



Global Connections and Exchange

Palestinian Territories

March, 2007

Each month, we publish a newsletter like this one to update schools in our network, our donors and other interested readers about the activities and progress taking place within our program in the Palestinian Territories.

Do you have something you would like to add to the newsletter?

Please contact:
middleeast@ri.org

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Relief International-Schools Online witnessed a busy month during March. The International Women's day, the reading week, activities through youth activism and the English language training were the main activities during March. Also, the teachers who came back from the USA and have benefited from the teachers exchange program added a different flavor to the month of March.

Spring time seems to be starting with many interesting activities and positive energy which will continue during this summer.

This month's newsletter will provide information about all the activities mentioned above written by people who have arranged the activities and participated in them, to give us an idea about their achievements and future plans.

International Women's Day Celebration

by:
Khalid Massou

The International Women's Day is a day that honors the role of women in society at large. For this reason we have celebrated this great occasion in all of RI-SOL ILCs in Palestine.

In Bethlehem, we have prepared in collaboration with the Doha children cultural center and the SOS Village a number of activities for this special day.



We started to discuss the nature of the activities that could take place during this day. The students had a number of suggestions and began to training on how to welcome women, read poems and sing. 15 students participated and prepared this event at Doha children Cultural Center. 100 women attended the event, one of the ladies who attended is "em Anwar" a lady that offered herbal treatment services free of charge for over than 50 years.

The celebration started with the students welcoming the audience with speeches, then music played by a local DJ and a group of young girls reading a poem, the girls also sang and performed the dabkah. em Anwar has said a word addressing the women and stressing the important role they play and the need to know how to heal their children using herbal treatment. She suggested to train them on herbal treatment methods.

At the end of the event, the students said the last word and distributed flowers to all women. All the women who participated were happy to be part of this event and they were looking forward for Em Anwer's training.



Welcome Huda !!



RI-SOL Palestine is excited to introduce you to Huda Alawni, our new On-Site Monitor for Nablus. So far, Huda is doing a great job; she has already established strong relationships with teachers and students, and has initiated some exciting school activities, such as the Planting day. Welcome Huda, we are all interested to work with you and to have you as a new member in our team

Working with RI-SOL

By: Huda Alawni

I applied for RI-SOL in Oct,2006 , went into an interview , acceptedand here I am a member of a big loving family doing our best to help Palestinian youth getting better opportunities in life through multiple activities .Utilizing modern technology in my institution makes my job easier .I can contact my boss any time, who facilitates my mission, I get advice , support and the best friendship I may ever have via internet on daily base



Working with a pioneer, co-operative work time available at Relief International is fantastic .I can be myself with them , free to express my thoughts and views. This arise my creativity, made me feel I am a giant of endless powers which I must invest .the sake of others

Thanks to Relief International for giving me such a post .I hope they achieve their goals and aims .I wish I were a messenger of Relief to all disadvantaged under the umbrella of Relief International

Teachers' Exchange

Development Training program, which aims to develop new teaching techniques by focusing on the use of technology and integrating it into the class room. This would allow teachers to graduate generations that know how to use technology and be in touch with the world

After that, we have participated in workshops and training courses on the same subject in the US, as part of our exchange program, where we had the chance to share our experiences with participants from around the world.



In the US we have been introduced to new methods and at the same time had the chance to practice the technology in class room, there are many simple methods that we can use at school but not at the same time.

The workshop that we have attended during the exchange program included many subjects and lectures in different areas like: teaching development, IT skills, working in the school atmosphere and at the same time with teachers, visit governmental and non-governmental organization that cares about teaching and lastly visit the Site seeing.



ways on how to make our school a good example for all other schools, possibility to work with other schools to share our experience.

We were lucky to participate in this exchange; it was so useful and valuable. Unfortunately we might not go again!! but we wish all the best for who will go next time.

The long lectures and the daily visits made the time pass fast without feeling bored and that's because of the diversity of the program.

Currently, we are working to adapt our methods in the school with the new methods that we have learnt during the exchange program, like developing the relation between the students and the teachers. There are many ideas that will be applied on the school curriculum and

English Language Training

All of our students through the “students clubs” had taken English language training with a volunteer teacher called Fuad .

This was very nice and interesting for several reasons: the teacher was very professional , we didn't feel bored, he took us to virtual trips around the world from America to Japan , every day we were living a new adventure and experiencing our English communication skills . Additionally my class- mates were good students , every day they were producing new ideas to make the training more successful . The training was twice a week and we were 30 students boys and girls .

I hope to attend another training in the future in all of RI-SOL centers in the West Bank because we have a lot benefited from it.

It was a good chance for us as students to speak English fluently .

By: Diana al sharief



Youth Activism

March Project

The Youth Activism Lesson helped students to identify their own skills and talents, understand common methods of youth activism, such as: educate, advocate and donate, understand that youth can create change on the local, national, or international levels by using these methods. The lesson helped them taking decisions about which level they would like to work in, moreover to design a service learning project using their talents and one of the methods they have learnt, aiming to benefit a cause they believe in.

Desiny Minie Grant

Three months ago I wrote a small proposal for youth service day aiming to make an activity that would benefit my community. The proposal was about an important health issue, Thalassemia and Thalassemia patients.

I chose this subject as I think that this disease is spreading rapidly in Palestine and my idea is to create Public Awareness, explain the dangers of the disease, how it spreads and prevention methods. In addition to the previous activities, I included the idea to of conducting recreation day for children who suffer from this blood disease, this activity will take place on the 22nd of April, as part of the Global Youth Service Day.

To conduct the activities I will be working and coordinating with (Palestine avenir foundation-national center for blood diseases "HIPPOCRATES" Thalassemia and Hemophilia unit).

I hope to achieve the aims of the activities, which will help to alleviate the suffering of the patients.

Through this project we can accomplish a lot of things that comply with the aims of RI-SOL. we also can promote the concepts of volunteerism and community service because a major part of the activities will be done by volunteers from different schools and universities



Reading Week

By:

Nadiah Saba'neh

During Youth Activism Month, We organized a Reading Week at Ramallah Basic Girls School, in which a great reading campaign took place.

Different classes in this week were dedicated for Reading and Importance of Books, moreover Art classes were used to organize Painting competitions about Reading, and Technology classes were used to organize Post Cards Designing Competition, Regular visits to the School Library were organized to encourage students to read, and to visit the library more often since Books are great source of Knowledge ... Books are treasure. Posters and paintings made by students were hung on the school hall walls.

At the end of this busy week, we organized a great event to celebrate the accomplishments of this campaign; students acted plays they read, while others told stories they liked most, students read some poems and others competed in reading poetry they memorize, and students who won the competitions that were organized during the week were awarded great books.

This campaign lasted for only one week but its impact will last with students for ever, since that week students visit the Library more often and they fill their free time by reading useful books.



The Global Connections and Exchange Project - West Bank & Gaza is a project of Relief International - Schools Online's Global Citizenship and Youth Philanthropy Program and has been made possible with major funding from the Bureau for Education and Cultural Affairs of the US Department of State, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Microsoft Community Foundation and the Global Catalyst Foundation.

For more information about our programs please visit
www.ri.org

1575 Westwood Blvd., Ste. 201
Los Angeles, CA, 90024
Tel: 310 - 478 - 1200 Fax: 310 - 478 - 1212



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