

# RAS

# NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2020-2021



Thank you for your cooperation and support during the school reopening stage for

the academic year 2020-2021. In spite of the existing

COVID-19 situation, the school firmly believes and cannot emphasize enough that there is no substitute for in-person instruction and that student attendance is crucial for students' successful academic performance and achievement. In the meantime, we fully understand your varied concerns about health and safety, high-risk medical conditions, distance learning, the importance of face-to-face instruction, working parents, the economy, and all of the other unexpected consequences of not being in school or being in school in a traditional method. Be assured that the school leadership and staff have been planning for increased safety procedures and alternative instructional strategies that can be taken at every location and in all situations. Our main goal is to provide staff and students with a safe and productive workplace and learning environment

> Gihan Holayel School Principal Riada American School



# Dear members of RAS community,

As the world faces a major health threat posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, we must reorient ourselves to deliver high quality education while taking steps to protect RAS students and staff. March 11, 2020 is a date we'll never forget because it was the last day of traditional in-person school learning. Since that day, our dedicated and committed staff members have implemented the Home Based Learning approach (HBL) and we successfully managed to end the 2019-2020 academic year.

For the 2020-2021 academic year, we began with a combination of Distance and In-Person Learning for all departments. The administration of RAS is glad to inform you that they are constantly working, under the circumstances of dealing with the pandemic, to learn new techniques to benefit your child's education.

Becoming and continuously implementing a combination learning program is not an easy task. This project has been conducted by our staff, but I would like to extend heartfelt gratitude to the IT Team of RAS:

# Mr. Othman Mohamed: IT Manager

Mrs. Perihan Heikal, School Management Systems (Power School)
Mr. Sherif Maradny, School Management Systems (Power School)
Mr. Karim Ramadan, IT Technician

As valued members of our team, I would like to take the opportunity to thank them for their hard work and dedication. Throughout this period, they have stood out and never wavered in their commitment to excellence. I admire their strong work ethic and personal integrity.

I thank everyone for the constant hard work, patience, support, and dedication during these times.

# **Meet The Heads**

# Mrs. Nahla Rawash



# **About Me:**

I am married and I have two children; a boy and a girl Education:

Bachelor of Faculty of

Arts:English Department

# **Favorites:**

Color: Blue

Team: El Ahly

Book: "Ben El Atlal

Food : Chocolate Movie : The Help

Animal : Cats Season : Spring

# Contact Me:

nahlarawash@riadaamericanschool.org

# Mrs. Shahira Fekry



# **About Me:**

A mother for 2 boys; The elder is in GUC mechatronics section and the younger in in AASTMS first year Engineering.

# **Education:**

-Faculty of Commerce-English Department -General Diploma in Edu

-General Diploma in Education

# **Favorites:**

Color:Blue

Team: Real Madrid

Book: Pride and Preju-

dice

Food:Pizza

Movie :Face Off

Animal:Dogs

Season: Winter

# Contact Me:

Sfikry@riadaamericanschool.org

# **Meet The Heads**

# Mrs. Lamia El Mehelmi



# **Favorites:**

Color: Blue

Team: Liverpool

Book: Pride and Prej-

udice

Food: Pasta

Movie: "The Devil

Wears Prada " Animal: Koala Season: Spring

# **Contact Me:**

lamiaelmehelmy@riadaamericanschool.org

# **About Me:**

Started working at Riada
Language School in 1993.
Head of Upper Elementary
Department at RAS. Mother
of 2 kids, Nour and Jana.
Nour is a graduate from
RAS, Currently studying
computer science. Jana is a
high school student

# **Education:**

Graduate of Faculty of Arts, English Department in 1993

# Mrs. Mariam Siam



# **Favorites:**

Color: Blue

Team:

Book : Quran Food : Salads

Movie: "The Pursuit

of Happiness"
Animal: Birds

Season: Spring

# **Contact Me:**

Mariamsiam@riadaamericanschool.org

# **About Me:**

I'm a mom of two girls, Malak and Farida. I love dealing with children and believe so much that reinforcing their character would pave their way to a brighter future. 'Character is the real foundation of all worthwhile success'

# **Education:**

I graduated from the faculty of Arts (English Department)

This is my 25th year in the education field of Early Learners.

# **Meet The Heads**

# Mrs. Lakshana Hassan



# **About Me:**

I love to read, especially dramatized fiction. I enjoy spending time with my family and helping my students. This is my third year in educational leadership. Prior to becoming principal, I had many experiences including teaching different grade levels, head of subject for English, and college counselor. Even with this, I am always a teacher at heart, and taught for 18 years at schools in the United States and Egypt.

I have three children with whom I have the same expectations for them as I do your children, because I care about them like they are mine and push them to do. I want to see them excel and become productive human beings, who have the opportunity to become whoever they want to be when they grow up. This is why it is my privilege to lead Riada American School's High School Department and the many dedicated teachers and students here!

# **Favorites:**

Color: Blue

Book: Too many to

name...

Food: Anything Spicy

Movie: The Book Thief

Animal: Dogs & Horses

Season: Spring

# **Education:**

**CUNY-Hunter College** 

Bachelor of Arts: English Lan-

guage Arts

Bachelor of Arts: Education

## **Contact Me:**

lakshanahassan@riadaadmericanschool.org

# Early Learning Department

### Pre K

Welcome to RAS kindergarten!

As a coordinator of pre-k. I believe that learning can be an enjoyable journey, where students grow and develop their strengths and passion.

I value communication between school and parents for a cooperative, healthy and beneficial outcome of the child's development.

Looking forward to have a fruitful school year together.

-Mrs. Lamia Mortada

### Pre k

Welcome on board. I'm thrilled to have you in my class this year. I was busy preparing lots of activities to get started this year. Can't wait to tackle adventures at our campsite. "children are not things to be molded they are people to be unfolded."

-Mrs. Marwa Shabaan

### K

A warm welcome to all our kindergarten!

We hope you are ready for this year's learning adventure. Kindergarten is a time for children to expand their love of learning, their general knowledge, their ability to get along with others, and their interest in reaching out to the world. While kindergarten makes an important transition, it is important that children still get to be children. You're in for a treat! Kindergarten life is sweet with all the fun and exciting activities. Let's all gear up for a successful year!

-Mrs. Ingy Hassan

### K

Welcome to RAS kindergarten, take a moment to imagine the kindergarten world: letters, numbers, stories, sharing blocks, puzzles, paint and play-dough. Imagination and creativity are everywhere. Remember that kindergarten is a "child's garden." Many times the process is more important that the product, and learning is accomplished by doing, touching, and experiencing.



# A Message from our teachers...



### Grade 1

Welcome back my adorable kids. I'm so happy and proud of each and every one of you. You are doing a great and awesome job. Keep up the good work! Love you all!

-Mrs. Christine Fouad

### Grade 2

Welcome back my dearest students. I am so lucky to have such students like you. I hope that this year will be the best. We will learn and enjoy our time to the almost. Hats off to you! Kudos!

-Mrs. Nermeen Jaheen

### Grade 3

Welcome to grade three my lovely students. We are enjoying teaching you this year. Grade 3 you are so talented, creative, and eager to learn. Keep up your hard work. We love you all!.

-Mrs. Hadeer Elkammash

# Grade 4

Learning is your super power! Remember never stop trying, and never stop growing your brain! So happy to have you in my class this year, let's make it an awesome one! Welcome back little ones!

-Ms. Rana Sherif

# Grade 5

Hello Grade 5 students, it's my pleasure to be teaching you this year. I can't wait to meet each and every one of you. PS: As I am on board hearing that you guys are hard workers and ambitious enough to impress, I would still like to experience that with you all, as I am sure that you are guaranteed to bring the wow factor...

-Mrs. Hanya Mokhtar

### Grade 6

Hello 6th Graduates'!

My name is Ms.Menna Okasha, and I'm so excited to be your teachers this year!

We are going to do so many fun things, and of course we will learn a lot. I hope you had a fabulous summer.

This is my seventh year teaching 6th grade, so I think you can INFER that I love sixth Graders! I think it is the best grade ever! We get to study LITERATURE for the first time...

Mrs. Menna Okasha





### Grade 7

Welcome back 7 Graders! It's a pleasure having you in Middle school this year. Hope you have a great academic year after a long period of quarantine. We all need to work hard to make up for the lost time. We are here to help and provide support any time you need it.

Mrs. Doaa Kourayem

### **Grade 8**

Dear Grade 8 students,

Welcome to 2020 \_ 2021 academic year super excited to meet all of you, together we will maintain health and safety standards; while sustaining the academic excellence and success.Remember you are great and it's ok to make mistakes as long as you learn from them "A person who never made a mistake has never tried anything new "

Mrs. Shaimaa Helmy

### Grade 9

Dear Students, These are trying times that challenge test us all, but I believe that positivity is the best policy. It does boost your immune system. Thereby, stay optimistic do your best to stay safe. You are strong. I believe each one of you are rocks is born to shine. I'm not telling you it's going to be easy; I'm telling you it's going to be worth it. Remember the growth mindset will ease you through this tough, unusual time.

Mrs. Nermine Alshafaay

### Grade 10

Life is all about new challenges and hardships. Your generation is way stronger than another generation. Stay strong, stay safe. This too shall pass.

Mrs. Sherine Sabra

# Grade 11

You are doing a great job. You have all our support...
This too shall pass...

# Grade 12

Positivity is the best policy. It does boost your immune system. So, stay optimistic; do your best to stay safe; healthy. You are strong. I'm not telling you it's easy, I'm telling you it's worth it. Love you All

Mrs. Eman Ibrahim



# **Graduation 2020**

The graduation ceremony of the Class of 2020 was held on Monday, August 31, 2020 at Hilton King's Ranch on their spacious garden area. While walking the stage was the most important part of the ceremony, there are plenty of other things that were prepared for the graduates. From a saxophone tuned traditional entrance to an innovative funky-styled walk with sunglasses lighting the way to inspiring and encouraging words from Mrs. Gihan Holayel and Mrs. Lakshana Hassan to heartfelt words from the senior class members to receiving the diplomas to cutting the graduation cake and enjoying a fireworks filled display to a delicious supper. Our graduating class of 2020 is getting set to enter into the next phase of their academic careers. We wish them all the best for success in their future endeavors. We look forward to celebrating the senior year of the class of 2021 with activities to help our students make effective post-secondary choices.

# **Broadcasting**



We understand the concerns regarding the COVID 19 pandemic and student attendance in school. To address those concerns, we offer our daily lessons that are usually scheduled for inperson learning to be broadcasted for students at home to be able to grasp the concept of lesson objectives. Broadcasted lessons follow the same daily schedule of classes and students are expected to attend, complete, and submit their assignments.



# **ACT Exam**

The ACT is an entrance exam used by most colleges and universities to make admissions decisions. It is a multiple-choice, computer based testing (CBT) administered by ACT, Inc. The purpose of the ACT test is to measure a high school student's readiness for college, and provide colleges with one common data point that can be used to compare all applicants. College admissions officers will review standardized test scores alongside your high school GPA, the classes you took in high school, letters of recommendation from teachers or mentors, extracurricular activities, admissions interviews, and personal essays. How important ACT scores are in the college application process varies from school to school.

Riada American School has become a testing center for ACT I and ACT II Subject exams

# **Early Learning Department**

Our little campers have been learning so much about our department's campsite. The little explorer's enthusiasm is uplifted for the new academic year 2020-2021. The new adventures we have on their plates are matching well with our theme this year "Early Learner's Camp". Let's hit the learning road in originality for the little ones.



# MOTIVATION WORD

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world"

Nelson Mandela



# REMINDER



- -Wash your hands
- -Use Soap
- -Wear a Mask
- -Avoid Crowds
- -Avoid Handshake
- -Keep Social distancing

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- -World Kindness Day
- -International Students' Day
- -High School Elections
- -El Mawled ElNabawi



# BORROW & READ

- -Beverly Cleary Strider by Paul O. Zelinsky
- -The Call Of The Wild by Jack London
- -The Clue In The Antique Trunk by Nancy Drew
- -Dolphin Diaries by Ben M. Baglio
- -Who was Isaac Newton?
- -What is NASA?
- -Who was Dr. Seuss?
- -Who was Nelson Mandela?
- -Who is Bill Gates?
- -My Weird School by Jim Paillot

