

الأكاديميـة الدوليـة - عـمان THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY - AMMAN

# Parent News Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> May 2023

# A Message from The Director

Dear IAA Community,

I hope this newsletter finds you all in good health and high spirits. As we approach the end of the academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to share some wonderful highlights and extend my heartfelt wishes to our students for their upcoming endeavors.

First and foremost, I would like to express my immense joy and gratitude for the successful Independence Day celebration held on the 24th of May. It was truly heartwarming to witness our community come together to commemorate our national heritage and independence. The event was a testament to the unity and pride that defines us as a nation. I extend my sincere appreciation to the unsung heroes in the PR Department for making this event a resounding success.

I would also like to extend my warmest congratulations to our senior students who have completed their IB external exams. This is a significant milestone in their educational journey, and I am incredibly proud of their dedication and hard work. As they prepare for their graduation ceremony on the 13th of June, let us continue to support and encourage them as they embark on the next chapter of their lives.

To the parents of our students currently taking their final exams, I want to reassure you that your efforts and perseverance will undoubtedly bear fruit. Remind your children to believe in themselves and stay focused; they have prepared diligently, and I have every confidence in their abilities.

I would also like to extend a warm welcome back to our students who recently returned from France after participating in the 16th European Festival of Arts and Sciences, hosted by Saint-Denis International School. Their participation not only showcased their talent and dedication but also served as an excellent opportunity to represent our country and its rich heritage. This trip, aligned with Jordan's 77th Independence Day, was the culmination of our vibrant trips program, which took our students to various destinations, including London, UK to celebrate arts, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to conduct Umrah, Antalya, Turkey to participate in a volleyball tournament which our hawks took home, and finally, Loches in France. These experiences have enriched our students' perspectives, broadened their horizons, and fostered a deep appreciation for different cultures and traditions. I cannot wait to see the new destinations our students will head to next academic year. As we approach the end of the academic year, let us reflect on the accomplishments, challenges, and growth we have experienced together. It is through the combined efforts of our dedicated teachers, supportive parents, and enthusiastic students that we have achieved so much.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the entire school community for your unwavering support and commitment throughout the year. Your partnership has been instrumental in creating an environment where our students can thrive and succeed.

Wishing you all a productive and fulfilling end to the academic year. Let us continue to celebrate our achievements, embrace our diverse community, and look forward to the bright future that lies ahead. Kind regards,

Hana Kanan, Ed. D. Director

# Primary School News

## **Primary News**

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the primary section of this newsletter. Once again, this term has almost flown by and it has been a term full of exciting learning opportunities for our children. Last week, the Primary Independence Day commemoration was the highlight of the school celebration of this special occasion Indeed, it was a great opportunity for us to rejoice and embody our school pillar 'Cultural Heritage' and I was delighted to see the pride in the faces of our students. Many thanks for our parents, your heartfelt messages were certainly passed on to our Arabic and Music staff.

# Grade 5 Science Fair

Last week, the Grade 5 science fair was another exciting event for students, parents, and teachers alike in primary school. This event is always anticipated with positive vibes as it provides an opportunity for our young scientists to showcase their creativity, curiosity, scientific skills and communication skills. Our magnificent Grade 5 students impressed us as they explored various topics of interest, conducted their experiments, and elegantly presented their findings to us. The atmosphere was so engaging, with colourful displays, posters, and models, as well as the sounds of students explaining their experiments.

#### G5 Promotion & G2 Wax Museum

Please add to your diary June 20<sup>th</sup> for the G5 promotion which is another event to look forward to with pleasure. More details will be shared with you on Moodle as we approach this date. In addition, the 'Wax Museum' presentation by Grade 2 is scheduled for today and tomorrow. I am told that it will be a blast and a prime example of the ongoing work and high- quality learning that is taking place in the classroom. Meanwhile, our students across the school have continued to show our school values with enthusiasm and commitment. We still have an array of weekly performances in their assemblies as our primary classes continue to dazzle us with their talent on stage.

# **Early Years News**

In Pre-K the children had so much fun dressing up as Bugs and doing lots of bug activities as their 'Ugly Bug Ball' brought their Garden topic to a close. In KG1 children also dressed up in their costumes for the closure of their topic of 'Jobs People Do'. Lots of visitors came to school to talk about different professions and it was rounded off when a real Ambulance came from the Speciality Hospital. The crew showed the children all their equipment and let them sit in the ambulance for photos. They could not leave until they sounded the Alarm too! What a way to finish the topic.

## Bake -Sale & Non - Uniform Day

Last Tuesday, we celebrated the last Bake -Sale and Non – Uniform Day of this academic year. It was a wonderful event and eye watering to see our students participating and joining in the fun. I am glad to announce that the revenue that this event generated accumulated the amount of 1416 JD. The money raised will be donated to "Little Volunteer", a project which aims to build children's awareness on the importance of volunteering through a group of pre-arranged activities. My appreciation goes to all members of our school community for your contributions and support in making this event so special.

## **Teacher Appreciation**

As we approach this stage of the year, it is important to reiterate the school policy regarding gifts for staff. While we all recognise that our teachers deserve special recognition for the incredible job, I would like to gently remind you that gifts to teachers are more appreciated when they are a simple yet sentimental. In addition, getting your children involved in making or choosing the present makes it more valuable and personal. Please be reminded that any gift should not exceed the amount of 30 JDs. Thank you so much for your understanding and cooperation.

# Secondary School News

#### **Dear Parents**

#### Independence Day and Spirit Week

We had a lovely week in the run up to Independence Day. Students really enjoyed dressing up for Spirit Week. Then came Wednesday where we had great celebrations in Community Square with the school enjoying a mixture of peer performance and brought in activities. The mood was definitely festive and national.....as it should be as we celebrate the 77<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Independence.

#### Grade 7s Visit Petra University

Last Tuesday, our Grade 7s visited Petra University as part of the Science curriculum. They explored the University's extensive Botanical Garden and were shown how to identify the medicinal and toxic plants. They then visited the research labs, where they were shown the processes of extracting active substances from certain plants to prepare creams and gels. It was a very hands-on trip that perfectly showed Science in action.

#### **End of Year Assembly**

We are looking forward to our end of year assembly on Tuesday May 30<sup>th</sup>. At this assembly, we will be celebrating student achievement in various disciplines and acknowledge the excellent initiatives that took place

second semester. We will also provide our students with a sneak peak of a few events that will take place come next academic year.

## Arrangements for online on Wednesday

Another celebration this week sees us online on Wednesday. Students are expected to be in registration at 8.25 and lessons 1 to 5 will take place on the amended timetable as shown below. 8.25 - 8.30 - Morning Registration 8.30 - 9.15 P1 9.15 - 9.20 Transition 9.20 - 10.05 P2 10.05 - 10.25 First Break 10.25 - 11.10 P3 11.10 - 11.25 Second Break 11.25 - 12.10 P4 12.10 - 12.15 Transition

12.15 - 13:00 P5.

We don't think we need to remind you that Thursday is a school holiday!

## Last student of the month for the school year 2023/2024

Please click <u>here</u> to access the last Student of the Month information for this academic year. Congratulations to everyone who was recognized this month and congratulations again to everyone who has been recognized for their positivity throughout the school year.

## **Colour Run on Tuesday**

On Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May we will hold our Colour Run. Students who purchase a ticket from the Student Council will be able to participate during Period 7 that day. All the ticket money goes directly to charity. If your child(ren) are going to participate, it is important that they bring to school a t-shirt and shorts they don't mind getting very colourful on the day!

#### **Subject and Tutor Group Certificates**

Over the course of the next two weeks we will be distributing certificates to students who have been recognized for their positive approach to class, who have shown excellent progress in their studies and to those who have consistently demonstrated the IB Learner Profile traits. Again. Congratulations to all of you for your exemplary approach to school life and contribution to our community.

#### France Trip round up

Last week a group of our musicians represented IAA and Jordan at the Festival of Arts organized by the Saint Denis Lycee in Loches. It was a wonderful experience. Our students really enjoyed meeting students from all over the world and judging by the tears and emotions on departure day made real connections students from all corners of the globe. The week was a huge success and our contribution which was a blend of contemporary and traditional music from Jordan was very well received.

#### COMMex

Our Grade 8 students have been working on their Community Projects. We are going to celebrate this with the annual COMMex on the 5<sup>th</sup> June. Students will have the opportunity to showcase their projects to peers and to students in Grade 7, who we hope will be inspired by what they see and hear for their own Community Projects next year.

#### Looking ahead – end of year assessments

Grade 10 have already started their end of year assessments. Grade 11 will start on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June. Following that Grade 9 will start on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June, with Grades 6 to 8 starting shortly after on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June. Specific details for each grade will be shared with parents as we get closer to those start dates. Exam revision booklets for Grades 6 to 10 can be accessed via the student-parent tab on Moodle.

Sincerely

Mr Martin and Ms Zena

# Career and College Counseling News

Summer spirit is certainly in the air. Not for everyone though (2). With a calendar full of tasks, summer for our rising Seniors will not be fun and games this year. This is not to say they can't enjoy a bit of summer time; particularly if they plan well. At the Counselling office we have started our weekly University Sessions, aimed to shed light onto the process for next year. Although we have little over three months left before we begin writing applications, preparing early ensures a strong and solid university application. I am also pleased to see students in G11 are frequenting our offices to speak about their individual targets for the coming August. I believe we have managed to get the majority to think more seriously about their future targets. And that is key. Last Tuesday's session focused on requirements for regions such as USA, UK, Europe and Canada. The Session gave students a better understanding of university expectation in terms of grades, extracurricular, CV, essays as well as timelines. The coming weeks are set to cover different aspects of college application; from writing Prompts to writing Personal Statements, we will continue to work hand in hand with students to try and manage some of the anticipated work-loads. I do hope we see everyone there, even if sessions are scheduled after school hours; it is important to attend. For those who could not make last week's session, I will be emailing you a copy of the presentation for your future reference.

Dartmouth and Barnard College paid us a visit last week. The two Ivy League institutions explained their respective admission process and shared an informative presentation with all. Both guests left our campus pleased with our student caliber; impressed by their proactivity and insightful queries. We are looking forward to many more visitors over the coming months, who have already booked their slot on our calendar. *Some of the pictures are shared below*.

The next scheduled SAT is June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Students in G11 who have registered, please make sure you arrive by 7.30 am with your IDs and laptops fully charged. Students are also expected to download the testing platform, otherwise they will not be able to test.





# Library News

Only a few more weeks to go till the summer holidays and a lot to do till then!

I'd like to start off by congratulating and thanking everyone who participated in our Readathon and recent bake sale. Thanks to your support, we were able to raise JD1168 to support Al Bunayat Center for Special Education. Ms.Rasha Nasralla from the center came to our assembly and our Student Council Representatives provided her with the cheque. It is our duty to give back and support our community and the IAA libraries are proud to be able to contribute and hopefully make an impact in people's lives in some way.

We had our last libraries Makerspace activity of the year. Our Kindergarteners planted a small plant and colored the pot that they planted in. We were sponsored by 'Make to Create' by Alice and the students absolutely loved the idea and the craft.

Thank you to everyone who signed up for the Summer Reading Challenges for both primary and secondary students (PreK-G8). Summer Reading packets will be sent out next week to primary students and secondary students will be emailed with their reading challenge. Students should read picture books, chapter books, informational books, biographies and poetry in both Arabic and English. If you haven't signed up your child yet, we want to encourage you to participate in our summer reading challenge. Summer reading is a great way to keep your child engaged in learning and to help them maintain and improve their reading skills. Our library has a wide selection of books for all ages and interests, and we would be happy to help you and your child find the perfect books to read over the summer. We truly believe that reading is a key component of academic success, and we appreciate your efforts to encourage your child's love of reading. Please sign up below according to your child's grade for this academic year 2022-2023: https://forms.gle/gXeY2pCsYv51EE3x5

The libraries are in the process of their annual inventory so we'd appreciate it if all library materials are returned. Please take a moment to check your home for any books that may belong to the school library and make sure they are returned as soon as possible. This will allow us to ensure that all our materials are accounted for and ready to be used for the next school year. Students and parents will be emailed with any overdue books this week and

invoices for lost/damaged books will be sent out next week. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your respective librarian.

Kind Regards,

Dima Shaka'a Head of Libraries/Primary Librarian