



الأكاديمية الدولية - عمان  
THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY - AMMAN

# Parent News

## Monday, 8th October

### 2018

### Calendar

Monday, October 8	-Grade 1 Trip, (Off- Campus) -Open meeting with Primary Principal, Mr. Andrew Powell, Primary Principal's Office, 8-9 am -Information session - Secondary Parents, Available Sources in The Library, Secondary Library, 8-9 am
Tuesday, October 9	-Grade 1 Trip, (Off- Campus)
Wednesday, October 10	-Grade 10s and 11s PSAT's
Thursday, October 11	-G3 Trip, (Off- Campus) -G5 Tarek Assembly, Auditorium, 1-2 pm
Friday, October 12	-HAWKS All Cross Country -Family Fun Day, 11:30 am-5:30 pm
Sunday, October 14	-TOK session for G11 & 12 parents, MPR, 8-9 am
Monday, October 15	-Coffee morning (G10), Secondary Library, 8-9 am -Open meeting with Primary Principal, Mr. Andrew Powell, Primary Principal's Office, 8-9 am
Tuesday, October 16	-Coffee morning (Grade 6), MPR, 8-9 am -Director's Open Meeting with parents, Director's Office, 8-9 am -Grade 3 Trip, (Off- Campus)
Wednesday, October 17	-Primary Parent Morning BYOD, MPR, 8-9 am
Thursday, October 18	-HAWKS U14 Volleyball -HAWKS U18 Volleyball -I'MUN -Pre-K Family Fun Day -G3 Gordon Assembly, Auditorium, 1-2 pm
Friday, October 19	-HAWKS U14 Volleyball -HAWKS U18 Volleyball -I'MUN
Saturday, October 20	-HAWKS U14 Volleyball -HAWKS U18 Volleyball -I'MUN
Sunday, October 21	-HAWKS U14 Volleyball -HAWKS U18 Volleyball
Monday, October 22	-Coffee morning (Grade 9), MPR, 8-9 am -Open meeting with Primary Principal, Mr. Andrew Powell, Primary Principal's Office, 8-9 am -Grade 8 Trip, (Off- Campus)

## Primary School News

Dear Parents,

I would like to congratulate all of those students that nominated themselves as leaders through our Student Council election process. This takes a great deal of courage and while only a select few are chosen, the opportunity to develop public speaking skills, resilience, and a greater understanding of how election processes work is invaluable. Our Grade 4 & 5 students will shortly have the opportunity to engage in house captaincy elections.

In addition to the delivery of a rigorous academic programme, a number of engaging activities have been taking place across the school over the past month. Our Pre-K students have shared a number of events with their parents and looked beautiful as they came to school dressed in traditional and contemporary dress for Arab Children's Day. KG1 have visited the Secondary School kitchen to make delicious oatmeal cookies, while our KG2 classes wore clothing from their heritage and celebrated 'National Dress Up Day' as part of their IPC unit which looked at how clothing can be an important way to represent who we are.

In Grade 1, students have been writing and following instructions for recipes which culminated in the making of delicious smoothies and healthy ice-lollies. This week they visit an olive oil factory where they will witness the process in which oil is extracted from olives. In Grade 2 the children have been acting as paleontologists and have examined fossils and learned about dinosaurs. Our Grade 3 students have made a positive transition to an increased workload and higher expectations. This week they have the opportunity to visit the Iraq Al-Amir Women's Co-op, which is the beneficiary of the money raised at last month's Bake Sale.

In Grade 4, our students have been learning about the various body systems which has meant that they have spent a lot of time in the Science Lab working on practical experiments as well as the Art Room. Grade 5 have furthered their scientific knowledge as they delve into a unit called "Fit for Life". A highlight included creating bodies in motion in the style of Keith Haring.

Last week, our counsellors facilitated a highly successful Parent Morning as they shared an overview of the Second Step programme, how it will benefit the students, and how to help students practise their new skills. They talked about the importance of social-emotional skills for the students' life inside and outside the school and how as a school we are supporting this development. We have a number of other Parent Mornings scheduled soon, which take place in the MPR from 8am. They are:

- Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>                      Grade 5 Bring Your Own Device programme
- Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>                I Read Arabic

I look forward to an incredibly successful PTA Fun Day this weekend. Wishing you a wonderful week.

Yours sincerely,  
Andrew Powell

## Secondary School News

Dear Parents,

September was a great month as we welcomed our staff and students and established routines and expectations to provide the foundation for our success stories throughout this academic year. It was also a busy time, where grades 6 to 11 participated in overnight adventures that cultivated collaboration, communication and leadership skills. IAA Hawks have also been active with promising results, but even more important is how they consistently demonstrate sportsmanship, commitment and resilience. We wish them all the best in their upcoming competitions.

### **G6 Bake Sale**

Congratulations to our Grade 6 students for working as a team to raise over 1200 JD for their chosen charities – King Hussein Cancer Foundation, SOS Children’s Village Amman and Mar Mansour Charitable Society! They certainly chose worthy causes to support and set the bar high for upcoming bake sales!

### **UN World Teacher’s Day**

On behalf of our teachers, we thank the Student Representative Council for recognising UN’s World Teachers Day last week. They not only arranged for a delicious brunch, but gifted us with an original piece of artwork proudly displayed in the staff room, which thoughtfully conveyed a message of appreciation and thanks.

### **I’MUN 2018**

I’MUN 2018 is quickly approaching – Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>. Its aim is to educate students about current global events, effective communication and multilateral diplomacy as it applies to the theme of “**Political Parallax**”. Students will look at world issues from various perspectives – “**What appears as aggression to some, might appear as legitimate self-defense to others**”. Students will take on roles as diplomats from a certain country, research that country’s perspective on specific international issues, debate, deliberate, consult and then discuss solutions to world problems. Students can also develop leadership skills by leading the building of a coalition, chairing a committee and even managing the conference as a whole. All the best to our students as they prepare for this important event.

### **Coffee Mornings**

Starting next week, Ms. Susanne and Ms. Zena will be holding grade-specific “Coffee Mornings” from 8am to 9am. The purpose of these sessions is for you to raise any issues, concerns, suggestions 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. 15	Library
G6	Tuesday Oct. 16	Multi-Purpose Room
G9	Monday Oct. 22	Multi-Purpose Room
G7	Tuesday Oct. 23	Library
G8	Thursday Nov. 8	Multi-Purpose Room

### **“Database Over Google” – A Library Presentation**

The Library Staff strives to provide a friendly and educational environment that supports inquiry-based learning and enhances research skills. Ms. Kathleen, our Head Librarian, will present on the variety of resources available in the Library. Particular focus will be given to online databases, which are valuable and reliable tools to use for research. A must attend to learn about all the resources that are students literally have at their fingertips. The session will take place in one of the classrooms in the Library on Monday October 8<sup>th</sup> from 8am-9am.

### **PSAT's**

On Wednesday Oct 10<sup>th</sup>, we will administer the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) to all Grade 10s and 11s. This test assesses three major components - Critical Reading, Mathematics and Writing. Besides using the PSAT to measure student's standard when compared to other students in his/her age group, it can also help to highlight areas of strengths and/or weaknesses. This is a useful diagnostic test even if students are not, at this moment, going to the USA or American Colleges. Students are required to come prepared to the exam with a ruler, 2 HB pencils, eraser and calculator.

### **PTA Fun Day**

Lastly, let's support the PTA Fun Day on Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>. It continues to be great fun for all the family, and every year the PTA surpasses themselves in making it bigger and better. We look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,

Mr. Martin and Ms. Zena

### **Library News**

On 11 Sept 2018, the Jordan Times cited a UNDP report that found Jordanians read 21 books annually – 8 of which are circular or work related and 13 of which are for leisure and extra-curricular activities. As for non-readers, lack of time was the #1 reason. The second reason was that 'reading isn't a part of the Jordanian culture'.

I disagree with reason #2 because the definition of 'reading' is often too narrow. Reading for pleasure is just one small piece of literacy as a whole. When I am out and about in Jordan, I see literate people almost everywhere. In fact, the literacy skills of those who text and drive are downright dangerous. Please don't tell me Jordanians aren't reading. Next time you go to the mall, pass by any coffee shop and count the number of people on their mobiles. They are all reading.

As for reason #1, time to read, it is true that many of us are hard-put to find time to read for fun. However, we tend to prioritise what we value. Our families, of course, or perhaps work or school, take most of our time.

Last week, we celebrated our Summer Reading Programme with 70 students receiving recognition. Their recognition is in part recognition of their parents, who managed to combine family priorities with a fun reading experience for their kids.

Still, many moms tell me their kids never read their library books. My first suggestion is to begin by reading to your children as part of your daily or weekly routine. In this way, students are gradually building expectations for a shared family experience, laying a foundation for future independent reading.

Children who say ‘reading is boring’ may most likely find that reading is difficult for them. As a mom, you can use your detective skills to see what’s happening.

- Does she understand what she reads?
- Does she know her sight words?
- Can he decode words?
- Does your reader lack confidence?

Asking these questions may help you identify areas for improvement that are worthwhile investigating with your child’s teacher or librarian.

The IAA Libraries want to create a culture of reading for our families by improving students’ literacy skills and encouraging you to make reading a priority at home. Please stop by anytime to discuss ways we can help you. And, if you’ve finished this newsletter – Congratulations, you’re a reader!

For the Libraries,

Ms. Kathleen McKim

## **Hawks News**

It was a busy week for our Hawks athletes who participated in the Jordanian Youth Track & Field tournament and an U18 volleyball friendly match against ACS.

On the volleyball front, our U18 girls team fought hard and won the game. Our champions, Ibrahim Issa Elayan and Phoebe managed to win gold medal in the high jump and triple jump respectively. Jana Abu Lughud won bronze in 400 meter hurdles, Nadine Al Omar also won bronze in the 200 meter race. Phoena, won silver in shot put, and bronze in javelin.

Lara Aklouk won bronze medal in the 1500 meter race.

We are proud of all our participating athletes, including Karissa Hukayem, Jenna and Adam Barhoush. This is an amazing start and we are thrilled to start the new academic year on a high.

Thank you coaches and staff for the wonderful efforts in training our student athletes.

# IAA PTA Family Fun Day

October 12th | IAA Sports Field | 11:30 am - 5:30 pm

There will be fun games, food, bazaar and dj

Bring your family and friends too!

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