

### **A Message from The Director**

Dear IAA Community,

"Wear gratitude like a cloak, and it will feed every corner of your life."

-Rumi

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, I humbly believe this quote is a perfect reflection of what I experience on a daily basis working in the educational field! Every day, I marvel at the incredible devotion of our staff and their unique ability to teach and inspire our children. Every day, I am reminded of how resilient and immensely inspiring our future leaders truly are. And every day, I celebrate and honor the astonishing and continuous support of our parents and community! A massive thank you to each and every single one of you for being an essential part of this thriving community, and happy Thanksgiving to all those celebrating the harvest and blessings of the previous year with hearts full of gratitude.

As you are aware, today we will be hosting our Annual Information Day, an exciting time for all of us here at IAA! Always happy and proud to meet with new prospective families as we proudly share our achievements and vocalize all the special attributes and qualities of IAA. Please be reminded to contact our Admissions Department should you like to register an additional family member in the school, as the deadline to submit applications is December 10th, 2023.

Our first Parent-Teacher Conferences of the current academic year went very smoothly! Thank you all for dedicating the time and effort to check on your children's academic progress. Both parents and teachers continue to strive for excellence in each and every classroom and to cultivate an open and positive school climate for our children.

In addition, I am thrilled to share the success of our Al Majlis Al Arabi hosted over the weekend. Al Majlis Al Arabi is essentially the Arabic version of the Model United Nations, addressing a variety of subjects that affect the Arab region; the theme for this year's majlis was "Our Future." Almost 200 students participated from public and private schools within the kingdom. I am immensely proud to witness our students taking on active roles as Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, Chair, Delegate, Staff, and Security. Their hard work and efforts translated into a wonderful learning

experience for many students as they collaboratively addressed some of the most pressing issues in the Arab world.

Hard to believe that the holidays and a brand-new year are just around the corner! Despite the challenges we may think we have endured in 2023, we should always count our blessings and be grateful for everything this year has had to offer thus far! Stay focused and develop a positive attitude, for every end marks a new beginning! Remind your children to keep their spirits and determination unshaken, and they shall always walk the glory road; with courage, faith, and great effort, our children shall achieve everything their hearts desire.

Warmest regards,

Hana Kanan, Ed. D.  
Director

### **Primary School News**

Warm Greetings,

I hope this newsletter reaches you and your loved ones in good health and safety. The Primary School has been quite active over the past few weeks as we focus on delivering high-quality teaching and learning experiences. Through my recent visits to classrooms, I have personally witnessed the outstanding pedagogy and methods employed in lessons. I was also impressed by the students' work, which demonstrated a commendable level of quality.

#### **Commitment to High-Quality Teaching and Learning**

We remain dedicated to providing our students with a nurturing and intellectually stimulating learning environment. Our dedicated teaching staff continues to implement best practices to ensure a top-notch education. More so, we are refining our approach to Integrated Studies where Science, Technology, Art and Music are integrated to promote hands-on exploration and to foster critical thinking skills. Indeed, it is delightful to see our students actively engaged in designing and constructing activities in preparation for the upcoming exhibitions, projects and Science Fairs.

#### **Integration of Technology**

Our school remains committed to integrating technology as a valuable tool for teaching and learning. Each classroom is equipped with interactive Smart Screens, and we have dedicated Device Days for students to engage in typing and coding sessions in both Arabic and English languages. Additionally, our teachers utilize the latest educational software and online resources to enhance the quality of instruction and learning. We recognize the importance of preparing our students for the digital world they will navigate in the future.

#### **Feedback from Parent-Teacher Conferences**

We were delighted to see so many parents at the Parent-Teacher Conference. It was a testament to the progress our students have made, and it provided an excellent opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress with the teachers. The positive feedback received by our teachers was truly appreciated, and it serves as inspiration for them to continue delivering their best to their students. If you were unable to attend a meeting, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teachers, who will be more than happy to arrange another meeting with you.

#### Arts Assembly

The recent assembly showcased a diverse array of art forms, including visual arts and musical performances, truly capturing the vibrant fusion of art and music in our primary school. Our talented students shone as they came together to present a captivating performance that showcased their creativity and artistic abilities. We express our sincere gratitude to our dedicated art and music teachers, whose incredible efforts and tireless work with the students resulted in an unforgettable show, highlighting both their individual talents and collaborative spirit.

#### Community Aid Efforts

To sustain the positive energy and to keep the momentum going, we are encouraging all students and teachers to proudly wear Palestine-themed T-shirts every Thursday, demonstrating our collective support for Palestine and Gaza. Additionally, our CAS team and student council are selling solidarity bracelets for 2 JD, with all proceeds going towards supporting community aid efforts.

Thank you for your continuous support and involvement in your child's education.

### **Secondary School News**

Dear Parents

#### IAA Winter Campaign

Last week the School wrote to parents asking you to support our annual winter campaign. As usual we wish to offer some comfort and warmth to communities in Jordan who struggle to meet their basic needs. With the weather turning, this becomes increasingly the case as the simple task of keeping families warm becomes an additional daily struggle. We hope that you will join in our efforts to positively impact the lives of others.

### Continued Support for Gaza

With no immediate sight in end to the continued suffering of the people of Gaza, we remain committed to supporting in what ways we can. The Student Council are currently selling bracelets for 2 JD each and next week, on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November, we will have another bake sale to raise money for the Jordan Hashemite Charity Organisation.

### Majlis Al Arabi

After months of preparation and training, the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Majlis Al Arabi took place this past weekend at IAA. In collaboration with Al Asriya, this student-led conference, which involved 13 schools and over 200 delegates, was a resounding success. Our guest speaker Ms. Asma Awad was thrilled to see high school students from different schools come together to tackle issues that were relevant, challenging and controversial in our Arab region. She spoke of the mission and initiatives of the Arab Group for the Protection of Nature, emphasizing the importance of agriculture in attaining food security. We are immensely proud to see our students take on active roles, be that of Secretary General, Chair, Delegate, Staff, Media or Security. Their hard work and efforts translated into a wonderful learning experience for many students, as they worked together to address some of the most pressing issues in the Arab world. They are certainly living up to IAA's guiding principle - "learners of today, leaders of tomorrow".

### School Trips

We have entered a busy time of school trips. Over the coming weeks our Grade 8 Digital Design students will go to the SAE Institute whilst our Grade 9 and 10 Digital Design students will go to the Hussein Technical University. Last week our Grade 12 Business and Design students had a trip to IKEA where they saw many of the concepts they study in the classroom come to life through guided tours and lectures with the IKEA management.

### EHYA Adventurous Journeys

This past month, our grade 9, 10 and 11 students successfully completed the Adventurous Journey requirement of El Hassan Youth Award, whether in Wadi Rum or Ajloun. They covered a substantial distance, immersing themselves in the captivating beauty of their surroundings. They also acquired skills in orienteering, basic first aid and the art of preparing the perfect "قلابة بندورة" dish. These trips served as a test of resilience, contributing to our students' personal growth. Moving forward, our students are working towards completing the remaining requirements of this award, which include Service, Skills and Physical Recreation.

### Congratulations to the Hawks

As a school we have always prided ourselves on our results and our Girls Teams have often led the way. This last weekend was no different and congratulations to our U16 Volleyball Team and to our Under 18 Football Team who triumphed in their respective tournaments. So far this year, our teams have performed very well. Mabrouk to all involved.

### Uniform and Coats

As much needed rain arrives, and temperature begin to cool off about our uniform requirements for coats. They should be dark in colour (Black/Blue/Brown) and not heavily branded. Coats should not be just another jumper or hoodie, they must, to some extent, be wind and waterproof in order to give our students the warmth and protection needed from the bad weather.

Sincerely

Mr Martin and Ms Zena

## **Sports News**

We have a lot of great sports news that took place during the past two weeks that show the extent of interest and support provided by the parents and the school administration to our sports teams not only to achieve competitive goals but also to provide a healthy social sports environment that contributes to raising the level of social interaction between our students and students of other schools.

Moving on to our achievements, the IAA Hawks, champions of the AAC U16 Volleyball Girls 2023 and the AAC U18 Football Girls 2023, displayed clear superiority over their competitors. Their outstanding performance showcased exceptional technical skills and a remarkable ability to navigate challenging situations, especially in the final matches. Their unwavering fighting spirit was evident throughout. Notably, most of our players are under 14 years old, providing us with an advantage to further enhance their technical and physical abilities in the coming years, aiming for more accomplishments. Congratulations to our IAA Hawks teams and to everyone who contributed to supporting and encouraging them.

A notable achievement worth acknowledging is that Bassam Khoja, a sixth-grader, clinched a gold medal, as did Bana Qutob, also in sixth grade, within their respective categories at the 2023 "Al-Aqsa" Taekwondo Championship. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to both, wishing them ongoing success, further development, and a plethora of future achievements.

For further details, please click on the link below

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qK0keY9YVvkJQwdXPVcOpntTc6XGVUW4/view?usp=sharing>

Thank you.

## *Library News*

Dear parents,

It is World Children's Day today. In the libraries, we will be celebrating children of the world through stories and countries. As part of our Cultural Heritage pillar, we will be highlighting the Arab world and learn about Arab countries. We will read Arabic books and encourage children to check out more Arabic books this week. In the secondary, our CAS students are starting to plan buddy reading with our primary students. This was a very successful and enriching learning experience for both our younger and older students in the past and we hope it will be a valuable one for our students this time around.

An informative medium that has gained a significant amount of popularity over the past few years is podcasts. They offer valuable educational resources for both children and adults. The greatest benefit of podcasts is that they are easily accessible and that there is a large variety of content to listen to. They cover a huge array of subjects, ranging from history and science to storytelling and current events. Listening to podcasts is a great way to learn and engage with new ideas, cultures and perspectives.

Current events in Palestine remain a part of our everyday life despite going through our regular daily routines. I thought it would be a great point for discussion with your children about what is going on in Palestine today so here are some suggestions for a few podcasts to listen to:

1. 'The Palestine Pod'
2. 'This is Palestine'
3. 'Free Palestine Pod'
4. 'Let's Talk Palestine'

I encourage you to listen to these and many others as well, but please exercise discretion when selecting podcasts for your children considering their age, maturity and your personal family values.

Warm Regards,

Dima Shaka'a  
Head of Libraries & Primary Librarian