



# S.D. NEWSLETTER

April Edition

➔ START

## Principal's Message

*This is the time of the year when sports competitions are in full swing, and this is the season when JM Selection Teams leave their marks wherever they play.*

*Badminton, Futsal, and Basketball! JM players and teams, as well as JM coaches, reveal all the talent, skills, teamwork, and even creativity a sportsman and sportswoman can have on the field and on the court.*

*We did win some games, and we lost some others, too; yet, this is not the issue. The players try their best and showcase all the techniques and systems they have learnt and have been working on to win; still, all this goes far beyond the results...*

*Coach Grace, Coach Rabih, and Coach John, all three, work on building a character, an attitude, and a personality through sportsmanship, open-mindedness, tolerance, team building, stamina, empathy, discipline, and above all Excellence.*

*The teams end up being in full communion to offer us magical dunks and goals, while the Badminton players use their delightful moves to hit back the shuttlecock into the court and enchant us with their serves.*

*Whether after a Futsal match, a Basketball match, or a Badminton competition, and no matter the result, we always leave our head up high, proud to be JM!*

**Nathalie El Hani**



**NEXT!**

*Events*

01.



*April 4*  
*15 SAT Sessions*

*April 6 till April 17*  
*Easter Break*

*April 19*  
*2SE Spiritual Retreat*

*April 21 till April 24*  
*Fitr Days Off*

*April 26*  
*Universities*  
*Shadowing*

*April 27*  
*Donner Sang Compter*  
*Conference*

Upcoming  
Events

02.

**May 1**  
*Labour Day*

**May 3**  
*Darbessama 25A*

**May 5**  
*Farewell 35*

**May 10, 11, 12**  
*English & French  
Book Fair*

**May 10**  
*Darbessama 25B*

**May 19, 20**  
*Fingerprints*

**May 25**  
*Qannoubine Hike 35*

After graduating from JM in 2017, I went on to study architecture at the Lebanese University. After 5 years of hard work, late nights, and a lot of coffee, I graduated with a Masters in Architecture in 2022. By that time, I had already started working with International organizations like the Arab Center for Architecture and the APSAD especially following the unfortunate 2020 Beirut explosion. In 2021, while finishing my Master's degree, I began a fulltime Job at an architectural firm in Lebanon. Little did I know that the Lord had other plans for me and was opening a door for me to move to London and offer a year of my life for mission work. So, once I graduated in October, I packed my bags and moved to London where I am blessed to have had the most life-giving and adventurous year of my life.

I grew up thinking that there was a checklist I had to tick to be successful and happy. In all honesty, I spent a long time thinking that I had done everything by the book, and was on track with all of life's requirements. However, this past year has taught me to surrender my life and decisions to God and He will make way to so many opportunities and beautiful adventures, if only we let Him take charge of our lives.

To the younger generation, I encourage you to live life fully, to choose what you love and never give up on your dreams, to take on new challenges in life, to pluck up courage and not limit yourself to your own checklists. Sometimes when we surrender our control, that's when life becomes more interesting. As long as your eyes are focused on Him, He will sustain you.

Where Did  
They Go?



Gaëlle Yachouhi—  
JM Graduate 2017

03.

## السيد أنطوان سركيس أستاذ لغة عربيّة

Zoom in on  
the team

بدأت التعليم سنة 1980 وكنت طالبًا في الثانوي الثالث. كان حلمي مزاوله مهنة المحاماة، ولكن خلافاً مع إحدى الصديقات دفعني إلى ترك كلية الحقوق في نهاية السنة الثانية، فأكملت تخصّصي في مادة اللغة العربية. زاولت مهنة التعليم مدرّساً ومنسّقاً في العديد من المدارس: الرسل، المركزية، البعثة العلمانية الفرنسية، القديسة ريتا، الوردية جبيل...

لي مؤلفات مدرسية في لبنان والدول العربية، منها: قواعد العربية الفصحى، دار حبيب 1996- المنهج الجديد في القراءة والتعبير 1996- اللغة العربية- دولة الإمارات العربية 2009- كتاب اللغة العربية- حكومة إقليم كردستان، العراق 2013- حدّث واقراً، دار النديم 2015.

مؤسس المكتب العربي المتخصّص في التدقيق اللغويّ (أقفل المكتب بعد ثورة 17 تشرين الأول 2019 ولا يزال مقفلاً حتى إشعار آخر).

نلت دكتوراه فخرية بناء لتوصية من وزارة التربية في حكومة إقليم كردستان، ولم يتسنّ لي حتى الآن تسلّم الشهادة بسبب الظروف الأمنية والاقتصادية في كردستان.

عملت في الصحافة: أحد مؤسّسي مجلة المواطن 1984، رئيس تحرير مجلة صدى كسروان الفتوح، رئيس قسم التدقيق اللغوي في جريدة الديار. وكذلك في الإعلام المرئيّ كعمدّ برامج: MTV- SBI. احترفت الغناء لأكثر من 15 سنة، ولي في لبنان وأستراليا العديد من الحفلات الغنائية.

نلت في الشعر ثلاثة ألقاب: شاعر مدارس الشمال 1979، شاعر ستوديو الفن 1981، وشاعر شباب لبنان 1982. احترفت كرة القدم ولعبت مع السلام زغرتا، وراسينغ بيروت والروضة الدكوانة وشباب صربا. لي شعاران في الحياة: لا تنقل همومك الحياتية إلى مركز عملك، ولا تكشف أوراقك كلّها أمام الآخرين.



## JM Selections

### Basketball

Antoine Kassis, 3GS: "Coach John has helped me reach my full potential in Basketball; he also led the team to many important stages. There is one thing our coach taught us: we all lose together, and we all win together; we are a family."

Joe Salim, 3GS: "Basketball gives me a chance to compete, and there's no greater joy than competing for our school. Basketball is a team sport, so the success of the team depends on the effort of every single member."

Ryan Tabet, 3GS: "Basketball is a big part of my life thanks to Coach John, one of the most underrated coaches in the country. Despite winning all the championships with Hoops, JM has taught me leadership. It's not about players, it's about the love and chemistry they share."



Futsal

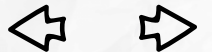
Meet Our  
Rising Stars

Eddy Sayegh, 3GS: "We have built a winning team. Other schools are scared to play against us. We might not have the best players, but we have the best team thanks to Coach Rabih!"

Nijad Chaaya, 3LS: "Being part of the JM Football Selection Team has helped me develop a perseverant and self-disciplined character. This sport has taught me the value of persistence and the importance of accountability and responsibility. I have also learnt that my actions do not only affect me but affect my teammates as well. This is why it is crucial to be disciplined and reliable, which has helped me become a hardworking person on and off the field."



05.b





## Badminton

Mario Ghobril, 3LS: "Badminton is a sport that improves one's intelligence and decision-making ability. It helps in relying on oneself and knowing how to develop without any help. Emotions play an important role in any game since they can decide about the outcome. Coach Grace has helped us greatly in learning how to control our emotions during the game."

Lea Kachi, 3LS: "Badminton may seem to be an easy sport; yet, it has proven to be otherwise to me. Patience, dedication, and focus are a must to excel in Badminton. After having had many competitions, I have learned that sportsmanship and respect towards my opponents are the ingredients that build the best version of a player."



Lea Kachi



Mario Ghobril

06.

## Beirut ...Coup de Foudre

Thoughts

*Christina Murr - 3LS: " Beyrouth ne cesse de nous surprendre. Nous avons eu l'occasion de découvrir Beyrouth tel que nos pères la voyaient à partir de Beit-Beirut, un musée qui se trouve au cœur de la ville. Ce fut une expérience émouvante ; nous avons eu la chance d'embarquer dans une aventure historique à travers plusieurs gares qui ont été rénovées pour ressembler exactement à ce qu'elles étaient à l'époque. Les magasins démolis par la guerre et les immeubles troués par les missiles nous montrent la douleur que cette ville a vécue. Mais malgré toutes ces tragédies, Beit-beirut nous révèle aussi l'espoir des citoyens en un avenir meilleur où on peut vivre en paix. »*

*Clara Sassine - 3GS: " En tant qu'élèves de classe terminale, nous avons pu découvrir notre capitale Beirut pour comprendre davantage notre propre culture. Nous avons pu étudier l'architecture des immeubles et des maisons ottomanes qui se trouvent dans les anciennes ruelles du centre-ville. Cette randonnée culturelle mais amusante nous a permis d'enrichir notre savoir au paravant limité à propos de notre pays. Beirut nous a tous donné un vrai coup de cœur ! »*



06.

# Beirut ... Coup de Foudre

Thoughts



07.

## Poetry Club

*Inspiration  
in Action*

The Poetry Club, also known as "Dead Poets Society" (inspired by the movie of the same name) is a subdivision of the Art Club. It was founded in 2021 by Myriam Atallah.

As a Poetry Club, our main goal is to help our students express their emotions through words and art. Our activities try to make poetry more enjoyable, fun, and open to everyone since many people believe it to be boring.

During the school year 2022-2023, the club engaged in numerous activities around poetry, one of which was viewing the film *Dead Poets Society*. During the month of March, the Club members joined forces to come out with a board in honor of World Poetry Day, March 21.

In a word, our Club thrives to change the stereotypes some people hold about poetry. Thanks to our members and activities, we are changing the status quo one person at a time.





SEE YOU NEXT  
MONTH!

Stay Tuned 😊

*This is not  
a Goodbye*

