



الأكاديمية الدولية - عمان
THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY - AMMAN

Parent News

Monday, 13th November

2017

Calendar

Monday	13	--Open meeting with Primary Principal, Mr. Andrew Powell, Primary Principal's Office, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM --Secondary Parenting Workshop, Secondary Group Room, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM --HAWKS Swimming, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM & 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM --Grade 3LC Trip, (Off- Campus)
Tuesday	14	--Director's Open Meeting with Parents, Director's Office, 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM --Grade 11 SAT Exam, MPR, 10:30 AM – 2:30 PM --UAL Visit, 1:30 PM --Secondary Parent Conferences, 2:40 PM – 5:40 PM --HAWKS Swimming, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM & 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM --HAWKS Gymnastics, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM & 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Wednesday	15	--Secondary Parent Conferences, 2:40 PM – 5:40 PM --Grade 3M Trip, (Off- Campus) --HAWKS Swimming, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM & 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Thursday	16	--Grade 3A Trip, (Off- Campus) --HAWKS FOOTBALL U14/U18 --HAWKS Swimming, 2:30 PM – 3:30 PM
Friday	17	--HAWKS FOOTBALL U14/U18
Saturday	18	--HAWKS Swimming, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM --HAWKS FOOTBALL U14/U18
Sunday	19	--HAWKS Swimming, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM & 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM --HAWKS Gymnastics, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM & 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM --HAWKS FOOTBALL U14/U18
Monday	20	--Open meeting with Primary Principal, Mr. Andrew Powell, Primary Principal's Office, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM --Parent Information Day, Theatre, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM --HAWKS Swimming, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM & 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

A Message from the Director

Dear IAA Community,

As the **Jordanian School Librarian Conference** wraps up today at IAA, I would like to thank the Library team for their hard work and what turned out to be a very successful event that celebrates the importance of libraries at schools and in transforming lives. Well done team!

It seems that every week at IAA, we celebrate students' achievements and I cannot be prouder! This week, I would like to congratulate **Saad Daoud** ('18) who was welcomed to play at Amsterdamsche Football Club next year. And kudos to **Omar Al-Masri**, Grade 10, for his ramp design – a very thoughtful sense of duty.

Our celebrations at IAA are daily and in every classroom, celebrating your child's milestones, academic achievements and new lifelong skills. This would never be possible without our dedicated teachers who go beyond their traditional mission and of course, you -as parents- in preparing your child for the learning experience at school and your involvement in accomplishing our vision. Actually, there is an entire community out there leaving its marks on our students and just this week, we hosted Palestinian poet, Tamim Al-Barghouthi, and Australian d'Arcy Lunn from Teaspoons of Change, both of whom have instilled pillars of duty and cultural heritage amongst our learners.

Coming up this month is our annual **I'MUN** on November 23 and then shortly after, is the Arabic version of it, **Al-Majlis Al-Arabi**, on December 8. Also, our **Information Day** is on November 20 and I am looking forward to meeting new parents who wish to register their children at IAA. I cannot wait to share our news and the IAA story! More dates and news can be found on our social media platforms and of course our website at www.iaa.edu.jo.

Finally, I am available this Tuesday from 8-9am for parents who wish to see me.

Have a great week.

Hana Kanan, Ed.D.

Director

Primary School News

Dear Parents,

Over the weekend IAA hosted the inaugural Jordanian Library Conference for teachers working at schools in Amman. IAA boasts a well-resourced library and our librarians across all schools are particularly talented at engaging students and fostering a love of literature. It was great to have them presenting to their peers about inquiry and critical thinking, literacy and children's literature. Congratulations!

Dr Hanna Haydar recently worked with teachers to introduce a number of mathematical approaches to help our teachers support students' engagement in a deeper and more meaningful way. Number Talks have become

a particularly popular ten-minute conversation at the commencement of Maths class as students build their number sense and flexibility in number thinking as they take different approaches to mentally solving a variety of Maths problems.

On Sundays, all classes from Grade 1 to Grade 5 are now engaged in solving high cognitive demand Maths tasks. These are often problems that challenge students to think conceptually and the tasks require students to make connections, analyse information and draw conclusions. While enjoyable, they also engage students in productive struggle which is seen as essential to developing resilience and deeper Mathematical understanding.

Our upcoming Parent Mornings are as follows:

- **Wednesday, November 22nd @ 8am Digital Citizenship**
- **Wednesday, December 6th @ 8am Second Step Character Education**
- **Wednesday, December 13th @ 8am Portrait of a Graduate – please note change of date**

Thank you to the many parents that have already donated to our Winter Campaign. Each year, IAA families make financial contributions to help put together food boxes, blankets and heaters for families in need around Jordan. Donation boxes are located at the Primary Reception desk and we welcome further contributions. The mornings have become cold and it won't be long before winter is upon us. Please be reminded that students should only be wearing the official IAA school uniform. Should students be wearing jumpers, sweaters or coats that do not comply with our school uniform expectations, we may ask them to call home and have you bring appropriate clothing to school for them.

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

Bronze Award Winners

Husam Baloula 5MM

Kenza Bilbeisi 5MM

Nour Kilani 2M

Salma Bawalsa 5MM

Ahmad Moustafa 5T

Abdelfattah Al- Najjar 1I

Fisal Abu Tayeh 5MM

I hope that you have a wonderful week!

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Powell

Secondary School News

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Whilst the weather remains lovely, the mornings are becoming cooler and we encourage parents to buy the winter coats now and not be caught out by a sudden cold snap. There is plenty of stock in the uniform shop. On that note, too many students are already coming to school wearing tops that are not part of the school uniform – no matter what students may tell you, non-uniform jumpers and coats are not allowed under any circumstances.

We have settled into the routines of this academic year and have reached the midpoint of first semester. The first progress report was sent electronically to you on the 9th of November. The grade and the "Approaches To Learning" skills should be used as a starting point for discussion in the upcoming conferences on the 14th and 15th of November. This is also an important time to discuss ways to help your child develop their strengths and overcome challenges. Students are encouraged to attend. More information on booking the conferences has been emailed to you and please note that school will finish at 2.15pm on Wednesday 15th of November to facilitate more time for conferences.

We have been fortunate enough to have a lot of learning taking place beyond the classroom in the past few weeks. Grade 10 have benefitted from guest speakers for their IDU project last week and were entertained by a lively debate regarding gender equality. On Sunday they will have the opportunity to discuss writing novels and poetry with Tamim Bargouthi which should be amazing. On Thursday numerous grades heard from d'Arcy Lunn, an Australian activist who promotes development through the idea of local actions and global change. This fits so well with many of the initiatives we run and content we teach and there was some lively debate. Grade 11 also had the chance to develop some team-building and risk-taking skills at the weekend as they went away on a Challenge Day excursion.

Our Hawks were in action again over the weekend. This time it was the turn of the under 14 girls volleyball team. They could not emulate the success of our older teams and despite playing with heart and conviction, they lost their games. No doubt a learning exercise for all and I am sure they will bounce back successfully now that they know the calibre of competition in their age group. Some interesting years ahead.

This week during PSHE, our G8s will be introduced to the Community Project (CP). The CP is one of the most rewarding learning opportunities for our students, as it challenges them to engage in issues facing Jordan or the global community and to address them through service learning. There are many forms that their service can take including direct service, advocacy or research. Ms. Randa Battikha, our CP Coordinator, will present to the Grade 8 Parents on the 21st November in the MPR between 8am and 9am to introduce the expectations of this project.

As our Grade 10 students are working through the final year of the MYP, they have been busy preparing for the eAssessments. The focus of these assessments is on synthesizing information, evaluating findings and applying them to real-world situations. Starting this week, the tasks for the e-portfolios will begin in subjects such as Arabic B, Spanish B, Design, the Arts and Physical and Health Education. Orientation in Space and Time, with a spotlight on Natural and Human Landscapes and Resources, is this year's chosen Global Context that will inform all on-screen examinations and ePortfolio tasks. Even though this context has been the focus of units in the past, we will be spending more time revisiting its purpose and linking it to all subject groups.

The G10s also have to submit a full draft of their Personal Project report on the 16th of November. Our supervisors are expected to give comprehensive feedback to their students within the next 2 weeks. The final deadline for the report will be on the 14th of December. The Personal Project Exhibition will take place on the 18th of December.

Our Lost and Found is quickly filling up with school sweaters, water bottles, stationary and other items. If your child does come home missing something, please remind them to look for it in the Lost and Found.

Sincerely,
Martin Thompson and Zena Muhtaseb

Library News

Greetings from the Jordanian School Librarians Conference.

As I write this, the IAA Libraries are just finishing the second day of our conference, organised by IAA, ACS and Global Reach Libraries. IAA has hosted over 140 librarians, teachers, vendors and other interested people attending the conference. The goal of the conference is to empower Jordanian librarians to enhance student

learning. We would like to thank our student council students who served as guides for the librarians: Natalie Al Abed, Haya Hyasat, Salma Bawalsa, Nadeem Rawashdeh, Abdel Majeed Al-Shdeafat, Akram Abu Khajil, Sunny Kirreh and Laya Baloula. In addition, Mona Salah, class of 2020, shared an inspirational spoken word poem. Each of them proudly represented the IAA community.

Our next Library Makerspace is Tuesday, 21 November, from 2:30-3:20 p.m. in the Primary Library. This month, we will be working on creating a “Tube Safari.” We have 20 spots available on a first-come, first-served basis—10 for KG and 10 for Primary. It is especially lovely when parents come along, as these sessions are designed for children to enjoy with their parents. Please reserve your spot by sending an email to library@iaa.edu.jo. You will hear back from us confirming your registration.

Our IAA pillar this month is “Acceptance” and we continue with our focus on the book Wonder by R.J. Palacio. Please remind your children to #choosekind.

For the libraries,

Ms. Kathleen, Ms. Tania, Ms. Dima

Sports News

Our very own Saad Daoud received his welcoming letter by his new football club, AFC, in Amsterdam, Holland. Saad completed a successful try-out there last summer.

Well done Saad and thank you coaches, and especially Coach Saeed Al-Karmi.