



الأكاديمية الدولية - عمان  
THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY - AMMAN

# Parent News

## Monday, 19th March

### 2018

### Calendar

Monday	19	--Grade 12 Mocks, MPR --Grade 6 Parent Coffee Morning, Tiered Classroom, 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM --Open meeting with Primary Principal, Mr. Andrew Powell, Primary Principal's Office, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM --Grade 4 Science Fair Parent Information session, Primary Library Classroom, 8:15 AM --GII Trip, (Off- Campus)
Tuesday	20	--Grade 12 Mocks, MPR --World Poetry Day --Director's Open Meeting with Parents, Director's Office, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM --Grade 3 Science Fair Parent Information session, Primary Library Classroom, 8:15 AM --GIF Trip, (Off- Campus)
Wednesday	21	--Grade 12 Mocks, MPR --Grade 8 Trip, (Off- Campus) --G1S Trip, (Off- Campus)
Thursday	22	--Grade 12 Mocks, MPR --Grade 8 & 9 Trip, (Off- Campus) --Primary Spring Assembly, Theatre, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
Friday	23	--Grade 12 Mocks, MPR --Grade 8 & 9 Trip, (Off- Campus) --Grade 11 Trip, (Off- Campus)
Saturday	24	--Grade 12 Mocks, MPR --Grade 8 & 9 Trip, (Off- Campus) --Grade 11 Trip, (Off- Campus)
Sunday	25	--Grade 12 Mocks, MPR --G1C Trip, (Off- Campus) --Bible Competition, Tiered Classroom, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Monday	26	--Grade 12 Mocks, MPR --Grade 7 Parent Coffee Morning, Tiered Classroom, 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM --Open meeting with Primary Principal, Mr. Andrew Powell, Primary Principal's Office, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

## *A Message from the Director*

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Spring is knocking on our doors as the winter months are coming to an end. We have been extremely fortunate, as we have endured a relatively mild winter this year. And as Rainer Maria Rilke says in one of his poems describing spring, *"Spring has returned. The Earth is like a child that knows poems."* And my favourite in Arabic for Al-Mutanabi is:

أَتَاكَ الرَّبِيعُ الطَّلُقُ يَخْتَالُ ضَاكِحًا

مِنَ الْحَسَنِ حَتَّى كَادَ أَنْ يَتَكَلَّمَ

Speaking of poems, this week we celebrate **World Poetry Day** in both Primary and Secondary schools through a plethora of fun activities. Whether it's writing, performing or just enjoying poems, World Poetry Day on 21 March was established by UNESCO as an opportunity to reflect on the power of language and the full development of each person's creative abilities. Take the time to discuss poetry with your child this week, famous poets and even recite your favourite ones.

We have a busy two weeks ahead leading to our Spring Break and then another 10 weeks for the end of the term. Several local trips are in the pipeline, some overnight and one international trip to Spain for our student athletes.

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

Have an enjoyable week.

Hana Kanan Ed.D.

Director

## **Primary School News**

Dear Parents,

We ended last week in style as the school played host to an impromptu demonstration by The Royal Jordanian Armed Forces Band and Military Drill Team. Our students were astounded by the skills exhibited by the soldiers who are highly regarded internationally. The display was part of our Grade 12 celebrations marking their last day of classes at school, prior to sitting their Diploma Programme exams.

### **Spring Assembly**

This week we have our Spring Concert in the theatre on Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:10pm. The celebrations will be led by our Grade 1 and Grade 3 classes.

### **Science Fair**

We have a number of parent meetings scheduled in order to give parents an idea of what to expect with respect to our upcoming Science Fairs. The times and locations of those meetings are as follow:

Sunday March 18<sup>th</sup> G5 Science Fair Parent Meeting (Primary Library) @ 8am

Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup> G4 Science Fair Parent Meeting (Primary Library) @ 8am

Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> G3 Science Fair Parent Meeting (Primary Library) @ 8am

## **School Communication Policy**

I would like to remind parents of the importance of following our school communication policy. Should you be concerned about any aspect of your child's school day, you are encouraged to speak directly with your child's teacher or one of our counsellors. Please call Primary Reception to leave a message and the teacher will call back to arrange a time to meet.

## **Award Winners**

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

### **Bronze Award Winners**

Ahmed Al Nammari 5MM

Hashem Zalloum 4P

Tayma Abu Lughod 2Z

Hashem Ellauzi 4P

Omar Manasra 4M

Zaki Sayed Ahmad 1F

Randa Al Fayez 4P

Hashem Al Rashdan 4P

Abdullah Al Dowaish 4P

### **Silver Award Winners**

Maya Sharaiha 5S

Hayma Al Abbadi 3S

Ahmad Salem 1F

Dani Madanat 5S  
Mariam Saket 5S  
Faisal Abu Ragheb 4M  
Gold Award Winner  
Salma Al Faraj 3S  
Nadia Issa 3S

Ayah Abdin 2Z  
Ayla Haddadin 2Z  
Naya Akkawi 2Z

Zaki Sayed Ahmad 1F  
Mona Mustafa 1F  
Yousef Abu Obeid 1s

I hope that you have a wonderful week.  
Yours sincerely,  
Andrew Powell

## **Secondary School News**

Dear Parents,

### **Celebrating the Arts**

The Diploma Visual Arts Exhibition and the Secondary School Production “100” were successful events this past week. Congratulations to all of our students and staff. Their hard work and commitment translated into creative art pieces and performances, each portraying their own powerful messages. However, the academic year is far from over....mark your calendars for the Music Concert taking place on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Jordan Trail**

It was a busy weekend for 47 of our G8s as they were the last group to embark on the Jordan Trail, near Ajloun. They took in the beautiful natural landscapes, learned about their Jordanian history and immersed themselves in the local culture. We were lucky to see Black Iris and the snow-capped peaks of Lebanon – a special treat. At this stage, grades 6 to 10 were given the opportunity to experience the Jordan Trail and learn about the different civilisations that have made their mark on this land. We look forward to exploring more parts of the Trail come next academic year.

### **Last MUN of the School Year**

Al-Asriyya School will be hosting the last MUN conference this upcoming weekend. Our Grades 8 and 9 students once again have the opportunity to serve as delegates for various countries to develop their skills of diplomacy and argumentation through discussion about significant global and regional issues. This is an excellent preparation for IMUN 2018.

### **Poetry Week**

There is a poet in each one of us. Throughout this week, that poet can take centre stage at IAA’s Poet’s Corner during first break. Students and staff will share poetry that has touched them, whether original or adapted. We do this to celebrate World Poetry Day. This official day, marked by UNESCO, recognises the “unique ability of poetry to capture the creative spirit of the human mind”. We encourage you to do the same at home.

This year, we put the spotlight on Ibtisam Barakat, critically acclaimed Arabic author and poet who sees writing as a means for Leadership. This is because the “writer invites others to experience our stories, benefit from our thinking and engage the conversation to move the world and the issues that matter to us forward”. Her poems are many, making it hard to narrow it down to one – but we did.

#### **POEM MADE OF BREAD**

In the middle of bread  
all loaves, all shapes:  
    American white,  
    French baguette, or  
    Arabic flat --  
    single flour  
    or multi-grain  
there is the word: read.  
All that remains if you break  
a loaf of bread is: read.  
    past and present  
    eternal like rain  
    falling from the sky  
    grain by grain. . .  
Those who cannot read  
are the hunger of this world.  
And dinner will not be ready  
until they can read.  
Dinner will not be served  
until all can read  
and the young have books  
    early in life  
    to sleep on like pillows  
    after reading so late,  
and the passing to have books  
    to take to the afterlife --  
    a gift to the reading angels  
    who long for human bread.

#### **Coffee Mornings**

The grade-specific Coffee Mornings will be starting again soon. The purpose of these sessions would be for you to raise any issues, concerns and suggestions you have regarding the specific grade. All sessions will take place from 8am to 9am in the Library. The dates are as follows:

- G6 March 19<sup>th</sup>
- G7 March 26<sup>th</sup>
- G8 April 16<sup>th</sup>

#### **G10 and G12 Mock Examinations**

All that remains is for us to wish our G10 and G12 students all the best in their upcoming mock assessments.

Sincerely,  
Mr. Martin and Ms. Zena

## Library News

### **My First Memory (Of Librarians) by Nikki Giovanni**

This is my first memory:  
A big room with heavy wooden tables that sat on a creaky wood floor  
A line of green shades—bankers' lights—down the center  
Heavy oak chairs that were too low or maybe I was simply too short  
For me to sit in and read  
So my first book was always big

In the foyer up four steps a semi-circle desk presided  
To the left side the card catalogue  
On the right newspapers draped over what looked like a quilt rack  
Magazines face out from the wall

The welcoming smile of my librarian  
The anticipation in my heart  
All those books — another world — just waiting  
At my fingertips.

The Libraries are happy to participate in Poetry Week activities around campus this week. The KG Library is handing out free poems to teachers and students on 21 March. Students will be reciting poems and writing their own acrostic poems, as part of the unit "Genres". One of the KG students' favourite poetry books are *Who Swallowed Harold? And Other Poems about Pets* by Susan Pearson. This book has 18 poems about pets – from puppies to goldfish. Another is *Wolf's Coming!* By Joe Kulka, a funny narrative poem that starts with suspense and ends with a great surprise.

Our Primary students love poets like Dr. Seuss, Jack Prelutsky and Shel Silverstein. *Where the Sidewalk Ends* by Shel Silverstein is a collection of great fun poems that students and adults enjoy. Jack Prelutsky was named the first Children's Poet Laureate in the US. His book, *Be Glad Your Nose is on Your Face* is a hilarious collection of poems where anything can happen. Frogs in red suspenders, a clocktopus and gloopy gloppers are only some of his imaginative characters that take you on a ride into his world of poetry. We will be reciting poems to all the classes. Grade 3 will be doing LEGO poetry and Grade 4 will be doing Blackout Poetry. As for the teachers, we will be sending them a 'ring' of selected laminated poems (so they can keep them) and some candy.

In the Secondary, we will cap off activities with the First Annual IAA Haiku Slam during our weekly poet's corner. To compete, students bring at least 15 Haiku to Poet's Corner on Thursday, 22 March – First and Second Breaks. Rounds will be sudden death, judged by a panel of 3 teachers. May the best haiku win!