

Pal estine School connectivity Project

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Honor Party

At Wedad School there was a party to thank students and teachers for their different activities during the whole year. Dr. Ghazi Abu Sharekh, The General Manager of the Training Department At the Ministry of Education thanked everyone and especially Schools Online for their support. Dr. Ghazi also presented six special students with gifts! These students participated in on-line projects, such as Foods Around the World, and showed excellence in creativity and the use of technology. Amel TV and Alquds studio covered the party and took pictures.

Dr. Ghazi Abu Sharekh also thanked Schools Online project and was very happy to see the student's work.



Zohre Elahian, Dr. Ghazi Abu Sharek and Khaled Massou, On-site Educator for Hebron and Bethlehem.

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School Website (Al Hashemya School)

In early April the boys and teachers of Al Hashemya Secondary Boys School decided to renew the website of the school and make it an active web page. The boys used this project as part of their Computer and Arabic classes. They collected information from the teachers about the history of the school, previous experiences of the teachers, and information for the library and science labs. With the help of Mohamed O. Ibrahim, OSM at Hashemya, the students took pictures of the teachers, school's departments, labs and library and posted them on the site. All of the teachers wrote information about their curriculums and the boys designed a page to view lessons, questions and tutorials. They boys will continue to update the site with news, lessons, and information about their school and classes. Please take a look at the site, in Arabic, at:



Students work on the school website and teach one of their teachers how to design a page!



Improve your self –Improve your community! GCEP - Palestine celebrates Global Youth Service Day 2005!!

On various dates throughout April, students from all five Schools Online GCEP schools participated in their first Global Youth Service Day (GYSD). GYSD is a global event organized by American Youth Service to promote volunteering among the world's youth. Teachers used Schools Online's Improving Your Community teaching module to motivate the young people and inform them of the possibilities that volunteering can bring. According to teachers and students, youth contributed to their community while learning valuable lessons in volunteerism, community development/building, responsibility, environmental awareness and technology. All five Schools Online schools — Khawlah Bent Al Azwar, Al Hashemya, Wedad Naser Elden, Al Awdah and Huda Abd Al Nabi schools participated in the GYSD. There were 11 groups totaling over 400 students! The groups performed various projects such as planting unused areas, drawing and painting murals on school walls, visiting a center for elderly women, and visiting a special needs Center as well as a center for homeless children. All of these activities were done with the cooperation of local groups such as Sharek Youth Forum, local businesses and municipalities throughout the region. Please read on to see more...!

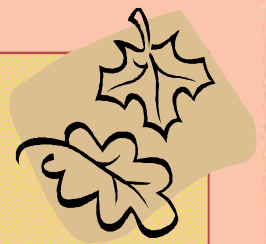


Students from Khawlah Girls School beautifying their school by painting an original mural on the school wall.



Students from Al Hashemya Boys School plant trees and flowers to beautify the entrance of Qalandia Camp.

One of the activities of the voluntary day was to visit the SOS village society which takes care of girls and boys who have been orphaned. On-site Monitor Reem Owaineh from Bethlehem's Al Awdah school and 17 students from 11th grade went to SOS village in Bethlehem. They walked (a long, long way!) to save money for buying more gifts. The SOS girls were very happy when they saw the students from Al Awdah school - the girls played, listened to each other, and took pictures together. After giving gifts, many girls said they built friendships that they hope will last a long time!



Students clean the area around the Huda Abd al Nabi School - Boys can be clean too!

One teacher from Huda Abd al Nabi School for boys was amazed at the boys efforts to clean the school grounds and the inside of the school!



Open Day at Al Hashemya Secondary Boys School

Mohamed Omar Mezyed, OSM at Al Hashemya Secondary Boys School on 13 April 2005 worked with students to prepare projects for the schools annual Open Day. The boys seem to be on their way to becoming mechanical engineers! They created an electrical washing machine, an electronic scale with bi-directional motor which turns depending on the weight and others which turn depending on pressure. The computer and technology teachers focused on teaching students how to plan their designs. The students designed electrical circuits by using Circuit Maker which provides training for engineering jobs. The students worked in groups to plan and design their projects.

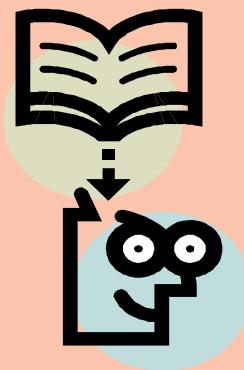


Electrical circuit for the Electronic circuit

All of the hard work from the teachers and students paid off! Students built a washing machine and an electronic scale. They presented their work on Open Day, April 19, and explained to visitors how the machines work and were built. After that they presented their work in an exhibition for the Ministry of Education. The ministry was so impressed they invited the students to an engineering summer camp!



Technology teacher, Mohamed Subhi Abu Hatem, stand with three students who successfully designed an electronic scale using the ILC at Al Hashemya School



Kamal Ma'roof, computer teacher, inspects a machine which is activated by pressure!

Mr. Abed Allah Shakarneh the Moderator of Education and Mr. Kamel Hamaid with his delegation, the German delegation, local government, students and their parents were invited to the open day at Al Awda Secondary Girls School. Students presented their projects with Schools Online, the visitors were impressed and thanked the students. And thanked their parents for supporting their children and encouraging them to participate in Schools Online projects.



On-Site Corner:

Our OSMs and OSEs held three workshops for students: two groups at Khawlah Bent Al Azwar Secondary Girls school and the other at Al Hashemya Secondary Boys school. They led discussions on how to be safe while working on the internet; the advantages and disadvantages of working on the internet and computer; using messengers and chat for (too) long time; what are the useful and non-useful things on messenger programs, and shared with students some stories from our life that happened through using messenger. Encouraged the girls to be involved and spoke about the usefulness and dangers that are particular to girls.

We have come to the end of our very first News-Letter.!!

The Schools Online—GCEP program began in October 2004 in Palestine. As with our schools around the globe we aim to train teachers and students in the use of ICT for educational and cultural purposes. As you have seen in this news-letter the program has gotten off to a wonderful start in the Palestinian territories. As we produce more news-letters and keep you informed of events as they happen we will also take a look back at some of the events of the past. We will take a special look at our first programs and how things got established here.

I would like to send a special thanks to Jihan Mitwalli, On-Site Monitor for Khawlah Bent Al Azwar school and Jawad Abu Own On-Site Educator for Ramallah. Jihan is responsible for the design of our first newsletter and Jawad's technical expertise has allowed us to publish this in an amazing amount of time.

Also, the designs that you see in this particular news-letter are taken from pictures shot by one of our students during the MY COMMUNITY exercise.

We are hoping to make every news-letter unique and different to reflect the diversity and complexity of Palestinian culture. In the beginning all of our On-Site staff will contribute by designing a news-letter and by writing.

We encourage your comments and suggestions about this news-letter and about our program in general. Please take a chance to visit our web-site, also under construction, at <http://www.connect-middleeast.org>

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