



الأكاديمية الدولية - عمان  
THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY - AMMAN

# Parent News

## Monday, 17th December

### 2018

### Calendar

Monday, December 17	-Open meeting with Primary Principal, Mr. Andrew Powell, Primary Principal's Office, 8-9 am -Grade 10 – Personal Project, MPR, 9 am-1 pm
Tuesday, December 18	-Director's Open Meeting with parents, Director's Office, 8-9 am
Wednesday, December 19	-Secondary Bake Sale and Non-Uniform Day -Secondary Winter Assembly, Auditorium, 8-9:30 am -Primary Winter Assembly, Auditorium, 1-2 pm
Thursday, December 20	-Winter Break

## *A Message from the Director*

Dear IAA Community,

The winter break is upon us and the school already feels and looks festive! On this occasion, I would like to acknowledge the contribution of staff, parents, students and PTA to IAA's success in 2018. We have had an outstanding first term with many opportunities for our students to demonstrate their amazing talents and passions. As Walt Disney once said 'You can dream, create, design and build the most wonderful ideas in the world, but it requires people to make the dream a reality'. So, thank you all!

The IAA pillars have always been our reference to firmly grounding students in their true **cultural heritage** while teaching them **acceptance** of others' points of view so that they are equipped to be **leaders** and prepared to do their **duty**. This is IAA.

This past weekend was a busy one since our students took part in Al Majlis Al Arabi. This arabised version of I'MUN highlights regional issues as well as local ones. Thank you staff and students who participated in this inspiring conference, one that promotes and highlights our rich Arabic language.

The weekend also brought along great wins in sports. Our student athletes have had an amazing season and I look forward to a similarly successful upcoming one. I advise you to read the Sports section underneath for the week's highlights. I have high hopes for our athletes to continue to push themselves and achieve personal bests while representing our school and Jordan. Thank you Coach Samer Taha and the amazing team for your hard work and in constantly soaring IAA to excellence.

I am looking forward to attending the primary and secondary winter assemblies on Wednesday. These showcase many talents that I am always proud of. 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 winter break and Happy Holidays!

**Hana Kanan Ed.D.**

**Director**



## Primary School News

Dear Parents,

As we enter the final week before the Winter Break, I would like to express my appreciation for the opportunity to work with your children on a daily basis. I have been heavily engaged in classrooms and various sports' practices of late, and throughout all of my interactions I continue to be impressed by our students' positivity, pride and appreciation. There is a genuine love of IAA and the experience provided here.

Over the past few weeks Ms Sahar and her Community Service team have worked hard to raise an awareness of the challenges that many in the wider Jordanian community experience. In November, our Bake Sale raised 1,659JD for the vulnerable families in the Al Koura Brigade and last week, 1,466 JD was raised to provide fuel and blankets to 115 families at the Al Baqa'a Camp. Today Ms Sahar is leading a team as they distribute blankets, food and clothing to families as part of our Winter Campaign. Additionally, she has organised for a girls' schools outside of Madaba to receive 90 jackets for their students, 200 hoodies and tracksuits will also be distributed to three schools in the Mraigha area, close to Aqaba. An additional 200 children and adults with special needs in the Madaba region will be receiving warm clothing for the winter.

We end the calendar year on a positive note and I can't wait for our KG1, KG2 and choir to perform at our Winter Assembly on Wednesday.

Some of the highlights in classrooms of recent weeks have included the Pre-K children helping to prepare and serve pumpkin soup to their parents. They also held a Teddy Bear Day last week, in which children brought their own Teddy Bear to school and made porridge together. Our KG1 children held a very successful Sensory Day in which students showed their parents what they had learned about regarding the five senses. They experimented with different textures for touch, smelled and guessed mixtures, tried pinning the nose on the clown blindfolded, as well as tasted different materials.

In KG2, the children have been learning about forces that push and pull. They made their very own vehicles out of recycled materials and justified how they could be pushed or pulled with the use of magnets and wind power, as well as exploring and testing variables that could make their vehicles travel further.

In Grade 1, our students were inspired by the artist Janet Karam and her 'Funkytown' series of abstracted Cityscapes and they created their own versions using a variety of lines. During IPC lessons, they used their understanding of 3D shapes to create different types of buildings. In Grade 2, students have studied natural disasters and have utilised the engineering design process to create a stilt house structure that could withstand a flood.

In Grade 3, there has been a focus on understanding electrical circuits and students have created and further developed and refined various circuits that set off an alarm. In Grade 4, there has been a focus on exploring the Solar System and learning interesting facts about the planets. Students also examined, made and tested various parachutes that could return a space module safely to Earth.

In Grade 5, students have been learning how engineering can be used to help humans solve problems related to the flow of water and learned the importance of soil conditions when determining where to build structures. They also used their persuasive powers to convince their audience that the pollution of water is a critical issue.

I would like to recognise the following award winners:

**Bronze Award Winners**

Eleina Imseeh 5B	Jana Khalaf 2A	Elita Saeed 1A
Amjad Al-majali 5D	Bisher Elbarqouni 2A	Kiyan Qusous 1A
Maia Cubeisy 3C	Juana Zeidan 2B	Ibrahim Al Ghezawi 1A
Jazmine Al Jamal 3C	Talia Asfour 2B	Wael Dahleh 1A
Sejal Al Azzawi 3D	Norah Ghnaimat 2B	Abdulla Al Khawaja 1A
Sara Qanadilo 3D	Hussein Hamdan 2B	Rashed Friej 1A
Ibrahim Al Louzi 2A	Yousef Mustafa 2B	Saif Abdul- Hadi 1D
Zainah Al Jaghbir 2A	Mona Mustafa 2C	Omar Shawareb 1D
Yahya Hoozeer 5C	Mohammad Al Dabbas 4C	Limara Al Asad 2A
Hamza Al- Adwan 5C	Malak Haijawi 3A	Mona Mustafa 2C
Aws Al Salahat 5C	Shafiq Hourani 3A	Taliya Allaham 1B
Jaafar Bashir 4B	Sarah Kachakeche 3A	Jad Al Qasem 1B
Mariel Imseeh 4B	Sasha Abu Sawwa 3D	Natalie Kanaan 1C
Amin Mustafa 4B	Abdallah Fraij 3D	Salma Zalloum 1C
Jude Malkawi 4B	Dawod Abu Sawwa 2A	Yasmeen Wahdan 1C
Zina Al Abdullah 4C	Abdelfattah Al Najjar 2A	Leila Abu Lughod 1C
Kareem Ghnaimat 4C	Hamzah Mansour 2A	Karim Musleh 1C
Gabriella Gourgourinis 4C	Hashem Al Hamdan 2A	Hamza Abu Haltam 1C
Mohammad Al Baghal 4C	Hussein Faouri 2A	Mohammad Zagha 1D
Bader Bakheet 4C		

**Silver Award Winners**

Hiam Kharouba 2A	Abdelrahman Al- Ahmad 2C
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Wishing you all a wonderful week, a safe holiday break and a Merry Christmas.

**Yours sincerely,**

**Andrew Powell**

## *Secondary School News*

Dear Parents,

Whilst we have just a few days left before the Winter Break, there is much to share with you.

### **Thank you PTA**

We are very much looking forward to the Winter Refreshments being laid on by the PTA to help celebrate the start of the festive season.

### **Wednesday - Civvies Day and Bake Sale**

Just a reminder the last Civvies Day and Bake Sale of 2018 will be held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>. Please ensure your children come to school with their 2JD donation to charity if they are wearing civvies.

### **Winter Campaign – thank you**

The winter campaign has been a success, and we have seen a lot of good coming to school to support the drive. The 200 families from Al Koura will be really appreciative of this support. The donations were delivered on Monday.

### **Congratulations Hawks Football!**

Last week, our under 14 football team triumphed in their inter-school competition and this completed a clean sweep for IAA, with the under 12 and under 16 also winning their competitions. Yet again, the value of our teamwork had a lot to do with our success and congratulations to all players and coaches. A number of our students have also been successful in trials to make it onto national squads, or have been breaking national records. We are really having an excellent sporting year.

### **Majlis Al Arabi**

After months of preparation and training, the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Majlis Al Arabi took place this past weekend. In collaboration with Al Asriyya School, this successful student-led conference involved 8 schools with over 200 participants. Our guest speaker, Mr. Marwan Juma, was thrilled to see high school students from different schools come together to tackle issues that were relevant, challenging and controversial in the Arab region. He reminded us of how failure can teach us many life lessons. And that if we keep repeating the same mistakes, then it becomes a choice. He also stressed to our students the importance of reading and thinking critically about what they read to inform their decisions, especially when it comes to civic responsibilities.

We are also proud to see our students take on active roles, be that of Deputy Secretary General, Training, Chair, Delegate, Staff or Media. Their hard work and efforts translated into a wonderful learning experience for many students, as they worked together to gain a deeper understanding of the world that they live in and the pressing issues in our region. They continue to live up to IAA's guiding principle - "learners of today, leaders of tomorrow".

### **Good Luck Grade 12**

With the vast majority of University applications now fully complete, we just wait to hear how we have done. Over the weekend, we had some acceptances to Ivy schools in the USA. We have had three students in the UK last week for Medical School interviews, and one student travelled to the University of Cambridge for an interview. Universities are already responding, and many students have secured excellent offers from the UK. The year is shaping up nicely!

### **Amman Design Week**

Last week we had a presentation by representatives from this organisation to our students in Grades 9/10/11. After the success of previous students in this initiative, we do hope that others will be inspired to take up the challenge this year. Interested students should speak to their Design teachers.

### **Interesting learning opportunities brought to IAA**

As part of our goal to bring challenging and interesting experiences to our students outside of the classroom, we are pleased to have a number of Grade 11 students involved in a workshop and training development programme helping train anti-corruption investigators in the humanitarian sector. This will be an intense experience but will certainly develop those soft skills that are crucial to success.

### **G10 Personal Project Exhibition**

In the mission to create independent, life-long learners, the Personal Project is one of the IB milestones, and the efforts and hard work involved are never underestimated. It was rewarding to see our students take pride in their work and showcase their achievements to the IAA community at the annual PP exhibition. It was also wonderful to see such a variety of work on display, confirming the diverse talents and skills that our students have. Thank you to all parents and teachers for their support and guidance during a journey, which taught many life lessons that include the value of time management, the significance of planning and the importance of communication and social skills.

All that remains is for us to wish you all a wonderful holiday and safe travels if you are heading away. Looking forward to seeing you all in 2019.

**Mr Martin and Ms Zena**

## **Sports News**

### **IAA Sports Highlights**

What an amazing achievement this year so far. Our Hawks philosophy is starting to pay off with Masa Al Shakaa and Ibrahim Elayan participating in Track and Field competitions and winning lots of medals for both IAA and Jordan. Our Track and Field school team has performed remarkably in competitions. Bravo!

As for JiuJitsu, we now have a Jordanian champion, Omar Nashashibi, and a world champion, Tarek Al Jamal.

In Volleyball, our U18 and U14 participated in the AAC tournament, with both teams being finalists in their respective age group.

In swimming, our student athletes participated in numerous competitions representing the school and the national team, breaking numerous Jordanian and age group records at world competitions. Our swimmers Lara Aklouk, Sayf Hatabeh, Denis Qursha, Farah Rawashdeh, Rabab Barghouth, and Lama Al Zaeem performed amazingly well and managed to break numerous records both personally and on a national level.

As for football, and with the Hawks Football philosophy now developing and maturing, all the participating age groups (U12, U14, and U16) won their respective tournaments, bringing home gold and pride for the school.

Congratulations to all student athletes, coaches and staff for this amazing achievement. What an awesome term!