

LWIS-USL'S FIRST GRADUATE, SAMIRA NICHOLAS

ISSUE 2



Universal School of Lebanon



I am the first graduate of USL. I certainly did not plan to be the only student in my class, but I am glad to have had the unique opportunity of being the only student in my grade for my last two years of high school. When USL opened, my family was one of the founding families of the school, and my younger brothers were among the students who enrolled in its inaugural year. From that first year, the teachers and administrators created a loving, nurturing atmosphere which was reflected in the excitement my brothers had for their new school. My brothers loved their new school and their enthusiasm was contagious. Therefore, the summer between my 10th and 11th Grades, my parents gave me the choice of staying at the school I was in or moving to USL. I had to weigh the ramifications of this decision: I would have to adjust to a new environment for my last two years of school; I would have to “prove myself” to new teachers; I would have to leave friends behind for a likely much smaller class. What pushed me to eventually make the decision to move was the opportunity to experience something new. I also knew that I would receive hands-on, individualized learning. When I started 11th Grade, I ended up being the only student in that level,

and subsequently I was the only student to graduate the following year. It definitely felt odd to go from a class of around 40 to just me! However, being the only student in my grade had a lot of advantages. As the only student at my level, my learning was accelerated; I completed the English curriculum at the beginning of my final year and was then allowed to study German for the rest of the school year. I was given special privileges, like private tennis lessons for my PE class. I was allowed to learn in a block schedule, which left time for independent study and reading. Although I was the only student in 11th Grade and the following year in 12th Grade, I was integrated with the rest of the high school students for activities, field trips, and of course recess. I did not feel alone; I felt valued and special, and my confidence grew. While some may view changing schools an inconsequential decision, my experience taught me to be comfortable to make decisions based on what is best for my own well-being.

I will forever be grateful for the two years I spent at USL. I received a wonderful education, had some unforgettable experiences, and most of all learned how nurturing and fulfilling school can be when you are lucky enough to have teachers who care so much. The confidence and self-reliance I gained from my years at USL have served me well as I have gone on to complete an MS in Computer Science at the George Washington University in the USA and a PhD in Education from Keele University in the UK. I am now an Assistant Professor in the Education Department at the University of Balamand with publications to my credit. I chose education as my professional career path in no small part due to the influential role models I had at USL.

the New England Association of schools and Colleges (NEASC) and was awarded accreditation in 2009. Since that time the process of self-improvement continued, hosting a Five Year Visit in 2014 and a Preparatory Visit in 2017. In the meantime (and since then), many staff members served on NEASC visiting teams to accredit other schools. In 2018 LWIS-USL hosted a second Visiting Team (VT) and was awarded re-accreditation.

LWIS-USL received authorization to deliver the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IB-DP) in December 2019. The IB-DP started being implemented in September of this year and new plans are being undertaken to expand the premises in order to provide more rooms and more facilities to accommodate for this new program.

Alumni Thoughts

In peace, my child take my hand

For we are in the Promised Land

Where song and dance reign
supreme

In an everlasting, fleeting dream

So come, and trust, and live and
learn

The world is just so, do not yearn

For needless fancies causing fright

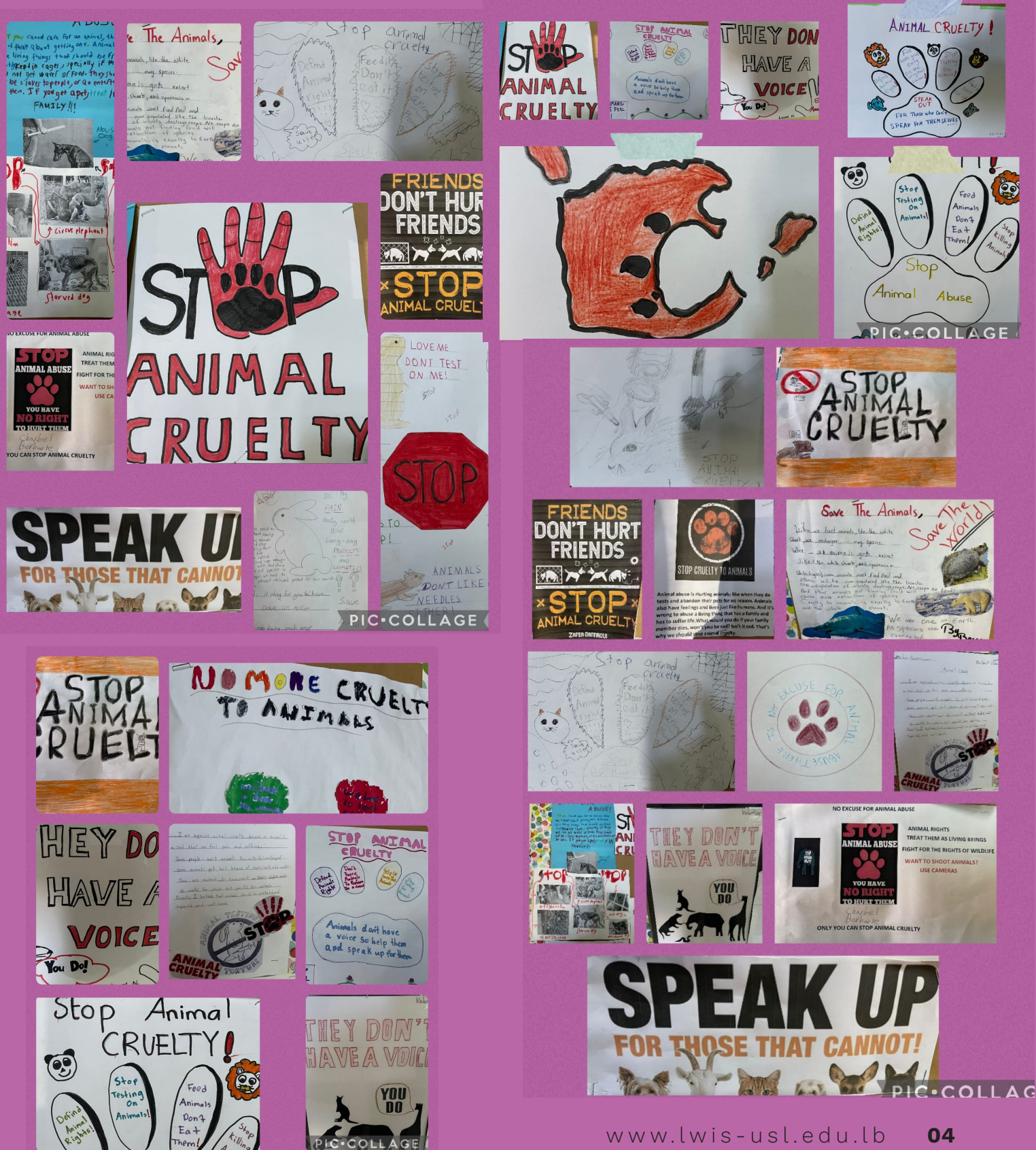
You are gently guided through this
light

For song and dance will never fail

Making trees from seeds, small
and frail

Tarek Ayoub
Class of 2022

Our grade 5 students exhibit their love and kindness towards animals. They have promoted their initiative to protect animals by creating posters to STOP animal cruelty.

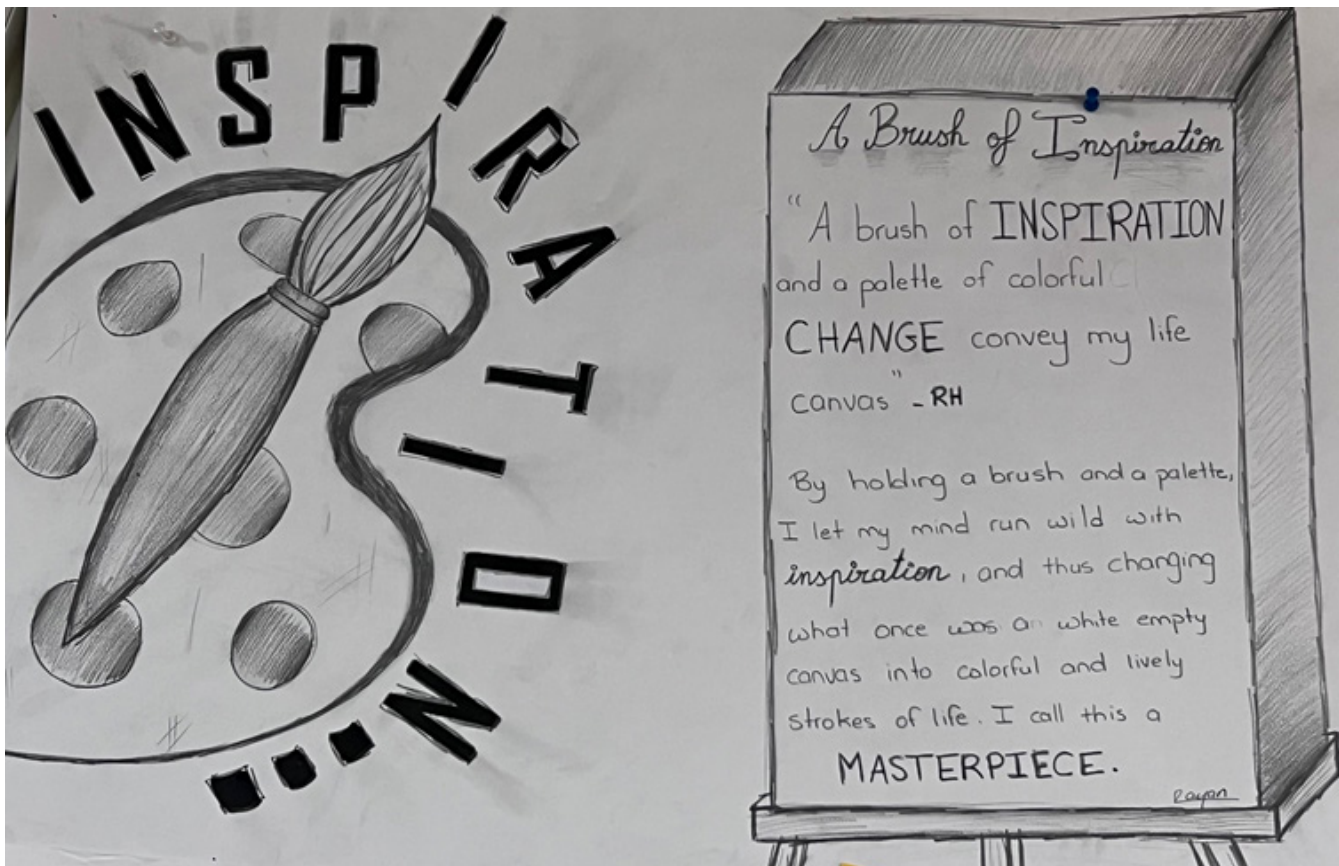


“Our Symbols Our Identities”

What is Symbolism?

Symbolism is the use of words or images to symbolize specific concepts, people, objects or events. For example, a dove symbolizes peace, a red rose symbolizes love and a rainbow symbolizes hope. What symbols mean and how they work can be very powerful.

Grade 8 students have created their own symbols that represented their identities and gave them an opportunity to explore the world of symbols. Creativity has no limits and so were the projects that covered different themes and symbols.



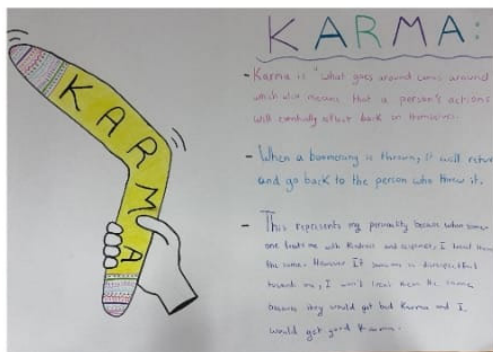
This is a model project that was provided by the teacher to stimulate students' thoughts and aspirations.

Take a moment to read and look at some of the projects that stood out:

A boomerang that represents "KARMA".

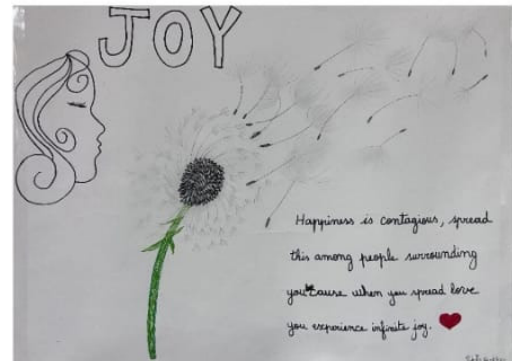
Now check what the students did!

A boomerang that represents "KARMA".



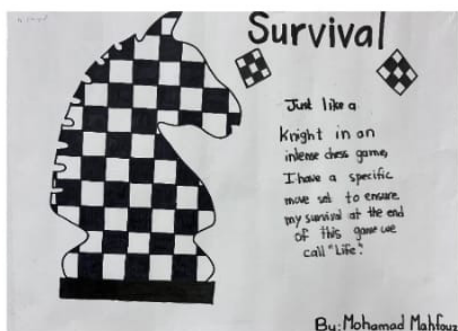
A boomerang, when thrown, returns back and so does KARMA; if you do good, good will come back to you.

A dandelion that represents "JOY".



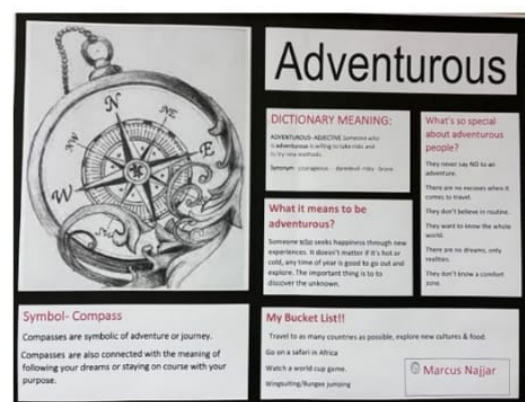
A dandelion, when blown, the seeds spread in the direction of the breeze, and so does joyfulness, when present, it is expandable.

A knight chess piece that represents "SURVIVAL".



Just like the knight in a chess board game takes some careful moves to save itself, so does our survival with much cautiousness and consciousness.

A compass rose that represents "ADVENTURES".



A compass rose is your lead to new adventures, to risks and to the discovery of the unknown.

PIC•COLLAGE

Food Webs and Ecosystems

Where
do you
get

your
energy?





MISSION: Design a Back Scratcher!



First, we PLAN.



Grade 1



Then, we BUILD!



Last, we share our designs!



Water Cycle Bag Activity

Grade 4 students demonstrated their understanding of precipitation and evaporation through a hands-on project designed to portray the phases of water as it cycles through Earth's atmosphere and changes from one state to another.



Bringing Joy and Smiles to our Elderly Friends

A heartwarming visit from Grade 10 learners to Hamilat Al Teeb to celebrate Mother's Day with the nursing home residents.



LWIS-USL High School Students Celebrating Teacher's Day in Their Own Special Way.

After months of hard work and dedication, this was the day when they would finally catch a break, or would they? The ever awaited Teacher's Day! (Though they rightfully deserve a whole month to acknowledge their exhaustive efforts). The morning began with a heartwarming rendition of "Happy Teacher's Day to you!" accompanied by the main event: A GIGANTIC CAKE in the middle of the hall. The seniors planned a lovely morning for their teachers, feeding and gifting them as class time went by, a genius ploy if you ask me. However, this wasn't the only plan they had devised...

After celebrations and cheers, a coup took place. The seniors split up to cover more ground... A Teacher-napping! They were all brought to the outer court, where different stations were set up for a fun time in the sun! Teams of 4 were made and off they went! Boy, did they have it coming...

Each team ran across the field, attempting to finish each mini-game first and be crowned

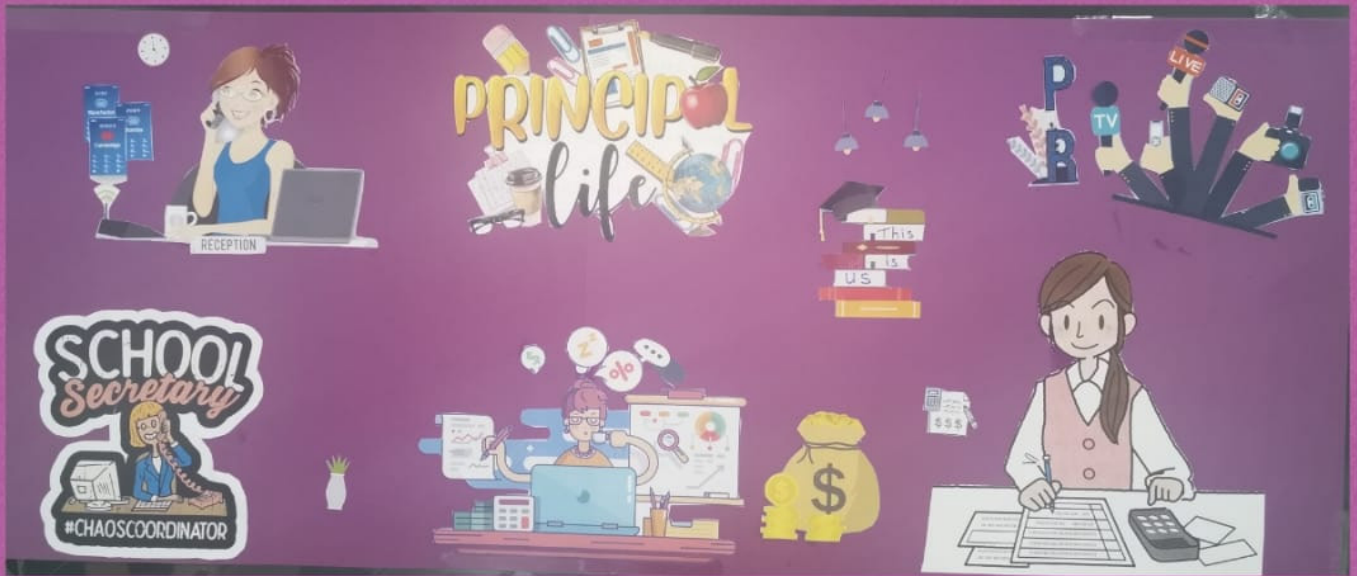
victorious! Some began to bob for apples, causing waves of water to crash onto onlookers who cheered for their favorites. Others sped through an obstacle course, ramming into teams that were simply dashing across to reach their next game. Their patience was tested with a game of cup flipping, which rightfully caused THEM to flip out! Not to fret, however, as they could let off some steam in a shooting game. They even busted out some hole hoop dance moves and showed off some hidden talents! The crowd went wild at every station, egging on each and every one. In the end, flushed faces were etched with smiles as they sank back into their couches, finally able to relax after a jam-packed day!

We are grateful; not for our teachers who merely teach a lesson; not for our trainers who train us to do a task mindlessly; but for our educators who spend their lives in an endless pursuit of a better generation, one which they create. To us, you have the most important job in the world, and you're doing one hell of a job at it!

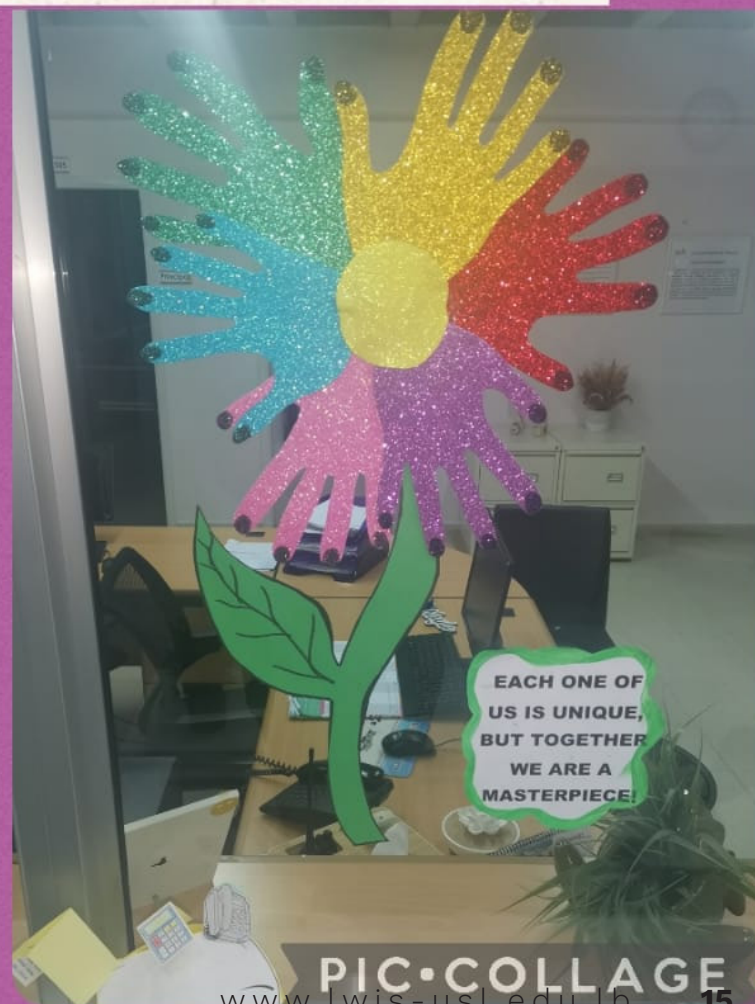
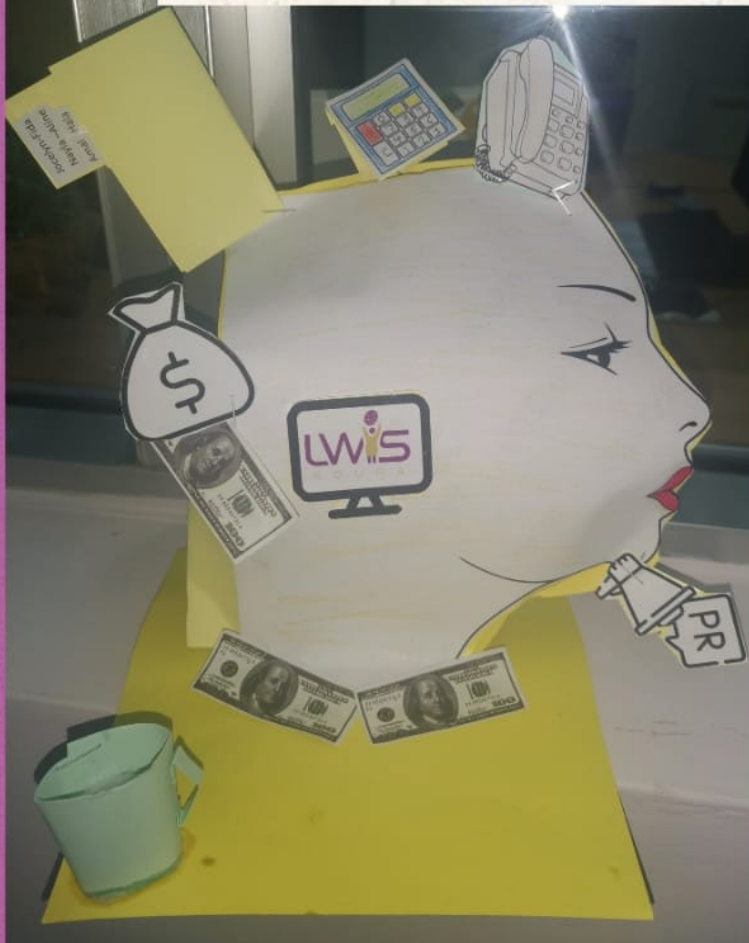


This is Me at LWIS-USL: A Whole School Project. Teachers' Version





This is Us LWIS-USL Admin Group



Theater is a Magical Experience

The joy of theater stems from having an opportunity to share laughs, tears and excitement in a physical environment that challenges the laws of physics and extends beyond the tangible realities of life as we know it. It's about the magic of an interaction between the performers and their audience, a relationship that cannot really be felt or enjoyed in any other form of art.



LWIS-USL Varsity Team: Champions of the North



Proud of our champs! 🏆



lwis.usl Champions of the Field: LWIS-USL Soccer Team takes 1st place in the Sportive Unit Ministry of Educatio...

Ramadan Food Drive by the Community Service Class

شهر رمضان ليس فقط شهر الصّوم بل شهر العطاء. لذلك قام طلاب يونيفرسال سكول بتوزيع حصص غذائية في مدينة طرابلس لمساعدة عائلات تعاني الحرمان في ظلّ الأزمة الاقتصادية

Ramadan n'est pas juste le mois du jeûn mais le mois de la charité. Pour renforcer les valeurs de ce mois sacré, les élèves de grade 10 ont distribué des colis alimentaires pour aider des familles qui souffrent pour joindre les deux bouts à cause de la crise économique.



A special *Thank You*
to “Boost Marketing Agency”,
owned by Samar Karam,
a mother of a beloved student at LWIS-USL!

