

World Headlines

BY MUSTAFA SHEIBANI (GR.11)

Saudi Women Allowed to Vote

King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia recently announced that women in Saudi will be granted the right to vote and run for municipal elections. This announcement has been long awaited by activists in the Kingdom who have called for more rights for women. "Women will be able to run as candidates in the municipal election and will even have a right to vote." King Abdullah announced. More than 5000 competed in the elections last year. The next municipal elections are due in four years time.

Its a bird, no its a plane, its a Satellite

A NASA's UARS satellite hit earth sometime between 03:23 and 05:09 GMT. (JSPOC). Vandenberg Air Force Base in California is the prime monitoring agency for the landing. They estimate that the 26 parts have landed somewhere in the North pacific within a 500 mile radius. However there have numerous of unconfirmed reports that debris landed in Alaska and cities over western Canada and the US. Nick Johnson, NASA's chief scientist for orbital debris at the Johnson Space Center in Houston told reporters "If UARS landed only minutes between the allocated time span then it is possible that debris may have landed in North America." He later said "However I've got no reports that I've seen that talk about people who think they might have recovered debris."

No more last meals

Texas officials have banned last meal requests. Prison officials in Texas have abolished the traditional request of inmates on death row for their last meal. It came after a prisoners requested large meals and did not eat any of it. It included two chicken fried steaks, a triple-meat bacon cheeseburger, three fajitas, a meat lover's pizza, a pint of ice cream and peanut butter fudge. The abolition followed a complaint by Texan Senator John Whitmire, who called the meal privilege "inappropriate". Some of these requests seem rather strange. James Edward Smith's request for "a lump of dirt" in 1990 was also turned down. In 2000, Odell Barnes asked for "justice, equality and world peace."

The Newborn

BY ZENA KHALIL (GR.11)

(Below is an interview with Mr.Dan about his new baby daughter)

Q: Are you helping out with the new born? - Of Course!

A: How do you help out at home? The usual duties: diaper changing, cooking dinner, trading baby watch at the gym, cleaning up.

Q: What are the challenges?

A: Sleep, time management as I am also doing a master's degree this fall.

Q: How do you react when the baby is crying or spilling food?

A: Baby is fairly calm so crying typically stems from her desire to being stimulated or a dirty diaper!

Q: What is her name?

A: Kailee Sophia Lundin

Q: Did you want it to be a girl or boy?

A: As long as it was happy and healthy didn't care.

Q: Has having a baby changed you in any way?

A: Of course! I feel more conscientious of my actions and aware of myself as a role model as human beings are prone to imitation.

Q: What is the best part about having a baby at home?

A: Everyday is different and the growth and change is constant and exciting to be a part of.

Q: If you could re-name the baby what would you name her?

A: Not sure maybe Alexandra.

Q: How is Miss Lauren coping with the newborn?

A: She is doing well and has adjusted well to being a mother.

Q: Would you say she looks more like you or Miss Lauren?

A: At this age it is hard to tell but she has my eyes.

FROM THE EDITOR

As the editor of this newspaper, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all those who have helped in producing this newspaper. Below are a list of, students and teachers who need to be recognized; without their support and contributions this newspaper would have never been published.

Ms. Brigid, Charlotte de Bekker, Amelia Tee, Zena Khalil, Shauna Emig, Mustafa Sheibani, Maxine de La Rey, Aliosha Bielenberg, Cooper Lay, Sol Camilleri, and Marcelo Torrecilla.

Special Thanks to the Media Department!

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MADE BY STUDENTS FOR STUDENTS

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To Eat or Not To Eat

BY ZAPAER ALIP (GR.11)

Kelvin Catering Service, the new cafeteria provider, has finally settled in. But are students satisfied? Almost everyone that was interviewed agreed upon or mentioned that the food was terribly expensive. Still while some reject the food due to its price, the line for lunch seems endless just like the heat. Partly since there are "Amazing Bakeries" Alexandra (gr.10) ranging from fruit tarts, muffins and cakes. Indeed there are many more options this year compared to the last, from the diverse and quality lunches to the variety of snacks and drinks. However everything comes with a price, in this case a majority of students agree the cafeteria is overpriced. Is it really? In recent months food prices have soared all around the world. The UN world food price index has ballooned from 194 to 231, a 19 per cent jump according to "Food price spike causes pain" - The National.ae. Quality has also been a major factor, compared to the National Catering Company (last year's cafeteria provider), it has improved drastically.

Some smaller changes include a smaller coupon book of 150AED value and the use of Styrofoam trays compared to plates. The smaller coupon books are easier to loose, can get ripped easily if not careful, and are more susceptible to water damage. On the bright side they are smaller meaning there will be less damage done to the environment and take up less valuable space in your backpacks.



Another continuing problem has been food waste generated by our school. Garbage bins overflow with food waste. With millions starving in the Horn of Africa, the worst famine of the century, keep in mind not to waste food. Buy less and try your best to conserve food and water.

So what do teachers think?

"I like it, its diverse, much better and healthy. I think it's a well-priced lunch" Ms. Fatima (French and Islamic teacher).

Mr. Tim (DT teacher) says "It's something better, I still don't have a solid opinion, but I think the food is expensive. I like the quality, the bakeries and cheese bread." Both Mr. Tim and Ms. Fatima gave the new cafeteria a rating of 7/10 in general.

Overall, even though the food is expensive and the lines seem infinite "Lunch is good and better than last year" - Khaled, Khalaf and Shamel in (gr.7)



Soap and Hope, Gr.5 students help workers.



Rahart, the new Arts section of the newspaper



Meet the new guidance councilor.



Soap and Hope - The National

Grade 5 students at Raha prepared 30 boxes filled with T-shirts, caps, towels, nail clippers, tooth brushes, razors, combs and other everyday items, to contribute to the "Box Appeal Charity Initiative." The nonprofit organization helps workers in Abu Dhabi and in the Middle East, this year they are aiming to help 10,000 workers. A number of students and Mr. Chris Coles (their teacher) were interviewed by The National, which also posted a photo of the student preparing the boxes. The full article can be found online on www.thenational.ae

(Students preparing the boxes, photo credit: The National)

Community and Service opportunities in Abu Dhabi

BY SOL CAMILLERI (GR. 11)

As time goes by, the opportunities for community and service in Abu Dhabi keep increasing. There are many things one could do to earn CAS hours this year.

- Take part in a school team: Raha offers a variety of sports, including Volleyball, Football and Basketball. It's a fun and active way to earn those CAS hours. For more information, go to the P.E. department in the Arts Building.
- Abu Dhabi Film Festival: Every year Abu Dhabi hosts an international film festival, in which the national heritage and culture is promoted. Aspiring filmmakers and new films all come together during October, to present their new projects. If you wish to volunteer in this activity, register yourself through the following website: <http://www.abudhabifilmfestival.ae/en/festival/volunteering>
- Extra-Curricular Activities, there are plenty of ECA's this year being organized by teachers, from Scuba Diving to Politics (Model UN).
- The Sports Council and Student Council always need enthusiastic and creative students. If you are interested in joining them please talk to Mr. Mark (Sports Council) and Ms. Sara Cantasy (Student Council)
- The School Newspaper, get your writing published in the newspaper and participate in a friendly journalistic world. Get to know about real world journalism from writing the articles to publishing the final layout. If you are interested please send a brief email to rahavoice@gmail.com
- <http://www.volunteerinabudhabi.com> is a great website that keeps you updated about a variety of charities, events and volunteering opportunities.
- Finally, come up with your own community and service initiatives such as organizing fundraisers and raising awareness of global issues. For all those Grade 10's out there, don't forget your personal project can also count as Community and Service, consult your Ms.Sharon for more information.



New Extra Curricular Programs

BY COOPER LAY (GR.8)

E.C.P's are back and there are many more fun, exciting, educational, and wild things to do after school this year. Here are just a few of these programs to look at; jewelry making taught by Ms. Nora, storytelling taught by Ms. Carol, kite surfing taught by Ms. Lisa, and cross country taught by Ms. Kirsten. There are many ECP opportunities this year because each teacher has to commit to at least an hour a week of ECP's.

The sports teams this year are; Football, Netball, Hockey, Rugby, Basketball, Volleyball, and Cross-Country. Who participates in these depends on the age group. For further information please contact the Sports Department. For those of you failing academically (you know who you are) there is a homework or study program available, a computer class, and an Arabic class.

For those of you who are multi lingual there will be a language club and a French club. Warning, these aren't for those of you who need help with languages, they are for those who enjoy languages to work on them. If you need help with your personal project it's not too late to enter into the personal project help class. If you're more of a creative type there is; dance, percussion, card making, and a choir.

If you really love music there will be a school orchestra this year, for more info you can contact Mr. Simon for the details. If you enjoy the outdoors though, then this next group is right up your alley; Yoga, Water Polo, Kayaking, Scuba Diving, Golf, Horse riding, Tennis, and Go Carting. We even have 2 levels of chess classes this year. If you're interested in world politics then Model UN is your base of operations. Remember this year ECA's will not all be after school, some may be at lunch, or recess, or before school. Ask your advisory teacher for more information.

The New Kid Effect

BY MARCELO TORRECILLA G. (GR. 11)

Being new to a new school is hard, and even more if you are moving to a new different culture, which is the case here. There are people coming and leaving very frequently to UAE. Most of us have experienced this situation leaving and missing our families, friends and countries.

The first day of school gives you this sensation of insecurity; you just feel lost and sometimes nervous. It's the same for every new student. Raha was not the exception, but this orientation day is a great idea. I could get to know people in the same situation as me. This is my second year in Abu-Dhabi and the UAE. So i know how it is for students who come for the first time.

We had a tour of the school and the IB Coordinator Mr. Tony gave us a talk about the IB program and its expectations. The introduction to the school was a warm welcome. The first days were a bit difficult; when you get to know the schedule and the people. But, eventually you get used to it.

Learning all the names from your class-mates is a rewarding challenge. Once you are familiar with the people this "being new" sensation just disappears. In Raha you get to feel this sense of belonging, coming from students and teachers. This change is hard for all of us, but you have to think that most of the people that live in the UAE have experienced this situation. At some point most of the students were new, and know that feeling. The key is always to be positive, and face situations in the most optimistic way.

Student Population at Raha International School



Is equal to 100 Students

Feeling that the school is getting crowded? It takes you longer than last year to get from French to Science Class? Well, it can all be explained through the population diagram on the right. Special thanks to Ms. Julene Grove (Database Administrator)
Data was rounded to the nearest hundreds.
Excluding Year 2006-2007

Year 2006- 2007



Year 2007-2008



Year 2008- 2009



Year 2009- 2010



Year 2010- 2011



Year 2011- 2012



New Guidance Councilor in Town

BY AMELIA TEE (GR.11)

Name: Gillian Honey (Amelia)

Birthday: April 25th

Nationality: Mexican/American

Moved Here from: London

Teaching Position: Senior School Counsellor

Hobbies: Read, Take Walks, Run, Hike

Favorite Color: Green

Favorite Quotations: Not Me!

Favorite Book: The Kite Runner

Favorite Movie: My Sister's Keeper

Favorite Song: Any Song by Café Taluba/Miguel Bosc (Mexican Bands)

Describe Yourself in One Word: Determined

If you could be any animal, what would you be and why: Polar Bear. Cute, but not so cuddly!

What do you think of the school so far: LOVE the students! I think they have a friendly disposition.



Best-Paid Jobs in the World

BY ALIOSHA BIELENBERG (GR.8)

Still don't know what to job you want or what you want to study in the future? Well, most of us would want to have a high salary job. So you may start to wonder what jobs get the most money? It is very difficult to measure how well-paid jobs are. If you just look at salary and benefits, medical professionals come out on top, especially specialists. The highest-paying job in the USA is an anesthesiologist, with their average salary being \$184 340. Out of the top ten, only one, a CEO's, is not a medical professional. Out of the top 15, only lawyers are added to the list. I'd like to go back to the CEO's, however. Their average salary is \$167,280; however, this does not include non-wage compensation such as stock options. As an example, Steve Jobs (until recently) had a guaranteed salary of \$1. However, he gained over \$646 million in stock options. This is one reason why a list like this, based on average salaries, is often misleading. Overall, I believe the best career option salary wise is still some branch of the medical profession.

Subscribe!

BY ZAPAER ALIP (GR.11)

The Raha Voice, will also start distributing through an email system. If you would like to subscribe to the Raha Voice, send an email to rahavoice@gmail.com with the subject: Subscribe. This is an absolutely free service and can be cancelled at any time. After you have finished reading an issue of the Raha Voice feel free to contact us about suggestions for future articles, improvements, mistakes, concerns and etc. Online versions of the Raha Voice will be in color.

Entertainment and Movie Section

BY CHARLOTTE DE BEKKER (GR.11)

I moved to Abu Dhabi a couple of months ago and since I didn't know anyone I had a lot of time on my hands. I did the usual, some art, some swimming, attempting to review some of the stuff I'd learnt the previous year, but what I found myself doing most of the time was watching movies. I'd never really been a film buff before but I found myself growing fonder of the little square screen that is my laptop. So when I signed up for the newspaper and they asked me how I wanted to contribute I knew exactly what to do! So here's the point, every new issue I'll be reviewing a movie. If you have any suggestions for future films to be reviewed send us an e-mail at rahavoice@gmail.com.



Name: The Shawshank Redemption
Year of Release: 1994
Directed by: Frank Darabont
Based on: Stephen King's novella 'Rita Hayworth and the Shawshank Redemption'
US Certificate: R
Described as: "A simple and touching tale graced with great depth and commitment. An uplifting must-see movie." (movie-gazette.com)
Andy Dufresne (Tim Robbins) is a banker, but he has been convicted of the murder of his wife and her lover, and thus has been sentenced to a lifetime of imprisonment at 'Shawshank State Prison in Maine'. Here he makes friends with Ellis "Red" Redding (Morgan Freeman), a lifer who has already spent many years there.

Through his eyes we see the ugly realities of prison life; corrupt wardens, sadistic guards as well as animalistic inmates who are willing to use anything to insure their dominance. But Andy has the hope of the truly innocent, which together with his smarts allow him to triumph behind bars.

The main theme of the movie is hope, not despair, and the violence serves only as a backdrop to amplify that message. If you've got 2 hours of time it's totally worth it. It is undoubtedly a feel good movie.



The Monthly Raha Art Review!
Have a look in this section of Raha Voice to get an insight of Raha's best and most interesting Art works every month!
Art works will be nominated and chosen by Mrs. Daniella Parkinson our brilliant art teacher.

BY SHÀUNA EMIG (GR.11)



Watch this art work in process, done by Wiebke Redinger, Grade 12.