

Cir/ AJ/2016/1701/PPI/Aug 2016

Date: Aug 30<sup>th</sup> 2016

Dear Valued Students & Parents,

**Welcome Back** after a rejuvenating and refreshing summer vacation. We hope you had a relaxing holiday and were able to spend valuable quality time as a family. ☺

**Welcome & Farewell:** We warmly welcome our new faculty and students who have joined the AJB School this academic year. We bid farewell to members of staff who have gone back to their countries for good. We thank them for their service & contribution to the School.

### CELEBRATING LEARNING & ACHIEVEMENT 2015-16

**University of Cambridge, May-June 2016 Exams:** We are happy to share with you that excellent results were achieved by our Grades 10 to 12 students at IGCSE, AS and A levels. The executive management and the school heads congratulate all the parents whose children have brought laurels to both them and the school. The hard work of senior faculty members and the students who have put in the best of their efforts to produce such enviable results is highly commended. We dearly appreciate parental monitoring, guidance and support students receive at home; without which students would not have achieved such excellent results.

#### **A GLIMPSE AT OUR TOPPERS**

| <u>IGCSE</u>                            | <u>AS Level</u>                   | <u>A LEVEL</u>                        |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Samar Bengawi 7a*, 1 A               | 1. Arsalan Nadeem Hussain 4 a     | 1. Mohammad Osama Khan - 3 A*         |
| 2. Praveen Peter Dhas 7 A*              | 2. Hatim Shafdar Gangardiwala 4 a | 2. Huda Afzal - 3 A*                  |
| 3. Abdul Basit 6 A*                     | 3. Halima Akter 4 a               | 3. Syeda Saima Sajida - 2 A*, 2 A     |
| 4. Eshan Fernandes 6 A*                 | 4. Bakhtawar Imtiaz Ahmed 4 a     | 4. Mark Essa King Sukaiti - 2 A*, 1 A |
| 5. Museera Moghis 6 A*                  | 5. Noor Layth Ma Al Kaabi 4 a     | 5. Mohamed Osman - 2 A*, 1 A          |
| 6. Surra Ghassan Mohammad 6A*           | 6. Aiman Hidayat 3 a,1b           | 6. Ahmed Atef Ahmed Aly – 3 A         |
| 7. Zayed Mohiyuddin 5A*, 1 A            | 7. Ahmed Usman Moghis 3 a         |                                       |
| 8. Mariyam Shabaneh 5A*, 1 A            | 8. Salva Umar Hayat 3 a           |                                       |
| 9. Zinnat Islam 5A*, 1 A                | 8. Yasmina Kamal 3 a              |                                       |
| 10. Salman Khalid 4A*, 2 A              | 9. Amal Hassan Abdul 3 A          |                                       |
| 11. Mohamed Jamaleldeen 4A*, 1 A, 1B    | 10. Maria Mohammad Riaz 3 a       |                                       |
| 12. Zohratu Sharaf Shafdar 4A*, 1 A, 1B | 11. Abdul Rehman Nasir 2 a, 1b    |                                       |
| 13. Mohammed Haris Ali 4A*, 2 B         | 12. Fatema Alzahraa Osman 2 a, 1b |                                       |
|   | 13. Mariyam Ramzan 2 a, 1b        |                                       |

**Our hearty congratulations to our Grade 6 students, class of 2015-16, for their commendable performance in Final Examinations & we wish them all the very best for their endeavours in High School.**

#### Following are important things which we would like you to make note of:

**Punctuality** We would like to encourage *all* our pupils to be punctual for school. This is in line with our school value of 'Commitment', and the responsible behaviour that is involved when our pupils live out this value. We would appreciate it if parents could make the effort to take their children to school on time. The school gates will be closed at 7.30 am. If you take your child to school after 7.30 am, your child will need to enter the school via gate A1. The names of pupils who are late will be recorded – a letter will be sent to the parents of pupils who are late more than 3 times and disciplinary action will be taken against such students, including extended learning time at school after 2:00 pm/ Saturday school.

**Uniform & Books:** All students must come in neat Uniform and bring their books according to their time table. Most parents will have already collected books and uniforms in readiness for the first day of school. Should you have any problems with either please contact the Phase Coordinator /Class teacher via front office. Children must wear full school uniform each day to school.

**Homework Policy** At AJB, we believe that age-appropriate, manageable and meaningful homework is beneficial and supports our pupils' learning. To ensure that homework is manageable for our pupils, our academic team has developed the following homework time norms to be followed on an average per day at home for better retention of topics learnt at school.

| Grade  | 1-2        | 3-4         | 5-6        | 7-8         | 9-10       | 11-12      |
|--|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| Number of hours per day on average ( Sun- Thu) | ½ - 1 hour | 1 –1 ½ hour | 3 – 4 hour | 4 - 5 hours | 5- 6 hours | 6 -7 hours |

*To give our pupils space for other pursuits over the weekend, we have not included weekends in the time norms. The completion of homework assigned on Thursday can be spread out over the weekend.*

### **Continuous Assessment**

AJB Primary adopts a **Head-Heart-Hands 2Es-2Rs** approach to Continuous Assessment that involves Explicit Teaching (Head), Role-Modelling and Reflection (Heart) and Experience (Hands). These are key to the **Experience** component of Continuous Assessment as it provides rich opportunities for our pupils to acquire important skills and live out school values, leadership qualities and National Curriculum messages.

**Amendments in the Assessment, Promotion and Retention Policy as notified in the Year End circular dated 19<sup>th</sup> June 2016:** We sincerely thank all our parents of Grades 6 to 9 for attending the parent orientation evening conducted on June 2, 2016 on the above subject including Subject Selection for Grade 8. We dearly appreciate your feedback and support in bringing about the following amendments

- **Amendment 1- Minimum Pass mark for student of Grades 6 to 8 is 60% in all major and compulsory subjects**
- **Amendment 2- Minimum Pass mark for student of Grades 9 going to 10 is 70% in all major and compulsory subjects**
- **Amendment 3- For grades 6 to 8 – the year end result will be calculated on the basis of 20% from term 1 + 20% of Term 2 + 60% of term 3 (20%+20%+60% = 100%)**
- **Amendment 4- Grades 9 going to Grade 10 – the year end result will be calculated on the basis of 25% from term 1 + 25% of Term 2 + 50% of term 3 (25 % +25% + 50% = 100%).**

**Baseline Assessment ( for Grades 1 to 12):** As informed in the year end circular, students of all Grade levels will take Baseline line assessment for the selected topics done in previous grade level for all the Core and compulsory subjects during the week of welcome (Aug 28<sup>th</sup> to Sept 1<sup>st</sup> ). These will be part of their formative assessments and impact on forecast grades and will facilitate target setting for students. **The Topics and details of Baseline assessments were issued with the year-end circular in June. Please find attached the same for our new students in their school diaries.**

**School Diary:** This is to be brought to school every day to note homework. Parents are encouraged to check and sign the diary daily without fail.

**Student Class allocation:** As notified in the year end circular dated 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2016 - The classes are allocated to students giving careful consideration to the demographic details, the number of boys and girls in a class (from KG to Gr.12), students' learning styles and learning aptitudes. AJS recruits the best possible teachers after a screening process by the Human Resources and Academic departments and we believe that learning happens through good student centered teaching and not through a preferred teacher. Therefore, we strongly advise you to abstain from making requests for change of sections. The decision of the school is final.

**Celebration Of Student Birthdays In School:** Kindly note that school does not allow celebration of Birthdays, cutting cakes in the classroom. Students are allowed to come in a decent coloured dress on the day of their birthday; however **school does not permit the entry and distribution of any kind of food** material including chocolates and toffees. Please be assured that at Al Ain Juniors student health, safety and security is given the highest priority. It is our constant endeavor to ensure that our teachers and other members of staff deliver the best services for the benefit of our students and this is inclusive of our child protection, Health, Discipline and behavior Policy in line with **ADEC** and **Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority (ADFCA)** regulations. We always work with our valued parents and students to ensure that Federal and National Safety Regulations are enforced.

**Meeting School Personnel** Please do not hesitate to make an appointment with the Principal/Academic Head/Phase Coordinator/HODs/Teachers if you have any concern about your child's education. Prior Appointments can be made via front office as per the Meeting Schedule/ teachers time table.

**Parent's Evening – Orientation Grades 1 to 12:** Dates of the Curriculum Evening of KG to Gr. 12 are as follows:

- Grades 1-8 – September 8, 2016 Thursday 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
- Grades 9 to 12 – September 1, 2016 Thursday 6:00 to 8:00 pm

**It is mandatory for every parent to attend the Orientation.**

Thank you for your support and partnership in the holistic education of your child!

**AJB Administration**