



NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2017

Parent Conference Saturday November 18th, 2017 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

*November 14th—
Grade 8—trip to
National Museum*

*November 14th—
Grade 1 & 2 Family
Sports Festival*

*November 16th—
Grade 3,4 and 5
Family Sports
Festival*

*November 18th—
Parent Confer-
ence*

*November 19th—
Grade 12 trip to
Museum and Pal-
ace*

*November
22nd—Grade 9—
trip to Museum
and Palace*

*November 23—
Grade 10 and
11—trip to Dis-
covery City*

*November 30th—
Prophet's Birth-
day— School Hol-
iday*

October Charity Drive

These charity events not only benefit our community, but teach our students to understand the importance of being responsible caring citizens. We thank all of our parents for their contributions to these very special events!

Scare Away the Pain - Elementary

The elementary division, under Ms. Hasnaa's leadership, collected donations for the Egyptian Cure Bank. Students collected over 21,000 LE. We are very proud of our students' citizenship and generosity. Representatives from the Cure Bank will visit DAIS for a follow up recognition event. Thanks is extended to Ms. Hasnaa for her leadership and all elementary staff members for organizing this invaluable event.

Clothing Charity Drive

Our kindergarten, middle and high school students advertised for used clothing to be sent to the school. Clothing was collected from October 22nd to October 31st. The clothing that was brought to the school was sorted by our senior students and sent to a local charity 'The Dream Team' in Shorouk. Students have been recognized in morning lines. Ms. Rania, Ms. Marwa and Dr. Hanan's guidance and encouragement is to be commended.

Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

The Parent Advisory Council met on October 24th. Currently the council is composed of four volunteers. The members have agreed that the group will meet on the last Sunday of each month. Meetings will last from 8:00 am to 9:00 am and will focus on the following items, educational program, school policy, operational issues related to parents and students as well as school special events. The major role of the advisory committee is to assist the school in its goal for continuous improvement. The committee members do not act as individual advocates for individual or groups of families in the school. It was agreed the group would receive an overview of the Kindergarten department at

their next meeting. The Parent Advisory Council would like to have a full complement of six members. Others will be invited to the table.

Listing and Contact Information for PAC

The following are a listing of current members of the School Advisory Council. Other volunteers will be added next month.

- Mr. Emad Shaat—
emadshaat@gmail.com—01015202215
- Mr. Ahmed Megahed Zaki—
Ahmedmegahed199@hotmail.com—
011001428023
- Ms. Ahmed Gad—gadlio@hotmail.com
- Ms. Asmaa Samy-
asmaaelmoazen@gmail.com

The Parent Advisory Council will meet again on November 26th, 2017.

Elementary Family Sports Festival

Grade 1 & 2—Tuesday November 14th—8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Grade 3,4 & 5—Thursday November 16th -8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

The elementary P.E. staff will be organizing a special sports festival for elementary parents and students. Activities will include a number of games that will include hand ball, football, pulling ropes, basketball, volleyball and many others. The events will be organized in a such a manner where parents and children will be participating together in the activities. Parents are advised to come to the event dressed to play! We are encouraging everyone to attend, the day promises to be an exciting family event.

Dr. Steve Sider—Visiting Professor

Sir Wilfrid Laurier University , Faculty of Education

Dr. Steve Sider is part of a team of Educational Leaders that DAIS has been working with over the past three years. Dr. Steve visited our school during the week of November 5th to November 9th. Over this week he has been working with school administrators and two teachers from each of our divisions. The focus of the work has been strengthening teaching strategies.

Tips for Successful Parent-Teacher Conferences

This information can be applied to students in elementary, middle, and high schools.

Frequently asked questions

What is a parent-teacher conference?

A parent-teacher conference is a meeting between you and your child's teacher to discuss your child's progress in school. Parent-teacher conferences happen in elementary, middle, and high schools.

What if I don't speak English?

If you do not feel comfortable speaking with your child's teacher in English, you have the right to request that an interpreter attend the conference. If you request an interpreter from the school, make the request before the conference.

What information will my child's teacher give me?

Your child's teacher will show you some samples of your child's work, and may discuss your child's progress, grades, homework, and behavior. The teacher may also ask you about any concerns that she has about your child, as well as questions about his study habits. These questions are intended to help the teacher provide your child with any additional support needed in the classroom, and are not intended to make you feel uncomfortable or defensive.

Why is it important to go to a parent-teacher conference?

Going to the parent-teacher conference provides you and the teacher an opportunity to work together as a team in order to help your child. You each have an important perspective to share — as the parent, you know your child's personality, habits, strengths, and weaknesses. The teacher, on the other hand, has been trained professionally in the best methods of teaching, meeting individual student's needs, how to control classroom behavior, and how to help your child succeed in school. Working together you will be able to find ways that each of you can provide the appropriate and necessary support for your child. The conference is also an opportunity for you to ask questions about your child's progress, to learn more about the class and what the students are studying, and to find out if your child is having difficulty with anything in particular. In addition, the more you know about your children's school and classes, the more likely they will be to talk about daily experiences with you.

Before the conference

The conference with your child's teacher will be more efficient and productive if you do some preparation beforehand. To prepare for the conference: **Talk with your child** -Ask your child what his/her strongest and weakest subjects are, and which subjects he/she likes most and least. Ask your child if he/she would like you to speak about anything particular with the teacher.

Prepare a list of notes—Make a list of topics that you want to discuss with the teacher and that you think the teacher should know, such as your concerns about the school, the child's home life, any major changes in your family, habits, hobbies, part-time jobs, religious holidays, or anything that is worrying your child. Be sure to ask for input from your spouse or other adults that

are caring for your child as well. **Prepare a list of questions**—

A list of questions will help you have a productive conversation with your child's teacher. Prioritize the questions in case you run out of time during the conference. The following questions are examples that will help you learn more about your child's progress in school:

- What is my child expected to learn this year?
- How will this be evaluated?
- What are my child's strongest and weakest subjects?
- What are some examples of these strengths and weaknesses?
- Does my child hand homework in on time?
- What types of tests and evaluations will my child have to take this year?
- How are my child's test-taking skills?
- Is my child participating in class discussions and activities?
- How are my child's social skills?
- Does my child seem happy at school?
- Have you noticed any unusual behaviors?
- Has my child missed any classes other than his/her excused absences?
- Do you think my child is reaching his/her potential?
- What can I do at home to help support his/her academic progress?

During the conference

Be yourself—Relax and be yourself. Remember that you and the teacher both want the same thing: the very best for your child.

Stay calm—Stay calm during the conference. Respectful communication will be the most effective way to work together with your child's teacher. **Ask for explanations of anything you don't understand**—Listen carefully to what the teacher says. If you don't understand something that the teacher talks about (such as an educational term or an explanation of a school policy), don't be afraid to ask for clarification. **Ask the most important questions early in the conference**—Ask the most important questions first as you may run out of time, especially if other parents are waiting to have their conference after yours.

Respectfully discuss differences of opinion -If you disagree with the teacher, respectfully explain why you disagree. Discussing your differences with the teacher may help both of you find a more effective way to help your child. **Create an action plan**-Ask your child's teacher for specific suggestions of ways that you can help your child at home with homework, reading, organization, routines, behavioral issues, etc. Make sure you understand the teacher's suggestions, and ask for clarification if you don't.

(Please note—Parent Conferences are scheduled to be 5 to 7 minutes. If more time is required, please schedule an appointment outside of the conference day)

After the conference

Talk with your child—Talk about the conference with your child. Emphasize the positive points, and be direct about concerns that were discussed. Check schoolwork and homework on a regular basis. Ask your child how he feels about school and his schoolwork. home.