



One way to get the most out of life is to look upon it as an adventure.
-William Feather

ST CHRIS & BAYAN STUDENTS ATTEND CERN WORKSHOP

The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 2015 as the International Year of Light and Light-based Technologies (IYL), a global initiative which aimed to highlight to the citizens of the world the importance of light and optical technologies in their lives, for their future, and for the development of society providing a unique opportunity to inspire, educate, and connect on a global scale.

As part of its IYL activities, CERN (the European Laboratory for Particle Physics) held a Workshop featuring the Middle East's own international research centre, SESAME. The SESAME (Synchrotron-light for Experimental Science and Applications in the Middle East) project is a "third-generation" synchrotron light source under construction in Jordan for the benefit of Middle Eastern nations; its founder member states including, The Kingdom of Bahrain, Cyprus, Egypt, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Palestinian Authority, Pakistan, and Turkey. The Workshop, which was organised under the auspices of CERN and UNESCO, was attended by scientists from CERN and SESAME, as well as two teachers and two students, selected from each of the SESAME founding countries.

The two students selected to represent The Kingdom of Bahrain in the SESAME project at CERN were, Mahira Essa (St Christopher's School) and Abdullah Zaini (Bayan School), with accompanying teachers, Emily Galloway (Head of Physics at St Christopher's School) and Mohamed Abdulbaqi (Physics teacher at Bayan School).

The Workshop consisted of a packed itinerary of lectures, conferences, tours and events, the lectures introducing the plans for SESAME synchrotron-light source



in the Middle East and highlighting the underlying parallels between CERN and SESAME research facilities. The group of students and teachers took part in video conferences with scientists at SESAME in Jordan and were involved with discussions with CERN scientists, considering the advantages of international collaboration at research facilities to benefit nations.

The participants from the nine countries had a 'once in a lifetime' experience at CERN, gaining a deep insight into the frontiers of research within the field of particle physics and cosmology and engaging in many hands on activities in the CERN laboratories. Highlights of the week included a treasure hunt around Geneva and the unique opportunity to partake in a guided tour of the United Nations building in Geneva. Throughout the workshop students from all countries demonstrated the ability to work collaboratively and proved the extent of their insight in the asking of pertinent questions and their consistent enthusiasm for both Science and the benefits of international collaboration.

SESAME research facility in Jordan will provide great opportunities for scientists in the surrounding region, whilst simultaneously having the potential to impact positively upon physics education in the Middle East. The provision of school visits to the SESAME facility will enrich physics programmes of study and help to inspire the next generation of scientists. SESAME also hopes to launch their own version of CERN's highly successful Beamline for Schools competition. The CERN beamline for schools competition involves schools designing experiments to carry out on one of the beamlines at CERN.

Winning schools enjoy the opportunity to travel to CERN in Switzerland (expenses paid) to undertake their experiment and attain first-hand experience of a particle physics research facility and working within such a global organisation. In the future SESAME hope to launch a similar competition where schools in the Middle East can design a research experiment to carry out on one of the beamlines at SESAME.



'Thinking Pink' at St Christopher's

Staff and students across both St Chris campuses came into school dressed in pink in support of the Think Pink Campaign yesterday.

Fundraising events at Saar included a sale of homemade baked goods, which were decorated in accordance with the theme of the day, and generously donated by members of staff. The sale of t-shirts and Think Pink merchandise was a joint effort, with parent volunteers also lending a helping hand. Aqua Cool donated special Think Pink water. And Party Mania donated very impressive displays of pink balloons which added to the fun!

The campaign also received



an excellent show of support at the St Chris Senior School in Isa Town, where an opportunity to 'Sponge the Teacher' was on offer. Think Pink T-shirts were sold and worn with pride throughout the day in support of the cause, and a variety of Pink themed activities were hosted by the students.



First year's saga of success of Bahrain Indian School (BIS) managed by Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan, was encapsulated in the school magazine BHAVANUBAV, which was released on Sunday, October 11, 2015 by Mudit Mathur, Head of NRI Services, Bank of Bahrain & Kuwait. In the photo, from left to right are Dr. Heena Rachh, Principal, Mr. Mathur and Ritu Verma, Director.