

ARAB EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

Summer-Newsletter, July 2021



Ahlan wa sahlan – Welcome back Another difficult school year ends

Even if the school work already requires a lot of effort: The past school year was particularly difficult. All forces concentrated on the education of our students and keeping everyone healthy. It was worth it: with hygiene measures, vaccinations, intensive training and many support measures, over long periods of distance learning, we were able to maintain our school level.

In addition, with your great help, we were able to tackle new classrooms. This enables us to offer a qualified school leaving certificate and even a high school diploma. The main thing that is missing now is the equipment in the new rooms so that all learners can receive optimal support.

The distress in Jordan has increased due to the pandemic. Many parents lost their jobs and can no longer pay school fees. We also support these families as best we can so as not to lose them.

In spite of everything, we celebrated the end of the school year: We celebrated Easter, graduation, award ceremonies and the 75th anniversary of Jordan's independence as well as the farewell to kindergarten, which is celebrated very solemnly:



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Good news: everyone is vaccinated!

Various vaccinations are required for sixteen-year-olds in Jordan. Since distance learning was ordered, the tenth graders were called to school for vaccinations. These vaccinations took place before the corona vaccinations.



In the meantime, the learners and the AES staff have been vaccinated against Covid-19. We thank God for everyone's safety. We are ready again to teach our loved ones at the school for the coming school year. 🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏 All vaccinations were given at the school in cooperation with the Jordanian Caritas Association in April 2021.



The vaccination had become compulsory for all teachers.

Continuous in service training

The teachers at the AES are in a continuous training process. The main focus is currently on training courses on digital learning. Since many learners do not have a PC at home but have a cell phone, they work with it. This results in further special demands on the teachers. By using a number of different digital applications, such as WhatsApp or Zoom, in distance learning, they try to maintain the highest level of education possible.

Distance learning

Our teachers did everything to reach the children and young people at home. In the absence of technical equipment, they had to communicate in various ways, sometimes via cell phone, zoom and WhatsApp - a difficult and very exhausting phase.



Closed schools also cost money

Schools cost money, even or especially when they are closed due to Corona. Of course, the teachers will continue to be paid. They prepare the lessons even more intensively, look after students as best they can, "remotely" so to speak, and learn how to use the media.

The work of parents is very important in the AES. The teachers communicate regularly with the parents about the children. Parents' evenings, which previously took place at school, are currently held electronically.

The absence of the children is also used for renovation work. And the expansion of the AES up to the Abitur is a great challenge! Together we can lift it. You can support the school with the keyword "classrooms" for new rooms and for new forms of teaching that have become necessary as a result of Corona.

Awards and Gifts

Here, prizes and gifts are distributed to the winners in the fields of poetry, drawing and art. The event took place on Tuesday, May 25th, 2021 in the AES schoolyard.



Scientific Conferences

The participation of the school principal Dr. Khaled Al-Hammouri at the second Amman Arab University scientific conference was very important. He is the father of the second grade student Yazan Al-Hammouri and provided information with a research paper entitled “The Effectiveness of Electronic Tests from the perspective of the parents of students at the AES”.

Many thanks and respect to all parents for their cooperation in filling out the questionnaire. Thank you Dr. Khaled Al-Hammouri for choosing the topic and many thanks to everyone who, together with the episcopal staff, helped with the coordination and evaluation.



Easter

Easter is an important festival for the AES. That is why it is celebrated colorfully and happily at school.



Playful learning



The teacher Hadeel Al-Saleem presented methods for the strategy of playful learning, which can be implemented in face-to-face teaching as well as in e-learning. Various applications and competitions are integrated. The teachers of the AES thus comply with the state conditions and the health protocol.

Farewell to kindergarten

The farewell to kindergarten was a wonderful party, which was celebrated on June 19, 2021 in the AES. After a long absence, it was finally possible to meet again in person. Due to the corona pandemic, the celebration was held in the school's sports stadium outdoors. Only father, mother and child were admitted to the celebration; these protective measures had to be. But the children and their parents really enjoyed the event.



75 years of independence for Jordan

On May 25, 1946, the British mandate expired and Transjordan gained full independence. Abdallah I accepted the title of king.



The children celebrated the 75th anniversary of independence, also from home.

Many of you support the school beyond the membership fee. We are incredibly grateful to you for this. The corona year 2021 particularly challenges us and we always look forward to your donation. It benefits the school without any deductions and is fully tax deductible.

Notes on this on the last page

New classrooms arise

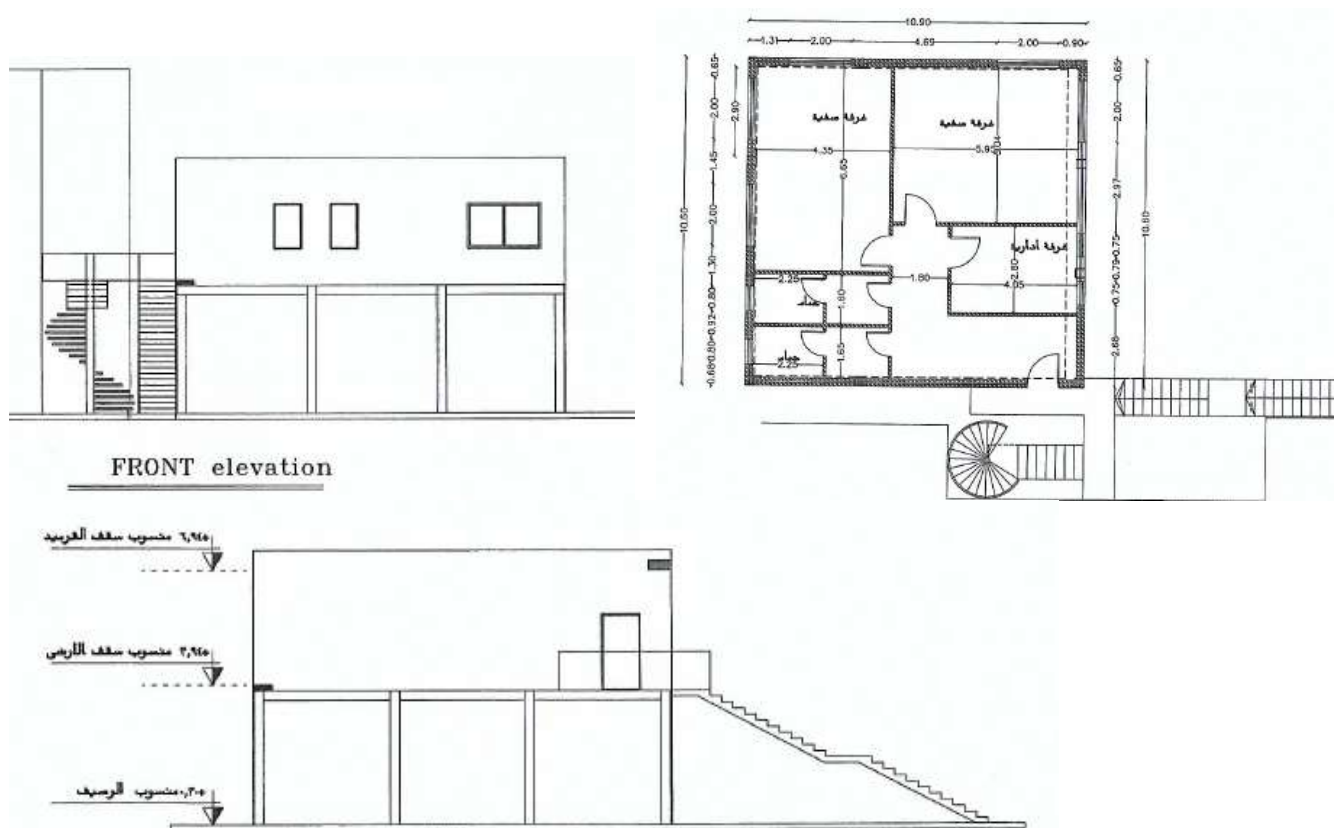
Thanks to considerable financial support from the Württemberg regional church and the Sponsoring Association Irbid Inclusion School, the construction contract for the expansion of the school was awarded. In mid-May, Samir met several times with the architect of the Anglican diocese of Jerusalem to discuss plans for the new classrooms. The new building is to be implemented during the summer holidays in June and July. The planned new rooms cover 120 m² and should enable the students to be guided through to the Abitur. The qualified school leaving certificate, even the Abitur, would be a great advantage, especially for the blind and visually impaired, because it would give them better chances of finding a job after school. This is still a big problem.

In order to be able to offer up-to-date lessons, technical-electronic aids are required for equipping the rooms. For example, during the homeschooling phase in the Corona period, lessons could only be organized via mobile phones for many students, as most families do not have a computer. But looking into the smartphone for hours - is that good for the eyes?

The problems are there. The FII e.V. is urgently needed, donations are urgently needed to finance the classrooms and equip them with the necessary auxiliary equipment.

We are extremely grateful if you particularly support this project, which takes our school a big step further. In this case, please enter the keyword "classrooms".

The following pictures show the architects' designs for the new rooms.



These pictures (clippings) can only give an approximate impression that the new classrooms are on an upper floor and how they are arranged in the AES area.

The new archbishop

On May 13, 2021, Hossam Naoum, the new archbishop (pictured with Rev. Samir Esaid) was introduced to his episcopal office as presiding metropolitan of the Episcopal Church.



Irbid and Hosun: Two churches for Samir

In addition to the responsibility for the parish in Irbid, Samir has now also been given responsibility for the parish in Hosun. This is significantly larger than the congregation in Irbid, but is familiar to Samir, as he was there himself in the past. A young pastor who has just finished his training and is not yet ordained works there to support Samir. He is currently working under the guidance of Samir. The workload has yet to be distributed. In any case, the new colleague will mainly be working in Hosun.

Lydia Zoubek moves on!



Lydia Zoubek writes in her blog "Lydia's World" about what it's like to be blind. In 2019 her blog was nominated for the Grimme Online Award. We are very pleased that an article about the AES appeared there.

Click here for the blog post: <https://lydiaswelt.com/2021/02/18/die-arab-episcopal-school-integrationsschule-jordanien/>

The "Money Pool" that Ms. Zoubek set up at PayPal brought in € 1,760 as of July 2021! Anyone who wants to can donate the equivalent of one coffee - or more - to the AES by December 31, 2021.

To the money pool: <https://www.paypal.com/pools/c/8wREnH1xQK>

We do thank Ms. Zoubek very much for her great commitment!



Morning roll call in the playground.



Our school garden gives us rich gifts of lemons.

Imprint

AES – Newsletter: Informations of the Arab Episcopal School, Irbid, Jordan.

The AES is part of the „Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem“ (<https://www.i-diocese.org/>).

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The AES works according to the principles of peace education.

This includes the joint teaching of:

- blind, visually impaired and sighted children (inclusion)
- boys and girls (co-education)
- Christians and Muslims (interfaith education)

Help others to help!