

## Newsletter homepage



Sunday, 20th September 2015

## Message from the Director

**Dear IAA Community,**

I would like to wish all staff, students and parents a **blessed Eid Al-Adha** this coming week. This is an important time of year for our community, as it reaffirms the centrality of **generosity, sacrifice and almsgiving...** As we spend these festive days with our families and friends, I ask that we reflect on our **individual responsibility** to contribute to the well-being of others, a willingness to give without hesitation in order to **uphold the values** that we hold so dear within our school and society at large. **Please be reminded that the break from school over the Eid begins on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September. All students are expected to return to campus on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> September. The school will be closed on Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> September.**

Have a wonderful break!

**Hana Kanan, Ed.D.**  
**Director**

## Secondary School News

Dear Parents,

Two very busy days await us this week! We continue with our MYP meetings (please see Ms Zena's newsletter for more information), and I would like to thank all the parents that have participated in our MYP and DP meetings over the past few weeks. Our feedback is that parents have found them very useful indeed.

On Monday we have our first 'Bake Off' and Civvies Day. As I explained in the letter to parents last week, the format is different this year. Grade 6 are hoping to raise money for their chosen charities (6A: King Hussein Cancer Foundation, 6B: Jordanian Centre for the Care of Diabetes, 6C: Kursi Wa Katib (autism)) I do hope that the rest of the student body will enter in the spirit of the day and bring some money to buy the food that has been made.

Last week we completed our elections for the Student Council and I would like to congratulate all who ran for the positions. It is not easy to stand in front of your peers and make speeches. Everyone should be very proud for having a go. To those who were successful, I wish the SRC a productive year ahead. I had the pleasure of meeting the Head Boy and Head Girl last week and was left with the impression that this is going to be a focused and hard-working SRC.

This week we also start our school trips, and Grade 10 Chemistry students are heading out to see first-hand the industrial process of oil refining that they are studying. This is the first of many school trips this year, and I am pleased that we are able to bring our learning alive in this way. On this note, I said I would share our overseas trips information this week, but I am still waiting to confirm the timing of one of the trips, so will do so straight after Eid.

I would like to remind parents that our extra-curricular programme is advertised on Moodle, and students can sign up for activities there. Please remember that the robotics activities carry an additional fee that can be paid at Finance.

I would also like to thank the PTA for the work they have done to decorate our campus and bring the spirit of Eid alive with their generosity to staff and students. We will be holding our Eid Assembly on Monday where we will celebrate this important event and wish our students a wonderful holiday and safe journeys for all. It only remains for me to wish exactly the same to you.

**Martin Thompson**  
**Secondary Principal**

## Primary School News

Eid Mubarak! We hope you and your families have a wonderful Eid Break. I am looking forward to our annual Eid assembly where some of our youngest students will be going on to the stage for the first time. It always amazes me seeing the first tentative steps the children take on-stage and then seeing how much they develop over the years. The other thing that amazes me is the wonderful work our PTA does in supporting the school. It has been wonderful to see the decorations going up all over the school celebrating Eid. Our PTA is so active in helping build that intangible sense of spirit and community within the school.

I was very happy with the turn-out at the Hotmaths Workshop facilitated by Ms Rene'. A lot of parents turned out and received some fantastic information. I want to take the opportunity to outline some of the main points. Every child from Grade 1 to Grade 5 has a Hotmaths login. Hotmaths is the official site for the Australian Mathematics Curriculum using the Cambridge Books. When you login, you will get a dashboard that can then be used to direct you to the previous lesson taught, messages and tasks from the teacher, as well as worksheets and games that relate to what is being taught. Ms Rene' went through each function in turn, demonstrating how the site can be used. During the workshop I also raised some important issues. All the children are exposed to the same learning objectives at every grade level. The depth of their understanding dictates the types of questions they can answer. A wonderful feature of Hotmaths is that it asks questions on a four-point scale. Level 1 is slightly below where we want the students but provides the foundation for the topic. Level 2 is at level whilst Level Three and Challenge are above level. You can choose the level of question to answer. I told parents that it is a very good idea to start at level 1 and build up to ensure the children have the fundamentals. Starting on the Challenge questions has the potential of putting the children off what is a very exciting site. Used judiciously, Hotmaths will be a very exciting part of the children's mathematical development. Thank you to Ms Rene' for a wonderful and informative workshop.

Our first workshop at the start of the year focussed upon the Parent Handbook, which we emailed to everyone at the start of the year. (This is also available in hard copy in primary reception and in the

Admissions Office.) Page 3 of the handbook focusses upon communications. To assist with communication, we have three official parent/teacher evenings through the year. The first, the Parent Information Evenings, have just finished. The next, the formative reports, are due 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> October. During this time, you will have a ten- minute slot to discuss your child's progress, which will be informed by a series of notes that you and the teacher will co-author. This is an excellent time to discuss both progress and future goals. Sometimes however, as the handbook states, an issue arises that needs to be addressed with outside of these official meeting times. Please follow the following procedures as stated in the handbook. Please contact Primary Reception with your message. Teachers have been asked to get in touch with you to make an appointment within 48 hours. Please do not expect an impromptu interview at the class door at the start of the school or at dismissal. Having a scheduled meeting with a set topic at a mutually agreed time is far more conducive to calm resolution of issues.

Thank you for your ongoing cooperation. Have a great weekend and a wonderful Eid.

**Martin Blackburn**

***Primary Principal***

## Middle School News

Dear Parents,

Congratulations to all students who put their name forward for Class Representative and who displayed a willingness to serve their student body, school and community. Two students from each grade were elected by their peers to serve on the Student Representative Council (SRC). We look forward to seeing their initiatives and plans for this academic year.

Last week marked the final week for the MYP subject-specific presentations. The PowerPoints for all these presentations can be found under the "MYP Parent" Section of Moodle.

On Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> Septmber, from 8 am to 9 am in the Theatre, Ms Nadia will present the school's policy on Service as Action (SAA). SAA is an integral part of the MYP, where a structured approach is used to integrate service into the curriculum. Students are expected to apply subject matter to develop plans and/or partnerships that meet the needs of others. To learn more about SAA and its implementation, we strongly recommend that you attend this session.

Please note that the topic for the 28<sup>th</sup> September. session has been changed from "Interdisciplinary and e-Assessments" to a workshop titled "You never listen to me". This workshop will be presented by our Secondary School Counselor, Ms Leslie, and it will take place in the Multi-Purpose Room.

The Student Success (SS) club has officially started. To support our students academically, every day during first break, with the exception of Tuesday, the SS club is available for students to drop by and get support in any of their subjects. Teachers of various subjects will be available from 10:20 am-10:45 am. Furthermore, subject teachers have been informed to refer any students whom they think may benefit from the extra academic support to SS.

The list of extra-curricular activities have been finalized and can be found below. An email and Moodle message was sent out last week outlining all the various activities that will be taking place. Students are expected to use the <http://goo.gl/forms/MCwIQLrw1M> link to sign up for the activities. To access the link, they must use their school's username and password. The deadline to sign up has been extended to 26<sup>th</sup> Sept. at 9 pm. Most of the activities will officially start on the week of 28<sup>th</sup> September.

It has come to our attention that many students are carrying backpacks which are heavy. Officially, students should not carry more than 10-15% of their own body weight. The Tutors and Grade Leaders will speak with the students about efficient use of their lockers, as well as the importance of taking books home which are only needed for homework. We kindly ask you to support your child as well and to explain that they do not need to carry all their books from home to school and back each day of the week.

<http://www.iaa.edu.jo/newsletter/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/MYP-attachment.pdf>

As the Eid Al Adha break draws near, we would like to wish you a safe and wonderful time with your families, and we look forward to welcoming our students back on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> September. Have a nice well-deserved break. Eid Mubarak to you all.

With kind regards,

**Zena Muhtaseb**

***Head of Middle Years***

## Calendar

Sunday	20	-Primary Yearbook Photography
Monday	21	-Bake Sale & Non-Uniform Day -MYP – Service As Action Meeting for Parents, Theatre, 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM -Grade 10A & B Oil Refinery Trip, 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM, Al Azraq -Primary School Eid Al Adha Assembly, Theatre, 1:15 PM – 2:00 PM -Secondary School Eid Al Adha Assembly, Theatre, 2:30 PM – 3:15 PM
Tuesday	22	-Eid Al Adha Break – Holiday
Wednesday	23	-Eid Al Adha Break – Holiday
Thursday	24	-Eid Al Adha Break – Holiday
Friday	25	-Eid Al Adha Break – Holiday
Saturday	26	-Eid Al Adha Break – Holiday
Sunday	27	-Eid Al Adha Break – Holiday
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## Sports News

The libraries would like to wish everyone a blessed Eid holiday. Why not take some time over the holiday to read a book about pilgrimage? The Libraries have books and resources that could enrich your family time, from English and Arabic titles about Eid traditions, travels and pilgrimage to stories of great personal sacrifice. We have stories of the Prophet, Ibn Hashem and Mecca. In English, pilgrimage is a common theme in stories and poetry such as *Canterbury Tales* and *Pilgrim's Progress*. When parents read with their children, it adds to rich and varied encounters with words and ideas in a variety of settings in a variety of genres, no matter what grade level. In turn, their minds are better prepared for learning and retaining vocabulary. Children also imitate what they see. If mommy and daddy read, then they will "read" too. Again, we wish you the best and look forward to seeing you after the break.

***Ms Kathleen, Ms Dima & Ms Tania***

***IAA Librarians***

## More News

الأهالي الأعزى  
أقبل العيد بخلته الجميلة يطوف على الجميع نائراً ابتساماً و ثوب جديد و عطر مسك. وفي هذه المناسبة المباركة يود مجلس الآباء في الأكاديمية الدولية أن يهنئ أسرة المدرسة بمناسبة عيد الأضحى المبارك و يدعوكم لتشاركونا بهجة الاحتفال بتناول المعمول والقهوة الشوكولاتة يوم الاثنين ٩/٢١ الساعة ٧:٣٠ صباحاً . متمنين لكم ولعائلاتكم عيداً مباركاً

Dear parents,  
There's nothing like sharing the blessings of Eid Al Adha Al Mubarak with our IAA community over a nice cup of Arabic coffee, some delicious ma'amool and chocolate. IAA community, you are cordially invited to pass by our PTA table in the community square on Monday, 21st September at 7:30 am to grab your share of the goodies. Happy Eid to all!

**IAA/PTA**

## More News

## More News

A new year- a new everything!

Just last week the IAA formed its new Panorama team for the 2015-2016 academic years. The new Panorama team wishes to take on the legacy of the past teams, making the IAA's Panorama truly flourish with new ideas and creative videos and photos. The team is a mixture of great and imaginative minds put together, and we are confident they will make the best of this year. We would like to ask you to join us on this adventure of making the Panorama team as popular as ever! The new Panorama team has high hopes that we will hit 1000 subscribers by the end of the first semester. Help us make this possible by showing your support and enthusiasm. You can visit our social media accounts on the following links;

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAGzUHBO1HHfqEixO5IanCg>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/IAA.Panorama>

Instagram: [https://instagram.com/iaa\\_panorama/](https://instagram.com/iaa_panorama/)

Official website: <http://iaa-panorama.com/>

Also do not hesitate to contact us with any suggestions you have, for we are always open for anything. Questions are welcome too. We are more than happy to help!

Email us at: [IAApanorama@gmail.com](mailto:IAApanorama@gmail.com)

Best Regards,

*The IAA Panorama team*

## Photo Gallery

















