students demonstrate their proficiency at creating texture in these whimsical anthropomorphic animals.

Artists: Allegra Barblonga, Ethan Brink, Monica Falla, Antonia Grosoiu, Sara Alawarm, Maren Lee, Mary Ann Vacha

GAMES LAST WEEK:



CHOIR COFFEE HOUSE:



Scenes from Thursday's Choir Coffee House - an amazing evening of talent and entertainment from the students of the HS Concert Choir and Kindred Chamber Choir.

Pic Credit: Nicole Bradbury-Becx (TAISM PR)

STUDENT LEARNING:



Mr. Carl Spilles' Modern Middle East History students are discussing and asking questions about their reading on the origins of the Arab- Israeli Conflict.

Pic Credit:
Mrs. Paige Spilles
HS Librarian

PICTURES - CLASS OF 2018:



The Class of 2018 was invited to the Elementary School Assembly on Wednesday, where they were enthusiastically applauded by the students from EC-1 to Grade 5.

Mr. Hovland (ES Principal) thanked our seniors for being good role models and wished them the best in their senior year and university.

Thank you Mr. Hovland for making our seniors feel special and for cheering them on.

Picture Credit: Ms. Paige Spilles (HS Librarian)



Rehearsals for the HS Fall Play "The Hope & Heartache Diner". The shows are scheduled for Nov. 10th & 11th (7 pm) & Nov. 12th (2 pm) at the Bosch Center for the Performing Arts.

Pic Credit: Ms. Kris Hovland (MS/HS Drama Teacher)