WELCOME to our first Newsletter this school year.

We have many new families who have settled in well. We hope that by now you feel part of the amazing Family of AISJ. I have met many of the new parents, but some I may not have had a chance to meet personally. If you are a new parent and we have not shaken hands and I have not welcomed you personally, please do not hesitate to drop into my office when you are around and say “Hello”. It will be my pleasure to meet you.

We have several new members of staff, who will be introducing themselves to the whole school community in this Newsletter. We are so pleased to have them aboard.

The weeks have been hectic as there is always something exciting happening in school; the most recent being our Secondary students’ residential trip to Eilat where they were learning scuba diving.

You can read more about this within these pages. May all of you be aware of God’s blessing each day as you attend our special School. We love having you here and value each and every one.

We sadly have said a painful farewell to a beloved member of staff. Barbara Zinn was and will always be loved by all. She was a gifted teacher, and the impact she had on the lives of the students is incalculable. Our condolences go to her family and friends. May they know the comfort that only the Lord can give.

With deep sadness we announce the death of Dr. Barbara Zinn after a prolonged illness.

Dr. Zinn taught secondary school math and science, served as our first MYP coordinator, and chaperoned hundreds of school events wearing her famous hats and sunglasses. She was a beloved member of the AISJ community for almost 35 years and touched the lives of countless families.

We send our sympathies to Dr. Zinn’s son Luigi and daughter-in-law Maayan, and to all the staff, students and parents who loved her so much.

The PE department was excited to go on the annual scuba trip for the 10th year!

The students took part in the Manta Diving Center courses on all different levels, from Open Water Beginners to Advanced Levels and diving specialties.

The students had a great time in Eilat, and we are always proud to see them succeed and achieve their goals!
WELCOME TO NEW STAFF MEMBERS...

Cindy Walker (MYP English)
I was born in Chattanooga, TN and first moved overseas after I graduated university with a BSc in Communications and Biblical Studies and received a TEFL certificate from the American University in Paris. I moved to Prague, Czech Republic to work for a language school teaching English as a foreign language and I finished up my Masters in Education while I was there. I then moved to England where I got my PGCE in English and Drama and worked at a Secondary school in Dunstable for 7 years before moving back to the Czech Republic. I then worked at an IB school in Prague before becoming Head of English at the Canadian International school. I moved to Israel in August, 2019.

Catherine Lex (PY5 Class Teacher)
Hello, I am one of the new members of staff and am teaching this year in PY5. I am from the United Kingdom and have taught for twenty four years both in England and abroad in China and Uganda. I have just recently completed my Masters in Education (Distinction) in England. I love to travel and to learn and aim to communicate my love of learning to the children. After a fantastic start getting to know the school I continue to look forward to an amazing year in AISJ.

Christelle Butler (EY2 Class Teacher)
My name is Christelle Butler and I am the new EY2 teacher. I have been teaching for many years and the majority of my experience is working with children aged between 4-6 years old. I was born and raised in South Africa but I have taught in many different countries over the past years. I have a Diploma in Education from the University of Cape Town, a Diploma in Specialized Education from the University of Stellenbosch and a BEd Honors Degree in Educational Psychology from the University of the North West. My husband and I have moved from Cape Town in August, where I used to be a Third Grade teacher in the American International School of Cape Town. Before that I taught in the UK for eight years where I met my husband. I also taught in Zimbabwe and worked in the Netherlands and of course South Africa. I enjoy baking, traveling especially by train and spending time with friends. I love and miss my two year old grandson in South Africa. I am looking forward to getting to know this beautiful country.

Andrea Anaki (EY Teaching Assistant)
Until moving to Israel 7 years ago I was a tried and true New Yorker. I have a BS degree in Child Development and Family Studies and an MS in Early Childhood Special Education. I have been an Early Childhood Educator for over 20 years, specializing in the Reggio Emilia Approach. I was a competitive gymnast from the age of 6 until 20, and taught movement education and gymnastics to children aged 1-18. When not working I enjoy spending time with my 5 children aged 18-22. I also love to cook and bake (especially gluten free), escape with a good book, and sit for hours at the beach until the sun sets.
I am honored to share the year with your children and look forward to watching them blossom throughout the year.

Seth Boger (Secondary Humanities, Business Studies)
Hi, my name is Timothy ‘Seth’ Boger and I teach secondary humanities and business studies at AISJ. I grew up in New England, and split time for my education between Pennsylvania and the Middle East. Prior to moving to Jerusalem, I lived in Beirut and have also taught at international schools in Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Iraq. On January 1, 2018 I married my beautiful wife, Emily, at Christ Church in Jerusalem, and in April of this year we welcomed our first son, Levi, into the world. If I’m not in the classroom then you will most likely find me looking for good spots to eat around town, catching up on the latest Philadelphia Eagles (American football) or Phillies (baseball) news, reading non-fiction, or just hanging out with my family.

Freya Blyth (School Librarian) ~ Keeper of Stories ~ Guardian of Books ~
I am a storyteller, someone who believes in the power of learning through stories. Through them we can connect to places, people and experiences we have never encountered in our daily life. Hopefully some will take us beyond what we can imagine, into creative and exciting worlds. I love spending time in many worlds and gratefully dive in to Austen's regency England, EM Forster's Italy and any picture book with beautiful illustrations! In this real world so far, I originally trained to be an actress and specialist in children's spirituality. I have worked in theatres across London, and then became a UK ambassador for interfaith relations internationally. For me all of it linked to the stories we tell to communicate who we are. I went on to work with all forms of creative storytelling around the world. Working with puppets in the Philippines, being a minstrel in Macedonia with harp music and fairy tales, and now a librarian in Jerusalem! I also run World Stories which is a new charity sending books to under resourced communities. My greatest weakness is dark chocolate and new books and its my absolute joy to join you all here!
**Elementary KS2 Language Workshop Day**

Elementary and High School enjoyed taking part in a Hebrew Workshop as part of the Elementary KS2 language workshop day. They learned how to dance the letters of the Hebrew Alphabet. The children were then able to dance their names and basic Hebrew words. A great time was had by all ages!

In Elementary Arabic the students used an online program to develop the vocabulary that they have been learning this year. They also enjoyed playing games to reinforce their knowledge of Arabic numerals, colours and letters.

In Elementary French the children made dialogues in order to practice their vocabulary on greetings. They then practised their French vocabulary through songs and ended by singing an impressive cannon!

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**MYP NEWS...**

**Journalism lectures MY2**

In English class, MY2, who are currently studying about Journalism, had the privilege of hearing from two professional journalists about two new trends in Journalism: fake news and mobile Journalism.

Mr. Andrew Carey, CNN Jerusalem Bureau Chief, spoke to the class about Fake News. He showed the students how it is possible via easy access to technology and various social media websites for anyone to place a news story and assume that it is real. He spoke to the students about how to analyze what they see and read in order to be aware of what is a scam and what is real. The students were introduced to reliable and trustworthy sources of news and what it entails to publish a true and accurate story.

Mr. Nello Del Gatto, chief correspondent for the Italian News Agency AGI from Israel and Middle East, spoke to the class about Mobile Journalism. He showed the students how they could become journalists and take photographs with their phone. Students learned how to place their phones at specific angles in order to take a successful journalistic photo and were also cautioned to only publicize information and photographs with permission. They were also cautioned to be careful regarding what they publish on social media and the precautions that they need to take.

We would like to thank Mr. Carey and Mr. Del Gatto for giving our students a fascinating taste of the real world of journalism.
The Olive tree

The Olive tree is an evergreen tree. Its native home is the Mediterranean, Asia and Africa. Olive trees date back to 4000 years. They are a symbol of peace; those defeated during the war in ancient Rome used to hold an olive branch as an indication for pleading for peace. Around October /November (Olive season) of each year, people pickle olives; this is an art in itself and takes years to master.

How to pickle green olives:

7kg green olives
1Kg salt
500g lemons, chopped into four pieces
Chili green peppers to taste (the more the merrier)
About ½ a cup olive oil

Method:
* Carefully crack and bruise the green olives with a stone first, they will cure faster and be ready to eat after two months.
* Wash green olives, cover with water and allow to soak for 3 days. Change the water every day.

In a large bowl:
* Drain and add fresh tap water and salt, stirring until the salt has dissolved.
* Add lemon cut in small chunks, and pieces of chili, and spoon into clean jar/s.
* Make sure the liquid covers the olives, then top with about a tablespoon of olive oil per jar to keep the air out. Seal (tightly).

These olives will be ready to eat in about four months and will keep for a year. Enjoy☺

The Inclusion Needs Department runs through the school to address all students’ individual needs, at any point in their AISJ journey. Some of our students need support acquiring English, others need help adjusting to our learning styles and our curriculum after coming from different educational frameworks. Some of our students have diagnosed medical, educational, social, sensory emotional or behavioral needs. Other of our students are on our “radar” for possible undiagnosed needs. Along with this, we have students who need extension and challenge opportunities. The aim of our Inclusion Needs department is to deliver individualized support until the student can thrive at school independently from our support. For this reason, a large percentage of students at AISJ receive some form of support from IN at some point in their school careers. This year we have a team of 10 staff members on the Inclusion Needs team, which is remarkable for a school of our size, and many different forms of support are available. If any parents reading this have any information to give us on their child’s learning needs, it would be useful to pass this onto the homeroom teacher, or to Fay Blau (Elementary Inclusion Coordinator): fay.blau@aisj.co.il or to Malika Levi Beiruti (Secondary Inclusion Coordinator): malika@aisj.co.il - if you have not already done so. Wishing us all a joyful new school year.