

Weekly Calendar

October 8, 2009

Middle School Social

October 8 - 7:00 to 9:30 pm -
High School Gallery

**Grade 6 PRIME Trip to Luxor
Parents Meeting**

October 11 at 2:15 pm
in Room 70

**Grade 7 PRIME Trip to
Dahab
Parents Meeting**

October 13 at 2:15-3:00 pm
in Room 600

Middle School Play

October 15 at 7:00-9:00 pm
in the Theater

October 16 at 2:00-4:00 pm and
7:00-9:00 in the Theater

**Middle School CAT Team
Meeting**

October 21 at 6:00 pm

Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 22- All Day
in the High School Gallery
No School for Students

Schedule at a Glance

Sunday, 11	3B
Monday, 12	4F
Tuesday, 13	5C
Wednesday, 14	6G
Thursday, 15	7D

Dear Parents,

The student energy levels on campus over the past 48 hours were similar to the start of new school year. It is great to have everyone back on campus and returning to their normal routine. After speaking with numerous students and reflecting with faculty members we believe our first attempt at "virtual schooling" was an overall success. We are currently working with all the Grade 8 students to develop a survey that will be used with all Middle School students to gather data on the virtual school experience. We hope to capture what went right, what were challenges and what we need to think about in the future in the event that we face this situation again. Until then we will celebrate our return to campus with our first Middle School Social this evening.

As we transition back to normal classes teachers have taken time this week to clarify what work still needs to be completed from those eight days. Realistic time lines have been set and this weekend provides a perfect opportunity to address any outstanding work along with preparing for future assessments. We ask that you remind your child that all work needs to be completed by next Monday and we will hold individuals accountable for major assignments that were part of the virtual school experience.

We thank all the Grade 8 parents who attended the PRIME Trip Parent Orientation session on Wednesday night. Two more are scheduled next week for parents of children in Grade 7 and Grade 6. All students were given information about the PRIME trips during Homeroom/Advisory period today. Make sure they share them with you to assist in the planning and preparation of these trips.

We need to highlight that all parents need to make sure that their child's medical records are up to date. We are reaching a point in time where CAC policy will require us to ask children to stay home until all records are complete. We ask that you click on this [link](#): <http://www.cacegypt.org/about/PDF/HealthUpdate0930.pdf> to see the latest comments from the CAC Health office regarding H1NI. If your child is ill or running a fever please keep them home!

Have a good weekend, stay healthy, please come to campus and thank you for reading this edition of the News and Views as we continue to celebrate the life and times of the Middle School learning community at CAC!

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School Activities

Middle School PRIME Trips – Parent Information Meeting

PRIME Trips (Primary Resource in the Middle East) are an important part of the Middle School program. This off-campus activities-based program offers students the opportunity to develop new friendships, try new experiences, explore the host nation culture, and build self-confidence outside of the classroom environment. The CAC PRIME Trips are an integral and mandatory part of the Middle School curriculum.

The Middle School teachers spend a great deal of time planning each trip to ensure that the trips are educationally and developmentally appropriate for each grade level. Students complete group and individual projects that are graded and included in their final course grades. Each school year parent orientation meetings are held prior to these trips to discuss details, address concerns, and answer questions.

The Grade 6 & 7 (Grade 8 held their meeting on Wednesday, October 7) PRIME trips parent information meetings are scheduled as follows:

Grade 7 Red Sea Trip to Dahab, will be held on October 13 at 2:15-3:00 pm in Room 600

Grade 6 Luxor Trip, will be held on October 11 at 2:15-3:00 pm in Room 70 of the Middle School building.

REMINDER: The Health Office needs to approve the Health form for all students in the Middle School. This must be done in advance so as to be sure that the immunization record is up to date. Failure to do this on time will result in preventing a student from participating in the trip.

Western Desert Notice

Reminder about 8th grade student paperwork due by October 21 – please seek nurse's signature early to avoid any delays. The trip will depart on November 2 at 5:00 am from Victory College car park. If you have any questions, please e-mail Mrs. Dillon, adillon@cacegypt.org.

Middle School Social

Tonight, Thursday, October 8 is our first Middle School Social from 7:00 - 9:30 pm. All Middle School students will be welcome to attend this social. This event is sponsored by the Middle School Student Council and is supervised by members of the Middle School faculty and administration. This will be a great way to welcome back our students. Students will need their CAC Photo ID to come onto the campus and there is an entry fee of 10 LE to the event.

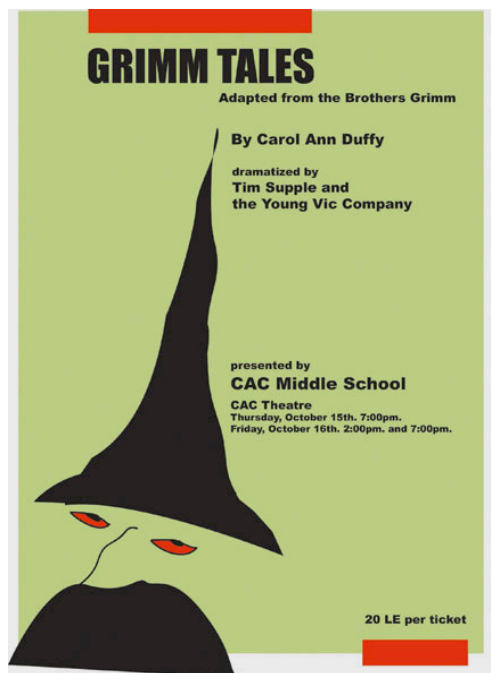
Middle School Golf – ReScheduled

The last two sessions for the MS Golf Club have been rescheduled for Wednesday, October 14 and 21. The bus will depart from the back gate promptly at 4:00 pm. We expect to return to the CAC front gate at 6:10 pm. If student participants or parents have any further questions, please contact Mr. Oswald either in person, by phone, or email. Thanks, Mr. Oswald. doswald@cacegypt.org

Middle School Performing Arts

Grimm Tales Drama Production

The Performing Arts Department is proud to present the Middle School play "Grimm Tales" by Carol Ann Duffy, dramatized by Tim Supple and the Young Vic Company on Thursday, October 15 at 7:00 pm, and Friday, October 16 at 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm in the CAC's theater. Tickets are now available starting October 7 to October 15 for 20 LE each at the theater box office and after school in front of the health office from 3pm to 3:45 pm. Tickets will also be available at the door on the days of the performances. Don't Miss it!



Middle School 24 Hours Drama

The 24-hour Drama experience has been rescheduled for the weekend of Thursday, November 12th and Friday, November 13th! The Middle School will play host to all those students who had previously signed up for the 24 Hour Drama Experience. If you did not get your Medical release form to Mrs. Yendall before the school closure please do so by October 8th. Check for further information and reminders in the Middle School Daily Bulletins.

Community Announcement

UPCOMING SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST/AUTHOR VISIT IN JANUARY

The CAC Counseling Department, with the generous financial support of the PTO, is happy to confirm the upcoming campus visit of Dr. Michael Thompson, Child Psychologist, school consultant, and renowned author. During his two-day visit in early January, Dr. Thompson will share his expertise through a variety of presentations to our learning community. Parents, faculty/staff, and administrators will enjoy opportunities to meet with Dr. Thompson for conversation about supporting children of all ages in their learning and development. Students, too, will meet with Dr. Thompson during his time at CAC!

In anticipation of this event, a number of Dr. Thompson's books were ordered last spring and are now available in the library for your reference and reading pleasure. For those wishing to purchase a book, these titles are also available (in limited quantities) at the CAC Bookstore:

- "Raising Cain: Protecting the Emotional Lives of Boys"
- "Best Friends, Worst Enemies: Understanding the Social Lives of Children"
- "The Pressured Child: Helping Your Child Find Success in School and Life"
- "It's A Boy!: Your Son's Development from Birth to Age 18"
- "Mom, They're Teasing Me: Helping Your Child Solve Social Problems"
- "Speaking of Boys: Answers to the Most-Asked Questions About Raising Sons"

For more information regarding Dr. Thompson and his work with children, families and schools, please visit his website at www.michaelthompson-phd.com.

Finally, please mark your calendar for January 11th and 12th, 2010, when Dr. Thompson will be at CAC! A final comprehensive schedule of his visit will be published in the near future. For more information, please feel free to contact Susan Costello-Tennyson (HS), Jo Jean Schulte (MS), or Zach Secrist (ES).

Candy, Candy, Candy!

The Junior Class is hosting the annual Halloween Carnival and is looking for donations of individually wrapped candies to be used for this event. A collection box for all donations is outside at the Elementary Office, and the Junior Class and all those little Trick-or-Treaters will really appreciate your support!

PTO LUNCH - ALL ARE INVITED!!

Join us on Wednesday, October 14, from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm in Room 600 for an Oriental Lunch and a lively discussion focusing upon Child/Adolescent Stress and how to help your child manage it! We are pleased that counselors from all three divisions, Elementary, Middle and High School, will be our guests and moderators, sharing their insights, at this event! We look forward to seeing you there!

THREE CHEERS

Three Cheers for a return to regular campus activities!
Three Cheers for all those involved with the first Middle School Social!
Three Cheers for the CAC Health Office – they keep us safe and healthy!
Three Cheers for the ongoing efforts of the faculty and students to reflect and gather data on the "Virtual School" experience – your constructive ideas will make the Middle School stronger!
Three Cheers for everyone involved with the planning and preparation of the Middle School PRIME trips!

Counselors Corner

BFF: Best Friends Forever?

Whether your child is new to the middle grades or in the middle of the middle, issues of friendship loom large. Some students are lucky enough to remain friends with someone they have known since the elementary grades, but most don't fare as well. "Best Friends Forever" seems to fall apart between the ages of 10 and 15.

During these years, young people grow and their interests change. As a result, they begin to form new social networks or find themselves wanting to be part of a different crowd that they consider right for them. Sometimes these groups or individuals offer affirmation that some young adolescents feel they aren't getting from home or school. Gangs, for instance, lead young people to believe that they are important and adult.

But even the most ordinary friendships at this age are turbulent and change from day to day. Friends fight with each other then have trouble making up. Others manipulate classmates into changing allegiances or putting someone on the outside. All of this upheaval can be as painful to the parents/guardians as to the middle school student.

Adults in the family can be helpful by being consistent in their positive support and encouragement of the young adolescent going through friendship changes. Generally, just listening to their concerns is enough, without admonishments. Above all, it doesn't work to get involved with the other person or family unless there is a serious threat to your child.

As time goes on, most kids find at least one person with whom they feel comfortable and can count on. Some have to wait until high school to meet a good friend. Until that happens, family is the place where one can be sure he or she is loved.

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Ms. Jo Jean Schulte **A-K**

Mr. Patrick Kimerer **L-Z**