

Weekly Calendar

MAP Testing
September 14 through
September 28

Grade 8 PRIME Trip Parent
Information Session
September 15 at 5:00 pm in
Room 70

Middle School Iftar
September 15 at Sunset (5:45)
- Middle School Field

CAT Meeting
September 17 at 3:30-5:00 pm in
the Counseling Center

Community Forum - MAP Testing
Program
September 21 - 10:00 - 11:00 in
Room 600

Grade 7 PRIME Trip Parent
Information Session
September 23 at 2:00-2:45 in
Room 600 Admin Building

24 Hour Drama
September 25-26 from 7:00 pm
in the Theater

Grade 6 PRIME Trip Parent
Information Session
September 28 at 2:00-2:45 in
Room 70

September 11, 2008

Dear Parents,

We continue to make good progress in the new academic year and there is a clear sense of purpose on campus. We also had a chance to take photos of all the students! At the same time the community soccer league has begun the new season and adult sponsored programs like scouting are well underway. It is good to see many of our students taking advantage of these evening opportunities to exercise or pursue personal interests.

Next Monday, September 15, the Middle School will embrace the holy month of Ramadan by holding our annual Potluck Iftar at sunset in front of the Middle School. All families who would like to participate in this event are welcome and e-mail messages have been sent to your homes to explain the event. We are working this year with the Middle School CAT team to organize a special celebration in our international school community. **Please contact your CAT team representative to indicate that you are coming!** Enjoy the spirit of Ramadan and experience some great Egyptian and international food on Monday. We will gather on the Middle School field starting at 5:30 and begin the meal immediately after sunset that is projected to be at 6:01 p.m. on Monday.

The standardized testing program MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) starts next week. All students watched a powerpoint presentation to give them an understanding of the test and to introduce them to the computer administrated format. Unlike the ITBS, these tests are conducted over a two week period and follow our normal academic schedule. Parents are welcome to a Community Forum on September 21 in Room 600 to learn more about these tests. The Middle School faculty will be preparing for a POLAR update for next Thursday. All students will receive grades in their respective courses that indicate their academic standing at this point in the quarter. Teachers will also include written comments for students new to CAC or whose current work is at a standard of C - or below.

Have a good weekend and we look forward to seeing you on campus next week during the Iftar.

Sincerely,

Michael Popinchalk
Principal
mpopinchalk@cacegypt.org

Andrew Ferguson
Assistant Principal
aferguson@cacegypt.org

Schedule at a Glance

Sunday, 14	7D
Monday, 15	8H
Tuesday, 16	1A
Wednesday, 17	2E
Thursday, 18	3B



CAC Responds to Makkattam Tragedy

Here at CAC, we have a strong tradition of reaching out to those in need. Unfortunately, some of our neighbors are suffering from a devastating rockslide and need our help. As an initial effort, we ask that you help us to support those struggling from the aftermath of the tragedy by contributing clothes, dried foods – rice pasta, tea, sugar, beans lentils, bottled water, juice boxes, and containers/boxes of milk, and/or cash.

Containers for clothing, food items, and drinks will be placed near CAC's front gate. Please give any cash donations to Mark Sullivan in the High School building, Susan Mohsin in the ID office (behind the Health Office) or Dr. Jailan Abbas at the far end of the ground floor of the Middle School, or Reda Ibrahim, our Chief Accountant.

CAC has benefited over the years from a very special relationship with some organizations in the Makkattam hills and we want to give back as much as we possibly can in their time of need. Thank you so much for your support.

Dr. Jailan Abbas, Egypt Culture Department

Mark Sullivan, Community Relations Coordinator

Middle School Activities

Middle School students are becoming more involved with a weekly program of activities hosted at CAC. Besides swimming and the Middle School drama production, here are some other offerings that students are engaged with as of today:

- Golf Club
- Homework Help - Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
- Ping Pong (lunch)
- Board Games (lunch)
- Math Help Activity - Monday After School
- Native Speakers After School Arabic: An Arabic class for Native Speakers is held every Monday at 3:15 - 4:10 pm.
- Tae Kwon Doe

Currently Being Planned:

- Horseback Riding
- Lunchtime intramurals Starting on September 14th

We are always seeking interested adults in our school community to offer an after-school activity. If you would like to find out more. please contact Ms. Angela Dillon adillion@cacegypt.org in the Middle School. Our program offerings for students become richer with your support and it is fun!

Student Council News

With the help of Mr. McGuigan's Model United Nations class, the Middle School Student Council elections were held last Thursday and were determined to be free and fair. After some spirited campaigns and excellent speeches, the tough decisions had to be made. It was a very close election. All students who ran for offices are to be congratulated. Each of them showed a strong commitment to service and school spirit. The clear message from the student body is that all of these great student leaders are needed in our Student Council. CAC's Middle School needs a coalition team. Ms. Berghahn and Ms. Riley hope that all students who ran for office will consider serving as grade level representatives.

Congratulations to our new Student Council Officers:

- President: Sherif Zaki,
- Vice-President: Matthew Alvarado-Ross,
- Treasurer: Dino Tatanaki
- Secretary: Mariam El Magrissy.

Now the hard work begins as the Student Council begin their plans for the Middle School participation in World Peace Day, our first Middle School social, and our future opportunities to reach out to the community beyond our school.



Parental Reminders

PRIME Trip Information Sessions

Next week the first parent information session will take place regarding the PRIME (Primary Resource in the Middle East) Trips which are a landmark learning opportunity of the CAC Middle School. Grade 8 parents are encouraged to attend this session which explains the purpose and format of the trip to the Western Desert. As we continue into September the other meetings for Grade 7 and Grade 6 will take place on these dates. All PRIME Trips will take place in October.

Grade 7 Marine Ecology Trip - Hurghada

Parent information packets will be distributed via Homeroom/Advisory teachers on Thursday, September 18

Parent information meeting on Tuesday, September 23 at 2:00 - 2:45pm, Room 70

Grade 6 Egyptian Culture Trip - Luxor

Parent information meeting on Sunday, September 28 at 2:00 - 2:45pm, Room 70



Peace Day is Coming

International Peace Day is celebrated around the world and at CAC on the 21st of September this year.

If you would like to order a unique CAC Peace T shirt, please stop by the table at the front entrance by the Elementary School office any day this week between 3pm and 3.30pm. The cost is 60 LE and all sizes are available. Delivery is in time for Peace Day!

We have the ability to achieve, if we master the necessary goodwill, a common global society blessed with a shared culture of peace that is nourished by the ethnic, national and local diversities that enrich our lives.

Mahnaz Afkhami

From the Performing Arts Department

24 HOUR DRAMA - September 25 and 26

This week we collected over 80 permission forms from students who are interested in Drama and are willing to come and spend 24 hours together to improve their skills. They will attend fabulous workshops organized by Ms. Kelly's IB and High School students in such varied workshops as clowning, lighting and improvisation for the stage on the Thursday night. The following morning, after a swim and breakfast, the students in ensemble groups will work with outside professionals on still more exciting workshops. The two day experience finishes with performances created and presented by the ensemble groups in the theatre.

All members of the community are welcome to attend the final performance on Friday afternoon! Ms Kelly and Mrs. Yendall

Remscheid Youth Orchestra Concert – September 29

The Remscheid Youth Orchestra and CAC Strings will combine musical talents, and you are cordially invited to an evening concert, celebrating music and youth, on Monday, September 29 starting at 7:30 p.m. in the CAC theater. The 45 member Remscheid Youth Orchestra from Germany will be touring Cairo this month.

Tickets will be available soon, so please contact the box office at the CAC Auditorium at (02) 2755-5555 for tickets and further information. The concert is free of charge, but space is limited.



Middle School Play

We have now started rehearsals for the Middle School Production "**Flashback**" which is an exuberant review by Alice Wilson. This play is an entertaining and perceptive look at some of the universal moments of childhood, which will be staged and performed in the CAC Theatre on November 6 and 7. The cast is now busy learning lines and working on characterization. Plan to join us for this exciting Middle School production in November.

THREE CHEERS

Three Cheers to all the students who ran for the position of Student Government representative this week - we admire your commitment to serve!

Three Cheers to Ryan Van Domelem and Youssef El Sheikh who returned lost property to the office this week - you model the Middle School core value of Trust!

Three Cheers to all the Middle School CAT Team members who are promoting the upcoming Iftar - we appreciate your support of our diverse community!

Counselors Corner

Measures of Academic Progress

Middle school students will be participating in a new standardized assessment program this year, the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP). Between Sept. 14 and Sept. 25, 6th 7th and 8th graders will be taking Reading, Language Usage and Math assessments, with the various tests scheduled during regular core class time over a two week period. 6th graders will also take a science assessment in their science class time. Developed by the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) based in Oregon in the northwestern United States, the tests are administered in a computerized format. Unlike more traditional standardized testing formats, the school and parents will have more timely access to the results of the exams, providing accurate and relevant measures of what a student knows and needs to learn. MAP tests measure academic growth over time and will be administered three times a year.

An overview of the MAP program will be given on September 21 at 10:00 in Room 600 at the Middle School Community Forum. More information about the test is also available by following this link: www.nwea.org/assessments

The MAP assessments are being adopted as an alternative to the previous standardized testing program, the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills. CAC is involved in this testing process along with a number of leading international schools located in the Middle East and South Asia.

8 Ways to Motivate Your Child in Order to Succeed in School

Source: Scholastic Parents

Your child is naturally curious and eager to learn. By making school and homework as pressure-free as possible, you can help protect him from stress and boost his academic achievement.

- Show enthusiasm for your child's interests and encourage her to explore subjects that fascinate her. If she's a horse nut,

offer her stories about riding or challenge her to find five facts about horses in the encyclopedia.

- Ask about what he's learning, not his grades or test scores. Ask him to teach you what he learned in school today.
- Help her organize school papers and assignments so she feels in control of her work
- Build his sense of responsibility by allowing him to choose extracurricular activities, assigning him chores, and asking his input on family decisions.
- Ensure that she has plenty of time for unstructured play.
- Celebrate his achievements, no matter how small. Completing a book report calls for a special treat or finishing a book allows him an hour of TV.
- Focus on his strengths, encouraging him to develop his talents. Even if he didn't ace his math test, he may have written a good poem in English class or improved his spelling score. Besides offering him a math workbook or computer program for practice, give him a writing journal.
- Check in with your child regularly to make sure she's not feeling overloaded. If she is, help her prioritize her work.

Ms. Jo Jean Schulte A-K

Mr. Patrick Kimerer L-Z