



THE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE VISUALLY HANDICAPPED

The National Library For The Blind
AL-SHUROOQ SCHOOL FOR BLIND CHILDREN

Newsletter Summer 2017

Hello everybody,

At the beginning of this semester our hopes are high that we can keep directing the school activities effective in helping our beloved children achieve their hopes and dreams of enjoying a full, exciting and productive life. With the right education, tools and services, the blind and impaired child can do almost everything with our help and the help of our friends and supporters around the world. The financial assistance will enable training for teachers and provide assistive technology to make the learning of our beloved ones easier.

Developing staff knowledge and competencies

We are extremely proud of our staff efforts and we are equally excited about the future for our students as a result of the hard work and dedication of our staff. We are always searching for opportunities to improve our staff skills and knowledge in dealing with visually impaired children because we believe that the investment in our staff will contribute better results to our children.

Two teachers from Al-Shurooq School attended a 5 day workshop "Introduction to Visual Impairment" for Visual Rehabilitation Training through "Jossour" program co-funded by Royal Dutch Vision, Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation and the Ministry of education.



Al-Shurooq teachers, Fatima and Ghayda', receiving their Diploma Certificates



Implementing the concepts learned at the workshops by training 20 teachers from governmental mainstream schools.

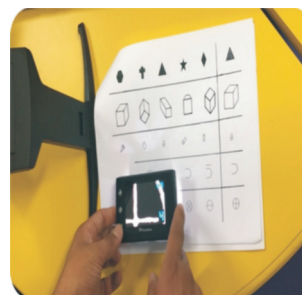
The Resource room and educational toy library

We are happy to announce the establishment of a resource room and the only educational toy library for visually impaired students. The resource room is equipped with all their needs of Braille Perkins, Braille paper, readers and other essential equipment necessary for their development. As for the library, it is the only library in the West Bank that is compatible to visual impairment. It provides children with access to stimulating play materials that help visually impaired children reach their potential by developing a strong foundation for learning and behavior.

We sincerely appreciate the support of the McCabe Educational Trust in helping us achieve our mission by providing a better life for visually impaired children.



Students of Al-Shurooq enjoying their time at the toy library



Some of the equipments in the resource room (magnifiers and readers)

Governor General of Canada's visit

His Excellency. David Jonston, the Governor General of Canada and his wife, Ms. Charlon Jonston, visited the National Society for the Visually Handicapped and Al Shurooq School on November 5th, 2016. The chairman/president of the NSFVH, Dr. Simon Araj, gave a brief PowerPoint presentation about the society's history, the school services and activities of students, followed by a tour within the building. It is important to mention that the purpose of the visit was supporting the provision of solar panels on the roof of the NSFVH building. These solar panels help in the conversion of solar energy into electricity decreasing costs and some of the financial burdens of the society.



A memorial photo of the NSFVH Staff with the Canadian President and his wife

McCabe Educational Trust Visit

Four groups from McCabe Educational Trust visited the Society and school on February 10, February 13, March 17 and May 3, 2017. The School Principal, Mrs. Ruba Abu Rudaineh along with the Administrative Assistant briefly discussed the Society's history and introduced the visitors to the School activities, services and students. The group showed empathy and were very impressed about the work we do here at school. We would like to express our deepest thanks to McCabe for the generous support and continued encouragement. We hope 2017 will be a great year for all of us.



McCabe group on a tour to be more aware of the services provided by Al-Shurooq School.

Mother's Day activity

Celebrating Mother's Day on the 21st of March, Al-Shurooq School and Social Study students from Bethlehem University organized a trip for our students with their mothers aiming at strengthening the bond between the mothers and their children. They gathered at Mary Doty Park, enjoyed the several music activities and games with their beloved children. They also participated in a psychological session facilitated by the social worker in order to exchange experiences and feelings.



Mothers celebrating Mother's Day with their kids and enjoying several activities.

"In His great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."
Peter 1:3

God has so many blessings in store for us. In the darkest of nights, a single ray of light often shines for us, illuminating a path forward. When you and I have the courage not to quit or give up, HE will lead us into a new and full life, a resurrected life.

Al-Shurooq Students celebrated the spirit of Easter and enjoyed dyeing Easter eggs with the help of our teachers. It was a wonderful day for our children who happily received a basket full of colored eggs and Easter bunnies chocolates.



Al-Shurooq on eggs and receiving a gift full of colored eggs and Chocolates

The 5th grade graduation ceremony

The 31st of May was a special day for Al-Shurooq School. We celebrated the graduation of 5th grade students. The ceremony started with the principal welcoming parents and several activities followed; The school choir sang three songs, and our beloved, talented students performed a play about the role of the police in assisting a visually impaired pedestrian. Then, the principal distributed certificates and a gift for each one of the students.



Principal of Al-Shurooq School giving certificates and gifts for fifth grade graduates.