



Mar Qardakh International School



Primary Years Programme

2020-2021



Middle Years Programme



Principal's Corner Ms. Hala Warda

Greetings parents. I wish you all a happy, healthy, safe and prosperous New Year. With passion, I undertook the responsibility of running the school to make a difference for your children. I have an open door policy and I encourage you to meet with me at your convenience. Feel free to call, email, or text me at the number provided. I am here for your children. Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, I am excited to work with you and the staff so your children receive a world class education either face to face, online or hybrid. I have been at MQS for the past four months and have been working diligently to get to know the school community. I am from San Diego, California and a Chaldean-American who emigrated to the USA in 2014 and attended Franciscan University of Steubenville in the state of Ohio. I was summoned to come and run the school by His Excellency Archbishop Bashar Warda. I took the challenge with the desire to make a difference for your children. We have a lot to accomplish but together we can do it. May God help us to accompany our students so they grow in Grace and Wisdom.

Hands on Learning

On February 8th, Mr. Kareem brought in real sheep lungs for his MYP 3 class to demonstrate how the flow of air from your nose will reach the alveoli by passing through the major air way called the windpipe (trachea). Rose is dissecting the heart showing the valves, chambers and the cords of the valves as other student look on.



The Pope Visits



On Sunday, March 7th at the Franso Hariri Stadium, His Holiness Pope Francis celebrated a Mass in the presence of 10,000 people. MQS MYP 3 and 4 students had VIP passes seated near the stage. As the Pope arrived in his Popemobile, MQS staff began chanting Viva Papa inspiring the crowd to follow suit. Prior to the arrival of His Holiness at the stadium, the MQS staff and students began singing and dancing for joy at the arrival of our shepherd.

MQS celebrated Kurdish Day on March 10th by wearing Kurdish costumes. The girls wore a traditional long dress complete with colorful clothing, a jacket or vest, and colorful belts. All though this style has changed in recent days, older generations still wear darker more muted colors and young women and girls wear brightly colored traditional dresses. The boys wore plain shirts and vests or jackets over their shirts. The outfit includes a large belt or sash tied around the waist with a turban around the head and traditionally a dagger tucked into the waist sash. Of course, no knives in school!

Embracing Culture



SPARKING LEARNING

After a lesson on electricity, PYP 2 students found objects at home to create electrical circuits. Students could only use batteries, wire, a lightbulb and a switch. After they completed the project, each student was asked to present it to the class.



PYP5 Exhibition



On June 6, 2021, His Excellency Archbishop Bashar Matti Warda accompanied by several principals from the Ankawa schools cut the ribbon opening the PYP5 Exhibition entitled "Sharing the Planet." Students excitedly waited to do their presentations. The dignitaries went to each group and three to four students took turns speaking.

Their research was in the areas of Climate Change, Pollution, Natural Disasters, Waste Management, Endangered Species, Over Population, Pandemics and Deforestation. Students did a stellar job in sharing what they learned about their research project. They appeared confident and each took turns presenting his or her section. Commendations go to Mr. Albron and Ms. Matilda for helping these students learn about what we can do to preserve and protect while we share the planet in a healthy way. Ms. Saveen and Ms. Rana, our design teachers assisted the students in preparing for the exhibition.

Safely Studying at Home



Consistent with Kurdistan Ministry of Education requirements, all students during the month of January received their education online. Ms. Hala developed a schedule for all teachers in PYP ensuring the core subjects (English, Math, Social Studies and Science) were covered.



Learning through COVID

On February 17th, Ms. Setta's PYP1A students did a presentation for MYP 3 on Coronavirus. First, a group of students took turns explaining what is Coronavirus. Another group spoke about symptoms and prevention of Coronavirus. The third group, demonstrated how to wash your hands with soap and water. Finally, Ata played the role of the patient. Our young Dr. William took her temperature and Tonya the nurse assisted. Afterwards, Romy, the pharmacist explained to the patient what medication to take to reduce her temperature.



Communicating Success

On February 7th, MYP2A students did a presentation about what they like in their community. Harvey spoke about the church and dogs, Matties did a presentation on Ankawa Mall and St. Peter and St. Paul Church, whereas Astella did a presentation regarding Mar Gorgis Church. Malath did a presentation on ABC Restaurant where they serve food from seven different countries. Mumtaz did a presentation on Prego Restaurant. Merrienne spoke about the library and Abel did a presentation on three cities he visited in Turkey. At the end of each presentation, students asked questions of their classmates.