

BBS & MICROSOFT

During the year 1955, a very important statement was born, on the occasion of the founding of a school, which would be the home of bright graduates, and a carrier of a vision. The name of the school was BBS, and its mission was the following:

"To prepare the students in mind, body, and spirit, to meet the challenges of the world around them."

After sixty-one years since its foundation, the challenges of the world around our students vary. Existing in a digital world, current BBS students face the challenge of being equipped with the necessary technical skills to succeed. As always, a loyal carrier of its mission, BBS thrives to not only meet our students' challenges, but to face them together, hand in hand.

That is why, on October 2015, BBS signed an agreement with Microsoft, adopting the "Smart School Transformation Model" as a foundation for our gradual migration into e-learning, to enable our students to be equipped with the fundamental technical skills to not only cope with, but to excel in today's digital world. We proudly announce that as of October 2015, BBS, is a licensed Microsoft Imagine Academy.

Our agreement with Microsoft being based on a fully technological plan, BBS has undertaken all the necessary actions to complement and support our gradual migration into e learning.

- 1) Our Academic and non-Academic staff both, attended different Microsoft trainings and practical workshops in the school, about new tools needed for e learning, "Office-Mix", and "One-Note" being a few of these tools.
- 2) From April 4 till April 7 2016, our Director of Operations Mr. Tony Haddad, and Director of Academics Mrs. Alice Wazir participated in the "Bett Middle East Leadership Forum" in Abu Dhabi.

The forum took place in the presence of the following important personalities as keynote speakers: Dr. Ali Al Nuaimi, Director General of Abu Dhabi Education Council (ADEC) of UAE, Anthony Salcito, Vice President of Worldwide Education at Microsoft USA, and Mohammed Gheyath, Director General of Mohammad Bin Rashid Smart Learning Program of UAE.

Some of the highlighted topics of the forum were: "Teaching and Learning with Office 365 Education", "Windows 10 In The Classroom", "Transforming Today To Achieve More Tomorrow", "Transforming Educational Systems", "Personalizing Teaching and Learning", "Understanding The Business Requirements Behind Your Learning Vision", "Nurturing Innovative Thinking Through Inquiry-Based Learning", "Turning Failure Into Opportunity",

"Games Based Learning", "Barriers In Using EdTech Successfully", "The Link Between Modernizing Education and Advancing Society", "Digital Learning Futures", and many more.

- 3) Twenty-five brand new tablets were bought to be used for our e-learning pilot study on Grade five students. We started our pilot study on one class only this year, for our gradual transformation into a smart school or an e-learning school.

As BBS, we look forward for the upcoming challenges the digital world may bring, for facing challenges gives birth to growth, and ongoing growth is what we strive for.