



الأكاديمية الدولية - عمان
THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY - AMMAN

Parent News

Monday, 4th October 2021

Calendar

OCTOBER 21 ♀

17 SUN -
21 THU

Mid Term Break

A Message from the Director

Dear Parents,

A new month arrived bearing a heap of blessings along with it! I sure hope you have all enjoyed the drizzling rain last week as much as I did; such a delightful and refreshing start to a new month, a new chapter in our little learners' lives, a new beginning, a new dream to pursue, and a new opportunity to seize! May they all fulfill what their hearts desire sooner than they have ever expected.

Regardless of how effective or powerful positive thinking is, we are still constantly reminded that we are fighting a battle against a global pandemic. Unfortunately, we have had a few positive cases registered last week amongst our students and staff members, despite our constant and relentless efforts in trying to contain the virus. In order to ensure the continuity of face-to-face learning, you are all kindly urged to adhere to the MoE's health and safety protocols. Although the majority of parents are vaccinated, your children are not; you may be a carrier without even realizing it so please try to minimize unnecessary social gatherings, birthday parties, students' play dates, and whatnot. Additionally, a student in one of the Early Years' grades has been diagnosed with chickenpox; a highly contagious disease that can begin showing symptoms generally within 10-

28 days of exposure. The illness usually starts with a slight fever, followed by a blister-like, itchy rash. Please stay alerted and be on the lookout for any signs your children may show in case they were not immunized.

Furthermore, allow me to express my heartfelt thanks and gratitude to all parents who are being transparent with us and instantly informing us of any positive case or any other contagious disease in their households; your honesty and sense of responsibility towards your children and our beloved community are to be commended, admired, and appreciated.

On another note, I would like to draw your attention to another subject many of us dreaded as children. Breakfast! Undoubtedly, the most important meal of the day. Several studies suggest that eating breakfast may stabilize blood sugar levels in human bodies; it helps children throughout the school day by improving their alertness, critical thinking skills, concentration levels, attention span, problem-solving abilities, and even their mood. Please stoke your children's energy engines; encourage them to have a fulfilling breakfast every morning to fuel their brains and boost their powers too!

The first Board of Trustees and Board of Directors' meeting was conducted last week. We have submitted several reports concerning our students' enrollment, staffing, finances, and new objectives and goals for the next academic year. Furthermore, we have shared the annual audit report, which we received from PricewaterhouseCoopers Jordan (PwC). Overall, the meeting was extremely productive and I am delighted by all the positive feedback we have received!

Lastly, allow me to wish you all a great mid-term break ahead! Please be reminded to practice social distancing and consider how your holiday plans can be modified to reduce the spread of COVID-19 to keep your families and our community healthy and safe. God speed!

Kind regards,
Hana Kanan, Ed. D.

Primary School News

Dear parents,

I can't believe we are already six weeks into the academic year. Time flies when you are having fun! Thank you for your ongoing support of the mission and vision of our esteemed school. We appreciate your support and collaboration as we navigate the challenges during these unique times. I am optimistic about the future of education with your support and our partnership.

Parent Information

Thank you for your contribution to the non-uniform day last week. For future dress down days, students must wear appropriate clothing to school. We urge you to please support our school community by making an informed decision when attending large

gatherings and social functions such as playdates and parties in the interest of everyone's safety, and this is our collective responsibility.

Teaching and learning

Assessment is an ongoing process at IAA. We will continue to assess student's mastery of concepts/skills using different assessment formats to monitor their progress and provide appropriate feedback to students and parents as needed. Should you have any questions about teaching and learning, please contact your child's class teacher. Furthermore, please ensure that your children complete their homework assigned by their teachers and reading daily.

Drop-off and Pickup

Our morning drop-offs are flowing nicely, and it has been great to see you and your families on campus. Students arrive every day with smiles on their faces, and they are eager to learn. Please continue to adhere to the drop-off and pickup times as indicated in the gate policy letter. We appreciate your compliance with the directions of our excellent staff here at IAA, who are working tirelessly to ensure everyone's safety during school drop-off and pickup.

Communication

I want to encourage you to continue engaging in a dialogue with your child's/children's teachers and our counsellors when needed. We have been responding to emails and requests to call daily. Please also note we will be happy to arrange a Zoom call with you to discuss any issue regarding your child's academic performance and well-being at school. Please email primary@iaa.edu.jo with details about what you wish to discuss and your child's full name and class.

After-School Activities

After-school activities have started, and everything is going according to plan. It was a joy to watch the students' enthusiasm and eagerness to engage and participate in various clubs on offer. We are adhering to all the preventive measures to keep everyone safe during these activities.

School Bus

We want to reassure you that all busses are sanitized daily, and all bus users get their temperature checked upon entry. Please support us by reminding your children to wear their masks and refrain from eating while on the bus.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Omolola Wright-Odusoga

Primary School Principal

Secondary School News

Dear Parents

Already October! Our first 5 weeks have flown by and I hope your children are enjoying their face to face learning. I was in a class yesterday and it was clear that Grade 7 are certainly enjoying exploring the themes in Frankenstein!

Cooler mornings

The weather is turning the mornings are becoming markedly cooler. I have seen a number of students come to school who look cold and need an extra layer, or who are not wearing regulation uniform. Please be reminded that students should not come to school in tops that are not school uniform.

Student of the month

As usual, we collected names of students who have impressed in the first month of school and our students of the month in all subject areas can be found here: <https://padlet.com/yhoozeer/2d1ckkfgzs5>

Covid protocols

We are having increasing numbers of students who are having online learning due to either contracting Covid or who have been in close contact with a family member. We urge you to please support our school community by making an informed decision when it comes to attending large gatherings and social functions. A brief recap of protocol is:

- Students who contract Covid: 14 days home isolation
- Students who have a close contact with a family member and who are vaccinated: 5 days home isolation
- Students who have a close contact with a family member and who are not vaccinated: 10 days home isolation

In all cases a negative PCR tests must be presented on return to school.

For reporting cases out of hours, please be reminded of the number to use: [0791000194](tel:0791000194)

Sports programme

Talking to Coach Samer and I am really pleased with the feedback. We have large numbers of students participating in our sporting programme and so far, Coach Samer is really happy with the commitment being shown. Attendance levels are high and I hope this remains the case.

Late buses and activities

Over the coming weeks I expect more activities to come on line. Those that are after-school will not be serviced by the school buses. Thus, if your child stays at school for an afterschool activity, then the families will have to arrange their own transport home at the end of the day.

Buses

I am informed that the number of students taking the school bus service this year is much higher than in previous years. This is really good news. From an environmental perspective, I hope the numbers increase as we do our bit to reduce carbon footprints and pollution.

October holiday

As this is the last newsletter before the October break, I wish you all the very best for the holidays that are the 17th to the 21st October inclusive.

Yours sincerely

Martin Thompson

Library News

We are kicking off our monthly library makerspace programme next week. This is an opportunity for our students to explore, innovate and create. Our first session will be a Fall Leaf activity for KG-G2 on a first come first serve basis. Please sign up through this link: <https://forms.gle/9BHyhVbn5w9mPFTi9>

The library staff visited the Amman International Book Exhibition last week. With over 360 Arab and International publishing houses, this was a great opportunity for us to add some wonderful Arabic books to our already well-established Arabic collections in the libraries.

Thank you to all our wonderful students who participated in our Summer Reading Programme. The KG and Primary libraries have awarded all the participants with certificates and gifts to acknowledge their achievements. 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. In the words of Dr. Seuss, "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go!"

Sincerely yours,

Dima Shaka'a

Head of Libraries/Primary Librarian