



الأكاديمية الدولية - عمان
THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY - AMMAN

Parent News

Monday, 22nd April 2024

Calendar

APRIL - MAY 24

28 SUN	Palm Sunday
2 THU	Labour Day Holiday
5 SUN - 7 TUE	Easter Break Sunday, 05 May 2024 to Tuesday, 07 May 2024

A Message from The Director

Dear IAA Community,

I extend a warm welcome back to everyone from the Eid break! It brings me immense joy to see our students return to classes smoothly last week, re-energized, and ready to embark on another phase of our academic journey together.

Last week marked a significant milestone for us as we hosted our first-ever tech fair in collaboration with Al-Hussein Technical University (HTU). Witnessing our students' boundless creativity and technical prowess showcased through various digital design projects was truly inspiring. I am thrilled to announce that we are looking forward to making this fair an annual tradition, fostering innovation and technological advancement within our school community.

I take great pride in congratulating our students who participated in the 3rd Artificial Intelligence Olympiad, organized by the Steam Centre and the Arab Robotics Association. Amidst fierce competition from 60 schools and universities across the Arab world, our students showcased exceptional skills in mathematics, algorithms, and cutting-edge projects in cybersecurity and computer vision. This achievement reflects our commitment to Steam learning and technology and underscores how our efforts in these areas are flourishing.

In the realm of cultural exchange and global citizenship, I am delighted to welcome back our students from their enriching trips to Spain and France. The collaboration with GSD School for the Spain trip and Saint-Denis School for the France trip allowed our students to immerse themselves in different cultures while proudly representing our beautiful Jordanian heritage. With these trips, we conclude our international trips program for the current academic year, offering our students remarkable opportunities for learning beyond the classroom and overseas exploration. From KSA, UAE, Qatar, Turkey, France to Spain, our students know no borders, and we are grateful to provide them with such enriching experiences.

On the occasion of Labor Day, I extend heartfelt wishes to the hardworking individuals of our community. Your dedication and commitment are the driving forces behind our collective success, and your efforts make us stand proud and tall amongst other schools. Thank you for your unwavering dedication and tireless contributions.

Lastly, as our 14th cohort prepares to embark on their IB Final exams starting this week, I want to wish them the very best. Your diligence, resilience, and perseverance have brought you to this moment, and I have no doubt that you will shine brightly in your endeavors.

Together, let us continue to inspire, learn, and grow as we navigate the exciting journey ahead.

With warm regards,

Hana Kanan, Ed. D.

Director

Primary School News

Warm Welcome

It is with pleasure that I welcome everyone to this round of the newsletter. After a week since coming back from the Eid break and another one to go for Easter, I wish our community peace and prosperity. I also hope that we all had some downtime with family and friends and trust that our students are revitalized for the final stretch of the academic year.

Attendance & Punctuality

As holidays are approaching rapidly and sporadically, resulting in disjointed school weeks, it is important to maintain good attendance and arrive at school on time. This will definitely support our students' focus during lessons as well as sustain their motivation, involvement, and enthusiasm over the next few weeks.

ISA Assessment

Grades 3, 4, and 5 will be sitting for the 'International Schools' Assessments on Wednesday, May 15th, and Thursday, May 16th. ISA tests are used to monitor students' progress in reading, writing, and mathematics to ensure that their internal assessments are aligned with global standards. It is essential that students' attendance and punctuality are 100% for these two days of the assessments and that your child has a good breakfast and enough sleep.

Bake Sale & Non-Uniform Day

A gentle reminder that we will be having our monthly Bake Sale and Non-Uniform Day this Thursday, April 25th. As always, we are very grateful to our school community for the support and participation. IAA will use the money generated from the event for a charity that the primary student council elected to support.

Hot Weather Alert!

Finally, as the temperature is still soaring, I would like to remind you of the importance of sending your child to school with a sunhat and applying sunscreen with ample UV protection factor (SPF 40+). It is also important to remind your children to drink plenty of water during the school day, especially at break times. If you have any questions about any health-related matters, our primary nurses are always happy to provide guidance and assistance.

Wishing you a wonderful couple of weeks ahead.

Walid Albay
Primary School Principal

Secondary School News

Dear Parents and Guardians

Every week and weekend at IAA remain bustling with activity. There are many great initiatives underway – guest speaker presentations, trips, assemblies, fairs and competitions....and then there is the continuous teaching and learning occurring inside and outside the classroom. There is never a dull moment but only opportunities to acquire new skills and knowledge.

Progress Reports

The progress reports for grades 6 to 11 have been issued and can be viewed on Toddle. We encourage our students and parents to pay particular attention to the narratives and the Attitude Towards Learning. These areas pinpoint opportunities for improvement and provide targets for our students to concentrate on during the remaining months of this academic year.

Tech Fair

Last week, IAA had its first Secondary Tech Fair, themed “Tech for Tomorrow's Cities: Building Sustainable and Smart Communities”. The event was a success. Students showcased a diverse range of original Digital Design products, which included website design, game design, app design, animation, Python programming and Arduino smart solutions. Every product served a purpose, addressing real-life problems related to environmental, health and/or social issues. We were impressed by their ability to articulate their thoughts and ideas, showing us their passion for their creations and for what they have learned.

Arab Artificial Intelligence Olympiad (AIO)

Just this past weekend, a group of our students participated in the AIO organized by the Arab Association of Robotics and Artificial Intelligence. Over 60 schools and universities across Jordan, Egypt, Qatar, Tunisia, Libya, Yemen, and Lebanon were represented. Categories included Coding, Math and Algorithm, Cybersecurity, Embedded systems and Computer Vision. The outcome was excellent as our students placed high across all categories. Congratulations to all participants – your achievements have brought great pride to IAA.

Spain Trip

Recently our students from Grades 7 to 9 came back from Madrid. This trip was designed to immerse our students in the Spanish language and culture, allowing them to interact with the local community and practice speaking Spanish firsthand. Our students also participated in dancing and cooking classes, where they learned how to prepare paella and tortilla and introducing them to the art of the Spanish Sevillanas dance. They also explored the enchanting historical city of Toledo and beautiful landmarks in Madrid.

France Arts Trip

For the second consecutive year a group of students from Grades 8 to 11 went to the St Denis International School in the historic and beautiful town of Loches in the Loire. Our students were wonderful ambassadors for Jordan as they introduced participants to our rich musical and artistic heritage. Friendships were forged with students from Mexico, Spain, USA, France, Egypt and Turkey and lifelong memories made. The week was completed with a flying visit to some of the sites of Paris.

COMMx

Over an extended period, our Grade 8 students worked on their Community Projects, striving to fulfill their goals of serving their community. Just prior to the break, students presented on their achievements, leaving no doubt that they had made significant contributions to their community. On April 22nd, some of our Grade 8's will present their CP journey to our Grades 6 to 8. We congratulate all our Grade 8s as they have worked to exemplify the idea that to lead is to serve.

Careers Afternoon

On Tuesday April 23rd, a careers event will be held for our Grades 10 and 11. Featuring eight interactive sessions, each led by professionals from various fields, students will have the change to explore their areas of interest. We are also thrilled to host the founder of the popular local brand Gym Kuma, as a guest speaker, sharing insights into his career journey and rapid success.

Gate Policy

A reminder that students are expected to be on campus by 8.15 a.m. Arrivals after 8.20 a.m. will be considered late. Students will only be allowed up to two late entrances per semester. On the third late, students will not be able to access the campus. School gates will be closed at 8.30 a.m., and students arriving after that time will be

sent home. This policy will be strictly adhered to until the last day of the school year. Given the morning traffic, please ensure that your children leave home a bit earlier to arrive at school on time.

Quran Competition

We would like to congratulate all of the Grades 6 to 11 students participating in the Quran competition. Over 35 students will be participating. It will take place on Wednesday April 24th in the Theatre, and it will run from 8.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.. Parents are welcome to attend.

Jordan Young Scientist Competition

Over the last weekend the competition went through the first round as the judges decided on which entries would progress in the Competition. Of the 300 plus entries 120 were advanced. IAA entered 8 projects and we are very pleased to announce that all 8 projects were successful and remain in the competition. We will keep you updated with their progress. Well done to all students involved in this wonderful initiative.

Eco-Schools Green Flag Authorisation

This week we are hosting a visit from the Eco-Schools organization as they come to assess our readiness for their Green Flag recognition. We look forward to celebrating our successes around the campus in moving us towards our three goals of increasing biodiversity, encouraging healthy lifestyles and reducing waste. We'll keep you informed of our progress with this initiative!

Grade 9 Personal Project Pitches

Our Grade 9s have started their Personal Project journey. They are in the process of pitching their Learning Goal and Product to a panel of teachers, who will offer feedback and suggestions for their next steps. We highly encourage our Grade 9 parents to engage in conversations with their children about this project, and the strategies they intend to employ to accomplish their goals.

IB Exams – DP and MYP

Our Grade 12s are preparing for their external exams, which will start on Wednesday April 24th. We are optimistic that their hard work will yield positive results. Also our Grade 10 students will also be starting their eAssessments on the 7th of May. We extend our best wishes to all of our students for their upcoming assessments.

Upcoming events

- **Civvies Day and SRC Bake Sale** – Our Bake Sale will be run jointly by the Student Representative Council (for Gaza) and a number of Grade 7 initiatives who are raising money for their Service As Action projects which are designed to benefit disadvantaged communities in Jordan.
- **Grade 10 sleep-over** - Thursday April 25th to Friday April 26th
- **Grade 6 Jordan Trail, Rasoun** – Saturday April 27th
- **Sports Day for G6-11** – Wednesday May 1st

Upcoming Holidays

And let's not forget the upcoming school holidays next week and beyond: Sunday April 28th and Thursday 2nd May through to Tuesday 7th May inclusive are days to enjoy with family and friends and recharge our batteries. The end of the academic year may not feel that far away, but we have much to do and every day in school counts!

Yours sincerely

Mr Martin and Ms Zena

Library News

Dear parents,

I hope you all had a restful holiday and are enjoying the spring vibes.

We are now preparing for a great Summer Reading Challenge for our students. More information about signing up will go out on Toddle in the coming few weeks and in the next newsletter. Please be aware of the KG and Primary library's end of the year timings below. Secondary students should return their library books by May 30, but the library will remain open for classes till the end of the year.

Returning students and parents can check out books over the summer along with Summer Reading participating students. Summer checkouts will be from June 2nd onwards.

KG & Primary

Thursday, May 16: Last day for students to check out books from the Library

Thursday, May 23: Last Day of Library Lessons- emails will be sent home to return overdue books and missing materials

Sunday, May 26: KG and Primary Library closed for inventory but open for book returns

Thursday, May 30: Last Day for students to return books before we send invoices

Tuesday, June 4: Invoices will be sent for unreturned/lost books and lists shared with Finance. As per IAA Policy, students with unreturned books and unpaid balances will not receive their report cards.

On a different note, scientists Jim and Jamie Dutcher shared to Grade 10 and 11 students their story of living for six years in a tented camp on the edge of the Idaho wilderness studying and filming a pack of wolves. They shared their observations of the complex nature of wolves oriented toward family life, antic play, their adaptation to the environment, stories of loss and change within the pack and their strong social bonds.

Now all IAA students and families can share in the stories of the Sawtooth Pack: the protective compassion of its fearless leader, Kamots; the shy Lakota who was often bullied, the role of the mother in nurturing her young ones, the cruel of loss the mother wolf and Kamot's lifetime partner in a hunter's leg trap. The Dutchers have donated to the IAA community some of their publications including National Geographic publications, their story, a picture book for younger readers and a video of their time at Wolf Camp.

These resources are available from the IAA Secondary Library. Please enjoy.

Warm regards,

Dima Shaka'a and Trisha Power

Career and College Counseling News

Eid Mubarak and Happy Easter to the IAA Community!

Over the last couple of weeks, we've been busy celebrating the wonderful set of acceptances the Class of 2024 was able to achieve. Aside from getting into some of the world's top schools like Oxford, Upenn, Stanford and Imperial, we are pleased to have had all of our students achieve the schools of their dreams based on where they see themselves best suited. The Class of 2024, you've done well. And deservedly so. We wish you all the best and hope you will be back to visit us the next time you're in Jordan to fill us in on all the excitement of college life.

The coming week is a busy one. With the obvious start of the External (we wish all the best), we also have our annual Career Day on Tuesday 23rd for our G11 &10. This fun yet educational day is pack filled with opportunities. We have prepared a representative from all employment fields we know are students are keen to explore. This includes:

1. Medicine (Dr. Dina Yaghmour)
2. Economics & Finance (Etihad Bank)
3. Business & Entrepreneurship (Mode Marketing & PR)
4. Architecture & Engineering (Farah Architects)
5. Design (Visual Design House)
6. Law & International Relations (Beirut Attorneys & Counselors at Law)
7. Psychology (Abdali Hospital)
8. Computer Science & Technology (Numa)

We have also invited a Hassan Abdel Hadi, an entrepreneur and founder of Gym Kuma as our guest speaker, who will speak about his journey and likely inspire our young audience into chasing their dreams and establishing their start-ups, just like he did.

I would like to finally remind our students that May 4th is a SAT day at IAA. I highly recommend our G11 students, who many have already done so, to register for their SATs by end of this month. June SAT is the last opportunity to complete that part of the requirement before the start of the next academic year.

Sincerely,

Aya Abdel Hadi

Sports News

Greeting everyone,

The past days and those yet to come have witnessed and will continue to witness numerous sporting activities, among which the most significant are:

Inter-Conference Track and Field Tournament.

AAC organization, in cooperation with several international schools from Kuwait and Lebanon, launched the Inter-Conference Track and Field Championship for the U-16 and U-18 boys' and girls' categories at ABS. The event garnered significant participation, with over one hundred athletes competing. It witnessed intense competition, with our hawks showcasing an advanced level of skill and physical abilities securing numerous medals across different categories.

All thanks and appreciation go to the Hawks team, as well as to Hussein Al-Faddi and Ahmad Keswani, the wonderful coaches who supervised the team's training throughout this year.



Kings Academy swimming competition.

Our participation in this tournament on April 24th, 2024 stems from our profound belief in the significance of offering our swimmers, particularly those who have recently joined our teams, the appropriate competitive experience. This encourages them to exert more effort in developing their abilities. Additionally, we must not overlook our distinguished swimmers who consistently answer the

school's call for any sports swimming competition, showcasing their excellence to enhance the school's reputation across all events.

Gaza Football & Basketball Tournament for Jordanian Private Schools

A consortium of private schools, including ours, is eager to organize a boys' football and girls' basketball tournament on May 12th, 2024 for students in grade 10 and under. This initiative is a gesture of solidarity and support for the people of Gaza. Our involvement in this championship reflects our sincere wish to stand by our Palestinian brothers and sisters in Gaza, hoping to alleviate their suffering caused by aggression and a suffocating blockade.

AAC Gymnastics Tournament

Prepare to be amazed by the incredible performances of our Hawks Gymnastics team as they prepare to take advantage of new competitive chances! They're excited to display their skills at the event organized by AAC with cooperation of Montessori school on May 19th, 2024. Let's send our sincere wishes for their success.

For further details, please click on the link below

[Sound of the hawks. \(NL\).pdf - Google Drive](#)

Thank you.

Dr. Eyad Makanai

Athletics Director and Head of PE Department