



الأكاديمية الدولية - عمان  
THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY - AMMAN

# Parent News

## Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> April 2019

### Calendar

Monday, April 15	-Grade 8 Parent Coffee Morning, Tiered classroom – Secondary Library, 8-9 am -Open meeting with Primary Principal, Mr. Andrew Powell, Primary Principal's Office, 8-9 am -Grade 3: Primary Science Fair, MPR, 12:45-2 pm
Tuesday, April 16	-Director's Open Meeting with parents, Director's Office, 8-9 am -Grade 4: IAA Primary Science Fair, MPR, 12:45-2 pm
Wednesday, April 17	-Grade 5: IAA Primary Science Fair, MPR, 12:45-2 pm -Secondary Music Concert, Auditorium, 4:30 pm
Thursday, April 18	-Grade 11 Trip, (Off- Campus) -Grade 9A Trip, (Off- Campus) -G1 Ms Shereen Assembly, Auditorium, 1:30-2 pm
Saturday, April 20	-IAA's Annual Fashion Show, Secondary Building, 6:30 pm
Sunday, April 21	-Palm Sunday (Holiday)
Monday, April 22	-Grade 7 Parent Coffee Morning, Tiered Classroom, 8-9 am -Open meeting with Primary Principal, Mr. Andrew Powell, Primary Principal's Office, 8-9 am -Grade 9B Trip, (Off- Campus) -Spirit Week in Primary
Tuesday, April 23	-Spirit Week in Primary -Director's Open Meeting with parents, Director's Office, 8-9 am
Wednesday, April 24	-Spirit Week in Primary
Thursday, April 25	-Spirit Week in Primary -Grade 9C Trip, (Off- Campus) -Primary Easter Assembly, Auditorium, 1-2 pm
Saturday, April 27	-Grades 9, 10 and 11 Students Trip, International
Sunday, April 28	-Grades 9, 10 and 11 Students Trip, International -Spring Break
Monday, April 29	-Spring Break -Grades 9, 10 and 11 Students Trip, International

## *A Message from the Director*

Dear IAA Community,

Yesterday, our senior class put on their gowns for the "Senior Walk" through the halls of the Primary and Secondary schools. Our younger students cheered them on, gave them high fives, and shared in the excitement of their graduation since it is never too early to start aspiring to something like graduation.

Our message this year to our ninth graduating cohort is "No Limits". Truly, the Class of 2019 is an outstanding and unique class made up of 58 special students who have so much character and will. **There are no limits to what they can do in life.**

I would like to thank our PTA for a well-organised Quiz Night last Friday. It is such events that bring our community closer. PTA has worked hard this year in bringing the best presenters and events to school. Their efforts are appreciated.

Speaking of presenters, I must say how touched I was last week as I heard the 30 year-old Noora, an orphan who has been saved by Al Aman Fund, recite her story to our Secondary students. Al-Aman Fund was established by Her Majesty Queen Rania to help older orphans who have aged out of orphan care pursue full time higher education. The Fund supports them financially, educationally and emotionally through a variety of programmes, where they can better integrate into society, and become self-reliant and productive members of their communities. Our students were sincerely grateful for what they have in life and empathised with Noora, asking what role they can play in support of orphans in our society. This event was a true representation of the school pillars of acceptance, duty and leadership.

Lots happening before the Easter break in both Primary and Secondary from Science Fairs, Wax Museum, Secondary concert to trips..just to name a few. Please refer to the calendar above for events' dates and times. We finally have an international trip to London coming up. It has surely been tough organising trips since the Dead Sea tragedy, but I believe that the system is now in place and the process at the Ministry of Education is smoother.

Finally, I will be available on Tuesday from 8-9am for the open meeting at my office for those who wish to see me.

Enjoy the long weekend and Happy Palm Sunday to all those who celebrate it!

**Hana Kanan Ed.D.**

**Director**

## **Primary School News**

Dear Parents,

### **Primary Sports Highlights**

We've had an extremely busy past couple of weeks with students involved in a host of activities and sports during and after school. This weekend for example, saw our gymnasts feature prominently at Mashrek International School where they competed against a number of other schools and clubs. Our children were amazing! And that is by no means an exaggeration. Earlier in the week, our Grade 3-5 Athletics Team competed at Amman Baccalaureate School, distinguishing themselves with their results and positive attitudes.

### **Holy Bible Competition**

Over the past two weeks, our Religion Department has also been busy with competitions. The 5<sup>th</sup> Bible Competition took place on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and featured a number of our Grade 4 & 5 students. The main purpose was to familiarise students with reading from the Holy Bible and memorising verses in order to deepen Christian concepts and apply them to their practical lives. The contest included memorising 22 verses from the Bible. Students were also asked a series of questions related to Lent and concepts related to Christianity. The judging panel was hosted by the Bible Society - Jordan which uses international standards in judging the competition. The performance of the students in this competition was outstanding and all of the participants were given certificates of appreciation and awards.

### **Holy Quran Competition**

The 7<sup>th</sup> Holy Quran competition was held on April 10<sup>th</sup> with 59 participants from G1 – G5. All of our Muslim students were encouraged to participate in the competition and students were divided into seven levels according to their memorisation skills. Students were encouraged to reflect upon the suras they had memorised and make links to their daily lives and values featured in the Holy Quran. The performance of the Primary students during the competition was incredible and the way in which they recited their suras was especially moving. A number of children were even competitive against their Secondary peers. Our judges, Ms Hebah Hatahet (licensed from the Muslim World League and the Ministry of Awqaf) and Mr Yaser Tadmuri (lecturer at the Ministry of Awqaf) were especially impressed by the organisation, performance and commitment of our students and their families.

### **G1 & G3 Assemblies**

Congratulations to Grade 1 Madeline and Grade 3 Sheena who have hosted our recent assemblies. Ms Madeline's class provided us with an amazing rendition of the *The Gruffalo* while Ms Sheena's class unpacked learning that has taken place through our Second Step character education programme. Their maturity, stage presence and excellent advice was outstanding.

### **Science Fair**

Our Science Fairs will take place this week as featured below.

Monday, April 15 <sup>th</sup>	Grade 3 Science Fair	MPR	12:45 – 2:00pm
Tuesday, April 16 <sup>th</sup>	Grade 4 Science Fair	MPR	12:45 – 2:00pm
Wednesday, April 17 <sup>th</sup>	Grade 5 Science Fair	MPR	12:45 – 2:00pm

## **Award Winners**

I would like to recognise the following award winners:

### Bronze Award Winners

Leen Quweider 3C	Ayla Haddad 2C	Tahseen Shurdom 2C
Suleiman Al Ghezawi 3C		

### Silver Award Winners

Mohammad Dajani 5D	Yasmine Alassaf 3C	Elita Saeed 1A
Khairy Al Saudi 4B	Aysha Salous 3C	Julia Madanat 1A
Hazem Matouk 4B	Nour Kilani 3D	Tatiana Faydi 1C
Jude Malkawi 4B	Ahmad Salem 2C	Salma Fraij 1C
Mahdi Al Sarraf 4B	Laith Al Ma'ayta 2C	Naya Imseeh 1C
Yasmine Abu Omar 4B	Alya Al Kayyali 1A	Joy Haddadin 1C
Fathi Salem 4D	Abdulla Al Khawaja 1A	Rashed Abu Haltam 1D

### Gold Award Winners

Tia Shehu 5A	Adam Abu Lughod 4B	Basma Al Hashem 2C
Israa Al- Abdullah 5A	Ayla Haddadin 3D	Yaseen Kilani 2C
Atef Al Kayyali 4B	Sasha Abu Sawwa 3D	

### Gold with Merit Award Winners

Joud Zeidan 5A	Mariel Imseeh 4B	Nasser Abu- Ragheb 4D
Hani Samman 5A	Adam Abu Lughod 4B	Abdallah Fraij 3D
Said Hijawy 5A	Atef Al Kayyali 4B	Karam Hamdan 3D
Marwan Al Kayed 5A	Ja'afar Bashir 4B	

### Gold with Excellence Winner

Abdelrahman Al Ahmad 2C

I hope that you have a wonderful week.

**Yours sincerely,**

**Andrew Powell**

## **Secondary School News**

Dear Parents,

There is an awful lot of information in this week's offering. Towards the end are the details of upcoming events in the next two weeks. Please do look through them carefully.

### **Hawks flying high!**

It was a great weekend for the Hawks. Our gymnasts competed in an inter-schools tournament at Mashrek and showed off their skills on the floor. All those long hours of practice paid off as they attacked the runway and ran through some impressive routines. Our athletes were in action at the international OASIS competition hosted by ABS with the under 16 Boys and Girls winning the overall competition and the under 18 Boys and Girls both coming 3<sup>rd</sup>. Whether on the track or in the field, our young athletes competed hard and came away with a wonderful haul of medals. Well done to all who competed for the Hawks this weekend. Our Under 15 Volleyball team is at action at competition hosted by Dunes this week. We wish them all the best.

### **PTA Quiz – thank you!**

Thank you to the PTA for hosting such an entertaining quiz night. The array of prizes was quite remarkable and the teaching staff benefited from the raffle! We also did not let ourselves down when it came to Rubik's cube and skipping skills either! We hope everyone who went had a good time. It was a lovely evening and must have taken a lot of time and effort from the PTA committee, thank you very much.

### **Lent Celebration and Ramadan/Easter Assembly**

Last week, we held a day in the cafeteria when only Lent food was available. It was a great change with some lovely food on offer. In the run up to this, our Christian students had visited the Islamic classes to explain the significance of the fast in Lent. Later this week, we will be holding a joint Easter and Ramadan assembly. It won't be long before the community is involved in celebrating Ramadan at IAA. We have plans for a number of Iftars to share with the community and other events. Details of which will be shared with you shortly.

### **University Placements**

As ever, it has been a great year for university acceptances. Students have been successful in all areas of the globe. We have Ivy league acceptances as well as many from the top tier US universities and many with excellent scholarship provision. Canada continues to demand our students, and McGill and Toronto have again made multiple offers. In the UK, we have medical schools and some of the best of names making good offers, along with medical schools in Ireland. Closer to home, American universities in the Gulf have been exceedingly generous with offers and scholarship packages. Well done Grade 12!

### **Well done Robotics Team**

After a lot of hard work, last weekend our Robotics team competed in the regional round in Amman. Over 70 schools from all over the Gulf were there. Our team was by far the youngest and newest and they did really well, placing in the top 20. Next year they all want to return and improve upon this. For a brand new team to be nominated for two awards (for teamwork skills and for professional approach) just shows the depth of potential in these students. Well done. We look forward to seeing you in action again next year.

### **G10 Interdisciplinary E-assessment**

To what extent should there be limits to freedom of expression on the internet? "Nudging" people towards changing behaviour: what works and why (not)? What does civic engagement look like in today's world? Why all the hype about crowdfunding? These are just a few of the questions that the G10s have been unpacking as

they prepare for their upcoming interdisciplinary e-assessment, where they have to make connections between Individuals and Societies and Mathematics, with a focus on civics right and responsibilities. The IB has recently published the “interdisciplinary pre-release material”. It contains background information that students need to explore. We encourage our parents to look at the source material to give them an understanding of the topics that the Grade 10 students are inquiring about in connection to Fairness and Development.

### **Parent Coffee Mornings**

There are two coming up this week and next:

**Grade 8 Parents:** Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April, 8.00 to 9.00 in the tiered classroom, Library

**Grade 7 Parents:** Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 8.00 to 9.00 in the tiered classroom, Library

This week we have a busy schedule with numerous events:

### **Music Concert**

This is taking place on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> from 4.30 to 6.00 pm and involves students from numerous grades performing a wide repertoire of musical pieces. Tickets are available from finance and we hope you will come to support our budding musicians.

### **Fashion Show**

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> sees the Fashion Show return to IAA. The theme this year has a distinctive Japanese feel to it and the organising committee has been working hard to prepare a memorable evening. Tickets are available and proceeds will, as ever, go to support charity.

### **Grade 9 IDU Trips**

These trips to the Azmi Al Mufti Camp start this week. Judging from what previous grades have told us, the value of learning in the field can't be underestimated. We hope that the Grade 9 classes also find discovering the migration narratives of their subjects as moving and profound as their peers before them.

### **Progress Reports**

These will be sent out on Thursday for Grades 6/7/8/9 and 11. The purpose is to give an indication of progress at this point in the year. The comments of the teachers and reference to the Approaches to Learning skills are important indicators for where students can focus in order to find potential improvement as we move towards the end of year final assessments.

### **Grade 12 Final Reports and Final Exam Set Up**

Final Reports for Grade 12 will be sent out on 25<sup>th</sup> April. This is also the day that Mr Antony has the mandatory exam set up session with all Grade 12 in the MPR. This will start at 1.40. It is imperative that all students attend, especially given that the finals start during our Spring Break. This is the last moment for any last pieces of information to be passed on.

### **Spirit Week and Colour Run**

The final 4 days before the Spring Break will be the second IAA Spirit Week. The SRC have already announced to the students the 'dress-up' theme for each day. Also, please note that on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April we will be holding the Colour Run. This will take place during periods 7 and 8. This is also when the bake sale will take place. Admittance to the Colour Run and Bake Sale is 5JD. Students who do not wish to participate will have lessons as normal.

### **MYP Day – 23<sup>rd</sup> April**

On Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> we will hold our annual MYP day. More details will be sent out soon but each grade will be celebrating their achievements in the MYP this year. As usual there will be a focus on the Community Project

for Grade 8 and we are really looking forward to our presentations. It is a credit to that particular grade that choosing the 'best' projects to present on the day has proven to be the most difficult task yet as there are many great quality projects that our students have worked so hard on. Well done all!

#### **Holidays – for some, Grade 12 Finals, F1 competition and SAT**

This is the final newsletter before the Spring Break. For some it is a chance to relax, for others it is still a busy time. As mentioned earlier, Grade 12 are in for their final exams and we also have an important SAT exam taking place. We already have a lot of students in Grade 11 with excellent SAT scores and many are going to try and improve upon them whilst others are taking them to hit their targets. We also have the Formula 1 competition taking place in the holidays. This year we have three teams (from Grades 11 and 10) competing. Good luck to all!

Sincerely,

**Mr Martin and Ms Zena**

### **SPORTS NEWS**

#### **GSD Students Visit IAA**

A group of Spanish student swimmers from GSD visited Jordan this month and were hosted by IAA. The entire IAA community of parents, staff and students made their stay a very unique and remarkable one through the care and hospitality provided. The cultural exchange was marvelous and students enjoyed the Jordanian culture and traditions. The students took part in the recent Amman Swimming League competition, held at ACS.

#### **Congratulations IAA Hawks Gymnasts**

IAA students participated in the Friendly Gymnastics Meet at Mashrek International School this weekend. Their performance was truly mesmerizing, ending with many wins. I would like to thank coaches for their hard work and the parents for their support.

#### **And Congratulations IAA Track & Field Athletes!**

IAA student athletes also took part in the Oasis Tournament at ABS this week. Many medals were won and our team ranked first in the U16 Boys and U16 Girls and third place in the U18. Bravo!

Regards,

**Samer Taha**  
**Athletics Director**