



Jeddah Prep and Grammar School Keeping in touch...

Head Master's Headlines: 31/10/16

UNITED NATIONS DAY

United Nations Day, a long and proud tradition at JPGS was celebrated on Monday 24th October in both the Prep and Grammar Schools. The day mirrored the diversity that exists in our School as staff and students alike came to school in their national dress.

During the day, a variety of events took place to expose the children to the range of cultures across the globe. For example, special international cuisine was served to students during break times. The Prep School met in the afternoon with an informative assembly in the Junior Hall, which was decorated with flags from around the world. The students learnt about the aims of the United Nations Organisation and its achievements since 1945. The final item

of the assembly was *A Song of Peace*, led beautifully by Leema Almrstani and Class 5RE. This was followed by an indoor parade in the Junior Hall to showcase the dazzling array of spectacular costumes.

In the Grammar School, a special assembly took place on Tuesday to raise awareness of the United Nations and the important work the organisation has done for global peace, poverty and education. Pupils watched the passionate speech of Malala Yousefzi at the UN when she so memorably championed the cause for girl's education. Lots of fun was had in amongst the reinforcement of our values of mutual respect and cultural dexterity.

NURSERY GO WIRELESS

Over the last week we have launched our new Digital Literacy programme through the use of iPads in our Nursery/F1 classes.

Digital technology is part of children's everyday lives and JPGS realises that education needs to be made ever more relevant to children's daily experiences. The potential and possibilities for using ICT in the Early Years Foundation Stage are exciting and JPGS balances digital learning with hands-on experiences that are crucial to the development of the child. The children will use apps to

develop a broad range of skills, including reinforcement of the learning of the basics about letters, numbers, shapes and colours, as well as drawing and even composing music. The children will also use iPads to take photos which is a great way for them to capture the special moments at the centre of their learning. Children love looking back at such photos, and discussing them is a highly effective way of developing oral skills. We, at JPGS, feel that enriching the children's learning with digital technology will have a very positive effect on their development.



Our youngest pupils using iPads for ICT

How to contact us

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SPORTS REPORT: SAIKAC U19 VOLLEYBALL

On 27th October, the JPGS Under 19 Girls Volleyball team travelled to KAUST to compete in the SAIKAC Volleyball competition. After an early departure, the team arrived full of beans and ready for the two days of volleyball ahead. The first game of the day saw our team in action in a close fought game against BISJ who won 25-22,25-20. The girls played some excellent volleyball, but fell just short.

The team's second match was against a new but well coached Dammam team. Unfortunately tenacity, dedication and passion was no match for the Dammam team who won 25-12,25-14. However, the commitment shown by our team was total: a highlight of the game was when Farah Bayram slid for the ball and won it, but slipped right under the net, so great was her desire to do her best.

The final two games of the day were back to back fixtures against the American School of Riyadh and KAUST, two excellent teams, one of which was to become the eventual winners. JPGS fought all the way to end, never giving up and receiving plaudits from all around.

Day 2 arrived and with another early start the girls were a little nervous of the day ahead. The first game was against a spirited Yanbu team. The results did not go the way of the team, but the girls stuck at the task and committed to the end they played with a smile on their faces and enjoyed every minute of the competition.

Many thanks to Mr Santos who helped chaperone and coach the team for the SAIKAC Competition.



JPGS HOSTS CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS

On Sunday this week, whilst most of the School was enjoying a much deserved day off, the campus was still in use hosting the Cambridge International Examinations Principals Forum for the Eastern Region.

We were extremely grateful to Raed Omar, the Senior Manager of CIE in KSA and Bahrain for extending the opportunity to be the first school in the region to host such a conference. There was a great turnout to the event, with over sixty delegates in attendance from across the Hijaz province. Some of our guests travelled from as far as Jizan to join us.

Jonathan Warner, the Head Master, opened the conference with a presentation and discussion on the

essential role of risk in education, and how our schools can put this into practical effect. Raed was extremely informative in updating the assembled audience of owners, governors, principals and examinations officers with the latest updates from the changes to the examination systems in the UK, and CIE's responses. A lively debate followed. The event closed with a highly pertinent presentation on building a whole school transition and development strategy, delivered by Basma Bushnak of Emkan Education.

We must thank Raza Jamroz, Jumana Daoud and our technical, maintenance and catering teams for their efforts in making the event such a success. We look forward to the next.



Over sixty delegates met at the School

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COMMUNICATIONS AND CONSULTATION

This week, we are requesting your input to improve our data regarding every child in the School, in part to ensure reliable communication and also to provide a more individualised education for every pupil.

A separate form is required to be completed for each child in the School. Your prompt return of completed forms to the School reception is highly appreciated so we can update our database.

We are also requesting your input in a number of consultation periods regarding our future plans. Firstly, all parents should have received an invitation to comment and make suggestions on our proposed term dates for the Academic Year 2017-18. These have been displayed on our website for some time, and we wish to finalise them to enable families to plan for the future. Once this is complete, we shall soon the discussion process to consider the plans for the following academic year of 2018-19.

Before the end of November, we shall be releasing an online survey regarding the enrichment programme. This is aimed at pupils and parents alike, to aid us in formulating next term's programme. We aim to develop and extend those areas which have already proven successful and popular and provide a broader range of physical and skill-based activities for every child in the school, at every age level. Your feedback in all these areas is highly important to School development and we encourage you most strongly to make your voice heard. Thanks in advance!

School Calendar update: upcoming at JPGS

WEEK 10 Oct/Nov	Monday 31	0715-0730 1415-1515 1430-1515 2345	Charity Day: Dress in Pink (fundraising for Breast Cancer Research) Whole Staff Briefing, <i>Prep School Hall</i> Student Council Meeting, <i>GD3</i> House Team Meetings, <i>Sports Hall, Prep School Hall and Gym</i> Cultural Trip to Cappadocia, Turkey returns
	Tuesday 1	0750-0845 1430-1630	House Assemblies, <i>Sports Hall, Prep School Hall and Gym</i> Senior Leadership Team Meeting, <i>HM's Study</i>
	Wednesday 2	1530-1730	Parents' Meetings for pupils in Prep School (Nursery to Six), Prep School classrooms and specialist classrooms
	Thursday 3	1414-1515 1430-1515	Parental Meeting: New York Trip, Prep School Hall University Entrance Presentation: Durham University, Sixth form Common Room
	Friday 4		
	Saturday 5	0900-1200 0900-1200	Grammar School Production Rehearsal, Prep School Hall Active Sports Session, Sports Hall
WEEK 11 Nov	Sunday 6	All Week 0715-0730 0800 0830	SLT Learning Walk: Years One and Two Whole Staff Briefing, <i>Prep School Hall</i> Whole School Photographs, Sports Field <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prep School • Grammar School
	Monday 7	1415-1515 1430-1515	Student Council Meeting, <i>GD3</i> Whole Staff Meeting, <i>Prep School Hall</i>
	Tuesday 8	0750-0845 1430-1630	Whole School Assembly (Y1-13): 'Remembrance Day', <i>Sports Hall</i> Senior Leadership Team Meeting, <i>HM's Study</i>
	Wednesday 9	1515-1600	Head Master's Presentation for Parents: Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, Prep School Hall
	Thursday 10		
	Friday 11	1000-1100	Remembrance Day Service (Invitation only), UK Consulate
	Saturday 12	0800-1100 0900-1200 0900-1200	JPGS Invitational Meet, Swimming Pool Grammar School Production Rehearsal, Prep School Hall Active Sports Session, Sports Hall