

June 16, 2016

**NATIONAL ORTHODOX SCHOOL**

**ISSUE V**

**EVOLVE:  
STUDENT AFFAIRS  
NEWSLETTER**



# EVOLVE: STUDENTS AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER

Issue V



## A RECENT SUCCESS

*Our recent success prompted the kick off of the newsletter on social media platforms, which gathered breathtaking response.*

*Our current issue mainly talks about the annual graduation: the futuristic leaders of Class 2016, amazing achievements by the school to maintain unprecedented athletic victories, overviews upon unparalleled accolades in different criteria, another appearance for Humans of NOS, unique projects and making events collaborated with Ivy League universities and more.*

## WELCOME TO ISSUE VI!

*After four wonderful issues with non-stop positive feedback, we bring to you...the fifth issue!*

### **Q: What is 'Evolve'?**

Evolve is a student affairs newsletter, run by the students with the help of the school to create a new and unique first-ever project. We're centered on the aim to keep everyone affiliated with the National Orthodox School and beyond aware of the ongoing stories and achievements.

### **Q: How many members are there in Evolve?**

The number of members in Evolve currently sits at 26. We are composed around an editor-in-chief, president, heads, deputies, journalists, photographers, interviews, designers, and more.

### **Q: Where can I find the previous issues? And how did it perform?**

You can locate the previous issues in previous e-mails sent, one for each month. The fourth issue received gigantic waves of breathtaking reactions and mind-boggling feedback by many students, teachers and parents alike. The feedback was truly special, which is motivating us to continue the evermore lasting flow. We are perpetually thankful and grateful for its success, and those who contributed.

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*With one another, we will aim for the highest of mountains,  
and never to encounter the lowest of achievements*

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## A MESSAGE FROM MS. MAY

Dear all,

This is our fifth issue of the 2015-2016 school campaign. It was really a great pleasure to hear the feedback from the students, parents and teachers. It was such an impressive year with activities, achievements, challenges, and unique learnings. Wishing you the best in the upcoming summer vacation.



# EVOLVE

## Class of 2016!

Graduation- the one thing students are itching for after enduring twelve years of relentless hard work and studying. It is the ceremony that marks their embarking to a new chapter of their lives, where many new lessons and skills will be learned. It is a ceremony that congratulates the students on their hard work throughout the past twelve years of their lives. It is a ceremony to celebrate their success and their achievements. It is a ceremony where the students and teachers are united and become one.



Approximately one hundred and fifty students graduated this year on May 7th, in a ceremony held at our very own school. Hundreds of people gathered –family, friends, and fellow peers- to celebrate the seniors' success. The soon to be graduates sat proudly on chairs that were carefully set on raised bleachers, as they looked down at the sea of people that sat in neat rows across the vast field in front of them.

The ceremony began as the graduates elegantly walked down the stairs and around the field, some occasionally waving eagerly when familiar faces of family members are spotted in the crowd. Once the seniors were neatly filed in and seated in their assigned seats, the national anthem was played, followed by the school's song. The masters of ceremony, Rama Sabanekh and Mira Abef introduced the speakers, and then the speeches were then kicked off beginning with the priest Constantine Qarmash, who was followed by the head of the National Orthodox Society, Mr. Ihsan Hamarneh, and finally our school's principal, Mr. Musa Shaaban. Each had been able to offer students vital advice that would help them on their journey to a new page in their life.

Princess Alia Tabaa graced us with her annual presence at the graduation, and our gratitude and honor was expressed by presenting her with a present from our school, which student Hala Zouabi gave her. After that, four students: Sylvie Kalise, Stephanie Shami, Nancy Naffa, and Rein Abu Rahmoun beautifully sang in Arabic. Their voices harmonized perfectly, and each note danced in each person's ears, whispering dainty secrets in ones ear.

After the extraordinary performance, Saba Fakhoury and Issa Nijmeh provided the students and the crowd with some of the most awe-inspiring words. They spoke with passion about their experiences in school with their fellow students, and painted the most incredible portraits of their raw feelings with words. Once their speeches came to a close, ten students gathered together to perform a mash-up of songs in English. Four of the students (Ramz Fattelah, Fares Fasheh, Sireen Abdel Nour, and Sylvie Kalise) sang while the other six students (Farah Ashqar, Anton Naber, Lara Naber, Dina Haddad, Ghazi Karadsheh, and Yazan Khoury) played the instruments. The mash-up contained numerous songs; however it was perfectly concluded with the theme song from the infamous TV show 'Friends.' The theme song represented the strong bonds of friendship between all the graduates that would last a lifetime, and



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## Class of 2016!

Immediately after, Yara Ghoury and Diala Qaqish delivered two more incredible speeches. Their words covered the crowd like a blanket, and all who were present were put under a spell, their ears eagerly devouring each word that was spoken. They too talked about their experiences at school, and congratulated their peers on their great success. When the two students finished delivering their mind-boggling speeches, a student, Leen Juha, presented a student in 11th grade (Jude Najjar) with the flag, while Leen Haddad bestowed Jude's fellow 11th grader, Kareem Musallam, with the other flag, so that both of these would be used in their graduation in 2017.



Once the heartwarming passing of flags was performed, two students, Farah Ashqar and Celine Taminian, stood at the podium and each narrated an alluring speech in French. Despite the fact that not everyone understood French, the two students managed to enchant each person with their musical words. When the two students finished delivering their speeches and stepped off the podium, they were replaced by two students, as Fadi Baqleh and Mira Salameh graciously entrusted two students from Wahbeh Tamari Pre-school, Maya Salameh and Kareem Baqleh, with the wreath that symbolizes education, so that it may be used during their graduation that marks their transition to first grade.

Soon enough, it was time for the students to receive their diplomas- the national stream received theirs from a proud Miss Jacqueline, while the IG students received their diplomas from Miss Sophie and Miss May. It was exhilarating to watch the graduates eagerly acquire their well-deserved diplomas, and watch the smiles permanently etched on their faces grow even wider, as their eyes gleamed with pride and satisfaction, knowing they were about to begin a new chapter in their lives. However the most heart-felt scene was the sight of the family and friends excitedly cheer them on. Some parents' eyes shone with nothing but happiness as they realized how far their child had come throughout the past eighteen years.



The national anthem was played once more to signal the end of the emotional ceremony, but it wasn't truly over until the moment when the seniors threw their graduation caps into the air. The newly-graduated students hugged one another with glee as they celebrated the completion of one stage in their life time. Needless to say, the ceremony was a success, but of course the students deserved a chance to celebrate with their family, so a parents' dinner was held at the Landmark Hotel two days prior to the graduation on May 5th.

The parents' dinner was quite a memorable night. It was kicked off when the graduates entered two by two until all of the students entered the elegant room. Each graduate shared a table with their family, and all the tables were cleared away from the dance floor, where everyone danced together in harmony and excitement, celebrating each senior's accomplishments. The music encouraged people to get up and dance, each note climbing into each person's ear and taking control of their body.





## Class of 2016!

The food was served a few hours into the start of the dinner, just in time for everyone to take a small break and reenergize so that they may be able to hit the dance floor one more time. It was clear that the food was incredible; each taste bud danced with joy at each exposure to an exotic flavor and with a violinist playing soulful music in the background, it was the perfect combination. Once everyone happily finished dining, they rushed to the dance floor and continued to dance once more. It was an incredible watching each person get lost in the music and becoming one with it.

This year's graduates are some of the most incredible and inspiring people you could ever meet, with undeniable visible talent. The amount of potential each student has is mind boggling, but that does not compare to the kindness and compassion each graduate holds in their heart. To say that all the seniors will be missed dearly is an understatement; they have all left a mark on our hearts, making them unforgettable. We wish you all the best of luck, class of 2016, and hope that life takes you to great places!



### Projects Day

Each year our school strives to give us the opportunity to present the most distinctive projects on stage, helping us master our confidence and speaking skills, show the audience what projects we have worked on throughout the scholastic year and share what we've learned with others. This year's 'Projects Day' took place on the 16th of May.

The projects are of different subjects, each talking about unique aspects of our work and supervised by a teacher who can offer a helping hand in the topic presented. The theme for this year was titled: *I am patriotic... I love, I give, I excel.*

### Love...Giving...Excellence

The event started off with a heartwarming poem about love and giving followed by a video presenting our students' visit to a group of Iraqi refugees as well as an elderly home.

- Presented by: Tara Abboud and Laith Naouri
- Video editing by: Mrs. Suha Nassar and 9th grader Sally Toronian

### Phobias

Afterwards came a presentation under the title 'Phobias' which further discussed the most common questions that might occur to one such as the differences between a fear and a phobia or how a person could possibly develop a phobia and so on.

- Presented by: Alexander Abu-Zeid, Anton Bahu, Jude Rabadi, Tara Abboud, Mohammad Sheboul, Ramzi Gousous.
- Supervised by: Mrs. Riham Awad



### Success story

Some of you might have heard about our 10th grade student Yousef Abul-Leil who has earned an honorable mention in the global INTEL competition due to his Nuclear Waste Auto-Detector , and so he decided to share with us

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## Projects Day (Cont.)

- Presented by: Leen Abadi (prepared by Yousef Abu-Leil)
- Supervised by: Emad Wazania

## A Song of The Present and The Past

This project sure brought a lot of positivity into the theatre; a mash-up of different songs professionally performed by a group of students giving the audience a chance to sing along with some famous songs they know by heart.

- Presented by: Hiba Khnouf, Dina Al-Hinn, Kareem musallam, Ibrahim Farraj, Marya Kour, Leen Hijazeen
- Supervised by: Miss Suha Nassar, Mr. Diab Shaheen and Miss Savitana Farouni

## Community Service Team

At the beginning of this year, a group of 9<sup>th</sup> grade students have decided to form a community service team of their own, their project was about how they have started, the work they have done and what they plan on doing in the future years.

- Presented by: Laith Alawajeen, Mira Al-Hajhasan, May Farhad, Maria Hamarneh
- Supervised by: Mrs. Riham Awad, Mrs. Khulood Kakish

## Refugees

In solidarity with our neighboring countries suffering from appalling conditions, a group of students decided to dedicate their projects to the people who were forced to leave their lands left with no other choice.

The project mainly focused on the dangers that face those refugees along their path to survival.

- Presented by: Laith Naouri, Jude Rabadi, Sally Toranian
- Supervised by: Mrs. Anoud Hadadeen

## Art is Peculiarity and Creativity

Always encouraging our students to respect, appreciate and throw themselves into art, this project was about the art galleries and competitions that the school has taken part in throughout the year.

- Presented by: Helen Mara'shilian
- Supervised by: Mrs. Rima Baara Hamarneh



## Confidence Dance

Reassuring the importance of art, a group of tenth grade girls decided to perform a special dance called 'The Confidence Dance' that attracted the audience with the dancers' playful spirit.

- Presented by: Leen Abadi, Ghida Dajani, Miray Lallas, Dina Al-Hinn, Natalie Monokian
- Supervised by: Mrs. Nour Inabi, Miss Hind Ghaith

## Science-Club Accomplishments and Participation of the Environment Club

Our duty as a school is to ensure that the students are fully aware of the environmental issues that are happening in our surroundings. The environment club's aims to raise awareness of the different problems



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## Projects Day (Cont.)

### Glimpses of Giving

A short movie that aims to tell a story that revolves around the importance of loving others and being kind to people. This movie was filmed and edited by a group of 9th grade girls. It showed us how we could help each other in the simplest manner such as helping a blind girl find her keys or dedicating an hour or two of our time to helping a friend understand a certain subject they are not good at. The project wrapped up with one of the students singing Bruno Mars' song 'Count on Me'.

- Presented by: Tasneem Rahonji, Mariam Safi, Lina Smeirat
- Supervised by: Mrs. Rania Horeish

### Small Ventures

A project that reveals how simple life is; we can open a business just by making pickles and selling them, this is what business administration students did this year. They decided to do something where they go through multiple processes they already studied about in their business classes. The money collected was donated to the Hussein Cancer Centre.

- Presented by: Business Administration students/ Grade 9 IG
- Supervised by: Mrs. Marian Shkoury and Mrs. Kholoud Kakish

### Your World Competition

Three of our 9th grade students participated in the Partner Schools Network 2016 global competition "Your World" organized by the British Council, where they had to make a short film about their world and what it is like. They chose to make their film about the NOS Model United Nations

Their aim was to show how open-minded people in the Arab world are and how productive and clever they can be.

- Presented by: Laith Al Awajeen, Tara Abboud and John Imseeh
- Supervised by: Mrs. Dina Ra'ad Yaghnam and Mrs. Anoud Haddadin.

*~Written by Tara Abboud and Mira Al-Hajhasan*

## Yard Sale

On May 13th, the NOS Community Service team launched a campaign with Mrs. Alexandra Kamhawi which aimed at the idea of a school-wide yard sale, where students would provide new or used items to be sold at low prices. The profit, in turn, would be later used for physical activities in the middle and high-school playground.

After announcing the idea, many students joined the organizing team. They begun by bringing in items from their households that were no longer needed. Soon after, many students started donating some of their unneeded items for the cause. They separated the items into groups and priced them, under supervision by Ms. Alexandra, taking into consideration the state and age of each item.



Most of their meetings took place during the breaks, with their work spanning over a month of daily actions. In order to spread the word about the yard sale, they distributed flyers around the school, launched an advertising campaign on social media platforms and used the school's internal email to send out invitations to students and parents alike. Their efforts were a rousing success, and attendance exceeded their expectations.

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## Yard Sale (Cont.)

On the day before the sale, the team divided themselves into groups of two, each group handling a booth. Five booths tallied up in the area in the end. The sold items ranged from foods and beverages, to stationary and books; from toys and accessories, to regular household items. In addition, they had an interactive face-paint booth in which one of our students would give children free face paints.



The success of the yard sale was quite remarkable, and the profits were deposited into the student fund.

*~Written by Maria Hamarneh*

## Ivy League and Top Universities Recruitment

On May 9th of 2016, the school was privileged with a visit from Stanford University, Penn University and the



University of Columbia's respected speakers to organize a recruiting event with the aim of encouraging current and upcoming generations of applicants from our school.

Known to be amongst the most prestigious and reputable schools globally for their unmatched history in sense of education, and their celebrated alumni and alumna, which combined includes the likes of President Barack Obama, Founding Father Alexander Hamilton, Former President John F. Kennedy, Former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Businessman Warren Buffet.

The honorable schools were on an informative task to give our students an inside view of the college experience they offer and their means of maintaining the perfect environment for a student to engage in, which was agreed unanimously by all three speakers that it is the main reason for their success. At the end of the arrangement, the speakers were met with intrigued questions from a mixed crowd of both students and parents, which were answered elaborately by each individual school representative.

We thank the Uni-



versity of Columbia, Penn University and Stanford University for their utmost esteemed event, and hopefully it'll be one of many more to come, as our school's doors are always open for such opportunities.



# EVOLVE



~Written by Majd Muna

## MUN Awards Overview

With 25 best delegate awards and 20 runner-up awards in 14 conferences, a 400+ attendance mark in the NOSMUN conference, and numerous trips to the depths of Europe under this year's MUN belt, it's safe to say that the 2015-2016 MUN year was breathtakingly incredible. Regardless of age or grade, the school's students never failed to seize opportunities to display their nature and prove their talents. The school is evermore pleased to have a fantastic MUN year, and hopes for more to come.

\*Check Issues III and IV for elaborative articles concerning the NOSMUN conference and the trips to Italy, Netherlands and Ireland.

Below includes the details for each conference, accompanied by the award winners, with yellow indicating individuality.

| Conference Name   | Conference Dates | Venue   | Best Delegates   | Honorable Mentions   |
|---|------------------|---|--|--|
| Ahliyya School for Girls Model United Nations (ASGMUN)    | 1/10-3/10        | Kempinski Hotel - Amman                         | Sanad Zaqtan   | Mohammad Al-Sheboul  |
| Repton New English School Model United Nations (RNESMUN)  | 8/10-10/10       | RNES campus                                     | Tara Abboud / Mohammad Al-Sheboul  | Haya Jawabreh  |
| Amman Model United Nations (AMMUN)                        | 28/10-2/11       | Amman Baccalaureate School campus / Grand Hyatt |  |  |
| German Jordanian University Model United Nations (GJUMUN) | 5/11-7/11        | GJU campus                                      | Mohammad Al-Sheboul / Kamil Asali / Alex Abuzeid / Sanad Zaqtan / Ramz Fattaleh                      |  |
| Jordan Model United Nations (JOMUN)                       | 11/11-15/11      | Crowne Plaza Hotel - Dead Sea                   | Mohammad Al-Sheboul / Sanad Zaqtan / Qais Mouasher / Kareem Goussous / George Karmash                | Raad Spasioti / Majd Muna / Zeid Hazboun / Kareem Sabanekh / Essam Ammari  |
| International Academy Amman Model United Nations (IAMUN)  | 26/11-29/11      | IAA campus                                      | Omar Fakhoury  | Mohammad Al-Sheboul  |
| National Orthodox School Model United Nations (NOSMUN)    | 28/1-30/1        | Sheraton Hotel - Amman                          | Anton Naber / Alex Abuzeid / Karim Hattar / Majd Hazboun / Omar Fakhoury / Tara Abboud / Zaid Khoury | Mohammad Al-Sheboul / Zeid Hazboun / Maria Hamarneh / Mira Al-Hajhasan / Kareem Sabanekh / Yazeed Mashni / Majd Muna |
| King's Academy Model United Nations (KAMUN)               | 18/2-20/2        | King's Academy campus                           |  | Omar Jalal   |
| Mashrek Model Arab League (MMAL)                          | 25/2-26/2        | Mashrek campus                                  |  |  |
| Genoa Model United Nations (GeMUN)                        | 25/2-27/2        | Genoa - Italy                                   |  |  |
| Asriyya Model United Nations (AsriyyaMUN)                 | 10/3-12/3        | Kempinski Hotel - Amman                         | Omar Jalal   |  |
| Saint Andrew's International Model United Nations         | 21/3-24/3        | Dun Laoghaire - Ireland                         | Rafaella Karadsheh   |  |
| Modern American School Model United Nations               | 31/3-2/4         | MAS campus                                      | Kareem Goussous  | Rani Haddadin / George Fazaa / Kareem Sabanekh   |
| Haarlem Model United Nations (HMUN)                       | 1/4-3/4          | Haarlem - Netherlands                           | Rama Sabanekh  |  |

# EVOLVE



## Sports Section

The National Orthodox School has throughout the years developed into being commonly known to harbor great athletic capabilities as demonstrated by various sports activities throughout the year. Although our school's primary focus is on the educational part of our system, it also allows for a greatly diversified field of sports activities that the young minds of our school enjoys and even compete together against the other teams from other schools or within teams within the school grounds.

### Basketball

The first of the major competitions our school has engaged in during recent times is in the Basketball league for the 8th grade division. Our school has never ceased to amaze the captivated audience and score itself the Gold trophy for the Shweifaf tournament, which included schools such as Cambridge, Repton New English, Mashrek, Mutran, Amman Academies English Talents School, and Montessori.

Our school achieved the prestigious rank of winning the tournament after capturing a 33-19 victory in the final.

The team featured the likes of Zaid Khoury, Zeid Hazboun, Zaid Srouji, Andrew Al-Shami, Kareem Gousous, Khalil Atallah,

Raad Shami, Bassam Naber, Fadi Qarmash, Mousa Atalla, Samer Al-Soussou, Fares Ansara. Coaching them



Apart from our successful 8th graders; the 10th graders have been nothing less than outstanding as they have emerged victorious in the Rosary School of Mar-Al-Hamam's tournament.

The team was comprised of Majd Muna, Kareem Gousous, Hanna Juha, Omar Fakhoury, Abdullah Madi, Antoine Mounayer, Zeid Abedrabbo, Jad Hamati, Ahmad Kabariti, Ra'ed Battikhi, Samir Nino and Zeid Khoury.



### Football

Moving on to Football, the 8th-grade football team also seized first place, as they participated in the Ra'ed Al-Arabi tournament.

Coached by Ayoub Batarseh, the team included Abdullah Abul Ghanam, Hamza Khurma, Yousef Batarseh, Fayez Lutfy, Awn Al-Majali, Khalid Zamamiri, Jamal Zureikat, Kareem Sabanekh, Saleba Abu Khader, Fadi Qarmash, and Victor Maktesh.

### Little League And More

Other than external tournaments, the school enjoys hosting their own Little League games for the younger generations to compete against one another, in Basketball and Football. This year included over 225 students, marking it as one of the most popular activities to date. The school also entertained sponsors by companies for each team.

*~Written by Mohammed Sheboul*

# EVOLVE



## Humans of NOS



As a frequent reader of the newsletter, or as a follower of our page on Facebook, you could possibly know very well what Humans of the National Orthodox School (HONOS) is.

HONOS is our own way of capturing the world from the different perspectives of a variety of people, since we know that each person has a different view of life. We reach certain heights by interviewing anyone affiliated in the school and get their uninterrupted opinions on certain subjects.

Throughout the year, we have interviewed 22 people from the campus of our school. Those 22 hold different positions in school, come from different countries and have different backgrounds. It gave our Evolve staff a unique experience, and an important lesson. We learned to love and appreciate the diversity of people, and to embrace the differences between one another.

Every background story was interesting, and each person had a unique answer to a certain question and attracted interest in each answer. It showed that not everyone has been fed with the same spoon.

In this last issue of the scholastic year; we decided to share the four of the twenty-two interviews since they mark the differences in which this project was all about.



One of those selected interviews was for student Ghazi Karadsheh, which gained intriguing attraction on social media platforms. It's worth mentioning that this was his last year in school, and in that sake he commented:

*"I don't really want to leave here. It's (school) become like a second home to me. It's formed this protected bubble that shielded us from all the big responsibilities and challenges growing up, which I think I'll miss. There are definitely things I regret not doing, such as reconnecting with people I haven't talked to in years or not making the most of all the experiences and staying home instead. I kept telling myself 'you can do that tomorrow/next month/next year' and here I am, about to graduate next month."*

*"I'm making the most out of the time I have left here, so I'm quite happy with that, but never make the same mistake I did.. Always make the most out of high school. I swear that they'll be the best 4 years of your life as a teenager. You just need to let yourself run free sometimes., but also focus on studying."*

Another HONOS interview was that of student Andrea Khoury. Andrea moved to Jordan from the UAE with her family, and was asked about her feelings towards moving to which she replied:



*"I was afraid I wouldn't make any friends since it becomes harder to start from scratch at this age. But, when I came to this school I felt welcomed, then I realized that I made such close friends in a short period of time."*



She was also asked if her moving here affected her relationship with her sister, Natalie. She said:

*"It definitely did. In Dubai, my sister and I would see each other once a week. Now we're together all the time and we also have the same friends so I think that moving here helped us become closer. It's a bit weird but I like it."*





Another popular HONOS interview belonged to Mr. Ibrahim, who is an Egyptian janitor working at school. He was asked for his back story, and generously shared it saying (in a translated version):

*“I migrated my homeland, Egypt, in 1994, seeking my daily bread. I left my family and previous life to make a living and to provide for my children.*

*I worked in several companies and organizations before I found a job at this school in 2009 after a friend of mine told me about it. Thank God it turned out very well, I’m happy and I’m treated in a very amazing way.*



*In my own perspective, living abroad can have a variety of effects on a person: One can see new places and countries; one can meet new people and learn their ways.*

*All of us take Jordan as a second homeland and are proud of it all the time.”*

To conclude with perhaps the most popular HONOS to date is for janitor, Miss Da’ed. We asked her about her life, and she replied (in translated version) :

*“I have a married son and a daughter, and a son who has passed away. I work an eight-hour shift here at school, and at a hospital together for twelve hours – from 7.00 in the evening, till 7.00 in the morning. It’s exhausting! What could I say? Thank God for everything.”*



It was an amazing experience knowing all the stories and perspectives those evermore interesting humans shared. It inevitably was a great honor knowing them all.

~Written by Saleem Madaeen

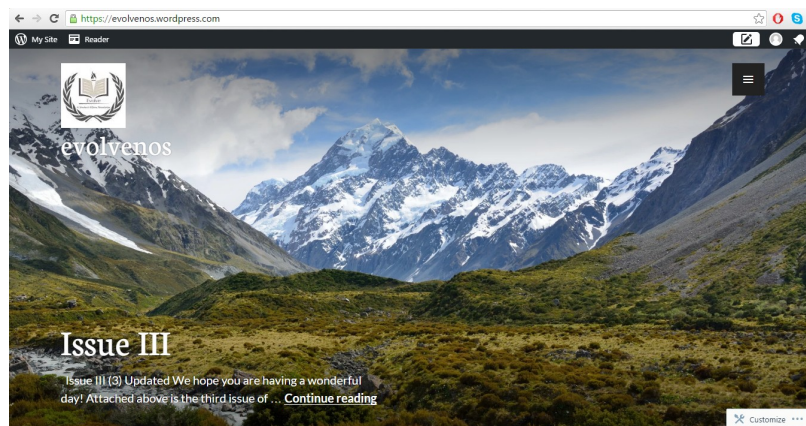
## Check Our Platforms!

## Social Media



A few months back, we launched a Facebook page titled ‘Evolve: A National Orthodox School Newsletter’. Since then, it gained large popularity, reaching thousands of people, receiving hundreds of likes and tons of comments. Feedback via messages have also been delivered constantly, which gives us a sense of pleasure! The Facebook page really has been a project which worked out to perfection for us.

In the Facebook page, you can locate the usual posts for ‘Humans of NOS’ or receive updates about school activities, and Evolve in general.



Search ‘Evolve: A National Orthodox School Newsletter’ and then you’re a click away!

Another special project we went with was creating a minor website which features our previous issues if not located in your e-mail. In turn, it would help reach people outside school perimeters in an easier route. You can find that website when you search [evolvenos.wordpress.com](https://evolvenos.wordpress.com)

In the future, we hope to expand these social media platforms even further to increase our reach and have the smoothest way of showcasing the newsletter.



## Credit Where It Is Due...

It seems surreal to say that the 2015-2016 scholastic year came to a close, as it had just begun a blink of an eye ago. If we were told in October when the idea was first brainstormed that it would reach 22,000 people on social media platforms, that it would be pinnacle of conversation starters in school perimeters, that it would reach humongous heights and tons of overwhelming positive reactions....then we would have easily thought that it would have been an overstatement.

Looking back at the whole 2015-2016 journey for the newsletter and how it accelerated to becoming a popular outlook for the school, it truly feels to be delusively phantasmagorical. The uncountable meetups, the endless hours of work, the sweat and quite mind-boggling adventures into the depths of overcoming unusually difficult obstacles inevitably proved to be worth it, as the end-result was more than enough to put a smile on our faces. That's what's important in the end, isn't it?

That is why I'd like to give many thanks to various people who helped put in the effort to make this possible, dealing smoothly with anything that came our way. I'd first like to give special thanks to Ms. May Goussous who motivated us in the beginning of all this to continue and to strive to what we were eager to perform, also helping us in anything we ever felt was needed. The same goes to Ms. Mirna, who was also there from the beginning and aided us in both highs and lows, as well as helping the newsletter perform better and better.

I'm also intrigued to hand thanks to the entire Evolve team, starting with the President of this newsletter, Sanad Zaqtan, who is one of the most hard-working people I've ever known, and helped put in the work to let the newsletter grow further. Rafaella Karadsheh, our head of Journalism, who is an especially talented writer and never ceases to amaze. Ramez Naser, the head of Media, who saved us out of many potential downfalls when related to shooting videos or running social media platforms. Tara Abboud, the head of communication and affairs, who always kept on letting her positives suggestions for this newsletter flow, and how to improve in certain areas. Mira Al-Hajhasan, the deputy editor-in-chief, who was always there to give the lending hand in concern to articles and to keep things running smoothly. Maria Hamarneh and Mohammed Sheboul, the deputy heads of Journalism, who always undeniably over-performed to help in articles, interviews, and much more. Kareem Goussous, the vice-president, who despite not even being in the same department managed to put in the time for this newsletter at a young age. Saleem Madaeen, the head of Arabic Journalism, who was always there to bilingually help in writing, translating, and managing to pen down lengthy articles in the most impressive of ways. Sanad Dahabreh, the deputy head of Media, who put in the time to make wonderful designs in many areas for the newsletter. The same goes to the rest of the Evolve team, who were incredible throughout.

Another unique thank you is to Ramez Al-Sharayha, who worked in a manner in the first two issues of this newsletter. It would be difficult to see newsletter be as it is now without the contributions he made in the early stages.



~*Majd Muna* jor  
the  
*Founder of Evolve, Editor-in-Chief* 13



## THE 'EVOLVE' TEAM!

We'd like to give a big thank you to all those who helped make this happen. The names of the current team, alongside the images on the left, who helped this work are written below:

*\*Aala'a Attari (Photographer)*

*\*Laith Mouasher (Photographer)*

*\*Bassem Sweiss (Designer)*

*\*Elias Faqs (Designer)*

*\*Owen Rihani (Interviewer)*

*\*Mutaz Al-Blbaisi (Interviewer)*

*\*Samer Musharbash (Media)*

*\*Turki Mahaid (Writer)*

*\*May Farhad (Writer)*

*\*Ghalia Haddad (Writer)*

*\*Khader Kaileh (Writer)*



**Majd Muna**  
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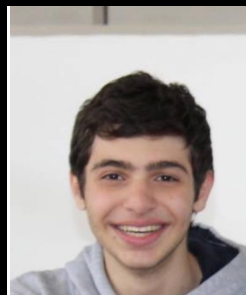
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