

10 July 2023
063/Par/22

Dear Senior 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 Senior Section students. Unlike the previous two years this academic year has given the opportunity to mix with other students as we were no longer in 'isolated groups' A full extracurricular programme and outside activities have resumed and of course, we have been able to welcome parents and families back into school to help celebrate their children's achievements. We are very pleased that collaborative learning has been able to resume and the focus on teamwork.

It has been particularly busy in the last two terms, and these seem to have gone very quickly. As Senior 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. This involved the school band, the FPA ensemble and traditional dancing troupe giving outstanding performance plus a number of speeches by students. Other whole school special events have been marked with formal ceremonies and mentor sessions, Flag Day, Martyrs Day and Emirati Children's Day. Also students engaged very well with 'Fit for Fujairah', a programme to make them aware of the benefits of exercise and healthy eating. They attended extra PE activities in the mornings and break times, looking 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. Also some outstanding performances by parents, with mothers and female family members joining the girls and fathers and male family members the boys. We were then able to finish the year with an Open Day which showed the work of the Senior Section, including an impressive Science Exhibition focusing on space exploration and linked with the students assembling and using robotics then showing visitors how these worked. Students also demonstrated programming skills for these robots. The English department performed scenes of a play by William Shakespeare, but the script was rewritten as if the play was set in Fujairah. Other exhibits showed sustainability, biomes and work in conservation. The Mathematics Department had parents joining their children to solve puzzles and the room was very competitive! The attendance by parents and families to Open Day was an enthusiastic and joyful experience.

As a cultural event to end the year the school presented a Summer Concert in which the students of Middle School and Senior performed instrumentally and with songs. The school choir performed songs, the school band played and solo instrumentalists, Anya in Grade 8 on the violin and Leandra in Grade 9 on the keyboard really amazed the audience with their skill. Some members of Grade 9 performed a short play in Arabic on the importance of their future life choices This event was well received by all present and thanks to Mr John Sellars who organised it.

An exhibition of the work of the Art Department took place and this gave an interesting perspective including examination level exhibits by Grade 10.

The Graduation of the class of 2022-23 took place on Wednesday 21st June in the presence of HH Shaikh Mohamed Hamad Al Sharqi, Crown Prince of Fujairah. An evening of speeches by students and alumni of the school, musical interludes and memories by the graduating students was completed by HH Shaikh Mohamed Hamad Al Sharqi giving us the honour of distributing the prizes and certificates.

As we come to the end of the academic year, it is a time when we say farewell and thank you to the Senior Section staff who are leaving, Ms Eve, Ms Sally, and Ms Stephanie and also to Ms Pam who is the school librarian. We wish them all well in their in the future and thank them for their hard work and dedication during their time at FPA.

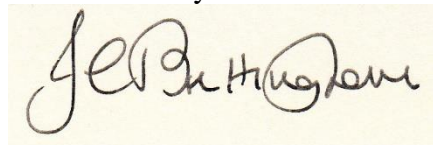
September will bring changes as we welcome new staff to join our school. In addition Senior Section will consist of Grades 8 -12 from 2023-2024 academic year. This will allow for the students in Grade 7 to gain the experience needed before moving to Senior School.

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 trainers are required. Regular uniform remains the same as this year.

The school office will have reduced staff from the 14th July until 9th August, but urgent contact can be made by **email to admin@fpa.sch.ae/administrator@fpa.sch.ae/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 14th August as signatories are not available. Admissions applications will also be accepted but the first date for assessment will be August 16th.

May I wish everyone an enjoyable summer vacation and looking forward to seeing our students on **28th 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 appears to read 'Jan Brettingham'.

Jan Brettingham
Principal