

Full of Inviting Colors.....

Mission finally accomplished!! During the months of June and July 2009 , many hands got together to bring change to the library. While book shelves were emptied and dismantled, the library was like a busy beehive with alumni volunteering to give a hand to the teachers to accomplish the work..

We take this opportunity to thank heartily the dear friend of Rawdat El Zuhur, Ms. Elizabeth Burr for her help during that period!



The library is now dressed in blue, orange, and yellow colors! The colors are soft, and the display of books is so attractive that makes the library very inviting and comfortable for the Children.



The addition of square poufs and some bean bags added a more relaxed atmosphere to this new haven for the children.

Once again we wish to seize this opportunity to thank the friends of the late Samir Habash whose donations in lieu of flowers went allocated to the renovation of the library. Thanks go to other friends who supported this project as well

Palestine Investment Fund
Basem and Muna Hishmeh Fund
Mr. Tim and Mrs. Sue Wells
Ms. Jenny Bond
The Friends Boys School (2008-2009)
(From the proceeds of a bake and sell activity)



Summer Activities

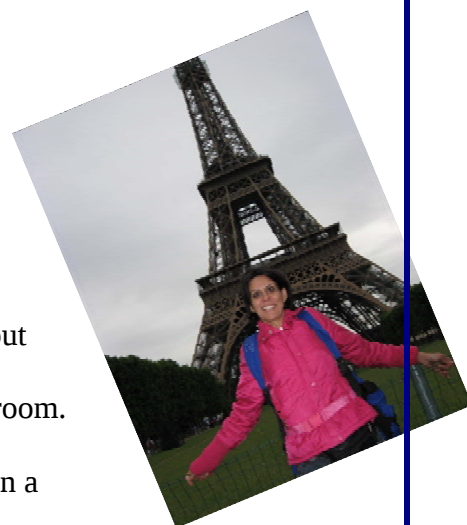


Seven students enjoyed a special music experience at the Edward Said National Conservatory of Music. For a period of three weeks (June 27-July 17, 2009) they attended a music workshop on a daily basis from 3-7 pm, and were introduced to different instruments.

Off To Paris

The French Consulate supports a training workshop for the French Teacher " Ms. Juliana Tourjman".

Juliana spent time in France during the month of June 2009 to learn about the French culture and specifically to spend time working on issues of Dyslexic and hyperactive children and how to engage them in the classroom. She takes this opportunity to thank the French Consulate and the school administration for this great opportunity from which benefited greatly on a professional and personal level as well.



A Workshop in Bologna

Dina Al-Basha, the director of the nursery section at the school was one of eighteen pre school teachers from different nurseries in Jerusalem who were invited to a training workshop in Bologna-Italy, sponsored by the Palestinian Municipalities support program with the partnership of Regione Emilia Romagna and Arci-Bologna . The trip was organized through the Early Childhood Centre in Jerusalem.

The Workshop concentrated on the exchange of experiences, and the participants were taken to a number of nurseries where they were exposed to different systematic approaches of dealing with nursery children.

Dina was impressed by the system in Italy, whereby the municipality takes care of the registration, the nurseries, and their budgets, along other things.

Dina also liked the involvement of retired people in activities at the nurseries, such as story telling, playing with the children, baking and whatever they could do with them.

The Global Ministries General Assembly in Indianapolis

Maha Meo, staff member responsible for the sponsorship program, was invited to attend the general assembly of the global ministries in Indianapolis from July 26-August 2, 2009 where almost 6000 people were present. Maha gave presentations about the school and the role of the global Ministries substantial support which we hope would be helpful to encourage sponsors to continue being involved in the sponsorship program.

Off to Morocco

Two of the school alumni, Majdal Hjouj (class of 2007) and Mouhanad Qawasmi (class of 2007)were invited to participate in a training session, concentrating on folklore dancing, singing, drama and creative writing during the month of July 2009 in Morocco.

The training targeted children ages 13-15 years of age and it was organized through the Union of Charitable Organizations in Jerusalem.

Majdal and Mouhanad benefited from the training, as it was a very enriching experience. And of course they also enjoyed the highlights of Morocco!



Eyes shown as they saw the new Toys

Nursery and Kindergarten children were so happy to see the new toys in their class rooms and other toys that were put in the playground. They also put half of the soft tiles in the playground area. This was possible by a project with the Early Childhood Centre funded by the Italian government and managed by the Palestinian Municipality Support Program. The second half of the Nursery play area was soft tiled through the support of the Global Ministries Group-Sponsorship program.

Thank you all for letting the children play safely and happily!



Beginning of the new scholastic year 2009-2010

The new scholastic year started with bringing on board a new English teacher "Ms. Reema Akkawi " after the resignation of Ms Linda Nasrawi due to health issues. And a new accountant " Ms. Caroline Mina" after the retirement of Mrs Hiyam Tarazi.

This year the school lost 22 students due to the checkpoints and the oppressive wall. The number of students for this year is 222; 115 girls and 107 boys.

Helping Hands

All the students at Rawdat El Zuhur enjoyed their gifts prepared by the students of Brigham Young University – Jerusalem.

Packages were given to students at the beginning of the school year, on the 3rd of Sept 2009.

The packages contained towels, soap, tooth brush, toothpaste and combs. Some how the white towels seemed very symbolic, and the gifts were greatly appreciated. We take this opportunity to thank the students as well as the administration of BYU for this generous gesture.

Visitors

The Healing hand of the global Ministries –Sponsorship group visited Rawdat El Zuhur on the 7th of Sept 2009. The group spent the whole school day with the children , staff and administration. They toured the school and got involved in the different activities throughout the day.

A group got their energy out by joining the youngest ones-the nursery class. They taught the children the Hockey Pokey. The children really enjoyed it, as they wiggled and shook their hands and legs. Three circles were formed and everyone was putting their right hands in while others were taking their left hands out! It was quite a sight.....



The children themselves felt they could contribute with their talents, and taught the visitors a song in Arabic.

Another group got involved in story telling –Everybody got comfortable into the poufs and were really enjoying the details of the story.

Faces became red and beads of sweat started to form as the group got involved in learning some basic “dabkeh” (folk dancing) steps. They got some rest while watching classes 4 and 5 dancing the “dabkeh” lightly and elegantly.

It was really such an enjoyable day both for the children, and the visitors !

Thank you Global Ministries for this wonderful day....

The Latest Visitors

Mr. & Mrs. Mel Keiser dropped at the school with Mrs Samia Khoury on the 26th of Sep. 2009 . Their words: "Wonderful! The children are vibrant, so alive and bright eyed. They are clearly enjoying their education".

Mr & Mrs Sam Seikaly surprised us all on the 29th of Sep. with a short but sweet visit. Their words: " It is always a pleasure to visit the school and see the children".

We wish to acknowledge thanks to our donors
from June 1 – September 30, 2009

- Associated Ministries of Tacoma
- Ms. Elizabeth Burr
- Mr. Donald & Mrs.Gloria Delaplain
- Global Ministries (for the soft tiles in the nursery area)
- Mrs Samia Halaby
- Mrs. Lucy Khoury

Donors

- Ms. Linda Lawrence
- Family and friends in Memory of Maurice Michon
- Mr & Mrs Salmon
- Mr. & Mrs Sam Seikaly