

"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education." – Martin Luther

Dear Parents,

Another successful year draws to a close. It is amazing how much has been achieved by the children, staff, parents and the governors in one year. The achievements extend from the academic, to the sporting and the creative arts and to the numerous fun and fundraising events of the school. We have much to celebrate and many happy memories. We have achieved so much because we work together as a team and this is one of the greatest strengths of the school.

It is difficult to identify the highlights because there are genuinely so many.

The year has seen tremendous success in all areas of the school. At the beginning of the year we celebrated the success of our Grade X students who completed the Cambridge IGCSE examinations in flying colours. It has been satisfying to see our students participating in a plethora of events and emerging winners in many of those inter school competitions, which is continuously on the rise. One of the highlights in this academic session was the participation of students in the environment sustainability projects and innovation projects such as Think Science and Idea Factor.

Yet another factor that calls for celebration is the recent Irtiqa'a monitoring visit conducted in the second week of May, 2018. It was heart-warming to read the report

which stated that the school has made an overall good progress in all the recommendations made by the previous Irtiqa'a inspection report.

Firstly, we would like to thank God Almighty for taking us through this year and for all the good things that have taken place at Al Manahil in the academic session of 2017 – 2018.

All the success factors would not have been possible without an able leadership. I would like to acknowledge the committed and outstanding leadership of Mr. Pasi Rangell in the last academic session. His support and training the teachers in best pedagogical practices has most certainly raised the standards of teaching and learning at Al Manahil.

What happens within the classroom ascertains the impact of the training which should ideally be visible in the teaching and learning process in the classroom. This would not have been possible without the resilience of the teachers who took it on themselves to ensure that their teaching had a positive impact in the children they taught and learning was evident in the classroom. Thank you dear teachers for the tremendous efforts to raise the standards of teaching and learning in the school.

The teachers needed to be guided at all times and this has come by with the timely and able support of the Key Stage heads

and Heads of Departments, to who we are thankful. Your efforts in mentoring and monitoring the teaching and learning process has truly contributed to where we are today.

Our students have been cared for very well at all times and they always know where they need to go for assistance and advice. The Vice Principal (Pastoral), Mr Sunny, and the Social Worker, Ms Anila Aftab, were always present and every ready to help the students with their innumerable woes. The Student Council proved themselves to be confident and successful under their guidance as well. Thank you for your able leadership and support and your willingness to care for each child.

It would be truly inappropriate if I did not mention the dedication and commitment of the ancillary staff who care for the school environment and the children while on the buses. Thank you for all that you have done, most often behind the scenes.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to our parents for all the support you have rendered to the school, be it volunteering for events, coping with the changes or providing us with your invaluable recommendations for the betterment of the school.

Most importantly our students have enjoyed another fabulous year. They have excelled in so many fields it is impossible to list them all. I have attended many celebration events and have listened in awe as their achievements have been described. These achievements have been in their academic studies, sport, music, the arts to name just a few and we are justly proud of them.

In conclusion, I would like to thank our hard working and caring staff members, both

teaching and non-teaching, who have made a huge difference to our students. Your commitment has been outstanding and our kids are the beneficiaries. Thank you for providing rich and engaging, well-rounded experiences for our kids and knowing that education is about joy, wonder and fostering curiosity, along with the development of social skills so needed to succeed. For these, and a million other things, we are truly grateful.

Next year, we will see further development and improvement. Something which we are all excited and passionate about. The team at Al Manahil will continue to provide 21st century teaching and learning practise, to the highest standard.

A final word to my dearest students: Thank you for all your hard work throughout the school year. We at Al Manahil are so proud to be a part of your lives. You keep joyous and active. We are thankful for your sense of responsibility, astute insights and amazing talents. Best wishes to each one of you. Have a safe and happy summer break.

Until next school year, here's wishing you a great time of fun with your family and friends and a refreshing holiday.



