

1st Edition



LAU PRODUCTION



CIS VISIT



HALLOWEEN BAKE SALE

# THE EYES OF WELLSPRING



## Breast Cancer Awareness Bake Sale - A Success!

On Wednesday the fourth of October, our school had its first official Breast Cancer Awareness bake sale in the City-Centre Campus. This bake sale was run by a group of Grade Eleven

“Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all. - Aristotle”

students who are passionate about helping others and fighting for a cause as part of their continuous CAS projects! CAS is a core part of the IB that every student is required to fulfill over the time span of eighteen months in order to get their diploma at the end of Grade Twelve. It involves Creativity, Activity and Service and is supposed to help students shape their character and find out what type of person they truly are outside the academic and school environment.

The bake sale sold a wide range of delicious pink treats, such as mouthwatering donuts, breast cancer - themed cupcakes, tiramisu and pink lemonade! The team also sold breast cancer ribbons, which students were encouraged to wear to show their support! By the end of the bake sale we were able to raise a relatively large amount of money (350,000 LL), which we have recently donated to the Lebanese

CCC House Point Update:	
1st	Amazon (1275)
2nd	Nile (1194)
3rd	Litani (1269)
4th	Congo (1206)

Breast Cancer Foundation.

The Lebanese Breast Cancer Foundation (LBCF) is an NGO run by a branch of the AUBMC with the aim of inspiring others to stand up for and raise breast cancer awareness. Its members include breast cancer survivors and those whose relatives and friends were

## QUESTION BOX - your anonymous questions

Hi, I'm new at Wellspring, so do you have any advice on choosing the right friendship groups?

Choosing which friendship group to hang out with is really hard but the most important thing to consider is if you are comfortable around them or not and also how they make you feel, for example if they don't make you feel happy they aren't people you should be wasting your time with.

Hello, I'm finding it hard to find a balance between my social life and school, what should I do?

Having a good social life and good grades are two very important things. Try working on time management and planning out your week.

Want to ask your own question? Need any advice? Email me at [dana.kanaan@wellspring.edu.lb](mailto:dana.kanaan@wellspring.edu.lb)



or still are affected by this terrible disease. They organize a number of government-free events which help raise money for everybody affected by breast cancer.

This bake sale was a success, not only because we made a lot of money for the L B C F, but

- [cliparting.com/free-breast-cancer-ribbon-clip-art-34796/](http://cliparting.com/free-breast-cancer-ribbon-clip-art-34796/).

because it showed how collaborative and thoughtful Wellspring students are when it comes to helping and fighting for a cause. The sale brought together students from all grades who were excited to be participating with us at the stand while enjoying our delicious baked goods! This is why our school is referred to as a “*Learning Community*”! We are one unit and one voice, and together we can achieve anything that we set our mind to.



*Zeina Al-Khalil, Grade 11 DP*



## CIS/NEASC VISITS WELLSPRING!

From Monday October the 23rd till Friday October the 27th representatives from the CIS - “Council of International Schools” - paid our school a visit to test it for its ability to be accredited “CIS/NEASC Accreditation”. This accreditation is of much importance because it verifies our school as one which provides high quality international education and is up-to-date with the leading international

education standards. Once we are accredited Wellspring will be considered an official member of the NEASC/CIS family!

CIS is a global non-profit membership organization with a desire to provide international students with the knowledge and skills needed to pursue their lives as global citizens. In order to achieve this goal the organization visits international schools worldwide to check if they fit the standards of the CIS. After several meetings with students, staff members and teachers, the CIS body makes a decision to accredit the school or not.

This visit was a necessity for our school because we care that our students are provided with top-notch education that helps them grow and develop into mature and independent members of society. Therefore staff members made sure to make the campus as visually-appealing as possible, for example by decorating the walls with various pictures and pieces of information that will give the CIS/NEASC team an idea of the mission of Wellspring, and simply why our school deserves this accreditation! The team also attended various classes at different times of the day to get an idea of how subjects are taught and classrooms are organized at Wellspring. As students we also practiced our “fire drills” and “lock-downs” several times. These safety procedures are a definite must if we wish for Wellspring to become a member of CIS/NEASC. One never knows if they would actually need these skills one day! Hopefully the hard work pays off, and we will hear news of our accreditation in a few weeks.

#### Upcoming Dates

- November 22 - Independence Day  
- No school
- December 20 - Winter break starts

Have an article, short story or artwork you would like featured in our next issue? Find out how on page 17!

A short interview was conducted with **Miss Kathleen Saleh**, the IBDP coordinator at Wellspring, in which she shared her thoughts about this special visit.

► Why do you think Wellspring deserves to be accredited?

*I believe Wellspring deserves to be accredited because it is a very good school. We are transparent in what we do, we believe in the students and are committed to supporting the students fully.*



CANDIDATE FOR ACCREDITATION

► Being totally honest, how good do you feel about this visit? Did our school do well to prepare for it?

*We were very well prepared for the visit, we have been working for over a year on this.*

► How much of a comfort will it be if news come that Wellspring is accredited?

*We will be very happy when (if) we get the accreditation but even if we do not we have benefited from the process. Through working on this we have been able to identify areas of strengths in the school and areas that need to be improved. Developing a school is an ongoing process, we need to be working constantly on improving and not just when an accreditation is coming up.*

*Zeina Al-Khalil, Grade 11 DP*



*“Lost In Its Surroundings”* by Samah Tarraf - Grade 11 DP (Art HL)

Acrylic stencil on ink wash  
49 x 70 cm

“I am interested in working with patterns to show how the living tree is vulnerable. I like to imagine nature as the pretty image of a healthy tree with flowers that surround it.” - Samah

*The Same*

Everywhere she goes is the same  
 Never accepted  
 Always has to change  
 Her voice should be lower  
 And her head should face down  
 She has to smile, agree and  
 Never complain  
 Got to wear a mask that hides  
 Who she is  
 She can't be herself  
 She has to be what they expect her to be  
 She tries to runaway  
 Yet everywhere she goes  
 Is the same  
 All asking her to change  
 All wanting her to be someone she isn't  
 Sometimes she doesn't recognize herself  
 She looks in the mirror and sees the reflection of someone else  
 The only place she seems to find peace  
 Is when she lays alone  
 In the dark  
 Letting her inner demons  
 Invade her thoughts

*Nuhad Zeidan - Grade 11 DP - 10/24/17*

I am standing in front of the crooked-looking house, admiring the meandering cracks in every inch of its worn out walls. The weighty clouds sail across the sky, marking the beginning of another crisp November evening. A faint sound makes its way into my freezing ears, as if suddenly awakening me from a deep sleep.

I am convinced that this abandoned place of a house is haunted. The sound grows louder and louder, and it takes me a brief moment to realize that it is a voice I hear, urging me to go in and explore this haunted house to myself.

Inside it is as dark as the night sky. This place is unbelievably silent; the only sound heard besides that daunting voice is the leaves outside, which gently stroke against the thick walls as the wind blows past them.

The air smells like a mixture of smoke and spirits wandering through the house. The scent slowly travels into my nose and drugs me. Drowsily, I reach into my pocket and grab my cellphone to use it as a flashlight.

Now the voice has grown as loud as a lion's roar. At least this is how it sounds inside my heavy head. I try to follow it, in hopes of finding out that it belongs to a restless ghost. A smile spreads across my face as I foolishly start picturing myself on stage, in front of a crowd of nameless faces applauding me for the magnificent discovery I made. After all, I have always dreamed of becoming a ghost-hunter.

"Whoo-oo-oo", I clumsily turn around to shine my blinding light on what sounds like a whining phantom. But I see nothing...

How silly of me to have forgotten that ghosts are invisible to the human eye! Disappointed in myself, I hastily race back to the deteriorating wooden door that brought me in here. My head starts to spin as I notice that the door is shut. I cannot believe my eyes.

The house shivers and moans. Panting, I speed-dial my sister and pray that she would immediately come to my rescue. No signal.

Hands shaking, I fall to my knees. I can feel my nerves tingling as I realize that my spirit will be trapped in here forever. I sense a sea of anxiety rush down my cold spine; I have come to join the others.



*dailyhive.com/calgary/haunted-houses-ghost-tours-calgary-halloween-2016.*

## WELLSPRING THEATER GOES TO LAU

The play by Grade 9 and 10 students was “Inside the House of Alba”, an adaptation of the famous play “House of Bernarda Alba” by Garcia Lorca. It is a play that explores the role of women in Spanish society and the demands placed upon them by family and tradition. The universal themes of the roles and oppression of women has seen this play performed in different cultures all over the world.

Originally we were in rehearsal for it to be our Senior Production this year which will take place in December, but because of the invitation to present at the LAU “Reflections Festival” we had to increase our rehearsals to ensure we were ready early. Those who missed the LAU performance can see the production at school in December.



The cast is to be congratulated for their dedication as they performed a polished show at LAU given the time they had to prepare. Our set was made and transported with the assistance of our wonderful technical advisor Mr. Joe Ghareeb. Student performances could not happen without his support. Our DP Theatre students provided the technical support and were able to learn new techniques and practical



application of skills in a professional theatre with the assistance of the LAU crew.

The Music Department provided a choir of angels from Grades 5, 6 and 7 who performed with confidence to an adult audience.

Wellspring Learning Community is building a reputation in Beirut because of the team work and dedication of our students and teachers. We look forward to the continued support from parents, staff and friends in the wider circle in our future productions “In the House of Alba” at City Centre Campus on the 15th and 16th of December and our school musical of “Mulan” at AUB on the 28th and 29th of March 2018.

*Miss Denise Dewhurst - English and Theater Teacher  
Photos from Dr. Seba - LAU*



## AN INTERVIEW WITH THE ACTORS

We got to interview two of the main actors from the play. Here are the questions we asked **Marya Badran** (Grade 10), who played the role of Martirio, and **Lydia Thompson** (Grade 9), who played Bernarda Alba, and their answers.

How would you describe to us your experience being in this play?

**Marya:** “The experience of being a part of the play was tremendous. I never knew how stage work affected the actors, acting and vice versa and I truly enjoyed being a part of this fun experience.”

**Lydia:** “It was an amazing but challenging experience because the role of Bernarda is a very dark and strict role which was hard for me to play because I am not that type of person at all.”

Would it be an experience that you will repeat? If yes, why?

**Marya:** “Yes, it would be an experience to repeat because during rehearsals you create and expand the bond between characters and also the colleagues you work with and that is a wonderful experience.”



**Lydia:** “Of course, because I love being on stage and it helps me develop skills for my future.”

Were you satisfied with your performance?

**Marya:** “What I am mostly satisfied with about my

performance is that I was able to portray the character based on her personality; I was able to be another person for a while and not confuse her emotions and personality.”

**Lydia:** “Yes, because I felt like it was successful.”

What was the thing you liked the most about the whole idea of the play?

**Marya:** “I liked how the play showed gender roles in society, because it shows that women are looked down upon when they are with a man that they are not married to, whereas men are cheered on to have lots of women.”

**Lydia:** “That the cast was made of very strong women and on stage it was amazing to be around such amazing and strong actresses.”

*Samah Tarraf, Grade 11 DP*



## HOW JUICE-SELLING IS RELATED TO MATH: A PROJECT BY GRADE 6

A juice sale was held at Wellspring on the 18th of October that aimed to answer inquiry questions about globalization and sustainability. The juice sale was organized by Miss Rana Sabbagh (math subject leader), and I conducted an interview with her

regarding it. The juice sale was a math project that the Grade 6 students were working on, and before it they were asked to “estimate the number of units to be sold, consider the competition factors, and finally approximate the cost and the estimated profit”. After the sale, they compared the actual numbers to the budget and reflected on the results.

The MYP program identifies 3 types of inquiry questions which are “factual, conceptual and debatable” and in this juice sale the answers to the inquiry questions are: the math used in everyday, how negative numbers are seen, and how we understand math.



Despite the Grade 6 students being put into teams, this was not a competition and more like a “stimulation of the real market.” Different groups were selling in different locations and selling different types of juices. This was done to resemble the conditions of a real market as factors like location and types

of goods sold would affect the sales and therefore affect the profits.

The grade 6 students made the juice they sold themselves but they had to consider the following question:

- I. Is it healthy?
- II. Is it time consuming?
- III. Is it costly?
- IV. Will it sell better?

The results from the juice sale showed that 6C sold the most. From this project the Grade 6 students learned a lot about “cost, revenue, and profit, also they got a sense of the market analysis, and the idea of loss which was related to negative numbers,” but they also learned communication skills,

collaborative skills, formed friendships, made memories and enjoyed the fun activity!

*Dana Kanaan, Grade 11 DP*

## HALLOWEEN TRICK OR TREATING AT WLC - GRADE 11'S SPECTACULAR BAKE SALE!

As we all know Halloween is a spooky celebration, which is celebrated on the thirty-first of October. In fact, the Halloween that we usually celebrate in our present day originates from the Celtic suburbs of Britain and was changed over decades by Christian traditions. The term “trick or treating” was first used in the United States, in 1927, along with the traditions that were brought up by immigrants into the US. As sugar goods became well known in the Second World War, Halloween was a wide-spread holiday that highly satisfied young children. When Halloween became known in the



United States, it was a holiday more about a community, in which children enjoyed wearing celebratory costumes and enjoying delicious sweets.

On the 1st of November, just a day after Halloween, Grade 11 students in Wellspring Learning Community organized a Halloween-themed bake sale. This was organized as part of the students' CAS project; Yearbook Club. The yearbook team decided to hold a special halloween bake sale in which they sold a variety of delightful treats, that they spent the evening before baking and preparing together. The



bake sale was another success thanks to the Grade 11 students who worked collaboratively and demonstrated great perseverance in their job!

The delicious Halloween-inspired goods that were sold at the bake sale included cupcakes, doughnuts, candy

bags and many more! The main purpose of this Halloween bake sale was to raise money for the school's yearbook which would be eventually put together by the students at the end of the school year. They managed to make a great amount of money due to their resilient teamwork which brought together this innovative idea of a Halloween bake sale!

As WLC is a learning community, the Grade 11 students, as a team, managed to fulfill their goal of raising a great amount of money for the school's yearbook. Likewise, they demonstrated extreme pride and care during the bake sale, in which their enthusiasm brought up many young children to buy the goods.



*Khaled Hallak, Grade 11 DP (Edited by Zeina Al-Khalil)*

## PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS AT WELLSPRING!

A few weeks ago we elected our 2017-2018 student council president. The winner was Denis Tripes, a senior. He promised to always be here for every student, and to try his best to fulfill our demands. We decided to have a small interview with Denis and ask him questions about how he felt being the president. Here are the questions I asked him:



- How did you feel about the elections; were you stressed or were you confident that you were going to win?
- How does it feel to be president? Do you feel pressure or not?

This is what he answered:

*“Hey Nuhad.*

*At the start of the election, I didn't know if I was going to stand a chance. After all, the former president was going up for re-election and what chance did I have? I was certainly worried at the start, but when I delivered my rather carefree speech and saw the others just read off a script, I grew very confident. As people were coming up to me more and more often, my confidence grew. During the weekend before the announcement, I was highly confident I was going to win.*

*Now that I'm the President, I feel some pressure but that mostly comes out of organizing the Halloween Party. After all, I have a lot to organize and*

*prepare for the party. I've taken up most of the responsibilities for the party and I realize that may not have been the right choice. I certainly feel the pressure and combined with finishing the IB, as well as applying to colleges and universities, I've bitten off a bit more than I can chew. In the future, I'll delegate the party planning responsibilities to my subordinates, which will teach them how to plan for these parties and allow me to focus my time. That said, the pressure isn't all that great and I'm confident I'll do something good things for this school while I'm still here, if the student council works with me.*

*Thanks for the questions”.*

Most people think that being president is easy; they think it is just being the head and telling people what to do. In the contrary being president comes with lots of responsibility, pressure, and stress and also you need to be



organized. People should be able to depend on you and not worry whether you will be capable of the job or not. I fully believe that our president Denis Tripes is capable of holding the responsibility. While he was reading his speech, I felt like I could depend on him for support and I knew he would fulfill what he had promised.

I also asked a couple of students passing by in the hallways about how they felt about the new president.

Answers varied depending on the person but they were all positive. Some said the person they voted for was not elected but they are still confident that Denis would do a great job, and others said that they were so happy that Denis had won. Overall everybody said that they were satisfied with the results.

I would also like to congratulate Denis again and also our vice president, Fadwa, who was also elected. She is a sophomore female (Grade 10).

*Nuhad Zeidan, Grade 11 DP*

Is it true what they say, a cat has nine lives? Apparently yes! Brownny joined my family when it was less than a month old and it was afraid to jump from the top of small tables. Now it is one year old and only has eight lives left. Why? We better start from the beginning.

Brownny likes to go to the edge of the balcony, and to jump from one end to another to take a peak of the city. Brownny is one of the cowardly types of cats, it doesn't leave the house and is always terrified and frightened when we take it somewhere new. It loves to play with bouncy balls and likes to hide in small and tight spaces.

It was a Sunday night, around seven o'clock, the balcony window was open, and my brother and I were having dinner. My mom and dad were not in the house, but by the time they came back we were all exhausted, and we didn't notice that Brownny had gone MISSING! The next morning we got up to go to school and usually Brownny would be waiting for us at the door, but that morning was different, there was no sight of it. We searched everywhere, every single corner, but still we couldn't find it.

Then there was a long moment of silence, a very long pause. At that point we gave up and we were late for school, so we had to leave. We checked the entire building from the basement all the way to the roof, and we couldn't find it. My brother started to hear weird cat noises. Then we had to go to school so we left. I told everyone in my class, and they were all devastated.

When I came back home my dad asked my brother and I if we want to go with him to check again for Brownny, but this time literally all the building. We checked every inch but there was no sight of it. Then we told our housekeeper to check on the first floor because there is a terrace there, and if it jumped out the window, it would have landed there. While he was doing that, we went up to the roof.

On the roof my dad heard our housekeeper saying Brownny is dead. It was a tragic moment, but we had to face it. We went down to our housekeeper, and we asked him where Brownny was, surprisingly he said in your house, it is still alive but it might have broken a bone. We ran up and didn't believe what we saw, Brownny in its house.

We ran as fast as we could to the nearest vet and she injected two shots because it spent twenty four hours there. It probably survived because it landed on a curtain that was open, but it hurt its leg because it tried to hold on to the curtain but wasn't able to because of the force, so it fell down while its leg was still stuck on. Also, because it is a cat and it knows how to steer itself in order to land safely. Also, it is part of "cat" instincts, so it is trained without knowing it.



Now, Brownny is almost “normal” again, it took some time but survived the trauma. I hope that when it is fully cured, it will not jump again because it might think that, I jumped and survived, how about I do it again. I wonder what accident will occur to make Brownny have seven lives left.

*“Eight Lives” by Dory Azar, Grade 7 MYP*

### Chief Editor’s Note

*“Dear readers,*

*Thank you for taking the time to check out the first edition of “The Eyes of Wellspring”, our brand new school newspaper! We - a group of Grade 11 students - have created this project as part of our CAS - a core part of the IB that involves Creativity, Activity and Service. Our goal is to create a platform where Wellspring students and parents can read about the latest school news and events, and enjoy some of our students’ impressive work. We hope you have enjoyed reading this issue, and we look forward to seeing you soon!”*

*If you have any questions, or would like to contribute a piece of writing or artwork that you would want featured in the next edition, please email me at [zeina.al-khalil@wellspring.edu.lb](mailto:zeina.al-khalil@wellspring.edu.lb).*

#### Images Used:

- “Breast cancer ribbon cancer awareness clipart kid.” *Cliparting.com*, [cliparting.com/free-breast-cancer-ribbon-clip-art-34796/](http://cliparting.com/free-breast-cancer-ribbon-clip-art-34796/).
- Staff, DH Calgary. “11 haunted houses and ghost tours in Calgary to get you into the Halloween spirit.” *Daily Hive*, 28 Oct. 2016, [dailyhive.com/calgary/haunted-houses-ghost-tours-calgary-halloween-2016](http://dailyhive.com/calgary/haunted-houses-ghost-tours-calgary-halloween-2016).

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(From left to right): Tarek, Khaled, Dana, Zeina, Nuhad, Samah, Matthew