



AAS Sofia

Weekly Newsletter

Volume 16, Issue 7
Oct. 8, 2010

From the MS/HS Principal's desk

Upcoming Events

Oct 8: K-5 Assembly at 2.30 pm

Oct 10: GIG Community Get out to Work Day

Oct 12: Co-curricular Session 1, Week 2

Oct 12: Yearbook Class photos, All grades

Oct 13: Yearbook Individual photos, Grades: 3A, 5A&B, 6A, 6B, 7-10, 12

Oct 14: Yearbook Individual photos, Grades: Pre, Kg A&B, 1A&B, 2A&B, 3B, 4A&B, 11

Oct 14: Co-curricular Session 1, Week 2

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www.aas-sofia.org

Dear Parents:

We have officially 'fallen' into Autumn! Trips outside of and around town reveal some fantastic foliage changes and the wet evening skies make those first fires something to look forward to in the evenings. I encourage you to gather your family around and savor those things together.

Growing up as the daughter of a coach, my associations with Fall also include sports of many varieties, and here at AAS, it is no different. Our teams have been out for weeks running drills, refining skills and preparing for their opponents. Our Middle School Boys Football team leaves today for a tourney in Kiev and High School boys will be hosting a friendly here on campus on Friday. Please come out and show your support for our Wolves!

MS and HS Girls will be hosting a large football tournament on our campus November 4-6. Over 80 young ladies will be travelling to Sofia to compete in 3 days of play and we need your help! We are looking for families to host the visiting athletes in their homes for the three days. If you have a child that participates in one or more of our CEESA events, we encourage you to provide families who are sending children to Sofia, the security of knowing that their child will be staying with a caring family while away from home. It is a wonderful opportunity for your family and the travelling students as well! For more information please contact swowchuk@aas-sofia.org.

Many thanks to David Stephenson, our HS Counselor, for an enlightening and informative College Night. If you were not able to attend but have questions about the college application process, he would love to hear from you! dstephenson@aas-sofia.org.

Halloween is on the horizon and the PTO is hosting a Halloween celebration on Saturday, October 30th from 5-7pm here on campus. A High School Halloween Dance is in the works for Friday, October 29th as well as a Middle School Halloween Dance on the 30th from 7-9pm. Look for more information in the upcoming week!

Let's all look to stay warm and dry while enjoying the beauty of the season.

Sincerely,
Lee Ann Griffin
Middle/High School Principal
LAGriffin@aas-sofia.org



Our **bus procedures** seem to be running well this year particularly when parents are letting us know of any changes before 12:00 midday.

One issue which has the potential to cause unwanted stress is when a driver or pickup vehicle is changed without us or your child knowing. If there is a change of driver arrangements to please let our front desk know as soon as possible so we can inform your child. We would need to know the vehicle registration number and the driver's name. Could you also ask the new driver to come to the front desk and make themselves known to our staff.

Thank you for your help here.

Jim Anderson, ES Principal

From the HS Counselor

Thanks to all those parents and students who came out for a college presentation in lieu of the planned college fair this past Tuesday. If you didn't make it to the college presentation, we went over some basics that pertain to college preparation for UK and US schools. For those interested in seeing what we covered, the PowerPoint can be viewed by going to Moodle/College Advisement – Stephenson/College Presentation Powerpoint (*which is at the very bottom of the page*). For those interested in the college search, there will be a slew of new links and resources posted next week.

If you are a parent of a 10th or 11th grader: Your child will be taking the PSAT this Wednesday from 8:30 until around 11:15. (This is a practice exam for the SAT college entry exam that is taken the following year.) If you go on to Moodle/College Advisement – Stephenson, you will see on the right hand side a link to PSAT information. Click on this and you'll be taken to the *Educator's Guide to the PSAT*. No need to read it all, but pages 37-42 will have information about this test that will be of interest to parents.

The Integral college fair is being held this weekend at the Sofia Hilton. Go to www.integral.bg for more information.

In what is a fairly rare appearance to Sofia, Yale University will be presenting their school at the American College on Tuesday, October 12 at 6:00 p.m. This event is open to the public, and will benefit all those who would like information on admission not only to Yale, but to the most selective universities in the United States. (So even if you prefer Harvard crimson over Yale blue, you would do well to attend this presentation.)

We have the following universities lined up to visit:

- Monday, October 11
 - * 9:25: **Van Hall Larenstein University (Netherlands)**
This is a school of applied science with an interesting list of majors
 - * 11:30: **Regents College (London)**
Private school in the heart of London comprised of 7 colleges covering a variety of courses
- Monday, October 18 at 1:15: **Webster University (Vienna campus)**
 - * *Austrian campus of this American university in St. Louis*
- Thursday, November 4 at 10:00: **Vassar College (New York)**
 - * *Very selective American liberal arts college*
- Monday, November 8 at (time to be determined): **Aston University (Birmingham, England)**
 - * *Traditional, well-regarded public UK university*
- Monday, November 15 at 9:30: **Lafayette College (Pennsylvania)**
 - * *Traditional American liberal arts college founded in 1826 situated on a beautiful campus*

In addition, **Ramapo College of New Jersey** will come on November 3rd or 4th. This is a public university that offers a private school-style liberal arts curriculum. Interestingly, this college has what is purported to be the largest Bulgarian student population in the USA. If you are at a loss for cocktail conversation over the weekend, this fact may come in handy.

Remember, parents are more than welcome to attend these college presentations. All of the above will take place in the Administration Conference Room on the second floor.

Good luck to all the students taking the SAT this weekend!

David Stephenson, HS Counselor
dstephenson@as-sofia.org



Teodor, Grade 8, is new to AAS this year. He brings with him a rich background in science and architecture. Last week, he participated in an Energy Forum as one of the 10 young people chosen from 1000 to present their projects. Congratulations, Teodor!



Laura Giosh-Markov, School counselor K—8

Dear AAS Community,

As you may be aware, ecological mining and effective use of electricity is a global problem of the modern society. However, the destiny of the future generations depends on our choice.

I have participated in energy projects and forums since three years ago until now. So far, I have taken part in 6 national and international projects and have always been awarded for the relation to the environmental problems. This school year I was part of an Italian energy forum due to the support of our grate teachers, principals and director. The event took place here, in Sofia. Ten projects, of which mine was one, from over 1,000 were presented by students from all around Bulgaria. Creative ideas were expressed, cool models were exhibited, and interesting people were invited to be our jury. On the event was attended by:

- Quinto Di Ferdinando – Director, Thermal Power Plant Enel Maritza East 3
- His Excellency Stefano Benazzo – Ambassador of Italy in Bulgaria
- Nikolay Minkov – CEIBG / Uconomics
- Professor Tsancho Tzanev – Scientific Union of Power Engineers in Bulgaria
- Prof. Plamen Tsvetanov – Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- Deputy Galina Stoyanova – Regional Governor of Stara Zagora
- Gabrielle Bogo – Representative of LaFabbrica
- Nedyalko Nedyalkov – Member of GERD and the Committee on Economic Policy, Energy and Tourism Committee in parliament
- Mariana Bancheva – Ministry of Education-Bulgaria

The participants presented their ideas about ways to preserve the environment as obtain electricity from renewable sources, such as sunlight, wind and water, or other ecological ways to gain energy. My conception was about the usage of Nano Vent Skin and its appliance into the modern architecture. In general, Nano Vent Skin is Augustine Otegui's invention for producing "green" electricity for buildings. The skin consists of micro wind turbines covered with photo voltaic layer. The invention can be affixed to any building and provide enough energy for it, as well as make the construction more stable. This is the ecological way to build skyscrapers two times higher than the ordinary ones and ensure them with electricity.

The forum was useful to me, because now I have much more information and experience with the topic, which I can use in future projects with AAS. I am glad that the AAS community is open to my ideas and I can be helpful to the students.

And you, AAS readers, make your choice to make sure that the life of the future generations will be as green and happy, as ours.

By Teodor, Grade 8



Tell Me a Story

Last week, the 6th grade finished giving the last of our "My Family Story" presentations. This project started with us researching our family histories and developing a family tree of three generations. Afterwards, we interviewed a relative about a family story and recorded it.

We were encouraged by Mr. Reynolds to work on developing an anecdote or a moral lesson to our stories. Also, we were to develop a "hook" or attention getting technique for the presentation.

Mr. Leahy visited the class (AAS Newsletter, September 17th, 2010) to offer advice on effective speaking techniques. The final part of the project involved a 3-5 minute presentation in front of the class with the video camera rolling. We even had some younger AAS students visit one day during our presentations. They were a very supportive and an attentive audience.

In Moodle Social Studies 06, there is now a 6A and 6B directory that contains almost all of the "My Family Story" presentations. The file name of the video has the student's class number instead of the student's name. The videos tend to play better in Moodle if Internet Explorer (IE) is used instead of another browser such as Firefox.

A higher resolution version of the video is available. If you are interested in that version, send a labeled (owner's name) USB stick or thumb disk and we will upload the larger version onto it. 60 MB of free space should be enough.

We hope you enjoy our stories!
6th Grade



This week's **Math set of problems** are short and sweet!
Keep those submissions coming – these are due by Friday Oct 15th
Good Luck and Enjoy!

AAS Math Department

Musings of Mandelbrot

Five disks (numbered 1,2,4,8 and 16) are placed in a bag. Three disks are withdrawn from the bag, the sum of their numbers is recorded, and the three disks are then returned to the bag. Suppose this process is repeated indefinitely.
What is the largest number of different sums that can be recorded?

Enigma of Euler

A fast clock gains one minute per hour and a slow clock loses two minutes per hour. At a certain time, both clocks are set to the correct time. Less than 24 hours later, the fast clock registers 9 o'clock at the same moment that the slow clock registers 8 o'clock. What is the correct time at that moment?



CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Co-curricular activities have started this week. There was a bit of confusion and some changes, but all students found the activities they had been placed in and all went well. If you have any further questions about this program please email me as soon as possible.

SOCCER

Our Middle School boys' team left on Thursday for Kiev, Ukraine to play in the CEESA tournament this weekend. We wish them all the best!

The Middle School boys practice schedule and times are:

Sept. 7 3 - 4:45	Sept. 9 3 - 4:45	Sept. 14 3 - 4:45	Sept. 16 3 - 4:45	Sept. 21 3 - 4:45	Sept. 23 3 - 4:45	Sept. 28 3 - 4:45
Sept. 30 3 - 4:45	Oct. 4 3 - 4:45	Oct. 6 3 - 4:45	Oct. 14 3 - 4:45	Oct. 28 3 - 4:45	Nov. 11 3 - 4	Nov. 18 3 - 4

The Middle School girls practice schedule and times are:

Sept. 16 3 - 4:45	Sept. 21 3 - 4:45	Sept. 21 3 - 4:45	Sept. 23 3 - 4:45	Sept. 30 3 - 4:45	Oct. 6 3 - 4:45	Oct. 7 3 - 4:45
Oct. 11 3 - 4:45	Oct. 14 3 - 4:45	Oct. 18 3 - 4:45	Oct. 28 3 - 4:45	Nov. 3 3 - 4:45	Nov. 11 3 - 4	Nov. 18 3 - 4

Both High School teams will practice together during the following days and times:

Oct. 1 3 - 4:45	Oct. 6 3 - 4:45	Oct. 8 3 - 4:45	Oct. 13 3 - 4:45	Oct. 15 3 - 4:45	Oct. 27 3 - 4:45
Oct. 29 3 - 4:45	Nov. 5 Tournament	Nov. 10 3 - 4:45	Nov. 12 3 - 4:45	Nov. 17 3 - 4:45	Nov. 19 3 - 4:45

Shelley Wowchuk
Athletic Director/Activities Coordinator
swowchuk@aes-sofia.org

TENNIS COACHING PROGRAM

We offer you tennis lessons with qualified coaches.

The program will include: introduction to the sport of tennis, ball and racket skills through coordination, balance and movement, tennis strokes, and technical application. We work with beginners, intermediate and advanced players, with modern technology from ITF.

Tennis Lessons Location:

Near Tsarigradasko shouse 10 min. from the school with a car in the summer until 30.10.2010

In a bubble in the winter close to National sport academy-Malinaova dolina - starts 01.11.2010

If you are interested please contact Peter Netsov, Tennis coach with PTR certificate and National Sport Academy, at 0889/585197

BALLET

Dear parents of AAS ballerinas,

As in the recent years, we would like to organize a ballet course for our children. The instructor will be with Ms. Radost Stefanova, a ballet teacher, and a graduate of the National Academy of Music "Pantcho Vladigerov" Sofia, Ballet art – Ballet pedagogy with professional skills as Ballet master. She is also the current Secretary of the Bulgarian Ballet Association.

She has offered to run the ballet lessons this year and I am convinced that she will do a great job. She has a professional and fantastic manner with the children. It can be an honor to have her here at AAS.

All costs are borne on a private basis and AAS will offer the gym's facilities for free. The cost is 6 leva a session per child. In the 1st semester (October 2009 – January 2010) there will be 15 lessons which means, the payment of 90 leva + 10 leva for presents for the children at the end of semester. Thus said, a total amount of 100 leva is required for the whole semester.

The lessons will be scheduled on Mondays, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM. The participating children shall be picked up individually after the end of the course. For more information please contact Rita Steponavičienė at e-mail:

ritasteponaviciene@gmail.com





The Anglo-American School of Sofia



PTO brings you November fest!

The PTO and the Belgium Bulgaria Luxembourg Business Club invites you to a entertaining evening of Belgian Beer tasting led by beer expert Johan De Smet Van Damme at the Hilton. Take this great opportunity to meet and mingle with other AAS parents. We will taste five different types of Belgian beers following a formal tasting ritual. After the tasting you can sample a few more beers and rate your favorite. You're also welcome to order selected beers for your own home to enrich your home life! Tickets will be 20 leva, which is much cheaper than flying to Belgium to taste the beer.!

When: November 12th at 19.00
Where: Hilton, the lobby

Tickets can be bought from Vanya at the reception or Nikki Fellows. Please RSVP and buy tickets for yourselves and your friends by the 1st of November.

Welcome to a great evening of beer and fun!





The Anglo-American School of Sofia



Bake sale

When: Friday 15th of October

Where: Reception of the AAS



The PTO is hosting this years first Bake sale. The Bake Sale day is a special and very much appreciated day for the students and personnel of the AAS. It is also a very needed fund raiser effort for the PTO activities to be held during the school year. We therefore ask you kindly for your assistance in creating and bringing tasty bakery for us to sell. The Bake sale table will be set up in the reception area of the AAS and the students have the possibility to, for a small amount, complement their lunch and snack throughout the day.

A PTO representative will be at hand in the reception to receive your bakery in the morning. And don't forget to give you're child pocket money on the day. ☺

We thank you for your support!
The PTO

Class photos reminder:

Class photos will be taken on Tuesday the 12th (all grades) and then:

* individual photos on Wednesday (3A, 5A, 5B, 6A, 6B, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12)

* individual photos on Thursday (Pre, KgA, KgB, 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3B, 4A, 4B, 11)



THE PTO PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST IS COMING UP!

The PTO will be selling pumpkins again this year! We need you and your pumpkin to be part of our pumpkin carving contest! Buy a pumpkin, take it home, carve it, and bring it back to school to be judged by our panel of pumpkin judges! Prizes will be awarded for each of these categories!

- Traditional
- Most creative
- Scariest
- Most Original
- Use of stencils
- Funniest

All pumpkins will be used as decorations for our Halloween Party on the 30th of Oct. Start thinking about your pumpkin now, and keep your eyes on this space for details of our pumpkin sale!



Important contact information:

Reception: Ivanka Papazova (Miss Vanya)
Tel: (+359 2) 923.8810, 11; mobile: 0889 428 324

Fax: (+359 2) 923.8859
ipapazova@as-sofia.org

Director: Jim Leahy
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AAS Store: Svetla Stoyanova
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Note: To contact a member of staff by telephone, please call the reception number. Staff emails are available from our website: www.as-sofia.org/contact.

Please visit our website on www.as-sofia.org to find the latest information about our school.



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MS students enjoying science class!

