



الأكاديمية الدولية - عمان
THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY - AMMAN

Parent News

Monday, 18th December

2017

Calendar

Monday	18	--Open meeting with Primary Principal, Mr. Andrew Powell, Primary Principal's Office, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM --Grade 10 Personal Project exhibition, MPR, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM --Hawks Basketball First Tryouts for Boys and Girls, School Gym, 3:20 PM – 6:20 PM
Tuesday	19	--Director's Open Meeting with Parents, Director's Office, 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM --Grade 9 - 10 International Trip
Wednesday	20	--Grade 9 - 10 International Trip --PTA Celebration, Cafeteria, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM --Portrait of A Graduate Alumni workshop, MPR, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM --Hawks Basketball First Tryouts for Boys and Girls, School Gym, 3:20 PM – 4:20 PM
Thursday	21	--Secondary Winter Assembly, Theatre, 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM --Primary Winter Assembly, Theatre, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM --Grade 9 - 10 International Trip
Friday	22	--Grade 9 - 10 International Trip
Saturday	23	--Grade 9 - 10 International Trip --Grade 6, 7 & 8 International Trip
Sunday	24	--Grade 9 - 10 International Trip --Grade 6, 7 & 8 International Trip --Winter Break, Holiday
Monday	25	--Grade 6, 7 & 8 International Trip --Winter Break, Holiday

A Message from the Director

Dear IAA Community,

As we enter our 18th week at IAA, which is also our final school week before the winter break, I would like to thank the entire IAA community for their hard work, dedication and support in completing yet another successful term.

Reflecting back at the past four months, I can vividly paint a vivacious portrait of all our events and students' achievements. Or let me describe it as a creative masterpiece made of extraordinary lifelong skills and exploration.

A special thank you goes to all the parents who attended the "Portrait of A Graduate" group discussion last Wednesday. Their feedback and views as to how they perceive our learners and their vision of these future leaders were promising. It is through such discussions that the IAA will continue to prosper.

I would like to highlight a couple of safety issues in this newsletter. I have observed and heard of many students who tend to cross the school's main road to get to the other side. This is very dangerous and I urge you to park, or ask your drivers to park, on the school's roadside for the safety of your own children. Also, please ensure that your children -seated either in the front or in the rear seat of the car - are buckled up. According to the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention in the US, seat belts reduce the risk of death in vehicle accidents by around 50%.

I wish you all a safe holiday, filled with joyous moments, peace and togetherness.

I am available this Tuesday from 8-9am for parents who wish to see me or even share a good story with me.

Happy holidays!

Hana Kanan, Ed.D.
Director

Primary School News

Dear Parents,

I would like to congratulate Mr Issam, Ms Samia and the Primary School Choir for an incredibly moving performance at the Amman Rotana Hotel over the weekend. Their dulcet tones were a centrepiece for the Swiss Christmas Market. A range of Christmas favourites captivated the audience, and were brought together by a moving rendition of Jerusalem: The City of Prayers. This Thursday we have another musical event with the celebration of our Christmas Assembly. KG1, KG2 and Grades 2 will be performing.

With the holidays quickly approaching, it is this time of year that many parents want to express their gratitude to our teachers. Please be reminded that we do have a very strict gift policy and teachers may only receive small gifts such as chocolates or a bouquet of flowers. We do not encourage the giving of group gifts. Handmade cards from your child are always most welcome.

While the holidays are a great time to take a break and unwind, I can't stress enough the value of daily reading. Should your child not have an appropriate selection of books available to them, our students do have access to Raz Kids where there is ample reading material at each child's reading level.

As we depart for the break, I would like to recognise the incredible work and support of the PTA. They have been a driving force for a range of good work within our community. Speaking of which, we end the week with the distribution of warm clothes, food and blankets donated as part of our Winter Campaign. My thanks to Ms Sahar for leading this initiative.

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

Bronze Award Winners

Sara Issa 5T	Maya Sharaiha 5CS	Faris Al Karaki 1C
Sara Halawa 5T	Salma Salem 5CS	Jude Hadaddin 1I
Ayla Akkawi 5T	Mariam Saket 5CS	Abdelillah Al Farouqi 1I
Diala Abu Al Haj 5T	Yasmine Shaka'a 5CS	Riwa Al Qaimari 1S
Hashem Asfour 5T	Lara Matraji 3M	Mohammad Al Shami 1S
Haya kilani 5T	Ahmad Abu Yousef 3A	Huda Shahrouri 1S
Michael Imseeh 5T	Hayma Al Abaddi 3A	Lamia Al Awwad 1S
Mohammad El Fayez 5T	Maia Gougourinis 1C	Hussein Faouri 1S
Mohammed Al Hadid 5T	Yousef Mustafa 1C	Maria Al Zaiqat 2J
Rashed Samawi 5T	Hasan Al Sarraf 1C	Mohammed Al Lozi 2J
Salma Armouti 5T	Basma Al Hashem 1C	Natalie Khatib 2J
Salma Qatarneh 5T	Haya Al Majali 1C	

Silver Award Winners

Laith Saoudi 5T	Abdulfattah Al- najjar 1I	Tahseen shurdom 1I
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I hope that you have a wonderful week and a safe holiday!

Yours sincerely,
Andrew Powell

Secondary School News

Dear Parents,

As we count down the last few days to the winter break, there is still so much going on this week. We have Grades 9, 10 and 11 students on their Arts trip to London. Our Grade 10 students will be showcasing their Personal Projects on the 18th of December from 9:00am to 1:00pm in the Multi-purpose Room. The students have the opportunity to discuss their projects, answer questions and generally celebrate and be proud! We look forward to having you join us in celebration of their achievements. Lastly, we will end the week with our annual winter assembly, where we will reflect on the accomplishments of Semester 1.

Last week was the first round of American university acceptances for those who were chasing 'early decision'. Three of our students worked themselves into position to have their futures secured at this point with acceptances from Cornell, Princeton and Yale. We are very pleased for them. Offers continue to pile in for the UK and elsewhere and the response by universities in Europe and the UK is very positive.

Over the weekend, 30 intrepid students from Grade 6 travelled to Ajloun and completed a day's trek on the Jordan Trail. The day started at an ancient olive and grape press near Beit Idis where we were also treated to amazingly clear and panoramic views across the Jordan Valley to the north of Palestine. From there, we trekked through Wadi Zubia with its

amazing Wild Strawberry trees and finished at the Roman ruins of the Decapolis city of Qabla. A different day out and we hope to be taking Grade 7 next.

We will be holding a number of information sessions right after the break so mark your calendars. The sessions are as follows:

Transition into the DP

An overview of the expectations and requirements of the Diploma Programme will be presented to the parents of Grade 10 Students on Monday January 15th from 8am to 9am in the Theatre. During this time, the subject packages offered next year for the current Grade 10 Students will be introduced by our DP Coordinator.

MYP - Personal Project

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. Our PP Coordinator, will present to the Grade 9 Parents on Monday January 22nd, from 8am to 9am in the Theater, on the expectations of the project.

Extended Essay Presentation to Grade 11 Parents

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. Grade 11 students have been given an introductory session on the EE. We will also be doing a presentation to the Grade 11 parents on Thursday January 25th from 8am-9am in the Theatre.

Thank you to our PTA for their unwavering support in 2017. Their initiatives and activities strengthen our community and enhance our learning environment. It just remains for us to wish everyone a wonderful break. If you are travelling, we wish you safe journeys. We look forward to seeing you in 2018!

Mr. Martin and Ms. Zena

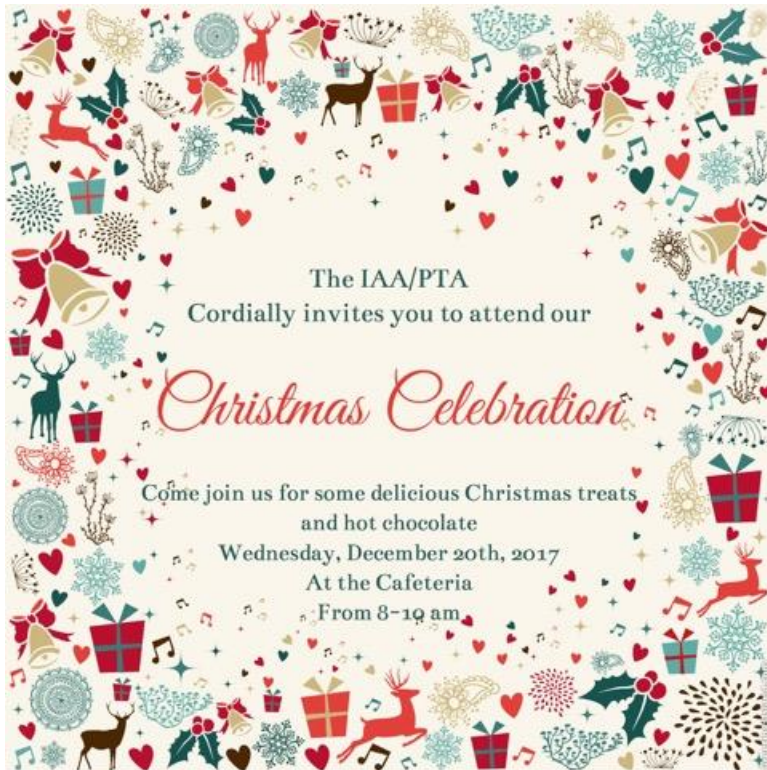
PTA Corner

'Tis the Season to be Jolly

In an attempt to provide the IAA community with a taste of Christmas, the PTA would like to invite you all to share the joy and blessings of this festive season.

Drop in for some cookies and hot chocolate amidst the colourfully decorated cafeteria and community square on Wednesday 20th of December at 8:00 a.m.

Merry Christmas!



Library News

The libraries would like to wish all of you a happy holiday. If you would like to check out books for your children over the holiday, please check with each librarian for permission to take books over the holidays. It's always a great time to catch up on your reading or encourage your kids to read for fun. With that in mind, we'd like to share with you a bit from Common Sense Media about using Devices over the break.

How Plugged-In Families Can Have a Device-Free(ish) Holiday by Caroline Knorr (Reprinted with permission of Common Sense Media)

The trick is to downsize -- not demolish -- your family's reliance on technology over the holidays.

What's topping your kids' holiday wish lists this year? Chances are it has a screen, internet access and games. With a little planning -- and kids' assistance -- you can balance your family's tech activities with much-needed face time. Here's how:

Be jolly -- but firm. Let your kids know that you'll be enforcing stricter time limits to create more quality family time. And tell them that the rules will apply to the grown-ups as well!

Make a list (and check it with your kids). Don't go cold turkey. Schedule some daily tech time for yourself and your kids. Get their input on which devices they absolutely can't live without, and allow some limited use.

Plan a device-free dinner. Put the phones and tablets in a basket and don't check 'em til the dishes are done.

Have a download derby. Browse the app store **together**. Look for games and activities that the whole family can enjoy.

Make setup fun, not frustrating. No matter how easy to use, there's always some (often frustrating) setup time required for new devices. Truth be told, kids often figure out thorny tech glitches faster than parents, so involve your kids in the process. Use that time to discuss responsible use of the new device.

Try some tech togetherness. Unplugging for its own sake isn't the point. Family time is. Plan a night of video games, movies, or maybe preselected Youtube videos you can all enjoy.

Combine on- and offline activities. Document your family memories and consider compiling them into journals, cards and scrapbooks. This is a perfect time to share your own holiday memories with your kids.

If no creatures are stirring ... don't check your email. Remember, your kids learn their media habits partly from you. Use quiet time to reflect on ways you can maximise the benefits of technology without letting it take over your family's life.

Have an old-fashioned holiday. Generate fun on your own steam -- no WiFi, data, or plugs.

Kathleen McKim

Head of Libraries/Secondary Librarian