



الأكاديمية الدولية - عمان  
THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY - AMMAN

# Parent News

## Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October

### 2017

### Calendar

Monday	2	--Open meeting with Primary Principal, Mr. Andrew Powell, Primary Principal's Office, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM --Grade 6 to 8 Sports Morning --Secondary Parenting Workshop, Secondary Group Room, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM --Grade 1 Trip, (Off- Campus)
Tuesday	3	--Director's Open Meeting with Parents, Director's Office, 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM --Secondary School- Academic Honesty and Referencing, Theatre, 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM --Grade 1 Trip, (Off- Campus) --Primary Parenting Course, Secondary Library, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM
Wednesday	4	--PTA Workshop, Tiered Classroom/ Secondary Library, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM --Secondary Parenting Workshop, Secondary Group Room, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM
Thursday	5	--Grade 7 Trip, (Off- Campus) --Grade 2H Assembly, Theatre, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
Friday	6	--Grade 7 Trip, (Off- Campus)
Saturday	7	--SAT Exam
Sunday	8	--TOK Meeting for parents (Grade 11 and 12), MPR
Monday	9	--Open meeting with Primary Principal, Mr. Andrew Powell, Primary Principal's Office, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM --Grades 10–12 Trip, (Off- Campus) --Secondary Parent Session - Available Resources in the Library, Library, 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM --Secondary Parenting Workshop, Secondary Group Room, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM --Linden US Uni Visit, 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM

## ***A Message from the Director***

Dear IAA Community,

Happy World Teachers' Day! October 5 is a date set by UNESCO as a significant token of the awareness, understanding and appreciation displayed for the vital contributions that teachers make to education and development. On this occasion, I would to reach out to our IAA staff and recognise their remarkable contribution to our community. As stakeholders, I salute their efforts in continuously striving to give their best and to positively impact your children. Thank you very much!

Also, our parenting programmes commence this week for Primary parents and next week for Secondary. These highly recommended courses are aimed at building strong foundations between parents and their children, strengthening family relationships and offering practical guidance to parents. These courses are run by our primary and secondary counsellors respectively.

Two exciting trips happening this week; one is to the olive oil factory where Grade 1 students will witness the making of one of Jordan's treasure; olive oil, and another trip to Wadi Rum again, but this time the Grade 7 students will learn about astronomy and space and connect their classroom learning to the real world. Back in the days when I was a child, I was not exposed to such trips! The experience is immense and certainly expands the child's horizon, independence and strengthens the cultural heritage aspect. This generation is definitely fortunate!

Stay connected to our week's calendar of events and activities through our website, IAA mobile application and social media channels.

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

Wishing you a great week.

Hana Kanan, Ed.D.

Director

## ***Primary School News***

Dear Parents,

I'd like to thank the many parents that attended our first Parent Information Morning last week. The session focussed on Mathematics and I very much appreciated the positive contributions parents made to our discussions. The PTA have secured a guest presenter this Wednesday who will be speaking about learning differences so we have postponed our session on fine motor skills to a later date.

After-school clubs commence this week and I am most grateful to the teachers who are sponsoring the various offerings. These feature offerings from a range of categories including academics, games, sports, languages and the performing arts. I know that these activities are very popular with our students and they also provide our teachers with the opportunity to engage with our students in a different context.

At our assembly last Thursday, I was pleased to be able to recognise various students who were elected to positions of responsibility within the school. I have listed our House Leaders and Student Representative Council members below and look forward to recognising our Community, Action, Service and Eco teams next week.

### House Leaders

House	Captain	Vice-Captain
Aqaba Dolphins	Sanad Al-Shedaifat	Tala Attari

Pella Falcons	Saif Al Khawaldeh	Sadeen Rashid
Rum Wolves	Tala Morrar	Hisham Al-Nsour
Zara Wild Cats	Husam Baloula	Rene Bader

#### Student Council Representatives

Grade 2H	Yulixa Houkayem	Grade 4C	Yousef Abdo
Grade 2J	Aisha Al Nasser	Grade 4P	Naya Aryan
Grade 2M	Yasmin Farraj	Grade 4G	Mohammad Dajani
Grade 2Z	Ayah Abdin	Grade 4M	Marwan Al Kayed
Grade 3A	Nadia Issa	Grade 5T	Akram Abu Khajil
Grade 3G	Tareq Al Jamal	Grade 5C	Abdullah Tahabsem
Grade 3LC	Mariel Imseeh	Grade 5CS	Mark Khouri
Grade 3M	Khairy Al Saudi	Grade 5MM	Sunny Kirreh

Now that the weather is beginning to cool in the morning, students are beginning to wear warmer clothing. Please do remember that additional layers of clothing should be school branded. If you do not have a school sweater, they are in stock at the Uniform Store. Students should also be wearing appropriate footwear. I know that a number of our boys like to wear football boots to school, but these are potentially dangerous and do not conform to our uniform policy.

Each morning, students in Grade 2 - 12 gather in Community Square at 7:45am to sing the National Anthem. This is an important time for us to come together as a community and recognise Jordan's sovereignty. We would appreciate it if students were on time for this experience. While there may be the odd occasion in which students are late, this should not be on a consistent basis and students certainly should be settled before classes commence at 8am.

This week we finalise the taking of class and individual photos. The respective dates are listed below. It is important that children come to school in their appropriate school uniform on those days and that their hair is neat and tidy.

Day	Date	Classes
Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup> October, 2017	G3M, G3L, G4C, G4P, G4M
Monday	2 <sup>nd</sup> October, 2017	G4G, G5CE, G5CS, G5M, G5T

Our Active Parenting course starts this week, which is facilitated by our counsellors and covers such things as understanding children's behaviour, building courage and character in children, and examining ways to enhance communication before children reach their teenage years. You can still register at Finance. The cost of the course is JD20 and includes a course booklet.

I hope that you will have a wonderful week!

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Powell

## Secondary School News

Dear Parents,

September proved to be a great month of welcoming our staff and students and establishing routines and expectations in order to provide the foundation for our success stories throughout this academic year.

Congratulations to our Grade 6 students for working as a team to raise over 1100 JD for their chosen charities – Tkiyet Um Ali and the King Hussein Cancer Foundation. They certainly chose two worthy causes to support! We also welcome back our Grade 8 students from their overnight adventure in Jerash, where they focused on communication, collaboration and leadership.

Our PE Department will be organising a Sports Morning for our G6-8 this Monday. Students will be participating in Track and Field events that include running, long jump, shot-put and tug-of-war. We look forward to seeing our students literally run to the finish line and to uncovering athletic talent.

The Grade 7s have an exciting overnight trip to look forward to this coming weekend. As part of their Astronomy unit, there is no better place to view the constellations and nearby planets than the night sky of Wadi Rum. Known for its mountains of sandstone and granite, it is the canopy of stars that our students will be studying carefully; a breathtaking view that living in the city can make you forget even exists.

Good luck to all those sitting the SAT exams this weekend. Hopefully for many of our Grade 12's these will be the final ones! Also congratulations to those in Grade 12 who sat for their Medical School entry tests last week, as the scores seem to have come in positive.

All of our secondary parents are invited to attend our presentation on Academic Integrity and MLA Referencing on Tuesday October 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 8am to 9am in the Theatre. The emphasis will be on how to promote to our students personal integrity and a respect for the work of others. Also, starting on the week of October 15<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Susanne and Ms. Zena will be having grade-specific "Coffee Mornings" from 8am to 9am. The purpose of these sessions would be for you to raise any issues, concerns, suggestions that you have regarding the specific grade. It also gives parents the opportunity to meet one another.

<b>Coffee Morning for Parents of</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
G10	Monday Oct. 16	Library
G6	Tuesday Oct. 17	Multi-Purpose Room
G7	Monday Oct. 23	Multi-Purpose Room
G9	Tuesday Oct. 24	Library
G8	Thursday Nov. 2	Multi-Purpose Room

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.

Lastly, October 5<sup>th</sup> is United Nations World Teachers' Day. We would like to thank our teachers for the care and the commitment they demonstrate inside and outside the classroom. We would also like to thank our caring and helpful PTA for recognising and celebrating the efforts of our teachers. Your support and initiatives are always appreciated and valued by all.

Sincerely,  
Mr. Martin and Ms. Zena

## **PTA Corner**

Dear Parents,

The IAA/ PTA will be hosting experts from Lebanon and Jordan to deliver a workshop about learning difficulties and how early intervention can flip the results. This workshop will be held in the tiered classroom in the Secondary Library on October 4th from 8:00-10:00am. We would love to see you all!

## **Library News**

KG Library

The KG Library has a new lesson format for students. For one library lesson every month, the students will rotate among three activity stations. Students are asked to choose one of the three stations. The first station is the IPAD station where students choose to listen to an online story using Speakaboos. The second station is the puppet show station where they create their own dialogue and act out stories using puppets. The last station is the Arabic reading station where they listen to an exciting story.

The Primary Library has just started off its first 'Author of the Month' for this year. Students will learn about the life and works of funny author **Jon Scieszka**. Being an elementary teacher for 10 years, Scieszka started to write humorous, twisted stories with kids in mind. His first book, published in 1989 with illustrator Lane Smith, was *The True Story Of The Three Little Pigs*, told from the point of view of Al, the wolf who laments his "big bad" reputation. ("Hey, it's not my fault wolves eat cute little animals like bunnies, and sheep and pigs," Al says. "That's just the way we are. If cheeseburgers were cute, folks would probably think you were big and bad, too.") They will enjoy a great selection of his books like the Time Warp Trio series, Frank Einstein series and many picture books. It's going to be a fun week!

Makerspaces in the Primary Library

The libraries have finalised their Makerspace dates for the year. Makerspaces are intended to be casual after-school programmes for parents and children to come together and relax while making a product that they are proud of. This year, we will have monthly sign-ups for our Makerspace programme to allow more students to participate. We will have 10 students from KG and 10 from Primary each month. Watch your child's Home Communication book for more details and how to sign up. This month, we will be quilting with Ms. Dana, which is a favourite with students, moms and the librarians, too.

**Secondary Library**

**Next Monday, 9 October, bring your laptops along and join Ms. Kathleen in the Secondary Library Tiered Classroom from 8-9, to learn how to use the electronic resources IAA has purchased to enhance your child's education. Research is an integral part of the IB MYP and DP curriculum and a useful skill for students as**

**they transition from Secondary school to university. If you would like more information, please contact Ms. Kathleen at k.mckim@iaa.edu.jo.**

#### Arabic in Translation in the Secondary Library

The library loves to encourage students to read Arabic stories in translation because they often compare the translation to the original Arabic and report that the translation can never take the place of the original Arabic because the Arabic language is so much richer. However, we try to bring Arabic in Translation because it supports the demand for more translated work to reach a mass market audience. Understanding stories from other cultures helps students to see situations from other perspectives and encourages empathy, qualities we encourage at IAA. Because of many translation issues, such as the reluctance of publishers to publish in colloquial Arabic, only a handful of children's books have crossed from Arabic to English: House of Anansi published Fatima Sharafeddine's **Faten** as **The Servant** in 2013. Sharafeddine translated the title herself, and it is available in the Secondary Library. Also, Neem Tree Press recently published Ahlam Bsharat's **Ismeel al-Harakee Farasha** as **Code Name: Butterfly**, translated by Nancy Roberts, which will arrive in the Secondary Library sometime in November with our new book order.

Ms. Kathleen, Ms. Dima, Ms. Tania  
For the Libraries