

November 13, 2011

Parents of Students of BCCIS.

As many of you have already heard, Mr. Jeff Pelland, our vice principal, died on Friday evening. His death was a result of being shot while touring south of Luxor. The following is the information we have and what we presented to our students today.

On Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup> Mr Jeff and a friend were in a taxi on his way to visit a temple and then catch a train in the Sohag area which is north of Luxor. The Al Samata and Al Afshraf tribes have been fighting and kidnapping each other. When the taxi cab driver was told to stop at their check stop; he did not stop and tried to drive through. Members of the Al Samata tribe shot at the taxi and Mr. Jeff was hit. He received two bullets wounds in the stomach area.

Mr. Jeff was taken to the nearest hospital and then transferred to the Luxor hospital. Doctors operated on Mr. Jeff on Wednesday night. His wounds were very serious and although everything possible was done, Mr. Jeff died on Friday evening.

Mr. Jeff's girlfriend, Mr Karim and Mr. Jeff's friend was with him. His body will be flown home as soon as possible.

The staff worked with the students throughout the day today to help them understand what happened and to help them adjust to the loss of one of their teachers.

Mr. Jeff will be greatly missed by everyone here at the school. During his short time here, he had a significant impact on all of us. His love for children, his enthusiasm, his energy and his willingness to do what needed to be done to ensure that every student could be successful was just part of what the students and teachers enjoyed and will miss. Mr. Jeff was there for everyone. He spent time with the students and loved to play games with them. His contribution to the school, the students and the staff will remain with us for a long time.

Thank you all for your kind thoughts and words to help us during this tragic time. Our grade 12 students are planning an assembly to honour Mr. Jeff for the morning of Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, before the early dismissal at 12:00 noon.

Sincerely

Collette Ellis-Toddington and the BCCIS Board and Administration