

*Looking  
Forward*

LOOKING BACK ما بين الماضي  
والمستقبل



2018-2019



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL  
UPPER SCHOOL



UPPER SCHOOL

# YEARBOOK 2018-2019





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# أنشودة المدرسة

## SCHOOL ANTHEM

أ أنتِ الريـاضُ الناصِرةُ  
أنتِ الدراري الزاهِرةُ  
يا أُمَّنا دارَ العُلـومِ  
في خالِكِ الجَهِلِ السَّـمومِ  
قرار

دومي لنا يـا أُمَّنا  
وصرُحِكِ العـالي السَّـنا  
بالعِزِّ مـا مَرَّ الزَّمانُ  
يَبْقَى رَفيـعـاً كَلَّ أَنْ

ص صَحَّتْ بـنـا مِـنَ الخُـمـولِ  
صونوا النـفـ وِـسَّـبَ والعُقـولِ  
هَبُّوا بِجِدِّ ونشـاطِ  
بالعِـلـمِ ذَا خـيـرِ الصِّراطِ

د دَبَّتْ بـنـا حَمِيَّةُ  
دَوْنِ جِـمـاهـا فِتْيَـةُ  
لَهَـذِـمَ أركـانِ الضَّلالِ  
كـالـأسـدِ لا تَخْشَى النـيـزالِ

ق العُـلـا قُمُـنا إـلى نَيْـلِ  
قُمُـنا وفـيـنـا للـوـلا  
بالعِـلـمِ لا نَخْشَى اضـطـهادِ  
حَزَمٌ وَعَزَمٌ واجتـهادِ

ا العِـلـمُ سـيـفٌ قاطـعُ  
العِـلـمُ نـورٌ ساطـعُ  
لـلـجـهـلِ إِنْ جَـدَّ الخِصامُ  
يَدُكُ أَطـوـادَ الظُّلـامِ

ء أنوارِكِ يـا مَعـهـدَـالِ  
أحيَتِ بـنـا رُوحَ الأملِ  
فَرَنَدِزِ السـامـي الدُّرَى  
فابـقِ المـنـارَ للـورى  
أصدقاء



# HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL

**T**he history of Ramallah Friends School (RFS) is one closely tied with the history of Palestine. In its checkered political history RFS has served not only as schools, but also as a center for refugees, hospital, and a center for community lectures, concerts and other cultural activities.

## **The Ottoman Empire**

In Palestine, Friends work began in 1869 with a number of small schools for girls in the villages surrounding Ramallah. In October 1889, Friends Girls School was officially opened. A Boys Training Home was founded in 1901.

## **First World War**

Turkish and later British troops occupied school buildings and British troops used the Boys School as a hospital in 1917.

## **British Mandate**

Electric light was first used at the schools in 1923 and male students first took the Palestinian Matriculation examination in Jerusalem in 1926.

## **Nakba/ Catastrophe 1948**

The Friends Meeting House and both campuses became the temporary home for refugees. Student numbers swelled to accommodate refugees from the coastal cities and the White Gifts program was instituted to give foodstuffs and money to refugee families.

## **Jordanian Rule**

The School had a relatively peaceful life during the Jordanian period from 1948-1967.

## **Israeli Occupation**

The boarding sections in both schools were closed as students from neighboring countries were no longer able to come. In 1990, the campus of the Girls School became a co-educational Elementary School and Kindergarten and the campus of the Boys School became a co-educational High School.

## **Palestinian National Authority**

Following the Oslo agreements, the uneasy peace brought greater stability to the School. The second Intifada began in September 2000 and RFS became exposed to a new level of violence with sequences of nightly shelling from Israeli tanks and light artillery and attacks by helicopter gunners. Following the Israeli pullout from parts of Ramallah and El-Bireh in 2003, School services have remained uninterrupted.

## **Modern Day**

In 1999, the School became accredited by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO), offering students in Palestine for the first time an IB Diploma Program. Today, after receiving the IB authorization of the Middle Years Program (MYP) in 2012 (for grades 6 through 10), and the Primary Years Program (PYP) in 2018 (for grades LKG through 5th), RFS is recognized as an IB World School.

Progress and resilience continue to distinguish RFS as an “oasis of hope” for the Palestinian people. In 2019, together as one community, Ramallah Friends School celebrates its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary.







# QUOTES FROM PREVIOUS LEADERS/ ALUMNI

“The RFS not only trained outstanding leaders of national and global standing, but more importantly, they have provided generations of Palestinians with the knowledge, skills and values enabling them to become better humans.”

**Hanan Ashrawi - Class of 1964**  
Palestinian Legislator, Activist and Scholar

“It constituted a turning point in my life, I am not praising the school, it’s just that I was drowning at that point and all of the sudden I found myself at the shore of safety and security, it was very healthy, very welcoming, very loving environment for me at the Friends, everybody was supportive, which I wasn’t used to then.”

**Wafa’ Darwish - Class of 1973**  
English Literature Professor at Birzeit University

“I can’t forget Ethics classes with Jean Zaru, where she taught us what she used to call the Golden Rule; Treat people the way you want them to treat you, and till today I take it in mind.”

**Anan Bargouthi - Class of 1991**  
RFS Physics Teacher

“I was only 16 and the RFS encouraged my desire in producing a Palestinian heritage themed fashion show. It was a pivotal moment that boosted my confidence and showed me that others believed in my uncommon passion for becoming a fashion designer someday. I am grateful for the school’s support of such diverse interests and aspirations in its students.”

**Rami Kashou - Class of 1994**  
International Fashion Designer

“We knew at the time that we were provided with the best educational experience in Palestine, which affected our lives and professional careers.”

**Ramzi Ewais - Class of 2001**  
Jewelry Designer

“If you are RFS alumni, you’re able to do anything”

**Sa’ed Atshan - Class of 2002**  
Swarthmore College’s Peace and Conflict Studies Professor

“Ramallah Friends School counseling and strong education system gave me the opportunity to be well prepared for university applications.”

**Saher Ahwal – Class of 2009**  
Software Engineer at Microsoft

“The resources the school’s campus had, played a significant role and created what started as a hobby and now became a profession; photography.”

**Joseph Maybar - Class of 2012**  
Artist and Works in Photography

“Studying at RFS for six years was quite special to me. Not only was it strong academically, but it also allowed me to develop as a musician. Mahmoud Amra, the school’s principal at the time, allowed me to use one of the empty classrooms to practice my music during free periods. This kind of trust pushed me to work harder and to realize that music is really what I want to do.”

**Nai Bargouthi - Class of 2014**  
Singer, Flute Player, and Composer



# QUAKER TESTIMONIES

## SIMPLICITY

Friends believe that the most important things in life aren't things.

---

## INTEGRITY

Friends believe that our words and actions must reflect our truest selves.

---

## PEACE

Friends believe that there is always a path that brings peace, justice, dignity and respect.

---

## EQUALITY

Friends believe that every person is equally beloved by God, no matter what.

---

## COMMUNITY

Friends believe that we need each other, since each and every one of us is precious to our community.

## STEWARDSHIP

Friends believe that all God's gifts are entrusted to us for the sake of future generations.





# Community

Friends believe  
that we need each other,  
since each and every one of  
us is precious to our  
community.







RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019

# COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY OF STUDENTS

GRADE 12

ONCE UPON A TIME

SENIOR MOMENTS

SUPERLATIVES

GRADE 11

GRADE 10

GRADE 9

GRADE 8

GRADE 7

GRADE 6

COMMUNITY OF TEACHERS

TEACHERS

TEACHERS' LIFE

STAFF



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

# 12A





Abdallah Khalili



Ahmad Bassalat



Ameer Hussary



Amro Abu-Ein



Anton Zakak



Balquees Alqaisi



Basil Hawash



Carla Hajal



Carol Khoury



Dana Masri



Hala Abu Altayeb



Hamza Awad



Jana Abbas



Jeries Albandak



Joud Abu Homos



Joud Hanoun



Layal Abdulrazeq



Muhamad Doufesh



Omar Fino



Seif Nasereddin



Zaid Anabtawi

## GRADE 12A



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

# 12B





Alaa Najjar



Dara Sabi



Firas Anabtawi



Hala Abu Ghazaleh



Karim Shalabi



Khaled Ismaeel



Khalid Doufesh



Laila Albina



Loor Amin



Lour Yasin



Maya Al-Jaber



Maya Qurt



Mirah Abu Laban



Nour Ghanem



Omar Khatib



Sandra Anani



Sary Hammad



Tareq Muallem



Yasmin Karout

## GRADE 12B



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

# 12C





Daleen Khalili



Dara Kharraz



Fuad Shehadeh



Hadi Masrouji



Hilmi Samarah



Ibrahim Awad



Ibrahim Zaghal



Laura Daromar



Lubna Abu-Rahma



Majd Khaldi



Marcel Shamshoum



Mohammad Saleh



Nadeem Barghouthi



Noor Hammoudeh



Nour Eid



Omar Aref



Rami Khaled



Xena Maayah



Yazan Abu Hijleh



Yousef Al-Sharif

## GRADE 12C



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

# 12D





Ahmad Ismail



Ahmad Ziadeh



Alice Malouf



Bashar Abu Eqtaish



Basil Mari



Belal Daqqah



Fadi Abu Hommos



Greciella Masaad



Joud Touqan



Lutfi Al Zubi



Moneer Elsayegh



Motaz Mimi



Rakan Sakakini



Rami Arafeh



Sabine Saadeh



Saif Saif



Saleem Asbah



Violetta Banda



Yasmin Jubran

## GRADE 12D



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

# 12<sup>E</sup>





Ahmad Jarrar



Amro Hamid



Daoud Izz



Diana Hummaid



Layan Shinanah



Liza Hussary



Marian Elsayegh



Mira Siniora



Nadeen Alami



Nader Abbas



Sarah Hjouj



Sharbel Shqair



Shihab Shihab



Taleen Elayan



Waleed Abu Hijleh



Warrd Nour



Yasmeen Hasan

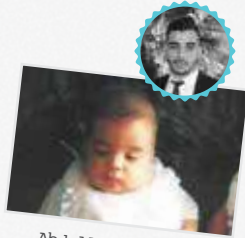


Yousef Al-Mubaied

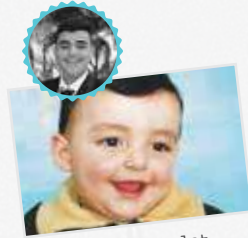
## GRADE 12E



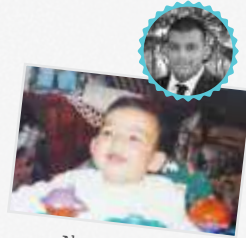
# ONCE UPON A TIME



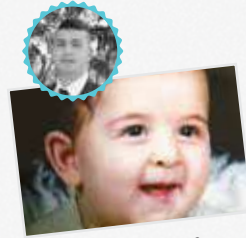
Abdallah Khalili



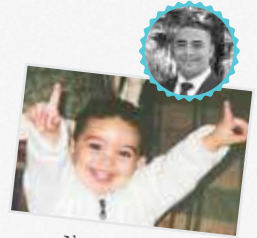
Ahmad Bassalat



Ahmad Ismail



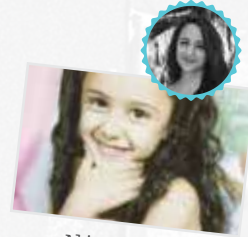
Ahmad Jarrar



Ahmad Ziadeh



Alaa Najjar



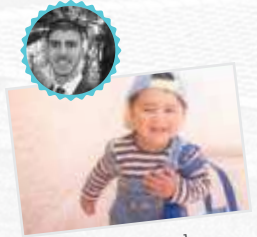
Alice Malouf



Ameer Husary



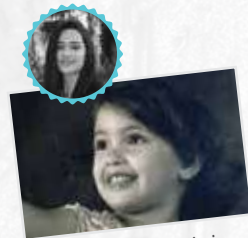
Amro Abu Ein



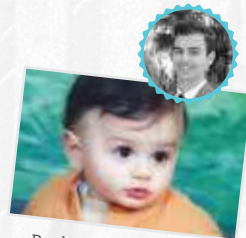
Amro Hamed



Anton Zakkak



Balquees Alqaisi



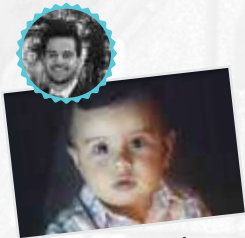
Bashar Abu Egteish



Basil Hawash



Basil Mari



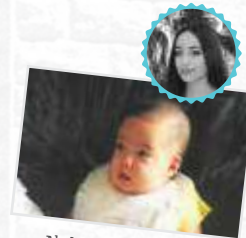
Belal Daqqah



Carla Hajal



Carol Khoury



Abdallah Khalili



Dana Masri



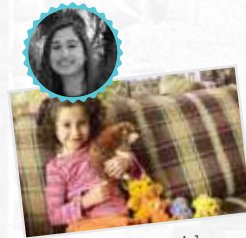
Dara Sabi



Dara kharraz



Dauod Izz



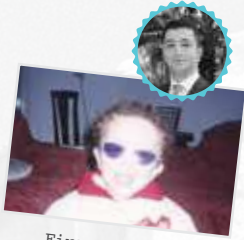
Diana Humaid



Fadi Abulhummos



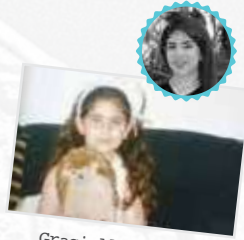
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Firas Anabtawi



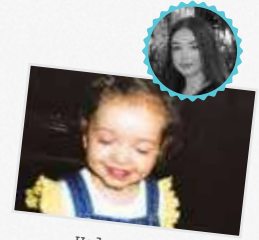
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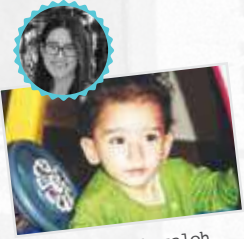
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Hadi Masrouji



Hala Assaf



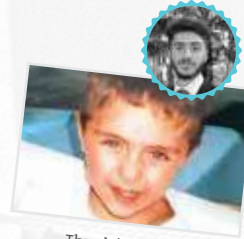
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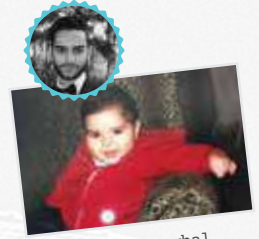
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Hilmi Samarah



Ibrahim Awad



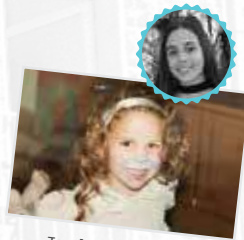
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Jana Abbas



Jeries Bandak



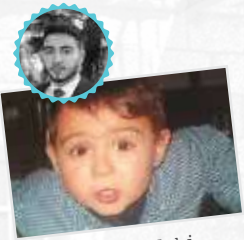
Joud Abulhummos



Joud Hanoun



Joud Tougan



Karim Shalabi



Khaled Ismail



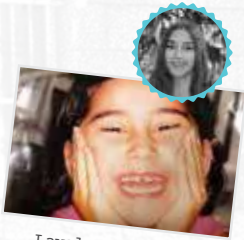
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Laila Albina



Laura Dar Omar



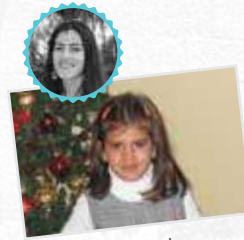
Loyal Abdelrazeg



Layan Shineneh



Liza Hussary



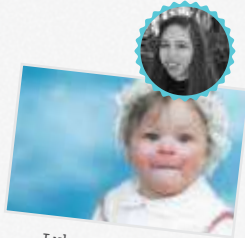
Loor Amin



Lour Yasin



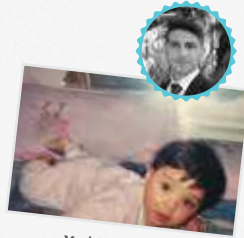
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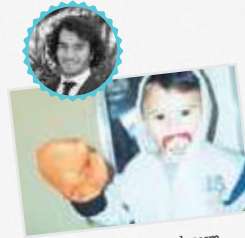
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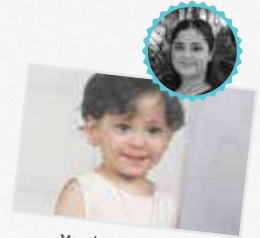
Lutfi Zubi



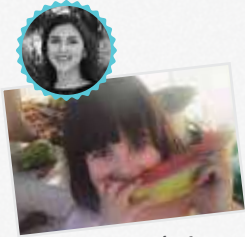
Majd Khaldi



Marcel Shamshoum



Marian Sayegh



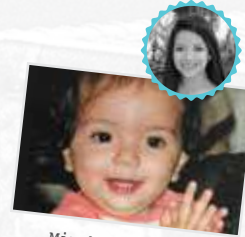
Maya Aljaber



Maya Qurt



Mira Seniors



Mirah Abu Laban



Mohammed Salah



Mohammed Doufesh



Mouneer Sayegh



Mutaz Mimi



Nadeem Barghouti



Nadeen Alami



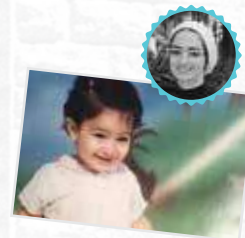
Nader Abbas



Noor Hammoudeh



Nour Eid



Nour Ghanem



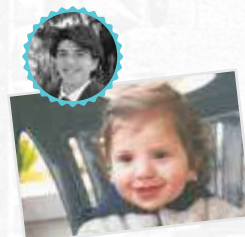
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Omar Fino



Omar Khatib



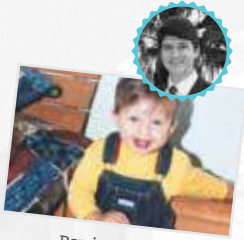
Rakan Sakakini



Rami Arafah



# ONCE UPON A TIME



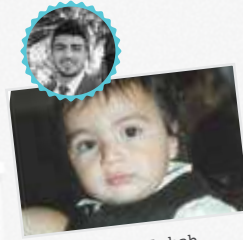
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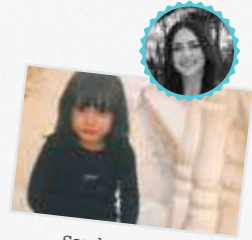
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Saif Saif



Saleem Asbah



Sandra Anani



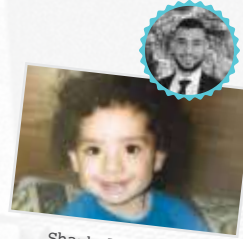
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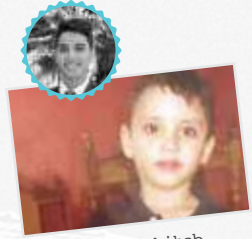
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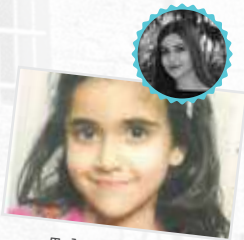
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Sharbel Shhqeir



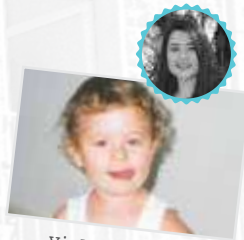
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Taleen Elayan



Tareq Muallem



Violette Banda



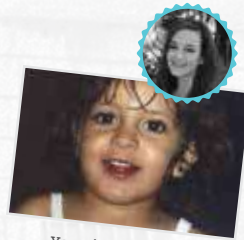
Waleed Abu Hijleh



Warrd Nour



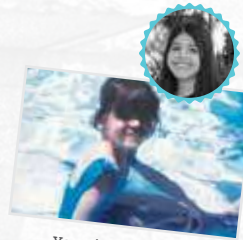
Xena Maayah



Yasmine Hassan



Yasmin Jubran



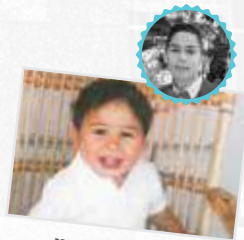
Yasmine Karout



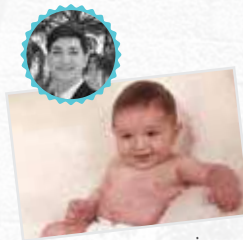
Yazan Abu hijleh



Yousef Mbaied



Yousef Sharif



Zaid Anabtawi



# SENIOR MOMENTS



SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

JANUARY







FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE





## SENIOR MOMENTS

تتعالى الأصوات وتمتزج العبارات، وتتحرك الأنامل لتخط كلمات نزرعها في عقولنا منطلقين لمواجهة الواقع الذي ينتظرنا. «انتهى مشوار الاثني عشر عاماً» عبارة تُردد على أفواه زملائنا وأهاليها وحتى معلمينا، إلا أنني اليوم أقول: لا، لم ينتهِ المشوار.

إن الاثني عشر عاماً التي مضت ما هي إلا مرحلة إنبات البذرة، أما تطورها وازدهارها فقد حان وقته. رغم نمو هذه البذرة في بقعة واحدة من الأرض، إلا أنها تتكاثر متناثرة من زهرة إلى أخرى، وكذلك نحن... ترعرعنا بين جدران المدرسة الأربعة، محاطين بكتب ودفاتر وألواح، ظانين في كل عام يمر علينا أننا قد حصرنا كم المعرفة، وأننا قد حققنا المطلوب منّا إدخاله إلى عقولنا بعد انتهاء الامتحان الأخير، غير مدركين أن لا حدود للمعرفة، وأنه لا يمكن اختصارها بكتب المنهاج فقط، فمعلمونا هم معرفة، صداقاتنا ونقاشاتنا الامتناحية معرفة. حتى فشلنا ومحطات التعب التي مررنا بها، لم ولن نستطيع وصول حقائق النجم النسبي دونها. ولعل هذا النجم لا يستمد قيمته الحقيقية إلا عندما نكون نحن التغيير الذي نريد أن نراه في هذا العالم، عاملين على ملء ثغراته بتألق كل منّا في مجاله. فواجبنا لا يتوقف بين أدرج الصفوف الخشبية في المدرسة، بل علينا مد الطاقة إلى الخارج؛ لنختلط مع باقي أتربة الأرض الاجتماعية والثقافية والسياسية. ومن هنا لنتحول أيها الأحبة من مستلهمين إلى ملهمين منيرين دروب من سيأتي بعدنا.

سبين سعادة



SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

JANUARY







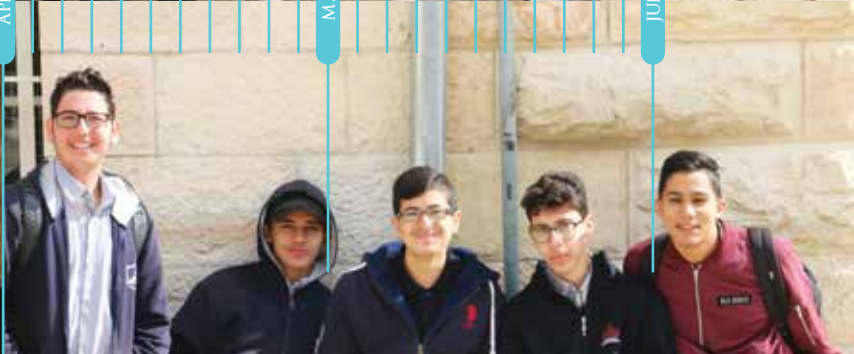
FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE





# Superlatives

طلقة روسية



School's Worst Nightmare



Quietest



واسطة عند ريام



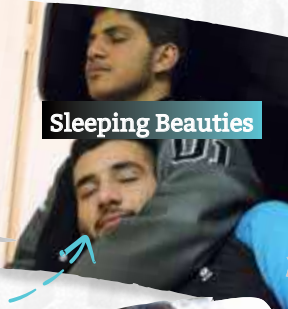
Future Filmmaker AKA Aida's Twin



تاجر بدلات



Sleeping Beauties



Next Palestinian Model



Next FBS Basketball Coach



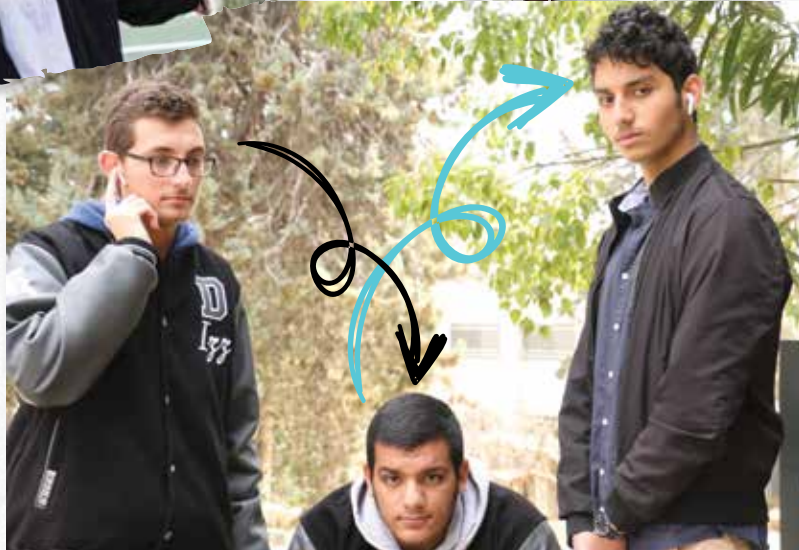
سفايح SL Math



مفكرة حالها في تبتانيك



لولا!





## SUPERLATIVES

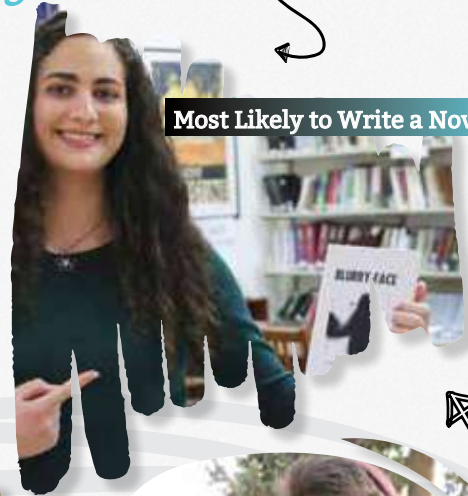
جود كهيب



Nicest Personality



Most Likely to Write a Novel



Bromance



The Palestinian Mozart



بطول كل يوم



Most Likely to Find a Cure for Cancer



مفكر حاليو راموس



Most Likely to Save the Planet



كانو حدودها السما  
صارو حدودها تلجج  
IB - كارول سماحة



ليش معصبة !



بغمزة بزيط خمسة



طنجرة ولقت غطاها





# SUPERLATIVES

Most Likely to Become a Saxophonist



بيندوك



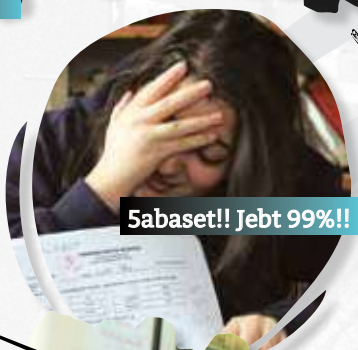
Most Likely to Never Stop Taking the SATs



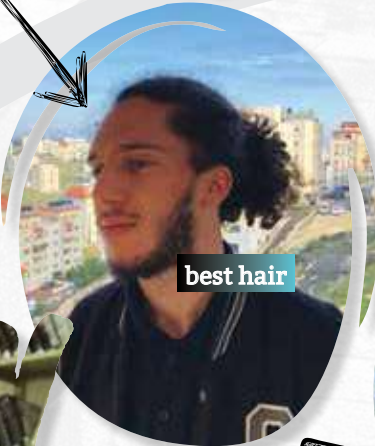
SELF STUDY :)



Sabaset!! Jebt 99%!!



best hair



Dictionary



Most Likely to Meditate for 9 Hours



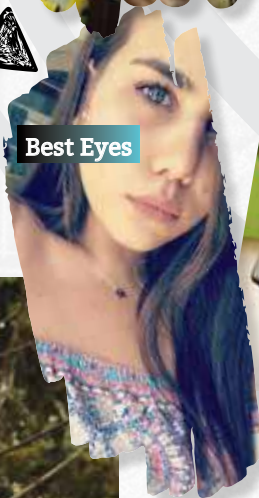
المورد الرسمي ل TAKIS في الوطن العربي



دائما متأخرة



Best Eyes



The Next Gordon Ramsey



The Kindest



Strong Independent Woman

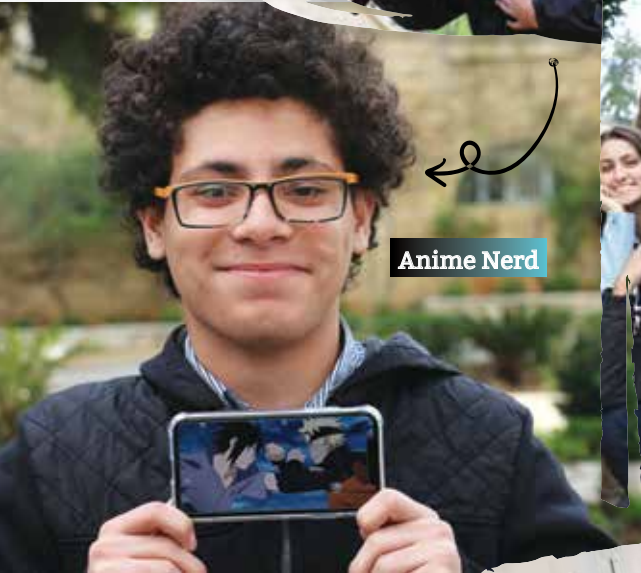




# SUPERLATIVES



مش جوعان بس باكل



Anime Nerd



اكثر حد  
عنده  
ثوات في  
المدرسة



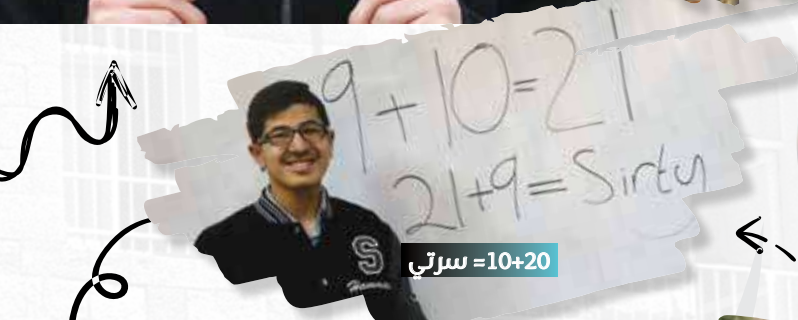
مش طايفة حالها!



دكتور بالوراثة



استاذ فن



$10+20 = \text{سرتي}$



The Prettiest



Still Dreaming About Shawn



Head of IT



المس غايبة إنزلوا عالمكتبة



ابو اسكندر



بس حليت لل 1950



Drama Queen

ولية عهد شركات حميض



رقص و اسلام



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

# 11A





Abdelaziz Abuelrub



Adnan Katkhuda



Amelia Haj Saleh



Aseel Musleh



Bassem Khalili



David Izz



Fadi Kuttah



Faisal Abu-Ghazaleh



Hadil Alashhab



Hania Mahmoud



Mahmoud Salah



Maria Dabbah



Michael Rantissi



Mizyana Mushasha



Nada Anabtawi



Omar Qatamesh



Phillippe Diab



Qais Barghouthi



Sara Abu Yousef



Tareq Alkhateeb



Yasmin Awad

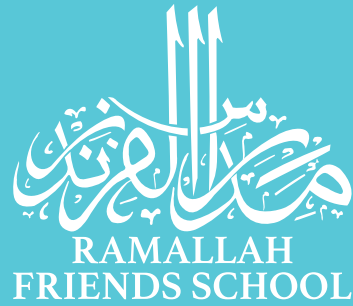


Zein Abu-Hijleh

## GRADE 11A



# COMMUNITY



UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

# 11B





Ahmad Bawatni



Ameen Ghosheh



Ayah Ghozzi



Dalia Issa



Dua'a Shbat



Faris Faramand



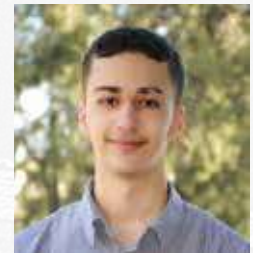
Hussam Abu-Khater



Ihsan Alaeddin



Iyad Altamimi



Khaled Abuobeid



Melissa Tannous



Michel Masaad



Omar Abdelhadi



Ramsey Mogannam



Razan Abulhummos



Rula Hammoudeh



Salma El Masri



Sara Al-Barghouthi



Walid Anabtawi



Yara Jadallah



Zena Sabbagh

## GRADE 11B



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

# 11C





Adam Abid-Karakra



Afamia Abdelrahman



Ahmad Durra



Ahmed Anabtawi



Aya Talahmeh



Christine Masaad



Israa Shehab



Kareem Aker



Khairy Alawy



Leen Qudsi



Mariam Jarrar



Nabil Adili



Nadia Mogannam



Nara Asbah



Rama Al Masri



Salma Amro



Sari Anabtawi



Sari Ateeq



Subhi Awwad



Taleen Abdullah



Tharwat Arafat



Yazan Hirzallah

## GRADE 11C



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

# 11D





Ahmad Diab



Carlina Sabilla



Christopher Khayatv



Deema jaraie



Diane Ghanayem



Gabrielle Nino



Joelle Dahdah



Justine khalaf



Kareem Shabana



Luai Al-Hindi



Majd Barghouti



Malek Kaloti



Rahaf Abu-Homos



Rand Abu Homos



Reem Barham



Sharaf Nasser



Taleb Masri



Yafa Omar



Yara Barghouthy



Zeina Khader

## GRADE 11D



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

# 11E





Abdelfatah Nofal



Adam Sheikh-Amin



Bashar Razmeh



Fadi Ghneim



Fadi Shihadeh



Fadi Totah



Faris Treish



Fouad Turjman



Jana Sinokrot



Jawad Saidam



Khaled Qatamesh



Laith Khateeb



Leene Zraiq



Luna Zaher



Majd Ziadah



Mohamed Shehab



Nour Odeh



Nuha Zraiq



Sameer Karam



Sara Ziadah



Tarek Abuamr



Zein Musarsa

## GRADE 11E



# COMMUNITY



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FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

# 10A





Alisar Zakkak



Dalia Abu Nassar



Dania Sadeddin



Farah Farraj



Fares Izz



Ghassan Abu-Dayyah



Ibrahim Al-Far



Jamal Shkukani



Jenin Hantouli



Leen Zughayer



Meysan Abu Awad



Murad Abuasab



Nala Foqahaa



Nasser Shaheen



Natalia Awad



Natalya Ghazawi



Philipmoussa Malouf



Rama Roni



Ramiz Reziq



Rani Kumkam



Saleem Hidmi



Siroun Mufarreh



Sulaiman Issa



Waleed Musha'sha'



Yazan Jarrar

## GRADE 10A



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

# 10<sup>B</sup>





Ala Shaikh Omar



Ameer Abdelwahab



Dalia Hassan



Fadi Zarour



Fares Issa



Malak Atyani



Mariam Abo Al-Awar



Maryam Tina



Maya Tannous



Micheal Awad



Minna Abu Ayyash



Mira Treish



Mohammad Al-Khalili



Nadi Hussary



Natal Zaghal



Nicole Kort



Nizar Alarda



Omar Ghazzi



Qays Jaber



Ramzi Dahar



Reem Omari



Saif El-Dein Husseini



Salma Saffarini



Thaer Nasr



Wesam Mashal



Zahi Touquan



Zaid Tuffaha

## GRADE 10B



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

# 10C





Adrian Bro



Bashar Al-Shami



Doleen Dar Yaser



Hisham Awartani



Ibrahim Abdel Nour



Joy Kamel



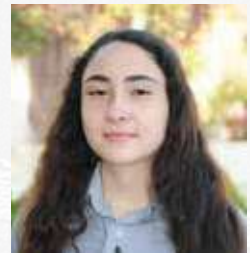
Katya Massad



Keynan Jubran



Laila Ali



Lamar Hamadalla



Mai El-Alem



Marah Duqmaq



Maria Awwad



Mohamad Hamoudeh



Mohammad Khuffash



MohammadSaqfalhait



Murad Mjalli



Nicole Ziadeh



Sara Hammoudeh



Taleen Juma'a



Tamer Ansara



Tareq Ismail



Zeena Othman



Zeina Nassar

## GRADE 10C



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

# 10D





Alisar Abdel Kareem



Gabriella Masaad



Hisham Jber



Jood Salhi



Kareem Safi



Kinnan Abdal Hamid



Maria Barghouthi



Marwan Humaid



Mayar Abu-Ghosh



Mohammad Hamada



Mohammed Hanoun



Nadeem Shakhshir



Naheel Ayesh



Natal Habil



Omar Deek



Sama Abbas



Shahd Abd Al Haleem



Tahseen Aliahmad



Taleb Aljallad



Taleen Far



Tiana Zaibak



Yasmeen Durzi



Zaina Hamad

## GRADE 10D



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

9A





Ahmad Abu-Zeid



Aline Sabella



Amin Hussary



Amjad Abdelhalim



Ansam Awashra



Aseel Alaeddin



Faten Hammad



Omar Qudsi



Lareine Karam



Lour Jarallah



Melina Abdelnour



Mona Abuhijleh



Mousa Khader



Natalia Imseeh



Omar Aburub



Raneem Kirresh



Samia Aldwaik



Samih Al-Far



Samir Musleh



Sari Abu-Khadijeh



Suleiman Najjab



Tala Meari



Tareq Mimi



Zaina Jamous



Zainah Issa



Zeineldeen Badriyeh

## GRADE 9A



# COMMUNITY



UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

9B





Adam Ali



Adam Hawash



Ahmad Atyani



Ali Al-Sayed Ahmad



Bashar Ibrahim



Bashar Zein



Dalia Ziadah



Elias Qanzu'a



Faris Wahbeh



Fouad Mushasah



Jad Abed Al-Aziz



Jamil Khalaf



Jana Bassalt



Jessenia Salameh



Lareen Bargouthi



Majd Qishawi



Omar Bawatneh



Rahaf Hmedat



Rani El-Khatib



Salma Tahboub



Sameeh Maayah



Shadi Toubassi



Tala Kumkam



Tarek Badran



Thaer Ajaj



Zeena Madi

## GRADE 9B



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

9C





Abdulrahman Ghosheh



Adam Masry



Ashraf Al-Bishtawi



Dareena Haddad



Diala Abu-Ghosh



Duma Hamada



George Mass'ad



Issa Mashal



Jamil Al-Tarifi



Joud Zughayer



Lara Durzi



Marcelle Yaish



Maya Issa



Mohammad Jarrar



Nadia Masri



Natalia Al-Badri



Osama Al-Saify



Pierre Khoury



Sara Masri



Taher Makkieh



Tia Tawasha



Tony Imseeh



Yasmeen Bandak



Zaina Khoury



Zeina Kaibni

## GRADE 9C



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

9D





Bishara Yousef



Charlie Asbah



Dana Bawatneh



Fadi Salah



Hadi Janem



Jyana Fawadleh



Karim Hamayel



Malak Qaradeh



Mus'ab Salah



Naim Abu Altayeb



Omar Helou



Omar Issa



Rami Nasr



Rowa Al-Atiq



Sami Al-Azzaeh



Sarah Mattor



Silvania Mardirossian



Tala Khalil



Tamer Zraiq



Tareq Abu-Shararah



Tiana Husari



Yahya Abu-Shawish



Yasmeen Imsseh



Yousef Al-Rimmawi



Ziad Abu-Shararah



Ziad Dajani

## GRADE 9D



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

8A





Adam Alakad



Adam Daromar



Adam Hamad



Adam Naim



Angelina Arbid



Braa Khuffash



Dyala Nassar



Fadi Ziadeh



Fairuz Makkawi



Faris Turjman



Hala Sarsour



Karim Abdel-Halim



Lamar Alnatsheh



Majd Helal



Mohammed Alashqar



Muna Tina



Nadin Durzi



Natali Dar Yaser



Noor Kamal



Omar Ghosheh



Rajaie Asbah



Rami Abu\_Rub



Rania Makhlof



Shahd Saad'h



Talya Saba



Waseem Abu Ein



Zain Mikkawi

## GRADE 8A



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

8B





Ahmad Abu-Awar



Ahmad Abu Soboh



Ameer Abu Hadeed



Anton Barrouk



Aryam Abu Awad



Ashraf Darwish



Basel Abu Thaher



Charbel Makhoul



Dana Abu Ghosh



Donia Safi



Faris Bseiso



Hadi Quran



Hala Elian



Jeylan Jubran



Joud Taher



Leen Tarazi



Mohammad Helal



Mohammad Shaltaf



Nabeel Naser



Natalie Shuaibi



Ricardo Kamel



Sara Abu-Ajamia



Teya Awwad



Yaser Aldwaik



Yousef Dawabsheh



Zayd Anabtawi



Zaid Milhem

## GRADE 8B



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

8C





Abdelatif Mitwali



Adam Husseini



Ali Alayan



Ali Saffarini



Asad Omari



Ayham Al-Hajjeh



Edward Massis



Hammam Hamid



Joelle Khalaf



Jwana Abu Taa



Layal Alaeddin



Leen Khader



Leen Rabi



Maiia Shamshoum



Nadeem Nasereddin



Natalia Asbah



Omar Arafat



Omar Iqnaibi



Raneen Abu Al-Hommos



Razan Barham



Razan Habayeb



Salem Hanania



Salem Tannous



Tala Arafat



Thair Baransi



Yazan Masri



Zena Haj Hasan

GRADE 8C



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

8D





Adnan Hammad



Ahmad Nasser



Ali Habil



Ali Mleahat



Ameer Massad



Bishara Hajal



Fadwa Fino



Habib El-Zarf



Hanna Qahoush



Joud Jamous



Jude Dahadha



Kinda Al-Far



Lana Abdullah



Marseil Abdul-Hadi



Mary Asbah



Mira Abdallah



Mira Abu Alhummous



Miriam Almimi



Muhannad Al-Saify



Nadine Rukab



Nakhlah Al-Asbah



Qais Yahya



Ramzi Abdallah



Saad Abu Asab



Toleen Abu Ein



Yazan Quod



Zayd Issa

GRADE 8D



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

7A





Adel Khammash



Analia Shkeir



Christina Khoury



Dina Al Khoury



Katia Shammass



Layan Sammour



Leen Alashhab



Loor Jaber



Lour Hussein



Majd Doqmaq



Maya Barghouthy



Mekal Abu Hilal



Melya Khoury



Michel Zaibak



Mohamed Zaher



Mohammad Qarout



Mohammed Qadi



Nada Shamieh



Nader Turujman



Natalie Ziadeh



Noor Tabakhna



Reena Albina



Ryad Al-Hantouli



Shadan Abu-Shawish



Tala Almimi



Talal Odeh



Wadie Kaibni

## GRADE 7A



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

7B





Adam Barghouti



Ahmad Aliahmad



Aseel Quran



Aya Jubeh



Bassem Bakri



Dima Ghanayem



Fares Mass'ad



Hanna Sababa



Ibrahim Ali



Janan Rjoub



Layal Al Ahmad



Lour Humos



Maya Freitekh



Mohamad Hawash



Naim Far



Nur Hassan



Ramez Faramand



Ramzi Mitwali



Rimon Massad



Sa'ad Halteh



Sophie Taweel



Sulaf Qwariq



Tayma Al- Shoaibi



Waleed Mattor



Yara Farraj



Yasmin Tahboub



Zaina Abu Shalbak



Zaina Qishawi

## GRADE 7B



# COMMUNITY



UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

7C





Adam Gangat



Adnan Al-Khateeb



Ameer Mogannam



Areen Batrawi



Hala Al-Salhi



Ibrahim Alzir



Jenna Sosebee



Jeries Shamieh



Joud Zakout



Khaled Durzi



Maurice Ziadeh



Mayar Elyan



Michel Zaibak



Nada Alkhawaja



Nadi Khoury



Nour Masri



Amro Samarah



Rewa Bosheh



Riona Zaibak



Sadeen Hamada



SelenaHajMohammed



Talal Makkieh



Yahya Jarrar



Yara Hanoun



Zeina Tabakhna



Zein Abu Ein

## GRADE 7C



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

# 7D





Adam Khoury



Adam Masad



Adam Qadi



Anastasia Razmeh



Andrew Diab



Irina Habash



Ayman Badran.



Diana Kassis



Fadi Shaheen



Fouad Turujman



Gabriell Dahdah



Hamza Shehab



Jana Abu Homos



Kindah Bawatneh



Lamar Shihadeh



Lamitta Sheikh



Leen Aldarsa



Lourd Awwad



Malika Mousa



Mariam Almbaid



Marian Awartani



Omar Hamoudeh



Rami Zarour



Sara Ashwa



Ubai Rizeq



Walid Sabi

## GRADE 7D



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

6A





Adam Massis



Alex Ziadeh



Amar Nour



Amro Makkawi



Dayan Massis



Ellham Nasser



Ezzeldeen Badriyeh



Haya Issa



Jenin Khalaf



Jenna Quwarr



Laith Ghozzi



Leanne Nasser



Majd Mohammad



Malak Hanatsheh



Mayar Hajjah



Mera Issa



Mira Kurdi



Mustafa Samour



Nicole Ackall



Nourel Filmon



Omar Abuhijleh



Pamila Bro



Saba Ajaj



Talia Abuein



Tia Issa



Valenntina Mustafa



Youmna Abu Awad



Zein Mleahat

## GRADE 6A



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

6<sup>B</sup>





Ahlam Doqmaq



Ahmad Kurdi



Amir Aljallad



Asad Sinnokrot



Carla Musallam



Crystal Izz



Ghassan Itayim



Hanna Mseeh



Hoor Shaheen



Ibrahim Saba



Jenneh Aker



Kareem Hasan



Mariam Salah



Maya Zakkak



Milar Zaghal



Muhammad Atiq



Nadia Ghawi



Omar Jamous



Pierre Bro



Rahaf Abu-Farha



Rami Humaid



Ryan Abu-Ghazaleh



Sedra Abu Alhoumos



Seleen Darwish



Taleen Ismail Quran



Tia Al-Asbah



Zain Masri



Zein Ismail

## GRADE 6B



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

6C





Abdallah Abdallah



Abdelkarim Saqfalhait



Abed Al-Muttaieb Arafat



Ahmad Abdellatif



Aram Yaish



Ayah Anabtawi



Basil Nubani



Dara Alami



Elias Shamieh



Hussam Qanzua



Jennelle Tannous



Jessica Halteh



Joud Alakkad



Kareem Abuamr



Lure Mrebe



Marah Abdallah



Maryam Mustaklem



Meerah Aker



Miral Abu Latifeh



Mohammed Nubani



Nada Katkhuda



Nada Musleh



Nejwa Aker



Nour Assi



Qais Barghouth



Sameeh Karakra



Sarah Abudhaim



Talia Musleh

## GRADE 6C



# COMMUNITY



RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019



GRADE

# 6D





Basel Fawadleh



Basem Meri



Bashar Toubasi



Issa Ziadeh



Izzaldin Ghaith



Jad Ghunaim



Karin Karam



Khamis Tannous



Laith Eljeldeh



Layan Imseeh



Leen Khoury



Lujayen Tannous



Maher Elshawa



Majd Khalili



Maria Hindaileh



Maya Barrouk



Mayan Shqair



Nadine Anabtawi



Nasr Alzubi



Nasri Shamieh



Omar Masri



Rand Qudsi



Samir Habash



Sara Salem



Tariq Ghazzawi



Tya Freitkh



Yasmin Helou



Zain Alshouaibi

## GRADE 6D



## TEACHERS

### COUNSELORS



Chris Akel



Dana Nusseibeh



Jalal Odeh

### ART



Aida Kaadan



Bashar Khalaf



Galina Barghouti



Samah Zakkak

### ARABIC



Abdallah Lahloh



Fatima Arafat



Ibrahim Abu Laban



Islam Hhussein



Moayaad Deck



Ramzi Shaheen



Saleh Darraj



Samar Izzat



Sana Abed

### ENGLISH



Abba Jabaji



Adam Rafidi



Alia Dar Amar



Amal Arafat



Hanan Wuhush



# TEACHERS

## COMPUTER



Fadi Abu Farha



Mohamed A. Daoud



Mohammad Abu Ayyash

## RELIGION



Mays Awadalla



Nuha Ackall



Odette Asfour

## MATH



Amir Mohammad



Ghadeer Awwad



Hana Salloum



Mohammad Habbas  
Middle Years Program Coordinator



Mohammad Salim



Salem Izz



Sally Shatara



Shadi Abu Latifeh



Laila Ibrahim



Maher Shalabi



Samah Hussein



Tamam Quran



# TEACHERS

## SCIENCE



Anan Barghouti



Balsam Munir



Jaffal Zahran



Jouline Daibes



Luai Awwad  
Diploma Program Coordinator



Mahmoud Khalil



Manar Daibes



Nidal Quran



Raed Shehadeh



Rose Salhi



Sameer Abu Al Rub

## SOCIAL STUDIES AND HUMANITIES



Miraj Othman



Nadeen Ayoub



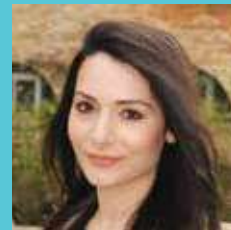
Mira Salameh



Riziq Armoosh



Sabrine Tamimi



Shireen Esmail



Walid Ghazzi

## LIBRARY



Hamzeh Toriaqi



Cheryl Engel



Amy Miller  
Volunteer

## SCHOOL NURSE



Feda Shehadeh



## TEACHERS / TEACHERS' LIFE

### LEARNING SUPPORT



Rana Mustaklem  
Head of Learning Support



Mohammad Assi  
Upper School Learning Support Liaison



Omar Ezzughayyar



Rasha Ghabin



Mai Zaru

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Ihsan Rimawi



Kholoud Diabis



Tareq Hamayel





## TEACHERS' LIFE





## TEACHERS' LIFE





## UPPER SCHOOL TEACHERS & STAFF





## UPPER SCHOOL TEACHERS & STAFF





## UPPER SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION



**Riyam Kafri AbuLaban**  
Upper School Principal



**Huda Faramand**  
Middle School Deputy Principal



**Mark Bauman**  
High School Deputy Principal



**Hanan Saad**  
Office Manager



**Wafa Asmar**  
Administrative Assistant



**Nour Muaddi**  
Administrative Secretary



**Fadia Rafidi**  
Secretary



## HEAD OF SCHOOL OFFICES



**Adrian Moody**  
Head of School



**Jumana Thalji**  
Administrative Assistant to the Head of School  
Financial Aid Coordinator



**Salim Zughayer**  
IT Manager

## FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES TEAM



**Nafez Alkoni**  
Finance and Human Resources Manager



**Diana Khoury**  
Chief Accountant



**Inas Al Taweel**  
Deputy Chief Accountant



**Sama Nasser**  
Treasurer



**Lamis Abunahleh**  
Human Resources Officer



**Ahmad Anbar**  
Accountant



## COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



**Besan Jaawan**  
Development and Communications Manager



**Lama Murra**  
Communications and Alumni Relations Officer



**Mohamed A. Daoud**  
Graphic Designer

## PROJECTS & FACILITIES MANAGMENT TEAM



**Farhat Muhawi**  
Facilities and Projects Department Manager



**Hilal Sabaneh**  
Facilities and Projects Engineer



**Amal Abu Nimreh**  
Facilities and Projects Engineer

## SUPPORT TEAM



**Abdel Rahim Nakhleh**



**Akram Odeh**



**Marwan Gaith**



**Marwan Rabi**



**Mohammad Shneineh**



**Naser Abu Rahmeh**



**Samer Adnan**



**Nassar Washaha**









# Simplicity

Friends believe  
that the most important  
things in life aren't things.





RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019

# SIMPLICITY

CHRISTMAS  
WHITE GIFTS



# CHRISTMAS





# WHITE GIFTS







# Integrity

Friends believe  
that our words and actions  
must reflect our truest selves.







RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019

# INTEGRITY

STUDENT COUNCIL  
UPPER SCHOOL LIBRARIES  
LEARNING SUPPORT



## STUDENT COUNCIL



الأماكن، فنقف للحظاتٍ عاجزين أمام هذا القمع. إلا أننا استطعنا أن ننتصب أمام هذه المشاكل من خلال منبر مجلس الطلبة، مدركين أن هذا الواقع لن يتغير إلا بالعمل.

عمل المجلس مع اللجنة الثقافية والوطنية على التوعية لعدة قضايا، منها حروب اليمن وسوريا وغيرها من الدول العربية، في محاولة لتوسيع وعي طلابنا وإطار تفكيرهم. كما عملنا جاهدين على تعزيز مقاطعة منتوجات الاحتلال الإسرائيلي، والبرامج التطوعية. كما أعطينا مساحة للتركيز على القراءة وأهميتها في حياتنا وأثرها على وعينا، فنظمنا نادي قراءة أسبوعياً. وافتتح مجلس الطلبة إذاعة مدرسية تناقش عدة مواضيع مهمة للطلاب، تلامس همومهم اليومية، حيث يتم عرض حلقاتها بشكل أسبوعي خلال اللقاء الصحفي الصباحي. إضافة إلى ذلك، عملنا جاهدين على فتح دورة صحية بمساعدة المدرسة، وهذا لأننا نؤمن بأن أحد واجبات المجلس هو جعل المدرسة مساحة مريحة لكل الطلاب. نأمل أن يبقى الهدف الذي يعمل من أجله مجلس الطلبة هو التغيير، والاهتمام يجعله مساحة مريحة: ليعبر الطالب عن ذاته وهمومه من خلاله، بل يصبح لكل الطالب دور في جعل المجلس مكاناً للمطالبة، ومن ثم العمل الذي يقود للتغيير الإيجابي. كل المحبة،

عمر قطامش

مجلس طلبة مدرسة الفرنز ٢٠١٨/٢٠١٩

### ما بين الماضي والحاضر والمستقبل

تأسس مجلس طلبة المدرسة الأول عام ١٩٢٦، والذي نبع متأثراً بأحداث ذلك الزمان. حيث كان مجلساً وطنياً مبنياً على فكر العمل الجماعي لا الفردي؛ يعمل على صعيد مجتمعي واسع. فقد كان رائداً للشارع الفلسطيني في مراحل منها: الانتفاضة الأولى والثانية، مؤكداً على قدرة الطلاب على التغيير بشتى الوسائل؛ فقد كان يبتث الوعي الوطني، وما يترتب عليه من وعي اجتماعي وثقافي في طلاب المدرسة والمجتمع. وما نحن اليوم مجلس ٢٠١٨ / ٢٠١٩ وبعد ١٥٠ عاماً نعزز الإيمان بأن مجلس الطلبة هو المنبر الأفضل للتغيير.

“كن التغيير الذي تريده في هذا العالم” كانت المقولة التي دفعتنا خلال هذه التجربة؛ حيث يمكننا القول بأن مجلس الطلبة نجم بتعزيز ثقة الطلاب بأنفسهم، مما جعل الإيمان بمقدرتهم على التغيير حتمياً. تعددت إنجازات هذا العام، إلا أنها جميعاً تندرج تحت العمل من أجل الطلاب، فكانت نرد دائماً “هذا المجلس للطلبة ويعمل من أجل الطلبة”.

نواجه في هذه الفترة مشاكل اجتماعية وسياسية عديدة، والتي تؤثر بشكل مباشر على حياتنا كطلاب. نحرم من أبسط حقوقنا، كالتعبير عن أفكارنا، والتنقل الحر إلى أقرب



# STUDENT COUNCIL





## UPPER SCHOOL LIBRARIES





## LEARNING SUPPORT



## LEARNING SUPPORT







# Equality

Friends believe  
that every person is equally  
beloved by God, no matter  
what.







RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019

EQUALITY



# EQUALITY

1934

1934



Then





# EQUALITY

2019

2019

and Now







# Peace

Friends believe  
that there is always a path  
that brings peace, justice,  
dignity and respect.







RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019

# PEACE

MEETING FOR SILENT REFLECTION  
MEETING FOR LEARNING



## MEETING FOR SILENT REFLECTION





# MEETING FOR LEARNING







# Stewardship

Friends believe  
that all God's gifts are  
entrusted to us for the sake  
of future generations.







RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

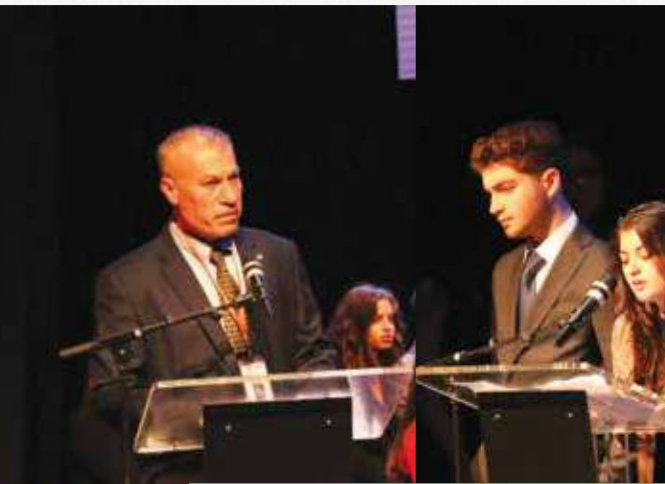
UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019

# STEWARDSHIP

PALESTINIAN MODEL UNITED NATIONS  
SPORTS  
LABS  
MYP PERSONAL PROJECT





### 8<sup>th</sup> Palestinian Model United Nations Conference

500 Palestinian students from West Bank and Jerusalem schools participated in this year's conference on the Upper Campus, led and organized by RFS students!

RFS PalMUN student delegations also participated in international conferences in Budapest, Amman, Holland and Turkey this year.







# PALMUN





## SPORTS



# SPORTS



### #Go\_RFS #Winners

RFS Soccer Teams won big in Jordan, in the Kings Academy's Soccer Championship with the Girls Team winning 2<sup>nd</sup> place and the Boys Team winning 3<sup>rd</sup> place!

RFS Women's Basketball Team won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the central school tournament of Ramallah & El Bireh schools organized by the Directorate of Education.

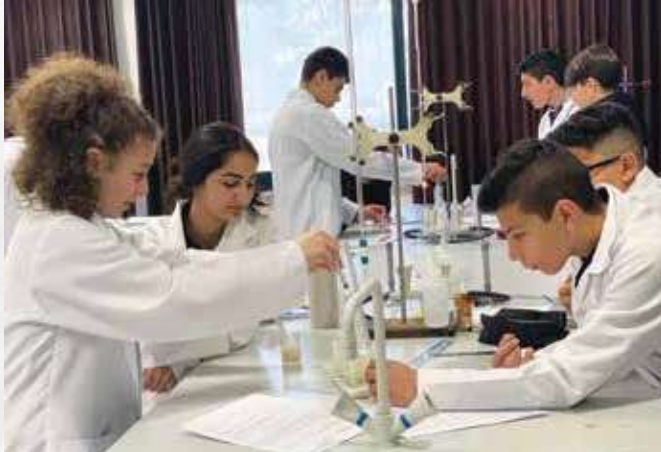


# SPORTS





## SCIENCE LABS





## IT & MULTIMEDIA LABS







MYP  
PERSONAL  
PROJECT





















RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019

# TRADITION

PROM  
BONFIRE  
SPELLING BEE



# PROM





# PROM





# BACK TO SCHOOL BONFIRE





## SPELLING BEE











RAMALLAH  
FRIENDS SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

YEARBOOK 2018-2019

# CULTURE

WRAP UP: 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY EVENTS  
LETTER FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL  
LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL  
LETTER FROM BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
LETTER FROM FRIENDS UNITED MEETING



# WRAP UP: 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY EVENTS





# 150<sup>TH</sup> FORESTATION CAMPAIGN





## WRAP UP: 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY EVENTS





# 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY FIELD DAY



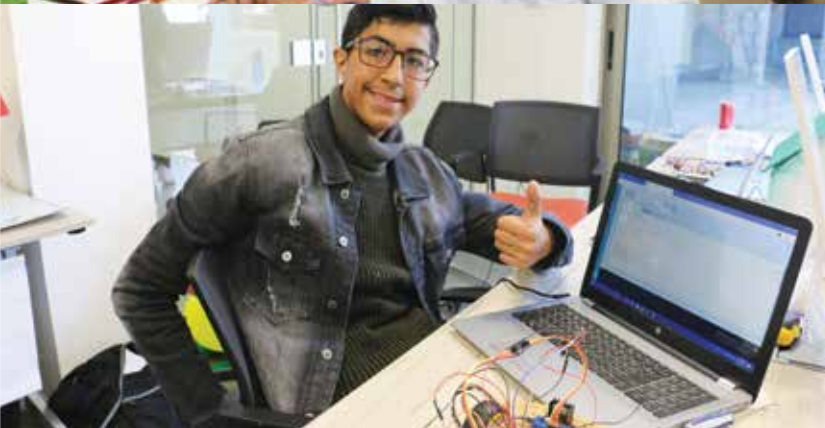
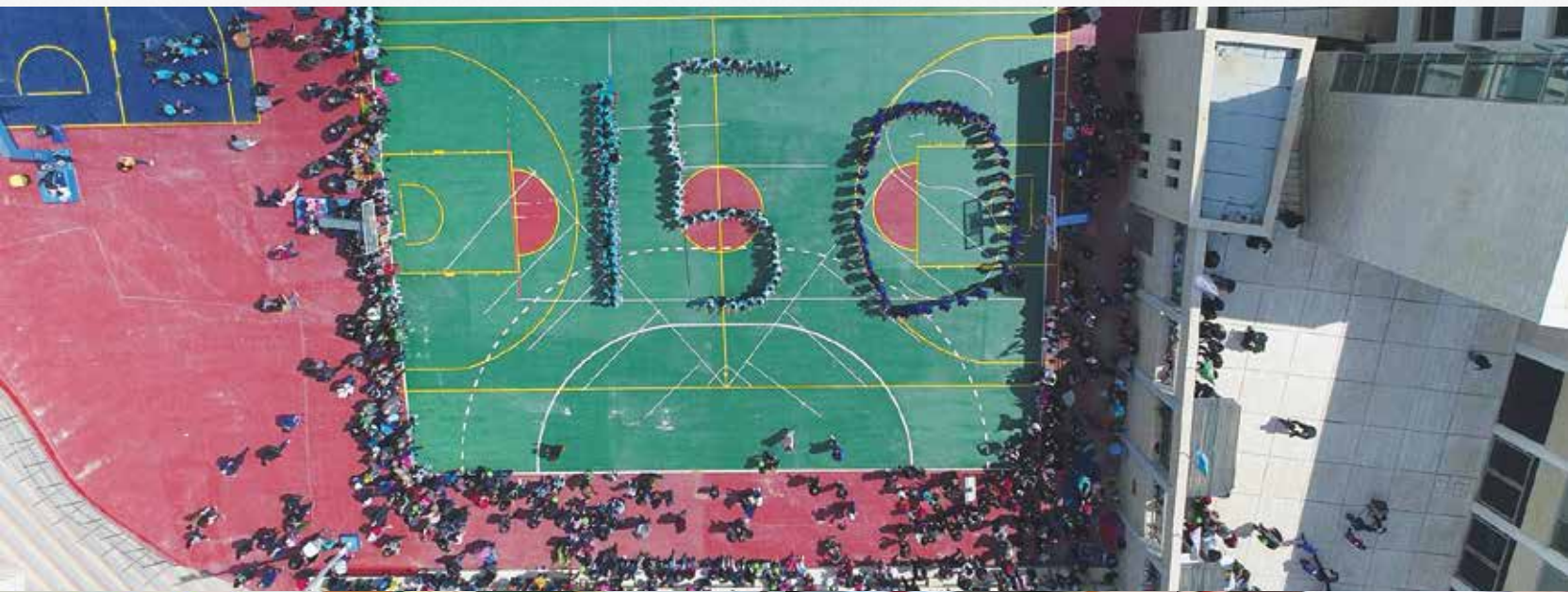


## WRAP UP: 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY EVENTS





# 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY FIELD DAY





## WRAP UP: 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY EVENTS



# TIME CAPSULE





# 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY TIME CAPSULE





# LETTER FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

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Yearbook Foreword 2018-19

It is my pleasure to write the foreword to the 2019 Ramallah Friends School (RFS) Yearbook.

This year we celebrate 150 years of education in Palestine. From small beginnings we have come such a long way. The original vision of Eli and Sybil in the creation of our school was like the mustard seed. It is smaller than all seeds but when it is grown, it is greater than all the trees (Mark 4:26-29). An idea with humble beginnings can grow into something that is not only unexpected but is great. That is our school. They planted a mustard seed - small, strong and steadfast enabling the inner light of all children to shine.

In our 150th year we pay special attention to the Quaker testimonies. The American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) characterizes Quakers as reaching for the best in oneself and answering “that of God” in everyone. Quaker testimonies are expressions of the commitment to put those beliefs into practice. When we live up to our mission then these testimonies – Simplicity, Peace, Integrity, Community, Equality, Stewardship - permeate the school. We believe that all people are equal before God regardless of who they are, where they come from or what their social status is. Each person in our community is that of God to be nurtured. That is why we are proudly an inclusive school. Our mission can be summed up in these words

## Realize Potential / Fulfil Dreams / Share Hope

Our students enjoy numerous advantages at RFS, but perhaps more important than any is the support they receive from staff, parents and friends of the school. As Friends we strive to use God’s gifts wisely. These gifts include our talents and our possessions. This book is a snapshot of life at RFS and in one way demonstrates what RFS stands as articulated in our mission and values. We believe our values are paramount in guiding us in our day to day life. Ours is a diverse community and we appreciate and celebrate the fact that we are all different and celebrate each day our differences, our similarities, and our cultures.

Thank you to all who have contributed to our students’ achievements and successes in 2018-19.

Sincerely  
**Adrian Moody**  
Head of School

---



# LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Friends,

Every year, I struggle writing this letter to you. While I try to come up with some profound wisdom to share, all that continues to come to my mind are the endless to do lists that must get done by the end of the year. For those of us who are in the trenches, it is difficult to reflect on the year, when we are deafened by the demands of the daily school life.

On this sunny Sunday afternoon, my mind drifts to grade 12 students who have two officials tomorrow and my stomach takes a slight tumble as I worry for them for just a minute. Then, I quickly remind myself that they are working hard and that is the best they can do. I just pray that they cultivate the results of this hard work, because it has been a difficult year indeed. Much like a marathon, and God knows that the last 5K are the hardest!



Then the teachers come to mind and their daily schedules. I am amazed that someone would choose to wake up every morning to a job that entails working with other people's children. Yet it seems to me that a teacher's job is still not fully understood. See I dream of a school that is run more like a hospital where teachers are treated like surgeons, and the school structure offers a tiered staffing with attending, resident and intern teachers. A place where teachers will find all the support they need from the moment they decide to become a teacher, to the moment they retire. In return, they will give the students all the support that they need.

It is no secret that this year was particularly difficult, but it is also important to remember that we are a family, and members of a family may disagree. Their disagreements are always rooted in love. So as you pick up the yearbook and your children's report cards at the end of the year, please take a moment to thank the teachers, and pat them on the shoulder.

Along with challenges, comes achievement. This year saw a record number of acceptances for the graduating class in top universities worldwide. We have secured many full rides and as of this moment, while I write this to you, we have accumulated around eight million dollars in scholarships. Our female basketball team won first place in the district championship, and the girl's football team brought home second place in the regional soccer tournament and the boys team came in third.

With the school year ending, we continue to celebrate our 150th anniversary. This in itself is a huge achievement. A school that survived 150 years in the unstable and troubled history of Palestine is evidence of perseverance, and steadfastness and a live witness of our presence in this land. At RFS one cannot help but feel like they are part of something bigger.

As an alumnus of the school, it is truly a unique opportunity to serve our community. I feel like I have become a mother of seven hundred plus students overnight. I feel blessed to come in every morning to see all the smiling faces. Thank you for your continued support, patience, and trust. I hope to continue to serve our community to the best of my abilities.

In Friendship

**Dr. Riyam Kafri AbuLaban**

Upper School Principal  
May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019



# LETTER FROM BOARD OF TRUSTEES



**By Samer Shehadeh – Clerk of the Board of Trustees**

Ramallah Friends School celebrates 150 years in 2019. I am proud of our school not just because of its age. Quaker education in Palestine has achieved much despite all the challenges of educating under occupation. Ramallah Friends School started in the occupation under the Ottoman Empire, then the British, Jordan and is still till now occupied. How does a school, a community, and a country under such permanent occupation survive let alone thrive and allow for hope and dignity to immerge with students rooted in Quaker Values to lead its community into the future?

It's a partnership of respect between the international Quaker community of Friends United Meeting and the Palestinian community. A 150 year old partnership that has allowed for trust and respect to develop between the communities. We stand together for human dignity and peace for all. I am proud to lead this relationship as Clerk of the Board of Trustees. My long term relationship involves generations of my family. A school where my mother attended, I attended and my children have attended. A school I wish my grandchildren to attend. I value the influence the school has had upon my family, and community. The trust that this school provides for all Palestinians has enabled a future for Palestinian leadership to seek the best education possible and return to give back.

Developing a school such as ours embodying the Quaker values is complicated. We offer the best of international education. We are an IB World school which is an achievement ensuring the standards for those students who wish to apply to Ivy League schools. Our students not only succeed but lead. We offer this in a community which often struggles to afford the fees which are kept to a minimum. A community which is challenged by occupation, suffering from depression and unemployment, struggling to put food on the table. A community often under additional pressures of simply getting their children to school through road blocks and obstruction. We are divided between the West Bank and Gaza and isolated from each other. We have been occupied until we no longer know what it is to be unoccupied, struggling to ensure the prolonged occupation does not lead to the wrongful annexation by the occupier. A teaching community isolated from other leading schools around the world. Yet together we succeed. We are Sumoud.



# LETTER FROM FRIENDS UNITED MEETING



In this 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of Ramallah Friends School, I'm reflecting on the events that led to the founding of the school.

I'm trying to imagine the encounters that Sybil Jones of China Maine had when she traveled among the Christian villages in the hills north of Jerusalem in 1869. I'm imagining her delight in meeting the girls and women, with their beautiful embroidery and their infectious smiles. I'm imagining her heartbreak at hearing that these women had limited access to education, and couldn't teach their daughters to read.

And I'm imagining the response of the Quakers back home in New England, when Sybil returned to tell her stories and share her concerns. These Friends felt keenly what Sybil had also felt – that when one member of the body of Christ suffers, all suffer, and when one member rejoices, all rejoice together. And so together they committed themselves to provide access to education for the girls of the Palestinian hills.

Now, 150 years later, Friends are still joined together in a global fellowship of solidarity and commitment, in which the things that happen in one place, affect us all. Ramallah Friends School continues to be a focus of the prayers and sacrificial giving of Quakers from around the world. In this anniversary year in which we reaffirm the Quaker identity of the school, the commitment of Friends remains as strong as ever.

Friends United Meeting is proud to serve as the institutional home of RFS, and we do so as a sacred duty on behalf of the worldwide community of Friends. God has truly blessed the efforts of those who have gone before us, and has entrusted to us the care of this special school for this reason, for the sake of those who will come after us.

To the graduating class of 2019, I say this: be faithful to the trust that this school, with its extraordinary history, has placed in you. Be the unique and precious person that God made you to be, because God needs you to be authentically yourself. Go into the world and make it a better place. Hold tenaciously to that vision of the Peaceable Kingdom of God that you glimpsed during your RFS years. Make your school and your community proud. Give back to those who invested in you, and pay it forward by investing in others. Be the Sybil Jones of your generation.

In Christian love,  
**Eden Grace**  
 Director of Global Ministries  
 Friends United Meeting



# LETTER FROM PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION



## ما هو الوطن ... ليس سؤالاً تجيب عليه وتمضي، انه حياتك وقضيتك معا!

هذا العام هو عام مميز للجميع، فيه نحتفل ونحتفل المدرسة بمرور ١٥٠ عاما على تأسيسها في وطننا، هذا الوطن المعطاء الذي نفتخر جميعا بالانتماء إليه وحمل رسالته إلى أقطاب الدنيا متسلحين بالعلم والأخلاق والمثل العليا، من تسامح وتواضع وصدق وإخلاص.

مائة وخمسون عاما من العلم والعطاء والتعلم مرت في هذا الصرح العريق، فيها تعلم من سبقكم وحملوا معهم امالهم وأحلامهم وتطلعاتهم لبناء الوطن وبناء مستقبل لكم، والان جاء دوركم في إكمال المشوار الذي لا ينتهي أبداً وينتقل من جيل إلى جيل للنهوض بالوطن وبناء المستقبل المشرق.

### أبناءؤنا وبناتنا الطلبة

حق لكم أن تفخروا بانتسابكم إلى هذه المدرسة العريقة وحق لنا أن نفخر بما تقومون به كل يوم وما تعملون على تحقيقه من أحلامكم وطموحاتكم وأمالكم، من خلال الجد والاجتهاد في دراستكم وفي تحصيلكم العلمي، متوقعين منكم الأكثر والأفضل دوماً ومستبشرين بأنكم على الطريق الصحيح وفي المكان الصحيح.

### بناتنا وأبناءؤنا الخريجين،

اسمحوا لنا أن نستعير صفحة في كتاب تخرجكم، وسطرين في فصل حياتكم الجديد، هذا وعلمنا بأنكم تحتلون الفصل الأكبر من حياتنا وتفكيرنا، لنبارك لكم ولنا هذه الفرحة وهذا الإنجاز السعيد بتخرجكم من السنة الدراسية الأخيرة، نخط لكم في هذه الكلمات مباركتنا بما حققتموه وفخرنا بما أصبحتم عليه وأملنا لكم في مستقبل زاهر.

### فلذات قلوبنا أحببتنا،

كم سهرنا في طفولتكم ونحن نلهم بهذا اليوم، وكم قضينا نعد الساعات حتى نراكم في هذا الموقف، راقبناكم وانتتم تكبرون أمامنا نساء ورجالا، تتعجبون وتجهدون في طلب العلم، تمررون في تجارب الحياة حلوها ومرها، تفرحون وتتألمون، وننألم لألمكم ونفرح لفرحكم. ننظر إلى صوركم اليوم ونرى المستقبل في عيونكم وفي أمانيتكم، نغمض عيوننا ونشاهد الغد المزهر بطموحاتكم وأمالكم ونرى الوطن الأجمل والأفضل بما تمثلونه من جيل شاب واعد ينتمي إلى هذه الأرض وإلى هذه القضية.

### أسرة المدرسة

جهدكم أثمر وزرعكم أُنِعَ ولكم أن تفخروا بما حققتم أنتم أيضا، فهؤلاء طلبتكم وهم من استثمرتم فيهم وقضيتهم الساعات الطوال تنقلون لهم المعرفة والعلم وتغرسون فيهم القيم المثلى والمبادئ الأساسية، ها هم اليوم يستعدون للانطلاق في رحلة الحياة مسلحين بعلمهم ورعايتكم ومحبتكم، نبارك لكم جميعا هذه الذكرى بمرور مائة وخمسين عاما على تأسيس المدرسة في فلسطين ونتمنى أن تكون أيامكم القادمة أجمل وأفضل وأنتم تسعون إلى حب الحياة ما استطعتم وما استطعنا إليها سبيلا.





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