



الأكاديمية الدولية - عمان  
THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY - AMMAN

# Parent News

## Monday, 26th February 2018

### Calendar

Monday	26	--Open meeting with Primary Principal, Mr. Andrew Powell, Primary Principal's Office, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Tuesday	27	--Director's Open Meeting with Parents, Director's Office, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Wednesday	28	--Grade 10 Parent Meeting E-assessments, MPR, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Thursday	1	--Grade 10 Trip, (Off- Campus)
Friday	2	
Saturday	3	--Grade 9, 10 & 11 Trip, (Off- Campus)
Sunday	4	--Book Fair
Monday	5	--Book Fair --Open meeting with Primary Principal, Mr. Andrew Powell, Primary Principal's Office, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

### A Message from the Director

Dear IAA Community,

Congratulations to the U11 and U12 Hawks Football team members who participated in the MEUC in Dubai last weekend. Their marvellous sportsmanship and performance deserve applause. I would like to thank the supporting parents, Coach Samer and his amazing team for the efforts.

The past week was a busy one, filled with trips and various activities in both Primary & Secondary. From trekking the Jordan Trail in Ajloun to visiting the Royal Tank Museum, Careers Day workshops, World Scholar's Cup, Wax Museum, Toy-Maker and Toastmasters, the campus was hustling and bustling with guests, parents and students throughout the week. And it is always great to see parental involvement in such activities which, as research shows impacts the child positively.

Speaking of activities, and specifically after-school ones, I came across a very interesting article on over-scheduling our children. The article highlights the right balance between structured activities and free play, the latter also benefitting the child. And that balance differs from child to child and from one age group to the other. Here is the link: <https://pulse941.com.au/parenting/are-we-over-scheduling-our-kids/>.

We have our annual Book Week in Primary next week. Do check the Library section of the newsletter for more details. Stay connected to the IAA news through our social media channels and our IAA mobile application.

Finally, I am available this coming Tuesday, from 8-9am, for the open meeting at my office.

Have a wonderful week.

Hana Kanan Ed.D.

Director

## **Primary School News**

Dear Parents,

We had an incredibly busy and productive week on and off campus last week with a plethora of events and activities taking place.

### **Grade 1 Toy-Makers**

Our Grade 1 children shared a selection of traditional homemade toys and games with their parents as part of their IPC unit. This also served as the backbone for our first Grade 1 assembly of the year, which was facilitated by 1F and 1C.

### **Grade 2 Wax Museum**

Our Grade 2 museum of influential people has become a highlight of the year at IAA. Having researched people that have made exceptional contributions to their communities and world history, our students took on their personas as part of a living exhibition. The Grade 2 students brought this to another level this year with some incredible costumes, displays and speeches. Photos of this event can be found on the school's Facebook page.

### **Grade 5 MEUC Dubai Trip**

Our Grade 5 football team headed to Dubai over the weekend to participate in the MEUC Invitational Cup. The boys did exceptionally well in both the seven-a-side and eleven-a-side competition and will return to Amman with the first-place trophy. Congratulations!

## Swimming Championship

We also had a number of students participating in the Jordan Winter Swimming National Championships. While the school has previously supported students in both the national and club teams, this was the first year that we have entered a school team at this event. It was a great experience for our students and the development of our swimming program beyond our regular inter-school competitions.

## Parent Conferences – Thank you!

I'd like to thank all of our parents that attended the Parent – Teacher Conferences last week. Your positive engagement and support of your children and their teachers means a lot to me.

## Awards

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

### Bronze Award Winners

Julia Haddadin 5MM	Karam Hamad 5CE	Faisal Kardan 3LC
Haya Hyasat 5CE	Mohammad Zaim 5CE	Mohammed Al Baghal 3LC
Hashem Shreim 5CE	Bana Sakijha 5CE	Abdullah Abu Halimeh 3LC
Bashir Al- Jaghbir 5CE	Loulwa Al- Tayeh 4G	Manasa Al Heeti 2H
Jad Haddadin 5CE	Nabila Karyouti 4G	Alia Nashashibi 2H
Tala Morrar 5CE	Salma Ellauzi 3LC	Rakan Imseeh 2H
Salma Hamzeh 5CE	Maya Ghokapsh 3LC	Shakir Shami 2M
Rashed Al- Darabseh 5CE	Jaffar Al Armouti 3LC	Christina Imseeh 2M

### Silver Award Winners

Husam Baloula 5MM	Mohammed Al Baghal 3LC	Raya Qawar 2J
Sara Issa 5T	Noor Asali 3LC	Mohammed Al Lozi 2J
Hashem Asfour 5T	Taj Qusous 2Z	Talal Rudeini 2J
Abdallah Asfour 5T	Shaden Bondagji 2H	Maya Cubeisy 2J
Michael Imseeh 5T	Basheer Arabiyat 2H	Alisha Zakarneh 2J
Yousef Al- Ahmad 5CE	Rashed Abu Dahab 2H	Sejal Al Azzawi 2J
Ali Abzakh 4G	Yasmin Farraj 2M	Ghassan Al Khawaja 2J
Nadine Baqain 4P	Maya Dallal 2M	Suleiman Al Ghezawi 2J
Zaina Toghoth 4P	Hasan Malkawi 2M	Laith Al- Ma'ayta 1S
Gabriella Gourgourinis 3S	Aysha Salous 2M	Riwa Al Qaimari 1S
Ghazi Khalifeh 3LC		

### Gold Award Winner

Akram Abu Khajil 5T	Yara Saoudi 2Z	Imad Al Baghal 2M
Ahmed Mustafa 5T	Haya Sunnaa 2H	Izzeldeen Nassif 2M
Saif Saleh 5T	Nour Kilani 2M	Salma Kloub 2M
Aisha Saket 5T		

### Gold with Merit Award Winner

Laith Saoudi 5T

I hope that you have a wonderful week.

Yours sincerely,  
Andrew Powell

## **Secondary School News**

Dear Parents,

### **The Weekend Activities**

With Grade 6's football tournaments in Dubai and returning home with lots of silver and bronze medals, our swimmers in action here, the Amman round of the World Scholar's Cup being hosted on campus and Grade 7 hiking out in Ajloun, it has certainly been a busy weekend! Well done to all those who participated. We are proud that you all wanted to push yourselves, represent IAA and do something different.

### **Bake Sale**

We would like to thank our Grade 10 students for their successful bake sale. Their efforts will be much appreciated, as the money raised will be donated to Al-Aman Fund for the Future of Orphans. This nonprofit organisation aims to provide orphaned youth with a better future.

### **Toastmasters (Grade 9-11)**

For the past few months, a group of students from Grades 9 and 11 took part in the Toastmasters Club; an organisation dedicated to the development of communication and leadership skills. For our students, it provided an encouraging environment for them to step out of their comfort zones and to start the journey of self-discovery. Last Tuesday, students presented 3 to 5 minute speeches on a topic of their choice. Their responses showcased some deep thinking and a vulnerability that touched us all. They spoke with confidence and reminded us that those who have the skills to communicate effectively, will have that edge to lead.

### **World Scholar's Cup**

The World Scholar's Cup was a resounding success. For the fourth consecutive year, IAA hosted over 180 students this past weekend. Our IAA scholars engaged in a battle of intellectual skills that included debating, writing, critical thinking, whilst encompassing the theme of "An Entangled World". This was more than an academic competition. Rather it was an inclusive enrichment experience where students tackled exciting, relevant topics through careful research and spirited discussion. The atmosphere was full of energy and enthusiasm. Our scholars performed extremely well as confirmed by the many medals that they proudly wore. Come next year, we look forward to have our student numbers rise in what really is a valuable opportunity for students to develop their skills and knowledge as well as interact with students from other schools and have some fun.

## **Activities/Events This Week**

This coming week, there are a number of events on the calendar. We have Grade 10 away for an environmental case study at Eco-park on Thursday. On that same day, a number of Canadian universities are coming to speak to our Grade 11 students. Then of course, the weekends are full again this time with the King's Academy MUN and a Habitat for Humanity Build taking place. Good luck to all taking part in these very worthwhile activities.

## **Community Projects**

We can see that the community projects of Grade 8 are in the "Taking Action" stage. Numerous posters are going up around school advertising certain initiatives. Students are also getting involved presenting to our school community about the many important and diverse causes that have caught their imagination, and they are now supporting to make our community a better place. This is rewarding to see.

## **"Downsides of Perfectionism"**

There are increasing pressures amongst our students today. We have noticed that many are becoming 'obsessed' with grades and an approach that failure is not an option. Research shows this is not unique to our own community, and the link below is very illuminating. We need to support our children/students to be conscientious, in a balanced way. We urge all to read this article: <http://www.bbc.com/future/story/20180219-toxic-perfectionism-is-on-the-rise>

Mr Martin and Ms Zena

## **Sports News**

U11 & U 12 MEUC Football

Another year in Dubai, another outstanding group of student athletes.

Another successful MEUC participation for our IAA U11 and U12 football teams. Our first day entailed a 7-a-side tournament where our student athletes played wonderfully and managed to top their groups and got medals to show for their efforts.

We started our 11-a-side tournament on Day 2, and as always, we continued our tradition of our Hawks pride as well as amazing sportsmanship and results with our teams coming home with the U11 first place trophy, and a hard-fought final for the U12 meant they come home with lots of lessons learned and silver and bronze medals to show for it.

Great win for our Hawks academy! This is where we develop the proper athletic skills for each age group and focus on effort rather than results.

A big thank you for our supporting parents and for the coaches and staff for the amazing work they did with the teams.

## *Library News*

The IAA Annual Book Fair is next week, 4 to 8 March, in the Primary School Atrium. Bookshops this year include Dar Al Hayyat, University Bookshop, Dar Al Manhal, Yarmouk Book Shop, Maktabetcom.com and Mazaya Bookshop. The sellers will be here first thing in the morning at drop-off and in the evening at pick-up, so that you will have a chance to choose books with your children.

The Book Fair is only a part of the larger celebration of Book Week throughout the Primary. Every class and grade sets this week apart for a special emphasis on books and literature in the classroom, with many teachers planning book-related activities in Literacy and IPC to encourage students to love reading. Teachers are already decorating their doors to celebrate books and authors. Ms. Alia has arranged for local authors to read to Arabic classes during the week as well, which is always a memorable experience for students.

To continue Book Week activities, IAA will host visiting author, Mr. Saviour Pirotta. Best known for his dynamic re-tellings of world myths and legends, Saviour will work with IAA students using his books, *George and the Dragon*, *Mark of the Cyclops*, and *Secret of the Oracle*. Originally from Malta, Saviour lives in West Yorkshire but travels around the UK and abroad with his unique mix of storytelling and writing workshops. He has held hundreds of sessions and even told a story to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II at the Commonwealth Institute in London.

March is Dr. Seuss Month. In honour of him, the KG Library has packed the calendar for March 4 through 8 with plenty of activities that you can share with your children in KG1-G1. In the KG library, we will be reading the following books.

**Sunday, 4 March: *Green Eggs and Ham*** –bring green foods on that day (green peppers, green apples, grapes ...etc.)

**Monday, 5 March: *The Cat in the Hat*** – wear your favourite/crazy hat to school (PRE K to Grade 2).

**Tuesday, 6 March: *Horton Hatches the Egg*** – Campfire Stories (bring your teddy or a torch).

**Wednesday, 7 March: *Oh, the Places You'll Go*** – bring a picture of your favourite place and talk about it in the library.

**Thursday, 8 March: *Fox in Socks*** – wear crazy socks to school.

The **Primary Library** will create set up a Student Reading Space in the Atrium with beanbags, pillows, baskets of books and other fun incentives for kids to take a moment to drop everything and read.

The primary library will also be celebrating Dr. Seuss and his life and books. The library will be filled with decorations from Seussville and there will be stations of activities for students to enjoy. It will be a colourful and fun week for all.

***Please note the KG and Primary Libraries will be closed on March 5, as librarians will be attending a Follett Destiny Workshop Training off-campus.***