



الأكاديمية الدولية - عمان
THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY - AMMAN

Parent News

Monday, 1st May 2023

Calendar

MAY 23

1 MON

Labour Day

A Message from The Director

Dear IAA Community,

Allow me to welcome you all back! I hope you have had a blessed and restful break with your families and loved ones. It was surely heartwarming to see our students walk in last week with beaming eyes yearning for learning as the campus was buzzing with laughter, good energy, and an overall positive vibe; you have all been greatly missed!

As we move into the month of May, we have a few important events to look forward to! The annual International School's Assessments (ISA Diagnostic Digital Tests) are taking place next week for our grades 3 -10 students. These tests are reliable evidence-based assessments designed to support international schools worldwide; the assessments' data is used to monitor the students' progress over time and compare the school's performance on an international level. In addition, the long-anticipated IAA PTA Fun Day will be taking place on the 19th of May followed by yet another exciting event to properly celebrate the auspicious occasion of Independence Day! Further information concerning both events will be announced soon.

As you are all aware, the upcoming month marks the end of the academic year 2022/23, and what a lovely journey it has been thus far! With only a couple of months left to wrap up the year, it is imperative that our students utilize the remaining time to focus on their studies. Undoubtedly, the academic success of our future leaders stems directly from the culmination of the joint efforts, those of their teachers and parents alike. On that note, allow me to wish all the hard-working members of our community a happy Labour Day! I cannot but admire and extend my thanks for your sense of duty, commitment and dedication throughout the year, and I fully trust that you shall continue on the same rhythm until the end of the year. What I personally look forward most to in June however, is our annual long-awaited ceremony: the graduation of the Class of 2023, IAA's thirteenth cohort; a promising and outstanding group of students who shall hopefully meet and exceed our expectations! In addition, the year 2023 also marks our 19th anniversary! Since its inception, IAA has steadfastly focused on providing an extraordinary education to its students while promoting a culture that reinforces the joy of lifelong learning. While our present looks very different today than it did during our humble beginnings back in 2004, our mission remains the same and we'll always be proud of our continuous growth.

Wishing you all a fruitful week ahead!

Kind regards,

Hana Kanan, Ed. D.
Director

Primary School News

Welcome back!

I trust that you were able to down time with your family and that your children are revitalised for the next phase of this academic year. In deed the Eid and Easter joined assembly was the perfect way to celebrate with our community before the break. I have been very proud of the creativity and diligence shown by our students and their Music, R.E and teachers to produce such a performance. It is important that this spirit continues over the next few weeks.

Independence Day

More joy is coming our way soon as we celebrate Jordan's Independence at the end of the month. We will be celebrating this precious occasion with a designated assembly in the theatre on **Wednesday, May 24th** with parents. Students will engage in activities throughout the week and the performance will include singing, Dabkeh and poetry. Primary students are asked to wear traditional or contemporary Jordanian dress of any sort on the day of the assembly.

ISA Assessment

Grades 3,4, and 5 will be sitting for "International Schools' Assessments" for reading, writing, and mathematics on **Monday, May 8th** and **Tuesday, May 9th**. ISA tests are used to monitor students' progress and confirm that their internal assessments are aligned with international expectations. It is essential that student attendance and punctuality is 100% for these two days as the assessments will commence at 8.30 am sharp. Please support your child by ensuring that he or she has slept well and has had a healthy breakfast before leaving home.

Class placement

A letter concerning class placement for the next academic year has been sent to you last week. It illustrates the process regarding the class placement so please refer to the guidelines within the letter such as not choosing a Teacher or having twins in the same class etc... If you feel that the school should consider anything related to your child's placement, then it is imperative that you email Ms. Sophie and Ms. Maria via the primary@iaa.edu.jo account by, **May 18th**.

KG2 Parent & Student Event

There was an impressive display of Mathematics knowledge and skills in KG2 last Thursday. Parents and children were exploring & comparing Capacity, Mass and Measurement, with a busy and exciting range of activities. A super event that was enjoyed by everyone. Thanks to all the students and staff who worked so hard to make this another amazing Early Years event!

Charity Support

Finally, I would like to thank our school community for the support and participation in last week's Bake Sale and Non – Uniform Day. IAA will use the money generated from the event to support 'ABuniat' centre for Special Needs which is a non-profit organization. A representative from the centre will be attending the next primary assembly to receive the check and talk to our students about their work and endeavours.

Wishing you a pleasant and warm couple of weeks ahead

Walid Albay

Primary School Principal

Secondary School News

Dear Parents

We are entering a very busy last 8 weeks of the academic year; it is amazing how time flies. The focus of the next few weeks is to concentrate on our current units of study and ensure that students are well prepared for their end of year assessments. More information about the end of year assessments will be released later this month.

G9 Bake Sale

The Grade 9 students had their bake sale last Thursday, and they sold everything they brought. The money raised from the Bake Sale will be donated to the Azmi Mufti Camp, specifically to support them in creating an indoor space for the women and their children. The money raised from the Civvies Day will go to Himmetna, a charity that is working to bring equity and dignity to health care provision in Jordan. A job well done Grade 9s!

Quran Competition

We would like to congratulate all of the Grades 6 to 11 students participating in the Quran competition. Over 30 students will be participating. It will take place on Tuesday May 2nd in the Theatre, and it will run from 9am to 12pm. Parents are welcome to attend.

Earth Day Challenge

During the holidays it was Earth Day. As part of our activities surrounding this important event we had a special lesson, as part of our “multi-age group” sessions, on how some simple diet choices can have a significant environmental impact. This week we are challenging our students (and you!) to actively pursue some environmentally friendly diet choices. Please speak to your children if you would like to know more. We also had a guest speaker, a “Sustainability Advocate”, in last Thursday to speak with our Grade 9s about solid domestic waste management in Jordan. She emphasized that in addition to the 3 “R’s”, reduce, reuse and recycle, we need to enforce a 4th “R” – refuse...specifically refuse the use of single-use plastics.

ISA Tests

Next week we have our annual ISA diagnostic tests. These will take place on Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th May. It is important that all students attend school on these days, so that we can gain the fullest data set to assess the educational progress of our students at IAA. A separate letter with more information about ISA will be sent out at the beginning of next week.

Annual Fashion Show

Our annual fashion show takes place on Tuesday 9th May. The organizing committee, comprised of Grade 11 students, has been working hard to ensure that the event is a success. They have high hopes of being able to give a significant contribution to their chosen charity. The event is open to students from Grades 9 to 12 and we hope that many of their peers will support by buying tickets and attending.

IB MYP Feedback

As part of our commitment to self-assessment and ensuring that our MYP curriculum is of the highest standard, each year we voluntarily offer units to the IB for them to evaluate. Our latest feedback has just arrived, and we are very pleased with the results. In particular, the IB congratulated us for the strength of our conceptual

understanding. As ever, we also received feedback on how we can strengthen aspects of our curriculum, and we are now working on ensuring these are fed into our process of continual improvement.

Grade 10 and 12 Final Examinations

Grade 12 have now started their final examination session. We wish them the best of luck in their endeavours. The list of university acceptances this year is very broad indeed, with some excellent scholarships being awarded and an increase in European universities attracting IAA students. Grade 12s will complete their final exam on the 19th May. This is the same day that our Grade 10s sit for their external interdisciplinary assessment. Grade 10 will be taking their mock inter-disciplinary exam this Wednesday. We wish them the best of luck with this.

Yours sincerely

Mr Martin and Ms Zena

Career and College Counseling News

As this application cycle draws to a close, I look back with pride at G12's achievements this year. They have demonstrated their resilience and commitment throughout. Yes, it has been a roller coaster ride. Just like any other year, we had the ups, the downs and the swirls in the middle, but everyone has come out unscathed; probably stronger and wiser than when the journey started. We never underestimate the work involved when juggling the demands of the IB programme with everything else. Well done!

Our acceptances this year were strong and reputable; they mirrored the cohort of 2023. It was also noticeable that students were making a distinct shift in their choices by favouring institutions in Europe – and understandably so. Universities like Bocconi, IE, University College Dublin and Amsterdam offer the high caliber education, the freedom of travel within the EU and affordability. No doubt this trend will continue to rise for years to come.

The class of 2023, although quite 'put together', have interests that are wide ranging. This is reflected in the array of degree paths they have applied for: Design, Medicine, Psychology, Law, Pharmacy, Programming, Aeronautical Engineering and the list goes on. It is heartwarming to see our young kids excited to take that leap and begin their adult life very soon. Now that Externals have started, and students are busy studying, I ask that they continue to keep an eye on their emails; it is that time of year when students are expected to finalize their choices and book accommodations, so be sure to regularly check the Inbox and Junk to not miss any announcements. Please also remember to have students fill out the IB Result Form and hand it back to Ms. Farah Younis by the deadline.

At the Counselling department work is cyclical and it never stops. As one class graduates, another is waiting at the doorstep. We have successfully completed our individual meetings with all our G11s and their parents. These meetings were conducted early on this year to give our students time leniency to work on their CVs. Please be sure to refer back to the presentations that were sent to you, complete your internships during the summer, study for proficiency exams and continue with community work – all before we begin our application process in August. You know you can always come to the Counselling office if you needed anything.

Let me end by congratulating our G10s for finalizing their DP subject choices. I hope that our lengthy discussions about career paths, university requirements and Tawjihi helped clarify and simplify the process and assisted in making informed decisions. G10 will soon be heading out to complete their Job Shadowing week in June so please take this opportunity seriously - I believe it will be an invaluable experience; one that will serve

students well in future. I hope they come back with a better understanding of what their life as an employee looks like and to assure them of their degree choices at university. I look forward to hearing about such adventures during our Transition Week.

Best regards,

Aya Abdel Hadi
Career and College Counselor

Sports News

Mabrouk Aoun Zawaideh winning second place , silver medal, for the national sports club competition for Track and Field in the High Jump category that was organized by the Jordanian Athletics Federation .

An amazing trip once again, this time in Antalya. Our student athletes were disciplined, and the supporting parents are like no other.

Our Volleyball Girls team played magnificently well in the tournament, winning the school level championship, as well as beating one of Turkey's champions to first place in club level championship.

The girls played outstanding throughout the tournament, and managed to perform on and off the court, playing some tough games along the way, considering that Turkey is one of the most advanced countries in volleyball.

This team showed the great potential they have for the future, and I am extremely proud and happy to be part of this wonderful team.

Library News

Welcome back! Thank you to everyone who participated in the 'Readathon'. Along with the end of the month's Bake Sale, we will be donating JD1168 to The Bunayat Center for Special Education, a nonprofit organization that helps children and adults with Down's Syndrome and autism.

It is almost the end of the year and we are in the process of preparing for a great Summer Reading Program for our students. More information about signing up will go out on Moodle in the coming few weeks and in the next newsletter. Please be aware of the KG and Primary library's end of the year timings below. Secondary students should return their library books by June 8, but the library will

remain open for classes till the end of the year. Returning secondary students and parents can check out books over the summer along with Summer Reading participating students.

KG & Primary

Thursday, May 24: Last day for students to check out books from the Library

Thursday, June 1: Last Day of Library Lessons- emails will be sent home to return overdue books and missing materials

Sunday, June 5: KG and Primary Library closed for inventory but open for book returns

Thursday, June 8: Last Day for students to return books before we send invoices

Tuesday, June 13: Invoices will be sent for unreturned/lost books and lists shared with Finance. As per IAA Policy, students with unreturned books and unpaid balances will not receive their report cards.

Summer checkouts will be from June 11th onwards.

Have a wonderful sunny week!

Dima Shaka'a

Head of Libraries/Primary Librarian