



Collège des Newsletters #50 Frères- Jerusalem February 2026

De LaSalle Kindergarten: Inspiring Excellence through Innovation and Care

De LaSalle Kindergarten is a nurturing and dynamic learning community dedicated to guiding children aged three to five through the most important years of their early development. We believe that early childhood is not only a time for growth, but also a time to inspire curiosity, confidence, and a lifelong love of learning.

Our approach blends innovation, care, and play-based learning to create a balanced educational experience that engages children intellectually, emotionally, and socially. Through sensory and hands-on activities, children explore ideas, experiment, and build knowledge in meaningful ways that spark imagination and joy. Each classroom is a lively environment where children are encouraged to think creatively, share ideas, solve problems, and work together—developing essential skills for future learning and life.

The heart of our kindergarten lies in our dedicated team of teachers—professionals who bring creativity, warmth, and expertise to every interaction. They continuously refine their teaching practices to meet the individual needs of every child, ensuring that each one feels seen, supported, and inspired. With patience and love, our educators model kindness, responsibility, and independence, creating an environment where children feel safe to take risks and learn from experience.

We place great emphasis on holistic development, nurturing growth across all domains—physical, emotional, social, and cognitive. Movement, play, and fine motor activities strengthen coordination and balance, while group projects and shared experiences teach empathy, cooperation, and respect. Emotional well-being is at the center of everything we do: children are guided to understand and express their feelings, fostering resilience and self-awareness in a secure, loving setting.

A defining feature of De LaSalle Kindergarten is the strong sense of belonging and safety that permeates our community. We strive to make every child feel cared for and valued—as if they were in their second home. This atmosphere of trust and warmth helps children build confidence, develop positive identities, and form lasting friendships.

We deeply value our partnership with families, recognizing that children thrive when parents and educators work together. Through open communication, shared goals, and collaborative activities, we create a bridge between home and school that supports continuous growth and harmony.

At De LaSalle Kindergarten, we take pride in cultivating a joyful, respectful, and stimulating environment where every child is encouraged to excel. Through innovation, compassion, and community, we prepare our young learners to step into the world as curious explorers, creative thinkers, and kind individuals—ready to shape a bright future.

Mrs. Rubina Saadeh
Kindergarten Director

Collège des Frères / Jérusalem celebrates its 150th Jubilee In Ramallah under the Patronage of the Prime Minister February 5, 2026

Ramallah – Collège des Frères/ Jerusalem held a major and distinguished celebration in Ramallah at the Millennium Hotel to mark 150 years since the founding of Frères School – Jerusalem / New Gate, under the patronage of the Prime Minister, Dr. Mohammad Mustafa. The event drew wide official, national, diplomatic, religious, and educational attendance, reflecting the school's standing and its long-established educational mission in Palestine.

The celebration was attended by H.E. Minister Amjad Barham, representing the Prime Minister; the Governor of Ramallah and Al-Bireh, Dr. Laila Ghannam; the Governor of Jericho and the Jordan Valley,

Dr. Hussein Hmaiel; and the Secretary-General

of Fatah's Central Committee, Major General Jibril Rajoub. Also present were Minister Stefan Salameh, Minister of Finance and Planning; Minister Nasser Qatami, Advisor to the Prime Minister for Arab and Islamic Funds; and a number of ambassadors and consuls accredited to the State of Palestine, including the Egyptian Ambassador Ihab Suleiman and the Jordanian Ambassador Issam Al-Budour, in addition to members of the Board of Trustees of Frères School, the Alumni Association, and the administrations of Frères schools in the Holy Land.

Representatives of academic, educational, and community institutions also participated, led by the Director of Frères School in Jerusalem, Brother Daoud Kassabry; Brother Peter Irlano from Bethlehem University; Mr. George Al-Naber. The event further welcomed a notable presence of business leaders, friends, and supporters, including Mr. Bashar Hussein, General Chairman of Al-Wataniya Insurance; Mr. Alex Hanna, General Manager of the Alex Group; Mr. Elias Tamas, General Manager of Ithar Foundation; Ms. Latifa Wakileh, Director of the Nativity Office; and Dr. Omayya Khamash, Director of Juthoor Foundation.

A large number of religious leaders attended as well, headed by Bishop William Shomali, Archbishop Atallah Hanna, Fr. Yaacoub Rfedi, Secretary-General of the Christian Educational Institutions, and Fr. Ibrahim Faltas, in addition to several former ministers, including Dr. Hani Abdeen and Mr. Fadi Al-Hadmi.

The celebration opened with the national anthem and the school anthem, followed by a program of official and welcoming speeches that underscored Frères School's pioneering role in promoting quality education, belonging, and community service. Speakers also highlighted the school's 150-year journey in graduating generations of capable leaders and professionals in Palestine and the region. The welcoming address was delivered by Mr. Daoud Kassabry, followed by remarks from the Prime Minister's representative. Additional speeches were delivered by Dr. Nakhla Beida, Dr. Osama Abdullah, Dr. Hanna Abd Al-Nour—President of Al-Quds University and an alumnus of the school—along with Mr. Alex Hanna and Mr. Bashar Hussein.

The ceremony was emceed by teacher Aida Salameh, while Ms. Silvia Amer delivered a welcoming message in English, emphasizing the deep educational and human connections the school has built throughout its history and the importance of continued investment in education as a cornerstone for building people and strengthening resilience.



During dinner, the program included elegant musical performances that added a distinctive celebratory atmosphere. Student Bashara Sedawi performed musical pieces on the qanun, accompanied by Mr. Ibrahim Khair on the oud, to warm appreciation from the audience.

This celebration reaffirms the place of Collège des Frères in Jerusalem as a longstanding educational institution and underscores its vital role in equipping Palestinian society with knowledge and learning, while strengthening partnerships with alumni, national institutions, and supporters in ways that contribute to developing education and consolidating values of excellence and social responsibility.

The evening concluded with a renewed commitment to continuing the school's educational and humanitarian mission, appreciation for the efforts of its administration, staff, and alumni association, and recognition of the excellent organization and rich program—an atmosphere that reflected pride in the school's history and optimism for continued achievement in the years ahead.





Giving Is Greater Than Receiving February 6, 2026

With hearts full of love and compassion, 7th-grade students took part in a meaningful visit to Our Lady of Sorrows Shelter, reflecting the true spirit of giving and humanity.

During the visit, the students celebrated the birthdays of the elderly residents, filling the place with joy, laughter, and heartfelt moments. Their presence brought smiles, warmth, and a sense of care to everyone there.

It was a deeply touching experience that showed how kindness, attention, and genuine care can make a powerful difference.

We are truly proud of our students for this beautiful initiative, which reflects the values we strive to nurture—because giving is not about what we have, but about the love we share.

Special thanks to their homeroom teacher, Mrs. Minerva Hodaly.

Our Social worker Ms. Diala Katanasho and Mr. Murad Mansour for making this happen.



De La Salle Jerusalem's boys' basketball team (born in 2011 and younger) qualified for the quarterfinals of the Israel Basketball Association mini-cadets championship after defeating Terra Santa Beit Hanina 33–13 and Abnaa Beit Hanina 17–1. The team then went on to play its quarterfinal match in Bethlehem, where it was eliminated from the tournament, but participating in this competition was a valuable and important experience for our players, helping them develop their skills, gain confidence, and grow as a team. We are proud of their effort and determination, and we congratulate them on their hard work and spirit.



Cultural Lecture on Tourism in Palestine and Jerusalem February 10, 2026

As part of the extracurricular and educational activities for the students of the Hospitality Department, Mr. Fadi Deeb, Coordinator of the Hospitality Department, organized a cultural lecture on tourism in Palestine, with a special focus on Jerusalem. The lecture was delivered by the tour guide George Istfan, whom we sincerely thank for his valuable contribution and kind cooperation.



Seventh Grade Students Celebrate the 150th Jubilee of Our School

In an atmosphere filled with pride and belonging, the seventh grade students welcomed Brother Visitor Habib Zeribi as part of the celebrations marking the 150th Jubilee of our school. The students creatively formed the number 150 in a distinctive display, expressing their deep pride in this historic occasion. They also spoke about the core values in the life of Saint John Baptist de La Salle and the principles upon which our school is built, reaffirming their commitment to following this rich educational and human legacy. Our students expressed their great pride in celebrating the 150th Jubilee and in being part of this distinguished school, which continues its educational mission generation after generation. We extend our sincere thanks to the class teacher, Ms. Minerva Houdaly, the music teacher, Ms. Claire Ghazawi, Mr. Jires Karbourani, and the seventh grade students for making this event a success.





A Spirited Girls' Football Match February 12, 2026

It was an exciting and energetic day with our 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th grade students. Our girls delivered a wonderful football match filled with sportsmanship, teamwork, and great harmony. We are proud of their determination, positive spirit, and honorable performance on the field.

It was more than just a match — it was a living lesson in commitment, respect, and teamwork. Each student proved that true strength is measured not only by goals, but also by willpower, confidence, and supporting one another. The match ended with a win for the 7th grade students and the 9th grade team. This event was part of our school's celebrations for the 150th Jubilee, marking years of giving, excellence, and meaningful educational values. Special thanks to our wonderful students and to teacher Tesba Al-Alami for organizing and supervising this activity.



Launch of the Italian Culinary Arts Course February 13, 2026

The Italian Culinary Arts course has officially started in the Hospitality Section at Frères High School in Jerusalem, with 18 participants, including Jerusalem mothers and school students. The 7-week specialized course is supervised and led by Chef Amir Khoury. It is supported by the French Development Agency and the Center for the Development of Civil Institutions.



School Administration Welcomes Bard College Delegation February 13, 2026

The school administration welcomed Dr. Dan from Bard College in the United States, accompanied by Dr. Intisar from Bard College in Jerusalem and the principal of the American School affiliated with Al-Quds University. The visit aimed to learn more about the school's American program and discuss plans for future cooperation.



Frères School Jerusalem Hosts the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre February 13, 2026

Frères School in Jerusalem hosted a delegation from the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre. The meeting aimed to highlight the school's educational and economic situation in light of the repercussions of the Gaza war and its social and economic impact on the school community.



Brother Habib visit's to the school February 13, 2026

The school welcomed the Regional General Superior, Brother Habib Al-Zreibi, who arrived from Lebanon, on Wednesday morning, February 11, for an official visit. The visit began with the Divine Liturgy with the elementary section, celebrated by Father Rami Asakreh.

Afterwards, a special meeting was held with the seventh-grade students, who presented a wonderful celebration marking the 150th Jubilee of the school's founding. Brother Al-Zreibi then visited the kindergarten before meeting with the students of the Christian Youth group. A rich dialogue took place about the meaning of his mission and vocation, the mission of La Salle (Frères) schools, daily challenges, and ways to grow deeper in faith.

The visit concluded with a meeting with the school supervisors.





Completion of the Artificial Intelligence Training Course February 13, 2026

We proudly concluded a 12-week Artificial Intelligence course, made possible through the valued support of the Christian Association and the training provided by the Digital Action team under the supervision of trainer Mohammad Salah, alongside a group of specialized AI trainers.

Twelve teachers took part in this enriching course. On the final day, Brother Daoud Kassabry presented certificates of participation to the attendees. In his remarks, Brother Daoud expressed sincere appreciation to the Christian Association for its ongoing support of the school. He also extended special thanks to Mr. Ibrahim Matar, President of the Association, and to all its members for their continued efforts in supporting Jerusalem and contributing to its development and vital needs.



Collège des Frères Jerusalem Welcomes Distinguished Guests February 13, 2026

Our school welcomed College Board representatives Dr. Paul Sanders and Dr. Matthew Chovanic, along with U.S. Embassy representative Mr. Jhoalmo Sibrian, during a special visit to the Holy City. The visit, held as part of the school's 150th anniversary celebrations, highlighted the strong partnership with the College Board and the shared commitment to excellence and student opportunities through the AP Program. Guests were also warmly received at a special dinner prepared and served by our Hospitality Department students and team.



Collège des Frères Jerusalem in Lasallian Dialogue in Rome February 13, 2026

Collège des Frères Jerusalem was proudly represented by Mrs. Rubina Saadeh in a renewed Lasallian dialogue in Rome, focused on identity, belonging, and the educational mission in a changing world. Her participation reflected our school's commitment to the Lasallian mission as an open and inclusive family rooted in service, partnership, and shared leadership, especially for the poor and marginalized. This experience strengthened the exchange between the Middle East and Europe and renewed our commitment to living the Lasallian mission today and in the future. We extend our sincere thanks to all who organized this enriching experience, especially Ms. Claire for her continued support, and Frère Daoud Kassabry for his trust and encouragement.



Carnival Day in Our Kindergarten February 14, 2026

Our kindergarten enjoyed a joyful day full of laughter and happiness during Carnival Day. The children had a wonderful time taking part in fun games, creative activities, and music that filled their hearts with excitement and joy. We extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to the mother of student Jomaa Sarhan for her kind initiative in providing a healthy and delicious breakfast for the kindergarten children. Her thoughtful gesture brought them happiness and gave them positive energy for a day full of fun. Together, with the support of our families, we create beautiful memories and meaningful educational experiences filled with love and joy. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this special day a success.



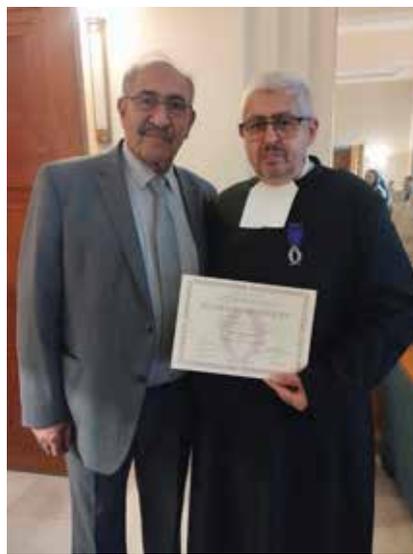
Carnival Day Celebration for First and Second Grade Students February 14, 2026

First and second grade students celebrated Carnival Day in a joyful and festive atmosphere. They enjoyed a wonderful day filled with songs, creative art activities, and fun interactive games that brought smiles, laughter, and excitement to everyone. They also enjoyed a delicious meal of mujadara, which added a warm and special touch to the celebration. It was a beautiful day full of happiness and unforgettable memories for our little ones. Special thanks to everyone who helped make this day so special.



Frère Daoud Kassabry Receives French Academic Honor February 14, 2026

Our school proudly congratulates Frère Daoud Kassabry on receiving the title of Chevalier de l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques from the French Consulate, in recognition of his dedication and outstanding educational and humanitarian service. This distinction honors not only his personal commitment, but also the noble Lasalian mission he carries with faith, integrity, and devotion in the service of others and future generations. We are proud of this well-deserved achievement and wish him continued success.



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