



الأكاديمية الدولية - عمان
THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY - AMMAN

Parent News

Monday, 22nd January

2018

Calendar

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| Monday | 22 | --For Grade 9 parents, Personal Projects in the MYP, Theatre, 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM --Open meeting with Primary Principal, Mr. Andrew Powell, Primary Principal's Office, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM |
| Tuesday | 23 | --Director's Open Meeting with Parents, Director's Office, 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM |
| Wednesday | 24 | |
| Thursday | 25 | --Bake Sale and Non-Uniform Sale --Extended Essay Presentation to Grade 11 Parents, Theatre, 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM --Grade 4C Assembly, Theatre, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM --NOSMUN |
| Friday | 26 | --NOSMUN |
| Saturday | 27 | --NOSMUN |
| Sunday | 28 | --Second Semester Starts |
| Monday | 29 | |

A Message from the Director

Dear IAA Community,

This is the last newsletter of the first term for the 2017-18 academic year.

While report cards will be sent by email this week for Primary and the following week for Secondary, Parent conferences will follow. I hope you take advantage of these meetings to communicate to your child's teacher your concerns, if any, and discuss ways in which you can better support your child's progress and the next steps.

Preparations are underway for our annual Dead2Red marathon, due to take place in March. I encourage you all to support both our runners and the chosen charity that the participants are running for: Al Aman Fund for the future of orphans. This non-profit organisation, founded by Her Majesty Queen Rania, offers educational opportunities for orphans in vocational or academic training after they turn 18 and leave orphanages.

Speaking of charity, it is especially important to teach our kids about giving and helping others and to reinforce charitable values through discussions and involvement in volunteer activities. They need to feel that they are part of a larger community and that they are responsible for everyone around them. By giving the value of charity a central role in the family dynamic, you can encourage your child to grow up with a healthy sense of compassion and a strong charitable spirit. This is duty in action.

This week's bake sales will support two local organisations chosen by our students: Eradeh and Al-Jannah Association for Caring & Rehabilitation. Do talk to your child about them.

Finally, I am available on Tuesday, from 8-9am, for the open meeting at my office.

Stay connected to the IAA news through our social media channels and our IAA mobile application.

Warm regards,

Hana Kanan Ed.D.

Director

Primary School News

Dear Parents,

Winter has certainly arrived, and I am thankful that we avoided the snow that had been forecasted for this past weekend.

Pre-K Activity

That didn't stop our Pre-K students though. On Thursday, they engaged in a range of artistic pursuits around a winter theme. From painting with ice cubes to printmaking with pretend snow. Photos of these great activities can be found on the school's Facebook page.

Report Cards & Parent Conferences

As we draw to the end of Semester 1, our teachers have been busy preparing detailed reports of our students' progress. These will be emailed to parents on Thursday. In order to follow-up on these reports and set goals for the remainder of the year, we have scheduled Parent-Teacher Conferences to take place

on Monday, February 19th and Tuesday, February 20th. More detailed information about these conferences will be sent out to you in the next couple of weeks.

Recruitment Fair

Later this week, I will be heading to London to attend the Council of International Schools Recruitment Fair. Experienced teaching candidates from around the world will be attending this fair and it is a great way to showcase our school. At present, we have a high retention rate amongst teachers and considerable interest from prospective staff. Unfortunately, due to my travel commitments I will not be available for parent meetings on Monday morning but Mr Walid and Ms Rene' are available should you have an urgent issue to discuss.

Award Winners This Week

I would like to recognise our award winners this week. They are:

Bronze Award Winners

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Aoun Zawaideh 5C | Natalie Hammoudeh 4D | Yousef Abdo 4D |
| Layla Agha 4M | Nour Al- Shdeafat 4D | Ghina Al khatib 2J |
| Abdel Kareem Abu Khajil 4D | Rashid Shami 4D | Shaker Al Saadi 2J |
| Bana Khoury 4D | Rene Bader 4D | Talal Rudeini 2J |
| Ahmad Al- Rabi 4D | Sadeen Rashid 4D | Leen Samhoury 2J |
| Hamza Al- Adwan 4D | Yousef Shahrouri 4D | Tala Sukkari 1I |
| Jaffar Al Hussein 4D | Wasem Al Lozi 4D | Abdusalam Jebrel 1I |
| Joud Zeidan 4D | Salma Abu Baker 4D | Norah Ghnaimat 1I |
| Masa Fraij 4D | Talal Mansour 4D | Bisher Elbarqouni 1I |
| Massa Madi 4D | Salma Morrarr 4D | |

Silver Award Winners

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|--------------------|---------------------|
| Salma Haj Ahmad 3S | Jazmine Al Jamal 2J |
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Gold Award Winners

Abdelrahman Al Ahmad 1S

I hope that you have a wonderful week.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Powell

Secondary School News

Dear Parents,

Semester 1 Summary

We are almost reaching the end of a successful first semester. We have continued to focus on interdisciplinary learning, a major element in the MYP, where students integrated knowledge and skills from two or more subjects in order to create new understandings. In Grade 7, students transferred information about tropical rainforests and deforestation to write a persuasive speech or letter. In Grade 8, students explored the role of Scientific and Technical Innovation on health and fitness development. In Grade 9, students investigated how mathematical methods can be used to understand the relationships between the variables in a scientific experiment. In Grade 10, students explored social issues related to Fairness and Development through the novella, *Of Mice and Men*. Performance in the interdisciplinary unit will be documented in the first semester report card for Grades 7 to 10.

Student-led Assembly

This Thursday, some of our G10s will be leading their own student-led assembly to the G6-9, based on the work that they have done in their current unit on Palestine in English, Arabic and Individuals and Societies-Arabic classes. This interdisciplinary assembly will reflect their learning and understanding of the critical situation in Palestine, and presentations will include memoirs, documentaries and musical performances in both Arabic and English.

NOSMUN

Many IAA students will participate in the MUN organised by the National Orthodox School this upcoming weekend. The theme of the conference is “The Post Truth Conundrum”. For many of our Grade 8 students, this will be their first MUN experience and the perfect platform for them to enhance their debating, negotiating, public-speaking and collaborative skills, as they address important global and local issues. We wish everyone the best as they prepare for their resolutions and debates.

One School...One Story...One Voice

IAA is continuing the tradition of the “One School...One Story...One Voice”. Our Grade 6 students have started to read *Wonder* as part of the ‘Drop Everything and Read’ initiative in their English classes. *Wonder* requires readers to consider sensitive issues related to growing up, family relationships and school life. Its ultimate purpose is to encourage our students to share feelings of empathy and to speak out against discrimination.

Parent Information Sessions

Lastly, we will be holding a number of information sessions in January, so mark your calendars. The sessions are as follows:

Personal Project (Information Session for Parents of G9)

Monday January 22nd, from 8am to 9am in the Auditorium

The Personal Project (PP) is a year-long project where each Grade 9 student chooses a specific goal to work on. This project gives students the opportunity to showcase their talents in unique and creative ways. Mr Donald Cleary, our PP Coordinator, will present on the expectations of the project.

Extended Essay (Presentation to Grade 11 Parents)

Thursday January 25th from 8am-9am in the MPR

All DP students are required to successfully complete the three elements that make up the core of the DP model: Theory of Knowledge, Creativity, Action & Service and the Extended Essay (EE). The EE provides students with the opportunity to engage in personal research in a topic of their own choice, under the guidance of a supervisor.

Sincerely,

Mr. Martin and Ms. Zena

Library News

Duty is our moral obligation to do what is right. The libraries' focus for January and February revolves around the IAA Pillar – Duty.

The library curriculum has two essential questions directly related to this pillar. The first is how can technology help us find answers? And the second is related – how can I contribute ethically in a 21st Century learning environment. Lessons this month, from KG to Secondary, encourage students to consider these questions. In KG, our students have learned that duty means to respect friends, family and teachers. Duty helps students become Super Heroes with “the Respect power”. We are reading *Interrupting Chicken* by Ezra Stein, a Caldecott award-winner, which teaches students to respect others by not interrupting someone who is talking or reading a story. The lesson was followed by an activity in which students imagined what an interrupting student looks like versus a respectful student.

The Primary Library will feature a collection of books about duty and responsibility.

In the Secondary Library, we take Academic Honesty very seriously. In the Fall, we offer a parent workshop on how to use research databases. In the MYP and DP programmes, students learn how to use MLA citation to create in-text citations and Works Cited for their formative and summative assessments. In addition, subject-area teachers collaborate with the library for research projects, as a reminder to students that they must make efficient and ethical use of the digital learning environment at IAA. There is a Secondary Library course on Moodle that lists tutorials on citation, Academic Honesty, and databases. Each EE student meets with Ms. Kathleen to begin their research process and learn what resources the library has in order to help them complete their Diploma Core.

The libraries have a full range of resources to support all of the IAA Pillars. Please stop by for a visit to meet our staff and see for yourself.