



الأكاديمية الدولية - عمان
THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY - AMMAN
Learners of Today - Leaders of Tomorrow

Sunday, 5th June 2016

Message from the Director

Dear IAA Community,

Congratulations and best wishes to the graduates and families of the Class of 2016! Last Monday, the IAA celebrated the graduation of its sixth alumni class, a deeply moving occasion for all involved. As always, I feel so honoured to have played a role in this climactic event that has come to embody the spirit of IAA in its creativity and uniqueness. Somehow, through this joyful ceremony, IAA has successfully merged two seemingly opposing ideas: **originality and tradition!** Thank you to the families who have so steadfastly supported their children throughout their IAA careers. Congratulations and best wishes to our 2016 **Valedictorian, Ghada Amer**, and our **Salutatorian, Mohammad Salameh**, as well as to all the students who received awards for their distinguished performance in the various categories. And finally, I would like to **thank the IAA Events Management team**, who worked so hard to give us all a most memorable 2016 commencement ceremony.

And now we turn to **last Saturday's Grade 10 celebration!** Our Grade 10 students have successfully **completed their MYP requirements** and are now moving on to bigger things – the IB Diploma Programme. Very exciting indeed! Congratulations, Grade 10, and good luck next year.

On **8th June, Grade 5** will also have their moment in the proverbial spotlight, as they bid farewell to the Primary School. Next year they transition into the Secondary school, where they will be challenged in new ways and at new levels. We wish our Grade 5 students continued growth and success in the sixth grade, and I will see you all at the **upcoming graduation!**

This is the final newsletter of the 2015-2016 Academic Year. And what a year it has been! The **IAA yearbook**, a precious record of this year's achievements, is **now available at Finance**. This book is a rich archive of your child's school years. You are strongly encouraged to collect your child's copy before the year's end, so that all our students may exchange signatures with their friends and teachers.

Please note the following dates and times:

Ramadan staff work hours: 8:30 am to 2:30 pm

Last day of school for students: Thursday, 9th June 2016

Last day for teaching staff: Monday, 13th June 2016 at 12:00 pm

Last day for Admin staff: Thursday, 16th June 2016

First day of school for Grades 11 and 12 for the 2016-17 academic year: 17th and 18th August 2016

First day of school for ALL students for the 2016-17 academic year: 21st August 2016

Finally, I bid all of our community members a very warm **farewell**, and I extend my sincere **gratitude** for all who contributed to yet another successful year. For those who are leaving us next year, on behalf of the IAA, I wish you all the **happiness and prosperity** this world has to offer. Enjoy the summer holiday, be safe and be well. **We'll see you again in August 2016!**

Ramadan Kareem,

Hana Kanan, Ed.D.
Director

Secondary School News

Dear Parents,

The final newsletter of the year! I would like to wish our students all the best in their assessments this week. Can I just remind parents that assessments will start at 9:00 am from Monday onwards as we move to Ramadan timings. I would strongly suggest students are in school 15 minutes prior to 9:00 in order to settle. Final reports will be emailed on Sunday, 12th June.

Last week we had three wonderful ceremonies, our Grade 12 Graduation, the Grade 10 Celebration and our Final Assembly for Grade 6 to 9. I really enjoyed all three, as we reflected on the year and celebrated so much student achievement. I would like to thank the teachers who have worked so hard to make learning meaningful for your children this year (be it in or out of the classroom). I would also like to thank the students for embracing another year of challenge and producing some amazing results. Finally I would like to thank you, the parents, for your support.

As with all years, there have been some goodbyes. To those staff, parents and students who are moving on, thank you for the memories you have helped create at IAA, and I wish you all the best in your new schools. I would also like to take this moment to recognize and thank Mr Martin in Primary for his support and for being a wonderful colleague to work with. I think the students we receive from Primary are a credit to his leadership and a credit to the team he has working for him.

Finally – we are in the process of some reflection ourselves as we prepare for the MYP and DP re-authorisation visits next year. Last week an email was sent out with the following links, and I would just like to remind parents about them. We really do appreciate your feedback, and it will help make the whole process of review more meaningful if we can involve your input. Please take 10 minutes of your time to complete the surveys:

MYP Parent survey link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DWPLYCX>

DP Parent survey link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/58NQNQQ>

Wishing you all Ramadan Kareem and all the best for a relaxing and safe summer.

See you next academic year!

Martin Thompson
Secondary Principal

Primary School News

Congratulations to all our Year 12 IAA graduates. The graduation evening was amazing and everyone associated with the graduates should be proud of their achievements including the range of colleges around the world that they will be attending as the next part of their educational journey. It is also really nice for us in the Primary School at the beginning of the learning journey within the school to see the students at the end. We have teachers in the Primary that taught the current graduating class! I want to take the opportunity of our final newsletter for the year to thank you all for your support and encouragement. We have had an excellent year. I do want to single out our ISA results as deserving of special mention. Without doubt, they are the best we have ever had. Unfortunately the timing of the final Board meeting means we will not be able to report on them until the first parent workshop next year. They are worth the waiting!

Thank you to Coach Samer and the entire team, who did a wonderful job organising four separate Sports Days in two days. This meant that the students received really age-appropriate activities and lots of adult attention. As usual the parental support was magnificent. The overall final places for the Sports Days were:

1st Rum Wolves 2nd Zara Wildcats 3rd Aqaba Dolphins 4th Pella Falcons
The result for the House Shield itself will be announced in the final assembly of the year.

I am looking forward to the opportunity of congratulating our Grade 5 students at the Graduation and Prizegiving ceremony next week on Wednesday 8th June. Parents are most welcome to attend and are asked to be seated in the auditorium by 3:00 pm. The Moodle will be used to share any important details. Please note that there is no preferential booking for seats.

The last day of school for students is Thursday, 9th June. We will be in Ramadan hours from 9:00-2:00 so we will have the usual dismissal time. It is always appropriate to thank teachers for a job well done. It is incumbent on me however to reiterate our gifts policy, which is that teachers are not permitted to receive a gift above the value of a bouquet of flowers or a box of chocolates. This includes all the parents in a class clubbing together to purchase a more expensive gift.

We will email class placements home on the week of 12th June. This newsletter is accompanied by a handout regarding classroom placement and the start of next year (see below).

Finally please have a safe and enjoyable summer break. We will send home a parent/student manual and a letter reiterating important details about the start of the year on 11th August. Thank you for all your support –we should all feel very proud of the school.

Have a great summer vacation.

Classroom Placement and the Start of Primary School 2016/2017

Classroom Placement

All parents will receive an email stating that their child is in either the blue, red, white or green class. These emails will be sent home from the week of 12th June. There will be a new parent information morning for Pre-K on Wednesday, 17th August in the Multi-Purpose Room at 9:00 am.

First Day of School

School starts at 7:45 Sunday, 21st August 2016

Class	Details of Start	Bus Information
Pre-K	You will receive an email telling you what date your child begins school. Students can arrive from 7:45 am. Come to the main primary administration area. You will be directed to the Pre-K. Take the children down to the Reception area. Parents are welcome to stay till 8:30 am at the latest. The finish time for Pre-K is 12:25 pm until 3 rd October. Please contact Ms Mariam if there are any difficulties.	Pre-K children cannot use the bus.
KG1	You will receive an email telling you what date your child begins. Bring your child to that class at 7:45 am on the appropriate day. There is an optional early finish of 12:25 pm for KG1 until 18 th September which needs to be organised with your child's teacher.	No buses for anyone on the first day of school. Service will resume on 22 nd August.
KG2-G1	Bring your child to the KG2 or G1 grade area at 7:45. Each class will be labelled blue, green, white or red and will have a class list on display. Take your child to the appropriate classroom.	No buses for anyone on the first day of school. Service will resume on 22 nd August.
G2-G5	Teachers will be standing at the head of each line in Community Square. They will have a sign that states which colour they are: blue, green, white or red. Your child is to be in the correct line by 7:45 am and will then move to class after singing the National Anthem	No buses for anyone on the first day of school. Service will resume on 22 nd August.

Please make sure that you stay out of the class lines, otherwise it is very difficult to move the children. Please vacate the premises by 8:00 am so that normal teaching can begin. You should expect a normal day complete with homework on the first day.

Best wishes,

Martin Blackburn for Andrew Powell
Primary School Principal

Middle School News

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we come to the end of a successful year, we are grateful for our students, committed staff and parents who enrich our lives every day. Our students continue to make us proud of their academic, athletic and artistic accomplishments. The high quality Community Projects and Personal Projects encouraged our students to be responsible citizens, increased their understanding of the world and reflected their myriad of talents and skills. We strongly recommend our students push their boundaries to gain new experiences that allow their knowledge and skills to thrive and continue growing.

We also take this chance to thank our staff for the countless hours that they put into creating wonderful learning opportunities and for encouraging our students to believe they can be successful when they believe in themselves and work hard. To teachers who are moving on, we wish you every success in your future endeavors and know that you will always be part of the IAA community.

Thank you to our parents for supporting us in the work we do with your children at this important time in their lives. Thank you to our hardworking and energetic PTA for their willingness to serve and for their contributions in enhancing the learning environment at IAA. We also acknowledge the students and families whose time with IAA has come to an end, and we wish them all the best as they continue their learning journey.

All the best to our Grades 6 to 9 with their end-of-year exams. Starting on Monday, 6th June, session 1 and session 2 exams will commence at 9am and 11:45 am, respectively. It is important that students come to each exam prepared with the correct materials. Information on what to bring can be found in the exam revision booklet that students can access via Moodle from the News Forum and PSHE page. On each exam day, students should also bring in the textbook for the subject that they are examined on. All students have been given a "book return" form to complete that confirms their return of all textbooks and library items. The form must be handed into their Tutor by June 8th. A reminder that students will only receive their end-of-year reports if all textbooks and library items are handed in on time.

We have started to work on our school self-study for the MYP evaluation, to be held next year. The process is a great opportunity for the IAA Community to reflect on the progress that we have made as an MYP school. Please find below the link to the parent survey. We appreciate if you can take the time to share your views with regards to our implementation of the MYP.

MYP Parent survey link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DWPLYCX>

We wish everyone a safe, relaxing and enjoyable summer. Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2016, and we wish you all the best for a successful future. We look forward to seeing all of our returning students and staff in August, well rested and ready for another great year at IAA. Ramadan Kareem and Eid Mubarak.

Zena Muhtaseb
Head of Middle Years

Calendar

Sunday	5	-Grade 11 Exams, MPR -Grade 6-9 Exams
Monday	6	-Grade 11 Exams, MPR -Grade 6-9 Exams
Tuesday	7	-Grade 11 Exams, MPR -Grade 6-9 Exams -Parents Open Meeting with the Director, 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM, Director's Office
Wednesday	8	-Grade 11 Exams, MPR -Grade 6-9 Exams -Grade 5 Graduation, 3:00 PM, Theatre
Thursday	9	-Grade 11 Exams, MPR -Grade 6-9 Exams -Last Day of School for Students
Friday	10	
Saturday	11	
Sunday	12	
Monday	13	-Last Day of School for Staff
Tuesday	14	-Summer Break

Sports News

Beginning Sunday, 5th June, any Library returns must be settled in the Finance Department per IAA Policy: "Any students that have unpaid fines will not receive their report cards until they return the book or pay for the lost/damaged books".

For those who signed up for the Summer Reading Program, packets are now being sent out. If you do not receive your child's packet, please notify us at library@iaa.edu.jo. I will check in with you via email over the summer to see how our readers are doing.

We would like to express our appreciation to all of you who have encouraged your child to read this year. The libraries had a fantastic year with more than 75,000 materials loaned! Thank you for taking care of the books and for speedy returns. A special thank you to parents who volunteered to read, to participate in MakerSpace, and to support various library programmes and initiatives. Most of all, thank you for allowing us to be a part of your child's educational journey. Have a safe and fun summer, wherever you go.

Eyeore's farewell poem to Christopher Robin from AA Milne's classic *The House on Pooh Corner*:

Christopher Robin is going.

At least I think he is.

Where?

Nobody knows.

But he is going -

I mean he goes

(To rhyme with "knows")

Do we care?

(To rhyme with "where")

We do

Very much.

(I haven't got a rhyme for that "is" in the second line yet.

Bother).

(Now I haven't got a rhyme for bother. Bother)

Those two bothers will have to rhyme with each other

Buther.

The fact is this is more difficult

than I thought,

I ought -

(Very good indeed)

I ought

to begin again,

But it is easier
To stop.
Christopher Robin, good-bye,
I
(Good)
I
And all your friends
Sends -
I mean all your friend
Send -
(Very awkward this, it keeps going wrong.)
Well, anyhow, we send
Our love
END.

Ms. Kathleen for the Libraries

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More News

Another event, another wonderful atmosphere. IAA hosted this year MEUC track and field event and it was an amazing experience.

All student athletes demonstrated exceptional sportsmanship, and all teams participating in the event enjoyed their time and gained great experiences.

Our student athletes showed enormous composure participating against 11 other school teams, as well as one international athletics club. Our players went home with lots of medals and smiles all over, and all parents showed their great support for our team of students, coaches and staff, as well as the referees and the volunteers that gave given their all under the sun for two days in a row.

Again big thanks to all my department and my coaches and friends for all your support and help. It could not happen without you all.

Congratulations to our star Alyia Bushnaq, who won 2 bronze medals in 200m sprinting with a new Jordanian record 26.42 seconds.

And the 4×100 relay the west Asia competition in Bahrain

Great job, Alyia J

Coach Samer Taha
Athletic Director