



الأكاديمية الدولية - عمان
THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY - AMMAN

Parent News Monday, 25th March 2024

Calendar

MARCH - APRIL 24

**7 SUN -
8 MON**

Spring Break
Sunday, 07 April 2024 to Monday, 08 April 2024

A Message from The Director

Dear IAA Community,

As we step into April, it's hard to believe that the academic year will be over in just two short months! Yet, as we move forward, we are filled with pride and admiration for the remarkable achievements and compassionate acts demonstrated by our students and school community.

In the spirit of Ramadan, I am immensely proud of our students and school for upholding cherished traditions! Our heartfelt initiative of hosting Iftar with the orphans epitomizes the kindness and generosity instilled in our community, embodying the essence of compassion and empathy. Additionally, I am pleased to announce that we have begun the process of donating the items collected during our annual Ramadan campaign; may our contributions serve as a source of hope and comfort, spreading joy throughout this sacred

month. Furthermore, I eagerly anticipate our traditional Ramadan Prayer Night, scheduled for Sunday, the 31st of March, at 8:45 pm. This spiritual gathering offers a moment for reflection, gratitude, and communal worship, fostering unity and strengthening our bonds as a school community starting August.

On another note, I would like to take this opportunity to inform our parents that Mr. Cameron Forbes, our new Secondary School Principal for the upcoming year, is currently visiting IAA until the end of the week for a smooth transition and handover. We welcome Mr. Forbes with open arms and look forward to the valuable contributions he will bring to our school community.

Moreover, I want to wish the best of luck to our students departing to Loches, France, to participate in the 17th European Festival for Arts hosted by Saint Denis School, and to the students departing to Spain for a cultural trip hosted by GSD International School. These two trips mark the culmination of our international endeavors for the current academic year, and I have no doubt that they will be enriching experiences that will foster growth, learning, and unforgettable memories.

As this will be the last newsletter before Eid al-Fitr, I extend my warmest wishes to everyone for a blessed Eid break. May this special occasion be filled with joy, peace, and cherished moments with loved ones.

With warm regards,

Hana Kanan, Ed. D.

Director

Primary School News

While we patiently await the closing ceremony of winter, we look forward with great excitement to the third and final chapter of this academic year. I wish our community peace, bliss, and prosperity during this festive and blessed season. Heads up, the final stretch of this term will be filled with many delightful occasions such as the observance of Eid Al Fitr, Easter, Independence Day, and IAA's 20th-anniversary. Meanwhile, I am delighted to witness firsthand our students as they share their experiences about fasting, celebrating traditions, and focusing on the commonalities and not the discrepancies.

On the academic side of proceedings, it pleases us to continue to offer our students our High-Quality Teaching and Learning program. With the resumption of the Enrichment Programme after Ramadan, we aim to make the best of the last third of the academic year. We are diligently working behind the scenes to produce the finest learning experiences; therefore, we encourage you to maximize your child's school attendance. We all agree that attendance is an essential component of a student's academic success.

Still on the academic topic, the shortened school day might be tricky to handle, especially among family and social obligations. Therefore, organizing a schedule for studying and homework is highly advisable. Similarly, it is imperative that children get enough sleeping time, have a good meal, and drink sufficient fluids at night if they are fasting to help them maintain their energy and focus the following day.

In terms of resuming our regular activities, the Primary After School Clubs will be recommencing on Monday, April 15th when we come back from the Eid holiday. Kindly note that no registration will be required on your behalf as we will continue with the enrollment lists we had at the start of the second term. Rest assured that an email will be sent to you, before the end of Ramadan, which will contain the registration lists for all after-school activities.

Another facet of our school culture is duty, and it has been pleasing to see that during tough times we have been able to continue our commitment to those that are less fortunate. As for our annual Ramadan campaign, we will be able to deliver food packages soon; however, there is still time for you to contribute. Thank you so much to all those families that have donated to this cause.

A gentle reminder of the Iftar gathering for orphans that Primary School will be hosting on Thursday, the 28th of March at 6:30 pm in the Cafeteria. Our primary G4 and 5 students will have the opportunity to share this blessed moment with children from orphanages. To cover the cost of the meals for both our students and the orphanage children, we kindly request a contribution of 25JD per participating student.

Ramadan Kareem, Happy Eid & Blessed Easter!"

Secondary School News

Dear Parents

Mr Cameron Forbes visiting

We are fortunate to be able to have the new Secondary School Principal, Mr Cameron Forbes in school for the whole of this week. He'll be using this time to meet colleagues, learn about the school culture and be involved in a lot of planning meetings. This fantastic opportunity for a really comprehensive handover means that we will hit the ground running at the start of the new academic year 2024/2025.

Iftars and Ramadan Plans

Our first two Iftars, with the grade 6/7 and 8/9, were very successful. We are extremely proud of our students as they were fully engaged with our guests, treating them with wonderful hospitality – whether through face-painting, playing football and breaking fast and praying with them. We thank our parents and students for their generosity as it was heartwarming to see the number of gifts and candy that our guests left with. There were smiles all round. In the coming weeks we have:

- All School – Sunday 31st March: Community Prayer Evening at 8.45pm
- Grade 10/11 – Wednesday 3rd April: Iftar at 6.00pm

For Grades 10 and 11, there is a contribution of 20JD to be paid to Finance to cover the costs of all meals and gifts for guests and our students. We hope that many in our community will join in these special evenings.

Mobile Phone/Smartwatch Ban in Secondary after the Eid Break

Starting on April 14th all students in Grades 6 to 11 will be required to lock up their phones in their lockers at the start of every day, where they must remain until the end of the school day. If they do not currently have lockers assigned then this will take place in the next week. This does mean that students will not be able to use their phones to purchase food and beverages in the cafeteria, so ensuring all students come back from the Eid holiday with pre-charged bracelets or bank cards is essential. More detail about this will be shared through an official letter shortly.

Guest Speakers

On Thursday 21st March we had representatives speaking to our Grade 6 to 8 students to mark World Down's Syndrome Day. It was an inspiring assembly with people sharing their experiences with the condition. It was an assembly full of positive energy and We hope our students really reflected on what they heard. This week we have Grade 10 and 11 listening to two notable environmentalists who are coming to speak about their work with wolves in the USA. Many of their experiences and ideas will be very relevant to Jordan and how we can go about conserving our precious biodiversity.

Green Flag School

IAA is undergoing the process of applying for the Green Flag designation as an eco-school and activities are ongoing. Activities already undertaken include From Meatless Mondays, making bird boxes, properly approaching recycling and planting our own medicinal garden. Over the coming months we will be doing more to raise our environmental credentials, involve parents more in the process and update you on our progress.

Pi Day Celebrations

On the 14th March Grade 6 and 10 students had their mathematical ability tested by the Maths Department with some quickfire and challenging problems to solve. Both Grades had a lot of fun and this week we will be completing the process with Grades 7/8/9 and 11.

Sincerely

Mr Martin and Ms Zena

Library News

Dear parents,

In April, we celebrate the beauty of poetry in both Arabic and English. We invite you to explore the world of poetry through books. Poetry is an integral part of Arab cultural heritage, and that's why we encourage you to discover the beauty of Arabic poetry through a diverse range of books available in the secondary library. Enjoy reading poems by prominent Arab poets and delve into the rhyme, meter, and themes that characterize Arabic poetry. Here are a few recommendations from the libraries:

- ديوان المتنبي للشاعر أبو الطيب المتنبي
- ديوان الحماسة للشاعر أحمد شوقي
- رباعيات الخيام للشاعر عمر الخيام
- ديوان جبران للشاعر جبران خليل جبران
- محمود درويش: كزهر اللوز أو أبعد
- مختارات من الشعر الفلسطيني - علي الخليلي
-

- From the Romantics to the Modernists, English poetry embraces a vast diversity of styles and themes. At the libraries, we offer you a selection of wonderful English poetry books that will captivate your hearts and enrich your imagination.
 - - “The Waste Land” by T.S. Eliot
 - - “19 Varieties of Gazelle: Poems of the Middle East” by Naomi Shihab Nye
 - - “The Collected Poems” by Langston Hughes
 - - “The Complete Poems” by Emily Dickinson
 - - “Poems to Learn By Heart” selected by Caroline Kennedy

We also have some great books for our primary students about Easter that will complement this upcoming joyous occasion. Pass by the libraries to check out some of these books:

KG:

<https://collections.follettsoftware.com/collection/64291f10b8b2070012567ba9?h=9d5c5713542b94d1253cfb609bc5ded2099654a3a1f9232d298eecc277a22dbc>

Primary:

<https://collections.follettsoftware.com/collection/64291b48bd867d001413f04c?h=24ec426e6b7eb9e17198b080b7d2e74d29073af473446ffc6e5c2afe9ec4fce1>

Our spring holiday is approaching so let me take this opportunity to wish you all a Eid Mubarak, a Happy Easter, and a wonderful break.

IAA Libraries Team