

The Sheikh Zayed Private Academy for Boys



أكاديمية الشيخ زايد الخاصة للبنين

الاعتزاز بالماضي، الإعداد للمستقبل.  
*Honoring the past. Educating for the future.*

# School Newsletter

## ...Coming Up...

### MAP Assessments

MAP assessments will take place  
October 3-20th

### Swim Squad

Swim squad trials will take  
place October 3rd and 4th

### Quran Program

The Quran program will begin  
October 9th

### Football Squad

Second round of football  
squad trials will take place  
October 10th and 11th

### iPad workshops

Workshops for parents about  
iPads and their use in school  
will be held October 19th and  
20th

### Character Dress Up

Thursday October 27th the  
library will organize a day  
where students can dress as  
their favorite character from a  
book they've read!



## Welcome from the Principal...

Dear Parents,

The last two weeks have provided a number of opportunities for parents to visit the school. First of all, we held two Curriculum Evenings, where parents learnt about the courses their children would be following and how they could support their learning. Then, we held our Parent Teacher conferences the following week. The support of parents is very important in helping children to develop and do their best and I would like to thank all those that have already shown an interest in attending these important events.

MAP tests for Grades 2 to 8 will soon be upon us, so students will need all the parental encouragement they can get to perform at their best.

We have also enjoyed Tech Week with the Computer Explorers Team from Little World, the Military Programme and trials for the Football and Swimming Squads are well under way and ECAs have commenced. We have also begun taking requests for students to join our Qu'ran Memorisation programme.

This really has been a busy and exciting time at SZPAB. Please keep informed about everything that is happening by reading Newsletters, texts, e-mails and by visiting our website.

Yours in Education

John Conway  
Principal / CEO  
SZPAB

## To Remember...

### iPad Forms

If you have paid for your iPad, please remember to sign and return the agreement form. If your child has not brought a form home, please contact your child's teacher.

### Artsonia

Please remember to sign into your Artsonia account. Please see page 4 for more information.

### Gate Opening Times

If you are dropping students off before 7:15am you must use Gate 1. For safety reasons we cannot open gates 2, 3 or 4 before 7:15am. Teacher supervision starts at 7:30am. We have made provision for extra supervision in the main Reception. In the afternoon Gates 2, 3 and 4 will close at 3:30. All students will then move to the main reception to be collected.

## GR 6-8 Ski Trip

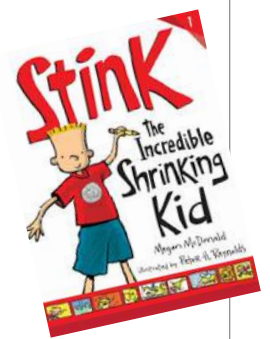
This week some students received a letter about a ski trip to France that the school is hoping to run in March 2017. As part of the ADEC approval process we are required to receive letters of interest from students and parents before we can move forward. With that in mind, if your child brought home a letter about the trip and you would like him to attend, please complete and return. Due to international insurance law all pupils must be a minimum age of 12 at the time of the trip. The trip is not yet approved and we anticipate that this will take time. As soon as we receive further information we will notify you accordingly.



## This month in the library...

Beginning in October, SZPAB libraries will plan monthly student projects and a themed event to encourage children's literacy and self-development. The theme for each month will be in line with the 'My Identity' Program. This month's theme is Respect.

Students will be encouraged to check-out books from the fiction, biography, literature and Arabic sections. These areas will be heavily populated with books which surround skills of decision making, strength in character, and the experience of self-improvement. To celebrate this initiative, Thursday, October 27th students will be encouraged to dress as a book character which they think shows respect or positive morals.



## Last Week at SZPAB...



## Exciting Tech Week at SZPAB!

Last week, students in Grades 3 to 8 were lucky enough to take part in our first Tech Week, which was delivered by Computer Explorers, who run an ECA at school. This included two special assemblies and some very interesting workshops.

Some students tried circuit engineering by making sound circuits with play dough. Other students had the opportunity to become forensic scientists and used powerful digital microscopes to examine different substances closely.

Alongside these workshops, there were sessions on robotics and a coding challenge, where the students had to complete twenty coding activities as quickly as possible.

During the assemblies, the 'teacherbots' were programmed by some student volunteers and they got to see Mr Ray and Mr Brandon star in a video where they entered an exciting robotic world!

Jennifer from Computer Explorers was very impressed with the children's enthusiasm and behavior. Talking to the students, they seemed to thoroughly enjoy the workshops. One Grade 4 exclaimed 'I hope we can have Tech Week every week!' There will be more opportunities during the year for the students to take part in tech activities.

## Military Training Program

Grades 6 to 8 continue their year-long Military Training Program this week. Through a series of drills and discipline, this program, unique to SZPAB, is aimed at getting children ready and excited for their U.A.E. military service.



## Hijra New Year

Last Thursday, students participated in an assembly to celebrate the Hijra New Year. The students enjoyed showing how the migration (Hijrah) of the Prophet PBUH occurred. The assembly concluded with a song about the Hijrah, "Talaa Albadr Alaina".



### Treasure Box Donations...

Some Kindergarten classes will be encouraging and rewarding appropriate or exemplary school behaviors by allowing students to select a 'prize' from a treasure box. Please donate any gently used toys that your child is no longer using. Students in grades 1 through 3 can give the toys to their teacher which will then be collected. Students in grades 4 through 8 can bring their donations to the Learning Support room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Thank you in advance for your assistance and generosity!

### Reminder to sign into your Artsonia account...

This year in art class students in grades 4-8 will participate in Artsonia, an online children's art museum. Students will be documenting their own art projects and uploading them for you and your loved ones to see. As a parent you can look at your child's artwork anywhere and anytime. You can add family members to your child's fan club, write comments and help support SZPAB's arts program. All that is needed is permission for your child's artwork to be showcased. Permission slips will be sent home with access codes this week. Parents are asked to visit [Artsonia.com/permission](http://Artsonia.com/permission) to allow access. Please email [christina.schweitzer@zayedacademyboys.ae](mailto:christina.schweitzer@zayedacademyboys.ae) if you have any



### The importance of self-esteem

Friendships and social interaction are extremely important for self-esteem. But it doesn't come naturally to everyone. We want our children to succeed in the social world, to learn how to cooperate, make friends, and negotiate conflicts. We want them to develop strong perspective-taking skills, and treat other people with fairness and compassion. Making friends takes practice, and you can help your child by rehearsing social situations and role playing ahead of time. Ideas for helping your child improve social interactions include:

**Communication skills:** by asking about their day, asking what they did during the day then listening to what they have to say. Frequently ask questions about how they felt during the day.

**Role playing:** take turns making different facial expressions, the importance of this game includes teaching children how to read other people's feelings, making them aware of how others are feeling.

**Asking for permission:** children should be aware that they should request permission before taking something that isn't theirs, teaching respect.

**Turn taking:** children should play games that involve taking turns, teaching them patience, tolerance and building friendships.



## Coming Up...

We are thinking of putting together rugby and basketball squads in Term 2. For more information, please contact the PE Department.

### Football Squad...

Football Squad Training will now take place on Tuesdays 3.15- 4pm. Please see Mr. Josh for information.

### New Football Trials

If you were not selected for football squad, there is one last opportunity to try out. If you are interested, please sign up at the PE Office. Trials will take place:

- Monday October 10<sup>th</sup> - GR 5- 6
- Tuesday October 11<sup>th</sup> - GR 7-8

### Swim Squad

Swimming Squad Trials will take place Monday and Tuesday at lunchtime. Please remind your child to be on time - trials begin at 12:35. Students can sign up in the PE office.

- Monday October 3<sup>rd</sup> GR 5-6
- Tuesday October 4<sup>th</sup> - GR 7-8

To be eligible to join the squad you must be able to:

- Swim in deep water.
- Swim more than 25 meters.
- Swim 25 meters in under 28 seconds with good technique.



## Swimming Schedule Changes...

SWIMMING SCHEDULE 2016-16						
Starts w/b	4-Sep	9-Oct	6-Nov	8-Jan	29-Jan	19-Feb
4A				SWIM		
4B				SWIM		
4C					SWIM	
4D					SWIM	
5A						SWIM
5B						SWIM
5C						SWIM
5D						SWIM
6A	SWIM					
6B	SWIM					
6C	SWIM					
7A			SWIM			
7B			SWIM			
7C			SWIM			
7D		SWIM				
8A		SWIM				
8B		SWIM				

- 6A will finish their swimming unit next week (October 6th). They will move on to a new sport and will need their PE kit.
- 7D, 8A and 8B will start their swimming unit October 10th. Please make sure they bring the correct swim kit.