

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

Dear Parents,

As we gracefully transition into the month of October, I extend my warmest greetings to each one of you! This month carries with it a spirit of reflection, acknowledgment, and shared endeavors, and I am delighted to bring forth a few highlights from our vibrant school community.

In observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, our school shone with a radiant pink glow during the night, symbolizing our collective commitment to raise awareness and support those affected by breast cancer. This visual spectacle not only illuminated our campus, but also underscored our solidarity with a cause of paramount significance.

Similarly, this Thursday, the 5th of October marks a wonderful occasion that is praised, cherished, and celebrated worldwide; World Teachers' Day! A momentous occasion to express our deepest appreciation and gratitude to the dedicated educators who shape the minds of our future leaders. To our esteemed faculty, I extend heartfelt wishes, recognizing and applauding your unwavering commitment to nurturing the intellectual and personal growth of our students.

Moving on, I am thrilled to share the success of our recent I'MUN (Model United Nations) event, a testament to the brilliance and leadership exhibited by our students. It was an honor to host Ms. Sheri Ritsema-Anderson, the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Jordan, as she delivered a keynote speech during the opening ceremony. The event, entirely student-led, exemplifies our commitment to instilling leadership qualities in our students, preparing them to be the torchbearers of tomorrow! This year's I'MUN saw the participation of 8 schools within Amman and an additional 3 schools from Palestine, namely Ramallah Friends School, Ahliya College, and Bethlehem Evangelical Academy. The diversity and enthusiasm showcased during the event reaffirm the International Academy - Amman's position as a hub for academic excellence and cross-cultural engagement!

As we navigate the myriad endeavors of this academic year, let us continue to draw inspiration from these accomplishments and foster an environment where excellence and inclusivity thrive.

Wishing you all a month filled with enlightenment, inspiration, and continued success.

Warm regards,

Hana Kanan, Ed. D.  
Director

## **Primary School News**

### **Primary Greetings**

I would like to welcome you to the most recent release of our newsletter, marking the third edition this year. I hope that our previous newsletters have successfully kept you up to date with our latest news. I trust that you and your family had a wonderful weekend and have been enjoying the remaining warm days of summer. In this article, I am thrilled to share our recent accomplishments, updates, and upcoming events with you.

### **Academic News**

I kindly request you to join me in expressing our gratitude to the teachers at IAA as we celebrate World Teachers' Day on October fifth. It is their tireless efforts that have ensured the smooth operation of our academic teaching program. Furthermore, the primary after-school activities are progressing well, and we have commenced our school trips with the Grade 4 Religion trip. I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents to promptly submit the consent forms for upcoming trips to facilitate the necessary preparations and smooth proceedings. We highly appreciate your support in this matter.

### **Leadership at IAA**

As you are already aware, leadership is a fundamental pillar of IAA and is highly valued as a distinctive quality that we foster. Following the creative campaigns that took place in primary school and the closely contested elections, I am pleased to announce the results of the House elections for the academic year 2023/2024. Let us extend our congratulations to the following students who have been newly elected.

Aqaba Dolphins Captain: Karam Al-Hiari, Vice- Captain: Rashid AlAbbadi

Pella Falcons Captain: Maria Allaham, Vice- Captain: Mila AlBraich

Rum Wolves Captain: Aisha Haj Hasan, Vice- Captain: Suhail Dababneh

Zara Wild Cats Captain: Gianna Massimi, Vice- Captain: Riad Abu Baker

More leadership opportunities will come our students' way in the shape of the student council elections. These will take place on Sunday, the 8<sup>th</sup> of October 2023.

### **Important Reminders**

I do have to ask for some parents' support around two issues of concern. Firstly, the increasing number of students arriving late to school, which is impacting their learning time and the consistency of the school day. We are aware that roads surrounding the area are often busy so please consider this in your departure

time. Secondly, I wanted to take this opportunity to remind you of our uniform policy. We need to maintain our high standards throughout the year as our students deserve the best. Therefore, girls' hair must be tied back and wearing jewellery is not allowed apart from Religious necklace pendants which need to be tucked inside the shirt. Just as well, only small stud earrings are allowed for girls and extreme hair cuts for boys are also prohibited.

### **Charity Support**

Lastly, I would like to express my gratitude to our school community for their support and participation in our first Bake Sale and Non-Uniform Day of the year. It was truly inspiring to witness our students engaging in community service by contributing, serving, or purchasing items during the event. We raised an incredible 1037 JD which will be donated to the 'Humane Center for Animal Welfare,' a non-profit organisation dedicated to the well-being of animals. A representative from the centre will be visiting our students to discuss their work in Jordan.

Wishing you a pleasant and warm couple of weeks ahead.

## **Secondary School News**

Dear Parents

### **Excellent Bake Sale**

Grade 6 really threw down the gauntlet to other Grades on Thursday. They organized themselves really well, bought in a great collection of food and raised over 1,000JD for their chosen charity- Project Vision! Mabrouk.

### **Student of the month: September**

We are pleased to share with you the Student of the Month information for September: [September: Student of the Month](#) Congratulations to all students who have been recognized for their positive approach to their studies.

### **UN World Teacher day**

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October is the UN Day for recognizing and celebrating teachers around the world. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our colleagues at IAA who work hard to make learning current and challenging for our students.

### **I'MUN 23**

Our annual MUN Conference took place over the weekend. We were honored to have HE Sheri Ritsema-Anderson, the Resident Coordinator for the UN in Jordan speak at our opening ceremony who spoke clearly to

our theme of *Bridging Divides*. The conference was our biggest yet, with 17 committees and nearly 350 delegates. We hope they all had a wonderful experience.

### **Modern Montessori MUN**

A letter will be going out this week for the next MUN we will attend. This will be the Modern Montessori MUN and the deadline for registering and paying the conference fee is Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October.

### **University Visits, early applications**

October is traditionally a very busy month for our Grade 12 students for two reasons. We have a very large number of universities passing through and meeting our students in the hope of attracting them to their campuses. It is also the time that our Grade 12 work on their 'early applications'. Exciting times for them!

### **Grade 10 and Personal Project**

An important week ahead for our Grade 10 students as they hit a major milestone with their Personal Projects. The deadline for submitting their product is Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October. Good luck to you all!

### **Beauty and the Beast**

We had such huge interest in auditioning for Beauty and the Beast with around 100 students wishing to participate. Congratulations to all who went for a place on the cast. Unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate such a large number in the cast so difficult choices had to be made. Letters and emails to those who were, and were not, successful will be going out this week.

### **Technology Clubs**

We are really excited about our technology club offerings this year. We have:

- Robotics (Grade 6 to 8)
- Formula 1 (Grade 9 to 11)
- Podcasting (Grade 8 to 11)
- Film making (Grade 8 to 11)

We still have a few places left to fill in Robotics and Formula 1 and urge those who are interested to sign up. For podcasting and film making, students have signed up in school and we are in the process of forming the teams.

### **Hawks Team Practices**

Our Training schedule is now well underway and we hope that all students involved are enjoying coming together, getting to know their new teams and readying themselves for competition and representing IAA as the Hawks in any upcoming friendly and tournament games against other schools. Good luck to our Cross Country Team competing at King's this Tuesday!

Yours sincerely

Mr Martin and Ms Zena

## **Sports News**

The goal of sports at IAA is to offer students an opportunity to experience meaningful growth and accomplishment, while realizing their fullest potential through participation in competitive and non-competitive sports. Participation in a wide variety of activities is vital part of a student's educational experience, and IAA offers its students the opportunity to participate in many sports, including football, basketball, gymnastics, volleyball, athletic, swimming and badminton. Students regularly compete in a local and international tournament and have had a great history of success.

One of the most significant pieces of news from the Hawks this month is the remarkable achievement of Mohammad Karyouti, who won the gold medal in the 200m butterfly swim at the Jordanian Open Swimming Championship. Additionally, we are proud to highlight the successful participation of our student, Abdel Majeed Al-Shdeafat, with the Jordanian national team in the Asian Basketball Championship for juniors under 16 years. He played a pivotal role in the team, demonstrating substantial growth in his technical skills, and garnered high praise from numerous coaches, both locally and internationally.

For further details, please click on the link below

"Sound of the hawks" <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1XhJGGtCHTsYoaKIT68b3SHsF-Ugiy8ig>

Thank you.

## **College and Career Counseling News**

To say that the Counselling office is busy during the month of October is an understatement. Practically every day we have a university visiting our campus to speak to our G12s. This along with ongoing application sessions as well as essay drafting all happening at the same time. Despite the many events and deadlines, our students are coping very well; many of whom have been actively working to keep with the timeline we shared to finalize the process by the Christmas break.

This year the IAA became the official test center for University of Oxford. This means that admission tests required by those applying to Oxford can now be taken at our school. This makes the process less daunting as students sit these rigorous exams in more familiar surroundings where the entire registration is done by our Counselling office. All students need to do is let us know the name of the test they need to take and we'll look after the rest.

October is also the month when our G10 and G11 will be sitting the PSAT exams. The PSAT is important if your child is intending to apply to a US institution in future. The PSAT is a replica of the official SAT and it gives students an idea of how the real SAT runs. The test is marked externally by Collegeboard and students who score high on the PSAT will be automatically considered for scholarships by colleges in the US. It is recommended that students complete some practice question prior to test date which this year is scheduled for 19<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> October. This year is also the first time this test will be conducted digitally using school laptops.

I would finally like to reiterate that students need to keep a vigilant eye on all emails. I appreciate that it can become overwhelming sifting through correspondences, but it is university's main form of contact. Once again, the Counselling office is here to answer all your queries.

Below is a table for all scheduled university visits to campus. This table is updated on daily basis.

Name	Date
IE University	Sunday September 10 at 1:30 pm - 1:55 pm
Swiss Education Group	Sunday September 17 at 10:45 am- 11:15 am
Boston University	Sunday October 1 at 8:30 am – 9:15 am
Queen's University, Dalhousie University, Carleton University, Concordia University, Ontario Tech University, York University	Sunday October 1 at 12:45 pm - 13:30 pm
Mc Master University	Monday October 2 at 10:45 am - 11:15 am
LAU Lebanon	Monday October 2 at 1:30 pm – 1:55 pm
Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar, Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar, Texas A&M University at Qatar, Georgetown University in Qatar, Northwestern University in Qatar, and Carnegie University, Qatar	Wednesday October 4 at 1:30 pm- 1:55 pm
AUB Lebanon	Thursday October 5 at 10:45 am- 11:15 am
Trinity College Dublin	Thursday October 5 at 1:30 pm - 1:55 pm
University of Toronto (UofT)	Sunday October 8 at 1:30 pm - 1:55 pm
Webster University Geneva	Sunday October 8 at 10:45 am- 11:15 am
American University Washington DC	Monday October 9 at 10:45 am - 11:15 am
17 USA unis': American University in Cairo, DePaul University, Kent State University, Manhattan College, Miami University, NC State University, Pace University, Purdue University, Savannah College of Art & Design, Suffolk University, University of Hartford, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, University of Iowa, University of Missouri, University of San Francisco, Virginia Tech, and Washington State University	Tuesday October 10 at 8:35- 9:35 am
University of Waterloo	Wednesday October 11 at 1:30 pm- 1:55 pm
University of Chicago	Thursday October 12 at 2:35 pm- 3:25 pm
The George Washington University, University of Miami, and University of Rochester	Sunday October 15 at 10:45 am – 11:15 am
Buffalo State University, Illinois Institute of Technology, John Cabot University-Italy, Loyola University Maryland, Ohio University, Rutgers University-New Brunswick, San José State University, Savannah College of Art and Design, SUNY Plattsburgh, University of Connecticut, University of Florida, University of Oklahoma, University of Rhode Island, and University of San Diego	Sunday October 15 at 12:45 pm – 1:30 pm
UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO, TEMPLE UNIVERSITY, THE DIGITAL ANIMATION & VISUAL EFFECTS (DAVE) SCHOOL, VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS, AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ROME NABA, NEW ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS, TBS EDUCATION - BARCELONA, HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY- Gulfedutours	Sunday October 15 at 1:30 pm- 2:00 pm
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, University of South Dakota, Pace University, Arizona State University, and Whitworth University	Monday October 16 at 1:30 pm – 1:55 pm
Bentley University	Monday October 16 at 9:15 am - 10:45 am

University of Bristol, Swansea University, University of Reading, University of Kent, University of Bradford, Herriot-Watt University, University of East Anglia, University of Brighton, Swiss Education, Kaplan International Pathway, University of Westminster, University of Bedfordshire, University of Wolverhampton, University of Sunderland, Ulster University, MPW, Abbey DLD Group of Colleges, EU Business School, and University of Bedfordshire – Jordan (MEU)- Gesco	Wednesday November 1 at 1:30 pm - 1:55 pm
RCSI Ireland	Sunday November 19 at 10:45 am- 11:15 am

## **Library News**

First and foremost, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all the parents, students and library staff who made our Summer Arabic & English Reading Celebration a resounding success. Last week, the libraries awarded all the participants who returned their Summer Reading Challenges with certificates and gifts to acknowledge their achievements. We had a celebration for both our primary and secondary students. The event was filled with joy, enthusiasm and a genuine love for reading. Please continue to encourage your children to read daily as research has shown that children who read improve brain connectivity, increase their vocabulary and comprehension and also boost their academic performance. You can see some happy smiles and short videos here - [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1rAgCmODj7UF\\_jW\\_43wW0ev2H2i2YTJPJ?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1rAgCmODj7UF_jW_43wW0ev2H2i2YTJPJ?usp=sharing)

The library staff visited the Amman International Book Exhibition last week as well and we have added a great and diverse collection of Arabic books to all 3 libraries. Arab authors and publishers are realizing the importance of the cover and visual stimulation when it comes to illustrating Arabic books and are now making them more visually appealing for younger readers. The latest and newest publications in Arabic are becoming lively, creative and the stories are more engaging and captivating for younger and older readers. It is important to expose our children to the rich literary heritage of the Arabic language so please continue to encourage your children to explore and read in Arabic.

We are kicking off our library makerspace programme this week with our youngest students. This is an opportunity for our students to explore, innovate and create. We will be having sessions twice a month and it will be per grade level each time. Our first session will be for our KG1 students who will be making a hot air balloon craft after we read Altoona Babboona by Janie Bynum.

Have a wonderful week!

Sincerely yours,

Dima Shaka'a  
Head of Libraries/Primary Librarian