



The International School  
of Choueifat - Lahore

ISC-Lahore 2015 Graduation  
Ceremony

China Educational Trip

ISC-Lahore Playgroup Graduation  
2015

Saad Tariq Hameed - Student  
Success Story

Student Life Training Camp -  
Athens, Greece

Mini Camp

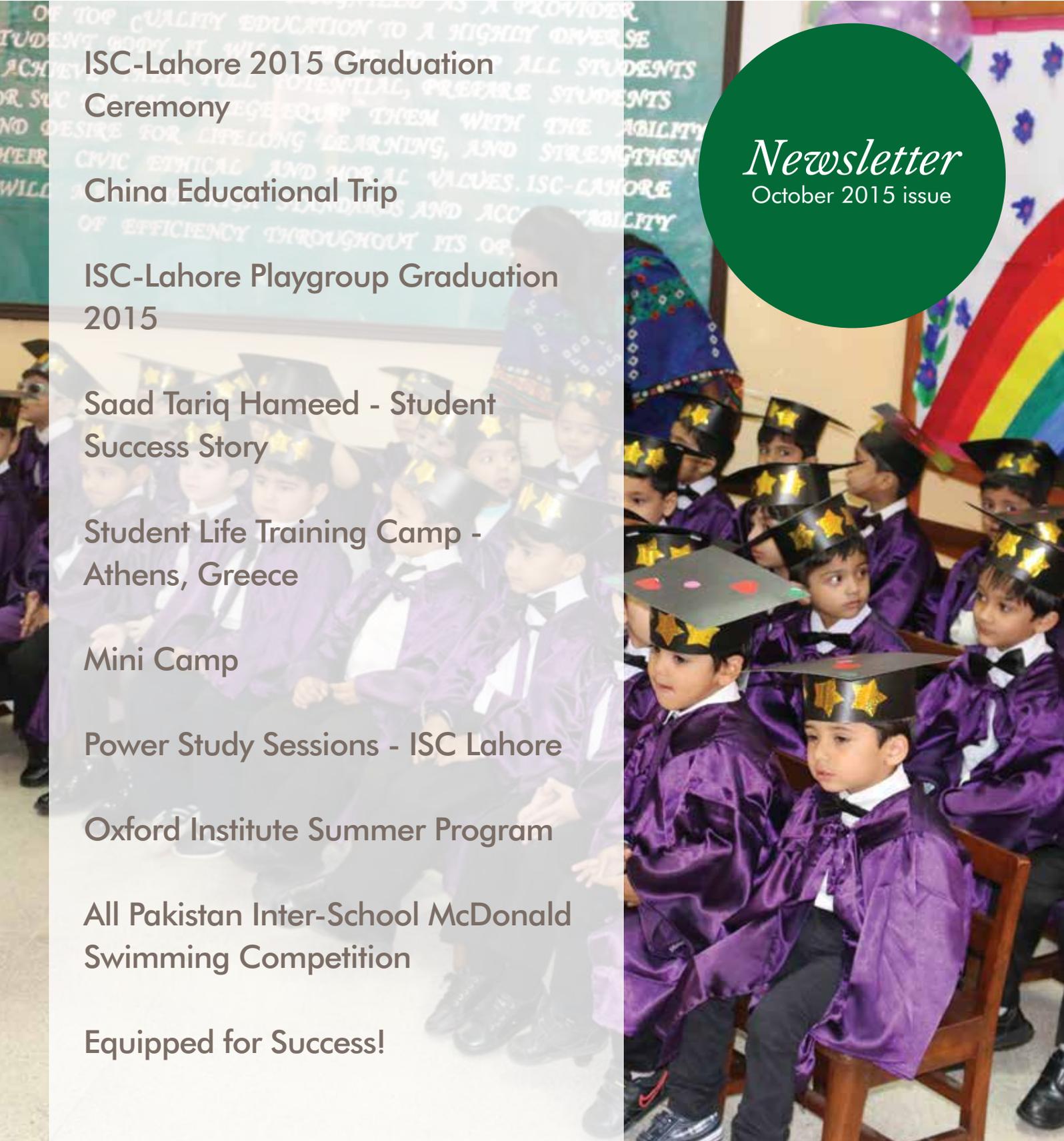
Power Study Sessions - ISC Lahore

Oxford Institute Summer Program

All Pakistan Inter-School McDonald  
Swimming Competition

Equipped for Success!

*Newsletter*  
October 2015 issue





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- **7<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER – 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE**  
(Refer to SIS-UK school calendar)

### *Study Abroad Program Dates 2015-16\**

- **7<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER – 27<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**  
(12 weeks)
- **1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER OR 4<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY –  
18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH** (13 weeks)
- **6<sup>TH</sup> APRIL – 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE** (12 weeks)

*\*Students may participate in one or two terms of the  
Study Abroad Program.*

### *Application and Contact Details*

For an application form or further information about the SIS-UK Full-Year Abroad Program or Study Abroad Program, please contact [admissions@sisuk.sabis.net](mailto:admissions@sisuk.sabis.net) or speak to your School Director or Office Manager.

Additional information about SIS-UK, including the calendar for the Academic Year 2015-16, can be found at [sisuk.sabis.net](http://sisuk.sabis.net).

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### Oxford Institute Summer Program

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### Equipped for Success!

To ensure that their workforce is efficient, confident, motivated and enlightened, all successful organizations believe in improving the performance and output of the workers.



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# ISC-Lahore 2015 Graduation Ceremony

After awaiting two years for another graduating class, the graduation ceremony was celebrated at the ISC-Lahore campus on May 31, 2015. The activities hall looked stunning in its welcome to the graduates of the Class of 2015, the faculty, parents, and guests.

The Quran recitation by Muhammad Ibrahim and Sarah Zenab Arshad of Grade 10 kicked off the ceremony and was followed by the processional led by the Grade 11 students bearing not only the SABIS® flag, but also those of the five nationalities represented amongst the graduating class: Pakistan, Canada, the U.S., and the U.K. They were followed by the senior faculty headed by the Senior Academic Quality Controller, Dr. Greg Kuchta and the Guest Speaker, Dr. Tariq Rahman. A quick change of music to Sir Edward Elgar's Pomp and Circumstance, and the Director of ISC-Lahore, Ms. Margo Abdel Aziz, led the graduates into the hall.



Ms. Margo's words of congratulations and good luck to the graduates included sage advice to students in the words of Sheryl Sandberg, Chief Operating Officer of Facebook: *"Don't let your fears overwhelm your desire. Let the barriers you face... be external, not internal. Fortune does favor the bold and you will never know what you are capable of unless you try."*

We were honored to welcome, Dr. Tariq Rahman, (PhD.D.Litt), Sitara-e-Imtiaz, Distinguished National Professor Emeritus and Dean, School of Liberal and Social Sciences, Beaconhouse National University, as the commencement

speaker for the graduation ceremony of 2015. The audience listened intently as Dr. Rahman shared his thoughts on the value of education, the pursuit of knowledge, and the commitment that students should feel towards their country and respective families no matter where they ended up in the future.



A respite in the speeches was provided in the form of a cheerful tune sung by the Grade 5 and 6 choir. The song, written by our very own Mrs. Yasmeen Shah, Head of the Urdu Department, with music composition from Head of Music, Mr. James Griffin, was a heartfelt dedication to ISC-Lahore, and had the audience clapping and singing along. This interlude was neatly followed by the faculty representative for 2015, Dr. Greg Kuchta, Senior Academic Quality Controller, who imparted words of wisdom, support, and good wishes to our graduates.



Special recognition must go to our valedictorians of the Class of 2015. Rafay Ahmad Chaudhary from the Scientific Section graduated with honors and is going on to the University of California at Berkeley to major in economics. Abdullah Khan from the Literary Section graduated with distinction and is also traveling to the U.S. to major in business at the University of Virginia. In fact, the Class of 2015 is unusual in that the students had applied to a record number of different universities all over the world this year.

The list of university acceptances is impressive. In Pakistan alone, they include Habib University Karachi, Lahore University of Management Sciences, Lahore School of Economics, University College Lahore, National University of Science and Technology, SKANS School of Accountancy, and FAST.



In the U.S., students have university offers from Babson College, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the University of Illinois at Chicago, Boston University, New York University, Vanderbilt University, Washington University in St. Louis, University of California, Los Angeles, Carnegie Mellon University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, University of Massachusetts at Boston,

the University of Notre Dame, Northeastern University, Florida Institute of Technology, Texas Tech University, Duke University, Marquette University, Florida Atlantic University, George State University, University of South Florida, Syracuse University, Western University, Georgia Institute of Technology, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, Iowa State University and Pennsylvania State University.

In Canada: McGill University, University of Toronto, Simon Fraser University, University of Waterloo, Concordia University, University of Alberta, University of British Columbia, Queen’s University, Ryerson University, Wilfrid Laurier University, York University, and University of Western Ontario.

In the U.K.: Imperial College London, University College London, the University of Manchester, Queen Mary University of London, the School of Oriental and African Studies, City University London, King’s College London, University of Warwick, and Birkbeck College.

In other parts of the world, our students have decided to attend Sabanci University, Turkey, the University of Western Australia, Temple University, Japan and Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University in Saudi Arabia.

After the speeches, it was down to the main order of business; the distribution of the high school diplomas. Dr. Greg presented the class to the director, while Ms. Margo proudly issued the diplomas to the students. Mr. Abdullah Idilbi, Student Life Coordinator presented the graduates with the SABIS Student Life Organization® glass souvenir plaques as they left the stage.

Finally, Radetsky’s March by Strauss accompanied the students as they were led out of the hall during the recessional, with much applause and cheers from the audience, bringing the formal part of the ceremony to a close.

Special congratulations go to the honor roll students:

- Abdullah Khan: Distinction
- Amna Hassan: Distinction
- Muhmmad Rafay Ahmed: Honors
- Danish Amjad Alvi: Honors
- Silkina Amir: Honors
- Omar Rahim Khan: Honors
- Ahmed Haroon: Honors
- Hussain Jamshed: Honors
- Asad Ullah Khan Shahani: Honors
- Sheikh Muhammad Usman Bilal: Honors

The Class of 2015 is notable also because of the record number of graduates who have either been with the school from the early years or have completed their entire schooling at ISC-Lahore. Congratulations to the students who have been with ISC-Lahore since the beginning:

- Aaim Abdul Rehman -KG1
- Danish Amjad Alvi-KG1
- Ameer Hamza Khan-KG1
- Munim Moazam Malik-KG1
- Fatima Wali-KG1
- Jannat Abuzar-KG1
- Silkina Amir-KG2
- Hasnain Hassan Butt-KG1
- Yasmeen Ijaz-KG1
- Omair Javed-KG1
- Omar Rahim Khan-KG1
- Zeeshan Tariq Malik-KG1
- Izzat Riaz-KG1
- Mian Irtaza Ur Rehman-KG2
- Robas Zahid-KG1

To the Class of 2015— those going abroad or staying close to home— ISC-Lahore faculty and administration would like to congratulate our graduates and wish them the very best for the future.

**Fozia Arshad**  
University Adviser



## China Educational Trip

While traveling to China, we had the pleasure of creating unforgettable memories. Despite the brevity of the trip, we enjoyed ourselves a great deal. From exploring the cultural heritage in Beijing to seeing the modern architecture and impressive skyline of Shanghai, we were able to witness two completely diverse aspects of the country. We started this exceptional journey on Sunday night, reaching Beijing via Bangkok. We were met by our tour guide Cai Hom (Rainbow), who took us straight for dinner. Traditional Chinese food was offered and we were all fascinated by the unique taste and experience of trying to eat with the signature Chinese chopsticks. After that, we went to the hotel to rest and prepare for the eventful day ahead.



The next day, we visited the zoo, and made a point of seeing the most well-known native animal to China—the panda. Then, at the Forbidden City, we hiked all the way up to get a breathtaking view of the entire site. Later we explored old Beijing in a bicycle cart and visited traditional houses. At night we watched the famous Kung Fu show which was truly captivating.

On the second day, we went to see the Great Wall of China. What a marvelous sight it was! Spreading as far as the eye could see, it is justly termed as one of the wonders of the world. After visiting the 17<sup>th</sup> century tomb of a Chinese emperor, we headed towards our first shopping experience where we bargained A LOT!! It was an interesting situation as neither party understood what the other was saying.



On the third day, which was also our last day in Beijing, we saw the Olympics venue, the Temple of Heaven, took a small boat ride around the Summer Palace, and then took a train to Shanghai. After a tiring five hour train journey, we were met by our tour guide in Shanghai. We were instantly transported to our hotel as it was around midnight.

The next day, we explored the Oriental Pearl TV Tower. We went onto the highest observation deck to get a view of the entire city of Shanghai and visited the wax museum (located in the



same tower) which displayed China before 1500 B.C. Later, the Nanjing road offered us an opportunity to explore and shop on our own. In the evening, we witnessed the amazing techniques put on display in an acrobat show.

The following was our last day in China and we were determined to make the most of it. We explored the prestigious French Quarter and went to the Huangpu River, where we admired the pictorial skyline of Shanghai on a river cruise. Despite the fun, we were exhausted and eager to head home. The trip was undoubtedly one of the best experiences of my life. It was all the more enjoyable due to the great support of our teachers and their continuous efforts to make us feel more comfortable. They helped us with anything and everything such as taking us to restaurants and by constantly being at our sides at all times. The trip to China helped me feel independent and responsible while enjoying with my friends and also helped me develop a much better bond with my teachers.

**Bakhtawar Hassan, 12B**



## *IGCSE Mandarin Chinese Examination*

We extend our most sincere congratulations to Osman Rahim Khan and Muhammad Saif Rohkeri of 11A for scoring "A"s in the University of Cambridge's IGCSE Mandarin Chinese examination held in May 2015. Both of them were the first students in the history of ISC-Lahore, as well as in Pakistan, to take this examination. We are proud of their achievement for creating history in the school and in this country, paving the way for others to follow in their success.

**Ezel Riaz  
Head of Chinese Department**



# ISC-Lahore Playgroup Graduation 2015

The ISC-Lahore Playgroup 2015 Graduation Day on May 28, 2015 was a very important occasion for our little ones, as it marked the beginning of not only their formal schooling, but also of the wonderful life-long journey of learning. After four months of educational and fun activities, the little graduates were now well-equipped for KG1; they had become familiar with the school environment and routine, and had indeed acquired many new skills.

The graduation ceremony was held in the school's Library Hall with full protocol, in the presence of the children's proud parents, our Director, Ms. Margo Abdel Aziz, the Infants and Primary School's Academic Quality Controllers (AQC's), as well as their teachers and other staff members. The little graduates entered the hall in their purple graduation gowns and took their seats in front of the audience. A few words to the children and their parents were offered by the director and the AQC's before the touching slide show, which presented the highlights from the session's activities. Then the graduates were awarded their certificates and presents, and the grand event ended with the cutting of the graduation cake.

Congratulations preschoolers, and a big thank you to the administration and staff for their outstanding work, as well as the parents for their support and cooperation! See you all very soon in KG1.

**Mrs. Dimitria, Infant AQC**





**SABIS®**

## *Success Story*

### *ISC – Lahore*



***Saad Tariq Hameed***

As a global education network, SABIS® operates Pre-K and K-12 schools in 16 countries on four continents. SABIS® Network schools, which are designed to provide a high-quality education for all students, are found in both the private and public arenas and currently serve 70,000 students worldwide.

A member of the SABIS® Network, the International School of Choueifat – Lahore (ISC-Lahore) in Pakistan opened its doors on September 15, 1992, to 134 students in Kindergarten to Grade 12. Today, drawing on a reputation for excellence, the school educates close to 1,000 students.

This is the story of a student who faced unexpected challenges and came out better, stronger, and more committed than ever to making a difference in the lives of youth in his country.

Saad Tariq Hameed joined ISC-Lahore as a Grade 7 student at the start of the 1994-95 academic year. In switching from the local curriculum in Pakistan to the challenging international curriculum at ISC-Lahore, Saad was required to repeat Grade 7. The structured SABIS® Educational System, combined with the full support of the school, allowed Saad to end his first year in the school with an A average, a standard he maintained throughout his time at the school.

While at ISC-Lahore, Saad was an active member of the SABIS Student Life Organization® (SLO®). As a member of the SLO® Academics Department, Saad was a peer tutor who helped younger students in math. Saad was also a keen athlete and enjoyed playing on the school's volleyball and basketball teams.

In his senior year, due to an unfortunate turn of events, Saad had to withdraw from school to help his family rebuild their construction business. Despite this challenge, he was driven to pursue higher education, earning a higher diploma in software engineering, degrees in journalism and English literature, and a law degree from the University of London (International Program). He is currently an Advocate of the High Court, a teaching assistant at the Lahore University of Management Sciences, and teaches business law at the National University of Computing and Engineering Sciences.

In parallel to his professional achievements, Saad has acquired near-celebrity status in Pakistan for creating The Knowledge Factory (TKF), a learning and activities center where creativity and imagination is encouraged and nurtured. Its flagship center, the Urban Learning Activities Center, is dedicated to engaging the youth of Pakistan in positive activities such as the enjoyment of literature, music, art, dance, and theater. The success of TKF inspired Saad to work closely with local non-profit organizations serving youth in some of the most underprivileged areas of Lahore.

Reflecting on his life, Saad believes that his time at ISC-Lahore was a game-changer. He strongly believes that SLO® inspired him to want to give back to his community, which is why he founded TKF. "If I am successful today, it is thanks to three things: my mother's belief in me, my SABIS® experience, and my commitment to always maintaining a critical, positive approach to life."

We wish Saad Tariq Hameed continued success in making a difference in the lives of underprivileged youth in Pakistan today.

For more information about ISC-Sharjah, visit [iscshj-sabis.net](http://iscshj-sabis.net).

**ISC-Lahore**

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## *Student Life Training Camp – Athens, Greece*

To say the Student Life Training Camp (SLTC) was anything short of life-changing would be an understatement. The 2015 SLTC had everything I could have hoped for. There were incredible lectures, like “The Energy Bus”, and “Fish Philosophy”, stunning trips across Greece, and, most of all, there were incredible individuals. Everything about the SLTC made for a complete package, with fun cruises, lunches, and activities, but also interesting, thought-provoking seminars and videos.

I learned much more at the camp, but the greatest thing about the camp wasn't the ten days in which it is held, but the hundreds of days that follow. Another great thing about the camp is that it enables students to truly make their lives and the lives of their fellow classmates far better. The end of the ten-day camp is the beginning of the real test for students who had the privilege of going, for at the end of the SLTC, lies a chance, an opportunity, to make huge changes in the days, attitudes, and lives of others, and ourselves. It will sound like a cliché, but I'll say it again: the SLTC is the greatest experience SABIS® can give you during your time at school. It would be quite unfortunate if you didn't try to seize it.

**Osman Rahim Khan, 11 LA**



The Student Life Training Camp, commonly called the SLTC, was the most life-changing experience of my life. We were chosen to go to one of the most historical and breathtaking places in the world: Greece! The presentations made by the Student Life Coordinators were extremely inspiring and motivating. Students from all over the world converged at this event to represent their respective schools. I had the honor of brainstorming ideas with them to implement in our respective institutions. Not only had I made lifelong friendships at the camp, but I had come back a changed person – someone who had changed for the better.

**Imran Ahmed Qureshi, 11 LA**



# Mini Camp – Building Relationships

On Saturday, September 5, 2015, the SABIS Student Life Organization® (SLO®) organized this year’s first mini-camp. The mini-camp was organized to impart qualities like leadership and teambuilding among our students. These are necessary to succeed not only in school, but in life as well. The most proactive students from grades 9 to 12 were invited to attend the camp, with the total number of attendees reaching over 80 students.



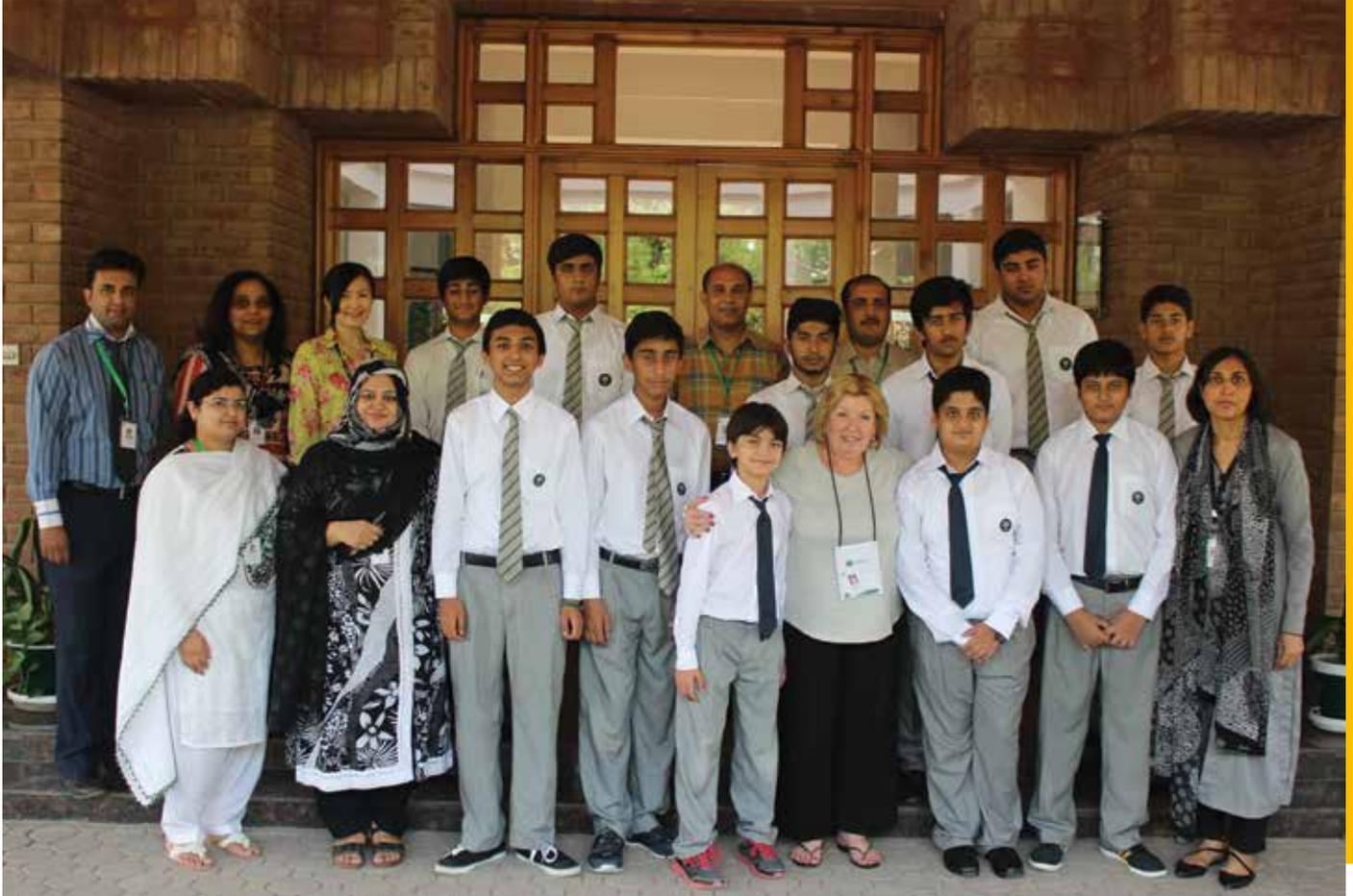
The day started with an introduction from the Student Life Coordinator, Mr. Abdullah, and an ice breaking activity. After a short break, the students reconvened in the Library Hall and the Director, Ms. Margo Abdel Aziz, gave an inspirational speech on the prerequisites of leadership. Her speech was followed by the Heads Ceremony, where a brand new set of leaders was chosen for leadership positions in the SLO®. Our newly-appointed Head Boy Rehan Hafeez along with Rabia Akber delivered a wonderful take on perspective and adapting to the ever changing challenges.

Throughout the day the students participated in creative activities. The day was rounded up by Osman Khan, head of the SLO® Management Department and Iqraa Bukhari with their presentation called “The Energy Bus”. After a fun day filled with learning, activities, and lunch, the young leaders went home to brainstorm for new ideas for the SLO®.

**Rehan Hafeez, 12A**  
**Osman Rahim Khan, 11A**



## *ISC-Lahore Held Power Study Sessions*



The Power Study Sessions were organized for a period of one week before the make-up exams in August 2015. During this week of rigorous preparation, different subjects were covered ranging from math to foreign languages.

The power study week was a unique experience, both from a managerial standpoint and from a tutor's point of view. The week was impressive, not only by the amount of tutees attending these sessions, but the number of tutors willing to sacrifice some of their summer vacation to help fellow students.

It was an empowering experience. The teachers were helpful and willing to help their students. The supervisors were there for us throughout the sessions, providing support. This was not only a show of the SLO®'s resolve of being proactive, but also a perfect example of this year's theme: building relationships. It showed potential in students and their cooperation throughout the year.

We would like to thank all the attendees for their help, the teachers and supervisors for helping out the students, and the senior management team for giving us this opportunity.

**Imran Ahmed Qureshi, 11A**

## *Oxford Institute Summer Program*

The Oxford Institute offers a summer program that provides a brilliant and versatile range of opportunities for high school students to spend their summers productively. This summer, I had the privilege of attending this prestigious summer school. I attended the economics course which proved to be very beneficial. This program offers a variety of different courses and activities which help students excel in their choice of subject and, at the same time, have a great deal of fun. Moreover, it also exposes students to an independent lifestyle away from home which is a crucial part of growing up.

I enjoyed my time at Oxford and it will be something I will treasure for the rest of my life. I encourage all students to take part in this particular summer camp to broaden their academic horizon.

Participants of the Oxford Institute Summer Program included:

- Muhammad Hamza Khokhar
- Hassan Abdullah Arshad
- Umair Saif
- Muhammad Hamza Raees
- Mohammad Hashim Nawaz Chattha
- Hatim Ali Haider
- Muhammad Bin Asim
- Rahmeed Zubaida
- Muhammad Shanil Ghani



**Muhammad Bin Asim, 12B**



## *All Pakistan Inter-School McDonald Swimming Competition 2015*

The "All Pakistan Inter-School McDonald Swimming Competition" was held at the Punjab University, Lahore, on August 22 and 23, 2015. In total, 450 swimmers from 24 schools from all across Pakistan participated in the event. Swimmers competed in six categories and ISC-Lahore carved a niche amongst the swimming giants of the country by gaining 3rd place in the competition. Swimmers from ISC-Lahore participated in the under 12 and under 14 categories. Abdullah Ashfaq (3959) of Grade 6C won one gold and one bronze medal, while M. Reebal Ashfaq (3633) did the school proud by winning three gold medals and by being declared the best swimmer in the under14 category.





## *Equipped for Success!*

To ensure that their workforce is efficient, confident, motivated, and enlightened, all successful organizations believe in improving the performance and output of the workers.

The SABIS® system of education is geared to meet the needs of “education for a changing world”. In this respect, ISC-Lahore provides ample opportunities for its staff to maximize their potential by binding learning to actions and theory to practice.

With the changing dynamics in the field of education, ISC-Lahore held six days of intensive workshops at the beginning of 2015-16 academic year. These professional development workshops were conducted by veteran teachers, AQCs (Academic Quality Controllers) and the director herself as well. The sessions not only showcased the previous years’ achievements but also proved to be a handy tool for appraisals. Teachers learnt new skills and perfected their current skills, setting the bar high for the team. Participants updated their techniques to cope positively with the new technology and will continue to progress professionally with a series of workshops planned throughout the new academic year.

**Ms. Rizwana Imtiaz**  
**Head of English Department**



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