



## Message from the Principal...

### ...Coming Up...

#### Little Thinkers Book Fair

The Little Thinkers SZAB book fair will take place between April 27th - May 3rd. Teachers will send out more information shortly.

#### Changes to Communication

Recently, we asked you to fill in a survey regarding school communication. As always, we try to incorporate your feedback in our day-to-day practices. After listening to feedback from the majority of parents, we will no longer be using My Learning for homework and communications. Your child's teacher will let you know how homework and information will be sent home during Term 3.

Dear Parents

I would like to express my appreciation to the parents who attended the Student Progress Meetings this week. Your involvement and care for your children's education will guarantee their success.

I am a parent of three school-aged children and I know that they are not perfect. They have their talents and weaknesses, just like all children. They need encouragement and they need to be corrected too.

I try to listen to their teachers' advice. Sometimes this is difficult to listen to because I find out that my children are not as smart as I had hoped. Sometimes I think that the teachers don't really know my children but, deep down, I know that they do. I have a choice. I can either work with the school or argue with their judgement. In the end, the best help I can give my children is to accept their teachers' judgements and work with them.

Being a parent is difficult sometimes. Accepting our children's strengths and weaknesses is not always easy. I send my son to SZPAB. I find the teachers to be honest and direct about my son's ability, attitude and grades. I am sometimes happy and sometimes disappointed by my son's achievements but I completely trust the teachers' judgements and commitment and I hope we all do. Overall, my son is exceeding expectations at SZPAB, just like the vast majority of the children at our school.

We will continue to bring the best teachers we can to SZPAB. They will do the best for our children. Let's trust and work with our very good teachers. Thank you for your wonderful support.

Yours in education,  
Mr John Conway

## Digital Learning Update

Emirates Skills National Competition - 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> April

Last week, 15 boys accompanied the Digital Learning Team to the Emirates Skills National Competition. The school was there to showcase our innovative and digital learning approaches. We had many visitors to our booth, and the boys were amazing at explaining what we do. We gave people the opportunity to engage with: LEGO Mindstorms robotics, 3D printing, green screen filming, Google expeditions virtual reality, and coding.

A number of important visitors came to see our booth, and were very complimentary about our boys, particularly their knowledge of and ability with digital technology. We are proud of their efforts in representing the school. The boys will receive a certificate of commendation and ePraise points for their achievements.

### Thank you to:

Hamad Al Shehhi (6B)

Mohamed Al Hashmi (8B)

Ezeldeen Al Bostaji (8B)

Hamdan Khedaim Al Darei (7C)

Zayed Al Ketbi (7A)

Abdulrahman Al Thani (8A)

Ebrahim Al Zaabi (7B)

Hamad Al Mansoori (6A)

Ahmed Al Zubaidi (7C)

Khalifa Al Shamsi (8A)

Al Maala Al Jaradi (8A)

Mohamed Al Dhahari (8B)

Alli Al Dhaheri (7B)

Saeed Al Mazrouei (7B)

Yaman Al Rahmo(8A)





## Re-enrollment

Thank you to everyone who has already applied online for re-enrollment for 2017-18. It is vital that we confirm numbers of returning students as soon as possible because demand for places from new students is very high. If you have confirmed verbally that you intend to re-enroll your son or daughter but have not yet completed the online application, the admissions office will be emailing you with the link to allow you to complete the process by Thursday, April 27. Students who have not re-enrolled online may have their seat offered to another student. We wish to avoid the disappointment that this would cause.

Please note that we will begin to accept the seat deposit payment of 5% of fees from May 01. This is the only way to guarantee your child's place next year. We will be sending an SMS to all parents to let you know when we begin to accept payments.



## Parent Conferences

Thank you to all the parents who came to Term 3 Parent Conferences last week! Your participation and support makes all the difference in your child's education.

## GEMS Maker Day - 29<sup>th</sup> April

Along with other GEMS schools in Abu Dhabi, we are taking part in a Makerday on Saturday 29th April. The event will take place at GEMS American Academy between 10am and 2pm.

All families are invited to come along to experience this exciting day. There will be musical, art and drama performances, as well as many maker stations, where you can try out lots of new activities, such as 3D printing, green screen technology, LEGO robots, and many more.

[www.zayedacademy.ae/boys](http://www.zayedacademy.ae/boys)  
[www.gemseducation.com](http://www.gemseducation.com)



**GEMS**  
EDUCATION

## SZPAB This Week In Pictures



### Emirates Swimming Championships

The Swim squad competed in the Emirates Swimming Championships earlier in the month.



### Isra & Miraj

We held an assembly for GR 4-8 to celebrate the Isra & Miraj holiday.

### KG had their Storybook Parade!



### Safe Students, Safe Schools

An assembly was held for GR4-5 students to talk about internet safety.

