



The National Society for The Visually Handicapped AlShurooq School for Blind Children





GRADUATION OF THE CLASS OF CHALLENGE AND DETERMINATION


Every year, Al-Shurooq School for the Blind holds a graduation ceremony for fifth graders. The fifth graders were farewelled by the school, staff, and colleagues this year.


The graduation and farewell ceremony was attended by the head and members of the administrative board, the students, the graduates, and their parents. The ceremony included a speech by the head of the administrative board Dr. Simon Al Araj and the principal of the school Mrs. Mirna Fliefel, as well as speeches by the graduates in Arabic and English.

Also, a popular folkloric performance, piano playing, dancing, and shows were presented by the school students. At the end of the ceremony, the school played a video showing pictures from the archives of the graduates' lives at Al-Shurooq and a thank - you word.

 [Al-Shurooq School مدرسة الشروق للمكفوفين for Blind Children on Facebook](#)

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Breaking News!!



The war in Gaza Strip and the deterioration of conditions at all levels have made it impossible for most of our students to arrive at school during this most difficult period in our beloved homeland of Palestine. Our priority is to ensure their safety and to maintain their learning, which is why a special distance learning plan is being implemented through TEAMS. Our plan also includes the use of special Facebook groups to present videos, teaching materials, and worksheets.



A bigger family for the new school year 2022-2023

Al Shurooq School for the Blind welcomed 8 new students for the new academic year. The new family members participated in a range of activities and events aimed at breaking the ice, promoting communication and participation between students and their teachers in a joyous and interactive atmosphere of love, recreation and cooperation.



Follow-up visits for integrated students

The integration and follow-up program described as one of the important programs providing the interventions needed to be applied in mainstream schools for integrated students at all levels. The psycho-social worker visited the students who have been integrated into mainstream schools in their residential areas. These visits are part of coordination and networking with the directorates of education in Hebron, to enhance the student's integration into his new school environment, facilitate his integration into his classroom environment by providing him with necessary educational aids, and explain the adaptation needed according to his visual assessment report. On the other hand, the program is based on training teachers to use methods that are adapted to worksheets, exams, and direct explanations for visually impaired students, which improves their academic level and enhance their educational achievement. Students who are integrated continue to receive psycho-social guidance and strive to build a secure network of relationships that will make them feel confident and satisfied.



A Partnership

Al-Shurouq School for the Blind joined as an effective and main partner in launching the Award of Excellence in Creative Writing "Ibrahim Abu Hamoud" prize at its first session of 2023. This is to encourage the participation of linguistic creativity under two main headings: "My issue is my concern", and "The teacher is a leader through pen and tongue." Our Arabic Teacher Intisar Abu Sneineh was selected as the coordinator of the award and two graduates of the school are participants.



Entertaining Day for Special Education Students

The Special Education Class annually conducts an entertaining day for students and their mothers, aiming to focus on the results of rehabilitation work in terms of daily life skills. The occupational therapist and the teacher of special education evaluated the quarterly work and its effects on children during the last entertaining day.

The children and their mothers were taken to a park where they had breakfast and took part in social and physical activities.



Licensing Al- Shurouq Kindergarten

The procedures for licensing Al-Shurouq Kindergarten for the Blind have been completed at the Ministry of Education. The procedures included engineering detection, environmental detection, and a renovation of the playground.

Training for the local institutions of visual impairment

In a fruitful and meaningful community partnership, the society and the School hosted representatives of the district committees of the Palestine Children's Council and the protection teams of the International Movement for the Defense of Children. The training was an important step to strengthen and enhance the relationship with local institutions, to inform participants about the rights of individuals with disabilities, to introduce the national society for visually impaired, the school, and its academic and rehabilitation role. The group was then accompanied on a tour of the school, during which they were introduced to optical devices, rehabilitation services, boarding house services, and the use of the Sensory Room in Rehabilitation.





Receiving ORCAM Devices

A group of our students and some teachers have received ORCAM my Eye talking devices, as a donation from local institutions and entities and under the supervision of the Al-Ala'ya Resource Center.

The talking device is used to facilitate life for the blind and visually impaired, and it is a technology that supports Reading in a way that suits the user without any other help, in addition to recognizing faces and people through the information system attached to the device. The device also reads banknotes, and it has a time and date reading feature. The institutions in charge of the donation, have given out pieces of training related to well-using the devices.



A SCHOOL MUSIC BAND

With kind approval from the Ministry of Education to allow one of their Music Teachers to give Music classes to our students, Mr. Murad Naseem has started establishing the Al Shurouq music band; this includes singing, piano playing, and percussion playing. This band will be well trained and ready to perform in local community events and cultural festivals, and their first performance will be December 2023 in a music contest including governmental and private schools of Bethlehem.

**EVEN WITHOUT SIGHT,
THERE IS STILL VISION.**