



A co-educational day school for pupils aged 3 - 18

Newsletter November 2011

I hope you all had a good half term break and you are ready for the busy few weeks we have in the run up to Christmas. We were delighted with the attendance and work ethic of the pupils during the first two months of term. The school is very settled which is reflected in our day-to-day life.

As well as all the academic work that went on we had several additional opportunities for the pupils. We sent a number of pupils to Hurghada for the local swimming gala and several pupils have qualified to swimming at the National championships in March in Cairo. Several pupils also were successful in the tennis tournament held at Rajac School and they will go to Cairo for the National Championships. We wish them every success.

The PTA has become

'Friends of El Gouna International School'

I am sure that many of you are aware that despite several requests for volunteers for the PTA last year - no one came forward. It was suggested by the Class Reps last year that we reform and rename this group to become 'Friends of El Gouna International School'. This was agreed as a positive step forward and it would give members of the community the opportunity to support the school in fund raising activities. In addition

the children need to be involved in the future projects for the school and to that end each class and tutor groups have been asked to come up with a 'wish list' of things they would like to have in school.

Next **Friday November 25th** will be our Christmas Bazaar and Boot Fair. The event begins at 13.00 and we hope you will all support this fund raising activity. Each class will be having their own activity - any support in the form of donations or prizes would be gratefully received by the school. Please contact Ms Sally in the HR office if you can assist us in anyway. The school choir will be performing during the afternoon and the children are currently practising during their lunch breaks.

On this occasion we are aiming to provide a sound system. This will be used during productions; concerts; sporting events; drama and music lessons.

Beach Volleyball Clinic



At the end of September pupils had the opportunity to take part in a clinic led by Latvian Olympian Aleksandrs Samoilovs. Aleksandra has been training in the nearby city of Hurghada and offered to run the clinic for the school. For the past four years

during winter time he has been preparing for the beach season here in Hurghada. The clinic was aimed at teaching the pupils the basics of beach volleyball and helped develop the sport further in the region. Samoilovs, who recorded a best finish of fifth at the Quebec Open this year, said he enjoyed sharing his knowledge and that he hopes to return soon to El Gouna.

Charity Event

The Y11 Business Studies group encouraged and supported by Mr. Steven decided that they wanted to raise money for a charity by having their hair shaved off! After some investigation they decided to support the 57357 Cancer Hospital in Cairo. Mr Steven did an introductory assembly explaining how cancer affects so many people and families and he talked specifically about the work done by charities to support children with cancer. 21 volunteers from Y5 - Y13 + some teachers agreed to have their hair shaved off and were sponsored to have this done. In addition Ms Maren and Mr Stuart completed a sponsored swimming supported by several pupils many of them swimming over 60 lengths of the school pool. Ms Maren swam over 2km. There will be an article in the El Gouna magazine next month with several photographs - please look out for this article.



Congratulations to all those who were involved a total of

L.E. 4900

Local Links

French School Hurghada

We are supportive of all opportunities to welcome new people to our school and to expand the pupils' horizons. Mr Nicolas has developed links with the French school in Hurghada and invited 30 pupils and 6 staff to visit us in October. The French students joined in with a typical British school day and it gave them the chance to use their English. This was a return visit as our pupils had already been to the French school last term. There were several activities including a PE lesson were all our children and the visitors learned to play cricket. Everyone enjoyed the day.

El Gouna Liquid Park

The school has been invited to use this facility and during the past few weeks the staff visited one evening after school and the pupils have been taken by the PE staff as part of their games lessons. Although a 'fun' activity it is physically demanding and all the pupils confirmed it was 'very hard work'. There are a range of pictures available on the Liquid Park Facebook page.

School Attendance

We still have a continuing problem with pupils not attending school on a regular basis and not coming to school on the last day of a half term or end of term. The term dates are on the website for the entire year and pupils should be here **every day of the published dates**. In the international section teaching and learning activities continue throughout the year and it is impossible for teachers to deliver the curriculum effectively when pupils are not in school. For example if your child misses a maths lesson where a new topic is introduced the teacher has not got time to re-teach this lesson and your child will find any further lessons very difficult. If your child is fit and healthy please ensure they are in school.

School Uniform

This is to once again inform you that the school uniform is compulsory for all pupils from F1/KG1 - Sec2/Y11. All pupils should be wearing the items purchased solely from the school shop and not trousers and shorts of their choice. In addition there is a jacket and sweatshirt available for the winter months and/or long sleeved shirts. Pupils should not be wearing coloured jackets/hoodies. For those pupils in the International Section the British Council will not allow pupils to sit their examinations if they are not wearing the regulation school uniform as published. In addition we have improved the manufacturing techniques of the school trousers - again if you have a problem please speak to the manager of the school shop directly.

Canteen

We have arranged for a new company to supply the food for the children and teachers at the school. It was agreed that this new service would begin on December 1st - however they have agreed to put in a reduced

menu with immediate effect supplying sandwiches and fruit. The temporary menu will be put on the website until the final menu is agreed.

Parking/Cars beginning and end of the Day

Through the Class Reps there has been a request to open the gate at the Rihana end of the school grounds to help with the parking problems each day. We have now opened this gate and parents can use either end of the school grounds; however F1; F2 and Y1 will be brought to the main school door so the teachers can ensure that the children are handed over to the parents. Please ensure you arrive on time to collect your children from the teacher - parents should be at the school by 14.55.

Dates for your Diaries

PTC Meeting	November 16th
Class Reps Meeting - Primary	November 23rd
Christmas Bazaar and Boot Fair	November 25th
Class Reps Meeting - Senior	November 29th
Whole School trip to Luxor	November 30th
International Primary Christmas Show 9.00 a.m	December 6th
International Primary Christmas Show 12.00 noon	December 7th
Y11 IGCSE Mocks	December 8 th - 14th
Lunchtime Carols and Christmas Music - 12.00 International End of term 13.00 All buses depart 13.15	December 15 th
Beginning of the Spring Term	January 9th 2012

S M Manser
Principal