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The New Year began with a brief break for the holidays and then two weeks of final exams. When exams concluded, a nearly three-week break began 14 January. Once both students and teachers received their much-needed rest, a new semester commenced 8 February.

There has been much activity in the new semester—many celebrations, Mother's Day, field trips and more. We hope you enjoy reading about it.

New Semester Activities

With the start of a new semester, several extracurricular activities have been made available to the students.

Every Thursday after school four students, first through third grade, meet with Miss Carlotta to learn piano.

Two upperclassmen ladies have been volunteering their time to coordinate Zumba classes after school on Saturdays. The students love Zumba. Parents also love Zumba as their children return home energy expended.

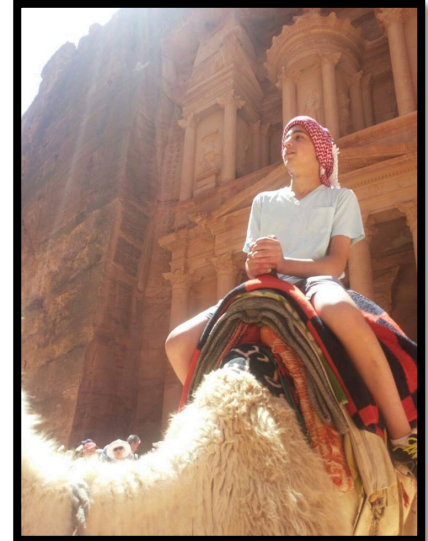
Football matches are held Saturday's in AES's Hanger.

KET and PET (British English exams) and DELF (French exam) examination preparation convenes Thursdays and Saturdays after school. These exams are a great way for students to evaluate their language skills.

In addition to the required math class, parents can choose for their students to participate in *UC Mas*, a math program designed to improve students' mental math skills. *UC Mas* is offered grades two through six.

“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

Luke 4:18-19



Teacher Training and Workshops

Before classes resumed, teachers participated in three days of workshops that primarily focused on strengthening teachers' skills and ultimately, the students' learning experience. Teachers, together with the workshop speakers, walked through the final exams interpreting the students' results and analyzing the questions' strengths and weaknesses.

In another workshop, teachers actively learned how to use visuals to enhance their lessons. These skills are particularly valuable

to the teachers when working with the visually impaired students.



Teachers working together to create a poster during one of the workshops.



Students in Kindergarten through fourth grade received exercise packets—including Math, Arabic and English—to complete during the semester break. When the students returned to school for the new semester, we treated them with a party for all their hard work during the break.

First Aid Lecture

On 24 February, 2016 three members of the Ministry of Defense came to AES to give a first aid lecture. Students in fourth, fifth and sixth grade learned about the basics of first aid and how to care for a person who has fainted.



The ministry of Defense demonstrates first aid administration on a fifth grade student as a fourth grade student looks on.

Parents Day

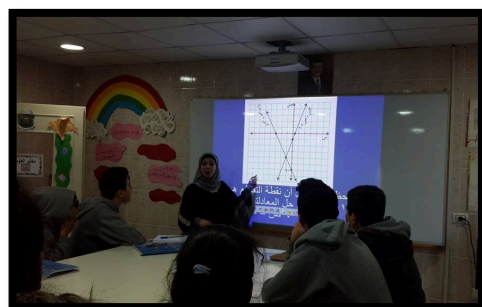
On Parent Day parents were invited to meet their children's teachers, to discuss their children's academic progress and to learn how they may academically help their child in the home. During this time, Dr. Tanya Shaaban gave a lecture concerning the value of family and how children should structure their speech.



Ms. Eman and her assistant teacher to the blind, Mr. Mohammed, are pictured with a parent on Parent Day.

New Projector

Mid December 2015 a Spectron projector was installed in the science laboratory. The Kindergarten also has a Spectron projector. The Spectron is available for use in all classes, and will undoubtedly enrich the



Ms. Eman using the new Spectron in her math class.

Visit from the Ministry of Education

On 9 April Arab Episcopal School had a visit from Mr. Ali Al Dweri, the head of the Ministry of Education in Irbid. During his visit he opened an exhibit of student work dealing with recycling and environmental care. Though many teachers contributed to the exhibit, a special thanks goes to Ms. Loreen Bader for assembling the exhibit, and Ms. Maysaa Sami for encouraging students to appreciate



Members of the Ministry of Education and AES teachers and staff in the newly opened exhibit.

International Orthodox Christian Charities

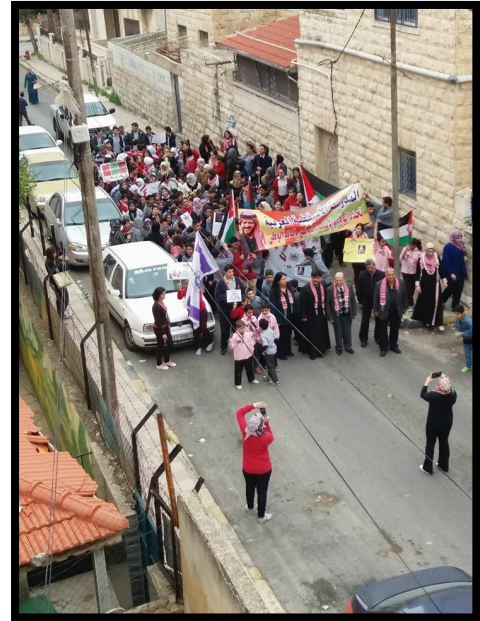
This semester we have partnered with the organization International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) to better serve our visually impaired students.

IOCC works with Syrian and Jordanian children who are deaf and visually impaired. The team who comes to AES consists of Jordanians and Syrians. It is a delight to be able to teach peace to our students in this way.

Remembering the Arab Revolt

During the year 1916 Arab forces declared a revolt against the ruling Ottoman Empire with the hope of gaining independence and establishing a unified Arab state. Today this historic event is known as the Arab Revolt.

Arab Episcopal School remembered the 100th anniversary of the Arab Revolt with a celebration, which included singing, dancing and poetry.



Mother's Day

Mother's Day is always a special celebration in Jordan. It is common for schools and other organizations to put on performances and throw parties in honor of the women who tirelessly contribute so much to local communities. AES students in kindergarten through grade seven put on a program to express their love for their mothers. We began welcoming our guests early in the day. They had the opportunity to view student work arranged in our Hall. There, students eager to explain the displayed work greeted them.

Guests were then led to the main hall where they were seated for the show. As previously mentioned, Kindergarten through Grade 7 performed. Performances varied between songs, dancing, and poetry.

Following the performance, guests received complementary Arabic coffee and a candy. Students and guests had the opportunity to mingle and write their greetings to Arab Episcopal School on a laid out banner.

This celebration caused us to reflect on all for which we are thankful. We are thankful the blind and low-vision students were able to express their Mother's Day wishes to their mothers, and that they are receiving a quality education. We are thankful for our Braille Center and the five students who attend classes every Saturday. This has been a major blessing to the community, as we are not only teaching students to read Braille but also their families.



Teacher Appreciation

Arab Episcopal School would not be successful without passionate teachers and diligent staff. We celebrated these hard-working individuals with cake and small gift of appreciation.

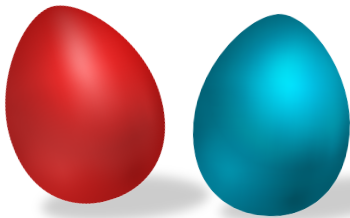


Celebrating Easter

The week preceding Easter Sunday was filled with many Easter activities for the students. On one day, students painted eggs, which were then hidden for the next day's hunt. The following day, students in kindergarten through grade three arrived to school dressed as princesses, doctors, and superheroes. In their costumes, students scoured the school's campus for their eggs.



Many thanks go to the teachers who contributed to the students' enjoyment of these Easter celebrations.



Kindergarten Easter painting.



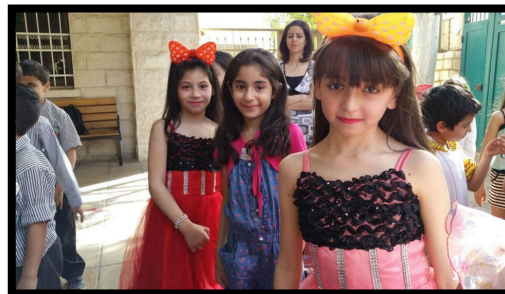
Painting Easter eggs.

“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.”

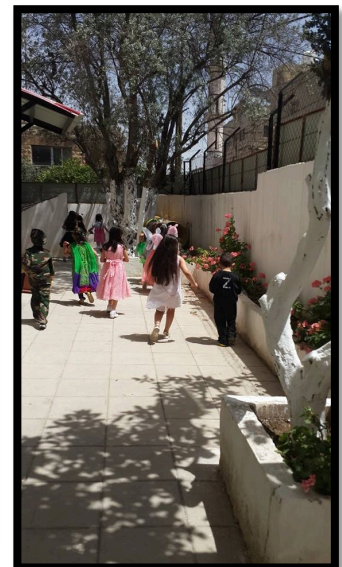
Matthew 6:9-13

“Jesus’ resurrection is the beginning of God’s new project not to snatch people away from earth to heaven but to colonize earth with the life of heaven. That, after all, is what the Lord’s Prayer is about.”

N.T. Wright



Second grade students in costume.



Hunting for Easter eggs.

Field Trips



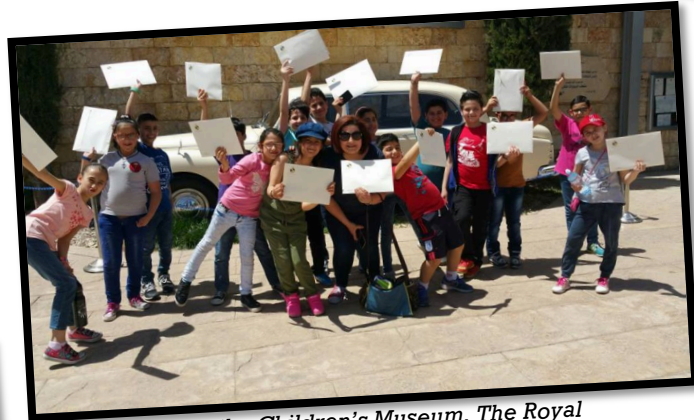
Schoolwork quickly becomes lifeless when the weather is nice and a child's heart longs to run through the warmth of the sun's rays. To provide the necessary reprieve from the classroom, we sent our students on varying trips throughout Jordan. The pictures below document the memories made.



Third grade at McDonald's.



Kindergarten at McDonald's.



Fourth grade at the Children's Museum, The Royal Automobile Museum, and culinary school.



Third grade at McDonald's.



First grade at McDonald's.



Fifth and Sixth grades at Ajloun.

Field Trips



Seventh and eighth grade at Ajloun.



Ninth and tenth grade at Petra.

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