



...Coming Up...

MAP Testing

MAP Testing for Term 2 began February 5th and continues throughout the month of February.

Early Years Reading Session

The next Early Years Parent Reading Session will be held Thursday 16th 2017. Please contact your classroom teacher for more information.

Scholastic Book Order Due

This month's Scholastic book order is due February 15th.

Early Years Workshop

The fourth Early Years workshop will take place Wednesday, February 15th for parents of students in KG1, KG2 and Grade 1. This workshop will be facilitated by our Digital Specialist and will focus on how you can integrate technology into your child's learning experience. The workshop will take place from 8:00-8:30 and again from 12:00-12:30 in the My Identity Room.

Message from the Principal...

Dear Parents;

I was very happy this week to see so many parents attending the 'Celebrations of Learning' in KG1, KG2 and Grade 1. The involvement of parents in their children's education is vitally important. By visiting the school, parents can also see how much our students are benefitting from the SZPAB teaching methods. Children are happy and successful in their learning experience.

All of our students, from Grade 2 to Grade 8 have been taking MAP tests this week. Early indications are that students have been making some exceptional progress. This is the second of three rounds of MAP testing this year. Students are treating the tests increasingly seriously, especially as the scores contribute to their final Report Card grades.

We have Sports Days approaching at the end of February and excitement is growing as students practice for their various events during PE lessons.

I always say to visitors to the school that they will see happy children, working hard at any time of any day. We would like you to see this for yourselves: we will be holding two open sessions during the mornings of the 15th and 16th March, when parents will be able to tour the school and listen to a talk in the auditorium. More details will follow.

We are delighted that our latest YouTube video has had well over 3000 hits. If you haven't seen it yet, take a look and share it with your friends and family: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JtxUYKoPXJ8>
Thank you for your superb and continuing support.

Yours in education,

John Conway
Principal

Tips for being safe & responsible online

Below are key points the students need to remember while online. You can discuss these with them at home:

Be the change: Play your part in making the internet a better place. Be positive, show respect and help people if they are upset.

Be sensible: Always tell a trusted adult if you are ever worried or upset by something that happens online. They are always there for you to ask for help if you are unsure about anything you see online.

Be aware: Make sure you know the rules about how to behave and stay safe on the sites, games and apps you use.

Be a detective: The internet is full of brilliant things to watch, explore and learn from but not everything or everyone online can be trusted. Think carefully by checking at least three different websites for your information

Be safe

Never agree to meet up offline with someone you only know online. No matter how friendly they might seem or how well you think you know them, they are still a stranger.

Digital Learning Update

My Learning

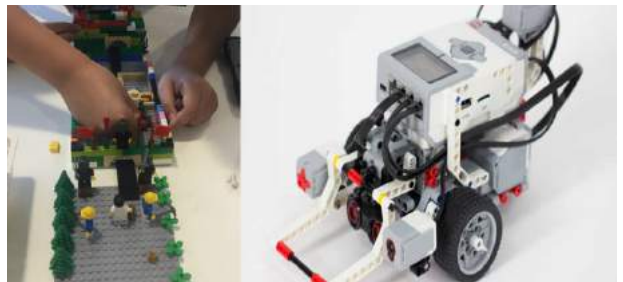
You will have received an email informing you about the 'My Learning' app, which is available on all Apple and Android phones. This app allows you to check your child's homework easily, without having to go on the internet.



Once you have downloaded the app, you need to log into your account online to find your mobile access ID. This option can be found on the top right hand corner of your homepage on My Learning. If you have not yet logged into My Learning to register, letters will be given out to students this week with all the information you need.

Lego

Lots of the students have been using LEGO during the past few weeks to develop and support their learning in lots of different subjects.



In Grade 6-8 Science, the boys have been learning how to program moon buggies, which has helped them to better understand coding. In Grade 8 Social Studies, students have been revising key topics by creating cartoon strips, using LEGO and their iPads. KG and Grade 2 students have been using the LEGO Lab to follow simple instructions to create structures and animals.

Student Digital Leaders - Grades 3 to 8

Over 40 students applied to be a student digital leader. We have shortlisted 15 students to be interviewed during the week of the 12th February. Successful students will be announced to the rest of their grade in assembly over the coming weeks.

January Scholastic Order

Our latest Scholastic book order is closing February 15th. If you would like to place an order, please go to <http://world-schools.scholastic.co.uk/sheikh-zayed-private-acad-for> to browse the latest books and order online. For every \$1 you spend on this month's Book Club, our school will earn 20¢ in Scholastic Rewards.



Sports Day

Sports Day GR 4-8

GR 4-5 - February 28th - 1:20 - 3:00pm

GR 6-8 - February 27th - 1:20 - 3:00pm

Sports Day KG-GR3

KG - February 28th - 8:50 - 10:50am

GR 1 - March 1st - 8:50-10:50am

GR 2-3 March 1st - 1:20 - 3:00pm

www.zayedacademy.ae/boys
www.gemseducation.com



Ministry of Interior Launches Racing Game

Lt. General HH Sheikh Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior launched the electronic game "UAE Racing" at the Ministry of Interior.

The goal of the game is to help develop students' mental concentration, speed and accuracy; promote the incentive to achieve; bolster self-confidence, control, positive competitiveness and team work; and promote the values of loyalty and national belonging.

The game was created by UAE developers in the virtual technology center in the Dubai Police GHQ, in cooperation with several educational agencies concerned with education, along with experts in the field. The new computer program falls within the framework of the best smart games initiatives carried out by the Khalifa Students Empowerment Program.

The program aims to reach a large segment of youth and students as an electronic game, while enriching their culture and raising their awareness about the nation's values, principles and morals. The game design ensures the achievement of the program goals, such as promoting the love of nation by introducing its history, institutions, achievements and focusing on preserving them.

The app is available at the Apple Store and Google Play.

Learning Never Stops

The role of Learning Assistants (known as TA) at The Sheikh Zayed Private Academy for Boys is focused on assisting teaching, and prioritizing students' interaction and learning. LAs are expected to lead small group activities, facilitate differentiation, and enhance individualized learning opportunities for students. SZPAB thinking emphasizes a broader concept of learning that involves all LAs in the school in a professional learning community that is engaged in a continuous and collegial cycle of learning, practice, reflection, and improvement.

Professional Development (PD) is viewed as a vital tool in school improvement efforts, and its importance is greatly emphasized at SZPAB. We want to upgrade the content knowledge and pedagogical skills of the Learning Assistants given their direct impact in preparing young children academically.

Since the beginning of this academic year, the PD program in Term I has focused on key topics highlighting reading, IT, Learning Disabilities (understanding and strategies), Behavior Management, Autism, Hearing Impairment, and Developmentally Appropriate Practices in KG. The aim for Term II is to emphasize topics related to Dyslexia, ADHD, Reading and Writing Strategies for EAL Students, and Gifted and Talented.



One School One Country

Abu Dhabi will be hosting the world's biggest international vocational skills competition, World Skills 2017 next October and the SZPAB will host the Omani delegation on our campus.



Photos Across SZPAB

Grade 5 went on a field trip to Umm al Emarat Park to learn about ecosystems and biomes; the Lower Elementary had their sports awards; and many other great things have been happening across the school!

