



المدرسة
الوطنية الأرثوذكسية
الشميساني

The National
Orthodox School
Shmaisani



Sept 2022 | Issue 2 | Year VII | No. 14

EVOLVE

NOS STUDENTS' NEWSLETTER



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Evolve: NOS Students'
Newsletter



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NOS- National Orthodox
School- Shmaisani



2021-2022





WELCOME to Issue 2 Year VII - No. 14!



Q: What is 'EVOLVE'?

EVOLVE is an NOS newsletter, run by NOS students with the school's help. It's a space where students can express their thoughts and feelings and share their take on what's happening at school and beyond with our school community and the rest of the world.

Q: Who can join, and how?

The EVOLVE team consists of Grade (9-12) students. You can apply to join by e-mailing: (editor.newsletter@nos.edu.jo). You can also ask any team member (listed in the "Meet the Team" page) for advice. Although the EVOLVE team consists of Grade (9-12) students, any student from any stage who is interested in writing is welcome to contribute an opinion piece.

Q: Where can I find the previous issues?

Our school administration sends Evolve to NOS students, parents and staff by email. So, you can look for it in your NOS school e-mail inbox. We also post the issues on our Facebook page (Evolve: NOS Student's Newsletter) and the NOS website (www.nos.edu.jo), in the EVOLVE page under News & Publications/Publications

A message from EVOLVE Advisor, Dina Ra'ad-Yagham:

Dear EVOLVE Readers,

Coming to closure is always a good thing; it helps us move on and start new beginnings with new energy and enthusiasm. This wrap-up issue for last School Year 2021-2022 includes some articles that some of our dear EVOLVE team members diligently worked on writing during the second half of the school year. While it was not possible to turn out the issue before the beginning of this school year, we wanted to make sure that their much appreciated efforts do not go in vain. We are also excited to share with you an interesting summer adventure by one of our EVOLVERs, which some may wish to explore as an option for next summer break.

Most importantly, we must bid farewell to our outgoing EVOLVERs (our dear Seniors, Class of 2022) and thank them for all their time and effort and the heart and soul they brought to EVOLVE (and for putting out this last issue =). We kept it short and sweet, so all can enjoy a quick read.

We are excited to move on to a New Year, with new beginnings and new EVOLVING plans, with a wonderful addition of the EVOLVE PODCAST, the launch of which will come during the 1st semester of 2022-2023. May this New School Year be a wonderful one for all.

We invite you to read on, and we look forward to hearing what you think of this issue on our social media pages.

CONTENTS

SECTION

PAGE

"Farewell Message From Our Editors"	3
"A Glimpse into Harvard"	4
"NOS-MUN'22"	7
"خلي قلوبنا على بعض"	9
"Gifts That Give"	10
"Life Thoughts"	12
"Highlights"	13
"Why Call It EVOLVE?"	16

Issue Editor and Designer: Kira Yaghnam (NOS class of 2022)
Deputy Editor: Mona Ayyoub (NOS Senior 2023)

FAREWELL MESSAGE



"HELLO PEOPLE,
AS THE GREAT
PASSENGER ONCE SAID:
"YOU NEVER KNOW YOU
LOVE HER TILL YOU LET
HER GO". THAT IS HOW I
FEEL ABOUT SCHOOL.

WHETHER YOU ARE IN THE
FIRST OR LAST GRADE,
USE EVERY SECOND YOU
HAVE AT NOS.
BEST REGARDS,"

JOHNNY HAZBOUN
CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF &
HEAD OF MEDIA
(NOS CLASS OF 2022)

FROM OUR EDITORS:



"IT'S BEEN SWELL NOS!
BEFORE HANDING OVER MY
DUTIES, I WANTED TO
BRING MY RELATIONSHIP
WITH EVOLVE TO CLOSURE
BY PRODUCING ONE LAST
WRAP-UP ISSUE FROM
WHAT WAS MY LAST YEAR
OF SCHOOL.

EVOLVE MADE ME SEE
SIDES OF MY POTENTIAL I
HAD NEVER EXPLORED; I
NEVER KNEW I'D ENJOY
DESIGN AND BE ABLE TO
PLAY WITH IT AS MUCH AS
I DID!:().

USE YOUR TIME AT NOS TO
DISCOVER AND
EXPERIENCE NEW THINGS
ABOUT YOURSELF.
PEACE OUT."

KIRA YAGHNAM
CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF &
HEAD OF DESIGN
(NOS CLASS OF 2022)

A GLIMPSE INTO HARVARD

- NATALIE NASRAWIN

University is the first word that comes to mind when thinking about high school. Lots of time is spent thinking about grades, exams, and extracurriculars. Everyone wants to appear impressive to universities. This summer, I got accepted into the Harvard Summer School Program which is for students in grades 10, 11, and 12.

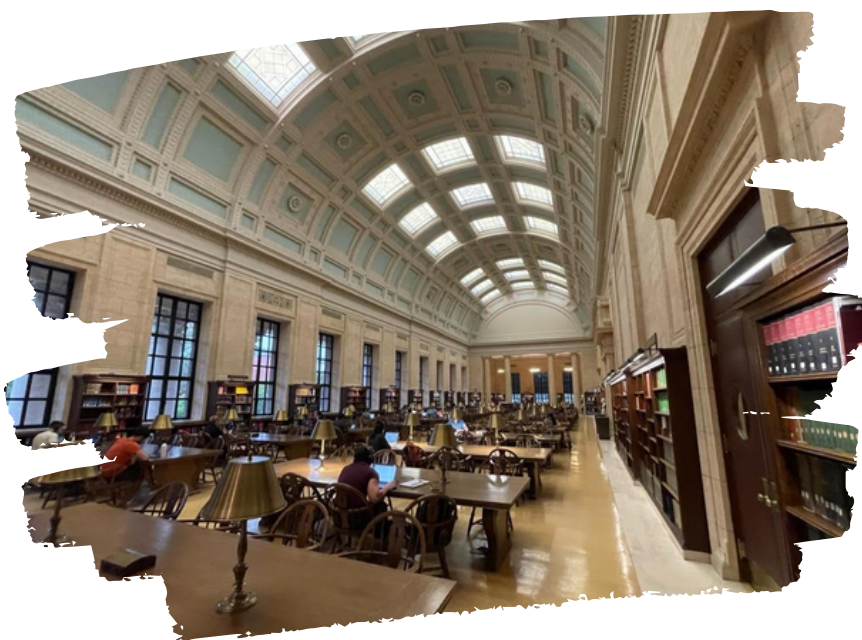
This program allows high school students to take college courses that count for university. You take 8 credit hours, which is usually two four-credit courses or one 8 credit course. At the end of the course, you do finals. It is not something to be taken lightly; it teaches independence and many skills you need for college.

It is not a summer camp; the grades you receive will be used once you officially attend university. The acceptance rate is less than 50 percent. For seven weeks I was forced to depend on myself completely.

Living alone was probably the biggest shock; however, I'm grateful to have experienced it now; making it easier to adapt in the future. I also met with very successful people, who have PhDs from Harvard, professors, and admissions staff. I learned a lot about what is expected of Ivy League applicants and would like to share this information for those who are interested in attending elite universities, and for those seeking to be successful within their areas of study anywhere.



The first and most important thing my professor said to me was **“don’t try to plan your whole life out at the age of 16.”** This is what we are pressured to do by schools, parents, and even what we say to ourselves. As much as I didn’t want to admit it, it’s what I needed to hear.



Changing your mind is fine. Not everything is going to go exactly as planned. However, this doesn’t mean not to start thinking about your future and have some idea about which field you prefer.

Another key point is to be well-balanced and well-rounded, despite what you want to study. Every subject you take will be useful at one point or another. You obtain knowledge of certain subjects that many others don’t know about. Do not take classes that are too focused on what you want. Being well-rounded will be of use in the future if you change your mind as well. For example, in my case, I want to study law; however, I’m also taking analysis, which is a scientific stream math class. I chose to take analysis because this will distinguish me within my field of study.

As for extracurricular activities, it is important to keep in mind that taking a hundred different activities is not needed nor desired. Be distinguished in only a few activities you are truly passionate about and claim some type of leadership role. It is not about how many cards you have but about how you play them.





Last but certainly not least, the basic skills we tend to ignore as we approach high school primarily because studying becomes more intense are also crucial, especially reading, writing, and speaking.

These three common skills really affect your application as you do interviews and write essays for university. In addition to having these skills in English, being bilingual, or even trilingual also increases your chances. However, to say bilingual means you can proficiently speak, read, and write both languages. Meaning if you were to use this language in the future you would be able to work in an environment where people only speak that language.

I can confidently say that applying to this program was the best choice I made regarding the future of my education. I earned an unbelievable amount of advice and knowledge which I would never have thought of before.

I benefited educationally and socially, gained skills, and pushed my thinking to limits I never thought I could be pushed to. I was set on the right pathway and now I know exactly what I want and how to achieve it.

The only thing that will drive motivation and self-discipline is ambition, which is essential in order to be successful regardless of where you want to go in your life. As we always hear, "if there is a will there is a way."

How to apply?



I found this program through the Harvard website, I knew I wanted to study in an Ivy League School, so I started researching at the beginning of tenth grade about types of programs. Additionally, I had heard of the three-week focused summer program online. Once I opened the website I found the seven-week program which I knew I wanted to do the second I opened it. To apply you must write four short essays, with specific prompts. You must also submit transcripts from your last 1.5 to 2 years of school, as grades are largely taken into consideration.



NOS-MUN'22

- MAYA JARRAR

Did NOS-MUN'22 actually “Bite the Bullet”? This year’s theme was (Bite the Bullet). You may wonder what that means. As mentioned by the Head of Conference Johnny Hazboun, it is: “when someone decides to do something difficult or unpleasant that one has been putting off or hesitating to do,” which represents the past two years perfectly.



The conference itself began as usual with the opening ceremony, unfortunately, there was no guest speaker due to Covid precautions, and it was aired as a Livestream to all committees. Many of the secretariat team members and the presidents gave touching speeches to kick off the conference and honour those who worked so hard to make it happen, in addition to getting some closure; as for some it was their last.

As Rahmeh Sharaab, the President of UNODC, mentioned when asked how she felt about her last NOS-MUN, she said: “I used to think that the former presidents used to exaggerate, but now as I’m in their shoes, I feel extremely sad that I’m leaving this part of my life, knowing that I won’t attend another NOS-MUN again.”

This clearly shows what these annual conferences mean to those attending them. They create a sense of pride, responsibility, and confidence for young minds to learn about political topics and share their ideas on such important issues. Usually, in our homes we are told not to discuss politics as it includes sensitive topics that can create many disagreements if not debated in the right manner.

That's exactly what NOS-MUN offers students; it gives youth the right to express their opinion and teaches them how to do so in the correct way and exposes them to the truth of the world we are living in, rather than the "la-la land" we assume we're in.

In this year's conference, the topics were rather controversial and extremely important to discuss. Whether in the courts where they were solving unresolved cases, or in the committees such as UNODC, which I attended, and where we discussed the narco-state in Syria and the judicial system in Belarus, and to be honest, it was an eye-opener. For example, Syria is not even a 3-hour car ride from us and we had no clue that they are currently developing a narco-state.

To conclude, this conference was truly one to remember; it proposed creative solutions to world problems, offered an escape from reality to students from their school and family life, and made them truly feel a sense of responsibility and achievement.



خلي قلوبنا على بعض



"خلي قلوبنا على بعض" هي مبادرة أطلقتها المرحلة (9-12) تهدف إلى خدمة مدرستنا لتصبح مجتمعًا أكثر انفتاحًا وقبولًا يعزز الصحة النفسية على الصعيدين الاجتماعي والعاطفي لجميع أفراد مجتمعنا المدرسي.

"خلي قلوبنا على بعض" هي إحدى الطرق العديدة التي تُظهر من خلالها أسرة مدرستنا إحساسها بالانتماء والاحترام والحب والتعاطف تجاه مجتمعها. وكجزء من هذه المبادرة أقيمت مجموعة من الأنشطة منها معرض لرسومات فنيّة تعبيرية لطلبة من مختلف الصفوف، ومسابقة فن لعمل شعار للمبادرة.

كما أقيم نشاط في مسرح المبنى الثقافي الرياضي بتاريخ 2022/5/14 حضره طلبة المرحلة وتم فيه عرض مجموعة من المشاريع الطلابية والعروض التقديمية شرح فيها الطلبة أهمية معاملة الجميع بلطف وإنسانية واحترام متبادل، وكيف يمكن أن

نتعاطف مع بعضنا البعض أكثر ونراعي مشاعر بعضنا البعض أكثر. كما تم تقديم مجموعة من السكتشات المسرحية القصيرة من أداء طلبة نادي الدراما للصفوف (9-12) تناولت أشكال مختلفة من التنمّر التي يواجهها الطلبة. وأيضاً كان هناك مسابقتنا كتابة باللغة العربية والإنجليزية كتب فيها الطلبة مقالات وقصص قصيرة وقصائد عن التنمّر وآثاره وعواقبه وطرق التخلص منه.

*أسماء جميع الطلبة المشاركين والفائزين والمعلمين المنظمين موجودة على صفحات التواصل الاجتماعي لمدرستنا. شكراً لهم جميعاً ونأمل ان تستمر وتتوسّع هذه المبادرة وأن تصل إلى كل طلبة مدرستنا وتؤثر فيهم.

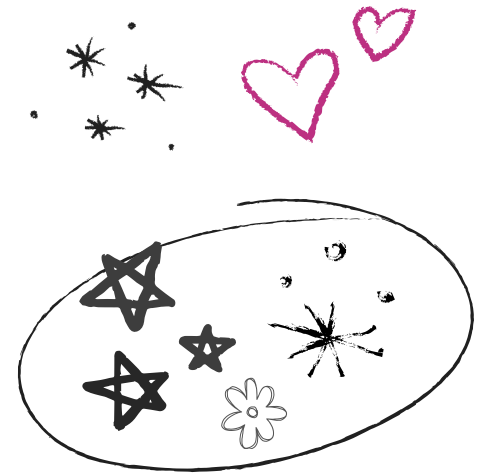


GIFTS THAT GIVE

- LAMA MOUCATTASH, YASMINA SHADDAD

During the holiday season, we go through a multitude of celebratory days. Whether it's Christmas, New Years, Valentine's Day or Mother's Day, Eid Al Fiter, Adha, or even just someone's birthday, there's nothing more enjoyable than giving and receiving gifts. Giving is a way by which we communicate with the ones we love, and to those closest to our hearts. But it is important not to forget that not everyone is as fortunate as many of us are. Not everyone has the luxury of buying their friend a gift for Christmas or Eid, or fortunate enough to go out with their loved ones one special occasions. To open our eyes, is to recognize the fact that so many people around us don't have the privilege of waking up to presents under the Christmas Tree. With that being said, we decided to look into organizations that not only give to us, but use the profits they make from the gifts we buy from them to give back to those in need as well, providing them with the gifts they deserve.

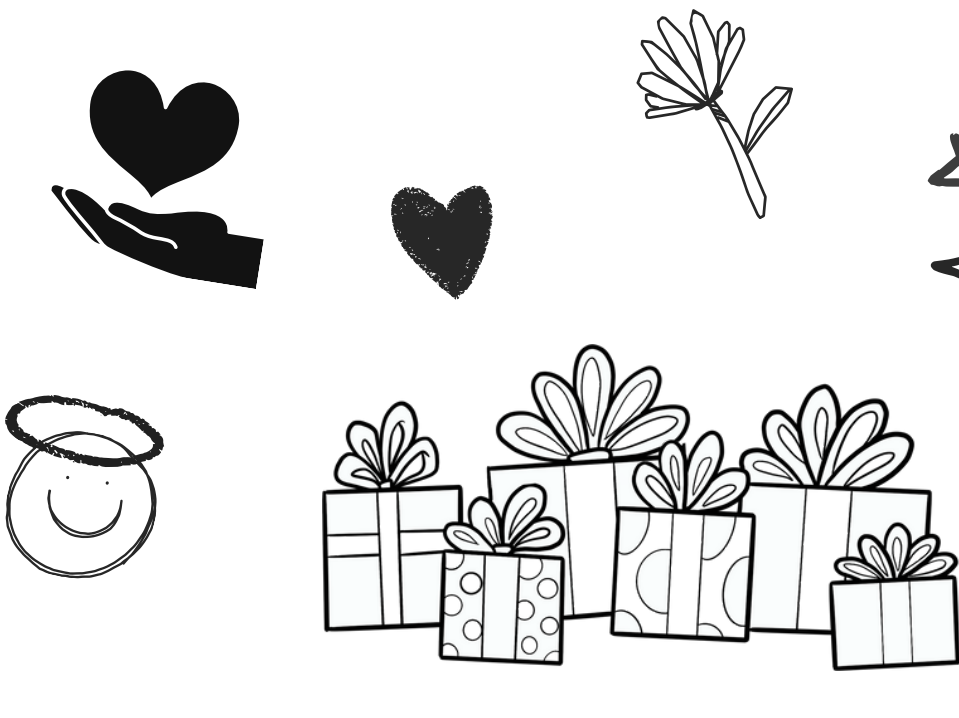
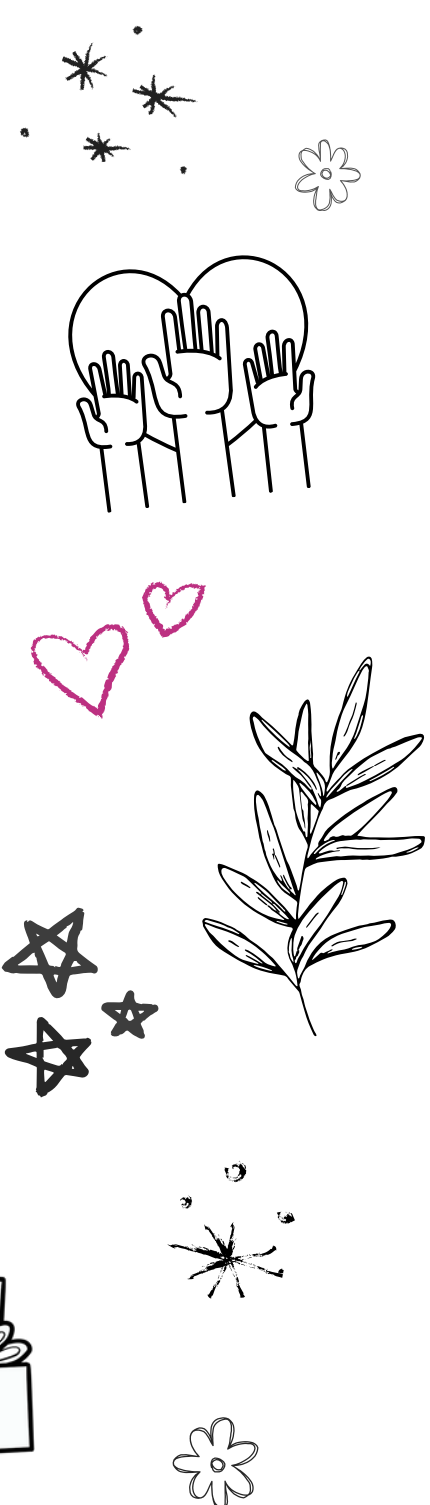
There are many organisations of this kind in Jordan these days. They do annual bazaars or take part in them, or have their own physical or online shops where they sell their products and put the money they get to help build skills for people who need them and help orphans or elders or people with disabilities or others. You can see them at Charity bazaars all around and look for them online. Such organisations use the money they get from selling their products to create kindergartens, public libraries and donated school and government exam fees to high school students in need as well. They also help create jobs for the locals who make their products. They are organisations created purely to give.



If not for the public's support, such organizations wouldn't be able to thrive and provide help to the people who need it. Thus, this is what makes our community unique. We are able to look past ourselves and give back to those who aren't as privileged as we are. And with one simple purchase, we could potentially create a drastic change in someone's life, one donation at a time.

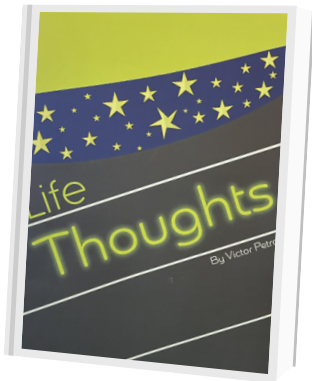
At the end of the day, these are the gifts that truly give. They're the gifts that require a minimal amount of time from each of us individually, but with the support of a whole community, it is enough to change peoples lives.

Remember, as we work to create light for each other, we naturally light our own way.



LIFE THOUGHTS

- VICTOR PETRO



Our little NOS writer, Victor Petro, who is now in grade (5), invested his free time during the Covid-19 pandemic in writing his very first book entitled "Life Thoughts". He published it and wanted to donate any revenues to charity. Victor's book is in English and is made of 15 pages. You can find it in the NOS Learning Center Grades (1-12). We thought we'd share with you a passage from Victor, that goes in line with the theme of One Heart.



SHARING

A PASSAGE FROM "LIFE THOUGHTS"

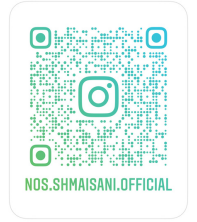
Sharing

Sometimes you need to share; it fills your heart with happiness and gratitude. Help people in need. For example, if you see a homeless person who is hungry don't leave him hungry. "Giving makes you richer" If you have anything you may give, clothes food or a shelter, give and you will always make a difference in the world. Don't forget animals too, be nice to them...

لمزيد من الأخبار، زوروا الحسابات الرسميّة
لمدرستنا على فيسبوك وإنستغرام ويوتيوب.

Highlights

FOR MORE NOS NEWS,
VISIT NOS SOCIAL MEDIA
PLATFORMS: FACEBOOK,
INSTAGRAM & YOUTUBE.



@NOS.SHMAISANI.OFFICIAL

بطولة الوطنية الأرتوذكسيّة الأولى للشطرنج NOS 1st Chess Championship



مبارك لخريجي عام 2022

Congratulations to
Class of 2022
on their graduation



فوز ومشاركة طلبة من المدرسة في دورة الاستقلال العشرين NOS Students' Participation in the 20th Independence Session



فخورون بالنتائج المشرفة التي أحرزها طلبة صف 12 في امتحان شهادة الثقافة العامّة البريطانيّة لعام 2022

We are proud of NOS A-Level students on their outstanding results on their external examinations

الدرسة الوطنيّة - الأثوثوكسيّة - الششمسياتي
NOS Class of 2022
مبارك نجاحكم!
هنيئاً لجميع طلبةنا وأولياء أمورهم
ومعلميهم - فممنين بجهودهم المباركة
والتفاني المستمرة وعملاً أن نأمل المدرسة
وأولادنا للتميز من أبناء أردنا العالني
فخورون بكم جميعاً!

أحمد أفرك سلطان	ياسر هزيم عواد	جوني ماني جزيون	رامه جسام شريبه	زيد نجيب ديبو
سيف وافي كنين	كزار زهير ديبو	كرهم سامر داني	لينا خالد العكروش	مبارك بطرس جادو

نهىء خريجي 2022 البرنامج الوطني وعائلاتهم على النتائج المشرفة التي أحرزوها في امتحان شهادة الدراسة الثانوية العامة

Congratulations to NOS Graduates Class of 2022 National Stream and their families for their results in the Jordanian General Secondary Education Certificate (Tawjihi)

الدرسة الوطنيّة - الأثوثوكسيّة - الششمسياتي
NOS Class of 2022
مبارك نجاحكم!
هنيئاً لجميع طلبةنا وأولياء أمورهم
ومعلميهم - فممنين بجهودهم المباركة
والتفاني المستمرة وعملاً أن نأمل المدرسة
وأولادنا للتميز من أبناء أردنا العالني
فخورون بكم جميعاً!

عبد الرحمن نايك الصمدي	سارة جانا سوراج	مبارا فيصل الجازين	رامر باسم تودوري	عبدالله صالح العوض
فيصل احمد عزالدين	وسمى خليل الشنقا	احمد محمود البرازي	كرومينا نجيم بلالمة	ديانا احمد عزالدين

فخورون بخريجي الوطنية الأثوثوكسيّة الفوج الثاني من البكالوريا الدولية على نتائجهم الرائعة

We are proud our NOS International Baccalaureate students on their outstanding results on their external examinations

الدرسة الوطنيّة - الأثوثوكسيّة - الششمسياتي
NOS Class of 2022
مبارك نجاحكم!
هنيئاً لجميع طلبةنا وأولياء أمورهم
ومعلميهم فممنين بجهودهم المباركة
والتفاني المستمرة وعملاً أن نأمل المدرسة
وأولادنا للتميز من أبناء أردنا العالني
فخورون بكم جميعاً!

ياسر ناصر ناسر	زيد فeras الجوزي	كلارا هنري كريتم	دانيال واتشي
نورا ساليان ابناسر	حمزة رايد الخبيط	هالا موليّد حامدان	فارس موصي كالكش

مسرحية رحلة روح
"هل الروح تحمل هم الوطن؟" 2022
A Journey of a Soul Play 2022



عرض مواهب طلبة الوطنية
الأرثوذكسيّة مرحلة (6-8)
NOS Stage (6-8) Talent Show



مسابقة رسم
مبادرة "لا للتنمر - خلي قلوبنا على بعض"
"No to Bullying-One Heart" Initiative
Drawing Competition



حفل "موسيقى من ماما ميا"
"ماذا نكون من غير أغنية أو رقصة؟"
"Music from Mamma Mia"
Sing Along Concert



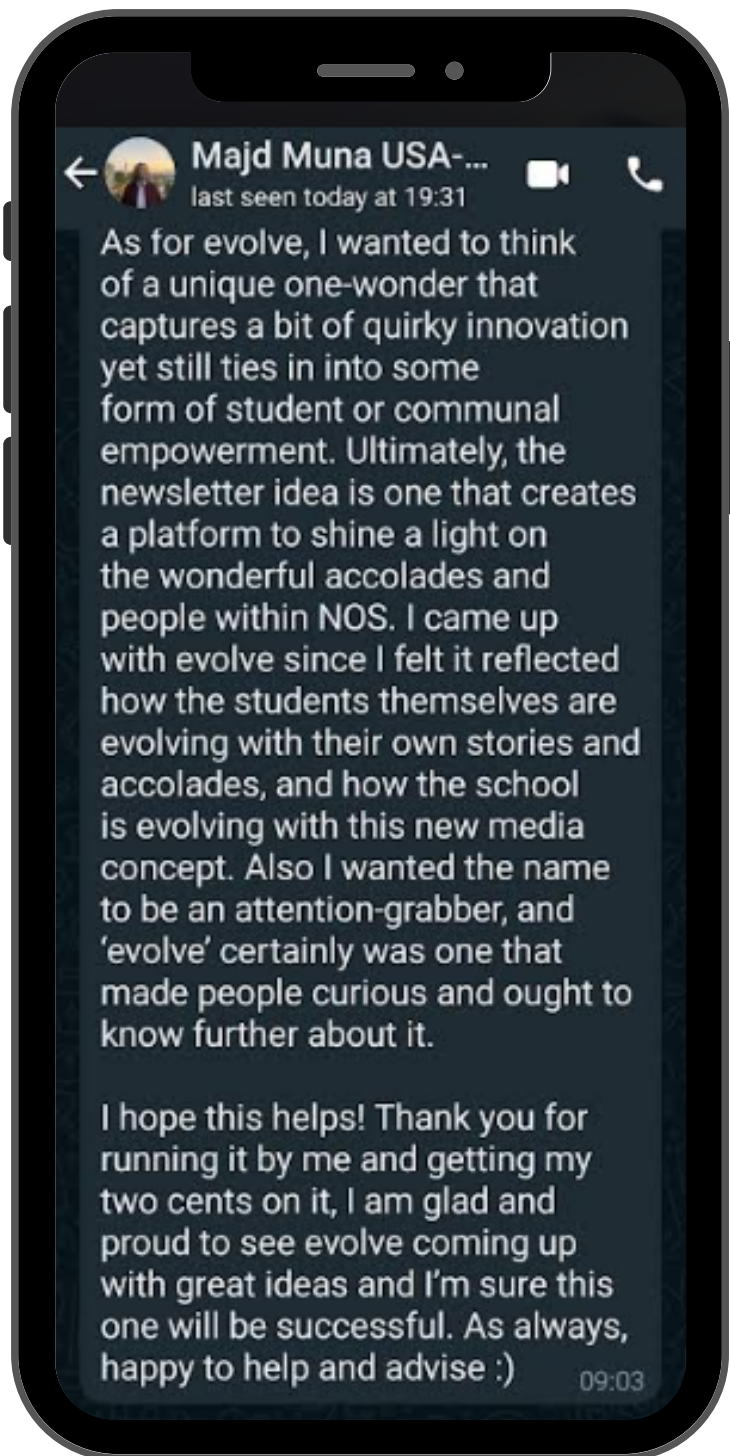
WHY IS IT CALLED "EVOLVE"?



- NOS ALUM & FOUNDER OF EVOLVE MAJD MUNA

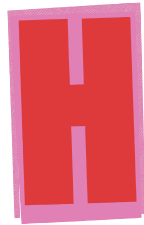
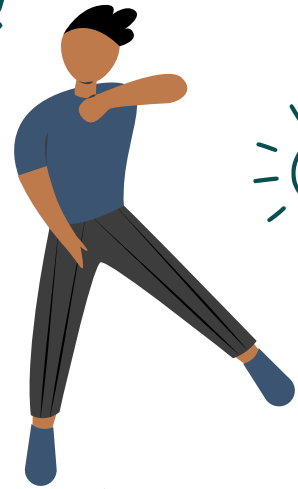
"I wanted to think of a unique one-wonder that captures a bit of quirky innovation yet still ties in into some form of student or communal empowerment. Ultimately, the newsletter idea is one that creates a platform to shine a light on the wonderful accolades and people within NOS. I came up with evolve since I felt it reflected how the students themselves are evolving with their own stories and accolades, and how the school is evolving with this new media concept. Also I wanted the name to be an attention-grabber, and 'evolve' certainly was one that made people curious and ought to know further about it".

THANK YOU MAJD!!!)



CONGRATULATIONS TO MAJD WHO GRADUATED FROM UNIVERSITY THIS SUMMER!

New Year,
New Me!



HAVE



BLAST! in

2022 - **2023**

