

# PACER NEWS | October 2021

## Issue # 1

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## From the desk of the Principal



Dear Parents,

Welcome to a unique and interesting school year. The concept of education is undergoing a major transformation whereby independent learning, informal education, and online platforms may become the name of the game. I am proud to say we were the first, perhaps in Lebanon, to begin the 2021/2022 school year on September 9, 2021 utilizing on campus learning as the key mechanism. We have done our best since the first day of the school year to ensure that the transition into school life after two years of mostly online teaching is as smooth as possible. Our main concerns in addition to a positive and conducive learning environment has been providing a healthy and safe environment free of illness, bullying, and disrespect.

As **H**ome **O**f **P**eace **E**ducation (Democracy and Citizenship, Human Rights, Conflict Resolution, Environmental Education, Health and Safety, and Service Learning) and as endorsers of our PACER values (**P**erseverance, **A**gility, **C**larity, **E**mpathy, and **R**espect), we will continue to advance humanity and promote holistic development as an integral part of our LWIS-AiS philosophy.

I value our partnership with you to provide the best possible education for our children. As such, I urge you in spite and despite of the circumstances not to compromise on disrespect and violence. We want our students to be happy while being respectful of our PACER values. I look forward to a successful and promising new year and urge you to stay positive and do your best regardless of the extremely difficult times we are experiencing in Lebanon. Remember that you shouldn't wait until life is no longer difficult to be happy. The present is your present.

Warm regards,

Dr. Nabil Husni  
Principal

## Preschool and Elementary School (Grade 1 till Grade 4)



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a great year! It is a joy to have your children back on-campus. This year our theme is "Keep on shining the world needs your light!" Our world just got a lot brighter when we got the opportunity to see your children face to face. Their positive energy and eagerness to learn and share their stories have once again filled our classes and hallways. Seeing their happy faces have not only been a motivation for us, but has been a sign of hope. Hope is always born again in the faces of children. After all, as John F. Kennedy once said, children are the most valuable resources and its best hope for the future.

Our mission at LWIS AIS is to encourage each child to become a lifelong learner performing to his or her potential in a safe and challenging learning environment. Your child will learn through inquiry, differentiation, interactive technology, hands on activities, and most importantly thinking outside of the box. As a LWIS AIS student, your child will be a PACER, a student who shows perseverance, agility, clarity, empathy, and respect. It is marvelous to see the excitement and the happy faces that always surround us with eager eyes begging to learn. You can find our "First Day of School" pictures on our Facebook page-LWIS AIS. Like our page, and enjoy watching our happy learners start the new school year with a big smile!

We are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential. We recognize that in order to be successful in school, children need support from both home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she:

- 1) attends school daily and arrives on time, ready for the day's learning experience.
- 2) completes all homework assignments given by teachers.
- 3) reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills.
- 4) shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his/her school life.
- 6) knows that you expect him/her to succeed.
- 7) believes he or she can do great things!

## **Parents—You Make the Difference!**

Research shows that children do better in school when parents are involved in education. Parent's engagement improves a child's overall achievement by supporting that child's success at school—leading to a brighter future. Parent's engagement may take many forms and includes a range of activities.

Here are some examples:

- Talk to your child about school.
- Turn everyday activities into learning opportunities.
- Volunteer with activities, social, and sporting events.
- Attend parent-teacher meetings and parent's open houses.
- Read parent newsletters.

Most importantly, to have students ready for the routines at school, having routines set at home would help him or her adapt and encourage organization. Many ways can be used at home. Please find an example below.



Asking your child about his or her day, is another way to help his/her develop independence and self-expression. Five things to ask your kids instead of “How was school?”

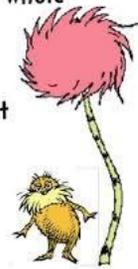
- (1) What made you smile today?
- (2) Who did you sit with at lunch?
- (3) If you could change one thing about today, what would that be?
- (4) What was the hardest rule to follow today?
- (5) Tell me something you know today that you did not know yesterday.

Furthermore, I would like to inform you of the following:

### "Green Team"

In order to raise our children's awareness of environmental problems facing our world and community, we will be placing a strong emphasis on "Be the change you want to see in the world." Students will be participating in many "recycle what you find and use" campaigns. There will be a "Class Representative" team appointed to make sure that classrooms are using recycling bins, and that the playground and classrooms are clean and litter free. Elections will be held in November.

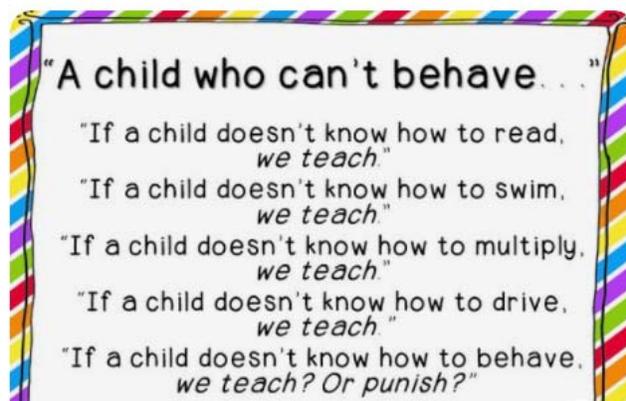
Unless someone like  
you cares a whole  
awful lot,  
nothing is  
going to get  
better.  
It's not.



### Snack and Lunch- "The Healthy Lunch Box:"

Children must bring healthy food to eat during breakfast and lunch. Your child has the choice of bringing sandwiches, food that needs heating, snacks from home, or order from a set cafeteria menu. All food should be packaged. Sweets, chocolate, chips, fizzy drinks, and any unhealthy food items are not allowed.

### Behavior Management:



We believe in positive reinforcement! For every good choice your child makes, he or she will be receiving dojo points. After receiving a total of 500 whole class points, we will be having a class party! To track your child's behavior, we will be using the Class Dojo app. You can keep track of your child's behavior by downloading the Class Dojo app and sign in using the code sent with your child.

**Classroom Activities:**

What makes learning fun? Of course, being involved in learning. Over the past month, our students enjoyed many activities where they got to experience what is meant by hands on learning!! Find some pictures of some of our activities.



## **Meet the Preschool and Elementary Team!**

Last but not least, I would like to introduce the Preschool and Elementary team who has the greatest gift of teaching your child.

### ***Our classroom teachers for this year are:***

KG1: Mrs. Hala Chedrawi  
KG2: Mrs. Nancy Saab  
KG3 & G3-G4: Mrs. Nisrine Sarkis  
Grade 1: Mrs. Rita Comair Sakr  
Grade 2 & G4 Math Teacher: Ms. Jennifer Nakouzi  
Grade 3: Mrs. Layla El Sayed Shalabi  
Grade 4: Ms. Mariane Samia (English)  
G4 Science: Mrs. Rita Chedid  
French: Mrs. Rita Bassil, Mrs. Moni Ghanem, Ms. Maria Taraby  
Arabic: Ms. Rita Zeidan, and Mrs. Rana Habchi  
Music and Movement: Ms. Sarah Beainy  
Art: Mrs. Sabine Khoueiry  
PE: Mr. Carlo Margossian  
Computer: Mr. Georges El Beaino  
Religion: Father Esber Antoun

**Coteachers:** Ms. Sabbet Zeidan, Mrs. Michline Beainy, Mrs. Caroline Ahmar, Ms. JessyAbi Khalil, Mrs. Arlette El Achkar

**Our special needs team is** led by Ms. Randa Wehbe Ms. Randa Wehbe: Preschool and Elementary counselor Ms. Therese Hourani

Ms. Carine Beainy  
Ms. Rouba Farrah  
Mrs. Raysa Mrad  
Speech Therapists: Ms. Rita Chalhoub and Ms. Chloe Chemaly  
Psychomotor Therapist: Ms. Sarah Farah

**Nurse and Office Manager:** Mrs. Souad Zgheib

**Heads of Departments:**

English- Mrs. Lisette Lahoud Saadeh

Math- Mr. Alex Husni

Science- Mrs. Rana Freiha

Arabic- Mr. Michael Abi Khalil

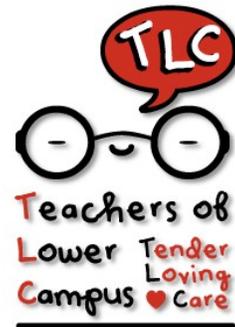
French- Mrs. Ibtissam Beaini

The wonderful LWIS-AIS staff, and I feel privileged to be a part of this school family. We thank you for your support and look forward to meeting you. Remember our doors are always open for suggestions; you can just drop in for a quick hello. We would love to see every one of you.

Sincerely,

Ms. Layla Sayed Shalabi & The Preschool and Elementary Team

C.C. Dr Nabil Husni



## Middle School

Welcome back to LWIS-AiS for the academic year 2021-2022. This year your child will be a part of the Middle School Section. The Middle School follows the school's mission by measuring success one happy learner at a time. During their time in Middle School, we teach our students through inquiry, differentiation, and cooperative learning in order to promote life-long learning and the Peace Education components. Students will also take the MAP and PSAT standardized tests to help them reach their learning outcomes and better prepare them for the SAT standardized test, which they will take in the Senior School in preparation for university.

Being a green school that promotes the use of technology and works to reduce the amount of printed-paper, we encourage you to check the school portal system (e-school) on a daily basis. We provide the e-school username and password to your child at the beginning of the year. We also encourage you to visit the school website whenever possible. All the information related to your child including grades, report card, behavior, messages, letters, and policies are on the school portal system (e-school).

The theme this year in Middle School is "Opportunity in crisis.". The theme will allow students to become aware of the dire circumstances that the country is going through, while at the same time show them that out of all bad situations good things are possible. The middle school students this year will be asked to be part of what promises to be a long road of recovery for the country of Lebanon. They will be challenged to find opportunities where previous generations have failed in order to ensure that their futures will be far brighter than the dark present they are living through today.

Alex Husni

Head of Middle School

C.C. Dr. Nabil Husni, Principal

## Senior School

Dear Parents,

We are so excited to say, "Welcome Back to School." We are surely going to have a great school year of learning and fun.

It has been a very fast and interesting start. A month has already passed, and our learners are so happy being on campus, interacting with each other.

As we had a lot of exciting things happening, it became very clear very quickly that students have needed extra reminding of school behaviors, especially after being out of school due to the Covid pandemic. The good news is that they are now well settled in their classrooms, and the necessary precautions are being taken to ensure their safety.

We want to take this opportunity to report on what has been done or what will be done during this month:

- G11-12 students will start attending university orientation sessions.
- G12 students will start completing their university applications (The majority of the applications are being done online.).
- Students who are part of the IB Diploma Programme will start coming up with their Internal Assessment topics and Extended Essay.
- Students will not be able to drop or add subjects any longer.
- Students will not be allowed to use their cell phones during school hours, they will put it in the corresponding basket in the morning and collect it before they leave school.

Finally, we want to thank you for all your feedback on various ways we can make the school better. We really appreciate the communication! Have a great month!

Sincerely,

**Jacques El Khoury**  
**Head of Senior School Section and IB DP Coordinator**  
**LWIS Keserwan-Adma International School**

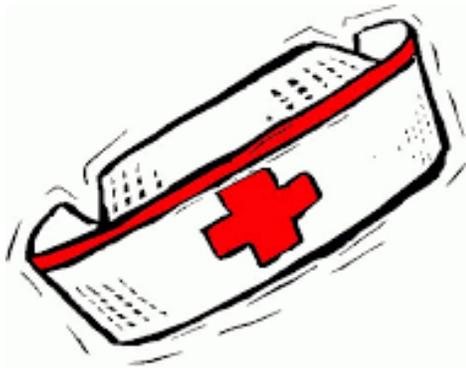
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## From the Nurse's Corner



### Nurse's Corner



#### Tip 1:

Kindly let your child rest at home the day he/she got vaccinated and the day after because symptoms can appear the next day.



#### Tip 2:

Kindly let your children have their breakfast before coming to school.

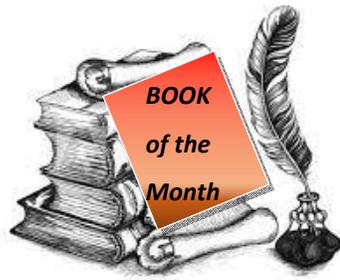


#### Tip 3:

Kindly make sure to dress your children according to the weather to avoid getting cold since summer has ended.



## Book of the Month | I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS



#62003817



**BY: JEFF STRAND**

Henry's dad is concerned about his son's constant video gaming and fear of, well, just about everything, so he decides to ship sixteen-year-old Henry off to Strong woods Survival Camp, where he'll spend two weeks learning skills like archery and shelter construction, capped with a faux Hunger Games-esque wilderness brawl. Henry and the other four geeky campers—including Henry's best friend, Randy—hilariously fail every task, but things change dramatically when mafia goons coming to collect money they're owed and shoot and kill the camp's counselor. Henry witnesses the murder, and the Games suddenly turn into a very real life-or-death situation for the inept campers as they try to stay one step ahead of coldblooded killers in the woods. While the action is high-stakes, the tone here resides in humor more than horror with slapstick events and a tongue-in-cheek narrator, but unfortunately, the comic relief is often stiff and rehearsed, making this feel like a stand-up routine gone awry.

The story's focus is also undermined by awkward foreshadowing and a running gag in an overlay that places readers in the opening night of a film based on the book, throwing audiences out of the story. The level of gore and crude humor is surprisingly light for what would seem to be the target age group, which might disappoint some looking for a full-blown campy thriller, but would make this a nice choice for kids not quite ready for something like Beaudoin's *The Infects* (BCCB 10/12).

## Plate of the Month | Chicken Breast With Mushroom Gravy Sauce



### Ingredients: CHICKEN

- 600 g / 1.2 lb chicken breasts, boneless skinless,  
*4 small ones (Note 1)*
- Salt and pepper
- 2 tsp olive oil
- 1 tbsp / 15g butter

### MUSHROOM GRAVY

- 2 tbsp / 30 g butter, *separated*
- 120 g / 4 oz mushrooms, *sliced*
- 1 garlic clove, *finely chopped (or minced)*
- 1/4 cup / 35g flour (*3 tbsp*)
- 2 cups / 500 ml beef broth (*Note 2 for chicken broth*)

### GARNISH (OPTIONAL)

- Thyme or parsley

### Directions:

#### CHICKEN

1. Place a plastic bag or cling wrap over the chicken and pound to even thickness 2cm / 4/5" thick.

Sprinkle both sides generously with salt and pepper.

2. Heat oil and melt 1 tbsp butter in a large skillet over high heat. Add chicken and cook for 3 minutes or until golden, then turn and cook the other side for 3 minutes. Transfer to plate, cover loosely with foil.

#### GRAVY

1. Add 1 tbsp butter to the skillet. Add mushrooms and cook for 3 minutes or until pretty golden.
2. Add remaining 1 tbsp butter and garlic. Cook for 1 minute until mushrooms are golden.
3. Turn heat DOWN to medium. Add flour and mix for 1 minute.
4. Add about 1/4 of the beef broth, mixing as you go. Once incorporated, add remaining broth gradually, mixing constantly. This is key to avoid lumps in gravy. Use a whisk if needed (works fine even with mushrooms in there) (Note 3 for beginner option).
5. Cook gravy for about 2 minutes or until it thickens to your taste - remember it will thicken more as it cools when serving. Adjust salt and pepper.
6. If you want, return chicken to the pan and turn to coat in gravy.
7. Place chicken on serving plates, top with gravy. Best served with mashed potato or similar to optimize the mushroom gravy experience!

# CONTACT US:

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