



Hope School Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2020

A story worth sharing

Hope School recently received a message from a friend who visited our school long ago, and with her permission, we wish to share her story with you. Not only does this capture work that we are privileged to accomplish, it also encouraged and inspired us to remember why we do what we do, and that we must have faith that God is ahead, behind, and beside us through it all.

“A few years ago I traveled to Bethlehem.... When we were visiting the Church of the Nativity, I saw a boy selling gum in the streets with an older man encouraging him to do so. The boy appeared to be embarrassed and ashamed to do this. This upset me very much, and I must admit, I judged the two rather harshly, especially the man. Later that night, someone from your school spoke with our group. They told us about a boy whose father was not around and whose mother was so ill, that the boy was no longer coming to school and was selling gum on the street. I must admit, I was convicted by this. The school told us that the boy had just stopped coming to school and no one knew why. He was a good student. You told us that the school investigated and found out that he was being a good son and trying to support himself and his mother by selling gum. My heart was broken again over the love and responsibility of this child. It made



Grade 3 class taking full advantage of a sunny, warmer day during this cold winter by eating breakfast outside.

me rethink the child and man I saw earlier in the day. You also told us that you found a way to help the family and have the child continue to attend school. Such dedication and love. I have never forgotten this lesson.”

It is moments and stories like these- of humility and sometimes difficult realizations- that we all share, and which often inspire us to action and to compassion. May we all continue to be open to moments such as these in our own lives.



If there is snow, we take photos! Pictured are some of the Hope School high school teachers.



Trees of Peace

This past month we had the honor of having Bishop Koikoi, Bishop Devedhar, Rev. Bob Castello, and Sara Crump visit the school, and plant new olive trees in our Garden of Peace, representing our connection, our solidarity with one another, and our shared commitment to peace.



For Valentine's day, the kindergarten class visited the principal and presented him with a hand-made gift.

Alumni Profile: Bahaa Zaki

When Bahaa Zaki Abu Zarrour was admitted to Hope school in September 2016, he was upset and uncertain of his future and academic success. Due to his performance at his previous school, we hesitated to accept him at first. When admitted, Bahaa was exposed to an intensive program academically and behaviorally and one that empowered him to succeed. Within two years he encountered great challenges but also showed amazing progress. Bahaa now studies Business Administration at Al-Quds University.

In order, to pay for tuition fees, he works in the evenings at a restaurant in Al-Eizariya. Upon visiting Hope school last week, he shared:

"I will never forget Hope School. I will always remember you as the main platform to my future."



Bahaa Zaki visiting Hope School last week.

We are so proud of Bahaa's accomplishments and look forward to witnessing his continued success.

Board of members voted

We are grateful and excited to share that a new board of directors has recently been chosen. Many of them are new, and we are looking forward to the wisdom and ideas they will contribute to the school as we continue develop and grow.

Where to donate...

For those wondering what is the best way to send us a donation directly, here is the link to find the bank details to send a transfer through your own bank.

<https://www.hopeschoolbeitjala.com/donations>

May God continue to bless you in this new year, and may we all strive together for the open-heartedness and humility God calls each of us to wherever we are. Thank-you always for your prayers and support.

-Hope School