



Sana'a International School

# Wednesday Scoop



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## Upcoming Events

- ◆ After school ultimate Frisbee on the soccer field has begun. Students 12 years old and older can participate.
- ◆ After school track from 3-4:20 for 12 and up
- ◆ ITBS testing February 6-8
- ◆ Parent/Teacher conferences: February 16 from 1:00-5:40 and February 17 from 8:00-2:00 - please sign up!
- ◆ Gymnastics night - February 16 at 6:00
- ◆ Elementary music night February 24 @ 6:00

## The Arabian Leopard Club is BACK!

The Arabian Leopard Club is starting again! If you want to join, there is a sign up sheet in the Library. The premise of the club is to organize activities for the students of SIS to learn more about the Arabian Leopards and other endangered species. The club requires creative, thoughtful people who love animals and are willing to be committed to the club. If you think you are such a person and you are in the 12 year old class or

higher, come join the club! We encourage everyone who would like to be a part of this to sign up and come to our 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

Meetings will be held every Tuesday at lunch. Our first meeting will be held on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2010 at lunch in room 8 (Mr. Weirich's room).

Hoping to see you there,  
Nandini and Tarim

# Parent Teacher Conferences February 16-17

## ITBS Testing Next Week

Next week the 5 year old through Secondary 2 students will be taking the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS). This will take place during the first four periods on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, February 6- 8.

The test results can also be used to assess the school's performance in various areas of the curriculum over a period of time.

Please make sure your child/ren have:

- ✓ A good night sleep
- ✓ A good breakfast
- ✓ Arrive at school on time.

The results of the ITBS testing helps us track the progress each student is making in Mathematics, Reading, Science, and Cultural Studies.



At SIS, we settle for nothing less than mastery levels of performance and behavior

## See You at Parent-Teacher Conference!

Conferences are just around the corner. This is a very important time to find out what's happening at school in regards to your children's education. Many folks don't see the importance of these and simply don't come. If you feel there is nothing to

really talk about, the relationship you build with your children's teacher is worth the time you spend coming out to the school.

### Before the conference

- Decide what you want to ask the teacher and write the questions down.
- Consider making a list for your child's teacher of things that will help create a better understanding of your child; for example, family conflicts, feelings about school, hobbies, special health problems.
- Ask your child some questions: what's her favorite subject? what's her least favorite? what do you want me to tell your teacher?
- Be on time. Write down the time of your appointment and arrive promptly. If you can't make the conference as scheduled, call and notify the teacher.

### During the Conferences

- If you have a specific point to discuss or have a complaint, listen to the teacher's point before criticizing.
- The teacher may have some questions too -- not trying to pry into your personal life, but only to obtain information that will help her or him to work better with your child.
- Before you leave develop an action plan. If need be, set up a way to check on your child's progress. You and the teacher can decide how best to stay in touch. Finally, follow through with the plan.
- Leave promptly to allow other parents to have as much time as you had with the teacher. If you feel the need to continue, schedule another conference with the teacher.

## Common College Application Mistakes - part 3

### 3. YOU FOLLOW THE PACK

Don't choose College X because your best friend did. The reason a friend chose College X may have nothing to do with your educational objectives and ambitions.

Personalize your search so that you can apply your values and test many of the myths about colleges. (Examples: Small colleges are intimate and friendly. The best colleges are the expensive ones.)

"Some students think that if it's a large college, the classes must be large, too," says Patricia Riordan, dean of admissions at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia, where the student body numbers 24,000, but classes can be as small as 20.

You should also define what you're looking for in a college (e.g., major field of study, location, size) and apply these personal criteria throughout the search. Don't make your decision based on the needs and desires of others.

Be just as wary of "ratings" and "rankings" guides. There are outstanding programs within average institutions and weak academic programs within sound institutions. Create a ranking of colleges that works for you.