

Matter of Fact



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER * THE STUDENT LIFE ORGANIZATION
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF CHOUEIFAT- KHALIFA CITY A

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- The Year of Exceeding Expectations 1
- International Day 1
- The Iftar 2
- Mini Camp 3
- Dinner with Mr. Roger 3
- How SLO changed my life 4
- Awareness Campaigns 4
- Academic Department 5
- Honour Students 5
- SLO clubs 6
- Trips for Primary 7
- Sports Days 7
- Friendly match 8

The Year of Exceeding Expectations

This year's SLO theme is "The year of exceeding expectations", and so far, the SLO team in ISCKC, has been exceeding many expectations. This academic year is the first time for our SLO to really excel and show that our Prefects have a lot of great potential.

During this year, many departments in the SLO went beyond our expectations, especially the Academic

Department, whose Head is Ahmed Abu El Nasr – Grade 8, and I am proud to announce that this department has exceeded every expectation possible, and just keeps getting better.

This has been a very promising year for our SLO, and we're still trying to improve so if you're interested in developing your personality and helping your school join the SLO and help us exceed

expectations.

Yasmine Youssef. 10SA



International Day

On February 20th, 2010, the International School of Choueifat Khalifa City had a wonderful time at the International Day organized by students, teachers, faculty members and parents. During the three hours in which International Day took place, many creative stalls could be visited and various performances could be watched. Because of the large diversity of the student population in the school, many students set up stalls representing their country. On each stall, one could

see flags, photos, souvenirs, posters, and taste delicious food from all over the world.



The day started with the opening of the stalls after being set up with the dedication of students and parents. The countries that participated on International Day

included: UAE, Pakistan, South Korea, India, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Palestine, Lebanon, Colombia, Oman, USA, Indonesia, and Egypt. Wonderful smells of food and the sound of music from all different countries drifted through the air as parents, teachers and students enjoyed themselves.





Among the many events that took place the International Costume Show was the first. Whilst watching the show, one could see students wearing lovely, colorful clothes from many different countries, including UAE, Pakistan, India, Lebanon, South Korea, etc. Afterwards, the performances began. These were dances from UAE, India, Philippines and many other countries. India's performance consisted of three different dances, each unique and colorful, and it was clear while watching that the students put hard work and dedication in the

performance. The audience watched in awe as the Philippines performed an interesting dance which portrayed the creation of their country. Several young girls from Pakistan sang a traditional song as well. Many countries showed off their pride by singing their national anthem, such as Lebanon, Egypt, Palestine, UAE, Pakistan, USA and others. Every country had a unique display that made it different from the others.

As the day came to a close, everyone could agree that the International Day organized by the SLO,

students, teachers and parents was truly a memorable experience. It was a great learning experience and taught us about other cultures and made us realize the great diversity of our school.

Many parents, family members and friends of students and faculty thoroughly enjoyed this amazing International Day.

By Sameen Hassan-
10SA



"International School of Chouiefat Khalifa City had a wonderful time."



Weeks passed by and in almost every conversation all I hear is the same subject being discussed over and over again; the Iftar. Every Ramadan there is an Iftar at Chouiefat Khalifa City but people don't usually talk about it that much since all they care about is getting there, stuffing their faces and buzzing out. Though in 2009, discussions about it were unstoppable.

The day had finally come and of course I decided to go and check what all the big fuss was about. Waiting outside the cafeteria doors, students settled in their groups and were deep in conversation all waiting for the cafeteria doors to open. When the doors

finally opened, in a flash all the students stood up and were in a line ready to go in. The whole cafeteria was gorgeously decorated and a big smile spread across my face because of all the positive energy around me.

Students began hovering around all trying to get to the table where drinks had been neatly placed for those who had been fasting or were just thirsty. After that we all got settled in our seats and waited patiently for all the teachers to arrive so they would get their food first: KFC, Pizza Hut and other delicious meals.

Finally when everyone had eaten, some students began

cleaning the cafeteria and others had to go home or just wanted to hang around with their friends for while. It was a very special day for everyone which put a big smile on our faces.

By Dana Yazback-
9B



First UAE Mini Camp

On Friday 11th December 2009, the first minicamp ever took place in the UAE. It was organised by the heads of the six Choueifat schools all around the UAE: Margueritta Asmar, Anamta Farook, Zahra Sarfaraz, Maleeha Naseem, Heer Ayoub, and myself. The opening of the minicamp began with a speech by Mr. Germanos, which was followed by a number of presentations about leadership and teamwork, and many activities to emphasize the importance of good communication and teamwork. Everyone learnt a lot; it was a huge success.



Here are some of the quotes from the people who attended the minicamp from ISCKC:
 " In the minicamp I learnt a lot about leadership and the power of thinking positively in any situation." – Zaid Ward 10SA
 " The minicamp provided us with the opportunity to make new friends, improve our personality and make us believe that we can make a difference in our school." – Ahmad Ehab El Nasr 8A

by Yasmine Youssef -10SA

' In the minicamp I learnt a lot about leadership and the power of thinking positively in any situation.'

Dinner with Mr. Roger Soweid

On a Thursday afternoon in October, eight students from Choueifat Khalifa City took a bus out to Abu Dhabi to meet with the students and coordinators that ran the Student Life Organizations in other schools. We arrived early, and after taking a few minutes to explore the school grounds, we met Mr. Roger (Student Life Advisor), a funny, friendly and cheerful man. We exchanged jokes and stories with him as the other schools arrived. Once everyone was present, we

proceeded with dinner in the cafeteria. After a delicious meal we all sat down and discussed the problems and issues in each of our schools. Mr. Roger gave us an insight and advice on what to do, how to improve our school and most importantly he cheered everyone up with his positive attitude and encouraged us to be proactive and never give up accomplishing the things we believe in.

Danielle Dy Liacco – 10L



Awareness Campaigns



The aim of organizing awareness campaigns in our school is to make students aware of the importance of keeping the school clean, observing good personal hygiene and guarding against viruses.

At the beginning of the year we had the Hygiene Campaign organized by Prefects who tried to visit all the classes, especially the infants and primary ones, in order to make students

aware of the importance of taking care of their personal hygiene. They also informed the students about the HINI flu and how to protect against this virus.

The second campaign was the Cleanliness Campaign organized by Discipline Prefects. Students were advised how to keep their school clean at all times and how to get involved and care about the place where

they study in. A competition between classes took place and the winners (Grade 5B and Grade 2B) were rewarded with certificates and sweets for their effort in keeping their classrooms clean.

Anthony Ashraf -8A

“Leadership is taught and anyone who has determination and is willing to learn can be an excellent leader”



How SLO changed my life

My name is Yasmine Youssef, and this is my second year in Choueifat. Last summer I attended the Student Life Training Camp in Egypt with Mr. Roger Soweid and it really changed my personality and the way I think, and I became very passionate about the Student Life Organization. It may seem hard to believe that SLO really makes a difference in your personality and even in your life, but it can, and it really did change my life. Before I came to Choueifat, I attended a school that believed in a policy that we, here, in Choueifat, don't believe in, which is leaders are born not made, and

that some people are just not meant to be successful, but this policy is **very** wrong. Leadership is taught and anyone who has determination and is willing to learn can be an excellent leader.

Finally, I just want to say that SLO does give you hope, it makes you believe you can accomplish many great things and become a better person. This is what my involvement in SLO did for me. It makes you believe in yourself, and that is something extraordinary and amazing. So give yourself a chance, join the SLO and make a difference in peoples' lives because as Edward Everett Hale said:

“I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do.”

Yasmine Youssef-
10SA



The progress of the Academic Department

From the beginning of this Academic year we have had good achievements in the Academic department.

Academic Prefects represent the largest number of prefects in the SLO. We are so happy that students are interested in helping each other and for this they have been rewarded with special SLO certificates for their dedication.



At the moment, we have three different categories in the Academic Department:

Re-teaches - When a student fails an AMS exam he has to go for a retake. Before the retake the student needs to know, learn, and master the mistakes he made in the AMS. During the Re-teach sessions the Aca-

ademic prefects take the responsibility of helping these students. Using the priority of the concepts system in every single Re-teach, the Academic prefects make sure that the students understand every single concept they have missed in the exam.

Study clubs – When a group of students continues to fail in their exams, the administration requires them to attend the study clubs in which they will study specific difficult concepts that are recommended by the subject’s department. The progress of the students who attend the study clubs is carefully monitored and the merit of the prefects depends on it.

Peer tutoring –When a student is weak in a specific subject and does not understand in group studying then we require one of the prefects to sit with him/her and help him/her until he masters the concepts he misunderstood.

More than 50 Academic Pre-

fects are currently helping many students in different subjects. They love to teach, they like to get involved and they care about the others.

Everyone is welcome to join our team!

By Ahmad Abu El Nasr –8A

“They love to teach, they like to get involved and they care about the others.”



Honour students

At the end of each term we have an Honour Board with the names of the best students in Academics.

Students who appear on the Honour Board are students with very few detentions and with these averages or above:

- Gr. 1 - 96
- Gr. 2 - 96

- Gr. 3 - 96
- Gr. 4 - 95
- Gr. 5 - 95
- Gr. 6 - 93
- Gr. 7 - 92
- Gr. 8 - 91
- Gr. 9 - 90
- Gr.10 - 88
- Gr.11 - 87

The names of the students who

are on the Honour Board in Term I are the following:

- Trecher Martin -1C
- Edwina Naim -1C
- Kenzy Mahmoud -1L
- Eman Fatima -1B
- Adam Hassan -1F
- Taima Mubarak -1B
- Iman Husni -2D

“What sculpture is to a block of marble, education is to the human soul”
Joseph Addison

“If you are planning for a year, sow rice; if you are planning for a decade, plant trees; if you are planning for a lifetime, educate people.”
Chinese Proverb

Iman Husni -2D
Sara Takhtechian -2C
Tuan Tran -2B
Khalfan Kaabi -2C
Adam Ashtarul Elmi -2D
Hammad Khan -2B
Ali Abdel Razik -2B
Nicole Raghu -3B
Jenny Zhang -3C
Abdullah Hassan -4D
Jien Jun Koay -4D
Taasfia Iqbal -4C
Ashna Arif -4B
Mohamed Romaithi -4E
Anosha Qureshi -4D
Sireen Hallal -4B
Mohamed Attar -4C

Dhvani Kotwala-4B
Mariam Khan -4C
Omar Ibrahim- 4C
Nadine Abdel Rahman - 4E
Afra Abdul Kader -4D
Connie Zhang -5B
Rita Kadi -5C
Naghah Darwish -5D
Imama Jawad -6B
Ashwin Chidanand -6C
Jiyeon Park -6A
Hamda Romaithi- 6C
Selin Sahin -7B
Mohammed Khazndar - 7A
Ye Ji Jung- 8A

Mahnoor Mahmood -8B
Ahmed Abu El Nasr -8A
Tahir Tayyab -9B
Iman Nizami -9A
Ji Hye Jung -10S
Umema Imran -10S
Sameen Hassan -10S

Congratulations to all these students!

SLO clubs

We are happy to announce that we have several clubs in SLO which help students discover and explore their aptitudes or skills.

If you want to practice or learn how to play the guitar, join the **Guitar Club**.



Taking photos of the most important events, clubs and trips is a very exciting thing if you are part of the **Photography Club**.

To decorate the boards all around the school, fix them, do posters for events such as Sports Day or Music Concerts is the mis-

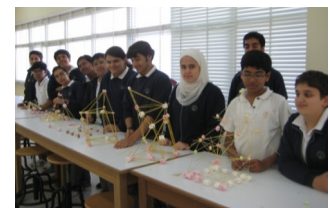
sion of the students who are attending the **Decoration Club**.

Do not be afraid of the **Study Clubs!** Join the study clubs if you are weak in English, Math, Arabic, Science or French. Academic Prefects can help you improve in one of these subjects.

Science Experiments Club has already lots of participants interested in doing experiments (with the help of Mrs. Mariam Al Kabeer) such as: how to build a volcano, balloon hover crafts or tall towers using marshmallows and spaghetti.

The best way to spend your time during breaks is to attend the **Chess Club**.

Students can also compete and prove their ingenuity in the chess tournament.



Trips for Primary students

This year the SLO Activities Department had promised to take all the students on fun and educational school trips. We have selected specific places for our Primary students.

Grade 2&5 students were rewarded with a special journey to Dubai **Dolphinarium**. They enjoyed watching the dolphins jumping and splashing in the pool and the seals dancing and clapping on the stage.



For Grade 6 students **Al Ain National Museum and Palace** were wonderful places to discover UAE traditional culture and be delighted at the view of amazing artifacts, crafts, costumes.



Grade 4 students had the chance to live out their dreams and become whatever they wanted in **Kidzania** (Dubai). All the students learned and acted out different jobs and

professions. Grade 3 students were taken to **Kids Park** in Abu Dhabi, where they could feed and touch the animals. They also learned about various types of animals.

The Activities Prefects are currently organizing trips for the upper grades and hopefully they will be planning many more to come!

Sarah Jaroh -9B



Sports Days

In our school students have the chance to participate in competitive sporting activities with the aim of winning trophies and prizes.

Primary school sports days are seen as light-hearted and informal occasions. Parents are invited to watch their children playing a variety of field games. Grades 3&4 students tried their basic skills learned in the PE lessons in fun activities such as: hurdle flat race, multi relay race, throwing station and egg & spoon race. Certificates of participation were awarded to all the students. The atmosphere was full of joy and excitement.

Grades 5&6 had football competition for boys and basketball competition for girls. All the participants were awarded with certificates of participation and the winners were granted with trophies.

Thoroughly enjoyable, well organized and great, great fun!



Friendly football match

Although the first teachers versus students football match ended in a 0-0 stalemate, it must be said that the inaugural event was a tremendous success. Indeed, a large and spirited crowd of both students and faculty members attended the game, and the match itself was played out in perfect playing conditions thanks primarily to the pitch maintenance workers, the PE Department and the SLO office. While the game ended scoreless, the enthusiastic and vociferous spectators were not subjected to a boring and uneventful match, and quite on the contrary, were treated to an

action packed half hour of football. Indeed, two penalties were awarded and missed, as well as the post coming to the rescue on two separate occasions.

For the students the hero was undoubtedly the man of the match Omeir Malik, who made a string of important and impressive saves, which included no less than two separate penalty stops. Samuel Jovanovic was also quite impressive and was at the end of anything significant that the students' team created.

On the whole the game was played in a jovial, albeit competitive fashion and a sportsmanlike

attitude was exuded by both teams. The final score probably did not reflect the dominance of the teacher's team, but it certainly sets up an intriguing replay between the two sides with everything still all to play for.

By Stephen Daly



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**“One voice can speak with
wisdom
One heart can know what's true
One life can make the difference
You see, it's up to you!!”**