



الأكاديمية الدولية - عمان  
THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY - AMMAN

# Parent News

## Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> November

### 2022

### *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 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 **who celebrated the harvest and blessings of the previous year with hearts full of gratitude.**

It was with great pride and excitement that I welcomed new prospective families to our annual "Information Day" a couple of weeks ago. I am always honored to have the opportunity to introduce IAA and preach about our unique characteristics while building new strong relationships with potential parents, students, and community partners.

Additionally, 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.

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 2022, we should always count our blessings and be grateful for everything this year 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.

## **Primary School News**

### **Greetings from Primary School**

I hope that you and your loved ones are all healthy, safe, and well. It has been a very busy couple of weeks in the Primary School with the continuation of putting our definition of High- Quality teaching and learning into practice. I have experienced excellent pedagogy and methodology used in class during my rounds and enjoyed looking at the students' work which was of a sound quality. With just over three weeks to the winter break, it will be business as usual in terms of the academic progression, our staff will be proceeding with their planning, going above and beyond to maximize the benefits of the time we have left before the holiday.

### **Feedback from Parent – Teacher Conferences**

It was a pleasure to welcome so many parents to the Parent-teacher conference. It was another testament to the progress our students have made and it has been successful in terms of providing you with the opportunity to discuss with teachers your child's progress. Our teachers certainly felt that their efforts were appreciated which I know will inspire them to continue to give their very best to their students. If you have missed a meeting please feel free to contact your child's teachers and they will be more than happy to arrange another meeting with you.

### **G2 Activity with RSCN**

Our Grade 2 students welcomed Ms. Ansam Ghlelat from the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature in Jordan (RSCN) on Thursday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. As part of the interactive presentation, G2 students had the opportunity to share their learning and the activity helped them complete their topic research regarding several endangered animal species in Jordan. G2 students also created a unique hand-made coaster during Art lessons which will be sold in an auction and will donate funds to the RSCN for the protection of endangered species in Jordan.

### **Community Outreach**

A huge thank you for your very kind support to our first bake -sale of the year which took place last Thursday. Our collective community donations will go far to support the Winter Campaign across primary and secondary schools. This amazing charity effort and contribution will go far once it reaches the beneficial party and I am assured that it will be received with huge gratitude. Meanwhile, please

continue to send food items as per the grade distribution letter which you received last week in addition to any warm clothes or footwear that you can spare.

### **After School Activities**

This week will mark the end of the first cycle of after school activities in primary school which usually occur on Sundays and Wednesday. The last day for clubs will be Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. As students enjoyed the rich variety of clubs, I urge parents to make the best out of the Arabic language clubs which include stories, reading and writing. These clubs offer students extra exposure to our beloved language in a fun and exciting setting and can enrich their vocabulary and general language skills. The next round of activities will commence in term two.

### **Early Years News**

On Wednesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, we invited the Pre-K parents to school for a Parent Story time session. The children welcomed their parents warmly and then they had some lovely drinks and cookies together. They all then settled down on carpets and cushions to sing some Arabic songs with Miss Abeer. This was followed by two lovely stories told by Miss Liz and Miss Nia while they sat all around the Pre-K and finished their snacks and drinks. Miss Suha, from the Library and Miss Nedaa came and joined in the fun, it was such a lovely way to end the day!

Please follow Moodle for the upcoming Early Years events:

**In KG2** - 'Pushing and Pulling' - Parents and Children will be exploring physical tasks involving the forces of pushes and pulls, and then explore the model vehicle exhibition.

**In KG1** - 'A Sensational Session' - Parents and Children will explore the senses in a variety of activities.

**In Pre-K** - Up and Away - Parents and children will decorate their own model hot air balloon and experiment with different materials to see what makes a good parachute.

## Secondary School News

Dear Parents

We won't dwell on what we have achieved in the past couple of weeks although our **musical concert** was lovely (I am sure there is a lot more hidden musical talent in our students that would be great to see on stage) and our **kindness week** really raised the profile of such an important, dare we say neglected, foundation to happiness.

Looking forward:

**Winter Campaign.** That was a cold weekend! However, we have good food and warmth to keep us happy. Unfortunately, many in our country do not. We have asked each individual child to bring in a small quantity of food items for our campaign and the response has been great so far. However, if our small contributions are to combine together to make a significant impact, **we do need mass participation**. If you have not contributed your particular item, please do.

**Grade 12 Reports:** these are being released on **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November**. Given the nature of the programme and the timing of university applications (which are going very well!) we release these reports slightly later than the rest.

**Theatre:** The cast for **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** has been set and rehearsals are under way. Good luck to everyone involved. It is a long journey with many hours of rehearsals to go, but we are looking forward to a scrumptious production in March! **Our Grade 6, 7 and 8 students** are also having the opportunity in the coming weeks to enjoy production being put on by other schools in Amman. Please watch out for the **permission letters** when they come as we must have these in order to let your child travel.

**Overseas Trips:** Our annual **London Trip** is all set for December with a great number of 20 students participating. Letters for the **Cambodia Trip** have just gone out to **Grade 10 and 11**, and we hope that we will be able to muster the 25 students needed for this trip to happen. Alumni who went to Cambodia rate it as one of the best experiences of school. It is great that we have the opportunity to offer these trips again.

There will be one final newsletter before the winter break, so we will announce more about our Personal Project Exhibitions and December civvies days and bake-sales then.

Yours sincerely

Mr Martin and Ms Zena

## Library News

We are approaching the holiday season and with the weather getting colder, what better way than to cozy up with a good book? With all the different holidays and celebrations we have each year, I thought I'd give you an idea about some of the best book related celebrations (there are hundreds!) For book lovers though, there need not be a holiday or celebration to enjoy a good read!

**WORLD READ ALOUD DAY (1ST WEDNESDAY OF FEBRUARY)** - a celebration where millions of readers across communities in over 170 countries come together to show the power of reading aloud and sharing stories.

**LIBRARY LOVERS DAY: FEBRUARY 14 (AND NATIONAL LIBRARY LOVERS MONTH)** - fall in love with books!

**INTERNATIONAL READ TO ME DAY :MARCH 19** - a campaign that works to build a community where volunteers from around the globe read every ten minutes, 24 hours a day, supporting families by sharing the love of reading!

**WORLD POETRY DAY: MARCH 21** - a great way to appreciate and honor poetry. Reading poetry is special and enjoying poetry of different poets of the world is a great way to expose your children to other cultures.

**NATIONAL TALK LIKE SHAKESPEARE DAY: APRIL 23** - this celebrates the life of William Shakespeare and is a day to play around with language he used in his plays and poetry.

**D.E.A.R. DROP EVERYTHING AND READ DAY: APRIL 12** - this is celebrated on Beverly Cleary's birthday and it reminds us of the joys of reading any time of the day!

**AUDIOBOOK APPRECIATION MONTH: JUNE** - another way to enjoy books, and listen to more books throughout the month.

**NATIONAL COMIC BOOK DAY: SEPTEMBER 25** - there's always something for everyone of all ages from mangas to animes and graphic novels!

**JÓLABÓKAFLÓÐ, AKA THE CHRISTMAS BOOK FLOOD: DECEMBER 24** - a tradition in Iceland where people buy lots of books and gift them to each other at Christmas time.

As always, we are here to support your students and foster a love of reading. Please don't hesitate to reach out to your library and stock up on books!

Regards,

Dima Shaka'a  
Head of Libraries/Primary Librarian

### *Sports News*

Another sensational week ended with our U14 boys going all the way and winning the U14 AAC football championship.

The U14 boys continued their outstanding journey and managed to win the semi final with an amazing performance, and capitalizing on their winning streak, they went into the final with the Hawks spirit, coming back from two goals down to win the match in a thrilling encounter in the final minutes of the match.

Not only are we proud of our Hawks performances, but as always, we are very proud of their sportsmanship and attitude, that we are expecting in the upcoming weeks from our U14 volleyball team, as well as our U12 and U18 football teams.

Congratulations to Taj Shadeh who won the 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the 1<sup>st</sup> annual orthodox club for table tennis , Taj won 3 matches and got the silver medal after beating 3 players from different schools.

Congratulations to our Grade 11 student, Maya Al Taji, who played the final of the West Asia Women's Volleyball Tournament in Amman , Maya won the silver medal after a great performance with the Jordanian team.

As always, grateful for the amazing team of parents, staff, coaches, and of course, players.