

## Newsletter homepage



Sunday, 11th October 2015

## Message from the Director

### Dear IAA Community,

Today, our Grade 5 to 8 football enthusiasts have departed for our first international trip of the year, the **Chelsea Football Club trip to London**. We wish them safe travels as they develop their athletic skills and explore the bustling city of London. **Bon voyage!** We have additional hands-on educational experiences scheduled outside of the classroom later in the week for **Grades 3 and 6**, as they **venture to museums in Jordan** in order to connect their classroom learning with the outside world, an essential component of **effective education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century**.

Today we also host the **Council of International Schools**, a highly esteemed organization of which IAA is a member. We are proud to have **our student leaders taking charge of the CIS campus tour**, during which they will share our facilities and explain the wide plethora of activities in which students engage at IAA as a part of their holistic education at IAA. **Thank you, IAA student volunteers** for your support and contributions!

Let us not forget the all-important **Primary Parent-Teacher Conferences**. Parent-teacher partnership is a necessary feature of your child's academic success during these formative years. Please make the most of these meetings to **collaborate in setting goals for your child and communicating questions and concerns** to their teachers. Good luck to all.

On Tuesday, **Grades 6 to 8** students will come together to display their many talents at the **IAA's Got Talent! show**. Please come out in support of our star performers, as they are eager to show-off their unique abilities to the community. Break a leg, kids!

This week is also busy week for students engaged in the **university admissions** process, as **IAA will be hosting 37 universities from the US**. This is an invaluable opportunity for students to research their options and to build relationships with those representatives directly involved with the admissions offices of a wide selection of prestigious universities in the US. **Please encourage your children to take advantage of these visits.**

Please note that **the school will be closed this Wednesday and Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> October** in celebration of the Islamic New Year. **Happy New Year to all**, and may this holiday usher in a blessed year for all members of our IAA community. **School will resume the following Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> October.**

Have a wonderful break!

**Hana Kanan, Ed.D.**  
**Director**

## Secondary School News

Dear Parents,

It was a busy weekend. We had a good delegation attending the New English School MUN with a number of our students taking on chairing positions. Our second Grade 10 trip to Eco-Park for their Individuals & Societies field trip went well, and a number of students joined some staff and pushed themselves to take part in the Amman Marathon. Congratulations to all those taking part in these activities. It is great to be busy, and for those who decided to run a long distance for the first time – well done. I would also like to thank the PE staff for their efforts with the senior Track & Field event on Thursday. It was great to see our older students in competition. We certainly have some amazing athletes. Last week we also took our Grade 11 Business students out to see how the classroom learning translates to real life, and I know the trip on Tuesday was a real success.

I would also like to thank the PTA and Student Council for all they did to celebrate UNESCO World Teachers Day last week. There was a wonderful film made and personal notes from our students. The PTA did a great job with the treat food on Thursday, and it is really appreciated by all of us.

Looking ahead to the coming week. Whilst it is short, there is quite a bit going on. We have 40 US universities visiting us on Sunday morning, which will be a great opportunity for our Grade 10 to 12 students to develop an idea of the huge range of opportunities available to them. We also have our students showing us what they can do on stage with the annual student council talent show taking place on Tuesday. I am looking forward to seeing what our budding superstars have in store for us this year!

Finally, we have a number of students travelling on the Chelsea Trip to the UK, and I wish them a wonderful time.

We have the long weekend coming up with no school on Wednesday and Thursday. I wish you all the best for those days.

**London/Drama Trip**  
[london poster 2015](#)

**Martin Thompson**  
*Secondary Principal*

## Primary School News

The student leaders organised an assembly to celebrate World Teachers' Day on Thursday. I want to say how proud I am of them for doing so and also show my appreciation for our teachers. The assembly was a fitting tribute to our fine teaching staff. I am humbled by the way that our teachers work as a team and always focus on what is best for the children and the school. Their dedication and willingness to go the extra distance for the children is what helps our school to be the wonderful one it

is.

Congratulations to all the students who took part in the elections for House Leadership positions. The elected candidates were

	<b>House Captains</b>		<b>Vice-Captains</b>	
<b>Aqaba Dolphins</b>	Ra'd Al Zubi	5MM	AbdulElah	4D
<b>Pella Falcons</b>	Mira Al Smadi	5MM	Khasawneh	
<b>Rum Wolves</b>	Jafar Jarrar	5MM	Idries Odeh	4M
<b>Zara Wild Cats</b>	Mazen Jada'an	5MM	Zayed Al Abdullah	4M
			Natalia Imseeh	4D

I hope you take the opportunity over the next two evenings to meet with your children's teachers to discuss their progress thus far. The purpose of the sessions is to report on progress to date and discuss ways to build upon it. With your input we want to ensure that there is a clear picture of your child's next steps in learning. As I have stated in previous newsletters, the most effective schools are those where there is close collaboration between parents, teachers and children that is focused on learning. If all parties have a clear understanding about their next steps, then positive outcomes are likely. Harking back to previous newsletters, can I also say that if there is a bigger issue that needs discussion with the teacher, please organise an appointment at another time. To ensure the smooth running of the evening, we need to ensure that interviews last for ten minutes.

Thank you, Ms Dima and Ms Tania for your workshop. There is no workshop next week because of the holiday break.

Have a great week.

**Martin Blackburn**

***Primary Principal***

## Middle School News

Dear Parents,

It has been a busy weekend for many of our students. A group of students from Grades 9 to 11 participated in the Model United Nations at the Repton New English School, where their roles were either that of a Delegate, Chair or President. This opportunity educated them about world issues and stressed the importance of debating and negotiating such issues in a cooperative and diplomatic manner. Here is a glimpse of what our students discussed this past weekend:

Sarah Afaneh, the Delegate of the Economic and Social Council, tackled the economic and social issues of Gaza and looked at establishing a realistic framework to aid in their development and to safeguard their well-being. Ahmed Sharawi and Sarah Ganameh, the Chair and Delegate of the Disarmament Commission respectively, evaluated the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and discussed plans to counter their uses. Nour Al Hajjiri and Jude Hadid, Delegates of the Human Rights Council, studied the influx of Syrian refugees into Europe and researched how Gulf countries should support them.

In addition to the names mentioned, congratulations to Tala Khaki, Zain Jawahiri, Yanal Al Abed, Tala Ghanma, Yasmine Zebian, Ghina Kheir, Salma Beiruti, Czara Awad and Khaled Rabata. They not only did an excellent job in representing IAA, but they further developed their research, teamwork, debating and public speaking skills- all important for personal development and future success.

Grade 10B spent this past Friday at the Sharhabil Bin Hassneh Eco Park. They visited a mixed commercial farm and saw first-hand how it implemented sustainable practices and operated as a system. As said by Aya Quran, this trip allowed them to see the knowledge, gained from their Individuals & Societies course, set into practice. Students also visited the Ziglab dam, the first dam built in Jordan. Currently, it is negatively impacted by human activity, primarily littering. Students had a great discussion on how the littering that prevails is due to a lack of awareness and carelessness. They agreed that the public must be more effectively taught the consequences of littering, and that the reward of having a clean environment should be intrinsic.

A reminder to parents to notify the school when your child is absent. Absences will be determined by the school as either authorized or unauthorised as summarized below.

Authorised Absences - including, but not limited to, are sickness accompanied by a registered Doctor's note and/or long term absence due to emergency family circumstances (as determined by the Secondary Heads of School).

Unauthorised Absences - including, but not limited to, are travel during school term; non-calendar holidays during school term; medical appointments during the school day; medical and/or sickness not accompanied by a note from a registered doctor note and absences taken without school permission. Please note that if your child should miss a summative assessment, they will only be allowed to sit for it if the absence is authorized.

As the weather is starting to cool down, a reminder to our students that they must wear the school

sweater. Students will be asked to remove the sweater they are wearing if it is not that of the school's. If a student should continue not to wear the proper uniform, parents will be notified. Starting on the week of 18<sup>th</sup> October, Ms. Susanne and I will be having grade-specific "Coffee Mornings" in the MPR. The purpose of these sessions would be for you to raise any issues, concerns and suggestions you have regarding the specific grade. It also gives parents the opportunity to meet one another. Please note that the Grades 9 and 10 mornings have been changed from a Wednesday to a Thursday.

Coffee Morning for Parents of	Date	Time	Venue
G6	Sunday, 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	8am -9am	MPR
G10	Thursdat, 22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct.	8am -9am	MPR
G7	Sunday, 25 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	8am -9am	MPR
G9	Thursday, 29 <sup>th</sup> Oct	8am -9am	MPR
G8	Sunday, 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov.	8am -9am	MPR

On the occasion of the Islamic New Year, we would like to wish everyone all the best. May this year bring you and your family great health and success.

With kind regards,

**Zena Muhtaseb**

***Head of Middle Years***