

The AAESS Primary Tribune

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The Special Olympics by: Alexander

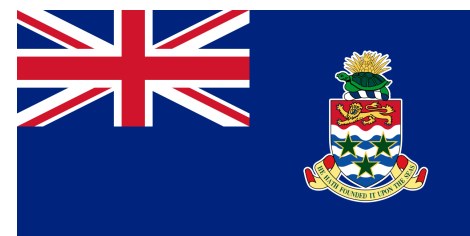
You may know about the Special Olympics but what you may not know is that my Aunt is the coach of the Cayman Islands Team!

Because my Aunt is the coach, I had the privilege to join the team as a mascot. We met at the Al Ain Zoo, along with other teams. I met a lot of different athletes from many different countries.

We joined the Cayman team walking around the zoo and visiting many of the different animals. My friend Julius who ran the 1500 metre race was particularly interested in the bird show and the camels, as he had never seen a camel before in his life!

When we were leaving we went out of the zoo from the old gate entrance. There were rows and rows of Al Ain Zoo staff and VIPs cheering for us and taking photos as we walked out to the coaches across the red carpet. I think this was a very historic moment, as it was the very first Special Olympics in the UAE.

I like the Special Olympics because I think it is a very tolerant event and gives people who can't participate in the traditional Olympics opportunity and respect. It also shows to the world how people of determination can do anything just as well as anyone.



Julius proudly displaying his medals



That's me standing with my arms up in front of the tree



The Meaning of Ramadan by: Mahmud

Ramadan is here! It is a time for fasting and good deeds. Ramadan starts when the first crescent moon appears in the month of Ramadan every year. The name is also the name of the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. Ramadan is the month when the Quran was given to the Prophet (PBUH) in Mecca.

It is a Muslim holiday where Muslims fast and prevent themselves from doing bad deeds and give charity from Fajr (morning prayers) to Mahgrib (evening prayers) Ramadan shows how the poor feel since they often don't have enough money to afford food.

After the month of Ramadan, there comes the Islamic month Shawwal. On the first day of Shawwal, Eid Al-Fitr is held. Eid Al-Fitr is a few days where we can spend time with family. Also some adults give money to children.

We asked students to tell us what Ramadan means to them. Here's what some of them said:

"Ramadan means so much to me because I love my fancy dress and drawing pictures for my Mom."
-Ikram FS2

"I like how we get to feel how poor people feel, and that we don't waste food."
-Abdullah Yr 6

"My favourite thing about Ramadan is that I spend time with my lovely family and friends."
-Hala Yr 6

"My favourite part of Ramadan is that you feel bad for the needy."
-Latifa Yr 6

"Ramadan is when you care about people who are poor and you don't eat during the day."
-Laiba Yr 5

"We fast because it respects poor people and we feel what they are feeling."
-Clara Yr 4

"I love Ramadan because I get to dress pretty and dance."
-Tehzeeb FS2

Ramadan is a time to respect religion and peace.
-Fred Yr 4

"Ramadan means a lot to me because I love fasting. I feel what the poor people feel like without food."
-Reem Yr 5

"Ramadan is a tradition in my family and it makes me feel what the less fortunate people feel."
-Taim Yr 6

"Ramadan is a beautiful peaceful holiday that God has asked us to fast to let us feel how poor and homeless people feel. It encourages you to give to the poor because you feel their pain."
-Shahd Yr 6



Ramadan Kareem

Community Spotlight: Chitra Thapa

by Saisha and Avantika

Have you ever been to Magrudy's and wondered about the people who work there? If you have, please read our interview with the Customer Relations Manager of Magrudy's Al Ain Mr. Chitra Thapa.

Chitra Thapa, who is originally from Nepal, started at Magrudy's in 2016 as a customer service assistant. After two years of hard work, the company promoted him realizing his potential. He has very strong feelings about being hardworking, kind, loyal, and whole-hearted. I'm sure many of us will agree with him! He believes that friendly colleagues and the positive environment make his work enjoyable. Wherever Mr. Thapa works, he is always hardworking and he believes this is the most important thing to be successful at your job.

Chitra has a great passion for reading. He advises that everyone should prefer books over gadgets. (e.g. phones, computers etc.) He says "they may ruin your life and bring sorrow to your future." Chitra feels that you will not gain much knowledge from only using technology, and prefers to see kids reading books. We agree, but in our opinion, it is possible to find a healthy balance between books and gadgets.

He likes to read everyday, and feels that reading is important for children. We agree with him, and think that reading is exercise for the mind!



A CHILD
WHO READS
WILL BE AN ADULT
WHO THINKS

Unsurprisingly, he told us that the best selling books at Magrudy's are the hilarious "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" series the amusing "Dork Diaries", and the artistic "Baby-Sitters Club".

His outlook on work has changed due in part to the words of his company's former President who said "Don't love your company, but love yourself; because behind you are your loved ones." This has contributed to his decision to take-on his current position.

Chitra is a kind, helpful, and open person, who is happy to help children develop a love of books. We enjoyed interviewing him!



**Readers
Make Great
Leaders**

AAESS Sports: Year 4 Bench Ball Tournament

by Soraya-Grace

A few weeks ago some kids in Year 4 got chosen to represent our school in a bench ball tournament. I was one of those kids. We had to play against Brighton College. On our team we had me (Soraya-Grace) Fred, Kadijah, Hamad, Hamed, Raed, Emily, Maria, Handri and Saeed.

We got on the bus then left for Brighton College. When we got there it turned out that we weren't only going against Brighton College; we were also going against Manor Hall *and* Aldar Academy!

In our first round we played Aldar Academy and we knew what to do because we had played them a few months ago. Thankfully, we won. But that was only round one!

In round two we went against Brighton College. Midway through the game, the ball went out of the court so we got ten seconds extra added to the timer and in those last few seconds we scored a point that tied the match!

Finally, in the last round we went against Manor Hall. AAESS won!



Our team did so well that on the way back to school Mr. Tiago got the AAESS team M&Ms! I would say that it was a pretty successful bench ball tournament.



Editor's Note: We will typically strive to keep things focused on Primary events, students, and teachers, but in light of the Secondary Drama Department's amazing production of "GREASE", we decided to make an exception!

Teacher Feature

Each issue, two teachers will be interviewed by our intrepid reporters. One will be a 'vet' who has been at AAESS for a couple of years and the other will be a 'rookie' who has recently joined the school.

The Vet: Mr. Moody
Role: Drama Teacher
Interviewed by: Thionon



Thionon: *How did you decide to become a teacher?*

Mr. Moody: I wanted to be a veterinarian, but I failed Maths several times! So instead I joined the British Army and while I was abroad I spent time working with young children as part of my job. When I left the Army I decided I would have a go at teaching. Mainly because the hours are good, the students are good, and the holidays are better!

If you weren't a teacher what would you like to be?

A vet, a Formula 1 driver or an astronaut!

Why did you choose to do Grease this year?

We asked the cast what musical they would like to do, and out of 25 students 19 said they would like to do Grease. So the reason we chose it is because the actors and actresses wanted to perform it.

Were you at all nervous about the students in the production?

No. I never doubted them. The band were fantastic and I knew the group of students who were performing would be wonderful and outstanding!

Is Grease a tragedy, comedy, love story or something else?

It's a love story with a bit of comedy and hopefully no tragedy!

Have you ever seen a live production of Grease before?

I've seen it about five times now. All live productions and all produced and directed by.....me.

How did you get all the props etc. ready for the play?

Mr. Irlam did a fantastic job with the painting of the props. Mrs. Bavister helped with the dancing and the choreography. (Because I couldn't do that at all!) We had a wonderful student called Riley who also came in and helped with the dancing. Mr. Crocker and Mr. Rodwell organised the music, and without them there wouldn't have been a show. So it was really a huge community of people all coming together to help and share ideas.

How do you feel now that Grease is over?

Sad....lonely....I don't know what the right word is.

What did you think of the audience's response?

The audiences were fantastic. To have over 250 people in the hall each night giving the students a standing ovation was in my mind overwhelming. I was proud to be part of it.

Will you do Grease again next year?

No. Next year I hope to have more than one school production. I'm thinking of *The Greatest Showman*, something to do with *Arabian Nights*, and perhaps more involvement with Secondary working with Primary.

Is there anything you would like to say to the AAESS community?

If you have any ideas for a school show or production, then all you need to do is get in touch with me and share your ideas.

The Rookie: Mr. Ward
Role: Primary Pastoral Manager
Interviewed by: Dana



Where are you from?

I am from a little sleepy village in the UK.

What got you to work at this school?

I used to be a music teacher, and I'd been out of teaching for about a year and a half, and really just fancied a new challenge. Since I love travelling I wanted to take my talents internationally and see what it's like to live abroad.

Do you miss teaching music?

Well I'm teaching a bit of drums in Primary right now, but yes, in terms of teaching music as a whole subject I do miss it.

How did you hear about AAESS?

Through a teaching website called TES.

Are you liking AAESS so far?

YES! The children are lovely.

Do you like helping students?

I LOVE helping students. One of my favourite things, (and this is why I wanted to become a teacher) is when a child is trying to do something, but not quite sure how to yet. Then you help them with the task and eventually see their face light up when they get it and they say, "Oh, wow! That's amazing!" Just being part of that realization is great.

What inspired you to make the Fun Club?

Some children at the school were being really really well behaved, and weren't necessarily rewarded for it. So we wanted to have a little Fun Club at break time where students could get involved and have some fun together. I used to run summer activity camps in the UK so I knew loads of different games like *SPLAT*, *Chaos Tag*, and *Capture the Flag*. I thought it would be nice to introduce those games to kids at this school and hope that they loved them.

What do you do in your spare time?

I play basketball. I also play drums and piano.

When did you learn to play basketball?

I learned basketball when I was in Primary School. I was in Year 4, and my school was opposite a park so we got the opportunity after school to go to the park and play basketball and I loved it!

What do you think of Al Ain?

Al Ain is quite nice! There are some hidden beauties in Al Ain. I really like Jebel Hafeet, and there are a lot of hotels with nice pools which is quite nice. It's quiet, but I like the family community feel.

What is the best thing about teaching?

The best thing about teaching is how engaging it is. It's really nice how you can engage with and help students

The AAESS Primary Tribune Staff



Al Ghala (Yr 5)



Mahmud (Yr 6)



Dana (Yr 6)



Alexander (Yr 4)



Leila (Yr 4)



Avantika (Yr 5)



Thinon (Yr 5)



Saisha (Yr 5)



Soraya-Grace (Yr 4)

New School Uniforms

by: Al Ghala

Have you ever been frustrated wearing our school's uniform? Well, very soon AAESS will have new school uniforms!

The new uniforms will be better! They have changed a lot. Here are some of the things that will be changed: hats, PE kits, trousers, bags, swimming bags, shirts, pants, skirts, and jackets.



I think that the new jackets are soft and will warm you up. The bags have a new colour with the school logo.

The logo is white and bigger than before. Many Primary students have said they think the new uniforms will be better, but some aren't so sure. I am certain the uniforms will be good! It makes me excited to think about coming back to school with new uniforms!

LEILA'S HABITAT BASH

Can you match the animal to its habitat?

FOREST

OCEAN

TREES

DESERT

GRASSLANDS/
SAVANNAH

FIELD

OCEAN

FOREST

DESERT

TREES

GRASSLANDS

SHARK

KOALA

WOLF

MOOSE

MONKEY

ORYX

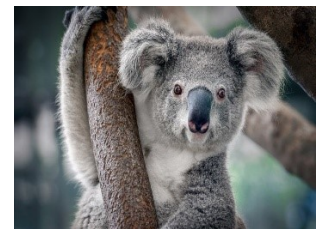
COW

DOLPHIN

LION

SAND CAT

ZEBRA



ZEBRA-GRASSLANDS-SAND CAT-DESERT-LION-GRASSLANDS-DOLPHIN-OCEAN-COW-FIELD-ORYX-DESERT-MONKEY-TREES-MOOSE-FOREST-WOLF-FOREST-KOALA-TREES-SHARK-OCEAN