



الأكاديمية الدولية - عمان  
THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY - AMMAN

# Parent News

## Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October

### 2017

### Calendar

Monday	23	--Grade 2Z Trip, (Off- Campus) --Grade 7 Parent Coffee Morning, MPR, 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM --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 --Primary Parent Conferences (Surname A-G), Primary Classrooms, 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM --Grade 11 Trip, (Off- Campus)
Tuesday	24	--Grade 9 Parent Coffee Morning, Tiered Classroom, 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM --Primary Parenting Course, Secondary Library, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM --Primary Parent Conferences (Surname H-Z), Primary Classrooms, 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM --Grade 2J Trip, (Off- Campus)
Wednesday	25	--Primary Parent Morning: Active Learning in the Early Years, MPR, 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM --Edinburgh University Visit, 10:30 AM --Grade 2M Trip, (Off- Campus)
Thursday	26	--Grade 4M Assembly, Theatre, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM --Bake Sale and Non-Uniform Day
Friday	27	
Saturday	28	
Sunday	29	--October Break
Monday	30	--October Break

## **Primary School News**

Dear Parents,

The PTA Family Fun Day was a great way to end the week. I know that many of our primary students had such a wonderful time socialising and playing on the various attractions. An incredible amount of work went into organising the day and our PTA Committee deserves our thanks and recognition. This year a new attendance record was met with well over 2,000 tickets sold.

This week, we have Parent Teacher Conferences scheduled on Monday and Tuesday afternoons. They are an opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress with their teachers and learn of their targets for further development. Good parent-teacher conferences are a two-way conversation. Think about your child's strengths and challenges prior to the meeting and be ready to ask questions about the ways you and the teacher can help your child develop socially, emotionally and academically.

On Wednesday, we have a Parent Morning targeted at parents of students in Pre-K – KG2. The focus of the session is on Active Learning, an approach which we use in the Early Years to engage children in deeper levels of learning. Ms Anna Burgess, our Early Years Coordinator, will be facilitating the session. On November 9<sup>th</sup> our Parent Morning will be on our Bring Your Own Device programme and on November 22<sup>nd</sup> we will talk about Digital Citizenship. Dr Lois is leading a project aimed at articulating the profile or portrait of an IAA graduate. She will be facilitating a session about this on November 29<sup>th</sup>.

I would like to recognise the first of our aware winners this week. They are:

### **Bronze Award Winners**

Tala Attari 4M                      Maia Cubeisy 2J

I hope that you have a wonderful week!

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Powell

## **Secondary School News**

Dear Parents,

Congratulations to our PTA for putting on an event that truly lived up to its name. Its success stemmed from their efforts and hard work as they spent countless hours planning and organising for this big day. It was a fun day for all, as games and entertainment targeted all age groups. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped out and to everyone who attended. It was also a delight to see our IAA gymnasts put on an amazing and skillful show, we are very proud of you.

Congratulations to our U18 Girls Volleyball team as they achieved first place in the Amman Athletic Conference this past weekend! Our girls showed skill, agility and teamwork as they bumped, set and spiked their way into victory against every opponent. They should be proud of their accomplishments. We hope this victory is a great forecast for the rest of the year for our Hawks.

It was also a busy weekend for some of our G10s as they embarked on a section of the Jordan Trail that included some of the most northerly and greenest part of Jordan. It was more than just a trek, but a journey through Jordanian history along with a complete immersion in the local culture. There will be more Jordan Trail hikes on the horizon for all grades. It is a valuable opportunity for our students to learn about the different civilizations that have made their marks on the land and to see their country in a very different light. At times, when you are trekking through beautiful forest, it is hard to believe you started the day in urban Amman!

In 1948, Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> was declared the anniversary of the “Charter of the United Nations” as which “shall be devoted to making known to the peoples of the world the aims and achievements of the UN and to gaining their support for the work of the UN” (UN General Assembly). Many of our students have strong working knowledge of the UN – its purposes, process, institutions and their respective powers. Their knowledge stems from their involvement in the many local Model United Nation (MUN) conferences made available to them throughout the year, starting from Grade 8. MUN is an educational simulation in which students learn about diplomacy, international relations and the UN. It is a great opportunity for them to strengthen their public speaking, debating and information literacy skills, just to name a few. It also allows them to expand their knowledge and to gain understanding on global conflicts, so that they can discuss how to address them in a public forum. Currently our students are preparing for the upcoming MUN taking place at Amman Baccalaureate School in two weeks’ time. We are also busily preparing to host our own I’MUN conference in November and then host the Majlis Al Arabi conference in December, which is designed to bring MUN-like-debate to an Arabic forum discussing local and regional issues.

The G10s are now working on their written report for the Personal Project. Progress reports of how the G10s are doing with the PP will be sent home this week. It is expected for parents to read and sign the report. G10s then need to hand it back to Ms. Hala, our PP Coordinator. We are devoting many PSHE sessions for G10s to work on their report; however, it is important that they meet with their supervisors to get feedback on their work. The deadline to hand in their draft for the PP is on November 16<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Susanne and I held coffee mornings last week for the parents of students in grades 6 and 10. Many thanks to those who attended and provided us with valuable feedback. We will continue to have the morning sessions for the Grades 7, 8 and 9, which will take place from 8am to 9am on the days listed below.

<b>Coffee Morning for Parents of</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
G7	Monday Oct. 23	Multi-Purpose Room
G9	Tuesday Oct. 24	Library
G8	Thursday Nov. 2	Multi-Purpose Room

Lastly, this week we have a Civvies Day and Bake Sale on Thursday. It is the turn of Grade 7 to host the Bake Sale, and we wish them all the best in raising money for their chosen charities. We also have our midterm break next week from Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>. We wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable midterm break.

Sincerely,

Mr. Martin and Ms. Zena

## Library News

Dear Parents,

The KG Library continues the Authors & Illustrators unit with the Arabic story “حرفان عمي خلفان” by ميثاء الخياط and مايا فداوي. The students will get to know the author and illustrator in Arabic. They are also beginning to use Destiny Quest, our online library catalog. This involves a small introduction to keyboarding and learning how to navigate the library website, reinforcing what they learn in ICT.

We are continuing the Digital Citizenship curriculum in the Primary Library with Grades 2 and 4. They will be learning about privacy and passwords and what to share and not share online. The Internet is an amazing invention. It has brought all the interesting things happening in the world right into people’s homes. You can play games with other kids who live on the other side of the world, meet people that you would never normally meet and find out about pretty much anything, all with the click of a mouse. Although the Internet is a wonderful thing, it also has some dangers. And like other fun things, it’s important to use the Internet in a safe way. Grade 3 will be learning about more features of Destiny Quest, the library catalog, and the 5<sup>th</sup> graders will be introduced to our newest collection of Arabic books.

The Secondary Library is proud to host Book Club for students every Sunday morning, during 1<sup>st</sup> Break. We have decided to combine all of the grades into one group because student schedules are too busy to meet each day. We continue to have robust debates about books and life, whilst keeping in mind the literary merit of the works we discuss. We look forward to hosting G7 music classes this week as well, as they research famous composers.

The IAA One School/One Story book for November is WONDER by R.J. Palacio. This is primarily a middle grade read (G4-8) about a boy who is bullied because he looks different from the other kids at his new middle school. It is realistic fiction that teaches a great lesson in acceptance, one of our IAA pillars. During the month, the KG and Primary Libraries will share a picture book called, WE’RE ALL WONDERS, which delivers the message in a way that younger learners can understand. We are very excited to bring this book to IAA, especially since there is a movie version, starring Julia Roberts and Owen Wilson, and is being released in November.

Our Quilling MakerSpace was a wonderful success last week. A special thank you to the moms who came out to craft with your kids. Thank you to Ms. Dana and the rest of the library staff who helped create such lovely cards.