

# MARCH—APRIL 2018 NEWSLETTER

## **Election Days**

The week of Sunday March 25th to Thursday March 29th, 2018 School day, for students will begin at 8:00 am and conclude at 1:00 pm (Note—Saturday March 24th, 2018—will NOT be a school day)

# **Spring Break**

Spring Break—Friday March 30th to Monday April 9th. The first day for classes - Tuesday April 10th, 2018.

# SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

March 25th—Term 4 begins

March 25th—
Parent Advisory
Council Meeting—
8:00 am start time

March 25th to March 29thelection week school hours will be from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm

March 30th to April 9th — Spring Break

March 30th to April 8th—Senior Trip

April 10th—first day of school after the spring break

April 15th to 19th Book Fair

April 15th—Third Term Report Cards will be issued

April 15th to April 26th—MAP Testing—grades 3 to 9

April 25th—Sinai Day—School Holiday

April 30th—KG— Donuts for Dads

#### **Sport Partnership**

As noted in the February Newsletter DAIS has entered into a sports partnership with five other international schools. These schools include Egypt American International School (EAIS), British Ramses School (BRS), B.B.C., Manhattan American International School (MAIS) and Akhnaton American International School (AAIS). On March 5th, 6th and 7th DAIS hosted a basketball tournament between the four schools. There was strong sportsmanship displayed by who participated. The participates were all well coached, as was demonstrated in the play that took place on the courts. Scoring in all games was close, no one team dominated the tournament. Results for the high school competition found DAIS taking first place. Our middle school team took second place in their tournament. Elementary was very successful, taking first place during their designated day of play. We are very proud of all our students they demonstrated excellent spirit and played with discipline throughout the games.

### **Parent Advisory Council**

The Parent Advisory Council met on Sunday February 25th. Ms. Marwa's Presentation was well received. Covering areas of the curriculum, learning differentiation, Blooms etc. She also used the time to highlight the special needs center located at DA-IS. All guestions asked by the Committee Members were addressed. Mr. Chuck distributed a "draft" of the Advisory Committee Reference Policy for the Advisory Committee Members to review and discuss next meeting. Implementation of the policy will take place next academic year. Ms. Suzanne provided a guick review of the school calendar for next year. First semester exams took place before the December break this year. Upon review of this practice it was found that the first two terms were cut too short. This resulted in unit planning being truncated, student assessment being rushed and less

time to plan and implement special events. Most special days this year have taken place after the December Break. To better accommodate these concerns the school calendar needs to be adjusted for next year. Instructional days for each term will be more evenly distributed. To accommodate this change, semester one exams will take place after the December break in 2018-2019. Exams after the Winter Break will allow enough time for revision. Students will also be given the time to better prepare for Ministry exams. Ms. Suzanne also shared the accreditation latest updates, she noted that our next AdvancED Accreditation will be in 2020. As for the Middle States, our application has been accepted and a representative from Middle State may come during April, preferably before Ramadan. Next Meeting will be held on Sunday March 25th, 2018.

#### **Spelling Bee**

Our annual Spelling Bee was held at the beginning of March. All participants were very well prepared for the competition. The following are individual grade winners for Elementary School.

Grade 1—1st Dalida Walid; 2nd—Hassan Hazem

Grade 2—1st Farida Allam; 2nd Aysel Mohamed

Grade 3—1st Yasser Amr; 2nd Omar Sherif

Grade 4—1st Joudy Ayman; 2nd Hanan Ashr

Grade 5—1st Youssef Hossam; 2nd Halla Mohamed Middle School Spelling Bee Winners are as follows:

Grade 6—Heidi Hany

Grade 7—Zeina El Shaer

Grade 8—Mostafa Ashraf

High School Spelling Bee Winners are as follows:

Faris Fathy—Grade 9A

Sara Tamer - Grade 10 C

Tarek Elmad—Grade 11B

#### Mother's Day Celebrations March 21st and 22nd

There are very few events that are as important as Mother's  $\Rightarrow$ 



Day. Recognizing the love and  $\Rightarrow$ support that Mothers give to  $\Rightarrow$ should be recognized every day.  $\Rightarrow$ Regardless of the child's age be  $\Rightarrow$ they six months, six years, sixteen or sixty a Mother's love for their children is unconditional and has no boundaries of time. We are always our Mother's children. Each year we take a day to celebrate the love and care we receive. This year is no place on the following dates and times:

Kindergarten- Wednesday March 21st- 8:30 am to 12:00 pm (location—school inner court yard)

Elementary—Wednesday March 21st—9:00 am to 12 pm (location—school auditorum)

Middle School—Thursday March 22nd— 12:00 noon - 2:00pm (location—school auditorium)

Please note that DAIS is growing in size and as a result space is very limited for the our celebrations. Each child may only have one guest for the Mother's Day celebration, their mom.

#### MAP Testing—April 15 to April 26th

MAP testing is part of three major areas of "Student Outcome Data" used to measure student academic progress. The first of these include Student Assessment Data taken from classroom daily work, unit testing, project assignments and term exams. This is supported by achievement profiles created from SAT and MAP testing. Both SAT and MAP testing are directly aligned with the curriculum used at DAIS, the Common Core Curriculum. The results from MAP testing are used to support individual student and group learning. Individual and group profiles of what students understand and require for further review are created. they provide benchmark information for student assessment. As a result MAP testing is a critical piece for DAIS to successfully support student learning. It is a major element in ensuring that the teaching and learning process are aligned and is addressing student strengths and needs. During the assessment period, classroom teachers will be present to provide support to those taking the test. The division computer teacher will also be present to provide technical support. We are asking parents to reinforce to their children the importance of this assessment.

#### Report Cards—Distributed April 15th, 2018

Report cards for term three will be distributed on April 15th, 2018. Since there will not be a parents conference day after the report cards are distributed, parents who have child who may be at 'risk' will be contacted by the school . Parents who have questions concerning the report cards are encouraged to contact the stage Vice-Principal. Clear positive communication with home and school is a major factor in student success. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions.

The following are stage contact numbers.

- Kindergarten—01027713776
- Elementary-01024998052
- Middle School—01098677733
- High School-01000026734
- DSDC- 01024648579

#### **Connecting Internationally with other Schools**

Dover students have participated in two video conferences over the past month. Both video conferences focused on the essentials of dialogue. Students practice the skills of effective dialogue to enhance the experience of exchanging information and expression of thoughts and feelings.

On February 22nd, political science students had a dialogue different. Celebrations will take about citizenship. They discussed activities they experience in school, with their families and friends that deepen their feelings of belonging to their countries. This was a three-party video conference where students spoke with their peers in The Patriarchal School of Zababdeh in Ramallah, Palestine, and Al Shajarah School in Jordan.



On March 15th, Dover had a follow up video with Lake Community School in Chicago, USA. We had already had an earlier conference on November 29th, and students in the USA were asking for a follow up video discussion. Our American colleagues wanted to continue our initial discussion concerning stereotypes and the effect of social media. In particular there was a focus on how social media spreads and perpetuates stereo-These profiles are used to assist in teacher unit planning and types. Students from grades 10, 11 and 12 participated in this video discussion. Both schools shared their experiences and asked questions to clear up any stereotypes the American students might have about Egypt and vice versa.

> Through these video conferences, students had an opportunity to express their personal points of view in a safe environment. No one was judged for thinking in a certain way. Students learn from their peers and gained a deeper understanding of the issues due to this first hand opportunity to share with those living the experiences.

