



Sunday, 13th March 2016

## Message from the Director

**Dear IAA Community,**

Over the weekend, the IAA participated in the annual **Dead 2 Red Marathon** with not one, but TWO – teams. These two extraordinary teams – the **IAA Hawks** and **All Night for the Fight!** – have made us so proud. This year, students joined the race with their teachers and coaches, producing an exemplary performance with an impressive **fourth place finish** and an **outstanding completion time** – they even beat last year's first place time. Go Hawks! Our staff team also impressed by not only completing the race, but also **raising significant donations to Atfalouna**, a charity dedicated to providing otherwise inaccessible health care to children across Jordan. This event teaches us two things about our community: **IAA truly has both grit and humanity**. Congratulations to all!

Glancing at the IAA Calendar, I am impressed with the number of **educational trips** this coming week, both national and international. Our **Harvard Model Congress** student delegates are currently in **Rome**, taking on the key global issues of the day. Plans to visit a local **refugee camp and science lab** this week also support IAA curricular goals very effectively, offering useful learning opportunities outside of the classroom. And our **IAA Hawks Football Team** will be venturing to **Dubai** for more competition and excitement – best of luck!

I would like to strongly encourage **all parents to attend this Wednesday workshop on Anti-Bullying**. An international guest speaker, **Ms Kimberly Yanke**, will be presenting to IAA staff, students and parents throughout the day. Students will be addressed in the morning. **Parents are invited to attend from 1:00 to 2:00 pm in the Theatre**. As staff will be receiving anti-bullying training at 2:20 pm, **ALL students will be released early on Wednesday at 2:15 pm. Please ensure your children are collected promptly on this day**. Thank you.

Finally, big thanks go out to all who participated in the lovely **Primary Music Assembly last Thursday**. Ending the school week on this musical note is always so refreshing! Both students and teachers work so hard to stage these performances, and for that we are ever so grateful.

Sincerely,

**Hana Kanan, Ed.D.**  
Director

## Secondary School News

Dear Parents,

Last week was a great week! It started with our Under 16 Boys Basketball Team starting their season with wins over Mashreq and Bishops in order to book their place in the final for that tournament. Also last weekend our Grade 11 students in the INTEL science competition were successful and have been chosen to go to Arizona to compete in the world round of this prestigious competition.

Over the weekend we had over 30 of our students attending the Al-Assryiah MUN. A group of our senior MUN'ers are currently in Rome, and yesterday they started their conference where they will learn to tackle global issues using a modified version of the MUN framework as set down by Harvard. We also had a number of students and staff involved in the Dead 2 Red relay this weekend, and I can't begin to express my admiration for their resilience and ability as the student/staff team obliterated previous IAA times and came in 4<sup>th</sup> place overall.

This coming week can I remind parents that school will finish early on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> March as classes end at 2:15 pm due to the staff being involved in an anti-bullying workshop. Bus students will be sent home with the buses that leave at 2:15 pm and all other students should be collected by 2:30 pm.

This coming week we also have many trips with all of Grade 8 and 9 leaving campus. Grade 8 are going to see water treatment in action as part of their Science Fair preparation, and Grade 9 go to the Al-Mufti refugee camp to learn first hand about data collection and collect narratives for their inter-disciplinary unit on refugees and the graphic novel. A number of our Grade 6 students depart on 17<sup>th</sup> March to Dubai to participate in a football tournament. We wish them good luck.

Grade 8 students will be given their option forms on Monday. These forms outline the choices students can make to better personalize their subjects to their own interests as they move to Grade 9. There is a two-week deadline for the return of the forms, and this date and many more explanatory notes are on the form itself. Hard copies will be given to students, and a soft copy will be placed on Moodle. However, if parents have any questions, please do ask Ms Zena or myself for clarification.

**Martin Thompson**  
***Secondary Principal***

## Primary School News

We had a huge farewell for our IAA teams on Thursday. I was delighted that our fundraising efforts had been so successful, and we had teams of students and teachers participating. Apart from the physical endeavour, I was really proud of the way our school community supported the charity Atfalouna. As I have written in previous newsletters, it is always pleasing when student learning translates into social action. Congratulations to the two teams who ran so strongly and with so much commitment. Thank you for your attendance at the workshop on Wednesday. Next week the workshop will run from 1:00-2:00 pm in the auditorium and will be facilitated by Kids Empowered, a group that specialises in building resilience and addressing the vexed issue of bullying. Our senior Primary students and Secondary students will also be participating in workshops, whilst our teachers will also have a workshop. This is a wonderful opportunity to get an international perspective on coping with an issue that concerns us all as a community. The Kids Empowered website is <http://kidsempowered.com/> I have copied the following statement off their home page:

*"Kids Empowered offers programs and training to empower children, parents and professionals to deal with unfriendly classmates and friends, bullying, relational aggression and to build confidence, emotional intelligence, character, leadership, self-esteem, fitness and social skills."*

This workshop follows last year's very popular workshop on curbing cyber-bullying and encouraging cyber safety.

It was great to see the turn-out at the Music Assembly on Thursday and the way in which our youngest children sang their hearts out!

Please take note of the letter I sent home on Thursday regarding taking children off site after school rather than letting them wander the campus unsupervised.

Congratulations to our Smart award winners:

<b>Bronze Award</b>		
<b>Munir Sakijjha 5MM</b>	<b>Saif Abu Irshaid 2Z</b>	<b>Raya Said 1D</b>
<b>Essa Abbassy 4M</b>	<b>Faisal Kardan 1D</b>	<b>Basel Al Qusus 1D</b>
<b>Jane Shomali 4M</b>	<b>Yaqout Abu Al Haj 1D</b>	<b>Bishr Maraqa 1F</b>
<b>Silver Award</b>		
<b>Karim Nabulsi 5MM</b>	<b>Farah Al Hashem 4D</b>	<b>Farah Saliba 1D</b>
<b>Heidi Beck 5S</b>	<b>Ziad Khalifeh 4M</b>	<b>Yasmine Abu Omar 1M</b>
<b>Natalia Imseeh 4D</b>	<b>Talia Kurdi 1D</b>	<b>Nasser Abu Ragheb 1M</b>
<b>Rashed Mansour 4D</b>	<b>Mohammad Qawasmi 1D</b>	<b>Rashed Khalifeh 1M</b>
<b>Gold Award</b>		
<b>Julia Haddadin 3G</b>	<b>Yasmeen Halawa 3G</b>	<b>Sarah Khouri 1M</b>
<b>Gold with Merit Award</b>		
	<b>Ihsan Atallah 5S</b>	

Have a great week.

**Martin Blackburn**

**Primary Principal**

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## Middle School News

Dear Parents/Guardians,  
Greetings from Italy! Sixteen of our Grades 10 and 11 students are currently participating in the Harvard Model Congress (HMC) in Rome. Prior to HMC's opening ceremony, we took in the beautiful sites of Rome. We traveled back in time when we stepped into the Colosseum, one of the greatest works of Roman architecture and engineering. We threw coins into the Fontana di Trevi to ensure our return back to beautiful Rome. Then we went down all 135 Spanish Steps, where we enjoyed the atmosphere and views of the Eternal City. We also met up with a dear friend and past IAA Maths Teacher, Ms Rose, who sends her warmest regards to everyone at IAA. She and her family relocated last summer to Rome, where she is now teaching at an IB school not far from where we were staying. HMC is run by Harvard undergraduates. It presents an opportunity for high school students to develop a strong understanding of government function and an appreciation for civic responsibility through role-play and simulation that covers many current events. The theme for this year is "We all can serve"; a theme that the IAA community embodies daily. Watching our students in action, their knowledge and

debating and critical thinking skills clearly set them apart from their peers, allowing them to voice their viewpoints from the perspective of their designated country and to lead discussions.

Last week, we presented to parents on Academic Honesty. We discussed good practices and examples of academic misconduct. We focused on how parents can support their children to confirm that they act with integrity and honesty. This included the following:

Ensuring a balance in activities, so that work can be tackled in a managed way

Ensuring a balance in support that is given to children

Asking your children to discuss their work in their own word

The PowerPoint presented has been posted on the MYP Parents Moodle page.

The Grade 9 students have a busy week ahead. In the "Migration Narratives" interdisciplinary unit between English and Individuals and Societies, students will write a narrative to depict the lives of refugees in Jordan. They will visit the Azmi al Mufti camp this week to interview refugees to learn about their lives.

The Grade 8 students will soon be choosing whether they want to go down the path of "Discrete Sciences" or "Integrated Sciences" for Grades 9 and 10. The "subject choice" form will be handed out to students during PSHE this week. Please spend some time with your child to decide upon the course options for next year. If you have any questions, or are looking for advice in this area, please contact me or Mr Martin.

The Science fair is an annual IAA event that gives the Grades 6 to 8 the opportunity to investigate a topic by using the scientific method. This includes conducting the required research, performing an experiment that shows an understanding of the fundamental processes of science and sharing findings with the school community. This year, the themes revolve around the UN's Sustainable Development goals, adopted in 2015 "to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all"

(<http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>). The themes are as follows:

Grade 6 – Hunger and Food Security or Climate Change

Grade 7 – Energy or Biodiversity

Grade 8 – Health or Water Sanitation

We look forward to seeing our students present their Science Fair projects to the IAA community on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> April. If you have any questions about this project, please check Moodle or contact your child's Science Teacher directly.

Lastly, congratulations to the students and staff who took part in the "Red 2 Dead" run! Just participating in the run is an accomplishment in itself. However, hearing that this year's performance was an all-time IAA best is icing on the cake.

With kind regards,

**Zena Muhtaseb**

**Head of Middle Years**

## Calendar

Sunday	13	-Grades 10 & 11 Harvard Model Congress MUN Trip, Rome/Italy-'How to Help Your Child Succeed in Life' Workshop (For Parents of 5 to 12 Years), 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM/IAA Secondary Library.
Monday	14	-Grades 10 & 11 Harvard Model Congress MUN Trip, Rome/Italy-PTA "Relational Needs" Workshop Series for The Parents, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM -Grade 5 Trip to the Alchemist Lab, 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM and from 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM.
Tuesday	15	-Grades 10 & 11 Harvard Model Congress MUN Trip, Rome/Italy-ONE SCHOOL/ONE STORY/ONE VOICE Lecture Series, 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM – Secondary Library, Tiered Classroom. -'How to Help Your Child with Their School Life' Workshop, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM/IAA Secondary Library. -Meeting with the Director, Director's Office, 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM -'How to Help Your Child with Their School Life' Workshop, IAA Secondary Library, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM -Grade 5 Trip to the Alchemist Lab, 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM -Grade 9 Trip to Azmi Al Mufti Camp, 8:00 AM – 1:30 PM
Wednesday	16	-Kids Empowered one /Primary Parent Workshop, 1:00 PM – 2:00 AM, Auditorium.-Grade 9 Trip to Azmi Al Mufti Camp, 8:00 AM – 1:30 PM
Thursday	17	-Grade 5, 6 & 7 Dubai Football Competition Trip.-Grade 9 Trip to Azmi Al Mufti Camp, 8:00 AM – 1:30 PM

Friday	18	-Grade 5, 6 & 7 Dubai Football Competition Trip.
Saturday	19	-Grade 5, 6 & 7 Dubai Football Competition Trip.
Sunday	20	-Grade 5, 6 & 7 Dubai Football Competition Trip.-Grade 6 Middle School Coffee Mornings, 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM, MPR -'How to Help Your Child with Their School Life' Workshop, IAA Secondary Library, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

## Sports News

Please join us for our next MakerSpace programme on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March, from 2:30-3:20pm, in the Primary Library. We will be papercrafting with Ms Dima and her staff. You can sign up via [library@iaa.edu.jo](mailto:library@iaa.edu.jo) or speak to any of our librarians in person.

Last Wednesday, it was a pleasure to see parents at the Academic Honesty workshop given by the Secondary School. Part of the library's curriculum is teaching students to use library resources appropriately. We put a great deal of time and thought into teaching students to research and to use proper citation style when completing any written assignment, especially research-based assignments. This week students in the KG Library learned that it is important to put your name on your paper so that you get credit for your own ideas. And I am looking forward to soon meeting individually with each Grade 11 student to discuss the resources they need for writing their Grade 12 Extended Essays. Our goal is to maximize the use of school resources. On Moodle, you can find a Library Class page with descriptions and tutorials for our databases, all available online 24/7, from school or home. In the Media Lab, we are also teaching students to use proper guidelines when they use online video clips, images and music in their projects. Due to the easy access via the Internet, students are being required to use more and more multimedia in their work and class projects. Many of these projects are being created on or being published to the web via wikis, blogs, YouTube, and other Web 2.0 tools. At IAA, students are expected to respect and adhere to the internationally accepted laws and agreements concerning copyright and other people's ideas. Thus, we are working on ways to instruct students in how best to document sources when they produce a Media Lab project; for example, how would a Works Cited look in a PowToon animated presentation or Prezi? What does it look like in a brochure or poster? How to cite YouTube videos or written/recorded Music when they create/edit videos? What's different? What does the format allow you to do, etc. The way citations are written is also important, whether a blog post or a speech or a photograph, and can vary depending on the project. When working with media, students need to show clear attribution to any source material used in these projects or presentations in the same way they cite text sources in writing. In the same way consistent styles for text-based research citation and attribution have been created, a consistent way of citing or attributing multimedia is needed.

In the Primary Library, students will be learning about poetry in Arabic. They will be introduced to some famous Arab poets such as Nizar Qabani, Ahmad Shawki and Mahmoud Darwish. They will also listen to some poetry turned into music sung by famous singers. The younger grades will be exposed to rhyme and rhythm through known Arabic nursery rhymes that their parents and grandparents sang to them. It will be a fun-filled week!

The KG Library will host Grade 9 and 10 CAS students who will read stories in Arabic and English to KG2 and G1 from 13<sup>th</sup> March until April break. This will be the library lesson for the students, both young and older, as they work on listening and communication skills.

We are also in the earliest stages of planning a Summer Reading Program. Stay tuned for more information as we draw closer to June.

**Ms Kathleen, Ms Dima, Ms Tania and Ms Rawan for the Libraries**