



17-26th
EDITION





CSM

Newsletter

2022-2023

Classical School of the Medes

We love what we do and we
do what we love
Educating Learners through
Academics and Ethics

 Classical School of the Medes
 Classical School of the Medes
 www.csm.school
 [csm.school](https://www.instagram.com/csm.school)





17th EDITION

21th Anniversary

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“Life has no remote ... get up and change it yourself!”

Mark A. Cooper, Operation Einstein

“Change does not roll in on the wheels of inevitability”, as Nelson Mandela once said. Effecting change in life takes more than philosophical pronouncement and enthusiastic feelings; it requires action. The mail will not send itself. Food will not cook itself. The house will not paint itself. The bills will not pay themselves. We must get up and do it. No remote control will suffice. Will it be easy? No. Worth it? Absolutely! The biggest difference between the successful and the unsuccessful is the successful show up and do what is needful even when they do not feel like it. In other words, they do not put off until tomorrow what they can do today.

Aristotle once said, “I count him braver who overcomes his desires than he who overcome his enemies; for the hardest victory is over self.” One cause of depression and frustration is have undertaking a task without developing self-discipline. Self-discipline embodies four ingredients:

1. Self-Control –The act of controlling our emotions, actions, thoughts, words, and personal direction. Self-control acts as a filter against the powerful influence of advertising, accessibility, and your own destructive human habits. Once you stop succumbing to every whim, craving, and desire, your self-control begins to strengthen and create a chain reaction. You become more alert and vigilant towards managing that which is good, and that which is unnecessary or bad.
2. Persistence -The ability to continue through adversity. How often in your daily life do you accept failure or the answer no? Self-discipline does not come without experiencing failure, and the only way to defeat failure is through persistence and perseverance.
3. Motivation - The fuel that gives our success engine its drive. It is a group of reasons that develop a desire to accomplish, have, act, and perform in a manner that will satisfy a certain desire. Strong motivation is the underlying power behind some of the world’s greatest achievements.
4. Goals –Those tangible achievements that breed motivation and form our definition of happiness and success. Clear and specific goals are the essential foundation of not only self- discipline, but also a lifetime of health, wealth, and longevity. Without clearly defining short-term and lifelong goals, one has no use for self-discipline. Learning life mastery and personal discipline will only come about when setting precise goals.

Each one will suffer one of two things: the pain of discipline or the pain of regret and disappointment. Choose the former. Get up and make the requisite change. Life has no remote.



WISDOM OF THE EDITION MARK COOPER

BY: ALEXANDER WEREKO

CSM FAMILY

BY: JOHN KIM



NAME: DOMARA NABEEL



NAME: AFNAN ABDULLA



NAME: ALAN DIYA

CSM Duhok would like to recognize Ms. Domara as its Employee of the Month. She is an eager and active part of the staff who contributes significantly to the school's needs. Additionally, she continues to be a team player with her punctuality and cooperation with others in performing whatever tasks need to be done. Her close and accurate attention ensures that her tasks are completed thoroughly and efficiently. All this combined with Ms. Domara's flexibility make her a valuable asset to CSM Duhok's staff.

The Employee of the Month for CSM's Erbil location is Ms. Afnan. She is an energetic and enthusiastic employee who is always willing to help out whenever she is needed. It is the school's pleasure to recognize her hard work knowing that recognition is an important part of showing appreciation. Through Miss Afnan's example, the school hopes that others will also learn from her outstanding performance and her eagerness to serve the school with joy. Her strong work ethic and happy smile makes CSM a better place.

CSM Suly's Employee of the Month is Mr. Alan in IT. The website is an important function of the school, and Mr. Alan does a fantastic job in his development and preparation of the website. His precise attention to detail ensures the site has complete and accurate information so that anyone who visits can trust they have reliable information. He is dedicated and marked by his ability to carry out his tasks quickly and without mistakes. His kindness also shows in his willingness to assist in any area that could use his help. He is greatly appreciated by CSM Suly.

TEACHER OF THE MONTH

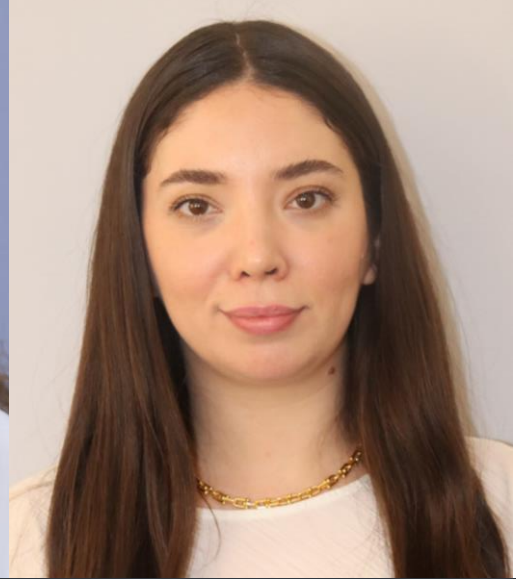
BY: GORDON OBOUR



NAME: HIBA MARWAN



NAME: EVAN ELIAS



NAME: SHAN AZAD

Duhok's Teacher of the month is Ms. Hiba Marwan Ali, who began her career at CSM in 2021. Ms. Hiba teaches Grade 4, 5, and 6 Arabic. She is dedicated to her profession. Ms. Hiba is one of the teachers who exhibit a high level of creativity in teaching. She guides and motivates students with care and love since she believes that every student can learn. In spite her busy schedule, she exemplifies perfection in what is expected of her. CSM Duhok is grateful to have you, Ms. Hiba!

Erbil's Teacher of the month is Ms. Evan Elias Eshaq, who began her teaching career at CSM in 2021. Ms. Evan is the mother of two and a teacher of Grade 1. She teaches Humanities and Fairness. Ms. Evan does not only teach Fairness and Humanities as a subject, but also sees to it that these young learners practice what they have learned. Ms. Evan trains her students to be responsible citizens. She is assertive in managing her class to ensure no one is left behind. Her kindheartedness and love for students is exceptional. CSM Erbil is grateful to have you, Ms. Evan!

Suly's Teacher of the month is Ms. Shan, who began her teaching at CSM in 2021. Ms. Shan teaches Grade 1, 2, and 3 Humanities and Fairness. Despite teaching the most difficult levels, Ms. Shan makes it a fun place to be. Ms. Shan is committed to her profession holds her students in her heart. She creates a positive atmosphere in her classroom that motivates students and brings out the best in them. One name that is common to parents, teachers, and students is Ms. Shan. She is well respected and loved by all. CSM Suly is proud of you, Ms. Shan!

ALUMNI



NAME: MARYAM MELAD

I am Maryam Melad Alias, a fun, spirited twenty-two-year-old, and an alumnus of Classical School of the Medes Duhok currently in the fifth stage of college at the University of Duhok, College of Medicine. I was born in Basra, Iraq, and moved back to Duhok, my hometown, in 2003. I am a true CSM-er since I attended the school from kindergarten until I graduated as valedictorian in 2018. From the very first day, CSM welcomed me with teachers who were supportive, a safe environment of friends from all grades who were kind, and a rigorous academic curriculum and system that helped turn me into the confident, reliable, and hardworking young lady I am today. I have heard from so many, "The school's system is difficult and too much!" I disagree strongly. Upon entering the university with an extensive range of English vocabulary, I never faced any difficulty in my research because of the incredible teachers at CSM who taught me how to manage tasks well. In addition, the school prepared me not just for my major, but also for the outside world. Because of the teaching I received in history, math, science, literature, and also the communication skills I learned, I do not hesitate to communicate what I know in a conversation or debate. At the university, this is my second year as a representative of my stage. On a daily basis I have the opportunity to engage in humanitarian work related to my major where I am appreciated and supported for my knowledge and communication skills...and I am still paving the way for hopefully vast and enormous achievements.



NAME: SARA

I started my journey at the Classical School of the Medes Hewler in 2007 when I was in my second year of kindergarten, and I continued my education there all the way to my high school graduation in 2020. I am now in my third year of college, studying at the University of Kurdistan-Hewler, School of Medicine. Making the transition from high school to college was intimidating to me at the time, seeing as CSM was all I knew after thirteen years there. However, I quickly started to realize throughout my first semester of college that all those years at CSM were preparing me to make that leap. As a student, I always wondered why a lot of my classes required my undivided attention, dedication, and hard work. What baffled me even more was why the curriculum offered copious amounts of knowledge that I deemed too advanced for my age. My questions were answered as soon as I started college, when it became crystal clear how much better prepared CSM graduates were to deal with the real world than graduates from other schools. An obvious distinction set us apart from everyone else, as we had the communication skills, knowledge, curiosity, and confidence that allowed us to excel in our endeavors at such a young age. As I look back on my time at CSM, I am thankful that my classes challenged me and that I chose to work strenuously to overcome these obstacles, as they instilled in me the desire to keep learning, the ambition to continuously improve, and the courage to dream.



NAME: NVAR MUDHAFAR

My name is Nvar Mudhafar. I am a proud graduate of Classical School of the Medes Sulaymaniyah Class of 2022. I have spent almost my entire life in this school, from KG1 to my senior year. Throughout the years, CSM has provided me and my classmates with the world-class education every student deserves, something the public education system has not been able to do successfully. What the Classical School of the Medes has taught will forever be engraved in me: ethics, respect, kindness, and good morals. I have CSM to thank for the person I am today. In addition to a quality education, CSM has shown me the fun of a lifetime. From road trips to picnics to parties, I will always have stories and memories to cherish. It has been quite the journey with my classmates, teachers, and friends, and there is no other group of people I would rather spend my childhood with. It is an honor for me to be joining such an elite class of alumni from such a respected school. I am sure CSM has prepared me well for any upcoming chapters in my life, and I hope to uphold the legacy of the school high. I am forever grateful for CSM with all its current and past staff, and I owe my success to them.

On September 22, 1958, Andrea Bocelli was born in the Italian village of Lajatico. Born with congenital glaucoma, he had difficulty seeing. His mother discovered the trick to comforting little Andrea: classical music. The child would quickly melt into calm as music reverberated from the record player.

In addition to music, Andrea had another passion: football. An extremely active boy of twelve, his vision impairments did not keep him from regular football matches. One day during a match, a football smashed Andrea violently in the right eye. Such was the force of the blow, his brain began to hemorrhage. The doctors tried in vain to restore his sight. It had been the only eye through which he could see light and color.

Not to be discouraged, Andrea learned to read music in Braille. Now his hands moved effortlessly across the piano as his rich vibrato voice wafted through the air. Despite his love of music, he studied law at the University of Pisa and became a lawyer to honor his parents' wishes. However, he also continued to pursue singing. Bocelli was first discovered on the larger stage when Luciano Pavarotti heard him sing. Soon the two performed a duet that catapulted Bocelli to worldwide fame.

Bocelli later released over fourteen albums of his own, and performed duets with the likes of Celine Dion, Sarah Brightman, and Ariana Grande. For him, using his musical gifts is not merely a way to wealth, it is an act of worship. In his words, "Singing is an extraordinary form of prayer. And this is my goal, my purpose, and my joy: to pray together."



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY

ANDREA BOCELLI
BY: CARRIE TARVER

First Impressions Count

First Day of School

BY: GORDON OBOUR



If the saying is true that people can forget what was said or done, but cannot forget how you made them feel, CSM goes beyond that to give students and teachers positive feelings on the first day of the school year. Although teachers cannot control whether students go home to a happy, stimulating, or caring environment, they can control the four walls where students spend some of the most formative moments of their young lives.

To make the environment conducive to teaching and learning, as well as to differentiate from their home environment, CSM administration and teachers spend days preparing classrooms and school walls, just as brides prepare for their grooms. This year, as any other year, CSM teachers and supervisors combined their creative juices to decorate their classrooms and school walls with shapes, colors, writings, and pictures. CSM believes the best teaching comes not only from a good lesson plan, but also from a good environment.

On arrival day, administration welcomed students with songs and warm greetings school entrance. After two months away from school, these gestures initiated students back into their learning environment.

CSM believes such preparation is invaluable...not just on the first day of school, but on every day of the academic year. Welcome back to school young learners!



A NEW LOOK:

CSM CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION

BY: CARRIE TARVER

'Why does the door keep opening during class?' 'It's Buster the ghost!', the students reply. Whether it was a ghost...or just a door needing a new latch, Classical School of the Medes recently launched construction projects to update and refresh the Duhok, Suly, and Erbil campuses...including classroom doors. Oddly enough there seem to be less ghosts now.



Extensive indoor construction commences during summer breaks and long holidays so as not to disrupt classes. However, outdoor construction and minor indoor maintenance is an ongoing process. CSM Suly's crews arrived during this past school year creating an updated wall and entrance. During summer break, Suly also remodeled their doors. CSM Duhok now boasts an entire section of new classrooms, as well as a renovated entrance.

In addition to these projects, fresh paint and new electrical appliances and outlets grace CSM classrooms, hallways, and teacher rooms. Though it is students rather than structures, wisdom rather than walls that form the foundation of CSM, school administration desires to give students and teachers a facility that enhances the learning experience and feels like home.



BACK TO SCHOOL: OPEN HOUSE BOOK & CLOTHES DISTRIBUTION

BY: CARRIE TARVER



Summer came and went, and a new school year begins. The week of August 28th brought a parade of faces new and old to CSM's Erbil, Duhok, and Suly campuses. Teachers and administration welcome parents and students, some of whom are returning for their fourteenth time, having attended CSM from KG1 all the way through to their senior year. Others walk through CSM's doors for the first time, absorbing the sights and sounds of their new school. CSM's Open House provides parents with a checklist of different stations to visit. These include necessities such as receiving curriculum, school uniforms, schedules, and library books. Students also enjoy age-appropriate activities such as face-painting, coloring, and photo booths.

When all is said and done, CSM families leave better prepared to tackle a new school year. Veteran students are reunited with the familiar faces of teachers, administration, and classmates. New students immerse themselves in a fresh environment, now having places, names, and smiles in mind as they envision the first day of a new school year.



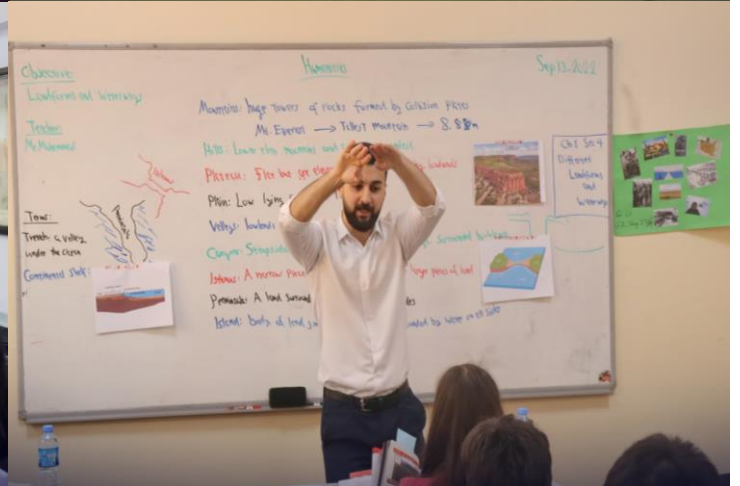
CSM DUHOK IN PHOTOS



CSM HAWLER IN PHOTOS



CSM SLEMANI IN PHOTOS



KG SLEMANI IN PHOTOS



KG DUHOK IN PHOTOS



KG HAWLER IN PHOTOS





LITTLE LEARNERS: CSM KINDERGARTEN MEETING

BY: SIRWAN QADER

Our young ones are our future. They are the generation we prepare to make this world a better place and build a better Society. CSM endeavors to care for its children as if they were their own, believing a healthy environment builds a stable educational foundation. CSM Kindergarten conducted meetings on August 28th and 29th. These meetings include the parents, staff, and teachers of CSM KG. The goal is to give parents peace about the well-being of their children and the environment of the school. Separation from parents can be emotional for these young ones. To help ease separation anxiety, one day before kindergarten starts, the children come to school to familiarize themselves with their surroundings to prepare them for the real thing. CSM desires to make their adjustment to school life a happy one. CSM wishes its smallest members a successful and joyful school year!




G9-12 MEETINGS

BY: SHERWAN TAHA

All three Classical School of the Medes campuses held meetings for the parents and students of grades 9-12. The meetings occurred prior to the new school year during the Open House days. Some of the topics covered included international testing and scoring, attendance, required credits, Scholastic Aptitude (SAT) tests, and Advanced Placement (AP) tests. In addition, the new Ministry of Education acceptance policies for international schools was explained. CSM speakers educated parents and students regarding the AZMOONAKAN site where students can apply for universities and colleges. Grade 9 students were a special focus, as they are new to high school.

They received a thorough briefing on school guidelines and recommended studying style. Grade 12 students were encouraged to finish well, reminded of the importance of this school year as the gateway to their higher education. Topics also included information regarding graduation requirements, electives lessons that enhance their education, and policies related to student behavior, permission, and deductions. The meetings concluded with a question and answer time for parents and students to gain clarification. CSM wishes its highschoolers good success in this new chapter of their lives.

<h3>Students Leaves</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Student leaves<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 days admission officer• 5 days Vice Principal• more than 5 days principal• no leaves on the last week of each phase	<h3>GPA</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• High school classes (Grade 9-12)• All high school classes are credited• Credit Requirements are given by the mother school• No scientific or humanitarian branches• The full GPA Score is 4 in the USA Standards	<h3>Required Credits</h3> <table><tr><td>• Computer</td><td>G9</td><td>1 credit</td></tr><tr><td>• Civics</td><td>G10</td><td>1 credit</td></tr><tr><td>• Music History</td><td>G11</td><td>1 credit</td></tr><tr><td>• Art History</td><td>G12</td><td>1 credit</td></tr><tr><td>• Health</td><td>G12</td><td>½ credit</td></tr><tr><td>• Economics</td><td>G12</td><td>½ credit</td></tr><tr><td>• 3 electives</td><td>G9-12</td><td>3 credits</td></tr><tr><td>• Komalayani</td><td>G9</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>• Maff Mrove & Genocide</td><td>G10</td><td></td></tr></table>	• Computer	G9	1 credit	• Civics	G10	1 credit	• Music History	G11	1 credit	• Art History	G12	1 credit	• Health	G12	½ credit	• Economics	G12	½ credit	• 3 electives	G9-12	3 credits	• Komalayani	G9		• Maff Mrove & Genocide	G10		<h3>SAT Subject - (SAT 2)</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Each SAT subject is out of 800• <u>Passing grade is 400 out of 800, 300 is failing grade</u>• <u>What SAT subjects do you need to take</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Biology EM• Chemistry• Physics• Mathematics (Level 2 engineering schools)• School recommends students from grade 9 and 10 to take at the end of the year	<h3>What is The College Board?</h3> <p>Founded in 1900, "the College Board connects students to college success and opportunity." – CB</p> <p>https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/mvskw-w-sat</p>	<h3>Where students can Apply?</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public universities in Kurdistan• Private Universities in Kurdistan• Up road Universities• What is needed to apply for the public and private universities in Kurdistan?<ul style="list-style-type: none">* GPA transcript and Diploma from USA* 5 Photos* 2 Colored copy of ID or Passport* A Midtest transcript shows SAT scores* acceptance letter if the graduate applied for private university• What is needed to apply for the Up road Universities?
• Computer	G9	1 credit																														
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• Komalayani	G9																															
• Maff Mrove & Genocide	G10																															
<h3>Attendance</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attendance and late cases<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attendance 7-12• Attendance every beginning of session• Late<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One verbal warning• 3 written• dismissal one day• For every 5 days permission will consider one day absent• 3 days absent will cut 1 point from the phase average	<h3>Do we take the National Test?</h3> <p>No</p>	<h3>Required Credits</h3> <table><tr><td>• Math</td><td>(9-12)</td><td>4 credits</td></tr><tr><td>• English</td><td>(9-12)</td><td>4 credits</td></tr><tr><td>• Humanities</td><td>(9-12)</td><td>4 credits</td></tr><tr><td>• Kurdish</td><td>(9-12)</td><td>4 credits</td></tr><tr><td>• Arabic</td><td>(9-12)</td><td>4 credits</td></tr><tr><td>• Biology</td><td>G9</td><td>1 credit</td></tr><tr><td>• Chemistry</td><td>G10</td><td>1 credit</td></tr><tr><td>• Physics</td><td>G11</td><td>1 credit</td></tr><tr><td>• PE</td><td>G9</td><td>1 credit</td></tr></table>	• Math	(9-12)	4 credits	• English	(9-12)	4 credits	• Humanities	(9-12)	4 credits	• Kurdish	(9-12)	4 credits	• Arabic	(9-12)	4 credits	• Biology	G9	1 credit	• Chemistry	G10	1 credit	• Physics	G11	1 credit	• PE	G9	1 credit	<h3>SAT General (English and Math) (SAT 1)</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evidence Based Reading and Writing (200 minimum to 800 maximum)• Math (200 minimum to 800 maximum)• Essay (Optional)• <u>Passing grade is 800 out of 1600</u>• You can test starting from <u>grade 10</u>• You can test up to 6 times in the 4 high school year	<h3>Very Important Notes</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CSM does not make the test• CSM does not supervise the exam• CSM does not grade the exam• CSM only report result to Azmoonakan	<h3>Who is Azmoonakan?</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• When do I go to Azmoonakan?<ul style="list-style-type: none">• After graduation• Why do I need to do Azmoon?• Handout the file made by school
• Math	(9-12)	4 credits																														
• English	(9-12)	4 credits																														
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• PE	G9	1 credit																														
<div><p>Classical School of the Medes 2022-2023 Update</p></div> <p>Rules, Graduation, and Equalization Requirements</p>	<h3>Cell Phones</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cell Phones<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9-12• Allowed• Presented to the door man• Used only at emergency cases• Received at 2:30	<h3>High School Subjects</h3> <p>What subjects the students will study for G9-12?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Literature (9-10), Languages (11,12)* Biology (G9), Chemistry (G10), Physics (G11)* Algebra I (G9), Geometry (G10), Pre-calculus (G11), Calculus (G12)* Humanities (9-12)* Kurdish, Arabic (9-12)* PE, Komalayani (G9)* Maf Mrove & Genocide (G10)* Computer (G9)* Civics (G10)* Music History (G11)* Art History (G12)	<h3>What is SAT?</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scholastic Assessment Test• US based system• Standardized test	<h3>How and when to take the SAT?</h3> <p>http://www.collegeboard.org/sat</p> <p>Who is Amideast?</p> <p>What does CSM do with Amideast?</p> <p>How do we register and when?</p> <p>Date: Look at your schedule for Dates Form: Online vs. Paper application</p>	<p>SAT General and Subjects books are available at school for purchase</p>																											

TEACHERS NEED LEARNING TOO:

LEHATO TRAINING

BY: ALEXANDER WEREKO



Learning is a fundamental part of education and not only for students but for everyone. As the saying goes, “he who rests, rusts.” Digital age students should not learn with an antiquated mindset and techniques. Teacher training and professional development is a continuous never-ending process which promotes the skills required by teachers in the classroom to deliver the most effective and highest standard of teaching possible to their students. At CSM, Teacher Training and Professional Development are mandatory and are conducted twice every year before the commencement of each phase of the academic year. The largest part of this refresher course takes place in August. Lehato, an Educational Institute, has been in partnership with CSM for the provision of such training and professional development courses at all three campuses. The program normally has three parts: Computer Skills, Languages (Kurdish and English), and Education courses.

Teachers are the central part of the educational system and have a massive impact on student performance and achievement. As students are of different personalities and learning types, not all students respond to the same style of teaching or at the same pace of others. It is the duty of the teacher to recognize this and adapt for the benefit of their students. The training sessions are needed to help teachers develop better or more up to date proficiency skills, master subject knowledge, and understand the many different types of learners who could potentially be in one classroom. It is in view of this that the course includes such areas as Child Psychology, Classroom Management, Creativity, Soft Skills, Worldview, Teaching Methodology, How to be an Effective Teacher, General Whiteboard and Planner Usage. The program ensures teachers, new and old, are prepared to enter the classroom.

THE CITY OF SEVEN HILLS

BY: JANDARK SALIM

Rome is the city of Seven Hills. It is the capital city of Italy, located in the center of the Mediterranean Sea in southern Europe.

The Seven Hills of Rome

The first hill that was discovered was The Palatine Hill, found by Romulus and Remus in the year 753BC. Each one of the hills was occupied by settlements. Then, each one of the hills started connecting with each other into a city. The small settlements became a group, which later became a city called Rome.

Colosseum

The Roman Colosseum is in the city center. It is the largest Amphitheatre in the world, and it is 1,952 years old. The Colosseum was used as a church during the Medieval times, but it was destroyed by lightning and earthquakes.

This Colosseum is one of the most visited places in Rome today, as it represents the deep and ancient history of the city.

The Trevi Fountain

The Trevi Fountain is also a popular tourist spot. It was built in the 18th century by Nicola Salvi and then completed later by other architects. It is the world's most famous fountain.

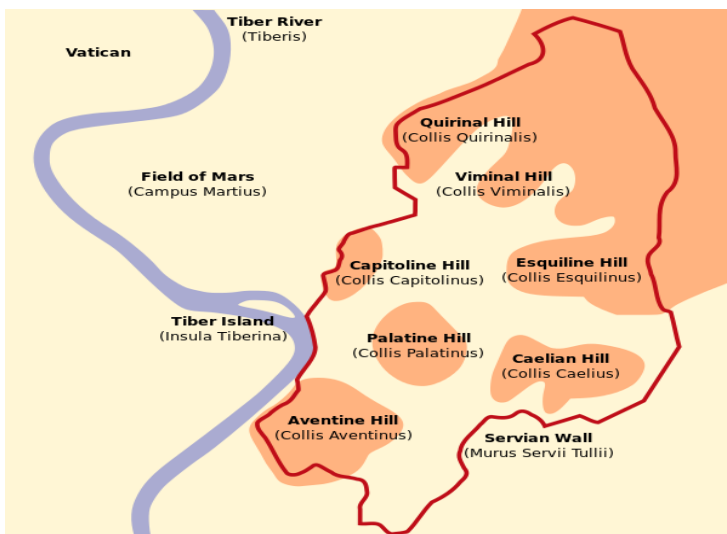
Fun Facts About Rome

-Roman women dyed their hair with goat fat.

-Rome was called Alba Longa in ancient times.

- Rome has over 280 fountains.

Rome is an ancient city that was founded by Romulus and Remus and was discovered in 755 B.C. Rome is a Democratic Classical Republic, taking their inspiration from the United States and France.



THE FLOOD STORY IN DIFFERENT CIVILIZATIONS

BY: SILVIA GHASSAN



Different civilizations started with the same historical event. The flood story is present in most of today's civilizations. There are similarities and differences between the Genesis, Sumerian, Babylonian, Chinese, king list, Mixtec, Indian, and Bantu versions of the flood stories.

All the stories have a survivor who was told about the flood. In the story of Genesis, God wanted to cleanse His creation because of their corruption. God told Noah of the flood that would happen. Therefore, Noah built an ark, and he and his family along with many animals were saved. For the Sumerian version, the gods lament the destruction of the earth. In the Akkadian version, a sea being Tiamat is killed and half of her body is thrown into the heavens so that the death bringing water will not submerge the dry land. In China, a treacherous war leader opens the sky canopy which floods the earth with water. The only survivor is the queen along with some of her men. In the Indian version, King Manu is warned by a fish, the king builds a ship and is saved. In the Mayan story,

four-hundred sons survived the flood by turning into fish, and they celebrated their deliverance by getting drunk. They then ascend into the heaven and become Pleiades. In Peru, a llama refuses to eat. When its owner asks her why, she warns him of five days of water when earth will be flooded. The man climbs a mountain and then repopulates the earth. In the Babylonian version, Atrahasis, the wisest man on earth, is warned of the flood. He builds a boat and invites his people to a great banquet to have one last day with them. During the banquet, he felt guilty because he knew what was coming.

There is much evidence that shows there was a historical flood. One of the geographical proofs states that the Bosphorus Strait burst open due to the rising Mediterranean Sea level. So, the Black Sea overran its banks and settled into a new bed forever.

In conclusion, all civilizations started with a great flood, and even though the stories differ, they still have similarities.

Archaeologists state there was a flood that changed everything.

OCTOBER

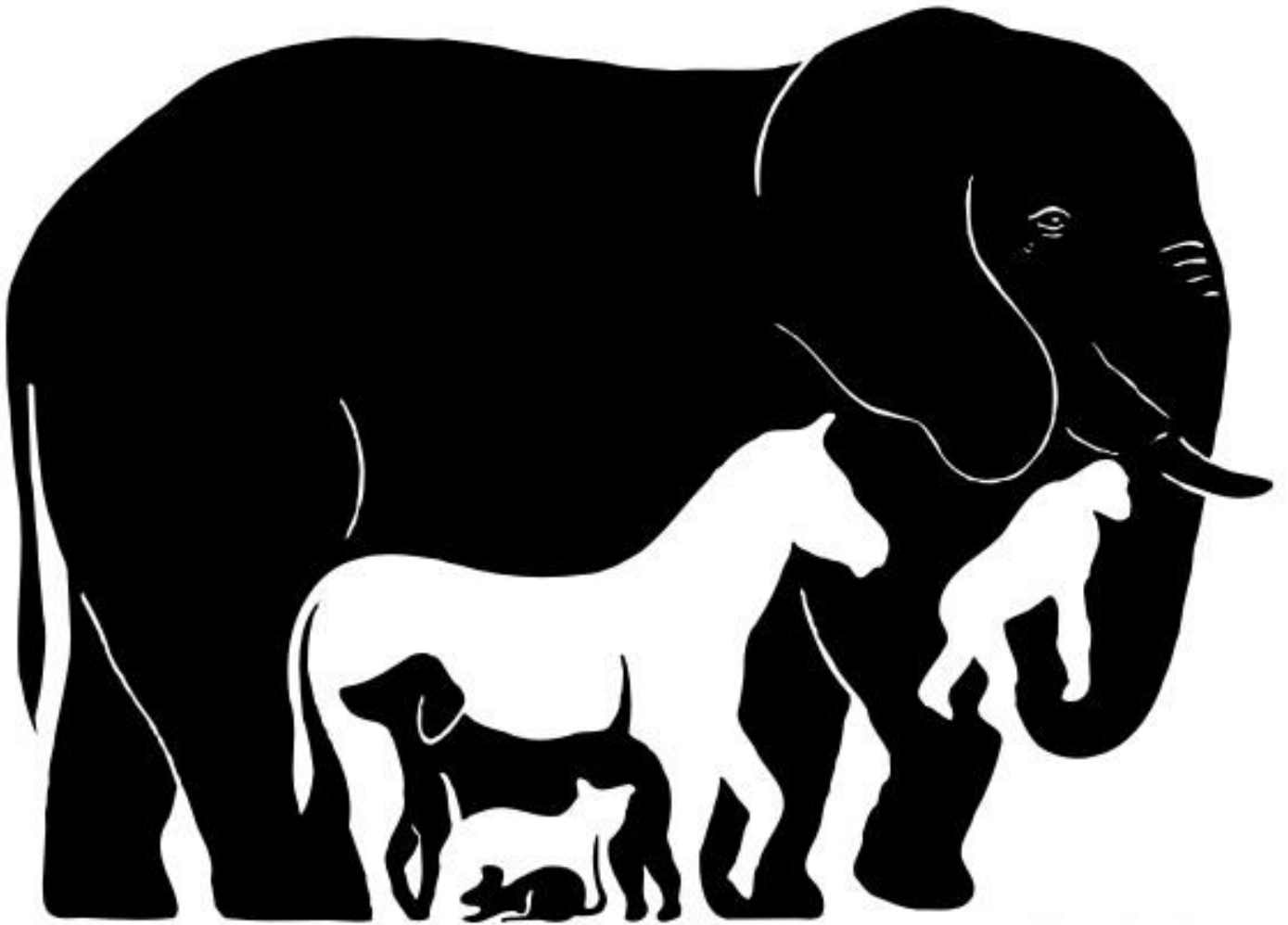
October

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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

- 3rd Independence Day/Holiday
- 13th Last Day of accepting new students
- 16th IOWA 6 and 8 registration deadline
- 20th Weak Student List 1 / KG-G3 science trip
- 27th Sports Events
- 31st Second Installment deadline

How many animals can you see in the picture?

PLAY & ENJOY



FOR YOU TO KNOW

FACTS



More human twins are being born now than ever before.

Do you get the feeling that there are more twins around these days than there used to be? No? Well, you should, because according to a new study in the journal *Human Reproduction*, the "twinning rate" has increased by one-third since the '80s—up from 9 to 12 twins per 1,000 deliveries. Currently that adds up to about 1.6 million twins born each year across the world—meaning one out of every 42 babies is a twin. Helping drive this is the increasing use of medically assisted reproduction, and the delay in childbearing (twinning has been found to increase with a mother's age).

A narwhal's tusk reveals its past living conditions. Much like the rings of a tree can tell you its age and provide clues about the life it has lived, so too does the long tusk of the narwhal. Recent research led by a bioscience professor at Denmark's Aarhus University has shown that this peculiar arctic whale adds a layer to its distinctive tusk each year. And not only do these layers offer insight into the age of the narwhal (they've been known to live up to 50 years) but the conditions in which they lived—such as level of pollution, temperature levels, and even what their diet consisted of. You are what you eat!



The first person convicted of speeding was going eight mph.

According to Guinness World Records, the first person to be charged with speeding was Walter Arnold of the English village of Paddock Wood, Kent. On Jan. 28, 1896, Arnold was spotted going four times the speed limit in his 19th-century Benz—but since the speed limit at the time was just two miles per hour, that meant he was not going too fast by today's standards. The constable had to chase him down on his bicycle, issuing a ticket for £4 7s and earning Arnold the speedy distinction.

"New car smell" is the scent of dozens of chemicals. Few odors are as pleasing as "new car smell"—and not just because it's nice to be in a brand new car. But while the scent may be strangely satisfying, the fact is that it's pretty much just a combination of 50+ chemicals (known as "volatile organic compounds") that are released into the car, decaying quickly over time. The concentrations found in a typical new car aren't dangerous, but among the VOCs that make up much of that new car smell are those found in nail polish, auto fuel, and petroleum.





Newsletter

2022-2023

17th Edition

Classical School of the Medes

Newsletter team:

Ms. Farrah Advisor

Mr. Bassam: Newsletter Organizer

Ms. Carrie: Chief Editor and writer

Mr. Shwan: Layout & Photo Editor Designer

Ms. Mirna: Layout Design Assistant

Mr. Gordan: Associate Editor

Mr. Alexander: Associate Editor

Ms. Kellie: Section Editor

Mr. Sirwn: Guest Editor

Mr. Sherwan: Guest Editor





Mr. John: Guest Editor

Mr. Ninos: Business Manager

Ms. Noor: Advertising Manager

We love what we do and we do what we love

Educating Learners through Academics and Ethics

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18th EDITION





CSM

Newsletter

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**“A girl should be two things:
classy and fabulous.”**

Coco Chanel

On August 19, 1883, in the French town of Saumur, a girl was born. Having little in material possessions, she soon also lost her mother who died of tuberculosis. Her father abandoned her to an orphanage where no one came for her. Remaining in the orphanage until adulthood, she later began a work as a seamstress. In spite of rejection and poverty, how would this poor orphaned girl describe herself? Classy and fabulous. The rest of the story: this girl later became the famous fashion designer, Coco Chanel. What makes a girl “classy and fabulous” is not her money, but her Maker. The outward fashion of a woman should reflect the beauty and value already imprinted on her soul.

Each culture and individual may have a different idea of what is beautiful. Women’s opinions on fashion, style, and color vary as widely as do their personalities. This vast variety too reflects the incredible creativity of their Creator. However, each woman should enjoy the privilege of using their unique personality and taste to beautify their outward appearance in a way that glorifies the God who made them.

The story of some 4.8 million women around the world is one of slavery where they are trapped and sold to the highest bidder. The story of others is one of love and care from a community who cherishes them. Yet, wherever a woman is in the world, her priceless worth was set when she was carefully “knit together” in her mother’s womb.¹ A woman’s outward appearance should not only show her beauty, but it should also honor her fixed worth and value. She is not an object to be traded and ranked. She is a treasure to be honored. She should clothe herself the way she expects to be treated: with dignity and respect.

Regardless of her culture, style, or personality, a girl should indeed be “classy and fabulous”. Coco Chanel proved this can be true of any woman. The outward fashion of a woman should reflect the beauty and value already imprinted on her soul.



WISDOM OF THE EDITION

COCO CHANEL

BY: CARRIE TARVER

CSM FAMILY

BY: JOHN KIM



NAME: WAFAA



NAME: REZHWAN



NAME: AWAZ

Ms. Wafaa is CSM Duhok's Employee of the Month. Serving on staff since 2006, Ms. Wafaa has invested in kindergarten duty and continues to show exceptional work. She treats the students like her own with sweetness and passion. Her long tenure has given her a thorough understanding of kindergarten...so much that she now thinks of kindergarten as her home. Her willingness to perform any duty combined with her humility make her a valued member of CSM Duhok's staff.

The Employee of the Month for CSM Erbil is Ms. Rezhwan. Working with the school since 2018, she originally served as a substitute teacher in the high school building. During this time, she carried out her work with commitment, poise, and accuracy. This year, she has switched to the reception side in the kindergarten area and continues to maintain her excellent work and attitude. She remains dedicated to her performance and never fails to show kindness to the children she cares for. Her demonstrates her nurture and care for children not only at CSM, but also as a mother to her own two children. CSM is proud to have her and wishes her all the success she deserves.

CSM Suly's Employee of the Month is the fantastic chef, Ms. Awaz. Since 2012, she has worked in the cafeteria providing tasty meals for students. Now, she focuses on feeding the kindergarteners. She treats the students like her very own grandchildren with sweetness and tenderness. Preparing meals is no small task, but Ms. Awaz always delivers, serving tirelessly to provide students with healthy tasty food for their best development. She is always punctual, making it easy for students to finish their food. CSM Suly is grateful to have Ms. Awaz on the team.

TEACHER OF THE MONTH

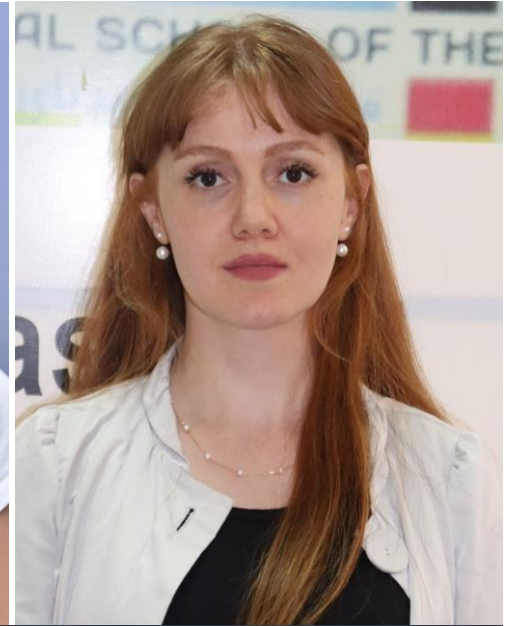
BY: GORDON OBOUR



NAME: ANITA



NAME: RANA



NAME: KANI

Duhok's Teacher of the Month is Ms. Anita, who began her career at CSM in 2020. Ms. Anita who doubles as guardian and role model is energetic, punctual, and dedicated to the school. Ms. Anita combines the best teaching methods including visual aids and games to help students develop social skills. She cares for each student and makes sure everyone is happy in their class. CSM Duhok is proud to have you, Ms. Anita!

Erbil's teacher of the Month is Ms. Rana, who began her CSM journey in 2019. She worked first as a sub teacher in kindergarten. Although distinguished by kindness, calmness, accuracy and commitment, strength and firmness are also present in her personality to raise future generations. She bears the pressure of work and shows great devotion in all details of her job. In addition, her love for children is noticeable, and she is a wonderful friend of the kindergarten staff. CSM Erbil is proud to have you, Ms. Rana!

Suly's Teacher of the Month is Ms. Kani, who is a KG1 main teacher. She began working at CSM Suly in 2013 as a lower grades Grammar teacher. After five years, she became KG1 main teacher. She is passionate in teaching, cares about her students, and treats them with kindness. Her punctuality and willingness to help students with activities make her class enjoyable. Her smile brings joy to everyone. CSM Suly is proud to have you Ms. Kani!

ALUMNI



NAME: KANIE SINDY

I am Kanie Sindy, an alumnus of the Classical School of the Medes in Duhok (CSMD). I look back on my time at CSMD and all I can remember are some of the best moments in my life. I created long-lasting friendships and expanded my network through the school. Furthermore, CSMD has allowed me to develop crucial skills to be successful in my professional life and also as I continue my studies. After graduating from CSMD in 2019, I moved to the United Kingdom to study Politics and Economics at the University of Nottingham. Alongside my studies, I completed internships, the most recent being at the Faith and Belief forum which is a United Nations winning leadership program. After completing my bachelor's degree at the University of Nottingham in 2022, I started my master's degree in Management at the European School of Management and Technology Berlin (ESMT Berlin), the highest-ranked business school in Germany. Throughout my academic journey abroad I have carried the skills I learned at CSMD. I not only acquired skills in science and mathematics, but also in critical thinking, socializing, and teamwork. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to my teachers and the CSM family for challenging us to overcome obstacles, learn, and become ambitious.



NAME: MINA SADIQ

My name is Mina Sadiq Hasan, and I attended the Classical School of the Medes Hewler from 2016-2020. I really enjoyed my high school years at CSM, and it was truly amazing to share that experience with people who quickly became dear to me and walked with me through the fun times and also the difficult times. Although, at the time, my classmates and I would have classified school as just a place of hard work with strict rules, it was the best experience I had. This school helped me academically, succeeded in improving my English skills, and allowed me to excel in other subjects as well. It was time filled with great discussions during classes and fun activities and trips as well. Overall, CSM was a great experience, and I achieved many things during my time there and afterwards. After graduating from high school, I was accepted at TIU where I am currently studying dentistry.



NAME: LANYA RAJAN

My name is Lanya Rajan, and I am a 2022 graduate from the Classical School of the Medes Sulaymaniyah. As an alumnus, I could not be more grateful for everything the school taught me from KG1 to 12th grade. From the moment I walked through the doors on my first day of school, there was so much joy as teachers greeted me and guided me on a remarkable experience that taught me how to be kind. I would always look forward to our breaks where we had unlimited places to play together. Whatever our minds could fathom would be right in front of us. One of the things I loved most about CSM was its care for the needs of students. Teachers and staff provide you with everything you need in order to have the most fun learning experience. The knowledge I learned from everyone at CSM will never be replaced. Each second was enriched with wisdom. Alumni from CSM always reminisce the good times, the activities, the cheerful teachers, and the welcoming arms our school provided. It will always be my second home.

When people hear the name Christopher Columbus, some think of a hero, and others think of a villain. The explorer from Spain who discovered “the new world” of the Americas...” has both successes and failures. Columbus was born in 1451 in Genoa, Italy, where he worked on a merchant ship. However, after an unfortunate encounter with pirates, he fled to Spain. In Spain, Columbus’ journey as a sailor began. Today, his journeys are still celebrated, and his legacy remembered.

Christopher Columbus undertook four voyages to connect Europe to the Indies. His first and second voyages occurred in 1492 and 1496, when he discovered and colonized the Caribbean islands. His third voyage took place in 1498–1499, intending to confirm the location of a landmass under the Caribbean Sea, which was later found to be South America. His final voyage took place in 1502–1504, but he failed to achieve his goal of reaching Asia. However, his achievements in these voyages have had a lasting impact on the world.

To honor his great achievements, Columbus Day was created in his honor. It falls near his birthday on the second Monday of every October. His discovery of the Americas is considered a turning point in history that changed the world forever

Some view him as a brave sailor, while others see him as a heartless colonizer. On one hand, he made the monumental discovery of the Americas, opening up a new world of exploration and trade. On the other hand, he was also responsible for the inhumane treatment of the Caribbean people, introducing several lethal diseases from Europe, which caused deaths in the areas he colonized.

Christopher Columbus, like most mortals, has successes to boast and failures to regret. However, he remains one of the most famous explorers of all time. His mark on history is indelible, and his legacy is celebrated this month of October. Happy Columbus Day!



OCTOBER BIRTHDAY CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

BY: MATTHEW MUNTHIR

SAT 1 TESTING

CENTER OPEN AT CSM!

BY: SIRWAN QADER



SAT[®]

Classical School of the Medes is proud to announce qualification as an official testing center for the Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT1). The SAT1 is the crucial assessment students need when applying to U.S. universities. It tests abilities in the two essential skills of literacy and numeracy (Math and English). The purpose of the SAT exam is to measure a high school student's readiness for college as well as provide colleges with one common evaluation parameter which can be used to compare all candidates.

Colleges and universities who use SAT1 as a metric generally consider a student's top English score and top Math score separately when evaluating candidates for acceptance and scholarships. Because of this, it is typical for students to take the exam multiple times. CSM hopes their recognition as an official testing center will give students greater access, convenience, and flexibility in taking the exam.

SAT1 exams at CSM will take place in the months of August, October and December. The first SAT exam at CSM occurred August of this year. The digital version of the exam will begin in March of 2023.

During exams, efficient security measures are taken. Locks, security cams, and qualified security personal will ensure the perfect flow of the exam which clocks in at 3 hours. There will also be administration follow up and trained monitors and supervisors.

The exam is open to all high school students without age limit, and there are no specified educational requirements to take the test.

High SAT1 scores showcases student's aptitude to admission officers from top universities around the world, strengthening college applications, and supplementing academic records. CSM wishes test-takers a prosperous academic year and a bright future.

SEEING IS BELIEVING: PURPOSE OF LABS

BY: ALEXANDER WEREKO.

What makes a school effective is how well it adopts innovative and practical approaches alongside theoretical methods in education. Therefore, a fully equipped school lab is an asset to teach concepts of science with enhanced understanding. Hands-on laboratory science experiences are critical to the learning process across all areas of study, beginning with kindergarten and continuing through post-secondary education. Research has shown that students who engage in well-designed laboratory experiences develop problem-solving and critical-thinking skills, as well as gain exposure to reactions, materials, and equipment in a lab setting.

While it is hard to illustrate theories and facts from books, students learn faster when they see the process being performed live in the laboratory. The lessons teachers impart through show and tell methodology are more quickly absorbed by students and are retained for longer durations of their lifetime. CSM has a well-furnished and spacious Science Lab in Duhok, Erbil, and Suly. The separate labs for Primary and High School, as well as for the different branches of Science (Biology, Chemistry, and Physics) ensure teachers and students can have access to them without needing to wait in line.

Science labs promote critical analysis skills by presenting various points of view from which one can draw conclusions. This improves their analytical skills and prepares them for future challenges outside the classroom as well. Students are always looking for easy ways to learn and gain new knowledge. Science experiments help students explore their surroundings and broaden their horizons.



THE SCHOOL, OUR HOME: PAJAMA DAY

BY: GORDON OBOUR



“Why is school called a second home? If school is our home, why don’t we sleep there?” a student once asked. School is one of the most exciting journeys of life. School days are not just memorable, they are eternal. The school is called a home because students achieve their basic training for education and life from their school.

To make school feel even more like home, CSM annually celebrates Pajama Day with their students to make it feel even more like home.

On October 6th, this annual ritual was observed at all three CSM campuses. Students arrived wearing their favorite pajamas holding their cherished blankets and stuffed animals. Teachers prepared activities including coloring, watching movies with popcorn, photoshoots with a pajama day theme, and other games. The joy and excitement on student’s faces was contagious as they paraded around the school to their different activities. Indeed, if school is a home, CSM takes it to the next level. Students not only study for academic purposes, but also to explore their environment, learn, and have fun as they grow.



THE KING'S GAMBIT: CHESS COMPETITIONS

BY: CARRIE TARVER



The country of Armenia requires its students include chess classes as part of their official curriculum. Though students in Iraqi-Kurdistan are free from such requirements, Classical School of the Medes held chess tournaments across all three campuses for the pure enjoyment of students and teachers. Contestants competed before judges in the libraries of Duhok and Suly, while participants in Erbil played their games in a glassed-in area where students and teachers gathered around to observe.

Each player received a medal along with a certificate. CSM awarded trophies to the winners along with their medals and certificates. Judges timed the games and provided guidance when necessary.



Although games were intense, contestants demonstrated a thorough understand of the game, competing with focus and class.

CSM recognizes all participants for their exceptional skill and focus with a special congratulations to the winners:

DUHOK: Fatah Hazhar (Grade 12)

ERBIL: Mustafa Ayad (Grade 9)
Mr. Rubban (Math Teacher G10,11, 12)

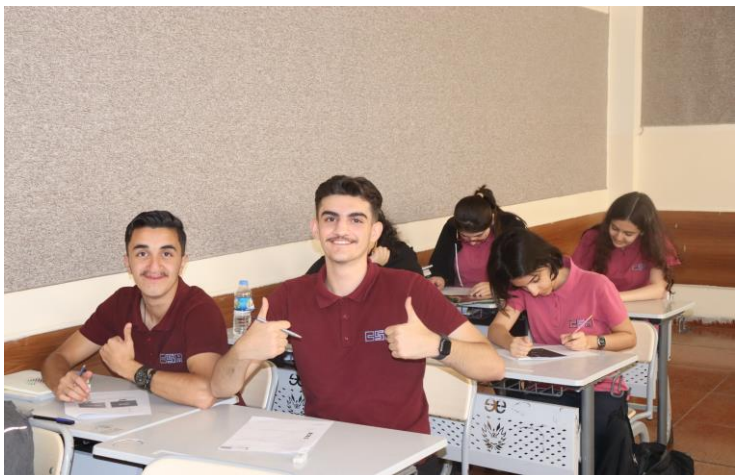
SULY: Darin (Grade 12)



KGs IN PHOTOS



CSM SULAIMANI IN PHOTOS



CSM HAWLER IN PHOTOS



CSM DUHOK IN PHOTOS



SMALL GAMES FOR SMALL PEOPLE: SPORT ACTIVITY

BY: ALEXANDER WEREKO



The afternoon of Tuesday, October 18th showed the smiling faces of parents, students, and teachers as students from kindergarten to 3rd grade participated in “small games”. Games played included XO, collect the balls, racket racing, and aim for the target. CSM planned this event immediately following school when parents were already planning to be present.

In addition to bringing joy, simple games such as these help children learn to follow directions, identify colors and numbers, develop hand-eye coordination, communicate effectively, problem-solve, and work as a team. Whether they are following rules or finding ways to circumvent them, these games offer opportunities for children to delve into their creative sides and utilize their imaginations.





MEDES SCHOOL MEETS MADAGASCAR: ZOO TRIPS

BY: CARRIE TARVER

“The monkeys eat sunflower seeds just like us!”, students exclaim as they feed sunflower seeds to the monkeys. Caravans of buses filled with excited children leave all three CSM campuses this month as kindergarten as well as grades 1-3 visit the zoo. Though Duhok, Erbil, and Suly each handle zoo trips with their own unique touch, learning and laughter are consistent across all campuses.

Keeping track of young ones at the zoo is a challenge that takes the efforts of teachers, supervisors, and bus drivers alike.

“Straight line!” “Two by two!”, teachers urge. But sometimes the thrill of seeing monkeys, lions, tigers, camels, ostriches, deer, ponies, wolves, and bears with your very eyes trumps the desire to obey. Students press their bodies against the fence straining to see the animals, and even imitate their sounds as they watch. Students later enjoy an outdoor picnic and games before returning to school. The day ends with activities such as coloring sheets with animal pictures and watching animal movies to cement what they have just observed. Animals are not just like them...and yet, they hold a special place in the hearts of children.



MACABRE MUTILATION: JACK THE RIPPER

BY: EMILY EDWARD

The greatest monster of all time still lives! He's here, among us—leaving his signature in blood. . . .

Yours Truly—
Jack the Ripper



JACK THE RIPPER

An unsolved metropolitan homicide of five by a pseudonymous serial killer in 1888 who was never identified or arrested: Jack the Ripper. He terrorized the streets of London for months and defeated the law. Though nameless, in addition to “Jack the Ripper”, he was also known as the Whitechapel Murderer and Leather Apron when inscribed in journalistic articles and newspapers.

The infamous murderer had very specific targets, offering them money and luring them into an isolated alley. Unlike Jack the Ripper, who successfully hid every ounce of DNA from investigations, the victims, known as “the canonical five”, were found and identified not long after their murder.

Havoc and paranoia reigned in the streets as ordinary citizens feared for their lives. Still, no hint of the murderer’s identity had been discovered

. The greatest piece of evidence detectives received was a letter supposedly written by the murderer. The name “Jack the Ripper” originated from this letter, which quickly gained popularity after being published. Nevertheless, this infamous letter is extensively seen as a hoax made up by journalists to hook readers and increase circulation of their newspapers. This letter, titled “From Hell”, was none other than the infamous “Dear Boss,” letter and was signed “Jack the Ripper”.

Although continuous efforts were made to spot and arrest the serial killer, all attempts were vain. Not one person was ever convicted of the crimes, but there have been over a hundred named culprits who might have been guilty. The “Jack the Ripper” murders introduced the Victorian authorities with a branch of crime they were unfamiliar with, and thus the mystery still continues today.

TIMES SQUARE, NYC, NEW YORK

BY: LARA KARWAN



‘CONCRETE JUNGLE WHERE DREAMS ARE MADE OF’

Walking down a busy street, a millionaire and a homeless man are smoking side by side. Where else could you be but New York City? The city of colors and dreams, pop and jazz, rich and the poor, NYC has a reputation for being the city of the free. Since the Roaring Twenties, art has become the most visible and fundamental trait of New York. Roaming around the city, a plethora of forms and styles of art from classical to modern can be seen in every corner of this cultural capital. With its spectacular architectural diversity, New York's buildings compliment the distinct historical and cultural periods of America. Observing its massive and dazzling skyscrapers, one can only wonder about the time and effort it took for every block to be stacked on top of another. With each building stone and every brick, an untold story lies.

With credits to a multicultural environment, the city never runs out of trends. New York has managed to emerge as one of the fashion centers of the world, giving birth to many of the most well-known and respected stylists and designers worldwide. In this city of creativity and acceptance, no style is out of question. Although immigration to the United States been limited in the past few decades, New York City has welcomed peoples from all cultural backgrounds with open arms. On average, around 100,000 non-Americans immigrate to NYC annually and comfortably call this place home. With its flashy billboards and opulent culture, New York City has stolen the hearts of millions throughout the world as it continues to be a symbol of self-expression, resistance and freedom.

AP SCHEDULE



2023 AP EXAM (LATE TESTING DATES)

DATE	MORNING 8 A.M. LOCAL TIME	AFTERNOON 12 P.M. LOCAL TIME
Wednesday 17/5/2023	Chemistry	Computer Science Principles
	Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism	English Literature and Composition
	Psychology	Japanese Language and Culture
	Statistics	Macroeconomics
	United States History	Spanish Literature and Culture
	Computer Science A	Environmental Science
Thursday 18/5/2023	Chinese Language and Culture	Comparative Government and Politics
	English Language and Composition	Art History
	German Language and Culture	Biology
	Human Geography	French Language and Culture
	Physics 1: Algebra-Based	Italian Language and Culture
		Latin
Friday 19/5/2023	Microeconomics	European History
	Calculus AB	Music Theory
	Calculus BC	Physics C: Mechanics
	Physics 2: Algebra-Based	Seminar
	Spanish Language and Culture	United States Government and Politics
		World History: Modern

2023 AP Schedule

WEEK 1

DATE	8 A.M. LOCAL TIME	12 P.M. LOCAL TIME
Monday 1/5/2023	United States Government and Politics	Chemistry Spanish Literature and Culture
Tuesday 2/5/2023	Chinese Language and Culture	Psychology
	Environmental Science	
Wednesday 3/5/2023	English Literature and Composition	Computer Science A Comparative Government and Politics
Thursday 4/5/2023	Human Geography	Seminar
	Macroeconomics	Statistics
Friday 5/5/2023	European History	Art History
	United States History	Microeconomics

WEEK 2

DATE	8 A.M. LOCAL TIME	12 P.M. LOCAL TIME	2 P.M. LOCAL TIME
Monday 8/5/2023	Calculus AB	Computer Science Principles	
	Calculus BC	Italian Language and Culture	
Tuesday 9/5/2023	Japanese Language and Culture	Physics C: Mechanics	Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism
	English Language and Composition		
Wednesday 10/5/2023	Spanish Language and Culture	Biology	
Thursday 11/5/2023	French Language and Culture	Physics 1: Algebra-Based	
	World History: Modern		
Friday 12/5/2023	German Language and Culture	Latin	
	Music Theory	Physics 2: Algebra Based	

CSM Test Centers

- Sunday to Thursday
- from 8:30 am. - 2:30 pm

CSMH: 7508099460

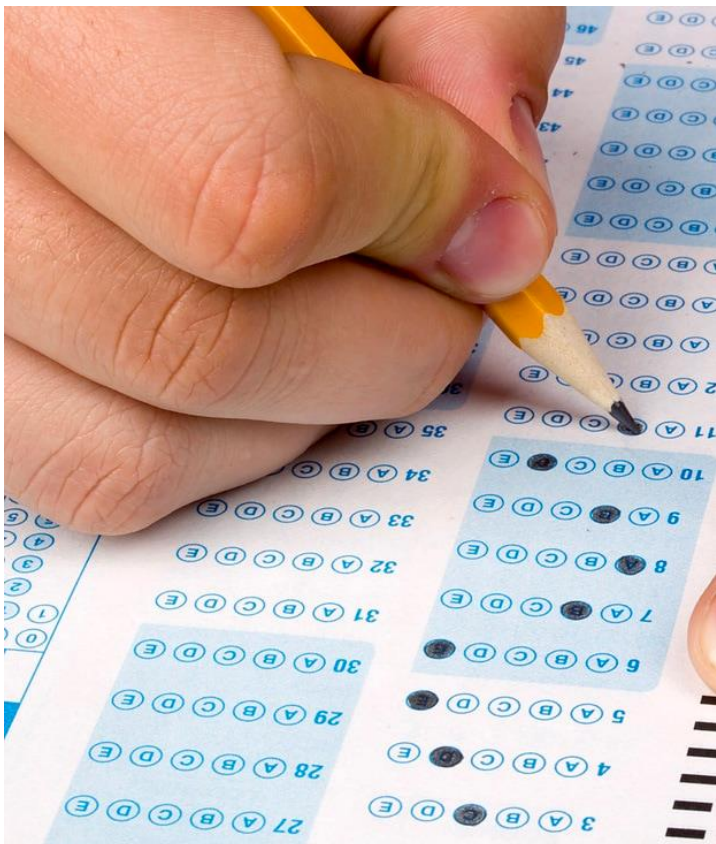
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CSMD: 7508099462

IOWA EXAM

CSM will be having a standardized test from the US called the "IOWA Assessment" for our

grades 6 and 8 this coming April. This test will be for English and Math to show the academic progress according to their grade level. This test will be administered at CSM campuses as paper and pencil using bubble sheets that will be sent to the US for grading. You will receive a report after four weeks of the test. There will be bonus points for high level scores added to phase 2 grade that will be announced after the results of the assessment.



Bonus Ranges

60-69 1 point bonus 70-79-1.5 points bonus

80-89 2 points bonus 90-100-3 points bonus

The bonus point's will be added to phase 2 Math and English Score



THE
IOWA
TESTS

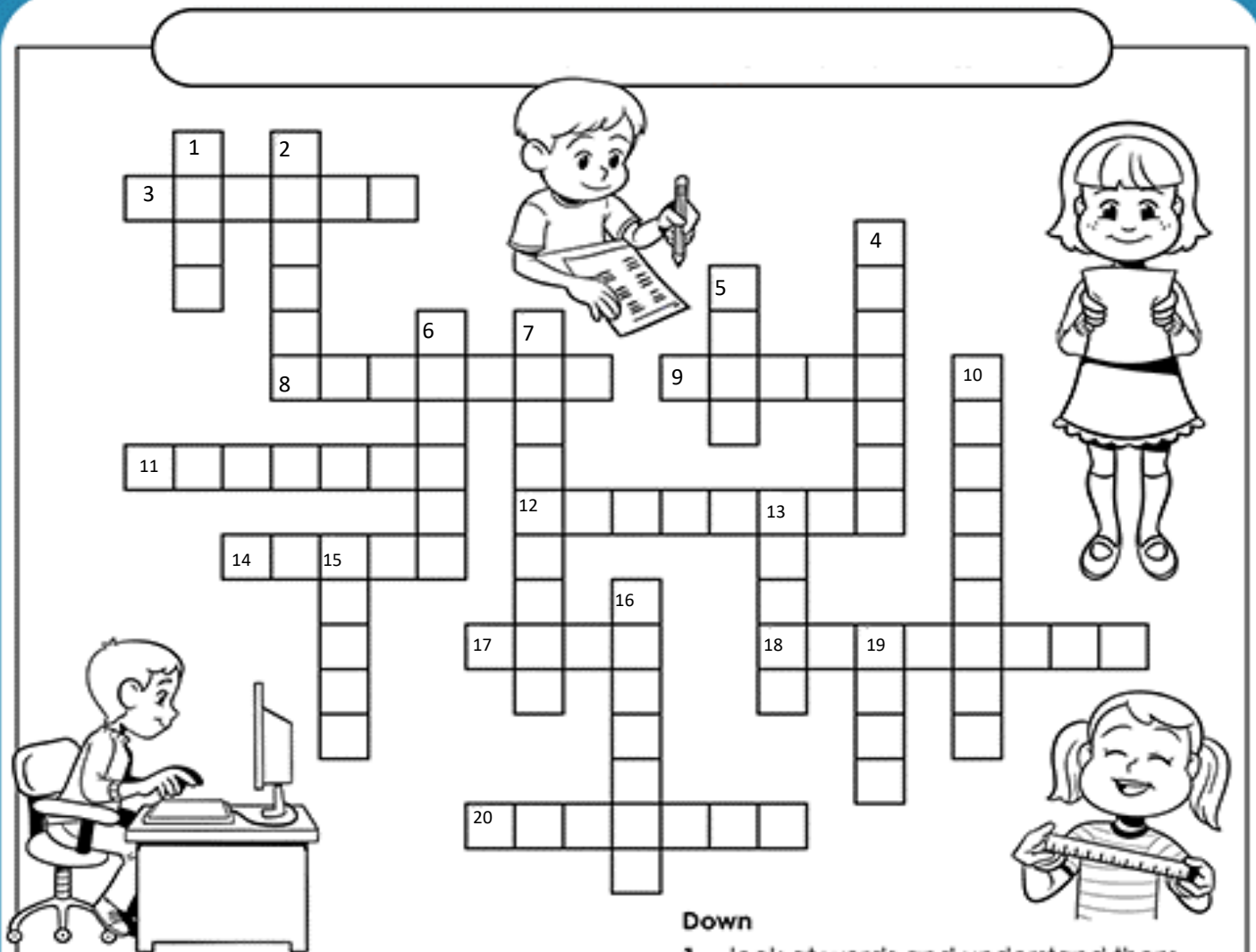
NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

- ☐ 1st Duhok and Erbil Fire Station G6
- ☐ 6th KG, G1 Day Picnic
- ☐ 7th G2 Day Picnic
- ☐ 8th G3 Day Picnic
- ☐ 9th G4 Day Picnic
- ☐ 10th G5 Day Picnic
- ☐ 16th Soccer Championship G7-G12
- ☐ 17th Thanks Giving Party Grades KG-8 / G9-12 No Classes
- ☐ 27th - 30th Swimming L1

PLAY & ENJOY



Across

3. tool for writing
8. place where books are kept
9. subject in which you learn about songs and instruments

Down

1. look at words and understand them
2. place where students learn
4. person who plans lessons and helps you learn
5. used to stick papers together
6. pink item that helps remove mistakes

FOR YOU TO KNOW

FACTS



The world wastes about 1 billion metric tons of food each year

Food waste is a huge problem. How big? About 931 million metric tons. That's how much food that researchers with the United Nations estimate was wasted in 2019, according to the Food Waste Index Report 2021, which surveyed 54 countries, finding that the majority of wasted food (61%) comes from homes while restaurants and other food services produce 26% of wasted food.

Hair and nails grow faster during pregnancy

A surprising side effect of pregnancy is that nails and hair grow faster than usual. This is due to changes in hormones as well as increased blood circulation and metabolism supplying nutrients. According to Amy O'Connor, writing for What to Expect, a pregnant person's hair also "might feel thicker and look more shiny and healthy than usual." Though she warns that it can occasionally mean that the expecting "may suddenly sprout strands in places [they'd] rather not.



Many feet bones don't harden until you're an adult.

Feet are enormously complex parts of the body. Each foot contains 26 bones, as well as 33 joints and 19 muscles, which work together to allow for a huge range of motion and movements. But many of these bones remain cartilage throughout a person's childhood, slowly ossifying into bone as the years go on. According to the Ontario Society of Chiropodists, all of the bones in the foot don't completely harden until a person is about 21 years old! And for more trivia to keep you sharp

Some sea snakes can breathe through their skin.

You might think that it's just fish that have gills, but there are several species of sea snake that breathe through their skin as well. For example, the *Hydrophis cyanocinctus* has been found to breathe through the top of its own head. It has a small hole and collection of blood vessels at the top of its head for picking up oxygen from the seawater and sending it to the reptile's brain while it moves underwater.





Newsletter

2022-2023

18th Edition

Classical School of the Medes

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Ms. Farrah Yousif: Advisor

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Mr. Alexander Wereko: Associate Editor

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Mr. Sherwan Taha: Guest Editor

Mr. John Kim: Guest Editor

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Ms. Noor Yousif: Advertising Manager

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19th EDITION





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Newsletter

2022-2023

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“Relinquishment from a position of strength for the sake of others is the pinnacle of virtue.”

Yousif Matty

Aristotle writes, “For to constitute Happiness, there must be, as we have said, complete virtue and a complete life.” Throughout history, thinkers worldwide dove deep into the question of virtue. Not a stranger to the question, Mr. Yousif, the founder of CSM, shares his wisdom in this regard: “Relinquishment from a position of strength for the sake of others is the pinnacle of virtue.” This quote encloses excellent wisdom that is true in many scenarios.

This quotation reflects essential truths often disregarded in the modern world. In a world where power is considered the greatest possession one could lay hands upon, people often forget the true purpose of strength and influence. Strength is a means for charity and service. Once deprived of love and self-giving, strength becomes an insufferable tyrant. In his Summa Theologica, Thomas Aquinas states that the absence of virtue is vice. If one cannot serve in a place of power, the power one possesses becomes a vice rather than a source of virtue. Relinquishing such positions of strength where one is incapable of charity and love, therefore, can be virtuous. The quotation also reflects the most beautiful story ever told...the story of an omnipotent God who willed to become incarnate and save the world. Christ, who followers of Jesus believe is God and became human, giving up His position of glory for the world's salvation. Without this total self-giving, Christians believe humanity was doomed to die in sin. Christ, however, willing to be born of a virgin and dwell among people, ransomed mankind from the evil that enslaved them. Even Christ, however, did still have authority on earth. He could heal the sick, raise the dead, and drive out evil spirits.

However, for someone who is conscious of the purpose of power and capable of service, it could be virtuous to use this position to aid others. One can agree that using strength to improve the lives of others could at times be better than giving up that same strength.

WISDOM OF THE EDITION

YOUSIF MATTY

BY: MARYAM LAHEEB –
CSM 2022 ALUMNI

The pinnacle of virtue however should in all cases be patient and kind; it should not envy or boast; it should not be arrogant or rude. It should not insist on its own way; it should not be irritable or resentful; it should not rejoice at wrongdoing but rejoice with the truth. That virtue is Love. Through Love, we can be changed and saved. Every vice hence is a lack of Love, and every virtue stems from Love. This is the same Love that saw mankind long before they even knew what virtue was and chose to die so they could be in Him and He in them. Christ is Love and Virtue itself, and to love is to be in Christ. Whether it be relinquishing strength or at times using that strength to serve others, I believe the pinnacle of virtue is this: to know and be in Christ – the Good Shepherd who rejoices when He finds His lost sheep.

CSM FAMILY

BY: JOHN KIM



NAME: SHERWAN

The Employee of the Month for CSM Erbil is Mr. Sherwan. While just having joined CSM this year, he has already become an important part of the school. His expertise as a school nurse is invaluable, and he continues to be committed to the work he does. His personality and character shows in the calmness and accuracy of his work. Kindness is important to this line of work, and Mr. Sherwan shows great kindness to the students. Not only does he show this kindness to the students, but he is also an encouraging friend to members of the school staff. CSM is proud to have Mr. Sherwan and wishes him success in his life.



NAME: ZINA

CSM Duhok would like to recognize Ms. Zina as its Employee of the Month. Ms. Zina is a social worker who joined the school's team in 2021, and she continues to be a vital part of the team. Her responsibilities include supporting the school's students and making sure they are well taken care of. She cares not only about their physical wellbeing but also their mental and emotional health. To achieve this, she diligently works to counsel students, providing them with proper, positive advice and guidance so they can grow to be their best. Ms. Zina remains committed to her work being fully present to complete her tasks with excellence.



NAME: SHIRAZ

CSM Suly's Employee of the Month is Ms. Shiraz. A successful school needs a strong and reliable copy worker, and Ms. Shiraz fills that role superbly. Having joined CSM in 2021, she remains dedicated to her work and completes it with precision and poise. Her enthusiasm makes the days happier, and she is open to help wherever she can. Ms. Shiraz displays the traits of an excellent employee with her work ethic, punctuality, and attention to detail. CSM greatly appreciates her abilities here. As if that is not enough, she also helps oversee the school's storage, resulting in a neat and organized space due to her excellent management.

TEACHER OF THE MONTH

BY: GORDON OBOUR



NAME: JOSEPH

Duhok's Teacher of the Month is Mr. Joseph, who began his career at CSM in 2017. Mr. Joseph is the true definition of a teacher. He is committed, punctual and dedicated to the school. Mr. Joseph combines hard work and creativity to make the lessons simplified for his students. Despite his busy schedule, he is always available when needed. CSM Duhok is proud to have you, Mr. Joseph!



NAME: ASO

Erbil's Teacher of the Month is Mr. Aso, who began his journey at CSM in 2019. Mr. Aso is a High School Komalayati teacher. He is creative and combines different techniques to make his lessons meaningful and understandable by all. Mr. Aso's amiable personality makes him unique. He is not only loved by students, but by teachers and parents as well. He is considerate and fair towards each one. CSM Erbil is proud to have you, Mr. Aso!



NAME: SAFAR

Suly's Teacher of the Month is Mr. Safar, who began working at CSM Suly in 2012. Mr. Safar is a Kurdish teacher who is extremely committed and punctual to his work. Mr. Safar doubles as a teacher and a role model. He believes that victory is not only for the strong, so he makes sure no one is left out. He always prioritizes the needs of the students at the core of his lessons. CSM Suly is proud to have you, Mr. Safar!

ALUMNI



NAME: SABAOTH SAMEM

I began attending the Classical School of the Medes Hawler when I was just four years old in 2005. I stayed at CSM for fourteen years, graduating in 2019. While I was still a senior, I was accepted into multiple schools in the United States. I was able to choose my favorite one and now I attend Ouachita Baptist University in Arkansas. In the States I was given the freedom to choose what to study; I chose to double major in Graphic Design and Psychology, and I enjoy both disciplines. I am currently in the process of writing my honors thesis on how these different majors inform and complement each other. As a senior in college, I have already accepted a job offer to begin working after graduation as a Designer for the university. All this would not be possible without my strong education at CSM. My education at CSM taught me to love both science and art and create bridges between them. I learned the importance of math as I use it every day to design and the importance of science and research as they inform me in my daily problem solving. I learned to think critically and to express my thoughts through writing. Two of my essays that I have written in college were published by my university. Because of the high standards at CSM, I was challenged by my teachers to work hard, and, thanks to them, I was given all the tools necessary to succeed in college. CSM did not just provide me with a great education, but it also encouraged me to be a contributing member of society. CSM taught me to stand up for what I believe, to help those in need, to think deeply about life and all its conflicts. Our teachers and coordinators at CSM were not only our schoolteachers, but our mentors, freely sharing with us their wisdom. At CSM I found a second home.



NAME: KAREN AMINIAN

My name is Karen Aminian, and I am an alumnus of the Classical School of the Medes Duhok class of 2019-2020. I am now in my third year of medical school. I began my formal education in 2006 as a kindergartener and stayed at CSM until I graduated. I must admit I felt nervous starting college, thinking I might not be prepared to face the adversities of higher education...but thankfully I was wrong. I had deemed the lessons I learned in CSM too advanced and unnecessarily difficult for a typical student. However, as my first semester of college ended, I realized the curriculum I studied and the challenges I faced at CSM fully prepared me for college. Even now as a medical student, I have participated and written multiple research papers and theses. As I look back on my time at CSM and the experiences I had, for better or for worse, I am thankful for the challenges and education it provided me, and I credit my success in college to CSM. The challenging environment and competitive nature of this school made me the man I am today and prepared me for advanced academic endeavors in the future.



NAME: ANNA SHNRWE

My name is Anna Shnrwe, and I graduated from Classical School of the Medes Suly Class of 2021-2022. I joined the CSM family back in 2008, starting from KG1. I have spent most of my life engulfed in CSM's playful and balanced environment. Throughout the years, I have seen many teachers and staff members come and go, but CSM was always able to preserve its morals and ethics. I enjoyed many activities, including parties, picnics, and educational trips. They taught me to be confident, how to give speeches, and they helped me find myself. In the coming years, I will grow and enter a new chapter of my life, but my years at CSM will forever stay close to my heart because it was where I made friends for the first time and had my first fight. I will forever cherish the memories, teachers, staff members, friends, and classmates that CSM brought into my life.

"I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat...We have before us many long months of toil and struggle. You ask what is our policy. I will say, it is to wage war with all our might, with all the strength that God can give us, to wage war against a monstrous tyranny never surpassed in the dark, lamentable catalogue of human crime. You ask what is our aim? I can answer in one word: Victory. Victory at all costs. Victory in spite of all terror. Victory however long and hard the road may be. For without victory there is no survival."

-Winston Churchill

On November 30, 1874, Sir Winston Churchill was born. Little did the world know how differently history would unfold because this baby boy was born. British Prime Minister, military officer, politician, historian, orator, and writer, Winston Churchill wore many hats during his lifetime. His parents were British and American, and some might say he enjoyed a childhood of ease, wealth, and privilege

When enlisting in the army in 1895, he served in British India. This brought him great fame as a war correspondent, after which he began writing a book about his campaign. In 1897, Churchill took further action on India's Northwest Frontier. Riding a grey pony, he had a perfect view of the enemy along battle lines. Churchill used his mother's influence to receive his desired assignment to the Kitchener Army in Egypt. While fighting the cult, he took part in the last major cavalry charge in British history, the Battle of Omdurman in 1898.

Churchill was first elected to Parliament in 1900, shortly before Queen Victoria's death. He sat in the House of Commons as a Conservative and delivered his inaugural address four days later. However, after just four years as a Conservative, he crossed the floor to join the Liberals, making the extravagant gesture of sitting next to one of the leading radicals, David Lloyd George. Later, after some hesitation, he rejoined the Conservative Party

Long before World War II, Winston Churchill became the first Lord of the Admiralty in 1911, ordering the equipment the British navy needed for war and defense. They built warships using oil-fired rather than coal-fired engines. He was the first to advocate for the military as a result, and he established the Royal Navy Air Service. After some time, he became exceptionally skilled at manipulating the air force to fight.

Winston served as prime minister from 1940 to 1945 and once more from 1951 to 1955. Leading the British forces and the people of England throughout World War II, Britain was at last successful in ending the conflict. Renowned for his incredible speeches, he earned the Nobel Prize in 1953. The quote above was one of many impassioned war-time speeches spoken to the heart of his people. As they were preparing for the Battle of Britain, he delivered one of his most famous speeches, "This was their finest hour", to motivate the army. Winston Churchill not only oversaw the nation but also inspired his people to victory in World War II



NOVEMBER

BIRTHDAY

WINSTON

CHURCHILL

**BY: SAMANTA GORGEES
AND ASAL HENRIK**

PLANNING AND PEACE

MIDTERM EXAM PREPARATION

BY: SIRWAN QADER

At CSM we give special attention to Midterm Exams because they are an essential evaluation of what students have learned and benefited from their first semester. Because of this, CSM administration, teachers, and students begin preparation long before exams begin.

Teachers begin developing Study Guides, Review Sheets, and exam questions as early as October. As exams draw nearer, there are specialized committees developed for different tasks such as copying exams, counting exam pages to ensure each booklet is complete, stapling exams, and preparing testing halls. Special training is given to hall monitors, committee members, and security staff to ensure a smooth and successful midterm experience.



Midterm Exams will arrive soon, commencing December 6th and lasting until December 22nd. These exams include students starting from Grade 1 to Grade 12. KG students will complete what is called “Evaluation 1”.

CSM students are provided with several aids to facilitate the easy flow of their midterm exams. They obtain guidelines which will appear alongside the midterm schedule. They also receive Study Guides and Review Sheets to help them concentrate on the most relevant study materials. Teachers spend classroom time reviewing important concepts with their students. It is of utmost importance at CSM to provide students with everything they need to complete this important milestone of their academic year.



A BRIGHT FUTURE: AP EXTRA LESSONS

BY: SIRWAN QADER



It is of utmost importance for CSM students to prepare for college and therefore AP (Advanced Placement) Exams are taken seriously. Over 200 CSM students in Duhok, Erbil, and Suly combined are already registered for AP Exams, as they are an important international academic metric for colleges to consider in the admissions process.

AP preparation has already begun at CSM in the form of extra courses. There are currently AP Biology courses for grade 9 students, AP Chemistry courses for grade 10 students, and AP Physics 2 courses for grade 11 students. AP Exam Courses last the entire academic year at CSM and, in addition to these courses, AP study halls also occur once a week.

Students may take an AP test even if they have not taken the AP version of that course. However, these extra courses are designed to aid considerably in student's performance on the exam.

What are the benefits to a KRG student taking an AP exam?

- AP scores help students stand out in the college admissions process by demonstrating to admission officers that they have sought the most rigorous curriculum available to them. Universities around the world look favorably upon students who take AP courses and exams because performance in AP demonstrates a student's commitment and ability to succeed at university-level studies.
- AP courses and exams help students develop the critical thinking, reasoning, problem solving, and communication skills that are essential for success in college and beyond.
- Universities across the world recognize the AP Program, and AP Exams are taken by students in more than 120 countries.

CSM is pleased to be part of the AP program and looks forward to a bright future for its students.



FEEDBACK IS WELCOME

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION VISITS

BY: CARRIE TARVER

The Ministry of Education (MOE) appoints a special committee who provides guidance, oversight, and evaluations to international schools within the Kurdistan region. Part of that oversight includes twice a year visits to school campuses. Typically, an MOE delegation visits CSM once during Phase 1 to observe and record notes and then a second time during Phase 2 to complete a formal evaluation. At the end of the school year, the committee uses information from their visits to rank CSM among all international schools according to a specific list of criteria.

This year, they made their Phase 1 visits to Duhok, Erbil, and Suly in November. During these first visits of the school year, they met with the principals and administration of each school, toured classrooms, assessed labs, and took copious notes. Committee members asked questions to better understand the curriculum, activities, organization, and arrangement of CSM schools. CSM gladly shared with committee members the beauty of their students, teachers, staff, curriculum, and facilities. They look in hopeful anticipation to receive the MOE's feedback on areas of strength as well as possible areas for growth and improvement.



TENDER LOVING CARE

CSM NURSING DEPARTMENT

BY: GORDON OBOUR

A healthy mind lives in a healthy body. Health and education work together. It is difficult to educate children who are not healthy, and they cannot stay healthy if they are not educated. Who then will carry out these responsibilities unless there is a specialty?

In order to achieve this core responsibility, CSM has a nursing department who works tirelessly without limit to number of treatments or students. The nursing department consists of six nurses and an administrator.



They also have a role in following up with chronic cases, mostly diabetes and asthma, and keep records of their dosages and medication. They keep record of students who need medical follow-up or are allergic to certain food by staying in touch with parents and informing teachers. The team also has a monthly team that gives presentations to educate the public.

CSM not only leaves this core mandate to the nursing department, but also trains its staff to be part of this health campaign because they believe good health and good education go hand-in-hand.

Each school has a nurse room that is equipped with basic first aid material, a bed, fridge, trolley, and medical tools like blood pressure and sugar measurements. Nurses spend their day seeing and treating minor conditions from wounds, nosebleeds, and abdominal pain. They do so by allowing students to rest in the nurse room to dress their wounds, giving simple pain medication, and perhaps most importantly, showing tender loving care. Prescriptive medication can only be given to students when parents bring the medication to school to be administered by nurses.



BOUNTIFUL BLESSINGS: THANKSGIVING AT CSM

BY: CARRIE TARVER

Just over four-hundred years ago, 102 “Pilgrims” from England sailed across the Atlantic Ocean searching for a new world where they could worship God free from government oppression. Landing on what is now the northeastern United States, half of these Pilgrims died of disease, starvation, or hypothermia during the harsh winter of 1621. Those who survived later received help from the native American Indian tribes who taught them to hunt, fish, and plant crops. The fall of 1621 brought a bountiful harvest of corn, beans, and squash. Thankful to be alive in this new land with plenty to eat, the Pilgrims invited their new friends the Native American Indians to join them for a feast to thank God for His many blessings. Because it was a time for giving thanks...it was called Thanksgiving.

All three CSM campuses celebrated Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 17th. Duhok, Erbil, and Suly organized their celebrations using six “stalls” or stations for students to attend. Teachers led students grades 1-6 rotating between the six stalls. These included activities such as sack races, three-legged races, musical chairs, photo booths, catwalk fashion shows, food-sharing, dancing with DJ, art, and an educational video explaining the history of Halloween and Thanksgiving. Students also dressed up in costumes of superheroes, movie characters, animals, dragons, princesses and more.

“What are you thankful for?”, one of the teachers asked the students. “Family, friends, food!” Indeed, there is much to thank God for.



EXTRA LESSONS

BY: JOHN KIM

It is no secret that many of CSM's courses are rigorous and challenging, which can result in students wanting the opportunity for extra practice with teachers. CSM Extra Courses provide the needed extra time and instruction with the teachers of those classes. Extra Courses students are selected by the educational team as individuals who will benefit from more time to practice difficult questions and concepts. Students are recommended by teachers of their classes, and CCAs will consider certain educational points to decide whether a student will benefit from the Extra Course. These points are not necessarily academic, since some students may be recommended based on how well they are able to focus in class. After discussing the recommended students, CCAs and the head of each respective department inform students and their parents of the reason for and option to attend Extra Courses after school. If a student and / or their parents choose extra lessons, they are provided by CSM at no extra cost and held for one hour after school each day. Qualified and specialized teachers are assigned to lead these classes. The general direction of the classes is not to re-teach all the lessons but to review and practice difficult concepts and questions that are important for midterms. Practice begins with material from the first lesson and is structured so that the last days line up with exercises from the most recent lessons taught during regular classes.



There has been no shortage of interest in this program since over 250 students have signed up. Because these courses are offered to both primary and high school students, all levels of education have students attending and progressing in their academic work.

It is a privilege spending extra time with students who can excel with a bit more practice. These students make the dedication to spend another hour at school, even after already spending the entire day there. This dedication is a commendable trait that will ensure a strong and successful future for them...not only academically, but in all areas of their life.



CSMD IN PHOTOS



CSMH IN PHOTOS



CSMS IN PHOTOS



KGs IN PHOTOS



SOUL THERAPY: HIGHSCHOOL PICNICS

BY: CARRIE TARVER

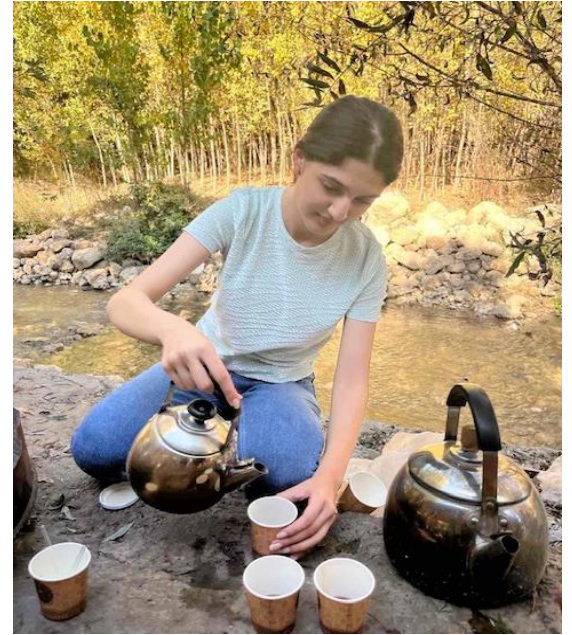
A cool fall breeze blows through bus windows, mountains appear in the distance, dance music blasts through bus speakers, and students dance down the aisles. This is just the beginning of a CSM high school picnic. Once students arrived at their picnic destinations, they spread a feast fit for kings. Magically...or perhaps because of smart mothers, the food was somehow still hot in spite of the long journey in the bus. Dancing, food, and fall weather were three elements of all three CSM picnics. However, CSM Duhok, Erbil, and Suly each had their own unique versions of picnics.

Duhok: Duhok's high schoolers travelled to an open field with mountains and hills called Bajlor (Dotia). In addition to food and dancing, Duhok's students competed in a rope-pulling war. After a valiant effort from grades 9-12, grade 9 pulled out a victory winning the tug of war. Other games included a three-legged race and an improvised version of dodge ball.

Erbil: Erbil picnicked at Dolly Alana the majority of the day. After everyone had eaten their fill, one student poured tea from a kettle she brought and heated over a fire. Students also waded through the creek, swung on swings overlooking the water, played volleyball and badminton, and went on guided hikes with their teachers. Their last stop on the way home was a shopping trip to Shaqlawa where they ate ice cream, drank more tea, and purchased souvenirs.

Suly: Suly's students spent a full day at Lake Dukan. The scenery made for a pleasant and peaceful day with plenty of games, activities, dancing...and of course, eating. This group came especially prepared with a supply of meat, enjoying a hearty meal of hot food to supply energy for the day's festivities.

Students returned to their studies that night knowing another day of school would stare them in the face the next morning. But sometimes a day with friends, mountain air, tasty food, and dancing are more restful for the soul even than sleep.



FOOD AND FUN: GRADE 1-6 PICNICS

BY: CARRIE TARVER

Exuberant students boarded buses carrying pots of dolma, biryani, kebab, donuts, cakes, and most any other food your heart could desire. They were closing their textbooks and going on a picnic with their classmates and teachers. School must not be so bad after all. Before buses could depart the school driveway, students were moving to the tune of their favorite dance music. "Make a line...one by one", teachers and supervisors reminded gleeful children leaping from the buses when they arrived at the park.

This opening scene was similar across Duhok, Erbil and Suly CSM picnics. Each grade 1-6 had their own day for a picnic. CSM Suly took KG1 and KG2 on a picnic as well. Duhok's primary picnics took place at Muhammad Dilshad Park, Erbil's at Sami Abdulrahman Park, and Suly's at Park Azadi.



In all three locations, students generously shared their abundant feast with their fellow classmates, teachers, and supervisors. Once everyone had eaten their fill, supervisors and teachers led them in games such as hula-hoop, dodge-ball, Uno, and climbing the playground.



Before the picnic ended, classes posed for photos to remember the day. The ride back to school was slightly more subdued than the ride to the park, as students were exhausted from a long day of food and fun.

DAY WITH THE TEACHER WITHOUT A BOOK:

GRADE 7-8 PICNICS AND CINEMA

BY: ALEXANDER WEREKO



Although students love their teachers...they do not always love school. Thursday, November 17th was the day for them. The 7th and 8th graders of CSM Hawler and Suly loaded buses with teachers and supervisors and attended the Cinema. Hawler students travelled to Family Mall where they watched "Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile". This movie is the story of the Primm family who moves to New York City. Their son Josh struggles adjusting to his new environment. However, things change when he discovers a singing crocodile named Lyle who loves baths, caviar, and music.

The two become best friends, but when Mr. Grumps threatens Lyle, the Primms show him what family is really like. Students spent quality time with their peers throughout the entire duration of the event.

Dream City welcomed the 7th and 8th grade students of CSM Duhok. Students took advantage of the numerous attractions at Dream City. One of the most popular of those attractions were the dance games. They exhibited their dancing skills, never seeming to tire on the dance floor. Hours felt like seconds, and soon it was time to leave.

MAKING DREAMS REALITY: U.S. EMBASSY & IYLEP VISITS

BY: CARRIE TARVER



It has been said that, "where there is no vision, the people perish".¹ Though CSM students can often only see the four walls of their classrooms, they have a vision for their future. Their hopes and dreams are unique just as they are, and they are a treasure...just as they are. For some, their dreams shrink as their years grow. Harsh realities extinguish their passion. CSM strives to cultivate opportunities to propel students to make their dreams a reality. For those whose hopes include studying in the U.S. or visiting for an extended time, the U.S. Consulate and Iraqi Young Leaders Exchange Program (IYLEP) visits began to put feet to those visions.

Duhok and Suly's CSM campuses were privileged to welcome the American Consulate for a visit with their school. Members of the consulate met with juniors and seniors educating them with a PowerPoint presentation on what studying in the U.S. looks like, advantages to studying in the U.S., what type of scholarships they might be eligible for, and what is involved in applying to come to the U.S. In Duhok, their meeting also focused on how to apply for U.S. visas and what that process demands. Students in both cities asked a plethora of questions, which consulate members were happy to answer.



In Duhok, their meeting also focused on how to apply for U.S. visas and what that process demands. Students in both cities asked a plethora of questions, which consulate members were happy to answer.

CSM Suly instead received members from the Iraqi Young Leaders Exchange Program (IYLEP) to conduct an information lecture with students about their program. IYLEP gives students the opportunity to spend four weeks of fully funded time in the U.S. Students accepted to the program participate in skill workshops, field trips, community service, and leadership training. The goal of the program is "to develop leadership and peacebuilding skills, foster relationships among youth from different backgrounds, promote mutual understanding between the people of Iraq and the U.S., and develop community action projects."

Students who attended the lecture excitedly began gathering elements needed to apply for the program. CSM hopes high school students walk away from these meetings filled with hope for their futures and, perhaps more importantly, with practical action steps to make their dreams a reality.

¹Proverbs 29:18



CSM VISITS CIVIL DEFENSE

BY: SHERWAN AMEEN



CSM grades 4, 5, and 6 in Erbil and Suly recently visited Civil Defense stations in their cities. Students were trained regarding fire extinguisher parts and usage, how to use a blanket during a fire, as well as about the fire engine itself. Firefighters introduced students to the clothing of the Civil Defense team and the fire fighter's difficult tasks during fires. Students learned about the importance of responding to fire alarms quickly to regulate and extinguish forest or building fires, uses of firefighting and rescue equipment such as aerial ladders, axes, and fire hoses, and the variety of emergency medical services firefighters need to employ.

Students were also allowed to enter the fire truck, view the equipment inside, as well as sit in the driver's seat to feel what it would be like to be a real fireman. To conclude the visit, students were given time to ask questions and look more closely at the fire fighter clothing, fire extinguishers, fire engine, and blankets. At the end of the training and trip, students were happy and remarked what great service the fire fighters deliver to the public.



BERLIN WHERE ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

BY: VINA SLAV

It has been said Berlin is, "The city where anything is possible". Berlin is a city, federal state, and also the capital and largest city in Germany by area and population. Situated in the heart of Europe, it has been the German capital since 1991. Boasting 3.6 million inhabitants, Berlin's former prestige ended in 1945. However, it did survive the destruction of World War II. Its rebuilding has great historical symbolism.

The Berlin Wall

Berlin did not reach its thriving economy with no obstacles. The Wall of Berlin was a barrier that surrounded west Berlin and prevented access to it from east Berlin during the period of 1961-1989. It was built by the German Democratic Republic during the Cold War to prevent its population from escaping the Soviet-controlled east Berlin, which was controlled by major western allies. It divided the city of Berlin into two physically and ideologically contrasting zones. The Berlin Wall fell on November 9, 1989, following anti-government protests in east Germany and the democratization of other eastern and central European states. Fractions of the wall still exist in modern day Berlin. The wall was 3.5 meters tall, and the inner wall was 2-3 meters tall.



Architecture

This beautiful city is known for its striking contrasts. The modern architecture connects both the historical past and the prestigious present.

Berliner Fernsehturm:

One of the most well-known buildings is called the Berliner Fernsehturm, also known as the "TV Tower". Standing at 368 meters, it is the tallest building in Berlin with a viewing tower, bar, and restaurant located inside.

Brandenburger Tor:

The Brandenburg Gate is an 18th century monument built on the orders of a Prussian king. Throughout its existence it was often a site for major historical events. Now, it is considered a symbol of European unity and peace.

Demography

Berlin is known as a cosmopolitan city, with more than 190 nations living there. There are also approximately 250 religious and ideological communities active in this city. Its diversity is a huge factor in their development and creativity. It gives anyone the opportunity for a strong education and makes anyone feel welcome.

This also gives Berlin the name of "The Diversity United Berlin."



Art

Berlin is the city of art, artists, and museums. In fact, many precious artefacts from all over the world are held in the more than 170 museums there. It is a popular destination for classical music as well. Berlin's iconic street art has long been a global source of vibrant and colorful energy.



THE COMPLEX HISTORY OF CIGARETTES

THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF CIGARETTES TO SOCIETY

BY: YAR SAMAN

People initially began smoking because of religious rituals and ceremonies. Native Americans have been cultivating tobacco plants since 6000 BC, but they were introduced to Europeans in late 1400's to a European man named Christopher Columbus. In 1531, Europeans cultivated tobacco for the first time, and by the 1600's Tobacco spread across all Europe. People began smoking it in pipes or rolled it up in cigars, and even chewed on the Tobacco itself.

One day, some poor beggars in Seville discovered discarding and shredding their cigars, then rolling it up in paper, thus inventing the first cigarettes in the world. The cigarettes, initially called cigarillos gained fame and were named cigarettes by the soldiers of the Napoleonic war, who also became familiar with the new form of smoking.

In the beginning, people made their own cigarettes using Tobacco and special paper, but in 1880, James A. Bonsack, an American inventor, discovered a cigarette rolling machine. The machine would automatically form the cigarette when the tobacco and paper was put into it. This new machine was exported throughout the world, and in a short span of time, a cigarette industry was built in Europe and other places around the globe. Cigarettes gained the most popularity during the world wars. Companies sent millions of cigarette packs to soldiers, and were even recommended by the nurses because it apparently eased the patient's pains and relaxed their nerves.



Picture of two very well-known artist of the 1930's, Gertrude Lawrence and Noël Coward, smoking cigarettes for a commercial.

Risks and Effects of Smoking

When were cigarettes first considered to be dangerous to health?

Since the 1600s and 1700s scientists had speculated health issues associated with tobacco since it is a highly addictive substance. In the 1940's scientists were convinced tobacco causes cancer. By the 1950's medical evidence started to appear showing that smoking causes cancer and other health issues, such as heart disease.



Picture of tobacco plant, main component and source of nicotine in cigarettes.

Smoking cigarettes or any other form of tobacco product is dangerous to health. Smoking causes cancer, specially lung and mouth cancer among individuals, strokes, heart and lung diseases, weakening of the immune system, reduced fertility, and if a pregnant women smokes, there is high chance of miscarriage or damage to the baby's brain and lungs.

Cigarettes not only have negative effects on humans, but also to our planet. Millions of cigarettes are used every day releasing toxic chemicals to the air and soil.

Furthermore, cigarette butts litter our oceans, rivers, parks, and sidewalks.

2022-2023 ACCEPTANCE POLICY

Medicine		
Government		
	GPA	3.5/4
AP	Biology	12/15
	Physics C or 2 or Math AB/BC	
	Chemistry	
	SAT General	800/1600
Government Parallel		
	GPA	3.3/4
AP	Biology	11/15
	Physics C or 2 or Math AB/BC	
	Chemistry	
	SAT General	800/1600
Private		
	GPA	3/4
AP	Biology	10/15
	Physics C or 2 or Math AB/BC	
	Chemistry	
	SAT General	800/1600

Oil Engineering		
Government		
	GPA	3.5/4
AP	Physics C or 2	11/15
	Chemistry	
	Math AB/BC	
	SAT General	800/1600
Government Parallel		
	GPA	3.3/4
AP	Physics C or 2	10/15
	Chemistry	
	Math AB/BC	
	SAT General	800/1600
Private		
	GPA	3/4
AP	Physics C or 2	10/15
	Chemistry	
	Math AB/BC	
	SAT General	800/1600

Engineering		
Government		
	GPA	3.5/4
AP	Physics C or 2	7/10
	Chemistry or Math AB/BC	
	SAT General	800/1600
Government Parallel		
	GPA	3.3/4
AP	Physics C or 2	6/10
	Chemistry or Math AB/BC	
	SAT General	800/1600
Private		
AP	GPA	3/4
	Physics C or 2	6/10
	Chemistry or Math AB/BC	
	SAT General	800/1600

Science Colleges		
Government		
	GPA	2 from 4
	Any two of AP Subjects	6/10
	SAT General	800/1600
Private		
	GPA	2/4
	Any two AP Science Subjects	6/10
	SAT General	800/1600

Liberal Arts Departments		
Government		
	GPA	2/4
	SAT General	800/1600
Private		
	GPA	2/4
	SAT General	800/1600

AP		
AP Scores Range: 1 to 5		
Max. AP score : 5		
Min. AP Score: 1		

GPA Score Ranges		
4.3 = A+		97 to 100
4 = A		93 to 96
3.7 = A-		90 to 92
3.3 = B+		87 to 89
3 = B		83 to 86
2.7 = B-		80 to 82
2.3 = C+		77 to 79
2 = C		73 to 76
1.7 = C-		70 to 72

Notes:

- * SAT General passing grade is **800/1600**
- * College acceptance outside KRG depends on that countries laws and requirements.
- * AP score of each subject must **not be less than 3**
- * Physics C :Electricity and Magnetism
- * Physics C : Mechanics
- * Physics 2 : Algebra based
- * Calculus : AB or BC

DECEMBER

DECEMBER

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- ☐ 4th Review day
- ☐ 5th Admin day
- ☐ 5th G9-12 PH1 marks announcement on MyCSM
- ☐ 10th G1-8 PH1 marks announcement on MyCSM
- ☐ 6th – 22nd Midterms
- ☐ 15th – Third installment deadline
- ☐ 25th Christmas Day
- ☐ 25th - 29th Christmas Holiday



PLAY & ENJOY

ON YOUR DESK

WORD SEARCH PUZZLE



R H V P R I N T E R F M S K L
E T A B L E T S R E P A P P I
L N O T E S T I S S U E I H C
U P E U L G K U O T E B L O N
R L V M O U S E P T A L C N E
C A L E N D A R Y M O P I E P
T N A M A R K E R B O H L F U
N N B O C A R D S S O C P E Y
A E E S N E P E C S P A U G R
L R L A M P C A G X K M R P R
P K S S C I S S O R S C A D N
Y R A N O I T C I D A T A T C
S Y E K D R A W E R P H N N S
P H L R E S A R E P A T C I S
G L A S S R E K C I T S G U M

The words appear UP, DOWN, BACKWARDS, and DIAGONALLY.
Find and circle each word.

CALENDAR
CARDS
CHARGER
CLIPS
COMPUTER
CUP
DICTIONARY
DRAWER
ERASER
FILES

GLASS
GLUE
KEYBOARD
KEYS
LABELS
LAMP
MARKER
MEMOS
MINTS
MOUSE

MUG
NOTES
PAPERS
PENCIL
PENS
PHONE
PHOTO
PLANNER
PLANT
PRINTER

RULER
SCISSORS
SNACKS
STAMPS
STAPLER
STICKERS
TABLET
TAPE
TISSUE

FOR YOU TO KNOW

FACTS



The heads on Easter Island have bodies.

The iconic stone heads protruding from the ground on Easter Island are familiar to most, but many don't realize what lies beneath the surface. In the '10s, archaeologists studying the hundreds of stone statues on the Pacific Island excavated two of the figures, revealing full torsos, which measure as high as 33 feet.

The hottest spot on the planet is in Libya.

Specifically, the hottest spot ever recorded on Earth is El Azizia, in Libya, where a temperature of 136 degrees Fahrenheit was recorded on Sept. 13, 1922. While hotter spots have likely occurred in other parts of the planet at other times, this is the most scorching temperature ever formally recorded by a weather station. For more info that will wrinkle your brain.



Humans are the only animals that blush.

We are also believed to be the only animal that feels embarrassment—a complicated emotion requiring understanding others' opinions and other factors. Charles Darwin called blushing "the most peculiar and most human of all expressions," while Mark Twain said, "Man is the only animal that blushes. Or needs to."

Pineapple works as a natural meat tenderizer.

The fruit is packed with the enzyme bromelain, which breaks down protein chains, making it an ideal marinade for meats when you don't have a lot of time. But for the same reason, pineapple does not work for jams or jellies, since the enzyme breaks down gelatin as well. The bromelain is so strong that pineapple processors have to wear protective gloves, otherwise over time the enzyme eats away at the skin on their face and hands, leaving dry skin and small sores.





Newsletter

2022-2023

19th Edition

Classical School of the Medes

Newsletter team:

Ms. Farrah Yousif: Advisor

Mr. Bassam Harbi: Newsletter Organizer

Ms. Carrie Tarver: Chief Editor and writer

Mr. Shwan Zrar: Layout & Photo Editor Designer

Ms. Mirna Shmayl: Layout Design Assistant

Mr. Gordan Obour: Associate Editor

Mr. Alexander Wereko: Associate Editor

Ms. Kellie Owsley: Section Editor

Mr. Sirwan Qader: Guest Editor

Mr. Sherwan Taha: Guest Editor

Mr. John Kim: Guest Editor

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We love what we do and we do what we love

Educating Learners through Academics and Ethics

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Classical School of the Medes

Classical School of the Medes



20th EDITION





CSM

Newsletter

2022-2023

Classical School of the Medes

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“I have not failed. I’ve just found 10,000 ways that won’t work.”

Thomas Edison

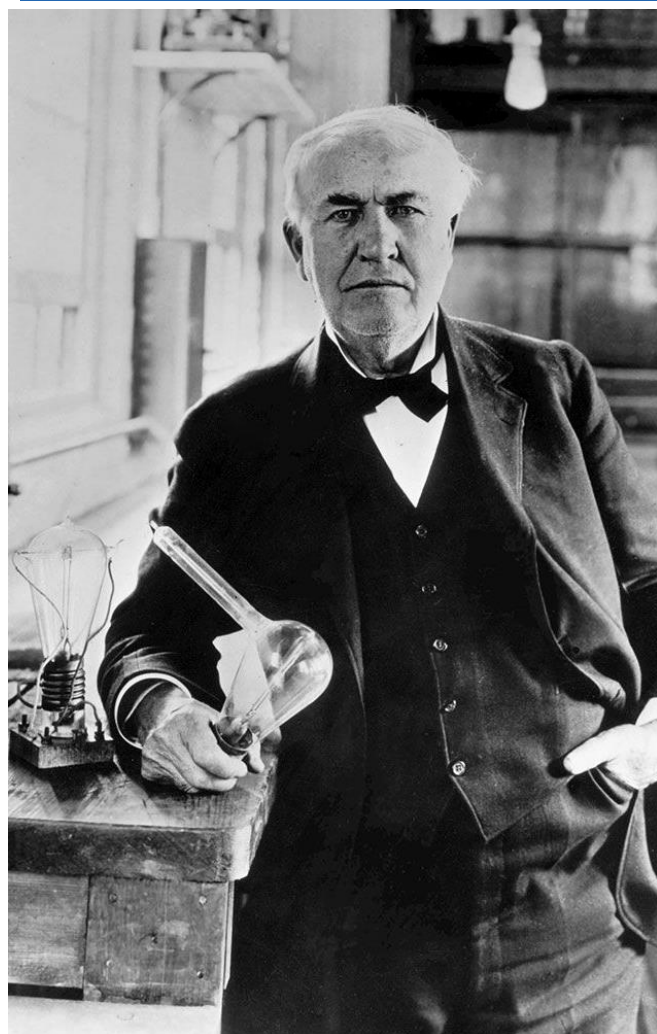
The difference between failure and genius may be just one more try. That was the case for Thomas Edison. In the 1870s, homes fortunate enough to afford lamps were not so sure if they were fortunate or not. These indoor lamps emitted unbearable stench, covered everything in soot, burned the eyes, were difficult to light, and died quickly. When Thomas Edison and his team of inventors set out to discover a light bulb that would burn reliably and switch on easily, they did not fail once...or twice...or three times. They failed 10,000 times.

Not many would keep trying after 10,000 failed experiments, but Thomas Edison recalled, “I was never myself discouraged, or inclined to be hopeless of success. I cannot say the same for all my associates.” Finally, in the fall of 1879, Edison’s team completed an electric light bulb that burned for an astounding fourteen and a half hours. Soon, his laboratory in Menlo Park New York was aglow with a bright yet peaceful illumination that burned even through rainstorms.

History remembers Thomas Edison not as a failure but as a genius, yet he failed more than he succeeded. No one remembers all the failure when success finally emerges. How different history might have looked if more had been willing to fail 10,000 times. How different the future might look if this generation would be unafraid of failure and unwilling to admit defeat. Truly, the difference between failure and genius may be in just one more try.

WISDOM OF THE EDITION

THOMAS EDISON
BY: CARRIE TARVER



CSM FAMILY

BY: JOHN KIM



NAME: RAWNAQ



NAME: SUAD



NAME: SRUSHT

The Employee of the Month for CSM Erbil is Ms. Rawnaq. Ms. Rawnaq joined CSM last year in 2021, and she has become an important part of the school. The school sincerely appreciates and admires her great work and outstanding effort in the workplace. She is a prime example of what CSM looks for in its employees. Ms. Rawnaq has spent countless hours working at the school, and quality continues to be a marker of her abilities and performance. Overall, CSM Erbil is proud to have her and looks forward to seeing her excel in all that she does.

CSM Duhok would like to recognize Ms. Suad Akram as its Employee of the Month. She joined the school between 2018 and 2019, and she is the cook for the school. The delicious food she makes is matched only by the love she puts into her dishes, and the students enjoy the meals she prepares for them. Furthermore, she willingly steps outside her cooking responsibilities by being ready to help with other duties. The students are well taken care of, and the school is clean and organized thanks to her dutiful efforts. Ms. Suad's commitment to a job well done is recognized by CSM Duhok, and the school wishes her much success.

CSM Suly's Employee of the Month is Ms. Srusht. Having joined CSM just this year of 2022, she has stepped into the responsibilities of duty and substitute teacher with ease. Ms. Srusht is active and punctual for any job that is needed, and she never complains or fails to finish her work. In addition to just doing her main job well, she is also involved with the kindergartners, showing loving friendship to them. Her smile brings happiness to those around her, and, like a mom, she takes excellent care of the students. Her presence at CSM Suly makes a remarkable difference to the school, its staff, and the students.

TEACHER OF THE MONTH

BY: GORDON OBOUR



NAME: JIYAN

Duhok's Teacher of the Month is Ms. Jiyan Sabgatullah. Ms. Jiyan became KG1 main teacher in 2021. She doubles as a guardian and role model, and is energetic, organized, and responsible. She combines acting, dancing, and games to make her subject easily understood and loved by her students. Ms. Jiyan is a wonderful and trusted friend who takes care of each student and makes sure everyone is happy in her class. CSM Duhok is proud to have you, Ms. Jiyan!



NAME: BAHRA

Erbil's Teacher of the Month is Ms. Bahra who began her journey at CSM in 2021. Ms. Bahra is a kindergarten Art teacher who is passionate about Art and teaches it in a fun and engaging way. Though teaching in one of the most challenging jobs, she does everything with cheerfulness and excellence. She defines teaching not just as a profession but as a calling. She combines talent and experience to make the kids enjoy what they do. Her love for children is noticeable. She is a wonderful friend of the kindergarten staff. CSM Erbil is proud to have you, Ms. Bahra!



NAME: SHOXY

Suly's Teacher of the Month is Ms. Shoxy. Ms. Shoxy is a KG2 main teacher who began working at CSM Suly in 2022. Ms. Shoxy takes creativity to the next level by combining several teaching techniques to make her lessons easily understood. She believes a healthy mind lives in a healthy body, so she takes into consideration not only what her students study, but also the food they eat and their learning environment. Ms. Shoxy is an active, punctual, and supportive teacher who loves to help everyone around her. Her love, care and kindness for her students are beyond ordinary. CSM Suly is proud to have you, Ms. Shoxy!



NAME: MITRA ALI

My name is Mitra Ali Tatar, and I was born and raised in Duhok. I attended Classical School of the Medes Duhok from kindergarten through high school. I graduated from CSMD in 2018 fully equipped with the knowledge and skills I would need for higher education. After graduating, I attended the University of Nottingham in the United Kingdom for one year where I studied Politics and International Relations. While there, I realized how well CSMD had prepared me for higher education, not only in our region, but abroad as well. However, in 2019 I moved back to Duhok and continued my studies at the American University of Kurdistan. During my time at AUK, I was the Head of Public Relations and Media as well as the Acting Student Government President. The student body and government were not new for me, as I had already experienced that form of student life at CSMD. I graduated from AUK in 2022 as Valedictorian for the College of International Studies, and I was the first person to graduate from AUK with a CGPA of 4.0. My experience at CSMD taught me that if I work harder than I think possible, I can achieve things beyond my wildest imagination. When I was at CSMD, I had a passion for writing and politics and was constantly supported by my teachers to pursue my dreams. My love for writing and the support from my teachers throughout my childhood at CSMD gave me strength to take on great projects such as DIGITAL MAPS (a research project funded by the British Consulate). Now, having graduated from AUK, I am pursuing my Master's in International Public and Political Communications at the University of Sheffield in the United Kingdom. I am due to graduate from UoS in September of 2023.



NAME: MEER AHMED

My name is Meer Ahmed, and I am a proud alumnus of Classical School of the Medes Sulaymaniyah. My first year as a student at CSMS was when I was in third grade. I had just transferred from a public school, and I had no idea what I was doing in an all-English school since I did not know a word of English. However, after many years at the school, I learned to speak English. The challenging curriculum pushed us to test our limits, and with every new academic year our limits expanded and eventually we became limitless. With the help of our teachers and CCAs, not only did we pass our school years successfully, but we also managed to score high on one of the most academically challenging tests: the SAT. Aside from academic success, I also learned incredible lessons that contributed to my personal success in the professional world and helped me become a better person. Our teachers taught us to be disciplined, and they taught us that preparation and hard work is necessary to execute any plan in life. CSMS continues to be the place I consider as my second home. School is meant to be a safe place where individuals can express themselves and thrive; CSMS is the only school in which I have felt safe. Classmates and teachers made the classroom a place where we felt free to be ourselves, and this is why they were the best friends in my life. I could not be more thankful for my years at CSMS, and I will cherish the memories forever.



NAME: MAHMOOD RUWAND

My name is Mahmood Ruwand Abdulkhaleq. I enrolled in Classical School of the Medes Hawler in 2014 when I was in eighth grade, and I graduated in 2019. After graduating, I was accepted into Hawler Medical University, and I am currently in the fourth stage of medicine. The five years I spent at CSM were a huge part of my life. They helped me reach my goal of getting into medical school. I also met the most amazing people at CSM, most of whom are currently my best friends. The school provided opportunities that helped me academically, socially, and emotionally. Most teachers, CCAs, and staff became like a family to me, and they helped me through my academic and professional careers. There were many ups and downs at CSM, but I can proudly say that I was able to push through every single challenge and come out at the top. My advice for all CSM students is to give it your all. Do not wait for opportunities; make your own opportunities and seize them.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAY

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

BY: SIRWAN QADER

Born in December of 1770, Ludwig van Beethoven was one of the most famous, if not the most famous, musicians who ever lived. He was a German music composer and brilliant pianist whose musical works are played and enjoyed by millions all over the world until today.

Although we know Beethoven was born in December of 1770, the exact day of his birth is not precisely known. We do know he was baptized December 17th.

One of Beethoven's earliest composed pieces is a set of nine piano variations believed to have been composed in 1782. When he was young, Beethoven moved to Vienna in early 1792 where he had the chance to meet other composers like Haydn and began to compose his own musical masterpieces.

By the year 1796, he unfortunately had begun to experience symptoms of a condition from which he gradually started to lose his hearing. He began losing his hearing in mid 20s after already having already gained a strong reputation as musician and composer. By the time he was 45 years old, he was completely deaf and was not able to have a conversation unless he wrote down what he wanted to express to visitors and friends.

The exact cause of his deafness remains until this day a mystery, though modern-day analysis of his remaining DNA showed some health conditions including large amounts of lead in his body.



In spite of his failing hearing, he continued to compose masterpieces such as One "Moonlight", The Third Symphony (known as the 'Eroica'), 'Waldstein' and 'Apassionata' sonatas, and his only opera, Fidelio. Another popular work of Beethoven's was The Ninth Symphony which is considered one of his best works. It was the first time a composer had ever used choral voices in a main symphony.

Beethoven died in Vienna in March of 1827 after a long suffering of sickness that has mostly been explained due to alcohol and various conditions like hepatitis, cirrhosis, and pneumonia.

Today Ludwig van Beethoven is considered the father of classical music and opera, and it is almost impossible to talk about the history of music without mentioning the name Beethoven.



DECKING THE HALLS: CHRISTMAS AT CSM

BY: CARRIE TARVER

Christmas at CSM looked a bit different this year. In recent years, students, staff, teachers, and administration typically celebrate with a party complete with food, games, and movies. However, this year's students spent the month of December studying and completing Midterm Exams. Their celebration begins at home where they can rest and enjoy holiday festivities with their families free from the burdens of study.

However, Midterms did not discourage CSM staff from decking the halls of Duhok, Erbil, and Suly with Christmas trees, snowflakes, banners, elf hats, stars, and Christmas cheer.

Shortly after Thanksgiving, CSM staff members carefully decorated the lobbies, halls, and teacher's rooms to welcome the Christmas season. Although people of many different cultures, religions, and ethnic groups celebrate Christmas in a variety of ways including music concerts, family gatherings, food, gifts, Santa Claus visits, and more, its true origin lies in a dark middle eastern night over 2,000 years ago. A group of shepherds sat in a field watching their flocks when an angel appeared to them saying, "Fear not, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior."¹ Suddenly, a choir of angels lit up the night sky and sang, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, goodwill toward men."



CSM SECURITY: SCHOOL GUARD

BY: SHERWAN AMEEN



Guards also assist during rainy days sometimes holding umbrellas or kindly letting pedestrians know when they have dropped something in their haste. School Guard tasks can differ from one school to another, but at CSM campuses they mostly observe and thoroughly check the building, approving entering and exiting of individuals and buses and looking for any unauthorized vehicles or persons.

All three CSM campuses have their own school guards to prevent lawbreaking or theft, ensure CSM campus policy is followed, and protect the general welfare of students, administration, and staff. One of the main and most critical responsibilities of school security guards is to secure building access while early morning staff and students enter the school until they leave campus.

The faithfulness of these heroes makes a safe environment for students and school personnel in Duhok, Erbil, and Suly. As the pathways to the school become crowded with parents, students, teachers, and buses delivering students, school guards help to welcome and direct traffic flows to prevent delay in students arriving to classes on time.



Guards also develop a report related to safety and security issues ahead of time, which they deliver to the administration.

CSM campus guards have acquired the training, experience, physical fitness, honesty, integrity, vigilance, and leadership to excel in their job and ensure the safety and security of staff and students.

HALFWAY THERE: MIDTERM EXAMS

BY: ALEXANDER WEREKO



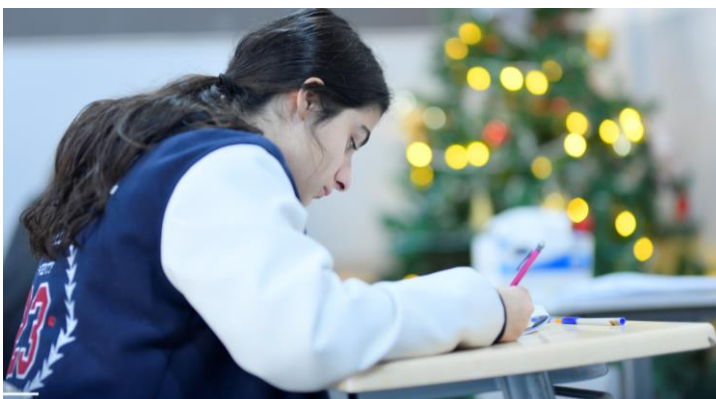
Midterm Exams at CSM are a feat that takes months of careful preparation from students, teachers, and administration. This year's midterms commenced in all three cities (Duhok, Erbil, and Suly) December 6th and ended December 22nd. Each day, students were seated by 8:45 AM. Some sat with a nervous dread of what awaited them inside the mysterious "white folder" containing their exam. At 9:00 AM, the suspense would end as students unleashed their pencils, flipped open their booklets, and began the grueling hour and a half or sometimes two hours of work. Hall monitors watched closely to ensure students were comfortable and focused.

Invigilators, hallway monitors, registrars, subject teachers, and CCAs were actively engaged ensuring a serene atmosphere in the exam halls and smooth administration of exams.

Students remained resilient pushing through the tensions and stress that characterize exams.

Subject teachers collected exam booklets for checking following the exam each day. They would complete as much grading as possible before the 2:30 deadline when exams were locked up for the night. Once grading was complete for a given subject, the Rechecking Committee reviewed the checked exams to ensure any mistakes or oversights were corrected. Lastly, the Recording Committee received the rechecked booklets and inserted scores into grading software to prepare for the issuance of report cards a few days after exams.

The distribution of Midterm results is scheduled for January 9, 2023. Objections will be received on January 11-12, 2023, and objection results will be posted on January 19, 2023.



ANCIENT HISTORY'S CENTER **HAWLER**

BY: SHANEL MIERKHAN



Erbil or Hawler is known in ancient history as Arbela, the capital and most populated city in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Did you know that it is one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world? There is more to learn, and several important places that will welcome your visit.!

The Citadel, or Qelat, is located in the city center of Erbil in Kurdistan. It is an ancient place dating back to 6,000 years ago. The Citadel was created by people rebuilding on the same spot which makes it look like a hill.

The Jalil Khayat Mosque, which is a Sunni Islamic mosque in Erbil Kurdistan region, is the largest mosque in the city. Jalil Kayat began building the mosque and died in 2005. It was completed by his sons in 2007. The height of the dome is 48 meters, the diameter is 20 meters, and the mosque is 15,000 square meters. It can hold about 1,500 to 2,000 people.

The Kurdish Textile Museum is located in the southeast of the Citadel and was created in 2004.

It has ancient Kurdish supplies of what ancient people used to eat with and use as furniture

Sami Abdulrahman Park was named after Sami Abdulrahman, the Prime Minister of Kurdistan at the time. The park has two lakes, large rose gardens, a restaurant, market, and a jogging area. It is two square kilometers.

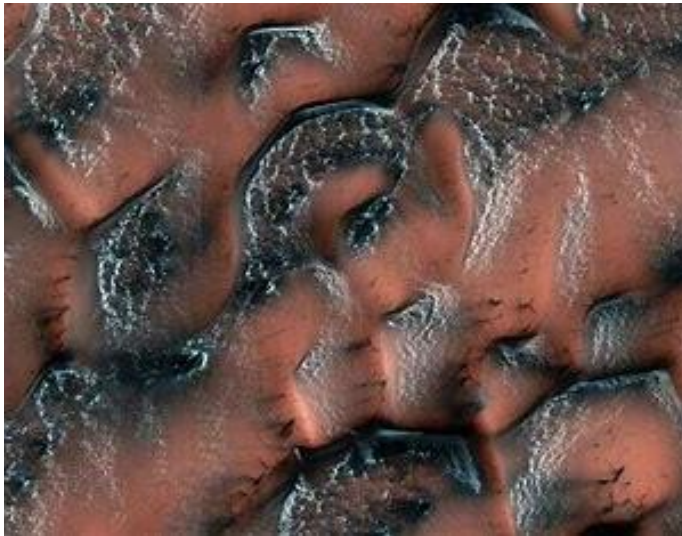
In conclusion, Erbil has several places that will welcome your visit and is also one the world's top historical cities.



FUTURE TRIPS TO MARS

NASA HAS BEEN PLANNING THEIR TRIP TO MARS FOR THE PAST DECADE

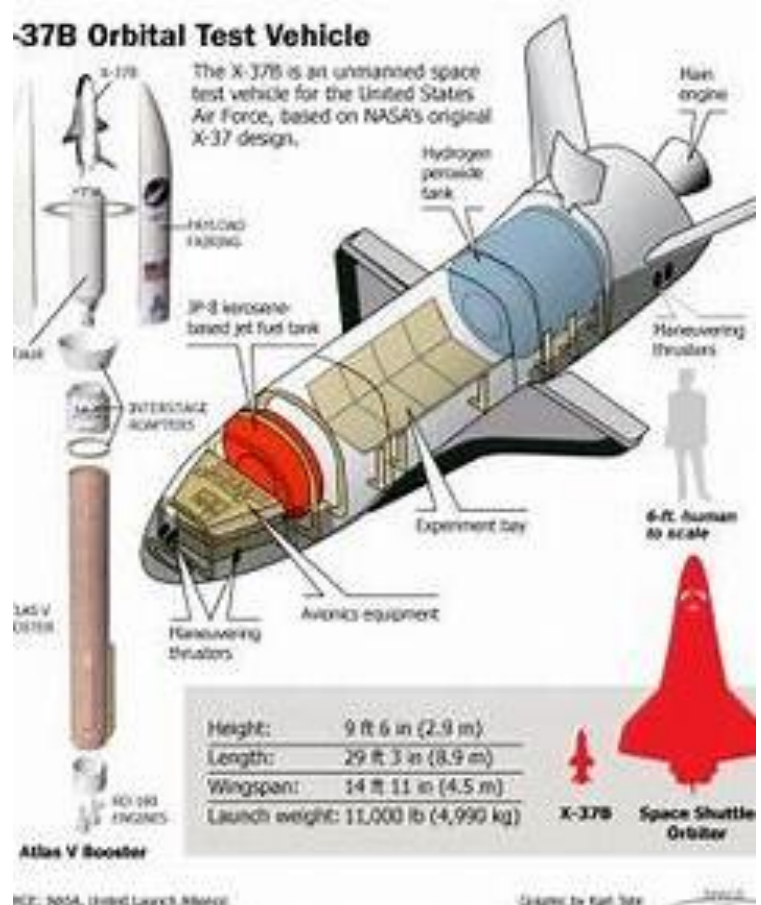
BY: SILVIA GHASSAN



NASA is developing capabilities needed to send people to Mars by the 2030s. NASA's robotic explorers have been studying the planet for the past forty years, and many astronauts in the orbiting laboratory are helping improve the technology and communications needed to successfully send people to Mars. Because of the successful rovers that NASA sent to space, there have been multiple discoveries that helped scientists prove there may be life on Mars. Thanks to the "SAM instrument" used by NASA on Mars, the discovery of organic carbon (building blocks of life) has been made. This discovery is the greatest proof that people might be able to live on Mars in the near future.



NASA's latest rover to Mars.



A model of NASA's Mars's spacecraft

NASA's first step toward their goal of sending people to Mars by 2030 was landing the Perseverance rover on Mars in 2021. The purpose of this was to gather rocks and soil and send them back to earth for scientists to experiment the effect life on Mars will have on humans. NASA's second step to building life on Mars will be natural habitats. Engineers are still studying to find efficient ways to build habitats on Mars by applying pressurized martial soil on bricks.

A fleet of robotics spacecrafts and rovers already are on and around Mars, increasing knowledge about the "red planet" and paving the way for a future visit to Mars. NASA talked about one of their plans, which was to send people to Mars, but they would be trapped in a tube for over three years without any escape. However, with new technology, it is now possible to imagine life on Mars in the near future.

CHEMISTRY EXTRA HOURS

Announcement

We need to complete this year's teaching plan and get ready for the AP exam by May 1st, G10 needs extra lessons, we will be teaching Chapters 7,8 and 9 according to this table.

Location: CSM Campuses.

Grades: 10

Days and Time: January 2,3,4,5

Time: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Fees: Free of Charge

Attendance: Mandatory.

Transportation and Snacks: Parents provided.

JANUARY

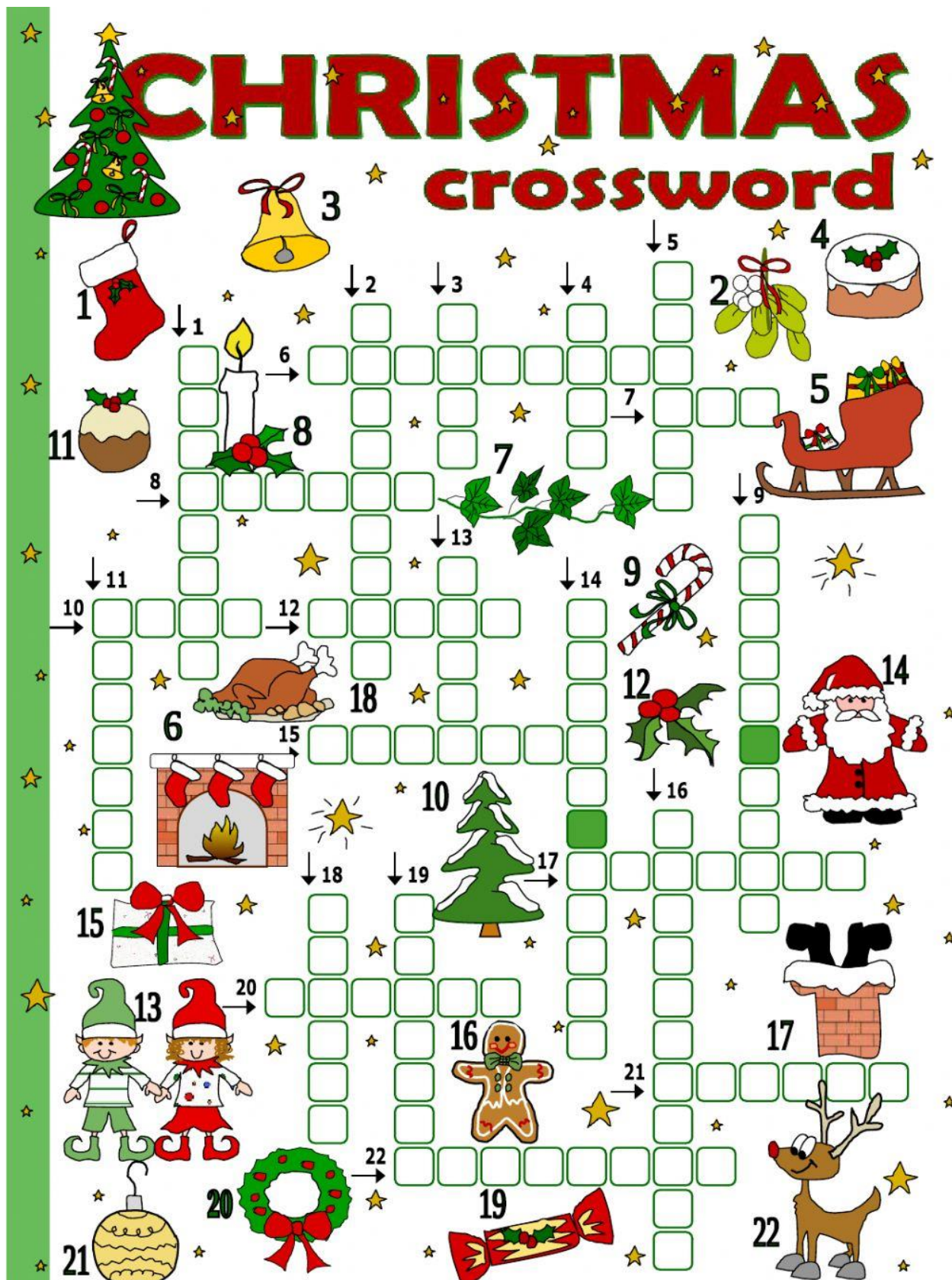
JANUARY

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

- ☐ 1st New Year Holiday
- ☐ 2nd – 5th Admin Day / Teacher Training / AP Chemistry Extra Classes
- ☐ 9th G1-G12 Report Cards Distributions
- ☐ 11th - 12th Objections KG1-G12
- ☐ 12th G1 Arts Crafts with parents
- ☐ 17th G2 Arts Crafts with parents
- ☐ 19th G3 Arts Crafts with parents / Objection Results KG1-G12
- ☐ 22nd G4 Kids Lunch with parents
- ☐ 23th - 25th Basketball Championship G9-G12
- ☐ 26th G5 Kids Lunch with parents
- ☐ 30th G6 Kids Lunch with parents



PLAY & ENJOY



FOR YOU TO KNOW

FACTS



The "M's" in M&Ms stand for "Mars" and "Murrie."

That would be Forrest Mars and Bruce Murrie, the two businessmen who created the candy-coated chocolates. The two actually had a very contentious relationship, as Mars leveraged Murrie out of his 20 percent share in the company in 1949—years before M&Ms would become the best-selling candy in the U.S., paying him just \$1 million for a share of business that would quickly be worth billions.

The English word with the most definitions is "set."

According to Guinness World Records, "set" has the largest number of meanings of any word in the English language, with 430 different senses listed in the 1989 edition of Second Edition of the Oxford English Dictionary. The word "sets" the record with an entry running 60,000 words, or 326,000 characters, and no other English word has come close since.

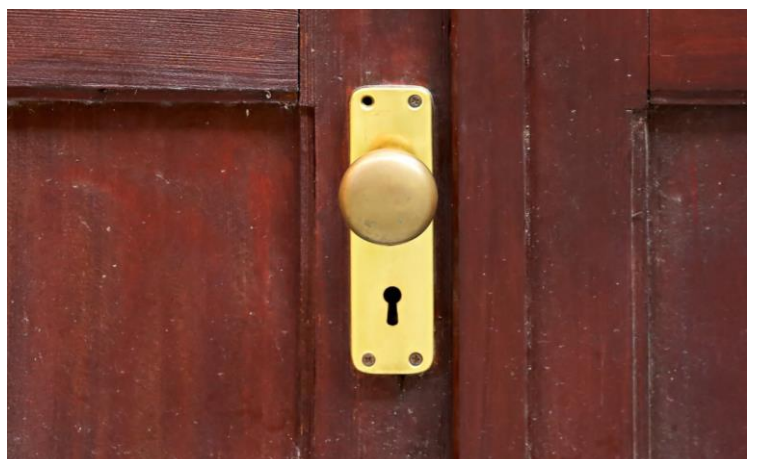


Cotton candy was invented by a dentist

It is not known whether William Morrison had an ulterior motive for inventing the soft confection, but the dentist no doubt helped ensure others in his profession continued drawing in plenty of customers. In 1897, he partnered with candy-maker John C. Wharton to develop the cotton candy machine (which at the time was known as "Fairy Floss"), and it's been bringing kids cavities ever since.

Copper door knobs are self-disinfecting.

Copper and its alloys, such as brass, have long been popular materials for manufacturing door knobs. It turns out, this may not just because the metal's hue makes it look nice. In fact, the material has been found to kill bacteria. According to one study from the National College of Kathmandu in Nepal, "the metal ions denature protein of the target cells by binding to reactive groups resulting in their precipitation and inactivation. The high affinity of cellular proteins for the metallic ions results in the death of the cells due to cumulative effects of the ion within the cells.





Newsletter

2022-2023

20th Edition

Classical School of the Medes

Newsletter team:

Ms. Farrah Yousif: Advisor

Mr. Bassam Harbi: Newsletter Organizer

Ms. Carrie Tarver: Chief Editor and writer

Mr. Shwan Zrar: Layout & Photo Editor Designer

Ms. Mirna Shmayl: Layout Design Assistant

Mr. Gordan Obour: Associate Editor

Mr. Alexander Wereko: Associate Editor

Ms. Kellie Owsley: Section Editor

Mr. Sirwan Qader: Guest Editor

Mr. Sherwan Taha: Guest Editor

Mr. John Kim: Guest Editor

Mr. Ninos Youkhana: Business Manager





Ms. Noor Yousif: Advertising Manager

Writers:

Silvia Ghassan, Shanel Mierkhan

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Educating Learners through Academics and Ethics

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21st EDITION





CSM

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2022-2023

Classical School of the Medes

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“Start with what is right rather than what is acceptable.” – Franz Kafka

A new year comes with resolutions, likely mending broken pieces or starting something new. Regardless of the category it falls into, it is change towards the life envisioned. Change comes with learning something new and adapting or a shift from what one is used to. The resistance to stepping out of one's comfort zone can be enormous and challenging. People recoil into their shells because the struggle is too great a burden for some while others stay resilient and push through. People resist change because change disrupts habits, conflicts with certain personality types, causes fear of failure, can have potentially negative effects, and can result in a potential loss of power. While these excuses are real, in practice, the things one worries about seldom happen while objections and difficulties no one thought about may suddenly turn into nearly insurmountable obstacles.

In an ever-changing world of technology, changing global economy, constantly evolving needs, changing demographics, and products and services changes, organizations and people who fail to embrace change can easily wind up as dinosaurs: out of touch and unable to compete. Change is therefore inevitable, but identifying what needs changing is equally as important as how the change is implemented if the desired outcome is to be realized.

Whatever you plan to change or perfect, you have probably given it a thorough thought and realized it is the right thing to do. It may prove difficult because your whole self is yet to accept the new you and the adjustments. You may not get the approval of people you count on, but if the motive is pure, it is your right to implement the change. Just as it takes time and effort to reach acceptable heights, it is ideal to “start with what is right rather than what is acceptable”. Happy new you!

WISDOM OF THE EDITION

FRANZ KAFKA

BY: ALEXANDER WEREKO



CSM FAMILY

BY: JOHN KIM



NAME: ZAINAB

The Employee of the Month for CSM Erbil is Ms. Zainab Salim. Having started work at CSM in 2015 as a duty employee for Kindergarten, Ms. Zainab is an active and devoted employee. Her continuous smile makes the school a better place to be, and she always tries to be helpful in whatever ways she can. She carries out her work with excellent performance, and she interacts well with students, earning her their affection and respect. Her efforts and results are not unnoticed by the school, which is why CSM is more than happy to recognize her hard work. Ms. Zainab's presence truly makes the school a more harmonious place.



NAME: SUZAN

CSM Duhok would like to recognize Ms. Sozan as its Employee of the Month. A substitute teacher with much commitment, she performs her duties and assigned tasks with ease. She also goes beyond what is required of her and is keen to take initiative in work she can help with. She uses her many talents in areas like the Exam Committee, or registry filing. However, Ms. Sozan's main strengths naturally lie in her role as a teacher with her effective classroom management abilities. During classroom observations, she is engaging and shows her strong interpersonal skills. Overall, her deep love of learning is apparent and is a positive influence for everyone at the school.



NAME: TURFAH

CSM Suly's Employee of the Month is Mr. Turfah. Mr. Turfah joined CSM only this year, yet he is already recognized for his efforts and results. Creativity is his strength, and he uses his gifts to develop techniques to organize and run the library efficiently. Furthermore, he engages with members and educates them on the cataloging system of the library, pointing them to exactly what they are looking for. Whether the genre in question is entertainment, education, or research, Mr. Turfah is not only knowledgeable about how to find them, but he is also capable in teaching people how to navigate the school's library.

TEACHER OF THE MONTH

BY: GORDON OBOUR



NAME: KELLIE

Erbil's Teacher of the Month is Ms. Kellie, who began her teaching career at CSM in 2016. Ms. Kellie is a high school Literature teacher who is not only seen as a teacher, but also a trainer. She trains her students to apply what they are being taught to their lives. She believes that education is not merely memorizing facts and figures, but rather learning to think, understand, and apply wisdom to their lives. She has remained faithfully committed to her task and is loved by all. Her love for her students as she delivers her coveted chocolate chip cookies and enjoys conversations with them in the hallways is evident to all. CSM Erbil is grateful to have you, Ms. Kellie!



NAME: ZANG

Duhok's Teacher of the Month is Ms. Zang. Ms. Zang is a PE teacher who is passionate and dedicated to her field. She is such an inspiration to those working around her. She always inspires and motivates her students to advance past even their own expectations. Her activities are not limited just to the classroom, but also include extra-curricular activities. Service in these areas give Ms. Zang even more opportunity to enjoy students and staff and be involved in their daily lives. In spite her busy schedule, she exemplifies excellence in what is expected of her. CSM Duhok is grateful to have you, Ms. Zang!



NAME: SHANG

Suly's Teacher of the Month is Ms. Shang. Ms. Shang is a Literature teacher. She is one of the teachers who is dedicated, passionate, and cares deeply about students' learning and personal success. Her creativity and commitment to her profession make her subject loved by her students. She always creates a positive atmosphere in her classroom that motivates students to bring their best each day. Ms. Shang is dependable, trustworthy, and honest. Her philosophy of life-long learning makes a remarkable difference in her field. CSM Suly is proud of you, Ms. Shang!

ALUMNI



NAME: BLND OMED

My name is Blnd Omed Fattah, and I am an alumnus of the prestigious Classical School of the Medes Sulaymaniyah. I enrolled in this amazing school while I was still in kindergarten and remained there until I graduated high school. From the very beginning, I knew I came to the right school as the teachers and staff were very professional, the curriculum was advanced, and we were encouraged to be the best version of ourselves. The time at CSMS was not easy as the lessons were becoming substantially more difficult. However, as I got older, I realized that CSM had broadened my knowledge and prepared me to fully tackle any difficult task or obstacle, whether in or out of school, since I was accustomed to high stress situations. I also remember the fun times I had at school with my friends, the activities we did, and the laughs we shared. I remember looking forward to learning and hanging out with my friends every day at school, and I definitely miss being with them on a daily basis. My wonderful teachers, especially those who were with us for multiple years, made a great impact on us. They made us feel as though they were our friends, and they were there to help us with any problem, and for that I am grateful. I will always be proud and thankful that I went to CSMS because it made me confident in my abilities. For that reason, it will always be my second home.



NAME: DANYAR HASAN

My name is Danyar Hasan. I began attending Classical School of the Medes Duhok in 2006 and then graduated in 2020. I am currently enrolled in the Architecture Engineering Department at the American University of Kurdistan. The first thing that always springs to mind whenever I think about my years at CSM is how enjoyable and exciting my school years were. As it is for most of its graduates, CSM has been like a second home for me. However, the road was not without its bumps; it had its ups and downs. But, overall, it was a place of comfort. I was able to develop my personality at CSM and create a tight-knit community of teachers and friends. Thanks to my instructors' constant support, I was able to establish a solid academic and extracurricular foundation that significantly assisted me in preparing for university life. Starting a new phase of life and entering a new environment, especially one that is more academically focused, after graduation felt like a big step and was rather nerve-wracking, but I was prepared. My suggestion is to live simply, try not to worry too much about the future, and appreciate the present. If you keep working toward your objectives, everything will go well.



NAME: BAHEZ JAWDAT

I am Bahez Jawdat Jaafar, an alumnus of Classical School of the Medes Hawler. In the year 2007 at the age of five, my parents wanted to give me the best education possible, so they decided to enroll me in CSM. The school granted me a stable foundation to build the life I had always wanted by providing me with several opportunities in different fields to prepare me for a bright future. Having utilized the right set of circumstances, I decided to follow my lifelong passion of becoming a doctor. I graduated from CSM in 2020 and started the next chapter of my life at Hawler Medical University, College of Medicine. Having spent most of my life in CSM, getting accepted into HMU felt delightful yet melancholic. Looking back, I am more than grateful to have spent my school years at CSM as the friends, knowledge, and memories will live on with me throughout my life.

JANUARY BIRTHDAY

PAUL REVERE

BY: CARRIE TARVER

Best known for his “midnight ride” at the beginning of the American Revolutionary War, Paul Revere was born January 1st, 1735. The son of immigrants who sailed to the city of Boston, Massachusetts, Paul Revere grew into adulthood at the outset of the French and Indian War. At the age of nineteen, his father died leaving Paul responsible for his family. Two years later, he fought in the French and Indian War but then returned to lead the family silver business.

Perhaps even more astounding than his “midnight ride” to be mentioned later is that he had eight children with his first wife Sarah...and then after her death, eight more children with his second wife Rachel. The busyness of sixteen children to feed and raise did not keep Paul Revere from caring for the cause of freedom. In the early 1770s, Paul and his fellow “Sons of Liberty” conducted secret spy work in the taverns of Boston. As tension mounted between the American colonies and the British who oppressed them, The Sons of Liberty traveled wherever they could find British soldiers socializing. Eavesdropping on the conversations of British soldiers, they gained every shred of information they could about their plans

Revere regularly traveled by horseback to deliver news to his other fellow patriots who were preparing for the fight they believed to be imminent. On the evening of April 18th, 1775, their secret spy network learned the British soldiers were preparing to attack. After instructing his friend to place two lanterns in the tower of the Old North Church signaling the British attack would come “by sea”, Revere rode all night alerting all who would listen, “The British are coming!” Because of this “midnight ride”, the American colonials were prepared, taking the British by surprise and forcing a retreat.



Poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow drafted a famous piece about this very night entitled:

“Paul Revere’s Ride”

Listen, my children, and you shall hear
Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere,
On the eighteenth of April, in Seventy-five;
Hardly a man is now alive
Who remembers that famous day and year...

So through the night rode Paul Revere;
And so through the night went his cry of
alarm
To every Middlesex village and farm, —
A cry of defiance and not of fear,
A voice in the darkness, a knock at the door,
And a word that shall echo forevermore!
For, borne on the night-wind of the Past,
Through all our history, to the last,
In the hour of darkness and peril and need,
The people will waken and listen to hear
The hurrying hoof-beats of that steed,
And the midnight message of Paul Revere.

LEHATO TRAININGS

BY: SHERWAN AMEEN

CSM's three campuses, Duhok, Suly and Erbil, conducted intensive Lehato Training during the first week of January 2023. The training were for teachers and employees as part of ongoing capacity-building for its members. Those trainings refreshed the skills related to the overall learning environment.

This January's Lehato Training covered subjects such as child protection, classroom management workshops, sounds, grammar, grading, and how to create an assignment. There was an additional training related to safety and security matters such as social and nursing work, counseling, and first aid. The trainings were mostly face-to-face sessions, but some were online for teachers of Duhok and Suly.

The trainers possessed up to date skills and had active engagement during the sessions. At CSM, Staff is expected to hone and improve their skill and technique to improve the learning environment and make the classroom as student-centered as possible.



Because CSM is an English language-based school and believes in a student-centered teaching style, teachers actively involve students in a learning-friendly environment. Great effort has been made to engage different backgrounds and cultures with differing language abilities with intensive waived classes. CSM is dedicated to delivering the best possible learning practices for its students. Our hope is that continued staff training will produce an increasingly effective teaching and classroom management.



MEALS WITH MUNCHKINS:

PARENT / STUDENT LUNCHES

BY: CARRIE TARVER

Although the student-teacher relationship is a focus for any school, CSM recognizes the most important influence in a student's life is their parents. This month, Duhok, Erbil, and Suly organized three separate lunches for grades 4, 5, and 6. Parents received invitations to join their students for lunch on a specific day at school. Parents paraded into school carrying giant pots of dolma, biryani, kubba, and other delicacies to share with their children. Cafeteria staff also prepared tirelessly to offer food to families who would rather purchase food there. It has been said that the brain signals joy when looking into the face of a human who is glad to be with you. Joy beamed from the faces of parents and children as they sat together enjoying time to sit, talk, and eat after a long day of work and school.



Families left for the day with full hearts and full bellies. It is the desire of CSM to foster an atmosphere that continues turning the hearts of children towards their parents, believing strong families make strong nations.



CRAFTY CHILDREN AND THEIR PARENTS

BY: CARRIE TARVER



The creativity of children was on full display at Duhok, Erbil, and Suly campuses as grades 1-3 attended Arts and Crafts Day. Each grade had their own separate day to complete their works of art along with mom and dad. Directly following school, the assigned grade for that day would pour into rooms prepared with tables, scissors, glue, and brightly colored paper.

If the saying is true “a messy room is a sign of a creative mind”, a messy table must be also. Though tables were covered in scraps of paper and puddles of glue,

these young designers fashioned collections that would make Michelangelo smile. Some of the crafts included butterflies, family trees, bouquets of flowers, sharks, kitty cats, caterpillars, and animal masks with a message to their parents.

Speaking of parents, these events could not have happened with such ease and joy without their patient help and kind attention to their own children as they attempted to build something they would be proud of. CSM is grateful to the parents, administration, teachers, and volunteers who made these events possible.

EVALUATION AND APPRECIATION

BY: SIRWAN QADER



Teachers and employees are top priority at CSM, and hence they seek to highlight the diligence and devotion of the school. This has been the custom at CSM for the past ten years. All staff members at CSM are appreciated, yet some are chosen for special recognition as they set an example to inspire other teachers and employees and create a positive sense of competition.



The latest evaluation took place this January across Duhok, Erbil, and Suly campuses. In each school, staff were summoned to watch as principals of each school presented evaluated teachers and employees with their certificates of appreciation. They were friendly gatherings, and the fortunate staff members received enthusiastic rounds of applause from supportive colleagues. At the end of each phase, CCAs and administrators suggest fill out specific evaluation form to get a scale. This form is based on metrics such as teaching abilities, admiration of students, parent satisfaction, relationship with other teachers, professionalism, participation in school events, and extra duties they have undertaken. To conclude these meetings, administration was quick to also thank every single teacher and staff member.

THE CITY OF GOLD: DUBAI

DUBAI

BY: LARA SHAMAL

What began as a desolate desert is now one of the world's biggest business and financial centers: Dubai. This city rose to the top with the futuristic and intricate details that make it a shining city today. After the discovery of oil, Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed Al Maktoum began his development of Dubai. Working hard to reach his goal of making Dubai the best place for business, it is now admired for its riches and architecture. Dubai made its mark in history with how quickly it developed into such an advanced city despite its location.

Though it possesses great beauty, Dubai has its flaws including its incredibly hot weather. Tourists prefer to avoid travelling there in the summer because there is not much to do in the sweltering heat. Consider making an air conditioner your best friend!

Sadly, Dubai is also a challenging location for families to live.

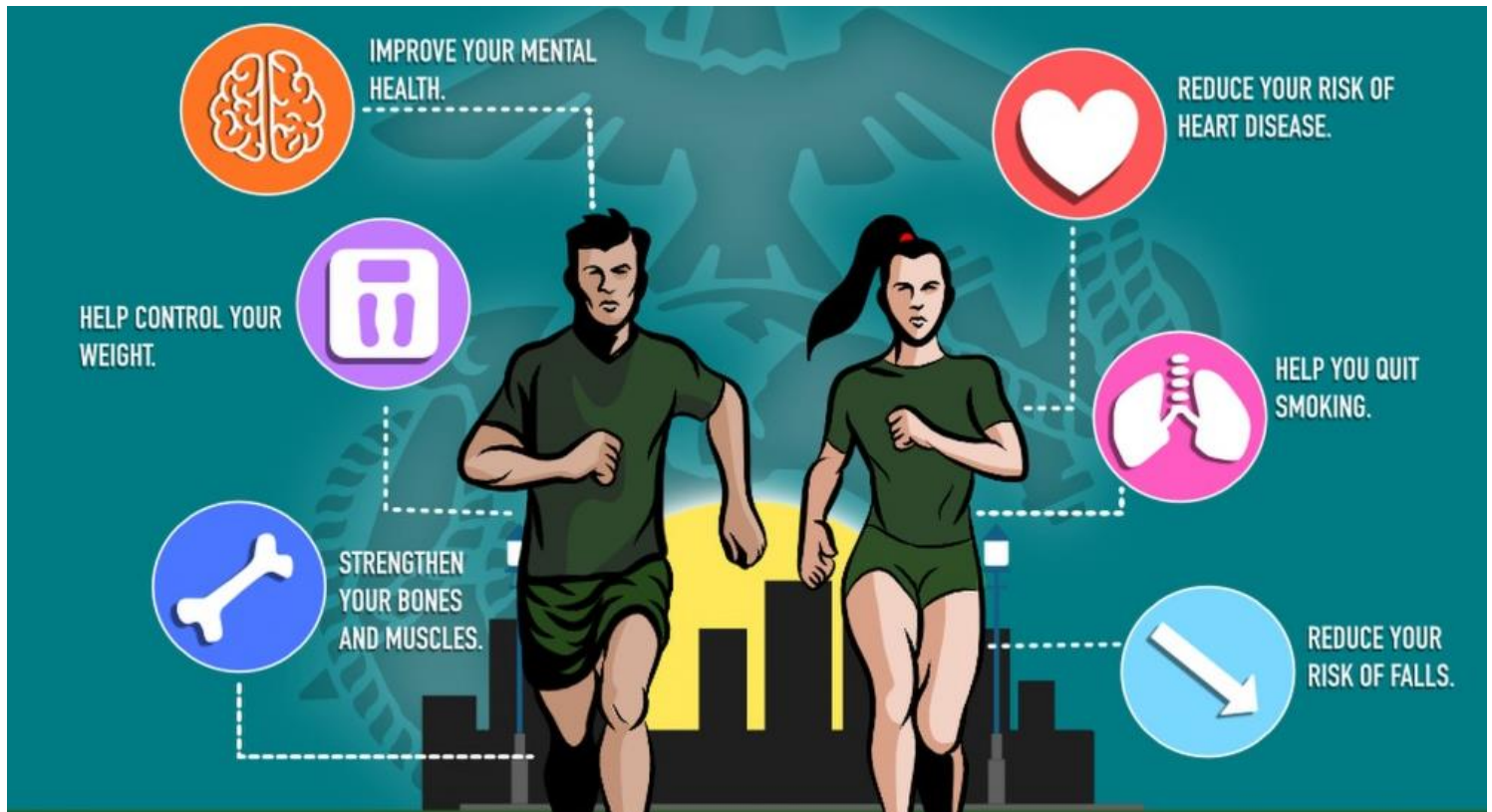


With expensive fees, high rent, and above average school tuition, most agree it is most suitable for high society. However, it is only right to applaud the hard work that went into turning a desert into a well-advanced city in just six decades. One can see from these pictures the dramatic change that occurred in a short period of time. With its sightseeing attractions and reputation as an aviation center, Dubai is well recognized for its luxury and the effort that went into making it what it is today.



HIGHER HEIGHTS: **EXERCISE!**

BY: LAWEEN KAWA



If one wants to take their life to the next level, there is a simple answer: Exercise! Most acknowledge or at least have heard of the benefits of exercise, but most do not take action. “I just don’t have time”, is one common excuse for failing to exercise. However, statistics show that exercise increases energy, focus, and sleep quality such that the time “lost” from exercising is likely gained back with increased productivity. Those who exercise typically need less sleep to feel rested and less work time to accomplish their tasks.

Another reason some do not exercise is they believe the benefits of exercise take time to have a clear effect on their well-being. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) denies this claim saying,

“Some benefits of physical activity on brain health happen right after a session of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity. Benefits include improved thinking or cognition...and reduced short-term feelings of anxiety.” The info-graphic below shows other benefits of exercise. How can one make exercising a habit?

Follow these steps for the best approach:

- Set an appropriate time and place.
- DO NOT start with difficult exercises. Start small.
- Keep track of your progress daily.
- Maintain a healthy diet and life routine.

Exercising may be the one missing link to a daily successful life. Now is the time to start taking care of the body. It is never too late.

FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY

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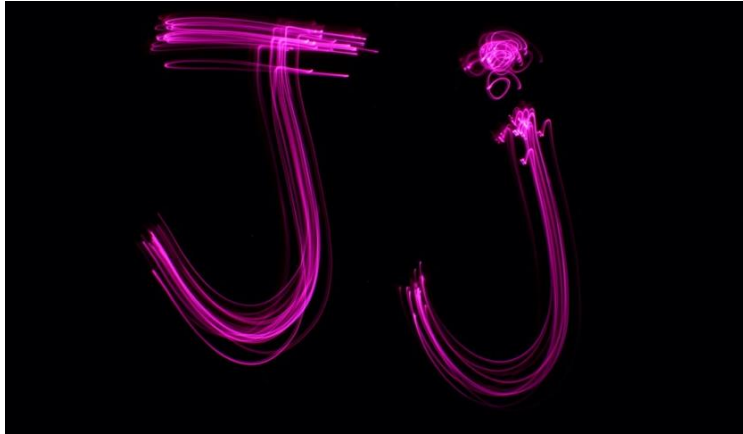
- ❑ 2nd First Round 7-12 Reading Competition
- ❑ 12th KG Valentine Cookie Decoration Activity
- ❑ 13th G1 Valentine Cookie Decoration Activity
- ❑ 15th G2 Valentine Cookie Decoration Activity
- ❑ 16th G3 Valentine Cookie Decoration Activity
- ❑ 20th - 22nd Math G4-G6 Competition
- ❑ 23rd Second Round 7-12 Reading Competition
- ❑ 28th G1-G6 February Winners Announcements

Search & Find



FOR YOU TO KNOW

FACTS



The dot over the lower case "i" or "j" is known as a "tittle."

That tiny dot above lower case "i" and "j" letters has an actual name: tittle. It is thought that the phrase "to a T" is actually derived from the phrase "to a tittle"—a phrase that was used in the same sense dating back to the early 17th century. (The first recording of the phrase is in the 1607 play *Woman Hater* by Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher, in which the line reads, "I'll quote him to a tittle.")

The first computer was invented in the 1940s.

These days, supercomputers are everywhere—and they really don't need much space at all. Have an Xbox One posted up in your living room? That's a supercomputer. A laptop-tablet hybrid in your bag? That's a supercomputer, too. (Don't even get us started on the thing in your pocket...) But when supercomputers first came around, they needed much, much more space. Just take a look at the world's first one: The Electronic Numerical Integrator and Computer (ENIAC).



"E" is the most common letter and appears in 11 percent of all english words.

Try writing out a few sentences—anything at all. Now take a minute to look at how frequently each letter in the alphabet appears. Chances are you'll see a lot of the letter "e." That's because the commonly used vowel appears in around 11 percent of all words in the English language, according to Oxford Dictionaries. The next most popular letter was "a," which appears in around 8.5 percent of all words. The least common letter is "q," which appears in just 0.2 percent of words.

The total weight of ants on earth once equaled the total weight of people.

Entomologists have estimated that there are at least one million trillion insects and only one percent of that number is ants, according to the BBC. And if you took all those ants (about ten thousand trillion) and put them on one side of a giant scale, you could almost put all of the people in the world onto the other and balance things out.





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Laween Kawa, Lara Shamal

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“There is no charm equal to tenderness of heart.”

How would you feel if a single gesture of kindness made someone's day? Or what would be your reaction if there was an answer to something you have been praying for over the years? It is said that people can forget what was said or done but cannot forget how someone made them feel. Benevolence comes in different ways, but it takes people with a gentle heart and pure motives who can touch and transform lives.

The wind of trials and afflictions never cease blowing. I have seen with my eyes people who lack nothing waking up the next day only to find they have nothing to lay their hands on. It was not their fault or something they planned for, but perhaps just the misfortune of life which can happen to anyone. We all live in our own minds, yet we must see into others to understand them. We must understand that it is individuals' responsibility not only to live for themselves but for others. This knowledge will teach us that there is nothing as attractive as being kind-hearted. One must not reject the tenderness of heart and its sympathetic power, especially when it comes from authentic and pure motives...not for the sake of popularity. Then one will experience that caring for others is the most beautiful thing. In conclusion, a single act of benevolence can put a smile on someone's face. However, that act of kindness must flow from genuine love rather than a desire for popularity. When this compassion is shown, its bestower will discover that “tenderness of heart does prevail over charm”. It is not in the likes, follows, brand recognition, or sales that determine worth. It is the condition of the heart.

WISDOM OF THE EDITION

JANE AUSTEN
BY: GORDON OBOUR



CSM FAMILY

BY: JOHN KIM



NAME: HADEEL

Ms. Hadeel is Employee of the Month for CSM Erbil. Ms. Hadeel originally started working at CSM back in 2016, and her initial role was a duty employee in the primary building. She is an extremely active person and is definitely one of a kind, as she is always cheerfully helping students wherever they may be. Both teachers and students see her as a trustworthy person, so she is the one many go to for help. It is clear she enjoys her work, which is visible in the effort and enthusiasm and laughter she brings to the school. CSM is proud to recognize Ms. Hadeel and to have her as an employee.



NAME: PARISHAN

CSM Duhok chose Ms. Parishan as its Employee of the Month. Having joined the CSM family in 2018, Ms. Parishan was hired as a nurse. She cares greatly for her patients and loves the children. She excels in clinical skills and communicating, which maximizes her effectiveness at offering advice and carrying out her medical duties. Overall, she is a passionate, caring, and kind nurse. Ms. Parishan and her co-worker are responsible for health activities at the school and are advocates for the students' health. The school is happy to have such an efficient and excellent nurse on its staff.



NAME: LAVIN

CSM Suly's Employee of the Month is Ms. Lavin. Ms. Lavin joined the school two years ago in 2021 and is a folder employee for the school. The importance of her responsibilities and work is clear to the whole school, as every assessment and student folder must be organized and gathered properly. Whenever she receives the assessments, they go exactly where they belong, quickly and without error. It is not an easy job to be responsible for the many, many assessments that are processed daily in the folder room, but Ms. Lavin performs this task with excellence. Her hard work and important role are why the school is happy to recognize her for this month.

TEACHER OF THE MONTH

BY: GORDON OBOUR



NAME: NOOR BASIM

Erbil's Teacher of the month is Ms. Noor Basim who begun her teaching career at CSM in 2018. Ms. Noor is a teacher of Humanities and World Religions and teaches grades 4 and 5. The role of a teacher is to impact knowledge and touch lives, but only a few teachers remain in students' memory when they grow up and achieve their profession. It is an undisputable fact that Ms. Noor is one of those few teachers. Ms. Noor has over the years proven herself as someone who can work under pressure and does it with ease and grace. She manages her classrooms in a positive way ensuring no one is left behind. Her kindheartedness and love for her students is exceptional. CSM Erbil is grateful for your incredible effort, Ms. Noor!



NAME: NIDRA PAUL

Duhok's Teacher of the month is Mr. Nidra Paul. Mr. Nidra teaches grade 8 and 9 Humanities and World Religions. He is firmly committed and dedicated to his profession. His greatest inspiration is to see his students excelling in their academic potential. For the sake of this, he goes the extra mile and combines creativity to make his subjects easily understood by all students. Mr. Nidra does not limit his training to simply academic goals but also sets himself as a role model for students to imitate his ethics. In spite of his busy routine, he is always available when duty calls on him. Mr. Nidra is a trusted friend and is loved by all. CSM Duhok is grateful to have you, Mr. Nidra!



NAME: ROZHGAR

Suly's Teacher of the month is Ms. Rozhgar. Ms. Rozhgar teaches grade 4 and 9 Karamaiee and Komalayati. Ms. Rozhgar is one of the few teachers who continually strives to become better each day. She keeps inventing new approaches to make her subject fun and understood by her students. She has a strong influence over her students, always inspiring and motivating them to achieve greater heights. Ms. Rozhgar is highly committed to her profession and has the best interest of students at heart. She creates a positive atmosphere in her classroom that motivates students and brings out the best in them. Ms. Rozhgar is loved by parents, teachers, and students. CSM Suly congratulates you today, Ms. Rozhgar!

ALUMNI



NAME: SEEVAN NECHIRVAN

My name is Seevan Nechirvan, and I graduated from Classical School of the Medes Duhok in 2018. I began attending CSM when I was three years old, and it is safe to say I considered it my second home while growing up. However, I always complained the curriculum was too difficult, and there was no denying that we were constantly under an incredible amounts of stress. I was terrified about going to college after fourteen years of being a CSM student. I was accepted to the University of Duhok's College of Spatial Planning and graduated second in my class in 2022. The knowledge and abilities I acquired during my time at CSM prepared me for everything that lay ahead. First of all, because of my abilities in the English language and in communication, I was able to skip the preparatory year. In addition, the four years at the university were easier than I expected because I was already skilled in writing and giving presentations on a variety of subjects. All I have learned has aided my progress to be where I am today, and I will always be grateful to the CSM team. To the students currently attending CSM, enjoy your time at CSM despite the overwhelming amount of studying and stress. You never know where you will be in a few years, but you will definitely cherish being a member of the CSM family.



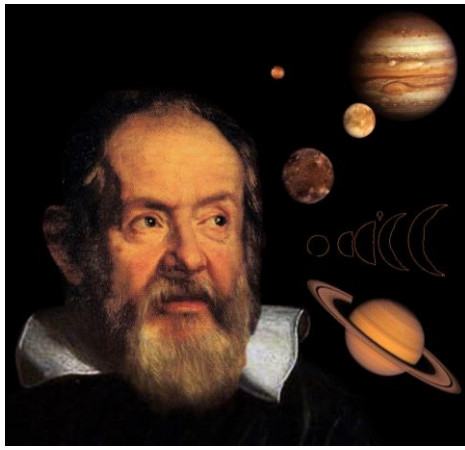
NAME: BAYAD MARIWAN

My name is Bayad Mariwan. I am an alumnus of Classical School of the Medes in Sulaymaniyah, and I am currently studying medicine at the university. Nearly all my academic history is composed of my time at CSM. Since kindergarten, I have been a student and disciple of the teachings and curriculum of CSM. As a result of this, it seems that English is also my mother language since I was exposed to it at such a young age. As I progressed from kindergarten to 12th grade, this school felt like home. The school building itself, the students and my fellow classmates, and even the teachers were all a part of my CSM family. The school was a safe place where I was able to express myself and was welcomed with a warm heart. CSM ensures all of its students can become academically successful by pushing them to their limits in many areas of life. The curriculum at CSM is made to complement the previous year so that as each year passes you dive deeper into certain fields where knowledge from your previous years is necessary to reach the new one. CSM truly made me grow and become a good, reliable, and successful person, and I will forever be thankful for it and all the teachers that taught me throughout my memorable years. I am sad to think I left a place that was my second home, but I will cherish my memories of CSM, and it will forever have a place in my heart.



NAME: SAMAN RESHAD

My name is Saman Reshad, and it is my great pleasure to share my experience with you as a proud alumnus of Classical School of the Medes Hewler. I attended CSM from 2006 to 2020, and it was an incredibly formative and rewarding period of my life. CSM provided me with a solid foundation in my area of study, allowing me to engage in hands-on projects and enriching experiences. The faculty and staff were extremely supportive and always there to offer guidance, while the tight-knit student community created a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere for learning. After graduation, I was fortunate enough to continue my studies at Salahaddin University in the Department of Architecture. There, I was able to further my skills and gain valuable experiences. The education and training I received at CSM was integral in preparing me for this next step in my academic journey. I am forever grateful for my time at CSM and the impact it has had on my life. It is a privilege to be able to give back to the community through this newsletter and I hope that my experience can inspire current and future students to pursue their dreams with confidence and determination.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY

GALILEO GALILEI

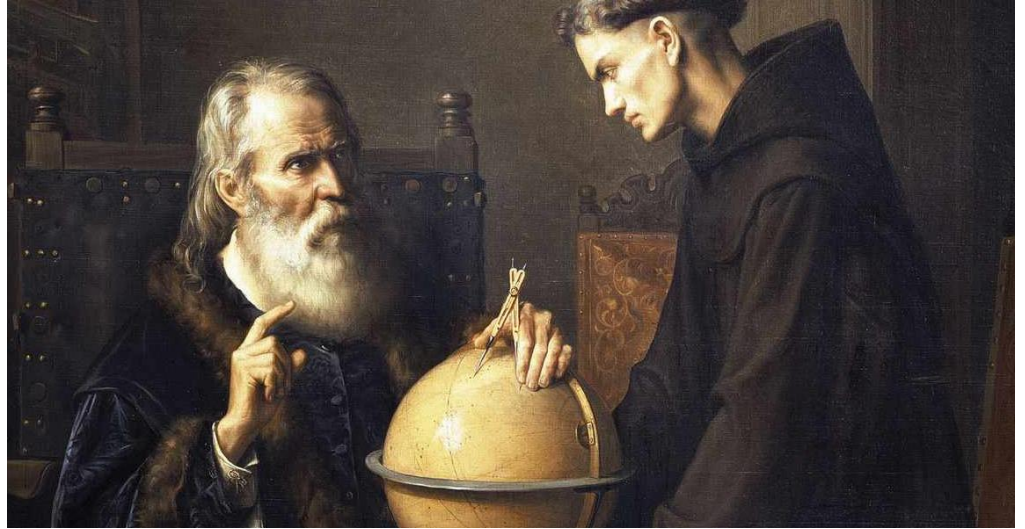
BY: SIRWAN QADER

Born on February 15, 1564 in the city of Pisa, Italy, Galileo di Vincenzo Galilei was a famous Italian physicist, astronomer, and engineer.

The scientific works of Galileo Galilei are vital to our present understanding of the laws of the natural world around us.

Looking at his numerous studies in multiple aspects of life, philosophy, mathematics, music, mechanics, astronomy and engineering, Galileo developed brilliant theories that completely changed the concepts of physics, mathematics, astronomy, and technology. Galileo Galilei was often held accountable and imprisoned for his radical ideas according to his time that contradicted fundamental Church doctrines.

Galileo was persistent in his mission of scientific truth to bless future generations with the inspiration to challenge traditional opinions. His theories about the nature of motion of falling bodies, his study of chronometer, and his important discoveries in astronomy made with a telescope he built himself are all clearly huge achievements. Galileo began teaching mathematics privately in Florence and then between 1585-86 at Siena where he held a public position. During the summer of 1586 he taught at the city of Vallombrosa. This was the year he wrote his first scientific book called the little balance, in Italian La Balancitta.



The astronomical discoveries Galileo made with the telescopes he built himself were described in a book called Starry Messenger published in Venice in 1610. This piece of outstanding work caused an uproar. Galileo explained that he saw mountains on the moon, to have proved the Milky Way consisted of countless stars, and to have seen four bodies orbiting planet Jupiter. In June 1610, just a month after his famous book was published, Galileo resigned his position at Padua and became head Mathematician at the University of Pisa.

Galileo Galilei's many attributions include the law of inertia which was later used by Isaac Newton as the law of motion, the relationships between velocity and distance, and also between time and distance at the continuity of acceleration.

He was sentenced to house arrest in his villa in Tuscan. He was actually condemned not for heresy as thought by many, but because in 1632, ignoring the previous rule that he should not publicly teach or publish, he published a book on the Copernican and Ptolemaic systems. The Ptolemaic model states that the Earth is the center of the universe and everything in the universe revolves around the Earth. The Copernican model states that the Sun is the center of the universe and all of the bodies in the universe revolve around the Sun. This gave his enemies the opportunity to recall the verdict. He had also lost the support of some Christians because of his way of responding aggressively.

He was found "suspect of heresy" and eventually sentenced to house arrest for life. He was allowed to travel into Florence only for medical reasons, and to receive any visitors he wanted at his home.

Sadly in 1638 he became blind which is ironically tragic for a man who has seen so much with his eyes of the heavens. Galileo died of natural causes at the age of 77 in 1642. He was buried in a side room in the Basilica di Santa Croce, but in 1737 he was reburied in the main basilica where a monument had been built in his honor.

COMPASSION, CREATIVITY, AND CUPCAKES: CANCER CHARITY

BY: CARRIE TARVER

It has been said that sympathy feels sorry when someone is hurting, but compassion is the feet that take action. This month, CSM students and admin took action on behalf of cancer patients.

Erbil: Erbil's senior students traveled to Nanakali Hospital along with members of admin. There they had the opportunity to meet and play with children suffering with this disease. While students and admin hoped this time to love on children and donate towards their needs would encourage them, the smiles of these patients encouraged them. Later, seniors also organized fundraising booths to raise additional funds to purchase supplies and equipment for cancer patients. Combining creativity and teamwork, students sold cookies, brownies, donuts, cupcakes, mini pizzas and more. The enthusiasm of seniors and variety of food options drew a hearty response.



Duhok: Duhok decided to use their Valentine's Day as an opportunity to show love for cancer patients. Senior students gathered a variety of sandwiches to sell during breaks. Hungry students, staff, and teachers eagerly awaited their turn to devour a delicious sandwich while also giving towards the needs of cancer patients. The proceeds from sandwich sales was added to the growing pool of funds that will soon be given to cancer charity.

Suly: Suly students began fundraising for cancer patients last month. Not only were they willing to organize to achieve their goal, but they were also willing to prepare their own food. The smell of home-cooked biriyani and other home-cooked delicacies drew a crowd who was happy to both satisfy their stomach and contribute to the needs of cancer fighters.

HEARTS AND FLOWERS: VALENTINE'S DAY

BY: CARRIE TARVER

What would have been a fun-filled week of decorating activities for the younger grades was touched with tragedy as Turkey and Syria suffered a series of devastating earthquakes. Because of the three holidays taken in wake of the earthquakes, CSM campuses cancelled these decorating activities. However, this did not keep CSM students, teachers, staff, and admin from showing love and commemorating the day. All three campuses decorated rooms and hallways with touches of red and pink, hearts and flowers. Some of the unique ways they celebrated included delivering flowers, notes, and donuts to fellow classmates and teachers, writing love quotes on sticky notes to shower anyone passing through entryways with concepts of love, and of course, wearing pink and red. Finally, it would not be Valentine's Day at CSM without the annual heart-shaped drone photograph. All three campuses gathered outside arranging themselves in the shape of a heart as drones flew overhead documenting the sight of students, teachers, and admin united in a sea of red, pink, and black. God showed His love on this day by granting clear blue skies and warmer weather, making for a pleasant wait for everyone to chat until the "heart" of each school was sufficiently captured.



CRUNCHING NUMBERS: MATH COMPETITION

BY: ALEXANDER WEREKO

News can be shocking but waking up to the realization that math is declared the most fun subject is surely going to raise eyebrows for many. Math is highly perceived to be fearsomely difficult either because of its abstract nature or because preparations for formal exams drain the fun from the subject.

However, math competitions inspire students to think outside the box, help them realize the genius in them, as well as debunk the falsehood that math cannot be fun. All three campuses of CSM hosted a math competition in the month of February for grades 4, 5, and 6. The activity unfolded in two rounds with ten students from each grade qualifying for the final round. It was a challenging yet fun and academic battle that saw three winners in the end. They were awarded medals and certificates to show for their hard work.



SCHOOL in PHOTOS



MATH COMPETITION WINNERS



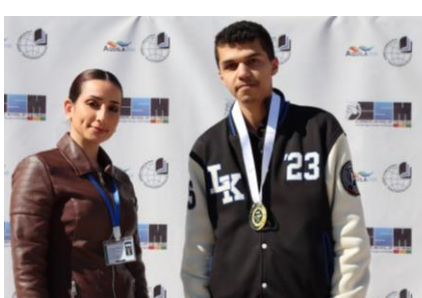
MATH COMPETITION WINNERS



READING AWARDS



READING AWARDS



KG in PHOTOS



LIVING A THOUSAND LIVES: **READING COMPETITION**

BY: CARRIE TARVER

It has been said, “A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies...The man who never reads lives only one.” CSM Language Arts CCAs, Literature teachers, librarians, and administration combined forces this month to encourage students to read. Participation was voluntary, yet over a hundred students across three campuses chose to enter. Competitions were handled differently depending on age. Students from grades 7-12 drew books and were given two weeks to complete them. At the end of those two weeks, they were asked questions about their book in an attempt to determine how much of the book they were able to read.

Students in younger grades were challenged to borrow as many books as possible from the library. When returning their books, the librarians would ask them questions to see if they had actually read the book. Readers who borrowed and were able to answer questions related to the most stories were deemed winners. In both age groups, winners received medals and certificates while all participants received a certificate of appreciation. CSM hopes this contest will spur its students to join the ranks of readers who live not only their one life...but a thousand vicarious lives of heroism, adventure, love, and faith.



FEBRUARY THEMES: SMILES & CANCER AWARENESS

BY: ALEXANDER WEREKO

Smiles wordlessly communicate happiness and acceptance. They are as contagious as the flu, except positively. So, if you were to infect someone today, it should be with your smile. It is wonderful how a gesture this effortless can light up someone's world. Let's spread it.

As February is dubbed "smiling" month, it is imperative to consider the factors that put people in a proper position to spread smiles. Awareness of oral health (teeth treatment) ranked high in grade 1 – 6 discussions. If we are to keep our teeth for life, brushing our teeth twice daily, maintaining a low-sugar diet, and regular visits to our dental professional are ideal to help reduce the risk of such diseases like dental decay and gum disease – both of which can result in tooth loss. Through different activities and instructional aids like videos and posters, the health professionals clearly illustrated best dental practices as they visited classes. For grades 7 – 12, this month's theme was about cancer awareness. According to WHO, cancer is a large group of diseases that can begin in almost any organ or tissue of the body when abnormal cells grow uncontrollably, go beyond their usual boundaries to invade adjoining parts of the body, and/or spread to other organs. Between 30% and 50% of cancer deaths could be prevented by modifying or avoiding key risk factors and implementing existing evidence-based prevention strategies such as avoiding tobacco use, regularly exercising, limiting alcohol use, reducing exposure to ultraviolet and ionizing radiation, getting regular medical care, and eating a healthy diet with plenty of fruit and vegetables. The program not only educated students on cancer and oral health but also served a fundraising purpose where students and their supervisors across the three campuses of CSM engaged in economic activities to generate funds in support of CSM's donation programs – this time, to cancer hospitals. CSM believes no one fights alone.



SCHOOL MAINTENANCE: THE BUILDING DOCTORS

BY: CARRIE TARVER AND SHERWAN AMEEN



CSM not only has nurses, it also has doctors...building doctors. The daily activities of students and teachers often cause unintentional “wounds” to CSM facilities, whether it be desks, tables, chairs, doors, boards, datashow machines, or electronic devices. An over-zealous student opens the door with a jerk and the knob is on the floor. Call the maintenance team! A curtain receives one too many a tug and collapses from the window. Call the maintenance team! A student swings his fist at a buzzing bee on a window, and the glass shatters. Call the maintenance team!

These are just a few of the many situations the CSM Maintenance Team handles each day. School Maintenance has several aims: insuring the school’s status meets safety standards, providing equipment and continuous care for cleaning and hygienic tools, repairing damaged property

such as desks, chairs, doors, and boards, as well as servicing damaged toilets, machines, and IT equipment. School administration along with the maintenance team considers the importance of both following rules and regulations to support the safe and effective management of school infrastructure and responding to maintenance matters as they ascend through inspections.

These are talented workers with multiple skills in various needs who do their best to solve maintenance issues. However, they also work along with school administration to involve outside contractors when needed.

Without these “building doctors”, CSM facilities would eventually cease to function. CSM students, teachers, and administration are grateful for them.

SHAHBA

BY: SHILA KHALIL

Stone Age people initially began to settle in Shahba, Syria. Many Neolithic tools, pottery, burials, and other artifacts from the era have been found in Shahba and the area as a result of archaeological excavations. Under Persian domination, the village developed into a small town. It was incorporated into Alexander the Great's dominion in 333 B.C., and the Romans afterwards took Shahba. The last included the city in a Roman province called Petraea in Arabia.

The Ancient Roman Emperor Philip the Arab, a native of Syria who ruled the entire Empire starting in 244 A.D., was born and raised in Shahba, which has made it exceptionally well-known.

He commissioned a huge construction project in his hometown after ascending to be king.

The majority of the structures in Shahba are from this era. Because of the flawless accuracy and organization of the streets and buildings, the entire arrangement has a decidedly Roman air. Insulae were the names given to city blocks, while the Cardus Maximus and Decumanus Maximus, two major colonnaded roadways, formed a nearly perfect axis for the city. Some people even think Philip intended to make his hometown resemble Rome. Whatever the reason, Philip the Arab died five years later in a palace coup, and the majestic project was abandoned for want of funding. The other populous cities of the empire were located quite a distance from Shahba. This explains both why it eventually fell into disrepair and why, after being abandoned for many years, it is still in such good condition. Roman theaters, basilicas, forums, and other public and private civic and religious structures have all been preserved in nearly perfect form. Scientists uncovered The Glory of the Earth mosaic at "Maison Aoua" during archaeological excavations in 1952. It is currently on display in Damascus.



DEATHWISH DIVING: THE REST OF THE CHERNOBYL STORY

BY: EMILY EDWARD

“You’ll do it because it must be done. You’ll do it because nobody else can. And if you don’t, millions will die. If you tell me that’s not enough, I won’t believe you.” -Chernobyl (Miniseries)

1:23 AM, April 26, 1986.

Do you recognize this date?

During a meltdown of outpouring power and explosions, dozens were killed, thousands fled, but only a few remained to sacrifice their life.

On this fateful day occurred a catastrophic chain reaction in the 4th reactor’s core of a powerplant, causing a meltdown to rupture uranium fuel rods. This induced a steam explosion that sent out a fireball that hurled the roof off the reactor, rapidly creating a plume that blanketed a nearby city, Pripjat, and contaminated millions of acres of neighboring land. However, if it weren’t for the courage and sacrifice of three certain volunteers, the scale of destruction could’ve been much worse.

The panicked citizens of nearby Pripjat would scatter, attempting to directly flee the country. The atmosphere was suffocating; toxic gas would surround yelling residents who ran for their lives, children would cry out loud to their mothers, and people who were in charge had to act fast. And so, they did.

A couple of days subsequent to the initial explosion, shift supervisor Boris Baranov, mechanical engineer Alexei Ananenko, and senior engineer Valeri Besspalov had marched onward to undertake a mission widely considered to be a Deathwish. The result of this mission would decide the destiny of millions of people; it was unparalleled in its importance and magnitude, representing one of the bravest and most crucial missions ever commenced. So, what was this mission?

Days prior to the mission, on the day of the disaster, immediate action was taken. A huge explosion would only result in blazing fire, so firefighters pumped water directly into the nuclear reactor to control the fire.

However, it was feared that this did more bad than good, since it flooded the basement of the reactor with radioactive water. This basement contained certain valves that when turned would drain the reactor’s ‘blubber pools’, which served as a coolant for the powerplant. Later, it was discovered molten nuclear material was melting through the reactor’s floor, gradually making its way down the basement. If the lava-like substance were to make contact with the radioactive water below, it would induce a radiation-contaminated steam explosion that would destroy the entire powerplant, causing nuclear fallout. The pools, containing 20 million liters of water, had to be drained manually by turning the basement’s valves down.

It was not just any mission, as Leatherbarrow states, ‘The men entered the basement in wetsuits, radioactive water up to their knees, in a corridor stuffed with a myriad of pipes and valves...it was like finding a needle in a haystack.’

And they just happened to find that needle. If the three men did not, the Chernobyl death toll would’ve reached millions. Nuclear physicist Vassili Nesterenko stated that the explosion would’ve had a force of 3 to 5 megatons, which would leave the majority of Europe uninhabitable for hundreds of thousands of years.

MARCH

MARCH

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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

- ☐ 1st Teacher's Day
- ☐ 2nd – 4th G10-G12 Nawroz Trip to Hawler
- ☐ 5th Raparen Holiday
- ☐ 7th Suli Uprising
- ☐ 8th Woman's Day / Round 3 of reading contest G7-G12
- ☐ 9th KG1-G9 Nawroz Event / G10-G12 No Classes
- ☐ 12th – 16th Spring Holiday
- ☐ 19th – 23rd Nawroz Holiday

PLAY & ENJOY

Search the words



Valentine's Day



N R Y C L C S O
S A D N T S S S G T Y C
V T E S C L L D A O C O R E N E
T D A O C L E I D D S E W S A D F A F F
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GIFT
HEART
CARDS
FEBRUARY

DOVES
CHOCOLATE
CUPID
TREATS

VALENTINE
FLOWERS
CANDY
LOVE

PINK
KISS
FRIENDS
RED

FOR YOU TO KNOW

FACTS



Dogs actually understand some English

Some owners of disobedient dogs may have trouble believing this, but dogs can learn to recognize a vocabulary of about 165 words. Unsurprisingly, dogs respond best to short words, as well as words with hard consonants like "t" or "r," which may explain why they can hear "treat" from three rooms away.

Riding a roller coaster could help you pass a kidney stone.

After multiple people reported they had passed a kidney stone while riding Walt Disney World's Big Thunder Mountain Railroad ride, a research team from Michigan State University decided to investigate the phenomena in 2016. They conducted tests with a model kidney and found that there was a 64 percent kidney stone pass rate for those seated in the rear of the Thunder Mountain ride. That number was just 16 percent for those seated in the front.



Koalas have fingerprints.

Chimpanzees and gorillas have human-like fingerprints and so do koalas. In fact, koala prints are very similar to human fingerprints, even to expert crime scene investigators. As of yet, no koalas have framed humans for their crimes, but now we know it's not impossible...

The first iPhone wasn't made by Apple.

The first mobile device to be called an "iPhone" was made by Cisco, not Apple. It allowed the user to use the voice functions of Skype without a computer. Apple announced its own product just 22 days later, and Cisco sued for trademark infringement. The lawsuit was ultimately settled out of court and both companies were allowed to keep using the name. However, you've probably never heard of the Cisco iPhone.





Newsletter

2022-2023

22nd Edition

Classical School of the Medes

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We love what we do and we do what we love

Educating Learners through Academics and Ethics

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23rd EDITION

CSM

Newsletter

2022-2023

Classical School of the Medes

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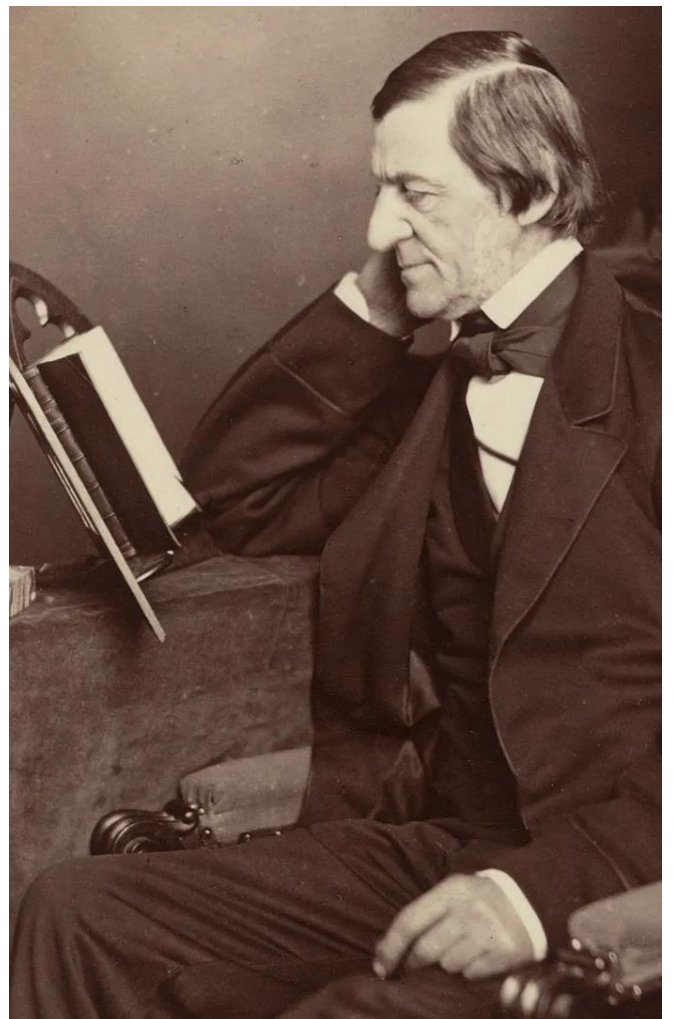


“A great man or woman is always willing to be little.”

This quote by Ralph Waldo Emerson echoes of Mathew 23:11 which says, “But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.” Humility and modesty are impossible to achieve without seeing oneself as little. Humility is the combination of an individual’s thoughts and actions which are in direct opposition to pride and arrogance. The deterioration of the ego begins with the acceptance of being imperfect. You may be overlooked for the promotion, lose the contract battle you are fighting, or fail your family. That is life. Greatness accepts failure with grace and celebrates the victories of others. Karen Salmansohn once said, “Perfection is all about the ego.” This is always true in the relationship with oneself. When we fail or are proved wrong, the tendency to defend ourselves immediately reveals pride. In actuality, it shows fear and weakness. Fear and weakness bury themselves within us when we are subjected to failure. Why are we this way? There is a resistance to being small. This can be overcome by learning to sit with the discomfort of being small, wrong, last, or failing...all major triggers of the ego. Also, we must sometimes drop the “me” and focus on “us”. Shifting focus from self to others yields more results and gives a humble heart. It may take courage to be humble, especially when humility is beneath one’s personal hierarchy of values. But we must learn to stay in its discomfort, understanding the race is not always for the swift, nor the battle for the strong. We must celebrate the victories of others who will also celebrate us when we win. Willingness to be little and serve has the impact of making one great!

WISDOM OF THE EDITION

RALPH WALDO EMERSON
BY: GORDON OBOUR



CSM FAMILY

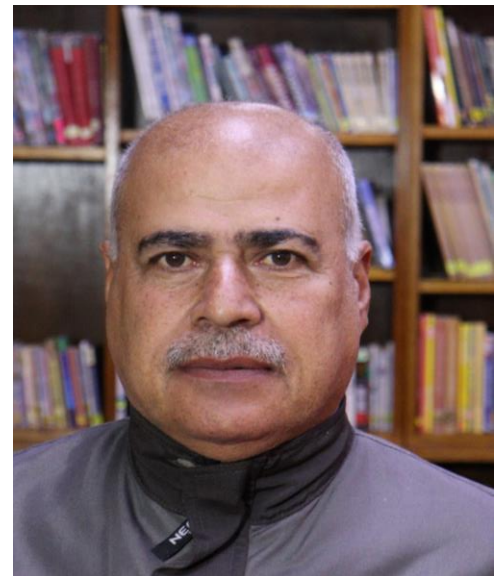
BY: JOHN KIM



NAME: TWANA



NAME: KAREL



NAME: ABDULLAH

For the month of March, CSM Erbil has selected Mr. Twana to be the Employee of the Month. Mr. Twana joined the school last year in 2022, and he has been working for the folder room. He is a dedicated employee whose experience continues to grow, and he is also willing to provide support for any area in which he is asked. His attitude of positivity towards his job and his passion for his work are both commendable traits that shine in the work that he does. The school is thankful for his tireless and hard work and hopes to see him continue to be an important asset for the school.

CSM Duhok chose Ms. Karel as its Employee of the month. She has joined CSM in 2021 and has continued to be an important employee of the school. She completes her tasks and duties with commitment, and she even will accommodate other responsibilities when an extra pair of hands is needed. While performing her main role as a receptionist, Ms. Karel's attitude and positivity certainly influences those around her, bringing a smile to all those around her: students, teachers, staff, or parents. She is skillful in finding solutions to any questions that are asked of her make her an important and necessary presence in the school. CSM is proud to have Ms. Karel on their staff.

CSM Suly's Employee of the Month is Mr. Abdullah. Being a long-time member of the school for twenty years, Mr. Abdullah's demeanor has not changed. Originally joining to receive students at the gate, he continues to be a cheerful spirit with a bright smile as he performs maintenance for the school throughout the day. He is helpful to everyone he encounters and will assist people who are making purchases in and through the school. At the end of the day, he returns to his post at the main door to say goodbye with a happy smile to students and their families. Anyone who encounters him throughout their day will be happier, and as such, CSM is happy to have him.

TEACHER OF THE MONTH

BY: SHERWAN AMEEN



NAME: VAHEL

The Teacher of the Month for CSM Hawler is Ms. Vahel. She has proven to be creative and excellent in her classroom tasks. Moreover, she can engage easily with students during her PE lessons which are counted as practical and theoretical. As for the students, Ms. Vahel plays a crucial role in actively enhancing her students' level of understanding which makes her a beloved person among the students. Ms. Vahel began her mission at CSM Hawler just recently and made a noticeable impact on PE lessons delivered to grade one students. We appreciate the good work of Ms. Vahel and her determined efforts and steadiness in teaching.



NAME: ROZH

CSM Suly has chosen Mr. Rozh to be the Teacher of the Month. He has a dedicated, smart, and pleasant character as a Language Arts teacher. He is teaching grades 6 and 8 Grammar as well as Literature with a motivating teaching style. Mr. Rozh has had a gentle and helpful attitude from the start of his career with CSM Suly. His strong performance and interpersonal skills with his students are vital features of being a committed and highly respected teacher. Thank you to Mr. Rozh for his efforts to deliver the best possible teaching practices.



NAME: ANDERA

The Teacher of the Month for Duhok goes to Ms. Andrea who began her work as a science teacher for grades 7 and 8 in 2020. She goes above and beyond to help her students learn using lab materials. She understands the importance of hands-on learning and believes students learn best when they can see and experience scientific concepts themselves. Ms. Andrea is passionate, knowledgeable, approachable, and dedicated to the success of her students. She connects with them on a personal level, communicates effectively, and inspires them to reach their full potential. She is a role model who fosters a love for learning and a sense of community to help students develop the skills and values needed to succeed in life.



NAME: ELMAR BASIM

Hi, my name is Elmar, and I am a Classical School of the Medes Hawler graduate. I would like to talk about my experience at CSM and how it helped me in different areas of my life. I joined the school in 2008 in KG1. I still remember my first day. I spent an hour looking for my classroom, and asked everyone in the school if they knew where my class was. I entered my class with different emotions - excitement, fear, and curiosity. My very first teacher was Ms. Ziryan. She taught me both kindergarten levels. The memories that follow my first day are blurrier. I stayed in CSM until I graduated in 2022, and I now study at the University of Kurdistan Hawler.

While CSM provided an amazing academic learning experience, this school taught me far more than just academics. I learned social skills, respect, discipline, and much more. My social life is good now thanks to my school and the friends I made there. I used to be awkward in front of large groups. However, I learned to speak in front of people because we were asked to give presentations to our class. This prepared me for life at the university. I also learned about respect at CSM. I would get into arguments with fellow classmates or teachers; however, we would always find a solution and apologize. I learned to respect my neighbor and to forgive. One of the best things I learned in this school was discipline. Discipline includes doing things when you do not want to do them. Many times, I would find myself struggling to focus in class or study for my exams. Discipline taught me to ignore those feelings and do my job, and the results I saw in that made me much happier with myself. All of the experiences in this school - every mistake I made, everything I have learned, everything I have accomplished - have helped me in different areas in my life, and that makes me grateful for graduating from CSM Hawler.



NAME: OGEN ASHUR

My name is Ogen Ashur Yohanna. I am a 2021 graduate from Classical School of the Medes Duhok, and I currently study medicine at the University of Zakho. I started my Academic journey at CSM in 2009 and gained a great amount of information that has benefited me in my adult life. CSM is known for its unique curriculum and teaching methods, and many see it as difficult. But, the school's rigorousness academic courses are beneficial for the students. The school taught me to work well under pressure, and how to tackle problems in life. The environment is nothing but positive with students and teachers. I have many unforgettable memories with my friends, especially during my high school years as we took countless fun trips and helped each other in class. I really enjoyed the relationship students had with teachers and the administration. They were understanding and nice, which was helpful for the students, and it made students want to learn more about different subjects every year. It also encouraged students to stand out in the community no matter their background. I am a minority as an Assyrian, but I still have a voice and can achieve big things that are beneficial to the community. I have participated in many events - one was the World Scholar's Cup in Erbil where I debated students from other schools on different topics. I have also participated in many activities such as sports and charity. The school opened my mind to different and unique ideas. Since I will be working in the medical field, my intention is to help people using new medical knowledge and information. With all of this, I am not finished; I have bigger goals that I intend to achieve in life for the greater good of humanity.



NAME: ZHILYA FADHIL

My name is Zhilya Fadhil, and I joined the Classical School of the Medes Sulaymaniyah family in 2009 and graduated in 2022. As an alumnus, I will always cherish the unforgettable memories and experiences. The things I learned over the course of my school life will stay with me forever. My high school life was definitely the period where I found myself. It was an unforgettable journey which will remain in my heart. I always thought of my teachers as the backbone of CSM. I appreciate them for teaching me lessons I will carry throughout my life and for giving me fond classroom memories I will treasure forever. Now I truly know the days spent in school are the best and happiest days of life. Thank you for shaping the best years of my life.

A philosopher and mathematician who was brilliant - that's who Rene Descartes was. His ideas changed western philosophy, science, and mathematics. He emphasized skepticism and reason in a unique inquiry method. Modern science and philosophy have their foundation established by his work.

Descartes used skepticism and doubt to explore knowledge. He believed true knowledge required questioning all beliefs and assumptions. In asserting "I am because I think", he conveyed his absolute surety of his own reality. This approach helped Descartes uncover fundamental truths about reality and the universe. The importance of using reason and logic for obtaining knowledge and not just following authority or tradition was stressed by him.

Descartes' mathematical contributions were significant. He excelled in algebra and geometry. The Cartesian Coordinate System was his invention. It allowed for precise representation of equations. The system remains relevant today in various fields. From engineering to computer graphics, it has many applications. Descartes' work set the foundation for modern calculus. Leibniz and Newton developed it independently.

Descartes' philosophy left a lasting impact on western thought. He believed in skepticism and reason, rather than relying on authority and tradition. The basis of modern philosophy was established by his ideas, in particular, those in epistemology and metaphysics. Additionally, he influenced the Enlightenment, which valued individual freedom and rational thought.

An exceptional philosopher and mathematician was Rene Descartes, and his concepts have greatly influenced our world comprehension. His technique of examination prioritized skepticism and reasoning, which paved the way for current science and philosophy. His contributions in both fields are so substantial they remain evident in today's scholars. Descartes' influence continuously inspires upcoming generations of scholars and thinkers. His flaws were outweighed by his contributions to the evolution of western thinking.

MARCH BIRTHDAY RENE DESCARTES BY: MIRAN THAER



TEACHERS DAY CELEBRATION

‘If You Can Read This...Thank a Teacher’

BY: ALEXANDER WEREKO

They explain, demonstrate, inspire, and play other leading roles in shaping the future of the people whose minds and hearts are entrusted to them. They create a serene environment characterized by rapport, warmth, accessibility, enthusiasm, empathy, a sense of community and belongingness, and above all, love in the course of executing their daily tasks. Teachers are indeed worth celebrating.

On March 1, 2023, teachers in all three campuses of CSM were made to feel that their enormous contribution to education and the transformation of the world around them is recognized. From written notes from students to their teachers to souvenirs from the school authorities to their able facilitators of learning, teachers felt commended and saw the need to rethink their roles and responsibilities to reach greater heights in their profession and lead their students to their desired destinations. As Harry S. Truman said, “If you can read this, thank a teacher.”



RAPARIN DAY: THE UPRISING THAT CHANGED THE FATE OF KURDISTAN FOREVER

BY: SIRWAN QADER



The 1991 revolt of the Kurdish people in northern Iraq, known as Raparin Day, was led by the Kurds against then Saddam Hussein's Baath Party regime. Peshmerga Kurdish armed forces played a key role in the uprising as they descended from the mountains and joined the Kurdish people in the cities. After the 8-year-long war against neighboring Iran came to an end in 1988, the ruling Baath Party regime in Iraq relaunched its military campaign against the Kurdish freedom movement, executing chemical and mass genocidal attacks against both Kurdish Peshmerga armed forces and Kurdish civilians. The defeat of the Iraqi regime in Kuwait provided suitable ground for a Kurdish uprising. Taking advantage of a weak Iraqi government after its loss in Kuwait, Kurds in the north in addition to Arabs in the south of Iraq began organizing public revolts against Saddam Hussein's regime. The activities in southern Iraq were soon put under control of the Iraqi government, but Kurds in the north were fully devoted to gain their freedom as a nation. The first spark of the revolt began on March 5, 1991 in the City of Raniya, Sulaymaniyah province. Soon afterwards, other cities and areas of Kurdistan joined the movement until Kirkuk was announced liberated on March 21, 1991. During these two weeks, the Kurds were able to drive out all Iraqi soldiers and gain control of government buildings and military bases across the Kurdish region.

Eventually, Saddam Hussein's regime carried out a major attack on the liberated Kurdish areas. Almost immediately, Iraqi forces began using helicopters to crush the uprisings. The Kurdish rebels were outgunned with only a few heavy weapons and air missiles, which made them defenseless against the fire-power and heavy Iraqi artillery. Kurdish forces attempted to delay the advance of the Iraqi army in order to allow the fleeing of Kurdish civilians from Iraqi Kurdistan to the safety of Turkish and Iranian borders. However, they were eventually defeated by the superior fire-power of Iraqi regime forces. As a result, large numbers of Kurdish civilians left their homes and towns for neighboring countries. This displacement is known in history as the "major exodus" or "Al-anfal". A total number of 1,400,000 people were displaced from their homes and found refuge either in Iran, Europe, or the United States. Kurds were facing a humanitarian catastrophe that eventually prompted the UN Security Council to issue the 688 Resolution which announced the no-fly zone over the Kurdish territories. The Kurdistan Regional Government announced March 5th an official holiday in Kurdistan to commemorate and honor this crucial uprising.

TREASURE TROVE OF CSM: SCHOOL LIBRARY

BY: ALEXANDER WEREKO



At CSM, the library means more than collections of books. There is great value in providing opportunities for students to enjoy regular silent reading, which is sustained reading of materials they select for pleasure. Sometimes, students are sent to the library during instructional hours to use topic-related resources there to aid research activities. CSM has four libraries for Primary and High School, one in each city, and three libraries for Kindergarten, one in each school. There are over ten thousand books categorized into Biography, History, Science, Literature, Arabic and Kurdish Literature, Dictionaries, and more. CSM has affable librarians who warmly receive students and teachers and help them in the selection of books. Teachers may borrow books for a week, and so can students.

School librarians have entered all library books on a digital database through the CSM website to allow students digital book availability and a borrowing system. CSM hopes to activate student library accounts soon.



'I THOUGHT I WAS THE ONLY ONE': DUHOK AND SULY STUDENTS VISIT ERBIL

BY: CARRIE TARVER

The beloved storybook character Tigger used to sing, "The most wonderful thing about tiggers `one". However, he later exclaimed, "I've found somebody just like me! I thought I was the only one!" Although no two people are just alike, meeting someone who understands and has experienced the same walk of life is a special gift. Duhok and Suly's high schoolers recently visited Erbil students for an extended time of activities.

Erbil students greeted Duhok and Suly's students and welcomed them into their classrooms. This allows students in other cities to experience the life of an Erbil student seeing they are not alone in their daily grind. In the afternoon, cities competed in the Olympics, a friendly competition of football and volleyball. Students flowed into the football field and volleyball court while others pressed against the fences as they cheered their school.

Later that evening, students arrived at Ankawa Royal sparkling in their finest attire. The first part of the evening included photos to document their new friends and glitz.

Then the dancing began...slowly at first, but it soon built to an excited frenzy. Regardless of grade, personality, or gender, everyone danced together.

A catwalk competition commenced as girls danced into the room displaying their stunning dress and dance moves. Some had escorts while others took the challenge alone. Senior students then took the floor for a dance of their own. Younger students watched as they took their last dance together as the class of 2023.

The next morning, students traveled to Bekhal where they visited small shops and bought gifts for their new friends. Their last stop was Shingo Bana in Rawanduz. After a long lunch, students boarded various rides and zip lines, gazing at scenes of canyons below while also trying not to "lose their lunch". As if they had not danced enough the night before, students broke into dance one last time in the middle of the road at Shingo Bana. The day came to a close with sad farewells and, for many, the satisfaction that comes from making a new friend.



SPRING HAS ARRIVED: NEWROZ PARTY

BY: GORDON OBOUR

A fruitful new year in Kurdish tradition does not begin with a countdown on January 1st, it arrives with the appearance of the green pastures and flowers of spring. Newroz is the Kurdish celebration of Nowruz, which is the arrival of spring and new year in Kurdish culture. Newroz is celebrated by all Kurds around the globe and CSM family is not exempted.

CSM Erbil had already prepared students in grades 1 to 9 to observe this festival. The event begun at 11 AM with a flag raise and flaming fire led by Mr. Yousif, the founder of CSM. A speech made by Mr. Yousif made it clear why this day is celebrated by all Kurds. A drama was performed by students on the history of Newroz. Food sharing, games, face painting, dancing,

and taking pictures were all held to celebrate this day.

CSM Duhok had several activities to observe this celebration including lighting of fire led by the seniors, reading of poems in Kurdish and English, sports, food sharing, watching movies, and a party for grade 1 to 9 students.

CSM Suli marked this celebration with a similar display of dancing, fire, food, and laughter. Kurdish flags arrayed the school and the saying, "Newroz piroz!" could be heard across campus. As a sign of independence and belonging, colorful traditional Kurdish clothes are worn on this day to celebrate the festival. Happy Newroz to all Kurds around the world, and may CSM staff, students, and teachers enjoy the extended holiday.



FRESH LENSES: CCA VISITS

BY: CARRIE TARVER

Teachers and CCAs continually evaluate themselves and the teachers under their guidance, always striving to improve teaching style and technique, organization, and classroom management skills. While Erbil, Duhok, and Suly CCAs tirelessly embrace this process in their own cities with their own teachers, sometimes it helps to have a fresh set of eyes viewing classrooms and teachers from an outside lens.

This month CCAs from Suly visited Erbil, and Erbil and Suly CCAs visited Duhok. Guest CCAs attended classrooms observing teachers and offering feedback on elements such as

classroom management, teaching style, time management, creativity, board usage, and ability to follow their goals and objectives. Following these observations, teachers were given comments with both ideas for improvement in their weaknesses and encouragement in their areas of strength.

Head CCAs met face-to-face with their teams and enjoyed lunch together. CSM desires all three cities to function as unique entities and yet as one united team helping each other to provide the highest possible level of education.



City of the Double Blessed

BY: RAZ RIZGAR



China is the 3rd largest country in the world, so it is only expected that it consists of large cities as well. Chongqing is a Chinese city the size of Austria. The word “Chongqing” in Mandarin means “double blessed”. This is because during 1189 AD, it occupied the northern city of Nanchang and the eastern city of Pengshui. It has a population of approximately 16.8 million and is the 6th largest city in China.

The main religions in Chongqing are Buddhism and Chinese Taoism. It is located at the end of the Yangtze River, or at the “dragon tail”, as the Chinese people refer to it. Chongqing is a bit different than other Chinese cities because it consists of many hills, valleys, mountains, and rivers. Chongqing is famous economically and historically.

A lot of tourists visit Chongqing because of its huge museums. There are science and technology museums and even museums underwater. It has many unique historical sites that attract locals and foreigners. Economically, Chongqing is the biggest producer of mobile phones, motorcycles, and laptops.

Food also plays a major role in Chongqing’s culture. The most famous dish in Chongqing is their traditional “hot pot”. Hot pot is eaten throughout China and its neighboring countries such as Korea and Japan, but Chongqing’s hot pot is known to be the spiciest of all. Although Chongqing is not as well-known around the world, it is a fascinating city of blessing. It is famous for its museums, archaeological sites, and dishes.

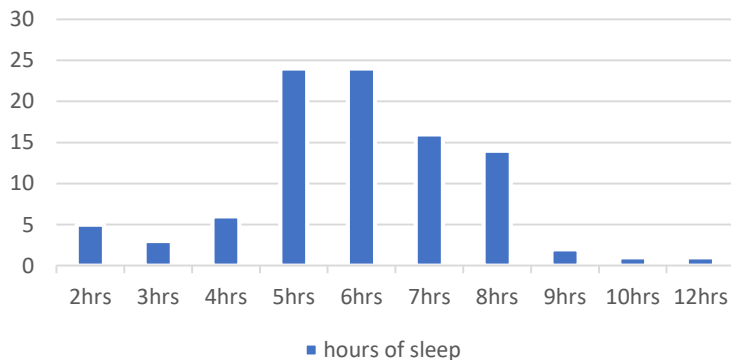
UNCONSCIOUS BUT CONSCIOUS

BY: DLAR ZERAVAN

One of the strangest phenomena we have yet to discover fully is sleep. We spend a third of our life sleeping. Sleep is a state where one's mind and body are unconscious. Sleep is behind many of our mental activities and health conditions and is different in different age groups. Age determines your sleep schedule. A big misconception is the belief you can catch up with your sleep schedule by sleeping on weekends instead of sleeping correctly during weekdays. This in turn changes your circadian rhythm/biological clock. Each person has a circadian rhythm of their own. Many factors change it such as diet, hours you remain awake, sleeping hours, and so on.

Teenagers need 9-10 hours of sleep, and their circadian rhythm naturally changes from 9 PM to 11 PM. I conducted a survey on how many hours of sleep high school students at CSM Duhok get. I surveyed 96 people and here are the results:

sleep



We see that 24 students sleep for 5 hours, and 24 students sleep for 6 hours, which is nowhere near the 9-10 hour range essential for people our age. Sleep deprivation leads to health problems, some of the most dangerous being hormonal changes. Cortisol, the stress hormone, is known to produce cardiovascular disease and cancer when produced excessively. Excessive production of cortisol occurs in sleep deprivation. The brain thinks it is in danger, so fight or flight mode activates, and the body prepares for a stressful event. Obesity is also a big side effect of deprivation. During sleeping hours, the body secretes a hormone that tells you you are full. However, when you stay awake, that hormone is not secreted and the hunger hormone releases, causing you to eat more and yet not feel full. Potentially one of the most dangerous side effects is mental disorders. Studies have shown that sleep deprivation leads to feelings of depression, loneliness, and dissatisfaction in life. This process takes time, so when you do feel these emotions then you've already trapped yourself. Also, you may have noticed there is one person who sleeps for 12 hours. That is not healthy either. Over-sleeping causes a higher death rate, a higher rate of depression, type two diabetes because of hormonal changes, and a higher risk of cardiovascular disease. The right thing to do is to have a sleep schedule and sleep according to the range for your age. Finally, students should take care of their health because these side effects are for life.

AGE GROUP		RECOMMENDED HOURS OF SLEEP PER DAY
Newborn	0-3 months	14-17 hours (National Sleep Foundation) ¹ No recommendation (American Academy of Sleep Medicine) ²
Infant	4-12 months	12-16 hours per 24 hours (including naps) ²
Toddler	1-2 years	11-14 hours per 24 hours (including naps) ²
Preschool	3-5 years	10-13 hours per 24 hours (including naps) ²
School Age	6-12 years	9-12 hours per 24 hours ²
Teen	13-18 years	8-10 hours per 24 hours ²
Adult	18-60 years	7 or more hours per night ³
	61-64 years	7-9 hours ¹
	65 years and older	7-8 hours ¹

IOWA EXAM

Announcement

Dear parents,

We would like to inform you that IWOA Exam for grades (6 and 8) of the Academic Year (2022_2023) will be held on Monday , 3,2023.



THE
IOWA
TESTS

Notes:

1. The Exam day will be free of lesson.
2. Students should have the required stationaries; 2 pencils , an eraser, a sharpener.
3. The Exam starts at 9:00 am and ends at 2:30 pm.
4. Students should be present in the school campus a 8:15am.



ANNOUNCEMENT

**REGISTER
NOW!**



Now

You have the opportunity to **register** your son/daughter at one of the best private schools in the world of ethics and education.

Our **first preliminary exam** is on April 18, 2023.



Classical School of the Medes

CSM Sulaimani KG1-G12: 053 328 7982
0770 471 77 97

CSM Duhok KG: 0751 430 58 81
G1-12: 0750 787 31 36

CSM Hawler KG: 0750 724 5827
G1-12: 0750 198 9361

APRIL

APRIL

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

- ☐ 3rd G6,G8 IWOA Test / G5 Kurdish Bakalorya (No Teaching)
- ☐ 6th G6 Graduation Photos
- ☐ 9th – 11th Easter Holiday
- ☐ 13th KG PhotoShoot
- ☐ 16th – 18th AP Practice
- ☐ 18th Preliminary Exam
- ☐ 19th Yazidi Holiday
- ☐ 23rd – 27th Eid Ramadan Holiday
- ☐ 30th Fifth Installment Deadline / KG,G4-G6 Science Fair / G1-G3,G7G12 No Classes

PLAY & ENJOY

Search the words



Kurdistan
Newroz
Kurdish
New Year

March
Spring
Holiday
Twenty First

Picnic
Kawa
Fire
Nature

FOR YOU TO KNOW

FACTS



Some people have an extra bone in their knee (and it's getting more common).

If you were under the impression that the human body had finished evolving, think again. It turns out that some people have a bone in their knee called a fabella. And while this particular little bone with an unknown purpose was once fading away, over the last century and a half, it's gotten more common. Back in 1875, nearly 18 percent of people examined had a fabella. That number dropped to 11 percent by 1918. However, by 2018, 39 percent of individuals had this mysterious bone.

A pharaoh once lathered his slaves in honey to keep bugs away from him.

The pharaohs of ancient Egypt were believed to be literally divine. The word pharaoh itself means "great house," as in the house of God. In fact, King Pepi II, who supposedly ruled for 90 years, thought so highly of himself that when he was bothered by insects, he would command that one of his slaves be covered in honey to lure the flies away from himself.



You have a nail in your body.

Or, at least, the components of one. Iron is an important nutrient that the human body needs. It helps your red blood cells carry oxygen, which is necessary for producing energy throughout the body. That's why an iron deficiency can present itself with feelings of exhaustion. Amazingly, a healthy adult has about three grams of iron, enough that, if it were pulled out and melted down, it could form a nail up to three inches long.

Water makes different pouring sounds depending on its temperature.

If you listen very closely, hot water and cold water sound slightly different when being poured. The heat changes the thickness, or viscosity, of the water, which changes the pitch of the sound it makes when it's poured. What we feel as heat comes from the molecules of the water moving faster. Cold water is thicker and therefore makes a slightly higher-pitched sound.





Newsletter

2022-2023

23rd Edition

Classical School of the Medes

Newsletter team:

Ms. Farrah Yousif: Advisor

Mr. Bassam Harbi: Newsletter Organizer

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Mr. Shwan Zrar: Layout & Photo Editor Designer

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Mr. Sirwan Qader: Guest Editor

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Dlar Zeravan, Raz Rizgar, Miran Thaer

We love what we do and we do what we love

Educating Learners through Academics and Ethics

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24th EDITION





CSM

Newsletter

2022-2023

Classical School of the Medes

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“For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled and everyone who humbles himself will be exalted.”

The arrogant thinks he knows it all or what he does not know is unimportant. Is an athlete who credits his success to his teammates, even though he has great skill, doing the needful? A famous way of describing humility is, “not thinking less of yourself but thinking of yourself less.” It involves knowing your limits and having an appreciation for the intentions, strength, and perspectives of others.

True humility is willing to decrease so others can increase. It is willing to keep silence yet also ready to stand up when necessary. It knows worth and value are determined not from its own performance but from the performance of its Creator. It has a quiet confidence that focuses on others rather than a loud insecurity that demands attention. Humble leaders openly acknowledge their own weaknesses and welcome the advice and counsel of others. In so doing, they demonstrate a teachable spirit that is willing to grow and transform their weaknesses into strengths. At the same time, it helps them use the strengths of others, instead of trying to solve everything themselves. Everyone around the humble leader is free to utilize their own strength, creating the best result possible. When leaders are humble, they value those underneath them and also have compassion toward them. Their subjects are also able to participate in discussions and seek their advice.

When this is not the case, life has its way of humbling the arrogant. Truly said, “Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled and everyone who humbles himself will be exalted”.

WISDOM OF THE EDITION

BY: ALEXANDER WEREKO

FOR EVERYONE WHO
EXALTS HIMSELF
WILL BE
HUMBLLED
BUT
HE WHO
HUMBLES HIMSELF
WILL BE
EXALTED
LUKE 18:14

CSM FAMILY

BY: JOHN KIM



NAME: SARMAD

Mr. Sarmad Hilal is the Employee of the Month for CSM Erbil. Originally from Mosul, Mr. Sarmad has five siblings and has accomplished a BA in English Language and Literature. Immediately after his graduation, he joined CSM and taught grade 3 literature. During his role as teacher, his characteristics of loyalty and attention to detail shined through, making him a clear choice to be promoted to school accountant. He is professional in his work and communication and is able to remain calm in a high-pressure environment. The school is proud to have a man with Mr. Sarmad's ethics and integrity on its staff and greatly appreciates his services.



NAME: NISHRA

CSM Duhok is proud to recognize Mr. Nishra as its Employee of the Month. Today's fast-paced environment requires someone of Mr. Nishra's skill. He stepped into this crucial role to improve efficiency and productivity. Furthermore, he continues to excel in his role as an admin employee. His job requires one to be proactive, organized, focused, and communicate well, and Mr. Nishra exemplifies all of these qualities. No matter the work or situation, he is able to handle himself with great flexibility. CSM is privileged to have a man of Mr. Nishra's skill as he provides critical support not only in his direct job but also to all his colleagues around him.



NAME: NOORHAN

CSM Suly's Employee of the Month is Ms. Noorhan Jaza Husen. Married with two children. She is a long-time employee of the school, having joined over a decade ago in 2012. Her various roles, ranging from KG teacher to reception to admin employee, are a testament to her potential, flexibility, and knowledge. The school's files are well prepared in her capable hands. Overall, Ms. Noorhan is a stellar example of someone who is professional and upright, and CSM Suly is proud to have her.



NAME: NABA RAYAN

My name is Naba Rayan Mazin, and I am an alumna of Classical School of the Medes Duhok. I graduated from CSM in 2020 and am currently in the third stage of medicine at University of Duhok. I began attending CSMD in 2019 when I was in 12th grade after returning from the USA. I always thought that starting a new school would be difficult; however, it is safe to say that the community at CSM was very welcoming and friendly. Undoubtedly, both the administration and the staff at CSM provided a warm welcome and were eager to help, which is something I will always be grateful for. Fortunately, both the academic curriculum and the school system at CSM were very similar to that of my former high school. This made the transition much easier since I did not have to adapt to a new curriculum or start a new system during my final year of high school. Although my experience at CSM was short, it was still meaningful. That one year I spent at CSM had a huge impact on my life; it allowed me to continue from where I left off with my high school education as well as help me prepare for college. I will always look back and cherish the days and moments spent at CSM.



NAME: ALLE ARAS

I'm Alle Aras My journey at Classical School of the Medes Sulaymaniyah began in my freshman year of high school. I transferred to CSM chasing a better academic future, yet I was surprised with much more along the way. I have made lifelong friendships with some of the amazing people at CSM, and I have learned lifelong lessons from the teachers who put effort into their teaching. Only through the support of my literature teachers was I able to grow in my creative writing and enter the exchange program, Between the Lines, at the University of Iowa, and it was through their help that I was able to write more advanced academic papers. I have now graduated and study medicine at the University of Duhok, and I am still grateful for the skills I learned during my time at CSM. I recognize my advantage over my peers because of the education which I received and the support I was given by my wonderful classmates.



NAME: : ALI MOHAMMED

My name is Ali Mohammed Salih. The time I spent studying at Classical School of the Medes Hawler has been of remarkable value in my life. It has taught me indispensable skills that aid me both academically and professionally. The two most practical skills I was introduced to were critical thinking and evidence-based analysis, which are useful in understanding the principles of virtually every field. I enrolled at CSM in 2010 and graduated in 2021-2022. After graduation, I enrolled in Hawler Medical University, and the things I learned in school have been invaluable to me so far. I appreciate how CSM helped me get accustomed to non-repetitive forms of learning and using models and other tools to improve comprehension. Overall, the most vital lesson I learned at CSM is about the importance of one's attitude in learning.

After the Western Roman Empire collapsed, western Europe fragmented and needed a unifier to pick up the pieces. If you've ever used the standard playing card deck, you are probably aware of the King of Hearts. The model of the father of Europe, Charlemagne's name became synonymous with victory, kingship, and leadership. Many names for king in western Europe derived from his name: the Polish Krol, the Czech Kral, the Latvian Koralis and more.

Charlemagne was born April 2, 747 and died January 28, 814 in Aachen, Austrasia. He was King of the Franks (768–814) and emperor (800–14). As the older son of the Frankish King Pippin III (the Short), he ruled the Frankish kingdom with his brother Carloman until the latter's death in 771. He then became the sole king of the Franks and began a series of campaigns to conquer and Christianize neighboring kingdoms. He defeated and became king of the Lombards in northern Italy (774). Charlemagne fought against the Saxons for many years, finally defeating and Christianizing them in 804. He subdued the Avars of the Danube and gained control of many of the Slav states.

With the exception of the British Isles, southern Italy, and part of Spain, he united into one vast state almost all the Christian lands of western Europe. His coronation as emperor at Rome on Christmas Day 800 after restoring Leo III to the papacy marks the revival of the empire in Latin Europe and was the beginnings of the Holy Roman Empire. Charlemagne established his capital at Aachen, where he built a magnificent palace. He invited many scholars and poets to assist him in the promotion of the religious and cultural revival known as the Carolingian Renaissance. He also codified the laws and increased the use of writing in government and society. He was succeeded by his son Louis the Pious, whom Charlemagne had crowned co-emperor in 813. Though he is long gone, his legacy remains indelible in history.

APRIL BIRTHDAY EMPEROR CHARLEMAGNE

BY: ALEXANDER WEREKO



AKITU DAY: ASSYRIAN NEW YEAR

BY: NINOS YOUKHANA



Akitu is the Babylonian-Assyrian New Year. It is considered one of the oldest national new year's celebrations in human history. Celebrations begin the 1st of April each year and the celebration lasts for twelve days. The festival of Akitu in the Babylonian civilization was a festival for planting and preparing the soil for seeds and watering. According to historical sources, the beginnings of Akitu fall between the fourth and fifth millennium B.C., while a number of historians indicate the Sumerians and Semites have celebrated it since the era of Eridu in 5300 BC. It was celebrated twice a year, in spring and autumn.

The Akitu was a Sumerian deity of the moon (Nana), and it was believed that this occasion carries holiness mixed with the beauty and calmness of nature. As for the Babylonians, it is the victory of Marduk. Today Chaldeans, Syriacs and Assyrians celebrate 6773. The celebrations of the Akitu feast still practice rituals similar to the ancient rituals, albeit with a kind of modernity and modernization. People march on foot for miles performing dances and folkloric songs, wearing lacy folk costumes. Others go out to the blooming and green nature with its new buds that suggest resurrection after a period of death forced under the weight of winter.

YEZIDI NEW YEAR: BRIDE OF ITS OWN

BY: SHERWAN AMEEN



The Yezidi New Year is also called Charshamba Sor in the Kurdish language and according to the Eastern Julian calendar, which is 13 days later than the Gregorian calendar. Yezidis celebrate this new year in various gathering places such as Iraq, Syria, Turkey, Iran, and other places, such as Azerbaijan, Afghanistan, Russia, as well as many European countries like Germany.

This occasion symbolizes new life and nature especially the timing of spring, which witness the opening of flowers and roses. At the temple outside Dohuk, young people play an egg-tapping game that symbolizes one of the four divine events the Yazidis

commemorate on New Year's: the bursting of the "White Pearl", which they believe brought about all life. Moreover, during their celebration, Yezidis decorate eggs and present them to those who are coming from different places to share their happiness, and this is in every single home. What distinguishes this occasion is that Yezidis do not hold their marriage ceremonies during April as they believe this month is like a bride of its own and very precious.

CSM gives special respect to different religious and cultural events from different backgrounds and minorities. We would like to congratulate Yezidi people especially in Kurdistan Region Iraq for this occasion.

'DEEPER MAGIC': THE EASTER STORY

BY: CARRIE TARVER



“And now, who has won? Fool, did you think that by all this you would save the human traitor? Now I will kill you instead of him as our pact was...but when you are dead what will prevent me from killing him as well?”¹ These were the words of the White Witch in C.S. Lewis’ Narnia just before she kills the Great Lion Aslan. Though the treacherous traitor Edmund deserves to die, Aslan who has done no wrong, sacrifices himself, dying on the Stone Table instead of Edmund. For followers of Jesus, this symbolizes his death on the cross, making atonement for the sins of mankind. But how could this day mark anything but defeat for followers of Jesus? What could keep the Devil from boasting as the Witch did to Aslan, “You have lost your own life and you have not saved theirs”? In the cold dawn following Aslan’s death, Lewis says, “It was all more lonely and hopeless and horrid than I know how to describe”¹. How too must Jesus’ disciples have felt the sting of despair following his death.

And yet, the third day came. Women who had come bringing spices to his tomb found the massive stone which historians believe weighed between 900 and 1,800 kilograms just rolled away from the entrance. Even more miraculous than the stone’s movement was the emptiness of the tomb inside. Stunned women looked up to see two angels who said, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you.”² Jesus soon made at least eight recorded appearances to over 500 of his followers before ascending up to Heaven.

And now, who had won? Jesus had said, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live”³. Death could not hold he who was himself life. On Easter Day, followers of Jesus celebrate his resurrection which they believe makes a way for anyone who believes to participate in his eternal life that knows no end.



EID AL-FITR: END OF FASTING

BY: SIRWAN QADER



Eid Al-Fitr is one of two most important Islamic festivals, which marks the end of the holy month of fasting (Ramadan). The Arabic word “Fitr” means to break, indicating breaking the fasting period. On this day, in addition to celebrating the end of Ramadhan, Muslims also express their gratitude towards God for giving them health and well-being to get through the fasting month of Ramadan. Muslims offer prayers and thank God for His blessings.

Eid Al-Fitr is patiently anticipated every year as it is celebrated to renew brotherhood and strengthen social relations among the Muslims and specially families and relatives. On Eid Al-Fitr, Muslims prepare delicious food and hold feasts and invite each other. They also wear new clothes, visit family and congratulate one another. Eid Al-Fitr is the first of the two main holidays in Islam. As Muslims follow a lunar calendar, the date of Eid Al-Fitr varies every year according to the appearance of the crescent moon.

The festival was started by Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him) in 624 A.D.

as Muslims celebrated their victory in the battle of Badr (the first battle in Islam). Since then, Eid Al-Fitr has become one of the most significant occasions in Islam. Eid Al-Fitr urges good virtues like patience, humility, piety, devotion, and solidarity. It is a time of celebration as those who fasted during Ramadan pick the rewards of their patience, endurance, discipline, and month-long worship.

On this sacred day, Muslims also show their gratitude to God for opening the gates of remission and mercy through the holy month of Ramadan.

In addition to being a time for celebration and gratitude, new beginnings and reconnecting with loved ones, Eid Al-Fitr is also a reminder to Muslims to be generous to the less fortunate. The occasion reminds Muslims to embrace people from all social and economic levels and share the joy and spirit of celebration with the less privileged, the needy, and the neglected.

Eid Al-Fitr is a day of happiness, spiritual cleansing, prayers, and joy for Muslims across the world celebrated in the Arabic month of “Shawwal”. Everyone eagerly waits for this day that marks the end of fasting and brings happiness to all.



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION VISITS: FRIENDLY EVALUATION

BY: CARRIE TARVER

Each year, the Ministry of Education (MOE) conducts two visits to each international school in Kurdistan. They have assigned a committee of three members to visit these schools. The first visit is to simply look and take notes. The second visit contains the evaluation and is scored. Schools are given an extensive form ahead of time that enables them to prepare.

This month, Erbil, Duhok and Sulimaniya received their second MOE visits. These meetings begin with paperwork. The paperwork includes hundreds of requirements for staff, teachers, classes, activities, and facilities such as the cafeteria. They also evaluate staff and teacher university degrees and student scores including APs and SATs. Assertions given in the paperwork must be verified with proof from pictures.

Each requirement is worth a certain number of points in the evaluation. After the paperwork, CSM's committee gives a campus tour.

National Kurdish pride is also important to the Ministry of Education as well as the school. Committee members visiting classes were interested to hear whether students know the Kurdish national anthem and remember their rich history.

It was a full day of meeting, touring, and retrieving requested information and files. Overall, CSM admin felt it was a successful visit and hopes to achieve scores that reflect a high level of education. International schools compete in a friendly way to see who obtains the highest score. CSM will likely receive their score within the next two to three months.



CCA Duhok Visits to Erbil & CCA Duhok with Erbil Visits to Suly: FILLING BUBBLES

BY: CARRIE TARVER



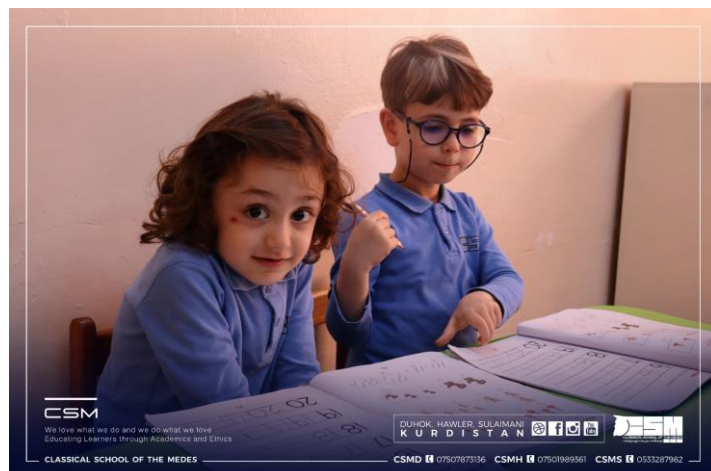
CCAs: They are the pulse of the school, the leaders whose guidance shapes the culture of the school. These CCAs not only monitor and assist their own teachers and students, they travel to the other two CSM campuses to provide a fresh set of eyes in their classrooms as well. This month, Duhok CCAs visited Erbil and then travelled with Erbil CCAs to Suly.

Duhok CCAs followed a schedule of class periods prepared in advance to observe teacher performance inside the classroom. Some of the categories evaluated included classroom management, board usage, planner preparation, and consistency in following goals and objectives.

The observation feedback was delivered and discussed with Erbil head CCAs. Erbil and Duhok then enjoyed a lunch together catching up not just on work, but on family and personal life as well.

The next day both sets of CCAs were on the road to Suly where they followed a similar schedule of classroom observations and meetings with the CCAs and head CCAs of CSM Suly. In the end, these CCAs returned to their own cities with renewed strength and vision to continue their work encouraging their teachers in their areas of strength and challenging them to overcome any areas of weakness.

KG IN PHOTOS



SCHOOL IN PHOTOS



THE ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT:

COUNTING THE COST

BY: GORDON OBOUR

“Come get your salaries” is a welcome message each month to staff members from their faithful accountant. There is a saying that a man who pays his bills on time is soon forgotten, but the accounting department cannot be forgotten at the end of every month. A teacher once said, “I have paid my bills because the accountant called.” This and many other responsibilities would have been difficult to meet, and the school as an organization would not have been successfully managed without the accounting department.

CSM has an accounting department made up of seven team members and headed by the Chief Administrator. It includes an accountant, a deputy, and an auditor in each school. This team works tirelessly to make sure the school is not indebted to the government, staff, or other stakeholders.



They are primarily responsible for all receipts and payments. Their oversight responsibilities include, but are not limited to, dealing with parents and guardians in regards to their wards fees, dealing with staff members regarding salaries, filing for taxes and social security, and implementing the regulations of the Ministry of Finance. All these routines are done to ensure the smooth operation of the school. Without the accounting department, CSM would have a tremendous gap. So, any time the bills are paid, forget not the accounting department because they work for the interest of everyone!



IOWA EXAM: FILLING BUBBLES

BY: CARRIE TARVER & GORDON OBOUR



“What’s the test like?” “How should I study?”, students of grades 6 and 8 want to know in the days leading up to the IOWA Assessment tests. CSM administers these exams to discern the level of their middle schoolers in areas such as Reading Comprehension, Vocabulary, Punctuation, and Math. Rather than giving a pass / fail, these tests show the level of each student in the given categories. For instance, did the student complete the Math section at the level of a 6th grader, a 7th grader, or a 5th grader? These results help parents, students, teachers, and admin to know the strengths and weaknesses of each student to ascertain which areas need the most work.

This year, a total of 347 students completed the exam with 206 students from grade 6 and 141 students from grade 8. This was an increase from last year’s turnout of 248 students.

Before exam day, students met to practice filling in “bubbles”

(dots on a sheet indicating their answers). Students are not accustomed to filling in their answers on a separate “bubble” sheet. So, a day of training is needed to ensure each answer is shaded correctly and completely. Otherwise, the machine may not read their answers. Once students understood the procedure for filling in their personal information and answers, they were ready for exam day.

Grade 6 and 8 students arrived energetically for a grueling day. The work was intense, and breaks were few to ensure the exam was completed before the end of the day. Curiosity of students was high at the initial stage since it was their first time, and they did not know how the questions would be. Lunch was provided in the cafeteria to fuel the young learners for the last leg of their test. CSM is proud of the confidence and diligence of these students and looks forward to receiving helpful feedback as results are reported.

AP PRACTICE EXAMS: DRESS REHEARSAL

BY: CARRIE TARVER



Just as every successful play has a rehearsal, every successful exam day had a practice exam. In less than a month, grades 9-12 sit for AP exams. These exams truly try their souls with countless hours of AP classes, preparation, now practice exams, and soon the actual exams. All three CSM campuses recently held AP practice exams for Chemistry, Biology, and Physics.

These practice exams are composed of reused questions from previous AP exams. Though the actual exams will be different, these practice questions give students an idea of what the questions will be like and which areas they need the most improvement. Not only do the practice exams help prepare students for the exams, they are also counted as a bonus towards next year's grades if their scores are high enough. All students in grade 9 completed the Biology exam, grade 10 Chemistry, and grade 11 Physics.

Practice exams included one day of multiple choice and one day of free response to mimic the actual exams which give an hour and a half for each. Depending on whether students take Biology, Chemistry, or Physics, the number of questions vary. However, each exam is scaled out of 5, with 5 being the highest score.

Teachers as well as IT assisted in monitoring and solving any technical difficulties during practice exams. Students were permitted to use the device with which they felt most comfortable. Some used school laptops, but most brought their own devices.

CSM high schoolers are in our thoughts and prayers as they face this challenging and vital step towards their future. We wish them well and are proud of their determination and vision.

MR. YOUSIF MATTI YOUSIF, GENERAL MANAGER OF THE ELIZAPHAN COMPANY FOR EDUCATION, ORGANIZED A DINNER FOR THE HOLY MONTH OF RAMADHAN



THE CITY OF COUNTS

BY: VINA SALAV

Barcelona is a city full of life located in the northeastern region of Spain. Known for its exquisite architecture, world-class museums, delicious food, and lively nightlife, Barcelona is a destination offering something for everyone. Whether wandering the famous La Rambla Street admiring the works of Antoni Gaudi at Park Guell or soaking up the sun at one of the city's many beaches, Barcelona is a city that will leave you breathless. With its rich history, cultural diversity, and unique energy, Barcelona is a must-visit destination for anyone looking for a memorable experience. Barcelona is a city with endless possibilities. Here are some of them:

1. Explore the Architecture:

Barcelona is famous for its architecture. From the Gothic Quarter and the magnificent Sagrada Familia to the colorful Park Guell and Casa Batlló, visitors are enthralled by the unique designs and beauty.

2. Visit the Museums:

Barcelona is home to world-class museums, including the Picasso Museum, the Joan Miró Foundation, and the National Art Museum of Catalonia. These museums offer fascinating insights into art, history, and culture.

3. Experience the Food:

Barcelona is a food-lover's paradise, with an incredible variety of delicious dishes to try. From fresh seafood to tapas and paella, there is something tasty for everyone.

4. Relax on the Beaches:

Barcelona is located on the Mediterranean Sea, and is home to several beautiful beaches. The most famous are Barceloneta and Bogatell, where you can relax and absorb the sun.

5. Walk La Rambla:

This famous pedestrian street is a center of action and a must-visit spot for anyone who enjoys a show. There are street performers, vendors, and numerous cafes and shops.



LITERATURE: LIFE IN ANOTHER WORLD

BY: EMILY EDWARD



LITERATURE

Literature is something as simple as a figment of one's imagination, yet so complex. It has worked its way into the lives of people for centuries, as it emphasizes endless topics ranging from knowledge to the oldest of tales. Frequently described by words put together to make sense, however, the sense they give and the feelings they create may vary, and so do the images they create in our spacious minds. Whether works of literature have a moral point or are an emotional rollercoaster of events, literature, especially in first-point perspective, allows the reader to completely immerse themselves into a different mind and supports the fact that literature enables people to see through other people's views and visions, whether it be a person or an inanimate object. Literature is a mere looking glass that provides merely a fraction of the writer's mind. Literature also plays a crucial role in history, as there are numerous records and events that would not have been known if not written down. In fact,

literature enables a person to step back in time and learn about life on earth from the ones who walked before.

Literature can inspire young minds to advance new and provocative ways of thinking about the world and assist in the production of that which may approach true literature. It can reignite old memories and revitalize and revolutionize form and genre.

Lastly, literature is known as a source of entertainment, as it both empowers the imagination and knowledge of the reader, taking them to places where they feel they belong. The reader can escape reality as they become accustomed to reading, and as they unconsciously read, they can no longer see words but rather they can picture the event happening right in front of them as their brain comprehends the words that appear in reality.

Literature is a form of art that has provided people the opportunity to learn, whether it be languages, history, moral lessons, or just mere entertainment. Literature has shaped many people's worldviews and beliefs simply through "experiencing" everything the characters in a book may acquire.

ANNOUNCEMENT 2023 AP Schedule

CSM Test Centers:

Sunday to Thursday

from 8:30 am-2:30 pm

CSMD: 7508099462

CSMH: 7508099460

CSMD: 7508099462

Week 1		
Date	8 a.m. Local Time	12 p.m. Local Time
Monday, 1/5/2023	United States Government and Politics	Chemistry
		Spanish Literature and Culture
Tuesday, 2/5/2023	Chinese Language and Culture	Psychology
	Environmental Science	
Wednesday, 3/5/2023	English Literature and Composition	Computer Science A
		Comparative Government and Politics
Thursday, 4/5/2023	Human Geography	Seminar
	Macroeconomics	Statistics
Friday, 5/5/2023	European History	Art History
	United States History	Microeconomics

Week 2			
Date	8 a.m. Local Time	12 p.m. Local Time	2 p.m. Local Time
Monday, 8/5/2023	Calculus AB	Computer Science Principles	
	Calculus BC	Italian Language and Culture	
Tuesday, 9/5/2023	Japanese Language and Culture	Physics C: Mechanics	Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism
	English Language and Composition		
Wednesday, 10/5/2023	Spanish Language and Culture	Biology	
Thursday, 11/5/2023	French Language and Culture	Physics 1: Algebra-Based	
	World History: Modern		
Friday, 12/5/2023	German Language and Culture	Latin	
	Music Theory	Physics 2: Algebra Based	

2023 AP Exam (Late Testing Dates)		
Date	Morning 8 a.m. Local Time	Afternoon 12 p.m. Local Time
Wednesday, 5/17/2023	Chemistry	Computer Science Principles
	Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism	English Literature and Composition
	Psychology	Japanese Language and Culture
	Statistics	Macroeconomics
	United States History	Spanish Literature and Culture
	Computer Science A	Environmental Science
Thursday, 5/18/2023	Chinese Language and Culture	Comparative Government and Politics
	English Language and Composition	Art History
	German Language and Culture	Biology
	Human Geography	French Language and Culture
	Physics 1: Algebra-Based	Italian Language and Culture
		Latin
Friday, 5/19/2023	Microeconomics	European History
	Calculus AB	Music Theory
	Calculus BC	Physics C: Mechanics
	Physics 2: Algebra-Based	Seminar
	Spanish Language and Culture	United States Government and Politics
		World History: Modern

MAY

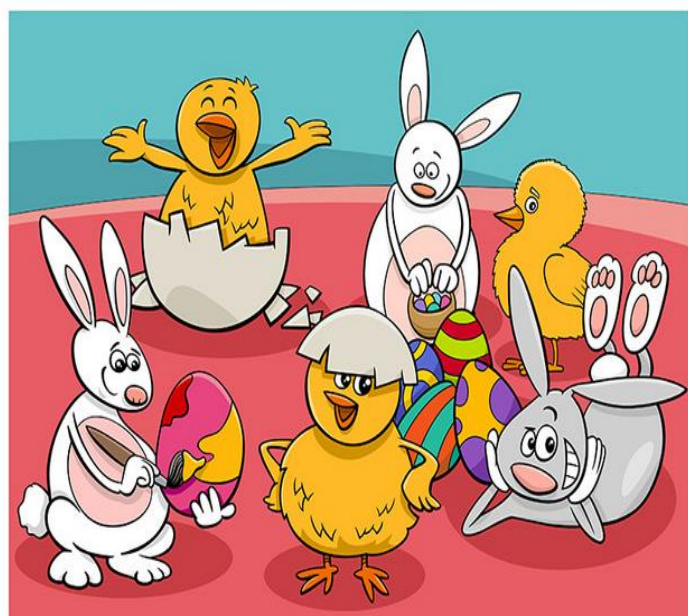
MAY

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

- ☐ 1st Labor day Holiday / AP Chemistry Test
- ☐ 2nd G10-12 Scientific trip / Science Fair Award Ceremony G4-6 and KG / Receiving CVs
- ☐ 3rd – 4th No Classes G11-G12
- ☐ 6th SAT Test
- ☐ 7th – 11th No Classes G9-G12
- ☐ 8th AB/AP Math Test / KG1, G1 Outing to the park
- ☐ 9th AB/AP Math Test / KG2, G2 Outing to the park
- ☐ 10th AP Biology Test / G7-G8 Scientific Trip
- ☐ 11th G9 Scientific Trip
- ☐ 12th AP Physics 2 Test
- ☐ 14th G3 Outing to the park
- ☐ 15th G4 Outing to the park
- ☐ 16th G5-G6 Outing to the park
- ☐ 17th Late AP Test
- ☐ 18th G12 Photoshoot / Preliminary Exam
- ☐ 19th Late AP Test
- ☐ 20th Chouifat Olympics
- ☐ 21st KG1-G12 Review
- ☐ 22nd KG1-G12 Review
- ☐ 23rd KG Review / Uploading PH2 to website / Finals G9-G12
- ☐ 24th KG Review
- ☐ 25th KG Graduation
- ☐ 28th – 31st Finals G1-G12 / KG Evaluation

PLAY & ENJOY

Find 7 difference



FOR YOU TO KNOW

FACTS



Plastic Easter eggs and plastic Easter grass were invented by a man who holds more patents than Thomas Edison

If you've ever enjoyed an Easter basket with plastic eggs and grass, then you can thank Donald Weder, the man who invented both. Weder not only holds the patents on these holiday staples, he also holds a total of 1,413 U.S. patents—including ones for water-based inks, flower-pot covers, and decorative wrappers. That's compared to Thomas Edison, who held just 1,093 U.S. patents.

Dogs actually understand some English.

Some owners of disobedient dogs may have trouble believing this, but dogs can learn to recognize a vocabulary of about 165 words. Unsurprisingly, dogs respond best to short words, as well as words with hard consonants like "t" or "r," which may explain why they can hear "treat" from three rooms away.



A restaurant in New York employs grandmas as chefs.

It is true that everybody thinks their Italian grandma—or nonna—is best cook around. So it was a genius idea when Joe Scaravella decided to gather up as many nonnas as he could to work in his restaurant in Staten Island. Enoteca Maria combines the skill of these delightful, talented grandmothers and has them create and cook recipes from their own family cookbooks.

France has a dozen time zones.

The country with the widest stretch of land, Russia, spans 11 different time zones. France, though, technically has the most, clocking in at 12—but that's due to the fact that its territories are dispersed in various parts of the world. The U.S. ties with Russia in second, but not all time zones are inhabited.





Newsletter

2022-2023

24th Edition

Classical School of the Medes

Newsletter team:

Ms. Farrah Yousif: Advisor

Mr. Bassam Harbi: Newsletter Organizer

Ms. Carrie Tarver: Chief Editor and writer

Mr. Shwan Zrar: Layout & Photo Editor Designer

Ms. Mirna Shmayl: Layout Design Assistant

Mr. Gordan Obour: Associate Editor

Mr. Alexander Wereko: Associate Editor

Ms. Kellie Owsley: Section Editor

Mr. Sirwan Qader: Guest Editor

Mr. Sherwan Taha: Guest Editor

Mr. John Kim: Guest Editor

Mr. Ninos Youkhana: Business Manager





Ms. Noor Yousif: Advertising Manager

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Mr. Ninos Youkhana, Emily Edward, Vina Salav

We love what we do and we do what we love

Educating Learners through Academics and Ethics

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25th EDITION

CSM

Newsletter

2022-2023

Classical School of the Medes

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'IT IS NOT THE TIME TO LOOK FOR EXCUSES'

Have you ever failed? How did you respond to that failure? Did you take responsibility or blame others? Rafael Nadal once said, "It is not the time to look for excuses".

Rafael Nadal is a Spanish professional tennis player currently ranked world number 14 in singles by the Association of Tennis Professionals. Not only has he been ranked number 1 in the world for 209 weeks, he has also finished the year as number 1 in the world 5 times with a record 13 times in the top 2 of the year-end rankings. Rafael Nadal was seeking a record-extending 23rd major in New York and came into the tournament with a perfect record, but unfortunately, his challenge ended in the fourth round. However, he refused to blame the abdomen or foot injuries that had plagued his season for his defeat. When asked if he felt his recent injuries caused his failure, the Spaniard said, "We can complain now about a lot of things, but I don't think that's going to change any situation, no!"

CSM students are faced with the pressure of rigorous schedules, homework, quizzes, extra-curricular activities, and now...final exams. The list of possible excuses for lack of study is endless. However, we would like to encourage all our students as they enter final exams to follow the example of Rafael Nadal: work diligently, press on through the difficulties, and make no excuses

WISDOM OF THE EDITION

BY: GORDON OBOUR

Do not waste your time to
make excuses, you can control
your time.



CSM FAMILY

BY: CARRIE TARVER



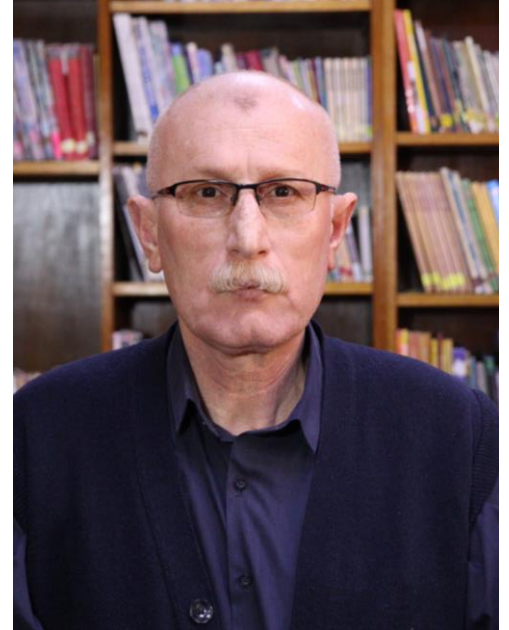
NAME: AMERA

CSM Duhok's Employee of the Month is Nurse Amira. Ms. Amira began working at CSM Duhok in 2016 and is passionate about her job. In addition to caring for the students at the school, she is also a great help to the staff. She is kind and compassionate, always does her job well, and seeks to assist in any way possible. CSM Duhok is grateful for her tender loving care for the students daily needs.



NAME: ZHWAN

Congratulations to CSM Erbil's employee of the month, Ms. Zhwan, who began working at CSM in 2021. Her hard work, dedication, and positive attitude have not gone unnoticed. She truly embodies what it means to be a valuable member of the team, and CSM Erbil is proud to have her. Keep up the outstanding work, and thank you for all you do to contribute to our success. Here is to many more accomplishments and celebrations in the future!



NAME: KAK QAES

Kak Qaes is Employee of the Month and the eldest member of the CSM family in Suly. Although he began working at CSM Suly in 2006, he knew the founder of the school, Mr Yousif, before that. The staff appreciates Mr. Qaes for his knowledge and skill in finance. He completes his work with great care and accuracy. Mr. Qaes is married with seven children, two of which now work at the school. CSM Suly is grateful for his faithful service in our school for these seventeen years.

TEACHER OF THE MONTH

BY: JOHN KIM



NAME: SRWA

CSM Erbil's Teacher of the Month is Ms. Srwa. Having begun working at CSM in 2018, Ms. Srwa has had a great influence on her kindergarten students. It can be challenging to teach young children, but Ms. Srwa is talented and up for the task, developing the children's minds intellectually and emotionally, while also instilling important moral values. Teachers like her who make a difference in their students' lives are an inspiration to all of us. The future generation's development is in her capable and dedicated hands. The appointment of Ms. Srwa as Teacher of the Month is to be celebrated by all her students and colleagues, and the school who values her hard work.



NAME: PINAR

Ms. Pinar is CSM Duhok's Teacher of the Month. Although this may be her first year at CSM, Ms. Pinar has risen to the top with her hard work and excellent people skills. She is a substitute teacher whose personality shines through, as her caring and humble attitude is a positive part of everyone's day around her. Treating her students as if they were her own family, they are comfortable and engaged with her lessons. Furthermore, she shows initiative beyond her usual responsibilities whenever she assists in activities or preparations that need help. The school is proud to have Ms. Pinar recognized and wishes her continued success at the school.



NAME: SHAISTA

CSM Suly proudly recognizes Ms. Shaista as its Teacher of the Month. As an art teacher, Ms. Shaista has all the traits of an excellent teacher. At its center, she works hard on her lessons and keeps them interesting. This results in her students being interested and attentive during her lessons because the lessons are fun and engaging. Her work ethic ensures no delays, and her warm personality towards her students shows her deep care for them. Despite this being her first year at CSM, Ms. Shaista has all the ability of a seasoned expert, being humble and organized and often going beyond her immediate tasks to help those around her. CSM Suly is happy to have her recognized and is excited to see more of her artistic decorations around the school.

David Beckham is a British football player and one of the world's most successful athletes. He was leader of the English national football team from 2000 to 2009, won three World Cup Championships, and played for several clubs in Manchester, England, Madrid, Spain, and Milan, Italy. He also won the MLS Championship for LA Galaxy in 2011 and 2012. Beckham's full name is David Robert Joseph Beckham, born on May 2, 1975 in the city of London, England. His mother, Sandra Georgina, is a hairdresser, and his father, David Edward Alan Beckham, is a kitchen fitter. Beckham's grandfather from his mother's side was Jewish. Beckham was raised by his parents. In 1986 he became Manchester United's mascot in a football match against West Ham United. Between 1992 and 2003, David Beckham scored 85 goals for Manchester United. In the 1998 World Cup, he played in all of England's qualifying matches and was able to score in several important wins. He received a red card for violent play in a match against Argentina. After losing the match, England was disqualified, and Beckham became the target of criticism in the media. David Beckham later helped Manchester United win the Premier League during the 1999-2000 season. During the same time, he married his wife Victoria Beckham, who was a singer and member of the famous musical band The Spice Girls. In 1999 their first son was born, and they named him Brooklyn. David Beckham has always been a talented football player and a fan favorite. On the field, he has proven the ability to demonstrate his best skills even under the immense pressure of challenging games against the world's best teams. He agreed to sign a four-year contract with Real Madrid, beginning in 2003, a contract worth 40 million dollars. In Madrid, Beckham was not able to wear his favorite number seven, as another player had the right to wear it according to his contract. So, Beckham wore the number 23, being a fan of Michael Jordan. Almost at once, he became wildly popular with Real Madrid fans. Nevertheless, the team did not perform well enough to win the Spanish League or the Champions' League. However, Beckham remained an important player and scorer, and his performance continued to draw public attention.

In 2005, Beckham was chosen to become UNICEF's Ambassador for Goodwill. He also had a role in the UK's successful bid for the 2012 Olympic Games. Beckham increased his international influence by establishing football academies in the United States and east London. During the 2006 World Cup, he played for the UK and became the first English player to score goals in three World Cups. In the quarterfinal game of the same year in the match against Portugal, Beckham was forced to leave the match because of an injury. Without him, the English team lost the match and was disqualified from the World Cup.

In June of 2007, Beckham played his last game for Real Madrid, winning a medal and celebrating with his friends Tom and Katie Cruise, who had attended the game. This ended his contract with the club. He later announced that he signed a five-year contract to play for the Los Angeles Galaxy, beginning in 2007 and ending in 2012. The 5-year deal included \$10 million a year as direct salary. With endorsements and profits, this could total up to \$50 million a year, possibly becoming worth around \$250 million in just five years and making him one of the highest paid athletes of all time.

MAY BIRTHDAY DAVID BECKHAM BY: SIRWAN QADER



CANON THE BARBARIAN

BY: ARO BAHROZ

HOWARD'S WEIRD TALE

Canon the Barbarian was created by Robert E. Howard in a series of fantasy books published in the Weird Tales in 1932. Howard was looking for a new character to market to the early 1930s' growing pulp outlets. He published the short story "People of the Dark" in October 1931. One of the protagonists is described: "Conan is a black-haired barbarian hero who worships Crom, a deity". He continued to expand on the character of Conan and wrote the poem "Cimmeria," much of which refers to Plutarch's Lives.



ANOTHER FANTASY WORLD

The stories take place in the fictitious "Hyborian Age," which occurs after the collapse of Atlantis and prior to the rise of any kind of known pre-historic times. This is a fictional chronology created by Howard.

The Hyborian Age might have been developed for commercial reasons. Howard had a strong passion for history and dramas, but he was also aware of the challenges and time-consuming research required to preserve historical accuracy. Furthermore, the libraries in the region of Texas where Howard lived lacked the materials required for such research. Howard avoided the use of names that strongly resemble human history by inventing a "vanished age."

Conan is a Cimmerian, a barbarian from the far north. He was born on a battlefield and the son of the village blacksmith Corin. During the battle in Cimmeria, his mother Greshan was fatally injured by an enemy while attempting to save her husband. Before dying, Greshan uses the last of her power to give birth to her son and name him Conan. He reached maturity quickly. By the age of fifteen, he had become a respected warrior. Following this, he was struck by wonder, and he joined in the colorful and exciting adventures narrated by Howard and others. They encountered fantastic demons, evil mystics, and beautiful ladies. He journeyed throughout the entire world as a thief, outlaw, commander of a mercenary company, and a pirate.

CAIRO, EGYPT: CITY OF A THOUSAND MINARETS

BY: VANESSA SUHAIB



Where might one find pyramids while strolling down a crowded street? None other than the enormous city of Cairo, the city of a thousand minarets.

One of the things that has drawn travelers to Egypt, and especially to Cairo, for the past 4,500 years is the pyramids. With the Great Giza pyramids, Cairo is home to one of the Seven Wonders of the World. It belonged to Khufu, the fourth dynasty's king. Khafre, who followed his father Khufu, took possession of the second one. Menkaure, Khufu's successor, had the third and final. Egypt's capital city, Cairo, has authority and wealth, such as the Dahshur Red and Bent Pyramids, the Coptic Museums, the Saladin Citadel, and the Museum of Islamic Art. Egypt has always had a tense ancient history. The concept of balance was ingrained in both Egyptian culture and their country. Between life and death, the country of the Egyptians was split. The land offered more in the past, and the Nile could hold more. Following events that changed the world, there were fewer river floods, which made people less hesitant to settle nearby, use the river to grow food, and establish their own civilization.

Interesting facts about Cairo:

1- The biggest ancient statue in existence is in Cairo. Every deity and pharaoh sought to construct something for themselves to make themselves everlasting in the thoughts of humans, hence the ancient world had an excessive number of statues. The only one of the seven wonders of the ancient world to still exist is the Great Sphinx. The sphinx statue depicts one of the most significant ancient gods, Ra, the sun god. Egyptians think the sphinx statue was erected so it can defend vital locations such as temples and tombs.

2- The Cairo tower was once the tallest building in Africa.

The Cairo tower, a well-known architectural structure in Cairo, is acknowledged as Egypt's second-most recognized landmark after the Giza pyramids. Known as "Borg al-Qahira" in the national tongue of Egypt, it measures 187 meters. It held that title for 37 years until 1998, when the Suez Canal overhead powerline crossing overtook it as the highest building in Egypt.

3- There are just two main seasons in Cairo. There are about eight months of summer and four months of winter in Egypt since the country experiences unusually hot weather. Cairo experiences its warmest weather in June, July, and August. Nevertheless, the average annual temperature is just 21 degrees Celsius. Although one of Cairo's two seasons is winter, it can still reach 47 degrees there. The days are pleasant and relatively dry, even in the winter. In any case, the Nile River keeps the nights chilly. The lowest temperature recorded in the winter is 8.5 degrees Celsius.

4- Cairo has not always belonged to Egypt. Cairo used to belong to Napoleon, who was a French military commander and political leader. However, it only belonged to him for only three years.

5- The first Arab author to receive the Nobel Prize for literature was born in Cairo.

Naguib Mahfouz was an Egyptian author and screenwriter who lived from 1911 until 2006. He was among the most talented authors in Arabic literature. His topics dealt with Egyptian nationalism. Mr. Mahfouz was awarded the Nobel Prize of Literature in 1988.

CLEANING DEPARTMENT:

'CLEANLINESS NEXT TO GODLINESS'

BY: GORDON OBOUR

If the saying is true, “cleanliness is next to godliness”, CSM is a place that understands this phrase. CSM believes education without a clean environment is incomplete. Therefore, the best change it can give to the future generation is to teach them responsibility for their environment to protect their surroundings and even the planet for future days and years.

In order to meet this obligation and set an example for others to emulate, CSM has a cleaning department consisting of cleaning employees and a supervisor in each school. They are primarily responsible for ensuring the whole school environment is clean and hygienic. Their daily routine begins as early as 7:00 AM making sure classrooms, desks, offices, restrooms, teachers’ rooms, gardens, assembly grounds, and hallways are well cleaned. They also monitor waste to see it is appropriately disposed. These routines are repeated in one-to-two-hour intervals until the day ends. As part of their routine, they also assist with heavy work and moving items. Tasks can only be assigned to them by their supervisor and the CSM cleaning supervisor.

CSM not only rests this responsibility with the Cleaning Department, but also trains teachers to educate students on proper disposal of waste and best hygienic practices. CSM defines a clean environment as safe food and water, clean air, proper disposal of waste, clean surfaces, and the absence of pests such as rats or cockroaches. CSM not only prioritizes the best teaching methods, but also considers its environment. Therefore, anytime you find the environment tidy, remember the cleaning department!



LABOR DAY: HONOR FOR THE WORKER

BY: GORDON OBOUR



“He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have something to share with one who has need.”¹ Throughout the world’s different beliefs, cultures, and nationalities, none shuns working. We all accept that the only means of survival is labor. However, labor without recognition and welfare is imperfect.

Labor Day is set to celebrate the hard work and achievements of workers around the world. This one day is entirely devoted to the labor class. Many countries celebrate this day on a different date. However, in the majority of countries, the day occurs on May 1st, which also happens to be International Worker’s Day. The objective of the day is not only to celebrate the contribution of workers but also to empower them to understand their rights.

The story of Labor Day began in the rise of industrialization. The industrialists exploited the labor class in those days. Laborers were overloaded with work and yet paid less. They were forced to work for 10-15 hours a day under extremely tough conditions. Laborers suffered greatly. They finally took the courage to stand united and raise their voice against this oppression by founding trade unions and going on strike. It was considered illegal in several countries. So, they formed trade unions and laborers went on strike. They also held rallies and protests. Lastly, the government heard their requests and reduced the workday to 8 hours. Thus, this special day commemorates their efforts towards reform.

Here at CSM, we celebrate this day together with other nations to recognize our tireless staff members and purpose to seek their welfare.



AP EXAMS: STUDYING HARD AND STANDING OUT

BY: ALEXANDER WEREKO

Classical School of the Medes, an accredited center for Advanced Placement examination, administered AP Exams on its three campuses from May 1st to May 12th for the standard AP exam and May 17th to May 19th for the late AP exam. The exam was administered in accordance with this year's schedule and regulations, and the Exam Committee and proctors took great pains to ensure the exams ran smoothly. AP Exam takers can request more scores be sent to different Colleges and Universities through "My AP" no later than June 20th. The AP Exam scores will be available online in July.

These Advanced Placement (AP) Exams are offered by the College Board and cover a wide range of subjects, including Math, Science, Social Studies, and Language Arts. Preparing for the AP Exam is essential, and students are encouraged to start early. Many students choose to take AP classes in high school, which can help them prepare for the exam. AP classes are designed to be more challenging than traditional high school courses and are taught at a college-level pace.



Exams are graded on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the highest score. Many colleges and universities will give college credit or advanced standing to students who receive a score of 3 or higher on the exam.

Taking the AP Exam can have several benefits for students. It can help them stand out on college applications, apply for scholarships, and demonstrate their proficiency in a particular subject. Additionally, earning college credit through the AP Exam can save students time and money in college.

SCIENTIFIC TRIPS: APPLIED SCIENCE

BY: ALEXANDER WEREKO



The real-world application of the scientific principles learned in school are one of the key reasons that necessitate scientific trips embarked on by the middle and high schoolers of CSM.

At CSM Hawler, students made their trips to places like the panel line factory, ice cream factory, chips factory, and carton factory. Their colleagues in Duhok visited the Duhok City Museum, local chips factory, and the University of Duhok's Science and Engineering departments. The hydroelectric dam at Suleimani and the Science Department of the University of Suleimani were the places where CSM students at Suleimani visited. In all, they learned about different scientific experiments, machines, and equipment used in the manufacturing process. They were shown how the different steps involved in production contribute to creating the final product.

The tour provided students with an opportunity to ask questions and engage in discussions with the factory workers. They learned about the challenges faced by the workers and how the company takes measures to ensure a safe working environment.

Students were also shown the research and development department, where new products are created and tested. They were able to observe how scientific principles and engineering are applied in the real world to create products that are used daily. The trip to the factories provided an excellent opportunity for students to see the impact of their education on the world. They were able to identify ways in which the principles they're learning in school are used in the real world and how they can make a difference in the products we use every day. The experience is one they will carry with them as they continue to pursue their education and careers.

KG-G6 PICNIC:

MAGICAL MOMS AND SINGING STUDENTS

BY: CARRIE TARVER

The refreshing cool air seemed to linger a bit longer in Kurdistan this May, as the outdoors continued to be a pleasant place for a picnic. Although each city travelled to a different location for their picnics, the scene was much the same across all three campuses as KG through grade 6 students prepared for their outings.

Perhaps the real heroes of these picnic days are the mothers of CSM. Students magically arrive at school with freshly made, steaming hot, well-seasoned pots of dolma, biriyani, kebab, and borek, as well as homemade desserts and other snacks. They climb aboard the bus and immediately beg the driver to begin playing music. Passersby on the streets hear the voices of students singing their loudest through the open bus windows and see busloads of children moving with the music because half the fun of a picnic is the ride there.

As soon as students arrive, they spread their blankets and unveil their feasts, generously piling the plates of classmates, teachers, and supervisors with more food than they could possibly handle. Once everyone has eaten their fill, those who are still able to walk play various games and friendly competitions on the grass and playgrounds.

CSM Duhok held their picnics at Park Dilshad, Erbil picnicked at Sami Abdulrahman Park, and Suly traveled to Hawary Shar Park with KG through grade 6 students and Dukan Dam Electric Station with grades 7 and 8.

Students returned to school exhausted but happy. They may or may not have stayed awake during their last class of the day, but it was that satisfying kind of tired that comes from a day well spent.



CSM CANCER CHARITY: COMPASSION IN ACTION

BY: SIRWAN QADER

With the growing world rate of the disease, prevention of cancer is one of the most important public health challenges of the 21st century. In addition to action by individuals, sustaining healthy habits of diet and constant physical activity over the lifetime of humans requires action from all sectors of society, including civil societies and private sectors. In the month of May 2023, the senior students led by CSM administration decided to hold a charity event for the benefit of cancer and blood disease victims.

In Erbil, this charity was for the specific benefit of Nanakali Hospital for Blood Diseases and Cancer in Erbil. ^[SEP]To be able to help the mentioned hospital, senior students started a charity fair at the school for several days in order to raise funds for patients suffering from blood diseases and cancer. Fortunately, the fundraising fair was successful, and students were able to sell homemade items and goods worth 2,400,000 IQD. In addition to that amount, CSM administration added a donation of 200,000 IQD for the benefit of Nanakali Hospital. ^[SEP]When asked for their most urgent needs, the hospital responded clarifying their shortage of blood testing tubes (Gell tubes and EDTA tubes) mentioning all they had left at hand was enough for only another two weeks. So, at the hospital's request, CSM students and administration were able to buy and provide the hospital with more than 29,000 of the mentioned tubes costing a sum of 2,500,000 IQD, enough for more than three months' supply.

The same initiative took place in Duhok. Senior students started a similar activity for the purpose of collecting a generous donation to present to Zheen International Hospital. ^[SEP]With the sum collected, Duhok seniors with the cooperation of CSM administration were able to secure 21,000 medical gloves, 27,500 various plasters, 7,500 syringes, and 10,000 sterile cones. The senior students and CSM administration expressed their gratitude to have had the opportunity to be part of the helping hand community for the patients of the mentioned hospitals. They look forward to future opportunities to champion good health for all.



KG IN PHOTOS



SCHOOL IN PHOTOS



OLYMPICS AT CHOUEIFAT: 'LET THE CHAMPIONS STAND UP'

BY: CARRIE TARVER



“Media! Media! Media!” The sound of CSM students cheering, shouting, and blowing horns for their school could be heard throughout the International School of Choueifat campus Saturday, May 20th. Students and coaches had been training for this day, and their fellow classmates along with admin and some teachers were there to support them. It was an early morning for the Olympic teams of CSM Duhok, Erbil, and Suly. Students boarded buses between 6:30 and 7:30 in the morning. Opening ceremonies featured a parade of athletes consisting of seventeen international schools from all across Kurdistan. The ceremony also included singing of the national anthem, horseback riding, a children’s cheerleading squad, and a variety of dancing groups. Duhok and Erbil teams competed in basketball, football, athletics, and swimming while Suly teams competed in basketball and athletics. Duhok girls won 1st and 2nd place medals in swimming for the under sixteen category and a 3rd place medal in the swimming under age twelve category.

Erbil girls won 3rd place in the swimming under age sixteen category and 3rd place in athletics under age sixteen. However, the latest and loudest part of the day involved the final boys’ basketball game between the International School of Choueifat and CSM Erbil. CSM students screamed at the top of their lungs blowing bugle horns, chanting and clapping “Media! Media! Media!” as CSM Erbil and Choueifat teams entered the court for their final game around 7:30 that evening. CSM Erbil took the lead in the first quarter fighting valiantly until the last second. However, the Choueifat team pulled out a victory in the end. CSM Erbil is proud of their basketball team for the effort it took to reach the finals and bring home 2nd place medals. Congratulations to each team member who trained and competed with their best and to their coaches who invested countless hours of training with them. In the words of Coach Ashur to his team that morning, “Whether you win or not, we are proud of you.” CSM is grateful to the International School of Choueifat for hosting such a well-coordinated and enjoyable event.

SHAKESPEARE PLAY: 'A TALE TOLD BY AN IDIOT'

BY: CARRIE TARVER



CSM Erbil recently held their first ever official drama, performing the famous “Macbeth” play by William Shakespeare. A year of many firsts, CSM offered their first Drama Elective class led by Mr. Abubaker. Students interested in acting as well as in learning more about the history and workings of plays competed for a spot in his class.

During the first semester, students learned about the history of Greek tragedies and had weekly assessments testing their understanding of terms related to play directing and history. In order to determine the strengths of each student, Mr. Abubaker taught improv class. Students were given a scenario to act out impromptu. After repeatedly seeing students act out a variety of scenes on the spot, he discovered the unique giftings of each student. Not only was it important to learn which acting roles would be best for each student, Mr. Abubaker was also interested in their organizing, writing, marketing, directing, and creative abilities. Each one would have an important part in making this play a reality in the second semester.

The second semester began with studying the Shakespeare play, “Macbeth”, first as a literary work, discussing important quotes, themes, and emotions of the characters. Then, the actual play preparation began. Though Mr. Abubaker directed the entire play, he knew the importance of delegating each task to a capable committee led by a capable student.

So, he appointed committees responsible for props and costumes, stage-managing, marketing and publicity, stage-directing, house managing, organizing, technical directing, and script writing. These committees worked tirelessly as a team preparing for the big day.

The day of May 15th came. “The enjoyable part was preparing for the day of the act where all the students started working in different parts”, Alysar Faris, a grade 11 student on the House Managing Committee recalls. “Some students [were] filling balloons with air, some decorating the field, some reviewing the roles they were acting. Even though there were some moments where we got under pressure, we still managed to make this act something memorable for us and the school.”

Parents, teachers, admin, and other students filed into a football field that had been transformed into a theatre complete with a stage, red carpet, seating, and complex sound system that allowed for five microphones working at the same time. The audience then watched as the tragic tale of Macbeth unfolded in front of them. Though the Drama Class is grateful to have culminated in a successful presentation of their play, perhaps they are most grateful that in the end, they became a family. CSM is proud of the hard work of this class, the leadership of Mr. Abubaker, and the support of Ms. Linda and school administration.

SCIENCE FAIR: MAD LITTLE SCIENTISTS

BY: CARRIE TARVER



The month of May turned CSM's 4th, 5th, and 6th graders into mad little scientists, as they were frequently seen emerging from labs carrying wild concoctions of experiments that left some of them "wearing" the remnants of their projects on their lab coats. "Will you come see our experiment? We'll have candy!" The enthusiasm on their faces drew parents, teachers, students, and other guests to visit their exhibits. Erupting volcanoes, "atomic bombs", solar systems, and jelly fish were just a few of the topics students presented across Duhok, Erbil, and Suly campuses.

The goal of these science fairs was to give students a more thorough understanding of science curriculum through hands-on experimentation as well as practice communicating the results of these experiments. This also helps teachers, CCAs, and parents to identify strengths and weaknesses of students to learn how to better assist their learning.



CSM Suly students began dividing into groups of four a few months prior to the science fair. Students developed their project ideas based on this year's curriculum. Their teachers discussed their ideas and decided if they were appropriate and gave suggestions for groups who needed further help. They dedicated three hallways for the science fair: The Aquatic Zone for Grade 6, The Plant Zone for Grade 5, and The Astronomy Zone for Grade 4. The Science Fair received public attention, as outside guests attended including Mr. Mohemmed Ali who has been working in the field of physics for over forty years and is now supervising the physics curriculum for grade 12 in the Ministry of Education. Mr. Salem, who is over the programs in the Ministry of Education in Sulaymaniyah, was also present.

CSM Duhok followed a similar process of preparation. However, the setup for their Science Fair was within the classrooms. Each class setup their room in a U-shape showcasing their experiments and posters. Judges visited each classroom eagerly listening as students excitedly explained their projects. Instead of judging and choosing winners on the day of the Science Fair, judges evaluated experiments before the day of the fair. This way, everyone just enjoyed the day of the actual Science Fair without judging.

CSM Erbil students also prepared in groups inside and outside of school, working together with their fellow students, teachers, and parents. Because of the sheer number of students, Erbil held their Science Fair in their largest areas with grade 4 setup in the cafeteria and grades 5 and 6 filling the basketball court. Not only was this Science Fair an opportunity for students to demonstrate their knowledge and creativity, each table was like a mini-reunion with parents, teachers, and administration visiting together and enjoying their mutual pride in their students. In all three cities, participating students were awarded medals and certificates, with students winning best poster and best model also receiving an additional certificate. CSM is proud of its mad little scientists.

FINAL EXAM PREPARATION:

COMMITTEES AND CHECKING

BY: ALEXANDER WEREKO

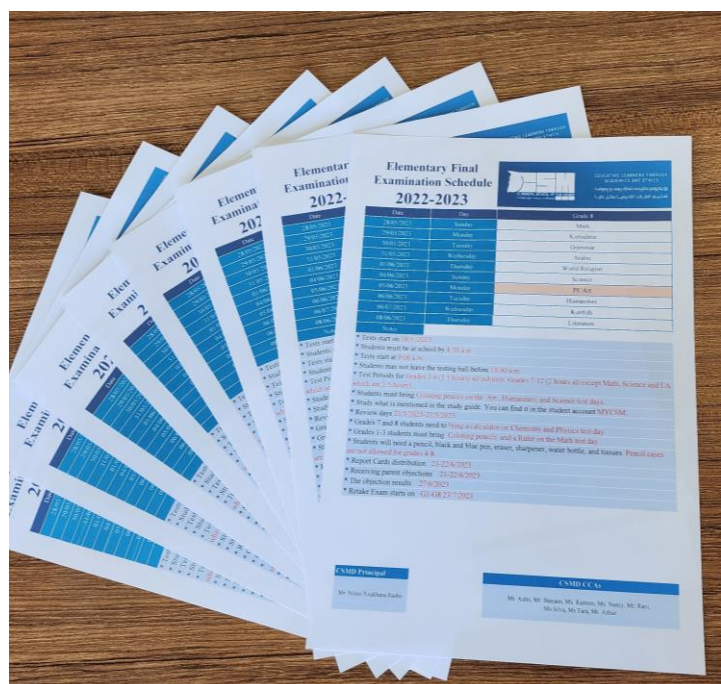
Final exams are an important part of a student's academic journey. They are an assessment of all the learning that has taken place over the course of the academic phase. As such, it is expedient for students to be well prepared in advance so they can perform to the best of their abilities.

Review sessions are held in the weeks leading up to final exams. These sessions help students consolidate their learning and identify areas where they need to focus more. They can also provide an opportunity for students to ask questions and clear up any doubts they may have. Questions are set by teachers and assessed by their CCAs to ensure their conformity to the guidelines of the exams as well as their match with the study guides given to the students.



There are committees set up to ensure that each aspect of the examination including printing, stapling, envelopes, proctoring, checking, and recording is up to par. Question papers are arranged, stapled, and packaged after printing, and in the exam halls, seats are well-arranged and evenly spaced days before the commencement of exams.

At all three CSM campuses, students must be seated by 8:45 in the morning and exams begin promptly at 9:00 each morning. Good luck to all our cherished students.



CONSTRUCTION IN DUHOK: GREATER HEIGHTS

BY: SHERWAN AMEEN



As a part of continuous progress, CSM is witnessing the need for an increase in space for classrooms and facilities. CSM Duhok has seen rapid growth in the number of students, and a high demand requires expansion of the school building. In this regard, CSM Duhok is currently building an entirely new floor for the basic school building. This construction is under the supervision of an excellent team of engineers and talented workers. The school is managed by Elizaphan Establishment for Education/ Kurdistan to meet the standards of an international school with educational principles that cover the needs of students. One of the crucial steps towards a world-class school in terms of building is the civil defense requirements.

In this regard, CSM strives to keep its reputation of respect and is continually updated by the governmental bodies. The school began to build the new floor in January 2023 covering all safety and security means. The new floor consists of two more sectors of fifteen additional classrooms with facilities and modern construction means. The goal is to complete construction by August 15th of this year. The kindergarten will then move from the Gali area to the main campus in Zirka, which should ease the travel burden of families with students in both campuses. CSM desires the best learning environments with facilities that match the updated principles of a modern international school.

ANNOUNCEMENT

23-24 SAT Administration Dates and Deadlines

SAT Date	Day	Registration Deadline	Deadline for Changes
26/8/2023	Saturday	08/11/2023	08/11/2023
10/07/2023	Sunday	22/9/2023	22/9/2023
11/04/2023	Saturday	20/10/2023	20/10/2023
12/02/2023	Saturday	17/11/2023	17/11/2023

SAT®



CollegeBoard

ANNOUNCEMENT



اولياء امور الطلبة الاعزاء

▪ نود اعلامكم بان مدارس ميديا (اربيل - سليمانيه - دهوك) ستغلق ابوابها اعتبارا من يوم الأربعاء المصادف ٦/٢٨ و لغاية ٧/١٥.



▪ يعاود دوام الادارات يومي الاحد والاربعاء اعتبارا من يوم ٧-١٦ من ٩ صباحا ولغاية ١ بعد الظهر.

▪ و ستبدأ امتحانات الدور الثاني يوم الاحد ٧/٢٣

▪ نتمنى لطلبتنا عطلة سعيدة

ادارة المدرسة

CLASSICAL SCHOOL OF THE MEDES



Dear Parents

▪ We would like to inform you Medes Schools (Erbil - Sulaymaniyah - Dohuk) will close their doors from Wednesday , 28th of June until Thursday, 15th of July.




▪ The departments will resume work every Sunday and Wednesday, starting July 16th from 9:00am-1:00 pm.

▪ The retake exams will start on Sunday July 23rd.

▪ We wish our students a happy holiday

CSM Administration

CLASSICAL SCHOOL OF THE MEDES



سهميائين قوتابيين بهريز


▪ مه دقيت ههوه ئاگه هداريکهين کو قوتابخانا ميديا (ههولير - سليمانيه - دهوک) ژ رۆژا چوارشه ميب ريكهفتي ٦/٢٨ تا ٧/١٥ دى دهرگههين خو گريت.

▪ و ههر ژ رۆژا ١٦ / ٧ دهواما کارگيري رۆژين ئيك شهمب و چوارشه ميب ژ دهزمير ٩ نى نيقرۆ تا ١ پشتي نيقرۆ دى قهبيتهقه.

▪ و تاقيرنن خولا دوو ل رۆژا ئيك شهمب ريكهفتي ٢٣ / ٧ بن.

کارگيريا قوتابخانتي

CLASSICAL SCHOOL OF THE MEDES



بهريزان ليپرسراوانى فيرخوازن

▪ ئاگادارتان دهكهينهوه، كه خويندنگهكانى ميديا (ههولير، سليمانيه، دهوک) دهرگاكانيان دادهخهين.

▪ له رۆژى چوارشه ميب ريكهوتى ٦/٢٨ تا ريكهوتى ٧/١٥ دهوام دهستپيدهكاتوه له بهشكانى کارگيري رۆژانى يهكشممه و چوارشه ميب له كاتزمير ٩ نى بهيانى تا كاتزمير ١ نى پاش نيوهرو.

▪ تاقيردنهوهكانى خولى دووهم له رۆژى يهكشممه ٧/٢٣ دهستپيدهكات

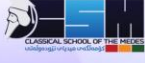
▪ هيواي پشووويهكى خوش بو خويندكارهكانمان

كارگيري كومهنگه

CLASSICAL SCHOOL OF THE MEDES



ANNOUNCEMENT



Dear parents,

Student contracts have been distributed. The deadline for returning back the contract to school is June 29th.

If you have not received a contract, please contact the school administration.

If you have, we would like to bring your attention to the following two new privileges.

- If this agreement (contract) is signed and returned by June 29th and the first instalment is completed before the first instalment deadline July 31st (for enrolled students) you are eligible for one time only (at the return of the contract to the admission officer) to
- Choose your child's classroom (keeping in mind class lists close at 22 students)
- Choose one piece of our school uniform free of charge (short sleeve polo or long sleeve polo)

CSM Administration



أولياء الامور الاعزاء

لقد تم توزيع عقود الطلاب، آخر موعد لارجاع العقد للمدرسة هو ٢٩ حزيران.

إذا لم تستلم العقد اتصل ب إدارة المدرسة.
إذا استلمتم العقد نود ان نلفت انتباهكم الى امتيازين جديدين.

- إذا تم توقيع العقد (الاتفاقية) وارجاعها بتاريخ ٢٩ حزيران وتم تسليم القسط الاول قبل الموعد النهائي لتسليمه ٣١ تموز (لطلابنا) يكون لديك امتياز لمرة واحدة إذا ارجعت العقد لموظف التسجيل) ل
- اختيار شعبة الطالب (علما ان القائمة تقفل عند وصول العدد للشعبة الى ٢٢)
- اختيار قطعة من زي مدرستنا مجانا (قميص بولو قصير الاكمام او طويل الاكمام)

ادارة المدرسة



دايكان و باوكانى بهريز

گريبهستى خويندگاران لهو شويتانمى دابهشكراون، دوا واده بو گهراندنوهى گريبهستهكه بو قوتابخانه ٢٩ى حوزهيرانه.

ئهگهر تو گريبهستى وهرنهگرتووه، پهيوهندي بکه به کارگيرى قوتابخانه. ئهگهر گريبهستهکمت ههيووه پيمان خوشه سهرنجتان بخهينه سهر ئهم دوو ئيمتيازه نوويهى خوارهوه

- ئهگهر ئهم گريبهسته تا ٢٩ى حوزهيران وازووکار و گهرينرايموه و قستى يهکم تهواو بوو پيش وادهى کوتايى قستى يهکم ٣١ى تهمموز (بو خويندکاره ناوونوسکراوهگان) تو شاپستهى يهکجارت تنها (له کاتى گهراندنوهى گريبهست بو فهرمانبهري تومارگه)
- پولى مندلهکمت ههلبيريه (به لهبرچاوگرتنى ليستى (پولهکان که له ٢٢ خويندکار نزیکه)
- يهک پارچه له يهکپوشى قوتابخانه بيهرامبهه ههلبيريه (پولهوى قول کورت يان پولهوى قول دريژ)

کارگيرى کۆمهلهگه



سهمياني قوتابيين بهريز

گريبهستين قوتابيان هاتنه بهلاشکر، ژفانن دوماهيمين ين زفراندنا وان بو قوتابخانه ٢٩ى حوزهيرانيه.

ئهگهر ته گريبهست وهرنهگريت، هيقيه پهيوهندين ب ريقهههري قوتابخانه بکهى.
ئهگهر ته وهرگرتيت، مه دقيت سهرنجا ته بو فان خالين گرتگ رابکيشين.

- ئهگهر ئهف گريبهسته هاتيبته ئيمزاکرن و زفراندنا وى ددهمين خۇدا ٢٩ى حوزهيرانى و قستى ئيکين بهري ژفانن دوماهيمين ٣١ى تهمموزى هاتيبته دان (بو قوتابيين تومارگرى) تو ين همزى ئيکجار بتنن (دهمى زفراندنا گريبهستى بو بهريسا تومارگرتنى)
- پولا زاروکن خو ههلبيريه (دگهل بهرچاف وهرگرتنى کو ليستا قوتابيان ٢٢ قوتابينه)
- ئيک پارچا جلکى قوتابخانه ين بهرامبهه وهرىگه (تيشيرتن هجک کورت يان هجک دريژ)

کارگيرى قوتابخانه



ANNOUNCEMENT

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CSM has job openings

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The applicant must hold a university degree.

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هەملی کار رادەگەیهێنێت**

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داواکار پێویستە خاوەنی برووانامی زانکۆ بیت.

پێویستە سێقێیەکە بەزمانی ئینگلیزی بیت بۆ پرسیورێک سەرەکییەکان چکە لە بارەتەکانی زمانی کوردی، زمانی عەرەبی، کۆمەڵایەتی و مێرۆوەرە (هونەر، میوزیک، وەرزش) کە بەزمانی کوردی بیت.

تکایە با سێقێیەکە بەشێوەی Doc یا PDF بێت کەملە ڕێگە ئیمەیلەو دەینێن.

کارگێری کۆمەڵگە پەرەوێتیان پێوە دەکات کاتێک پروسە جۆینکەوتن دەستیپێدەگات.

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داخازکەر دهقیته خۆدان برواناما رانکوپن بیت.

پێدقیه سێقێ ب زمانێ ئینگلیزی بیت بۆ پرسیورین سەرەکی سەرەکی زبانی بابەتی زمانی کوردی، زمانی عەرەبی و کۆمەڵایەتی، و پهیمانگهها هونەرین جوان ب زمانێ کوردی بیت.

سێقێ دهقیته Doc یا PDF بهێته رهوانه کړن بۆ ئیمیلی

ل دهمن چافیکهفتن، پهوهندی ژلایین کاگتیریا قوتابخانه دئ ههته کړن.

کارگێری قوتابخانه

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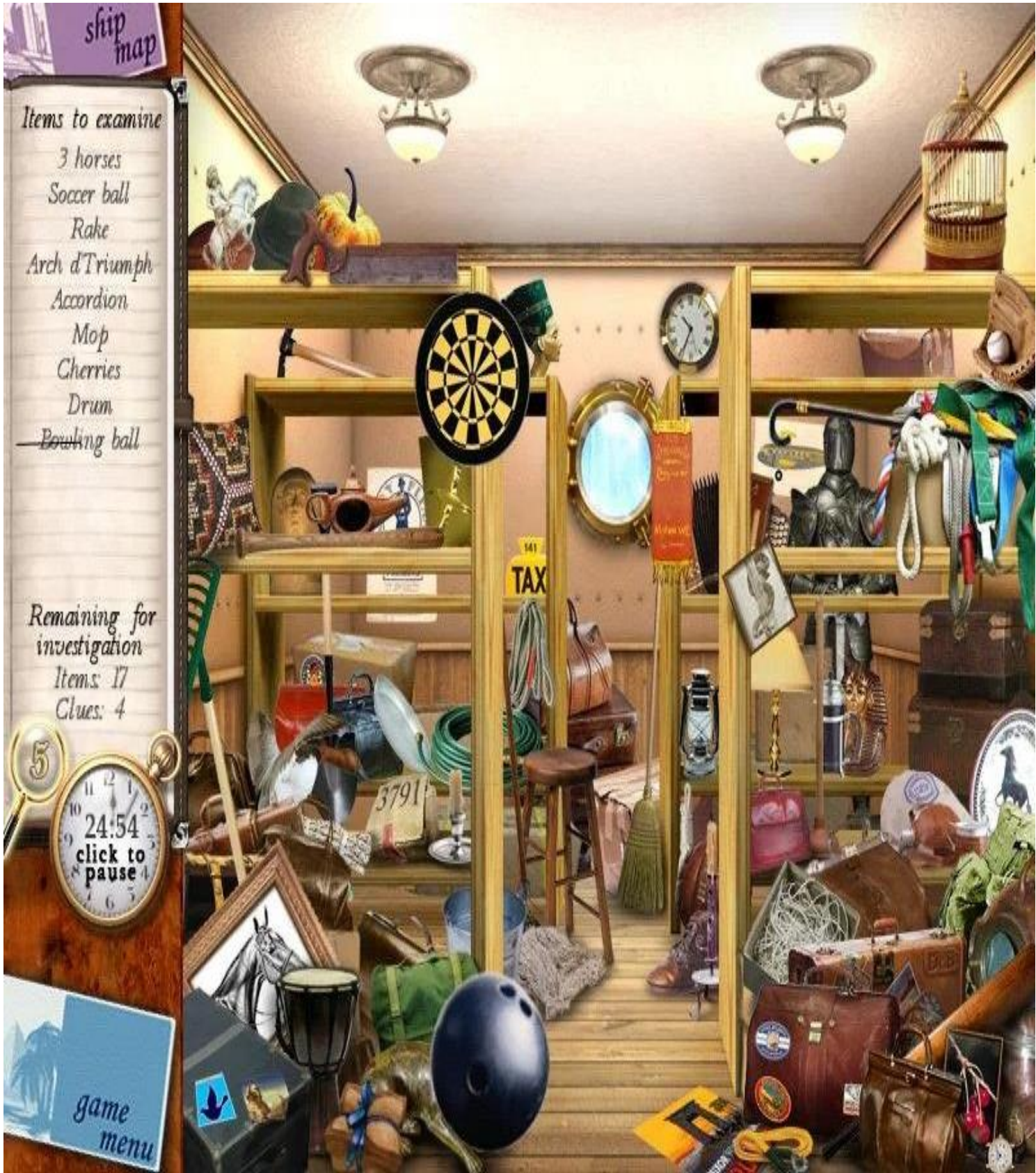
JUNE

JUNE

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

- ☐ 1st - 8th Finals / KG Evaluations
- ☐ 10th KG2, G6 Sulimaniya Graduation / Hawler Culture Day
- ☐ 11th – 22nd Hawler and Sulimaniya Summer Camp
- ☐ 13th G12 Report Cards
- ☐ 14th KG Evaluation Distribution / G12 Objections Results
- ☐ 15th KG Objections / G6 Graduation
- ☐ 18th Preliminary Exam III
- ☐ 19th G7-G12 Culture Day / G7-G11 Report Cards
- ☐ 21st – 22nd Report Cards G1-G6 + Objections
- ☐ 22nd G12 Duhok Graduation
- ☐ 24th G12 Hawler Graduation
- ☐ 25th G12 Sulimaniya Graduation
- ☐ 26th G12 Graduation
- ☐ 27th G1-G11 Objections Result
- ☐ 28th Eid Aladha

PLAY & ENJOY



FOR YOU TO KNOW

FACTS



Plastic Easter eggs and plastic Easter grass were You lose up to 30 percent of your taste buds during flight.

This might explain why airplane food gets such a bad reputation. The elevation in an airplane can have a detrimental effect on our ability to taste things. According to a 2010 study conducted by Germany's Fraunhofer Institute for Building Physics, the dryness experienced at a high elevation as well as low pressure reduces the sensitivity of a person's taste buds to sweet and salty foods by about 30 percent. Add that dry cabin air affects our ability to smell, and our ability to taste is reduced further.

Rabbits can't puke.

Unlike cats or other animals that can cough up hairballs when they digest too much fur and other indigestible materials, rabbits are incapable of spewing. Their digestive system only goes one way, so the furry critters swallow plenty of roughage, which keeps things moving in the right direction.



Cotton candy was invented by a dentist.

It is not known whether William Morrison had an ulterior motive for inventing the soft confection, but the dentist no doubt helped ensure others in his profession continued drawing in plenty of customers. In 1897, he partnered with candy-maker John C. Wharton to develop the cotton candy machine (which at the time was known as "Fairy Floss"), and it's been bringing kids cavities ever since.

The human body literally glows.

It is true that everybody thinks their Italian grandma—or nonna—is best cook around. So it was a genius idea when Joe Scaravella decided to gather up as many nonnas as he could to work in his restaurant in Staten Island. Enoteca Maria combines the skill of these It might be hard to see with your naked eye, but everyone you pass by every day is literally glowing. The human body emits a small quantity of visible light ("visible" in the technical sense—the illumination is about 1,000 times less intense than levels of light that we would actually be able to see), talented grandmothers and has them create and cook recipes from their own family cookbooks.





Newsletter

2022-2023

25th Edition

Classical School of the Medes

Newsletter team:

Ms. Farrah Yousif: Advisor

Mr. Bassam Harbi: Newsletter Organizer

Ms. Carrie Tarver: Chief Editor and writer

Mr. Shwan Zrar: Layout & Photo Editor Designer

Ms. Mirna Shmayl: Layout Design Assistant

Mr. Gordan Obour: Associate Editor

Mr. Alexander Wereko: Associate Editor

Ms. Kellie Owsley: Section Editor

Mr. Sirwan Qader: Guest Editor

Mr. Sherwan Taha: Guest Editor

Mr. John Kim: Guest Editor

Mr. Ninos Youkhana: Business Manager





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Aro Bahroz, Vanessa Suhaib

We love what we do and we do what we love

Educating Learners through Academics and Ethics

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26th EDITION

CSM

Newsletter

2022-2023

Classical School of the Medes

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do what we love**

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“CSM is a big vision on a small piece of tissue.”

Farrah Al-Qas

It was just a simple request from Kurdish families over twenty years ago, “Will you teach our children?” Though they did not know exactly how, the Matty family said, “yes”. As their home began to overflow with children, the “big vision on a small piece of tissue” was born. The idea of CSM, though few enough in words to write on a tissue, if successful, could be powerful enough to change the future of Kurdistan and even the region.

Not only could this vision be written on a tissue, the tears of the many who have worked to make this vision a reality have soaked their share of tissues. For the founders. For the admin. For the teachers. For the staff. For the students. Tears, pain, sleepless nights, disappointments, setbacks, hurts, and failures have all been part of this journey. And yet, so has joy, excitement, friendship, success, and fulfillment of dreams.

With the graduation of the Class of 2023, these students celebrate the results of years of grueling work. Their “big vision” to graduate from Classical School of the Medes is now reality. What was watered with their pain, tears, and effort grew into graduates springing up to build a brighter future for this country.

CSM is proud of the Class of 2023 and is grateful to the Ministry of Education, the board, admin, teachers, parents, and all the unsung heroes who have helped make their “big vision” a reality. May you continue to seek God for his “big vision” for your life as you bless the people around you.

WISDOM OF THE EDITION

BY: CARRIE TARVER



CSM FAMILY

BY: JOHN KIM



NAME: LINDA



NAME: DALIA



NAME: SILVA



NAME: KHARMAN

Ms. Linda and Ms. Dalia are the Employees of the Month for CSM Erbil. Ms. Linda is a longtime employee of CSM, having joined the school in 2006. Not only does she hold a BA degree in English Language and Literature, but she also is a loving mother to her two children: Zina and Yousif. Ms. Linda excels at her work and is an invaluable guide for teachers. She is passionate, dutiful, performs well under pressure, and serves CSM with all her heart.

Ms. Dalia is also a vital part of the school. She is likewise a longtime employee of CSM, having joined CSM in 2009 and holding a BA degree in English Language and Literature.

Ms. Dalia's work is marked by her creativity and organization, as she takes time to ensure each one of her tasks is completed thoroughly and masterfully. She is efficient and approaches her duties with seriousness and responsibility because she loves her work.

Because of both Ms. Linda's and Ms. Dalia's over decade-long service to CSM, it is fitting to have them both recognized for this school year's final edition of Employee of the Month. CSM very much appreciates the work of these two ladies, and they are a pleasure to have at CSM.

CSM Duhok is proud to recognize Ms. Silva as its Employee of the Month. Ms. Silva joined the school in 2013 as an Arabic teacher and became the CCA for Arabic in 2021, which she continues to do today. She is knowledgeable in her subject and approaches teaching with notable and impressive methods, which are effective in gathering the interests of students. Ms. Silva's great strength is not only in being disciplined and punctual, but also being caring and loving to those around her. Her lessons are significant in that she also focuses on morality in addition to her subject. She is loved by the school, and they are extremely happy to have her on staff.

CSM Suly's Employee of the Month is Ms. Kharman. Ms. Kharman is also a veteran who has worked for the school since 2012 and is currently an Admissions Officer. She is accomplished both as a mother to her two children, and as a teacher with her Bachelor's degree in English Language. Being a hardworking and dutiful employee, she previously held positions as a teacher and kindergarten admin assistant. Her tasks are completed on time and with expertise. Overall, Ms. Kharman is an inspiration to the school as a woman who exhibits tranquility, heart, and devotion. CSM Suly considers itself very blessed to have her on staff.



NAME: YADGAR

Whenever I think back to my time at Classical School of Medes, I am filled with a sense of nostalgia and gratitude. To this day, I reminisce about it. I am Yadgar, a second-stage 20-year-old medical student studying at the University of Duhok and a CSM graduate of the class of 2021. I am proud to have had the opportunity to be a CSM student since kindergarten, and it is the reason for the exquisite shaping of my life. Throughout my experience, I realized that the teachers and staff were more than just educators; they were mentors who challenged me to grow both academically and personally. The sense of community at CSM was unparalleled, and the memories I made there will stay with me for a lifetime. My school provided countless opportunities for me to develop my skills and passion. For that reason, after I became a college student, I noticed that compared to the majority, my skills stood out, whether it was as simple as giving a persuasive speech, debating confidently, writing exemplary reports, or retaining abundant study material efficiently and effectively. The foundation of my skills was indeed built at a young age at our school, but I continue to further develop them to ensure they are put to good use in the future. As an alumnus, I am grateful I was privileged enough to have this experience because of my school, and I am looking forward to how it will continue to impact future generations of students.



NAME: NASMA

My name is Nasma Samir, and I am an alumna of the Classical School of the Medes Hawler. I attended this school from KG1 in 2008 until grade 12 in 2022 making it a 14-year journey. I am currently studying at Hawler Medical University, College of Medicine. Whenever people heard I would be studying at CSM, their first thought was how difficult the studies would be. However, the thinking skills we acquired from CSM aided us in managing the so called "difficult" curriculum. The classical education I received enabled me to acquire critical thinking that helped me a lot in my university studies. Aside from the education, I made truly unforgettable memories in school having met many incredible people. We were more like a family than classmates. Having interactive teaching methods allowed us to develop imaginative and cooperative skills which played a big role in our study methods. Performing activities and constructing projects made the studying journey more fun with plenty of memories to remember about the school. We had amazing teachers who left valuable messages that I will forever remember. The days I spent at CSM were the best days I experienced. My advice for whoever is attending CSM right now is to enjoy every bit of it and cherish all the small things because they will be the sweet memories that you will look back on in college and wish to go back to.



NAME: GULLI

Growing Up In CSM

I am Gulli Yad, a 2022 alumna of Classical School of Medes based in Sulaymaniyah. I spent 13 years of my life growing up in CSM. I entered the school in 2009 as a kindergartner and stayed for the rest of my school experience until I graduated in 2022. Furthermore, I am now studying Business and Management (BSc) at Brunel University in London. My experience of growing up in this school was challenging yet enriched with memories. I was able to participate and organize many events in a familiar environment alongside being academically challenged. Spending more than a decade in the school naturally progressed into feeling like a second home of mine and I am grateful for all the nurture I received from my classmates and teachers. CSM shaped me into being a determined student with a broad perspective, and it has led me into enriching my academic pathway by studying abroad and claiming great extracurricular activities for my CV.

“The mission of an architect is to help people understand how to make life more beautiful, the world a better one for living in, and to give reason, rhyme, and meaning to life.”

-Frank Lloyd Wright

If you ask the average person to name a famous American architect, the answer would most likely be Frank Lloyd Wright. Wright achieved brilliant cultural prime for good reasons: He altered the way of human building and the way of living. Designing a total of 1,114 architectural buildings of all kinds, he created some of the most inspiring works in the United States. With a successful career that lasted seven decades until his death in the year 1959, Wright's passionate work carved his place according to the American Institute of Architects as “the greatest American architect in history.”

Early Life

Frank Lloyd Wright was born in Richland Center, Wisconsin, on June 8th, 1867, and he is the son of William Wright, a musician and preacher. His mother, Anna Lloyd Jones, was a teacher from a Welsh family who settled in an area near Spring Green, Wisconsin. In his early childhood, his father traveled from one position to another before settling in Madison, Wisconsin, in 1878.

Wright's parents ended up divorcing in 1885, which made already difficult financial circumstances even worse. So, in order to help support his family, then 18-year-old Frank Lloyd worked for the dean of the University of Wisconsin, Engineering Department while studying at the same university. However, he was determined to become an architect. In 1887, Wright left for Chicago, where he found work with two companies before being hired by the famous partnership of Adler and Sullivan. He worked directly for Louis Sullivan for over six years.

Early Work

In 1889, at the age of 22, Frank Wright married Catherine Tobin. Determined to build his own house, Lloyd managed a contract with Sullivan in exchange for a loan to obtain the money necessary to build his house. He bought a corner lot in the Chicago suburb area and eventually built his very first house, a modest home in the fashion of the East Coast style. It also showed Wright's authenticity as he ventured with geometrical shapes and sizes which he added for his growing family consisting of six children.

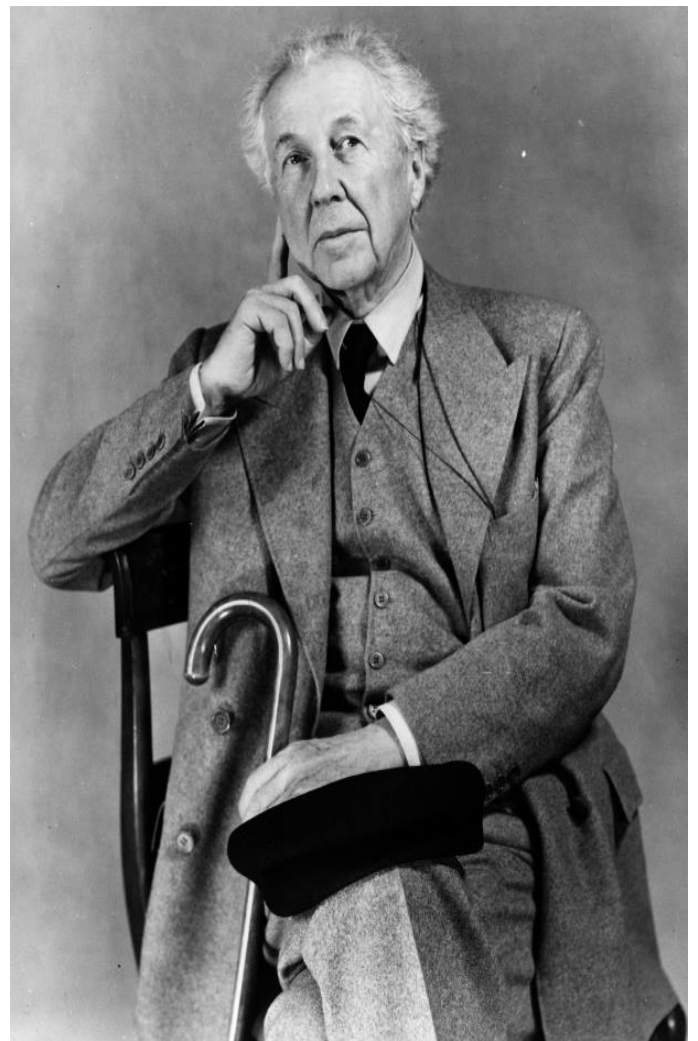
The Wright household is remembered by the children as a lively one, filled with beauty and joy. It is not clear whether Wright quit or was fired from Sullivan firm, but his departure was mysterious, creating a gap between the two men that could not be fixed for two decades. The separation, however, gave Wright a very much needed opportunity to be independent. He started his own business, opened an office, and began his passion: designing houses that he believed would really contribute to American architecture.

Frank Lloyd Wright started the last decade of his life working on a grand exhibition. “Frank Lloyd Wright: Sixty Years of Living Architecture”, was soon on a global tour traveling to different places like Paris, Florence, Munich, Zurich, Mexico City and Rotterdam, before returning to the States for additional work. Admiringly energetic for a man in his eighth decade, he continued to travel a great lot, lecturing thoroughly, and writing as well. He was still active and involved with all aspects of his work with constant trips to New York to monitor the construction of the “Guggenheim Museum”.

In April of the year 1959, he got suddenly and severely ill and was forced to be hospitalized. Frank Lloyd Wright died on April 9th, just two months before his ninety second birthday.

JUNE BIRTHDAY FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT

BY: SIRWAN QADER



JAMES WEBB TELESCOPE

BY: SILVIA GHASSAN

The James Webb telescope built by NASA, ESA, CSA is the largest and most powerful telescope ever built. It will give data and images of billions of years ago and explore new planets and stars that are forming now. The telescope is enormous, as tall as a three-story building. It had to be folded to fit inside the rocket, but it will be unfolded once it gets to space. One important character about this telescope is that its cameras can see through dust clouds and light that's invisible to human eyes. This characteristic enables it to discover planets and stars that are hidden in the dust clouds.



JAMES WEBB TELESCOPE

The initial designs of the telescope began in 1996 and were supposed to be launched in 2005 with a \$1 billion dollar budget. However, after reconstruction and fixation the telescope was complete in 2016 with a budget of \$10 billion dollars. On January 8, 2022, the Webb team finished its 21-foot gold-coated primary mirror and on January 24, 2022 the space telescope was launched to its orbit around the sun which is called Lagrange Point or L2 which is one million miles from earth. On the day of launching, NASA spokesman Rob Navias said, "Lift-off, from a tropical rainforest to the edge of time itself. James Webb begins his voyage back to the birth of the universe." This space telescope aims to look back in time discovering the first formed galaxies and stars.



ATHENS: THE BIRTHPLACE OF DEMOCRACY

BY: YAR SAMAN



ATHENS

Athens is best known for its origin of democracy. In the year 507 B.C, an Athenian aristocrat named Cleisthenes introduced a political reform known as democracy, which is a form of government in which the people can contribute in the political decisions by voting. The people would vote individually on the issues present, either big or small. From matters of war to rights, they governed themselves. Athens, has made a remarkable contribution to today's society and government by coming up with the idea of democracy.

Cleisthenes, also known as "The Father of Democracy", introduced the democratic reform to lessen the power of the aristocratic families ruling in Athens at the time to allow himself and the people more freedom and also a more stable and advanced political system. Democracy in Athens only let Athenian free men vote and have part in the political system. Women, children, slaves, and non-Athenian men were not allowed to vote whatsoever and had no rights. Location played a big role in Athenian democracy. People who were not directly from Athens had no right to vote and participate in the democratic assemblies and voting. The Athenian men themselves planned the councils, which meant there was not a representative speaking for them. They were all there themselves. In 322 B.C, democracy in Athens ended because Macedonia took over the city in a battle. Thus, the people had to follow the Macedonian form of government. Democracy is the building block of modern civilization, and many countries nowadays apply this form of political system. Athens in Greece now has a parliamentary republic system in which the president is the head of state and elected representatives represent the people. The democracy in Athens was very distinct from the democracy in modern times and a lot of things have changed since then, such as people regardless of their gender and title have rights to vote and participate in political matters.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOUNDER

BY: FARRAH YOUSIF MATTY



Born to be a soldier on the field. The month of June is special because you were born in it.
Happy Birthday!

Mr. Yousif Matty was born in Baghdad in 1955. He graduated from the department of Science majoring in Geology. Later he served in the army for 10 years. His family was stationed in Kurkuk and longed to see him every couple of months when he would return from duty. In 1992, he decided to move to the Kurdish region with his wife and three children. Since then, his heart has always been on Kurdish soil.

After serving in the army so many years, you would think you are going to meet someone with a stiff heart. A tough one yes, but a very kind one. Working with him seems difficult but at the end of the day you see his kindness and humility towards the people who work for him. He may seem tough, but his heart aches at the cruelty and unfairness happening around him. He is silent but that does not mean he does not know, nor does it mean he does not care. It only means he does not want to fight because people matter to him.

His children are a red line no one can cross. To this day, he thrives each day to make sure his grandchildren live fair. He is a soldier who was actually on the field of battle and a soldier who fights every day to preserve the rights of his family. He loves his nation and its people, and he serves them with all his heart with no complaints. He once said, "I would rather die on field than sick in bed". He is on field every single day. He is never hopeless or doubtful. You have made a change in this country by opening the three schools of the Medes. Your vision was not seen or understood in the beginning of 2003. But now, many speak of CSM students' perspective of life when meeting them at the universities. Like our motto says, "We educate students through ethics and education."

You have.

May you live long. May you live healthy.

SAT EXAM: STEPPINGSTONE TO THE FUTURE

BY: SHERWAN AMEEN

SAT

All three CSM campuses now proudly offer SAT services to CSM students as well as other students across the region. The month of June involved careful planning, preparation, and administering of the SAT exam in Duhok, Erbil, and Suly. Students entered exam day having taken as many practice tests as possible, hoping to receive the prestigious perfect score of 1,600...or at least perhaps something close.

As a part of entering universities in the Kurdistan region, a student's SAT score is one of the factors considered for admission.

However, the SAT is vital for admission to most undergraduate programs at U.S. universities. A few universities in other parts of the world, including Singapore and Canada also require the SAT. Simply, the SAT is the most widely used college entrance exam, representing more than a century of work by colleges and educators to create a single entrance exam. According to the statistics, more than 2 million students around the world take the SAT every year. The SAT contains the reading, writing, and mathematics skills that students learned in school, and which are critical for success in college. Every question appearing on the SAT is fully researched by educators who review each question. It is more than just a test. It is a steppingstone to greater success in a student's academic future.

SAT®



CollegeBoard

YEARBOOK 'BRINGING BACK MEMORIES'

BY: CARRIE TARVER

The Maroon 5 song “Memories” wrongly assumes, “The drinks bring back all the memories of everything we’ve been through...and the memories bring back, memories bring back you.” At CSM we believe it is yearbooks, not drinks, that bring back memories...bring back you. That is why each year’s Yearbook Team works tirelessly to create something that will help students, teachers, and staff remember with fondness the joys and the challenges of the academic year.

This year’s Yearbook Team under the leadership of Ms. Farrah AlQas and Mr. Bassam Harbi began work in December and continued until May when the final draft was complete. Photographers in Duhok, Erbil, and Suly embraced the task of corralling not only each student, teacher, and admin employee for a group photo but also capturing photos of each one individually. Once photoshoots were complete, photographers in each city submitted them to Ms. Mirna Shmayl who formatted them into the yearbook document for review by Ms. Farrah. After the feedback, the final photos were sent to Mr. Shwan Zrar for checking.

For the writing portion, Mr. Bassam selected some of the most memorable events of the year for Ms. Carrie Tarver to draft summary paragraphs. Once the paragraphs were complete, Ms. Farrah also reviewed these for final approval. A special portion of the Yearbook was dedicated to the graduates. In preparation, a committee with a member from each city collaborated to gather quotes, hobbies, birthdays, and names for all graduates. In Erbil, a special thanks goes to Shannel Merkhan in grade 11 who volunteered to gather quotes and hobbies for their seniors. Once all three cities combined their graduate information, Ms. Maryam Noeil completed a final review.

In the end, the yearbook was polished, sent to the printing press, and ready for distribution on report card days. As students filed in with their parents to receive their report cards, it is hard to say whether they were more eager to receive their report card or their yearbook. Needless to say, an impressive number of yearbooks found new homes among CSM students. Years later, we hope they will, “bring back memories...bring back you.”



AROUND THE WORLD IN ONE DAY:

CULTURE DAY

BY: CARRIE TARVER

Once again this year, CSM Erbil held Culture Day as an opportunity for students to gain deeper understanding and appreciation for cultures around the world as well as their own. Culture Day opened June 19th after the pressures of AP and final exams were over. This event consisted of three teams: Language Arts, Arabic, and Humanities under the leadership of Ms. Linda and Ms. Dalia. Each group contained approximately twenty students. Students, teachers, and CCAs invested countless hours over the past several months developing project ideas and helping those ideas become reality. When the day arrived, students were dressed in culturally appropriate clothing according to the people group they were presenting.

Students brought ethnic food, props, and presented facts related to each culture. Some of the cultures presented included Japanese, Chinese, and Arabic. Parents and teachers toured the booths tasting of international delicacies, listening to students' presentations, and asking questions to learn more about the various cultures.

It is CSM's hope that the process of preparing for and attending Culture Day will cement the knowledge students have gained of other cultures. May it also instill within students the love that God has for all peoples and cultures around the world.



CHILDHOOD ADVENTURES: SUMMER CAMP

BY: ALEXANDER WEREKO



The activities included reading, sporting, arts, and music in a safe and supportive environment for children to explore their interests, inculcating important skills, such as teamwork, problem-solving, and independence. A program that commenced on the 11th day of June came to a successful end on the 22nd of the same month, yielding personal growth, holistic development, and lifelong memories.

The summer season is here, and as parents and children eagerly anticipated the opportunity to embark on new adventures and create lasting memories, CSM had that covered. The Summer Camp at CSM was one such thrilling experience tailored for young students, ranging from KG1 to grade 2. This program provided a blend of engaging activities and age-appropriate educational opportunities.



KG2 GRADUATION



GRADE 6 GRADUATION



GRADE 12 GRADUATION



GRADE 12 GRADUATION



KG2 GRADUATION



GRADE 6 GRADUATION



GRADE 12 GRADUATION



ANNOUNCEMENT

23-24 SAT Administration Dates and Deadlines

SAT Date	Day	Registration Deadline	Deadline for Changes
26/8/2023	Saturday	08/11/2023	08/11/2023
10/07/2023	Sunday	22/9/2023	22/9/2023
11/04/2023	Saturday	20/10/2023	20/10/2023
12/02/2023	Saturday	17/11/2023	17/11/2023

SAT®



CollegeBoard

ANNOUNCEMENT



اولياء امور الطلبة الاعزاء

■ نود اعلامكم بان مدارس ميديا (اربيل - سليمانيه - دهوك) ستغلق ابوابها اعتباراً من يوم الأربعاء المصادف ٦/٢٨ و لغاية ٧/١٥.

- يعاود دوام الادارات يومي الاحد والاربعاء اعتباراً من يوم ٧-١٦ من ٩ صباحاً ولغاية ١ بعد الظهر.
- و ستبدأ امتحانات الدور الثاني يوم الاحد ٧/٢٣
- نتمنى لطلبتنا عطلة سعيدة

ادارة المدرسة

CLASSICAL SCHOOL OF THE MEDES



Dear Parents

- We would like to inform you Medes Schools (Erbil - Sulaymaniyah - Dohuk) will close their doors from Wednesday , 28th of June until Thursday, 15th of July.
- The departments will resume work every Sunday and Wednesday, starting July 16th from 9:00am-1:00 pm.
- The retake exams will start on Sunday July 23rd.
- We wish our students a happy holiday

CSM Administration

CLASSICAL SCHOOL OF THE MEDES



سهيانين قوتابيئين بهريز

■ مه دفتت ههوه ئاگه هدار بکهين کو قوتابخانا ميديا (ههولير - سليمانيه - دهوك) ژ رۆژا چوار شه ميه ریکهفتی ٦/٢٨ تا ٧/١٥ دت ده رگههين خو گريت.

- و هه ر ژ رۆژا ١٦ / ٧ دهواما کارگيري پۆژين ئیک شهمب و چوار شه ميه ژ ده مژمير ٩ ت نيڤرو تا ١ پشتي نيڤرو دت قه بيهقه.
- و تاقيرکريين خولا دوو ل پۆژا ئیک شهمب ریکهفتی ٢٣ / ٧ بن.

کارگيري قوتابخانه

CLASSICAL SCHOOL OF THE MEDES



بهريزان ليپرسراوانی فيرخوزان

■ ئاگادارتان دهکهنهوه، که خويندنگهکانی ميديا (ههولير، سليمانيه، دهوك) ده رگهکانيان دادهخن.

- له رۆژي چوار شه ميه ریکهفتی ٦/٢٨ تا ریکهفتی ٧/١٥ دهوام دهستپيدهکاتهوه له بهشکانی کارگيري پۆژانی يهکشهممه و چوار شه ميه له کاتژمير ٩ يه يانی تا کاتژمير ١ ي پاش نيوهرو.
- تاقيرکرنهوهکانی خولی دووهم له رۆژي يهکشهممه ٧/٢٣ دهستپيدهکات
- هيواي پشوو يهکی خوش بو خويندکارهکانمان

کارگيري کۆمهلهگه

CLASSICAL SCHOOL OF THE MEDES



HOLIDAYS

**APPLY
NOW**



JULY

JULY

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

- ☐ 1st – 15th Summer Holiday
- ☐ 16th Admin Day 9:00am – 1:00pm
- ☐ 17th Day OFF
- ☐ 18th Day OFF
- ☐ 19th Admin Day 9:00am – 1:00pm
- ☐ 20th Day OFF
- ☐ 23rd – 27th Retake Exams
- ☐ 30th Admin Day 9:00am – 1:00pm
- ☐ 31st First Installment deadline

PLAY & ENJOY



Graduation



Word Search

S B M G W I F H A M F A M I L Y G
P O A O P A R T Y E O L H J D Q S
H R J X Z B D J C U R U T Z C I R
F R O V G A T C A P F M O E Y X G
R N R F D C I E T Z B N W N H U R
I Z M R E O W R M V D I P L O M A
E B D Q G S Y E X G W P B V N L D
N L A N R J S M V Q N A Q H O F U
D F B D E S Z O E H X J S K R P A
S W X L E Y E N R P C A I R O D T
T C R K T C H Y G S C R O L L I I
Y L N Q P O C U F G W Y V T L L O
A A X P V L L G I F T S M E B C N
Q S G S N L F K J A C T S X K W K
D S T U D E N T S F V S R J O I Z
Z N U M H G P Y S Y A P U G K Q U
L U N I V E R S I T Y M D W E J S

GRADUATION
SCROLL
CLASS
COLLEGE

CAP
STUDENTS
CEREMONY
UNIVERSITY

GOWN
PROFESSORS
ALUMNI
MAJOR

DIPLOMA
FAMILY
HONOR
DEGREE

TASSEL
FRIENDS
PARTY
GIFTS

FOR YOU TO KNOW

FACTS



Chinese police use geese squads.

You've heard of police dogs, but police geese? As of 2013, 12 police stations in a rural area of China have begun to use geese as sentries. They are alert animals and, as you probably know, can create a lot of noise and commotion, which creative Chinese law enforcement officers are taking advantage of. While this trend has yet to spread throughout China, Dongwan police claim that the geese have already stopped at least one theft.

There's a country where twins are most likely to be born.

Benin, a country in central Africa, is notable for having the highest birth rate of twins in the world. While the world average is just 13 twins per 1,000 births, Benin more than doubles that rate, at nearly 30 twins per 1,000 births. There's no single factor that causes this, but genetics, diet, and even the mother's height are thought to play a role.



Tornadoes can cause "fish rain."

Tornadoes can develop over water just as well as they can over land. When they do, they're called "waterspouts," and they suck up large amounts of lake or sea water—as well as whatever's swimming in that water. If the waterspout travels on to the land and the winds decrease, there's nowhere for those fish to go but down. As far as we know, there's no tornado powerful enough to pick up sharks, but a fish-nado is entirely possible.

There's an entire town under a rock.

If you've ever been accused of "living under a rock," you'll feel right at home in Setenil de Las Bodegas in Spain. Many of this tiny town's 3,000 residents live and work and play in a gorge beneath a huge rocky outcropping, where homes are built right into the rock. It provides so much shelter that historians think this area has been occupied by human settlements since the Stone Age.



NEWSLETTER TEAM

FARRAH YOUSIF: Advisor

BASSAM HARBI: Newsletter Organizer

NOOR YOUSIF: Advertising Manager

NINOS YOUKHANA: Business Manager

CARRIE TARVER: Chief Editor and writer

SHWAN ZRAR: Layout & Photo Editor Designer

MIRNA SHMAYL: Layout Design

GORDAN OBOUR: Associate Editor

ALEXANDER WEREKO: Associate Editor

KELLIE OWSLEY: Section Editor

SIRWAN QADER: Guest Editor

SHERWAN TAHA: Guest Editor

JOHN KIM: Guest Editor



Newsletter

2022-2023

26th Edition

Classical School of the Medes

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Mr. Bassam Harbi: Newsletter Organizer

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Mr. Shwan Zrar: Layout & Photo Editor Designer

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Mr. Alexander Wereko: Associate Editor

Ms. Kellie Owsley: Section Editor

Mr. Sirwan Qader: Guest Editor

Mr. Sherwan Taha: Guest Editor

Mr. John Kim: Guest Editor

Mr. Ninos Youkhana: Business Manager





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Educating Learners through Academics and Ethics

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Newsletter

2022-2023

17-26th

EDITION

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