



الأكاديمية الدولية - عمان  
THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY - AMMAN

# Parent News

## Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017

### Calendar

Monday	8	--KG1A Trip, (Off- Campus) --Book Fair - Readers Bookshop On Campus --Open meeting with Primary Principal, Mr. Andrew Powell, Primary Principal's Office, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Tuesday	9	--G10 e-assessments --KG1R Trip, (Off- Campus) --Book Fair - Readers Bookshop On Campus
Wednesday	10	--G10 e-assessments --KG1I Trip, (Off- Campus) --Bible Competition, Secondary Library, 8:00 AM – 10:30 AM
Thursday	11	--G10 e-assessments --Grade 8 Drama Trip, (Off- Campus)
Friday	12	--G10 e-assessments --Formula 1 Schools Competition
Saturday	13	--G10 e-assessments --Grade 7 Trip, (Off- Campus)
Sunday	14	--G10 e-assessments --Grade 5/6 Students Transition Week --Grade 7 Trip, (Off- Campus) --KG2 Trip, (Off- Campus) --Grade 9 Trip, (Off- Campus)
Monday	15	--G10 e-assessments --Grade 5/6 Students Transition Week --KG2 Trip, (Off- Campus) --Grade 9 Trip, (Off- Campus) --Open meeting with Primary Principal, Mr. Andrew Powell, Primary Principal's Office, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

### A Message from the Director

I was both proud and mesmerised yesterday at the **MYP Day** as our students took leadership and presented their finding and projects on various topics from science, technology, arts and design. Their sense of community was evident as they took the stage to talk about their community projects.

With almost six weeks remaining until the end of the academic year, I would like to highlight key dates:

- May 10: Bible Competition
- May 16: Secondary Major Music Production
- May 18 & 21: Primary Sports Days
- May 23: Graduation Ceremony
- May 24: Primary Independence Day Assembly
- June 7: Grade 10 Celebration
- June 13: Grade 5 Promotion celebration

In celebration of reading, we are hosting another Book Fair during the next couple of days. I cannot emphasise enough on the importance of reading and its effect on your child's literacy progress. I urge you to encourage your children to read all year round and more importantly, to be examples ourselves. As the summer break is approaching, I highly recommend that your child takes part in the Summer Reading Programme, "**THE AMAZING READING RACE.**" A letter has been sent out last week from our Librarians. This initiative has been effective over the past years in ensuring reading over the long summer break and ending with rewards and recognition at the start of next year.

Speaking of summer, the **IAA's Summer Camp** programme has been announced. Children can enjoy a full gamut of **safe** and **fun** activities ranging from swimming, gymnastics, art, camping, drama and dance just to name a few.

Please note that i will be unavailable tomorrow for the Tuesday open meeting.

Enjoy the warm week!

**Hana Kanan, Ed.D.**

**Director**

### **Primary School News**

Dear Parents,

This week, we have Readers Bookshop on campus for a Book Fair. Students and parents are able to visit the various stalls on Monday and Tuesday in order to peruse and purchase books. As an avid reader, I would like to once again emphasise the importance that reading has on our children and their education.

With only six weeks remaining of this school year there are many events taking place on campus as we make the most of providing our students with quality learning experiences right up until the final day of school on June 14<sup>th</sup>. Upcoming events that you may wish to take note of include Independence Day Assembly on May 24<sup>th</sup>, the Grade 5 Promotion Ceremony on June 13<sup>th</sup> and our various Sports Days which are arranged as follows:

Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup>

8:30 – 9:30 Grade 3

10:30 – 12:00 Grade 4 & 5

Monday, May 21<sup>st</sup>

8:00 – 8:50 KG1

9:00 – 10:00 KG2

10:30 – 12:00 Grades 1 & 2

This week, I would like to congratulate the following Award Winners:

Bronze Award Winners

Salma Kasih 2H

Silver Award Winners

Kenzi Kalbouneh 2H

Ghassan Al Khawaja 1F

Taj Qusous 1E

Gold Award Winner

Sanad Kamal 5MM

Khairy Al Saudi 2Z

Jyda Kamal 2H

Gold with Merit Award Winner

Jordan Donnelly 3G

Zahraa Al Dulaimi 2Z

Salma Toghoth 2R

Faisal Abu Ragheb 3G

Gold with Excellence Award Winner

Noor Asali 2Z

Wishing you a wonderful week.

Yours sincerely,

**Andrew Powell**

**Primary School Principal**

**Secondary School News**

Dear Parents

It was a busy weekend for our Athletes. We had four schools from the Middle East region and many schools from Amman participating in our annual athletics meeting. It was a great weekend for our students with many winning and improving on their personal bests. IAA took over 45 Gold Medals! To everyone who took part, congratulations.

Our last bake sale for this academic year was a sweet success! Our Grade 8s did not disappoint as they presented a mouth-watering selection of savoury treats and tasty desserts that kept us coming back for more. Even more importantly, over JD700 (which will be matched with JD2100 from the Bill Gates Foundation) was raised for the Rotary Club of Amman West to support them in the eradication of polio worldwide. "Alone we can do so little...together we can do so much!"

Last week, the Grade 10s had their final revision classes. We stamped the end of the week with a delicious barbeque, wishing them all the best in their upcoming preparations for e-assessments. Those assessments will take place from May 9<sup>th</sup> until the 19<sup>th</sup>. They are unique in that they include animations, simulations, videos, online graphing to make the test-taking experience interactive and engaging.

On Sunday May 7<sup>th</sup>, IAA once again had its annual "**M**ake **Y**ourself **P**roud" Day. The range and quality of the topics were impressive spanning all disciplines: educating us about the wonders of Petra, using poetry to communicate one's identity, making bath bombs with the right amount of fizz, designing interactive games online, creating board games that serve a purpose, just to name a "few". The students' presentations demonstrated their ability to undertake research, to master a range of styles and forms of writing, to produce work of visual and written creativity and to take action to shed some awareness on relevant topics. Congratulations also to those Grade 8 students who were selected to present their Community Projects. They spoke with confidence, clarity and passion in front of a large audience. They, as well as other Grade 8s, certainly contributed to their community, whether by reminding us that even the smallest thing like a plastic cap can be put to good use or using the arts as a weapon to end child labour. Also, a huge thank you to our hardworking and always supportive PTA for bringing in delicious treats on this day.

On Monday and Tuesday the Readers Book Fair is taking place at IAA and all students from Grade 6 to 8 will have a chance during lesson time to see what is available. You may want to give your children some money on these days in case they see any books they really want to purchase. On Wednesday, we have the Bible competition taking place and we would like to wish all participants a memorable morning. Grade 8 are going to see a play on Thursday at a local school, so it is really a busy week.

Looking ahead, the Secondary Arts Department would like to invite students and families to attend IAA's Secondary Major Music Production on May 16<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in the Theater. Tickets are available at the Finance Office. The concert will contain a variety of genres such as Arabic, Western Classical and Pop/ Rock. The School Band will perform live music with the choir, in addition to other smaller groups and solo performances. We look forward to seeing you there jamming with the music.

Lastly, the Grade 5 students will be joining us next week to get a taste for Secondary School life. They will be exposed to Science, Design, Visual Arts, Drama and Spanish in the MYP and will participate in a number of activities to ensure that they have a smooth transition come next academic year. We look forward to welcoming the Grade 5 students to the Secondary School.

**Zena Muhtaseb**  
*Head of Middle Years*

**Martin Thompson**  
*Secondary School Principal*

## ***A Message from the Assistant Director for Curriculum***

Dear Parents,

This time of year is an exciting one at IAA. Every week, there are events celebrating student work during the year...and the events held during the last few weeks of the school year are far from the only ones. Already I've had a chance to visit MYP day this week and see all the work our MYP students have done in Science, Design & Technology, the Media Lab and Coding class...and most especially that of the eighth grade on their Community Projects! While I know you as parents enjoy spending this time with your children...although you may not always enjoy the stress of preparation...it's important to understand that the fairs and expos that we hold for student work at IAA are more than just 'showing off.' They are an important part of our curriculum.

Being a 'leader of tomorrow,' means that it is important to go further than being a consumer of knowledge...it is also important to be a creator of that knowledge. When we were in school, in most cases, we 'learned' through the information that the teacher 'gave' us. This system is called the 'empty vessel' model of education, since the student is seen as an 'empty vessel' (picture a vase) that needs to be filled up.

The model of education at IAA is quite different. Yes, there is still a lot of information that students must learn, but here, they are expected to go one step further and apply that information in individual, creative ways to create something new and useful. So ultimately, the purpose of events such as those we have this week is more than enjoying time with our children or showing off; they are about learning the true goal of education: that one's duty is to strive to have an impact on whatever corner of the world we inhabit, which is why the pillar of duty in our school curriculum includes the question 'How do I make an impact on the world?'

Warmest regards,

**Lois L. Warner Ph.D.**

**Assistant Director for Curriculum**