



الأكاديمية الدولية - عمان  
THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY - AMMAN

# Parent News

## Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### Calendar

| <b>DECEMBER 2022 - JANUARY 2023</b> |                      |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>21 WED -<br/>5 THU</b>           | <b>Winter Break</b>  |
| <b>25 SUN</b>                       | <b>Christmas Day</b> |



### A Message from The Director

Dear IAA Community,

As we are approaching our winter break, and in the spirit of this holiday season, I would like to extend my thanks and heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for turning yet another year into an inspirational learning experience for all of our students! I could not possibly be more proud of the growth and progress you have relentlessly demonstrated during these past few months, enabling our children to have such a prosperous academic semester thus far. I would also like to specifically thank our PTA for their gracious contributions in decorating our campus for Christmas; it is already radiating with vibrant colors that enchantingly reflect this magnificent festive season.

As you are aware, our students in grade 10 are getting ready for their MYP Personal Projects Exhibition which will be held tomorrow, December 13<sup>th</sup> between 9 am and 1 pm in the MPR and Theatre Foyer! I am certain the Class of '25 will meet up all expectations and deliver outstanding projects that perfectly reflect a fruitful educational journey as they conclude their last year in the Middle Years Programme.

Being a product of IAA means that our primary focus is shed on all grades and all age groups as they celebrate all minor and major milestones! As such, I cannot but simply command our Primary Choir who joyously spread some festive cheer over the weekend during their participation in Al Hussein Society's Christmas Bazaar! Our little stars captured the attendees' hearts with their angelic voices, fruity spirits, and festive performances!

Moving on to yet another reason to add to our overall excitement, our upcoming first international trip of the year! A group of students from Secondary school will soon be leaving for London as part of IAA's vibrant and rich trips programme! "The London creative Arts Enrichment Trip" aims to enrich the students' understanding of theatre, culture, and the arts in general. This lifetime experience will be based around the London Metropolitan area, as London is world-renowned for the quality of its theatrical productions. At IAA, we believe that travel within a scholastic context has a profound impact on students; cross-cultural exposure encourages our youth to assume their role as global citizens of a complex yet interconnected worldwide community. Wishing our students and their chaperons safe travels as they indulge in such a marvelous experience while making life-long memories.

It is my fervent wish that each of you receives and returns the seasonal bounty of blessings and good tidings that make these days truly special. Wishing those celebrating a Merry Christmas and a safe and joyous holiday season! I look forward to welcoming you all back in the New Year. Happy Holidays!

Warmest Regards,

Hana Kanan, Ed. D.  
Director

## **Primary School News**

### **Festive Wishes**

It has been a productive couple of weeks leading up to the Winter Break. With the usual celebrations associated with this time of year, we look forward to seeing our children get excited about the winter festival. This is a season of giving and I have encouraged our students to think about how they can give by being kind to others. The staff in Primary School would like to wish everyone in our community a happy and peaceful season.

For the remaining ten days leading up to the holiday, it will be the usual focused teaching and learning environment in and out of classrooms. I would like to thank you for the support you have provided our staff and students since the beginning of the term. The maturity which our students are exhibiting is well noted and it is pleasing to see that almost all of them are doing their best to commit to a high level of engagement and learning.

### **Recap on Primary Events**

Last week we had an array of activities in primary school which reflected the high- quality teaching and learning that takes place in the classroom. Our students were eager to show their skills in a variety of academic activities. These events included:

The Hour of Coding which took place on Wednesday and Thursday of last week. We were fortunate to witness the event that included Grades 1 -5. The event coincided the International Day Coding and parents joined us and were impressed with the level of their children while they navigated the various levels to achieve their coding certificate.

Junior Engineers is another event in which students had the opportunity to show case their learning. It was pleasing to see so many parents attending and celebrating with our G4 students' scientific knowledge and skills. Truly, the designs were original and the presentations were fitting of such talent.

Similarly, parents are still raving about the "Pushing & Pulling" event for KG2 which took place on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. The day started with mini games on the field and then parents went to classrooms to look at the designs of our young talented students.

Primary Choir girls were the stars of the show on Friday when they sang during the Christmas bazar at the Dunes Club. The event was organised by King Hussein Foundation and the audience was from the embassies and expatriate community in Amman, they were certainly impressed by the talent of our girls who sang beautifully and professionally.

### **Winter Campaign**

I really appreciate your support and the incredible amount of food donations received so far. However, with only three days to go before the December 15<sup>th</sup> deadline, we still require more items in order to meet our target of 100 food parcels. Therefore, any donations, big or small, would be highly appreciated. Students can either leave the items in the Primary Reception or the Cafeteria. Should you wish to provide larger numbers of the particular item then this will be very much welcomed; nothing will be going to waste!

### **Teacher Appreciation**

While we all recognise that our teachers deserve special recognition for the incredible job, I would like to gently remind you that gifts to teachers are more appreciated when they are a simple yet sentimental. In addition, getting your children involved in making or choosing the present makes it more valuable and personal. Please be reminded that any gift should not exceed the amount of 30 JDs. Thank you so much for your understanding and cooperation.

To all the families in our community, have a wonderful and well- earned holiday. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Walid AL Bay

Principal – Primary School

## Secondary School News

Dear Parents

I hope this newsletter finds you well. So much has been happening in the past few weeks and the remaining period before the winter break shows no let up in intensity. We have had our own musical concerts, some excellent results on the sports front, students out watching plays at other schools, guest speakers coming in and our Student Council are busy preparing to celebrate the festive season with some initiatives in school. We would also like to thank the PTA for all their hard work in transforming the campus and for organising the Winter Fair later this week.

### **Winter Campaign – Deadline for bringing food to school is Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December.**

We have had a great start to the winter campaign and a lot of contributions have come to school. However, we have tried to organize the food drive in a way that if everyone contributes a little, then our impact will be huge. If your child has not brought in the items we asked for each Class to donate, please do help as our combined effort will bring much needed relief to needy families. We will pack up the goods over the coming weekend and distribute them before the 20<sup>th</sup> December.

### **Personal Project Exhibition – Tuesday 9 am to 1.00 pm**

For quite some time, our Grade 10 students have been working to complete their Personal Project. In this long-term culminating project, our students came up with learning and product goals based on personal interests and are encouraged to apply and strengthen their approaches to learning skills to achieve them. To celebrate their accomplishments, they will be presenting their work to the IAA Community on 13<sup>th</sup> of December from 9am to 1pm in the MPR. You are invited to this exhibition to learn about their experiences and see the exciting outcomes of their year long journey. They are proud of their achievements and are excited to share their stories.

### **Civvies Day and Bake Sale - Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

Our last civvies day and bake sale of 2022 will take place on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December. The money collected from the civvies day will go to Himmethna, a charity that is working to bring equity and dignity to health care provision in Jordan. Grade 11 are organising the bake sale and they will donate the money raised to APN, an organisation that plants endemic fruit trees in communities in Jordan to help sustain the environment, rural livelihoods and food security.

### **Assemblies, Trips and Happy Holidays**

I am sure our students heading to London for the Theatre Arts trip are super excited, we wish them a wonderful time. We are looking forward to our celebratory assemblies for Grades 6 to 8 over the coming weeks and to our final Winter assembly on the 20<sup>th</sup> December, at which we will wish all our students the very best for a wonderful winter break. The same best wishes we send to you.

Yours sincerely

Mr Martin and Ms Zena

### **Library News**

What a wonderful and exciting few months it has been in the libraries and I can't believe it's almost the end of 2022! Buddy reading between primary and secondary students was great for both our older and our younger students. You can see the excitement on the kids' faces when they see our 11th graders! We will continue this again next semester.

Our winter break is approaching and I'd like to encourage you to keep your reading routine going throughout the holiday. Our annual book orders have arrived and all our libraries are thrilled to share and show you all the wonderful new books we have added to our collections. Pass by any of our libraries to check out our new arrivals and cozy up this holiday with a great read. Here are a few excerpts of some new books:

**KG:** *'How to Code a Sandcastle'* by Josh Funk. This book is an introduction to coding basics and will engage, entertain, and educate our readers - a super read to support our children in becoming digitally literate from a young age.

**Primary:** *Building Zaha: The Story of Architect Zaha Hadid* by Victoria Tentler-Krylova - a nonfiction picture book biography about the Iraqi British architect that dreamed big and achieved so much in a world of critics. A story of persistence and success to inspire our students to have limitless ambitions.

**Secondary:** The highly acclaimed *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee, now also a series released this year. Set in 1930s Korea, it follows two families, one wealthy and powerful, and one impoverished from coastal Korea to Japan, the land of hope and prosperity, but for many poverty and prejudice. This fine novel fits well with our upcoming Book Week theme of One World, Many Stories.

We will be having our first Family Reading Night this Wednesday in the Primary Library for students from PreK to Grade 2. Students will come in their pajamas and you can spend some quality reading time with your child and enjoy some coffee and cookies!

We'd like to take this opportunity to extend our best wishes for a joyous holiday season and a happy new year!

The IAA Libraries Team

## *Sports News*

Another wonderful achievement by our IAA Hawks boys and girls after participating in the AAC U18 football competition and the U14 Volleyball competition.

Our U18 boys played in a closely contested tournament at IAA and managed to go home with the trophy. Amazing spirit was displayed throughout and our U18 boys never lost hope.

Our U14 girls volleyball team on the other hand managed to perform in a very challenging tournament and also follow suit with the boys and bring home another trophy to our trophy cabinet.

It was wonderful to see our students athletes in action, showing the Hawks spirit and sportsmanship in the event, and the thank you goes, as always, to our staff, coaches, parents and student athletes.

Our amazing Joana managed to win first place all around in the little stars winter wonderland artistic gymnastics competition.

Our very own IAA student, Joana, represented Jordan in the competition and deservedly won first place all around by winning first place in floor and beam, as well as second place in vault and bars.

Keep up the good work Joana, we wish you the best in your future endeavors.

Nizar participated in 3rd Winter open swimming championship. He swam 3 races, 50m free, 50m fly, 100m IM, and took 3 gold medals.

Saeed Warrad (Grade 4) got a gold medal in the competition of the Jiu-Jitsu Championship hosted by the Jordanian Jiu-Jitsu Federation with the participation of about 215 male and female players of all age groups.