#### LEGACY SCHOOL





#### OUR JOURNEY THIS YEAR..





#### The last Days of Legacy School, Sudan

Sudan's war started during the school year and Legacy closed its doors.

June, 2024 ~ interview by School Bulletin Journalists - Jwan Elwaleed, Jude Rashid, Reemas Yasir, Sama Ammar



"Legacy Sudan is not a building; the legacy for us is you guys. You are the investment for us, and what you guys go on to do in your lives is something we will always have and will be proud of you for."

## Interview with Ms.Opheera

Mrs. Opheera Mcdoom Legacy School founder and Principal Our interview with Ms. Opheera took us back in time and fast-forward to the present, a journey that was both hard and emotional. Her strength and preserverence surpassed any expectations in her insistance to resurrect the "legacy" we all know.

Where were you when the war started?

I was in London, completely accidentally. It was my mother's birthday, and I wanted to take her away, so I left a bit early, which was a very lucky coincidence for me. So, what was the first thing you thought about when you heard about the war?

It happened on a Saturday. I woke up, and my first thoughts were, alhamdulillah, there was no one at the school. I had cancelled everything, so nobody was there, and that was my main concern. The second thing was seeing whether this would develop into something more serious or just die down in a day or two, and quite quickly we realized this was something very serious. So, how did you feel after all your hard work on Legacy Sudan was lost?

I don't think it's lost because you guys are the result of my hard work in Legacy Sudan; Legacy Sudan is not a building. The "legacy" for us is you guys. You, the kids, are the investment for us, and what you guys go on to do in your lives is something we will always have and will be proud of you for. So, as long as you guys continue to work hard and make us proud, I don't think I have lost anything because you are our investment.

What problems did you face while choosing the place for the school in Egypt? One of the challenges was I have never visited this new section of Cairo, so I'm sitting in London looking at this place in the middle of nowhere going where is it I have never seen any of it before, and I was thinking that most Sudanese live very far away in you know.. Giza and Madinat Nasr, ...

So how is anyone going to come here in the middle of nowhere to go to school?. Originally, we looked at a school a bit closer, and it was getting late, and at that school, their license wasn't fully ready, and we can see that the Egyptian government was pressing more on Sudanese residency, so one of the most important things I looked at was the fact that we got a school that could give people residencies because I could see that that would become a big issue for Sudanese, and that's exactly what happened. So, this is why we came to this school, which was a little bit in the middle of nowhere in the capital, and you know, most people had to move to be close to it.

Alhamduliallah, with the move, it was a very stressful time for everybody, but I feel like we are more stable now, and that's been good alhamduliallah.

Do you see any differences between the schools here and in Sudan, and what are they?

It's a very good question, so there are many differences, and I think some of them are actually positive in that we have a lot of things that are available to us here that we didn't have in Sudan.

So, we have a lot of online systems. We have Toddle, Reading Buddy, and also IXL which is very useful for catching people up in math and filling in gaps from the last few years that people have developed in their curriculum because we have children from lots of different schools in one place, and every school in the last five years you know has been very unstable, so a lot of schools had not covered a lot of the curriculum. Alhamduliallah, at Legacy, we managed to do quite well in terms of our coverage of our curriculum in the last few years but other schools

have not, so one of the biggest challenges here was the difference in levels between the children who came from different systems. So we had the online systems that we didn't have in Sudan and also the exam boards. We have access to Edexcel and Oxford AQA exam boards, which we don't have in Sudan as well, and that gives us a bit more flexibility in terms of what you guys can study later and things that are more suitable for you, so that has been great as well. So, there's a lot of opportunities that have arisen from our opening in Egypt and... stability, yes, so we haven't had to

close every five minutes because of protests, or, you know, people who live in Bahri had to leave midday because the bridges were about to close because of the protests... you know, these kinds of things were daily occurrences in Sudan; we don't have that here. So, you know, I think there's been a lot of blessings that have come from what happened, and I feel like we had a quite stable school year. We were able to give you a really good base in terms of what you studied this year.

How are you going to manage moving schools next year in Egypt?

Moving schools: We will be handling that for our parents, so we are doing the transfers ourselves. It will be difficult for my staff. My poor staff are going to have to set up for the parents who made it easy; they will just have to sign for us to do the transfers for them and turn up at the beginning of the school year, but for the staff, they have a lot of work to do over the holidays to transfer everybody. to the new school, so I have to thank the staff because they're going to work very hard. For you guys, the benefit is that we'll be all by ourselves; it will be just like Legacy Sudan, and we will have a whole building all to ourselves that will be really nice in a way.... again, a blessing! Alhamdulillah

From an academic perspective, do you think there was an improvement throughout the academic year 2023–2024?

Definitely. We have seen major progress for all

the kids, and that's all you can ask for. We don't ask that everybody catch up on an entire language or an entire curriculum in one year, but what we look at for every child is progress, and when it comes to education, we say that Legacy is a partnership between home and school, so if home is working with us and doing what they need to do, like getting you guys to bed early and making sure you guys do your homework ... all of these things, and we do our part, kids progress, and all we're looking at is progression. We don't expect perfection; we don't expect everyone to catch everything up immediately; it takes time.

We have definitely seen really good progression this year simply because we were so stable, that we didn't close every five seconds. It's been a big learning curve, we've had to deal with a lot of things, like the ministry exams, which for you guys coming from a different system and having to go straight and then do that has been really hard, but I think we also managed to get over that challenge and we did well, alhamdulillah.

Finally, what do you think about the community in Egypt regarding the place and people?

In general, I think, living in New Cairo, is new to me. I never saw it before, but I have enjoyed it.

I used to live in Elmuhandiseen and Zamalek, kind of old Cairo. It was very busy, and it's not very safe these days. So I have really enjoyed moving out to New Cairo. I lived in Cairo 23 years ago, so a long time ago, definitely very different, but I like living here. I feel there's less crime here; I feel it's safer for everybody; it's clean; there's less pollution; you guys have green areas and open space. So I actually think the quality of life here is much better, better than in Sudan, we don't have electricity and water cuts, all of these things that we really suffered with in Sudan the last few years, we don't have those anymore. So I think that in some ways, yes, it's horrible that we lost our country and our community, but we are

lucky to have a brand new community in Egypt, and I think in terms of standard of living, I think we're doing much better in some ways than we would have done if we'd stayed in Sudan.

#### ...and in school?

School takes time to build a community, so I felt that in the beginning, it was hard for new parents to understand how we do things and why we do things. It took a long time, but I feel like now that we've got to the end of the year, most of them have come on board with our community and understand that their children have seen progress and that they've seen the fruits of our labor. With you guys and the Show Day, they can see the progress that you have all made academically, behaviorally, and character-wise. All these things are important to us. So I do believe the community is getting stronger; it's being built; it's always in progress, but we've come a long way from where we've started, and that is all you can ask for.

#### Arabic IGCSE

Y10 students astounding acheivement

Article written by Tibyan Ahmed Abdalla, Y10 Student, School Bulletin Jounalist/Editor ~ June 2024



#### Arabic IGCSE

Y10 students astounding acheivement

Having just fled a war, displaced, worried, and confused, our Year 10 students had to start preparing for an Arabic IGCSE exam immediately! In August 2023, eight year 10 students were suddenly told that they would be taking their firstever IGCSE exam in three months!. And so they began preparing with absolutely no experience in standardised exams and with little to no motivation. When two of these students were asked about this period, they simply sighed and insisted they'd rather not recall those difficult times.

#### OCTOBER 2023

I interviewed their main mentor during this period, Miss Raghda, and she seemed eager to recount her experience. When she was asked about how she went about teaching these students, she said that she had to rely on the readily available past papers and their respective marking schemes. She also admitted to feeling overwhelmed by rather this immense responsibility; however, she was determined to help all of these students to the best of her ability.

Arabic IGCSE

Y10 students astounding acheivement

from A to A\*.

Against all odds, they dedicated themselves to intense study within a remarkably short period and courageously took the exam.

The results came in after 4 months, and they all achieved outstanding results with grades ranging from A to A\*.

Their ability to exceed expectations serves as a testament to their hard work during that period. It's a remarkable example of what can be accomplished with determination and dedication, even when the odds seem stacked against you.

#### OCTOBER 2023

A sudanese masterpiece

Article written by Tibyan Ahmed , Y10 Student, School Bulletin Jounalist/Editor ~ June 2024

#### DECEMBER 2023

Students movie day

In December 2023, the critically acclaimed film "Goodbye Julia" took the Arab world by storm. It paid homage to the decades-long discord between North and South Sudan, ultimately resulting in the separation of the two becoming what we now know as Sudan and South Sudan, a marker in Sudanese history. Many believe this film has successfully captured the essence of pure pandemonium during those hard times.

Our school took the highest four classes (years 7, 8, 9, and 10) on a field trip to watch this superb film at the Open Air Cinema. Miss Opheera discussed the events with the students and their correspondence to real-life events. Following watching the film, the students were tasked with writing a brief paragraph about it, including their own insights and revelations.

#### DECEMBER 2023

Students movie day

The film director Mr. Mo Kordofani and lead actress Ms. Eiman Yousif graciously visited our campus and met with the students, who did not hesitate to ask them about different aspects of the film. Personally, I believe this was a great, patriotic activity that has given students a broader understanding of their country's history.

#### DECEMBER 2023



Students movie da

#### DECEMBER

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Our annual fun week

Article written by Jwan Elwaleed, Y7 Student, School Bulletin Jounalist/Editor ~ June 2024

The most exciting week of the year!

CRAZY WEEK IS BACK!! Yup! it's joyful, fun and definitely crazy. The school had 4 crazy days – starting off with

make-up (yikes!).

#### REBRUARY 2024

### SCARY DAY

Everyone had on scary costumes and scary

ar!

The most exciting week of 🏼



The most exciting week of the year!

## WACKY-TACKY DAY

Then the hallways filled with outburst of laughter one after another as everyone came in wearing the most ridiculous outfits and hairstyles, , such an eye-sore!



The most exciting week of the yea



The most exciting week of the year!

## JERSEY/ CHEARLEADING / PROFESSIONAL DAY !

adorable!



#### Everyone showed off their favorite team costume, young ones were proud wearing their favorite careers costumes looking super

LIKEN DADADA

The most exciting week of the year!

(CONTRACT)



The most exciting week of the year!

#### TRADITIONAL DAY

Thobes and Jalabias worn with the honor of being Sudanese, Sudanese music washed over the school elevating our emotions to another level. There were smiles and there were tears ..... A day to remember



The final day was the most emotional



#### Sports Day

Competition and excitement

Article written by Remas yasir, Y7 Student, School Bulletin Jounalist/Editor ~ June 2024



#### **Sports Day**

#### **Competition and excitement !**

Ever wondered what happens when a bunch of teachers, admins, and even Miss Opheera get together for something other than grading papers or fixing the photocopier? Well, at Legacy School, it's not your average staff meeting—it's the annual sports day extravaganza! Can you imagine the chaos when the folks who normally wrangle rowdy classrooms suddenly become team leaders and cheerleading captains?

- ...But wait, it gets better. They take the whole school and split it into 4 teams ~
- Blue, Green, Yellow and Red
- like they're forming Hogwarts houses, but with more sweatbands and fewer spells. Do they draw straws? Flip coins? Or do they settle it the oldfashioned way — with a fierce game of rock-paperscissors? The suspense is killing us!

Lower and upper grades alike eagerly await their turn to showcase their athletic prowess and team spirit.

The sports day unfolds over two action-packed days, with each group pouring their hearts into various challenges and tournaments. From classic events like sack races and relay races to exciting matches of football and basketball, there's never a dull moment. Points are earned not just through

**Sports Day** 

**Competition and excitement !** 

victories but also through sportsmanship, creativity, and of course...thunderous cheering. As the big day approaches, the school buzzes with energy. Finally, amidst the laughter and cheers echoing through Green Hills ElShorouq, the moment of triumph arrives. Certificates are awarded to the dedicated individuals who went above and beyond, embodying the true spirit of the event.

#### Sports Day

**Competition and excitement !** 

Despite hoarse voices and exhausted limbs, memories of this exhilarating day linger, a testament to the enduring bonds forged through friendly competition and shared experiences. And as the sun sets on another unforgettable sports day, the Legacy community eagerly looks forward to the adventures and camaraderie that await in the years to come.

#### Sports Day

**Competition and excitement** !

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#### FEBRUARY

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#### **Sports Day**

**Competition and excitement !** 



#### Sports Day

Competition and excitement!

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#### Legacy MUN

Professionalism and global awareness

Article written by Remas yasir, Y7 Student, School Bulletin Jounalist/Editor ~ June 2024



#### Legacy MUN

Professionalism and global awareness

#### Model United Nations (MUN) at Legacy : A Grand Success!

This year marked a significant milestone for our school, as we hosted our very first Model United Nations (MUN) conference. The event was an incredible experience, filled with learning, diplomacy, and a few challenges along the way. For those unfamiliar, MUN is an educational simulation where students role-play as delegates to the United Nations, debating and resolving global issues. It's a fantastic opportunity for students to develop public speaking, critical thinking, and leadership skills.



Our debut MUN event faced some initial hurdles. Being the first time for many students, there was a steep learning curve. We also had limited preparation time and encountered last-minute changes in the location. However, none of these obstacles could dampen our spirits, thanks to the unwavering support and dedication of *Miss Ashraqat*. She was the visionary behind this initiative and worked tirelessly to turn it into reality.

Legacy MUN

Professionalism and global awareness

The opening ceremony was a memorable affair. Each delegate had the privilege of inviting one guest. Our Principal, Miss Opheera McDoom, kicked off the event with an inspiring speech, followed by a motivating address from Miss Ashraqat. Several students also gave speeches, setting the tone for the days ahead.

APRIL-MAY 2024

#### Legacy MUN

#### Professionalism and global awareness

After the speeches, parents were treated to coffee, tea, and snacks, while the delegates began the essential process of lobbying and merging. Despite the initial confusion, the delegates quickly adapted and started drafting their first resolution paper. Formal attire was the order of the day, with delegates dressed sharply and ushers in elegant black.

Day two began with additional time for lobbying and merging, ensuring everyone had the opportunity to collaborate and finalize their resolutions. The rest of the day was dedicated to spirited debates, punctuated by several breaks to keep the energy high. On the final day, we debated the remaining resolutions. With some time left at the end, we enjoyed a lighthearted session reading the "Chatter Box" and had some fun to cap off the event.

#### APRIL-MAY 2024

#### Legacy MUN

Professionalism and global awareness

Our first MUN conference was a resounding success, and we are already looking forward to hosting it again next year. This event has undoubtedly laid a strong foundation for a new tradition at Legacy.



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Professionalism and global awareness





#### Legacy MUN

Professionalism and global awareness

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#### Legacy MUN

#### Professionalism and global awareness

#### APRIL-MAY 2024

Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

Article written by Remas yasir, Y7 Student, School Bulletin Jounalist/Editor ~ June 2024



Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

The excitement was palpable as our entire school community gathered for a day filled with performances, creativity, and joy. From the youngest to the oldest students, everyone had a part to play in this unforgettable event.



Pre-Reception Performances

#### THE JOYFUL BEGINNINGS

# Show Day

Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

Nursery 1 kicked off the event with an adorable rendition of "Go Banana" The tiny tots, dressed in bright yellow costumes, wiggled and giggled their way through the cheerful tune, setting the perfect tone for the day.



Whole School Talent Show Extravaganz



#### NURSERY1

Pre-Reception Performances

#### THE JOYFUL BEGINNINGS

Nursery 2 took the stage with "It's a Beautiful Day". Their smiles and enthusiasm were contagious as they danced and sang about the wonders of the world around them, making everyone in the audience beam with happiness.

#### Show Day

Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza



Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

# NURSERY 2

Pre-Reception Performances

#### THE JOYFUL BEGINNINGS

Nursery 3 followed with "I'm So Happy" Their lively performance, complete with colorful props and energetic movements, had everyone

clapping along and feeling the joy.

#### **Show Day**

Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza



Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

#### NURSERY 3

ORI



Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

Pre-Reception Performances

#### CELEBRATING THE EARTH AND OLD TALES

The spotlight then turned to *Pre-Reception 1*, who sang a heartfelt song called *"The Earth"* Their performance, highlighting the beauty and importance of our planet, was both touching and inspiring.



Whole School Talent Show Extravagar za

# **PRE-RECEPTION 1**

Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

Pre-Reception Performances

#### CELEBRATING THE EARTH AND OLD TALES

**Pre-Reception 2** brought a delightful twist with

their play and song about "The Gingerbread Man" The children's expressive acting and sweet singing told the beloved story in a charming and engaging way.



Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

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#### **PRE-RECEPTION 2**

Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

Pre-Reception Performances

#### CELEBRATING THE EARTH AND OLD TALES

Finally, *Pre-Reception 3* charmed the audience
with "On My Way". Their enthusiastic singing and
vibrant choreography took everyone on a musical
journey, rounding off the pre-reception performances
beautifully.



Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

#### **PRE-RECEPTION 3**

Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

Reception Performances

#### PLAYS AND GLOBAL TUNES

Reception 1 presented an insightful play about "Jobs". The young actors showcased various professions with confidence and creativity, highlighting the importance of every role in our community.



Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

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#### **RECEPTION 1**

Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

Reception Performances

#### PLAYS AND GLOBAL TUNES

The global theme continued with **Reception 2** singing about "The Seven Continents". Their song was an educational yet fun journey around the world, complete with costumes and props representing different cultures.



Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

# **RECEPTION 2**

# 111 Show Day RECEPTION 2 Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

Reception Performances

#### PLAYS AND GLOBAL TUNES

To conclude the reception performances, *Reception 3* performed *"Raise Your Flag"*. Their powerful voices and spirited presentation encouraged unity and pride, resonating deeply with everyone present.





Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

Year 1 Performances

#### MAGICAL TALES ANDCOLORFUL STORIES

Year 1A captivated the audience with a play about *"How the Birds Got Their Colors"* . Their imaginative storytelling and colorful costumes brought the beautiful tale to life



Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza



Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

Year 1 Performances

#### MAGICAL TALES ANDCOLORFUL STORIES

Year 1B enchanted everyone with their play about *"The Rainbow Fish".* The children's performance emphasized themes of sharing and friendship, beautifully illustrated by their sparkling costumes



Whole School Talent Snow Extravaganza



Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

Year 1 Performances

#### MAGICAL TALES ANDCOLORFUL STORIES

The final act was from Year IC, a play about "The **Princess's New Clothes**". Their humorous and wellacted rendition of the classic story had everyone laughing and applauding.



Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza



### YEAR 1C

### Years 2 to 6 Performances

### **Show Day**

Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

The middle segment of the day featured a dynamic talent show from \*Years 2 to 6\*. Students showcased a wide range of talents, including singing, dancing, magic tricks, gymnastics and more. Each act displayed the diverse skills and creativity of our students, making this session a true highlight of the event.



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### Show Day

Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

# YEAR 2 to 6

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# Show Day

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Whole School Talent Show Extra



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### YEAR 2 to 6

Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza



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## YEAR 2 to 6

Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

### YEAR 2 to 6

### Years 7 Performances

### **Show Day**

Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

Year 7 Arabic Performances Year 7 presented two talent shows in Arabic: "العودة" (Drop) "قطر الحياة" (Return to Al-Aqsa) and "للاقصى (Drop of Life). These performances, filled with cultural depth and emotional resonance, showcased the students' proficiency in language and expression. They also performed a moving song, "نبقى طيبين" (We Remain well), which touched the hearts of the audience.



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Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

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INTERNATIONAL CHOOL COMMUNITY



Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

### Years 8 Performances

### STORIES OF LIGHT AND HOPE

Year 8 followed with their own Arabic talent shows, "النور مكانه في" (Perhaps It's Good) and "لعله خير" (The Light's Place is in the Hearts). Their performances, rich in storytelling and moral lessons, highlighted the students' talents and the values they hold dear.



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Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza



Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

### Years 9 and 10 Performances

### (WE WILL RETURN) "راجعين"

Arabic talent show



- Years 9 and 10 combined their talents for a single
- This powerful performance demonstrated the unity and strength of our older students, leaving a lasting impression on everyone.

Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

### YEAR 9 & 10

The days were a true celebration of talent, creativity and community spirit. Each performance, from the youngest nursery students to the oldest seniors, showcased the unique abilities and enthusiasm of our school.

### **Show Day**

Whole School Talent Show Extravaganza

This Showday will be remembered as a shining example of what we can achieve when we come together to celebrate our diverse talents.



This Journal has been prepared by: School Bulletin Journalists and Editors Jwan Elwaleed ~ Y7 Sama Ammar ~ Y7 Mayar Ayman ~ Y7 Jude Rashid ~ Y7 Reemas Yasir ~ Y7 Tibyan Ahmed ~ Y10



