

10 July 2023  
062/Par/22

Dear Middle School Parents,

It is hard to believe that we have come to the end of another school year. What a year of change this has been, moving from covid restrictions and back to normality. This year has, like the three before, seen a different normal but we have been extremely impressed by the flexibility, enthusiasm and perseverance of our Middle School students. Unlike the previous two years this academic year has given the opportunity to mix with other students as we were no longer in a 'bubble'. Also fieldtrips resumed and of course, we have been able to welcome parents and families back into school to help celebrate their children's achievements.

As this year progressed the number of pre covid activities increased, so we have been particularly busy in the last two terms, and these seem to have gone very quickly. As a Middle School Section, we celebrated National Day with the rest of the school in a very uplifting celebration of 51 years since the founding of the UAE. Other whole school special events have been marked with assemblies and these are Flag Day, Martyrs Day and Emirati Children's Day. Also other events have in Mathematics and Literacy lessons have been World Book Day, the World Mathematics Challenge and  $\pi$  (Pi) Day. Students were invited to Primary to watch the Key Stage 1 production of 'Welcome to the Rock Pool'. Fit for Fujairah took place and students enjoyed extra PE activities in the mornings and looked forward to the different challenges set by Mr Paul and Ms Courtney. It has been a pleasure to see them showing so much pride in participating in these events. Students were very pleased to be back for Sports Day with the parents and families enthusiastically supporting them. We were then able to finish the year with Open Days and the concerts where the attendance by parents and families was enthusiastic.

Class Assemblies have been a highlight of the year as it is during these they have been awarded 'Do the Blue' awards for their strength of character, Very Independent Person Awards and Ibn Majid Awards for commitment to their studies and endurance, House points for hard work, camels and gazelles for attendance, pen licences for both Arabic and English penmanship and competition prizes. A sense of community spirit has definitely reappeared, and it is good to see the students playing again at break times and during our many extra-curricular activities.

Grade 5 have had a busy year: they lead a Science Day with Grade 2, a hands-on project in their Ancient Egyptian unit and went on a trip to the Green Planet which linked to Rain Forest Day. Grade 6 celebrated Ancient Greek Day and they were an audience for Grade 5 biography presentations. The Grade 6 boys enjoyed a residential stay at the North Star Outdoor Pursuits Centre which saw them face and overcome some tough challenges.

As we come to the end of the academic year, it is a time when we say farewell and thank you to staff who are leaving, Ms Chloe, Mr John, Mr Bart and Mr Sam from the Middle School staff and also to Ms Pam who as our school librarian and has been a large part of the students' lives as she guides their book choices. We wish them all well in their in the future and thank them for their hard work and dedication during the time at FPA.

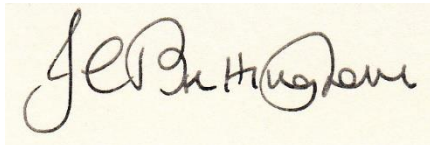
September will bring changes as we welcome new staff to join our school. In addition, Middle School will consist of Grades 6 and 7 from 2023-2024 academic year. This will allow for the students to gain the experience needed before moving to Senior School.

The school uniform for Grades 6 & 7 will be the grey and white of seniors and a full uniform list will be sent in July. PE uniform the blue polo shirts for girls with dark blue track suit bottoms or leggings and red polo shirts for boys with black track suit bottoms. Plain black or white sports shoes are

The school office will have reduced staff from the 14<sup>th</sup> July until 9<sup>th</sup> August, but urgent contact can be made by **email to [admin@fpa.sch.ae](mailto:admin@fpa.sch.ae)/[administrator@fpa.sch.ae](mailto:administrator@fpa.sch.ae)/[accountant@fpa.sch.ae](mailto:accountant@fpa.sch.ae)** or messaging the **school mobile 050 434 5358**. Fee payments made directly to the bank will have receipts processed during this period and emailed but we are unable to process other documents until 14<sup>th</sup> August as signatories are not available. Admissions applications will also be accepted but the first date for assessment will be August 16<sup>th</sup>.

May I wish everyone an enjoyable summer vacation and looking forward to seeing our students on **28<sup>th</sup> August for the first day of term** and parents with the many opportunities which will exist to join in the activities of the school.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light yellow background. The signature is cursive and reads "Jan Brettingham".

Jan Brettingham Ms  
Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink. The signature is cursive and reads "Nicola Kelly".

Nicola Kelly Ms  
Head Middle School