



The International School
of Choueifat - Lahore

Tribute to Mr. Elie Sawaya

In loving Memory of Ms. Aimal Asi

Condolence to the Khokhar Family

Another Milestone in a Teacher's Career!

Creative Writing (G5-G6)

Think, Share, Speak, and Convince!

Fundraising and Donations (DOA and
Pink Ribbon)

Academic Achievement: Opt-Out Exam

Urdu Creative Writing Competition

Books, Books, and More Books!

Happy Birthday ISC-Lahore / Musical
and Dance Performances

Parents' Day

Urdu Cultural Festival

Staff Holiday and Appreciation Dinner

PSIFI IX

All Hail SABIS® STARS!

ISMO (Inter-School Math Olympiad)

Newsletter

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- **Mrs. Fariyal Barque**
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The International School of Choueifat Lahore

Announcements

Tribute to Mr. Elie Sawaya



Dear Colleagues,

The entire SABIS® community is deeply saddened by the passing of Mr. Elie Sawaya on Monday, January 8, 2018.

Mr. Elie Sawaya was a lifelong member of the SABIS® family. Starting as a teacher at the Mother School in the early 1970s, he went on to play a key role in setting up the first SABIS® Network school outside of Lebanon and remained a valuable member of the senior management team for the organization in the U.A.E. until the end of his life.

Mr. Elie Sawaya will be dearly remembered as a remarkable family man and a charismatic and refined gentleman who was a model of loyalty and commitment. Please join us in extending our deepest sympathy and condolences to Mr. Sawaya's family, and to the entire SABIS® extended family.

Sincerely,
Victor Saad
Vice President

In loving Memory of Ms. Aimal Asi

"Haste thee nymph, and bring with thee
Jest and youthful Jollity,
Quips and cranks, and wanton wiles,
Nods, and becks, and wreathed smiles,
Such as hang on Hebe's cheek,
And love to sleep in dimple sleek;
Sport that wrinkled Care derides,
And Laughter holding both his sides."

L'Allegro by John Milton

Warm yet head strong, debonair
yet outrageous, generous and yet
reserved, humble and yet gregarious,
Aimal Asi was a wonderful blend of
contradictions!

Ms. Aimal was blessed with an incredible
amount of knowledge, a passion to
share with the world, combined with an
innate desire to nurture and edify her
students. Fair, honest, and possessing a
great sense of humor, she would brook
no nonsense that would disrupt her
classroom routine. Ms. Aimal Asi was a
teacher par excellence.

With interests ranging from Literature
to Mathematics, Ms. Aimal's diverse
talents enabled her to groom students
in many student life activities. Under
her tutelage, even the most ordinary
students became extraordinary. She
considered it a noble undertaking and
a duty not only to edify but to transform

her students into responsible human beings. To them, she was not just an educationist, but a mentor, keeper of secrets and a pillar of support. Under her wise and able mentorship, struggling students bloomed and discovered their strengths. Whether it was creative writing, public speaking, debates or drama, Ms. Aimal brought out the best from among her students and helped them excel in every field.

What better way to pay tribute to Ms. Aimal than through the words of her students:

"As an epitome of kindness I always thought of you as a role model, you had the entire class obey your every word, not by striking fear into their hearts, but by being kind and considerate... You made a mark on this school, with your kindness and your amazing talent to string words together to create literary master pieces." - Imran Sohail, Grade 10A

"Some people are not just passersby on the road but are like a lamp post, lighting up the path ahead for you. They come into your life for a purpose and leave your life with a meaning. One of the infinitesimal positive traits of Ms. Aimal was that she never found a flaw in us. She took all those few qualities and polished them until we sparkled." - Hamza Ali Khan, Grade 12A

"My heart weeps as I say my most unwanted goodbye. Our journey together has come to an abrupt end. I miss your smiling face in the corridor every time I step out of the class. Your smiling face is always going to stay in my heart." - Sayed Danial, Grade 10A

"It still feels like if I walk into the English department or the staff room, I will see your smiling face and hear that chiming, musical voice; hear your laugh echoing through the room, it pains me that we will never be able to feel the warmth and cheer that diffuses through the air when you were around. Every photo I see of you transports me back to the podium, speaking with my head held high as you watched me with an enormous smile. No matter how old I grow, the image of you beaming with pride will be forever etched in my mind." - Zoya Mir, Grade 10A



"I know every time I see a novel, a highlighter, chocolate, or Minions, I will be reminded of your wonderful presence in my life." - Aaeicha Duarni, Grade 12A

"Your laugh is always in my head. I wish you were here with all of us to see us graduate and scream with joy. I loved you everyday a lot more when you always saved the yellow highlighter for me." - Muryam Khokar, Grade 12B

"She was a friend, someone who would put the world aside to listen and to guide, life is cruel, it is harsh, but because of Ms. Aimal I could find the beauty in the darkest of situations" - Uqba Aqib, Grade 12A

"You were the life of our class, now who will appreciate my hand writing? You were the reason I wrote beautifully so that you would say 'Marvellous!'. To whom will I now ask inane questions? Now, who will exchange the pink highlighter with me?" - Haider Ali, Grade 12B

For many of us Ms. Aimal was our I.T. specialist, the Math guru, brilliant artist, our swimming instructor, and our movie guide. She came to our rescue in the direst of moments. Food, Minion cups, coca cola, highlighters, sticky notes, and an endless reservoir of patience and smiles are what sum up Ms. Aimal's personality. She led a rich and beautiful life. Both teachers and students' lives were enriched by her salutary presence and each one of us is grateful for her part in our journey!

"With an innate desire to keep growing and learning, Aimal Asi was an epitome of a life-long learner. She was an amalgam of disparate qualities packed into this larger-than-life, unique young woman!" - Fozia Arshad, University Advisor

"On a personal note, Ms. Aimal was much more than a colleague. She was my alter ego. In her, I found a loyal friend and a confidante. She was my harshest critic and my staunchest cheer leader. I am no Rumi, but what Shams Tabraiz was to Rumi, Aimal Asi was to me. I loved sharing my world with her and so did she. Our demons matched! Dear friend, rest in peace. The heaven is a beautiful place now because they have you! 'I love you every day. And now I miss you every day. For One More Day'" - Mitch Albom

Ms. Rizwana Imtiaz
Head of English Department

Condolence to the Khokhar Family

The ISC-Lahore community would like to pass on heartfelt condolences to our students Malik Muhammad Sharyar Shafi (Grade 3A), Muhammad Kamran Shafi (Grade 6B) and their family, who tragically lost their father in January 2018.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Ms. Fozia Arshad
University Adviser

Another Milestone in a Teacher's Career!

The ISC-Lahore community is very proud to announce that yet another member of its teaching staff has recently obtained a Master's degree. Mrs. Sheharbano Hussain, KG 1B teacher, has been awarded her second Master's degree in School Management from The University of Management and Technology. Mrs. Hussain's first degree in Linguistics certainly gave her a solid foundation and helped her immensely in teaching English to primary students. The School Management program offered her an insight into various management areas, like behavioral management, resource management, and classroom management. The holistic approach of the courses has helped her become a more efficient teacher and helped her classes to become interactive and engaging. As Mrs. Hussain rightly put it, *"Teaching without interaction and active engagement is like filling a lamp with water; something has been poured in, but the result is not illuminating!"*

Mrs. Dimitra Dimakopoulou
Infants' Academic Quality Controller

On-Campus Activities

Creative Writing (G5-G6)

Creative writing provides a vehicle for expression and communication. No matter what the age or grade level of students, diligent writing practice encourages both creativity and exploration.

A competition of creative writing for grade 5 and 6 students was held at ISC-Lahore on December 7, 2017. Around 70 young writers from both grades participated in the competition and used their creative minds and imagination to express their feelings on the props provided. They were able to write strong opening paragraphs that caught the reader's attention. Similarly, many of them wrote the final paragraphs that wrapped up their stories and left the readers thinking. Later on, in order to encourage the participants, certificates of participation were presented. Furthermore, reading through the students' stories, the teachers were able to find out more about their students' personality, style, and comprehension level.

Creative writing is a comfortable form of self-expression for any child.



Think, Share, Speak, and Convince!

ISC-Lahore has had a long, thrilling history of powerful and competitive sessions of debating and public speaking. This year was no different. Enthusiastic students from grades 7-12 were ready to express what they believed in. The highlight of the public speaking event was the incredible confidence of the students as they addressed the audience which included parents, students, fellow competitors, and teachers.

The key speakers were Alex Khan (Grade 12) who came in first place, Zoya Mir (Grade 10) who came in second place, and Elise Asim (Grade 11) who came in third place. The head boy, Alex Khan spoke about an interesting topic, "What I've learnt in my life so far" with an unusual spin. The Head of Activities, Zoya Mir gave an uplifting and inspiring speech about self-empowerment and appreciating yourself. Her energetic and passionate stance convinced the audience of her point of view. Lastly, Elise Asim gave an inspirational speech on "Why we should continue in the face of failure." Her speech was incredibly emphatic and most of us will definitely keep this particular life lesson in mind.

Another exhilarating event that took place was the debating competition where many of our students had a friendly debate with each other and discussed many important issues concerning our world and society today.

Manal Effendi - Grade 10B

Fundraising and Donations (DOA and Pink Ribbon)

The SLO® Social Responsibility Department has been working hard this term to maintain strong links with two of our partner charities this year. Firstly, the SLO® arranged a "Pink" color week for the Pink Ribbon Charity, which raises awareness on breast cancer in Pakistan while also building and setting up a free hospital for breast cancer in Lahore.

During the "Pink" week, the Pink Ribbons' doctors and nurses set up awareness sessions for our female staff members, mothers, and female students in grades 9-12. These sessions were very informative and well received by all. A bake sale and a "pink-colored clothes" day were arranged which drenched the school in a sea of pink. Everyone had lots of fun while also raising awareness about this growing problem in the country. We are happy to announce that on behalf of ISC-Lahore, a donation of over \$1,000 dollars went to the Pink Ribbon Charity.

Before the winter break, ISC-Lahore hosted a winter fun day for the students at Centre 9 of Door of Awareness. With the theme being Christmas, a very special guest, Santa Claus entertained the audience. Santa took time out from his busy schedule to give the students gift bags that were arranged by the SLO®. Students at Centre 9 also enjoyed art activities and storytelling with Mrs. Asad and Mrs. Shah respectively. The continuous efforts of our students and staff to raise funds for Centre 9 have enabled the school to make a donation of \$1,000 dollars.

The Saturday teaching sessions for Door of Awareness with the students of ISC-Lahore continue on a bi-weekly basis. These sessions are very well received by the students of Centre 9.

We would like to thank everyone in our school community who has contributed so generously over the past term.

Mr. Nathan Lee Deeney
Head of SLO® Department





Academic Achievement: Opt-Out Exam

Five students from Grade 6 and one student from Grade 8 displayed remarkable academic performance by successfully passing an Opt-Out exam in Social Studies. By taking such an ambitious initiative, these students have proven their excellence as independent learners, responsible students, and as individuals who are ready to challenge themselves positively and constructively.

Successful Opt-Out candidates are:

Saad Malik (Grade 6A), Areez Waqar (Grade 6A), Alizah Noor (Grade 6B), Shayan Ahmad (Grade 6B), Aysha Ayyob (Grade 6C) & Ahmed Nadem Hussain (Grade 8B)

Mrs. Margo appreciated and congratulated all the successful students who now will be working on special projects assigned by the AQC and will earn additional SLO® points at the end of the academic year. ISC-Lahore is extremely proud of these exceptional students for their outstanding academic achievement and wishes them further success in their endeavors.

Mrs. Sara Hussain
Primary School Academic Quality Controller

Urdu Creative Writing Competition

Voicing one's opinion on a piece of paper is an undeniable form of art that can lead an individual to the summit of success. ISC-Lahore believes that the more the students are provided with the opportunity to pour out their feelings, the more they will observe their surroundings and become conscientious members of society. To bring this idea to life, an Urdu creative writing competition was held on October 18 & 19, 2017.

The eager participation of the students showed the seriousness of the competition. Students from grades 7-12 participated in it. Enthusiasm was such that even younger students fought tooth and nail to undo their literary foes. Out of 111 students who enthusiastically took part in practice sessions, 70 geniuses were selected for the final competition.

After an intense session, three students from each grade emerged as winners. Their efforts were not only appreciated by the fellow students and teachers, but also by the director of ISC-Lahore, Mrs. Margo Abdel Aziz. The Middle School AQC, Mrs. Sajjad handed over the prizes to the champions. The ceremony ended with loads of acknowledgement for the participants and winners. A huge round of applause cheered all of them up for a fantastic future.

Ms. Yasmin Shah
Head of Urdu Department



Books, Books, and More Books!

The book fair is ISC-Lahore's annual event that both students and teachers look forward to with great enthusiasm. Thousands of books from different genres were displayed in the Activities Hall. Beautiful decorations adorned the walls adding to the festive mood. Eager students and parents bought many interesting books of their choice. As ISC-Lahore is celebrating its 25th anniversary, surprise gifts were given to the first 300 parents. Food stalls outside the Activities Hall provided an additional air of cheerfulness to the event. We wish ISC-Lahore many years of exciting book fairs ahead!

Mrs. Fariyal Barque
Coordinator Grade 2-Grade 4

Testimonials

"The Book fair is my favorite event in school. There are lots of fun books to choose from such as word search, crossword, Famous Five, and even books by Roald Dahl. There are many food stalls, as well. I love the school's annual book fair, and I wish it went on forever!"

Zena Pasari - Grade 5A

"This year's book fair was awesome! There were lots of great books for all types of ages. There were many food stalls selling popcorn, sweet corn and subway sandwiches. I believe that this year's book fair was the best book fair at ISC-Lahore."

Maria Khan - Grade 5A

"This year the book fair was amazing. There were a lot of books for everyone. For me the best book was 'Dark Diaries'. My friend and I bought 4 books. My favorite book is 'Frenemies Forever'. The food stalls at the fair had delicious food. So far, this year's book fair was the best!"

Arusha Awais - Grade 5A

"The students were overjoyed to visit the book fair and wanted to go and select books by their favorite authors. Students also chose books related to their curriculum and were extremely happy to share them with their friends."

Mrs. Zeeshan
English Teacher - Grade 6A

"The book fair is becoming more and more exciting and entertaining every year. By reading books sometimes we come across words that are difficult to understand. We can search and find their meanings in order to make sense out of the book."

Hamza Mirza - Grade 6A

"There were many different genres to choose from at the book fair. I found my favorite book 'Diary of the Wimpy Kid.' By reading books we can definitely improve our vocabulary."

Sophia Rana - Grade 6A

"As always, the Book Fair was an interesting event to attend. Every stall was replete with educational tools along with amazing stationery that lured the children. No doubt the effort put in organizing the event speaks for itself."

Sadia Tahir
English Teacher - Grade 6B





Happy Birthday ISC-Lahore / Musical and Dance Performances

On December 6, 2017, students in grades 2 to 6 put up a truly fantastic show, which was part of a series of events, to celebrate the 25th anniversary of ISC-Lahore. In order to make this show spectacular, students and staff members worked together tirelessly for weeks and it really paid off.

Parents were a big part of the audience and were mesmerized by the ambience and aura which surrounded them. As the colors of merriment unfolded, students in grades 2 to 4 sang the Birthday song in English, Urdu, French, Chinese, German, Spanish, Portuguese and Kurdish. Next, a series of dances were staged that included, "Hip- Hop Dance performance" by students in Grade 6 and the "Lebanese Folk Dance" performed by students in Grade 4. Students in Grade 5 performed an Urdu and Punjabi dance. Clad in beautiful costumes, the young dancers moved to the tunes of complex rhythms using their dancing skills seamlessly. It was a fantastic production full of life and a great way to say Happy Birthday to ISC-Lahore!

Mrs. Nabila Zeeshan
Primary School English Teacher



Parents' Day

On November 18, 2017, ISC-Lahore opened its doors to current parents and guests who wished to find out more about the school. Such an event was organized for the first time in the history of the school. With around 600 families attending, the event turned out to be a huge success. Visitors started arriving at 11:00 a.m. They had the opportunity to have a guided tour of the campus and its facilities, meet with staff from all departments, see the Interactive Whiteboards in action, examine the SABIS® book series, and find out more about admission requirements, the High School Diploma and the SLO®.

The most visited places seemed to be the Library, where guests learned about the Accelerated Reader Program, the ITL® Hall, with its impressive number of computer stations, where visitors could see exactly how exams are taken, and the sports and swimming facilities. The Director, AQC's, SLC, and staff were available all around the campus, ready to answer questions about academic curriculum, policies, and procedures. The student leadership along with prefects and some alumni exceeded our expectations in fulfilling their assigned duties. Parents and guests commented on the state-of-the-art facilities as well as the positive spirit evident in every part of the school.

The campus was buzzed with activity and excitement. Visitors enjoyed the food stalls and the music on the main porch, while the little ones loved the jumping castle and face-painting in the gym. Parents' Day 2017 was definitely a great way to open the festivities for ISC-Lahore's 25th anniversary.

Mrs. Dimitra Dimakopoulou
Infants' Academic Quality Controller





Urdu Cultural Festival

The Urdu Department organized a Cultural Festival in Term 2. Dedicated students in grades 7-12 participated enthusiastically in the event. The aim of this event was to celebrate the diverse and intriguing cultures of Pakistan. Every province of Pakistan is different in its own beautiful way with its respective traditions and customs. The Cultural Festival was divided into three main events: The Food Festival, The Provincial Competition, and The Provincial Cultural Stage Performances.

The Food Festival was indeed a very appetizing affair. Students brought home-baked traditional dishes of Pakistan and sold them to their friends and other students during the breaks. Harum Zeb Chatta in Grade 11 happily shares her experience in these words, "Wherever you went, the delicious and mouthwatering aroma of the food assailed your

nostrils!". The money made from selling the food was generously donated to the charity organization called "The Door of Awareness" to aid poor and underprivileged children of Pakistan.

During the Provincial Competition, students in grades 9-12 competed with each other. Each team had to present one of the provinces of Pakistan in the most creative manner. They were each given a board and had to decorate it with traditional aspects of Punjab, Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh, and Gilgit Baltistan. Moreover, they baked traditional dishes from each province and dressed up in the traditional attires representing their respective provinces. Mrs. Margo Abdel Aziz and other senior staff members awarded the team representing Khyber Pakhtunkhwa as the winners.

Finally, the stage performances were organized by students in Grade 7. This event involved skits and concluded in a cultural parade. Students wore traditional dresses of each province and strolled down the stage. "I think it is a great opportunity for students to learn about different cultures of Pakistan in a very fun and amusing way," said Ozair Faisal in Grade 11, who attended the event. The Urdu Festival was finally concluded leaving everybody in awe.

Atif Rafique Malkera- Grade 11A



Staff Holiday and Appreciation Dinner

Holidays are a time for joy, cheerfulness, and happiness. Before parting for the winter break, ISC-Lahore held its annual Appreciation Dinner on December 9, 2017. It was a great way to begin the winter vacation. The event started off with Ms. Margo's welcome speech, followed by a guessing game conducted by Mrs. Shehla Shoaib and Ms. Rahat Ilyas. It was an engaging and lively game garnering the interest of everyone. Afterwards, there were some light-hearted, frivolous activities including Mrs. Asifa reciting a poem in Urdu which shared the dilemma of dieting with the audience. However, the highlight of the event was the rendition of the same poem in English by Ms. Aimal Asi. The audience thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated the wonderful translation of the poem! Bidding farewell to year 2017, the ISC-Lahore family parted their ways with smiles and hopes for a good, successful new year.



Ms. Fariyal Barque
Coordinator for Grades 2-4



Contests & Competitions

PSIFI IX



PSIFI is Pakistan's biggest science Olympiad, held annually at The Lahore University of Management and Sciences (LUMS). LUMS is a renowned university and is famous for its excellence in arts and sciences. PSIFI offers a creative platform for young learners from all over Pakistan.

This year, ISC-Lahore was able to proudly present three teams for PSIFI. During the competition, the teams were able to engage in a variety of events. These events were not only competitive but also enriching and educative. Each event dealt with different fields of sciences and allowed participants to enhance their knowledge in the science of criminology. Moreover, participants had to utilize their sense of reasoning and logical thinking.

The competition lasted for four days and our students worked hard from dawn till dusk to achieve the fruit of their labor in the form of a trophy. Their hard work finally paid off when one of the teams composed of students from Grade 11 was able to secure third position in an event called Tech Wars, which is a competition in computing and programming.

ISC-Lahore always encourages its students to participate in such extra-curricular activities in order to foster self-confidence and improve their social skills. These competitions also polish their leadership and team work skills. Such skills are important and useful for them in their future professional lives.

The three teams from ISC-Lahore consisted of:

- 1) Ozair Faisal, Haseeb Imran, Elise Asim, Aleenah Hassan., Atif Rafique Malkera
- 2) Alexandros Ali Khan, Sajid Ikram, Osman Faisal, Zaki Ullah, Ismail Daud
- 3) Muratab Naqvi, Salamat Ali Bhatti, Noor ud Din Humayun

Atif Rafique Malkera - Grade 11A

All Hail SABIS® STARS!

We are pleased to inform you that the 2018 SLO® Talent & Academic Regionals, SABIS® STARS, will be taking place on April 21 and 22, 2018, and will be hosted by SABIS® International School – YAS Island, Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.

Across the region, SABIS® STARS has become a much-anticipated event in the school calendar. It is a wonderful opportunity for students to share their academic and general knowledge, innovative ideas, and artistic talents with their peers, parents, and visitors in a positive, healthy, and competitive environment. Competitions include creative writing, public speaking, poetry recital, photography, debates, advertising and science fair. These events are judged by a panel of qualified judges who are hand-picked from among SABIS® staff, parents, and the local community.

SABIS® STARS 2018 has created much excitement and anticipation in our school community. Good luck to all the students who will participate. We hope you all will make us proud!

Building on the success of the past years, SABIS® STARS 2018 is set to bring together students from 31 SABIS® Network schools in 14 countries for an unparalleled display of academic acumen, innovation, and talent!

Mr. Nathan Lee Deeney
Head of SLO® Department

ISMO (Inter-School Math Olympiad)

The ISMO Math Contest was held on November 25, 2017 in 32 centers all across Pakistan (Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Lahore, Peshawar, Kohat, Quetta, Karachi, Multan, Khairpur Mirs, Jamshoro, Hyderabad, Larkana, Dadu, Sukkur, Pannu Aaqil, Mehrabpur, Faisalabad, Bahawalpur, and Rawalakot). Over 11,800 students participated in the competition from grades 5-8. This unique competition provides a great chance for students to show their incredible potential and win great prizes.

Sixty-eight (68) students from the International School of Choueifat – Lahore (ISC-Lahore) participated in the contest. To prepare for the competition, ISC-Lahore’s Math Department coordinated with the organizers of this contest. Students in graded 5-8 with a Math average above 90% were selected and took part in practice sessions held at the school a few days before the actual contest.

The result of the competition was announced on December 11, 2017 through the organizer’s website and an attractive prize distribution ceremony was held later on January 6, 2018.

Inayah Israr in Grade 7 won a cash prize for securing 3rd position in the Lahore region. She has made her family and ISC-Lahore very proud. A special gathering was arranged at ISC-Lahore to appreciate Inayah’s talent and to celebrate her remarkable achievement.

Mrs. Lubna Sajjad
Middle School Academic Quality Controller





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