



The IAA Newsletter

October 13, 2025

OCTOBER 25

**19 SUN -
23 THU**

Mid Term Break

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear IAA Community,

Last week, IAA had the pleasure of acknowledging and celebrating World Teachers' Day, a moment to pause and recognise the extraordinary educators who make IAA what it is. Their daily commitment, creativity, and care shape not only our students' learning, but also the spirit of our entire community. Allow me to extend my heartfelt thanks yet again to each of them for the difference they make every single day. I would also like to extend sincere appreciation to the PTA for hosting a lovely brunch in their honour, a thoughtful gesture that truly reflected the gratitude we all share for our teachers.

This is a particularly meaningful time at IAA as we prepare for our Council of International Schools (CIS) preparatory visit, taking place from 3–5 November. The visiting representatives will meet with our Board, staff, students, parents, and alumni as part of our ongoing journey to maintain CIS accreditation and continue striving for excellence across all areas of our practice.

As part of this process, I kindly remind all parents to complete the CIS Parent Survey, which plays an essential role in shaping our school's continuous reflection and growth. Your feedback helps us celebrate our strengths and address areas for further development in learning, teaching, and wellbeing. The survey takes approximately 10–15 minutes and can be accessed here

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSegeRWdWBdTTidNwNb67M9qHQ0E8aRewlUsF0OT0rwygr18wQ/viewform>.

On a last note, now that the cooler autumn days are settling in and the mornings are growing brisk, I kindly remind parents to ensure that students come to school dressed warmly and comfortably. As we approach the October Break, I wish all our families a restful and joyful week ahead; a time to unwind, recharge, and reconnect with loved ones.

Warm regards,

Hana Kanan, Ed.D.

Director

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRIMARY PRINCIPAL



Toddle Behaviour Platform: Strengthening Home-School Partnerships

Starting Wednesday 15th, October, the Primary School will be adding a new feature to our Toddle Platform. The feature focuses on student behaviour and will include a notification for parents for both positive and negative behaviours. The intent is to provide timely communications that both recognise the positive efforts of our students but also if concerning behaviours need addressing. Please refer to the parent letter that was also sent and keep an eye out for the upcoming 'Let's Talk' session which will go into detail on how this will function.

Learning Highlights from our Arabic Department

By Ms Rasha

أثناء حصّة التّربية الاجتماعيّة، قرأ طُلاب الصفّ الثّاني «لغة الطّبيعة» بإيقاع الفُصول الأربعة؛ فتتبعوا تبدّل الطّقس، وتلوّن الثّبات، وتحوّلات اللّباس والعادات، حيث صاعّوا مشاهدهم بطريقة يلتقي فيها اللّعب بالاستقصاء، ليصبح التّعلّم خبرةً تايّصة



ضِمْنَ خُطَّةِ الْقِسْمِ لِلتَّعْلَمِ الْعَمِيقِ، اصْطَحَبَتْ مُعَلِّمَةُ الْاجْتِمَاعِيَّاتِ فِي الْمَرْحَلَةِ
 (Immersive) الْاِبْتِدَائِيَّةِ الْأُسْتَاذَةُ سَمَاحُ طُلَّابِ الصَّفِّ الثَّالِثِ إِلَى عُرْفَةِ التَّعْلَمِ الْغَايِرِ
 قَانِقَتْحَتْ أَمَامَهُمْ بَأُثُورَ أَمَا الصَّخْرَاءِ بِإِيْقَاعِ رِيَّاحِهَا وَتَسْكَلَاتِ كُتُبَانِهَا وَنُدْرَةِ مَائِهَا،
 وَتَكْيُفِ تَبَاتِهَا وَكَائِنَاتِهَا، وَتَعَرَّفُوا طَرَائِقَ الْإِنْسَانِ فِي الْعَيْشِ وَالتَّنَقُّلِ عَبْرَ الزَّمَنِ فِي
 حِصَّةِ تَقَاعُلِيَّةِ تَرْبِيَةٍ؛ وَبِمَنْهَجِيَّةِ الْاسْتِيفَاءِ وَالْمَلَاخَظَةِ الدَّقِيقَةِ صَاغَ الطُّلَّابُ خُلَاصَاتٍ
 مَعْرِفِيَّةً رَصِيئَةً تُجَسِّدُ أَثَرِ تَوْظِيفِ التَّقْنِيَّةِ وَالرُّؤْيَا التَّرْبَوِيَّةِ فِي صِنَاعَةِ فَهْمِ رَاسِيخٍ، وَهَذِهِ
 بَعْضُ اللَّقَطَاتِ الْجَمِيلَةِ الَّتِي تُوثِّقُ شَعْفَهُمْ بِالْاِكْتِشَافِ



تَأَلَّقْتُ حِصَّةَ اللُّغَةِ الْعَرَبِيَّةِ بِإِدَارَةِ الْأُسْتَاذَةِ هَبَّةَ، حَيْثُ اسْتُخْدِمَ طُلَّابُ الصَّفِّ الثَّالِثِ
بَطَاقَاتٍ مُلَوَّنةً مُصَوَّرةً لاسْتِكْشَافِ أَسْمَاءِ الْإِشَارَةِ؛ فَتَعَاوَنُوا فِي تَصْنِيفِ الصُّوَرِ
وَالْكَلِمَاتِ، وَبَنَاءِ جُمْلٍ بَلِيغَةٍ، وَتَوْظِيفِ أَسْمَاءِ الْإِشَارَةِ الْمُتَنَاسِبَةِ بِدَقَّةٍ وَجَمَالٍ. وَمَعَ
تَرْكِيزٍ لَافِتٍ وَتَعَاوُلٍ أَيْقِيٍّ بَدَأَ فَهْمُهُمُ الرَّاسِخُ وَقُدْرَتُهُمْ عَلَى التَّطْبِيقِ الْعَمَلِيِّ لِلْمَهَارَةِ،
فَعَدَّتِ الْحِصَّةُ تَمُودَجًا لَتَعَلُّمٍ نَشِيطٍ يُزَاوِجُ بَيْنَ الْمُتَعَةِ وَالْإِنْتِقَانِ



Around the World in 80 Tastes

By Ms Yasmin

As part of our Integrated Studies unit on 'How Humans Work,' Grade 2 hosted a special food-sharing activity as part of our lesson 'Foods around the world.' Each child brought in a dish from a country of their choice to share with their classmates. This gave students the opportunity to explore different cultures, taste new foods, and celebrate diversity.

Career Day PreK

By Ms Raneem

Our Pre-K children had an amazing experience learning about our community and the people around us! They dressed up in different costumes representing the many helpers we see in our everyday lives. We explored how these people help us, the places they work, and the vehicles they use. A special area was prepared with vehicles, costumes, and tools related to their jobs, from ambulances to construction trucks! The children had the chance to see and learn how these helpers use their vehicles to serve the community. It was a fun, hands-on way to bring our **Community Helpers** unit to life, and we truly enjoyed learning all about the wonderful people who make our community work!



KG2 Coding

By Ms Suzan

During coding lessons, our young coders learned about debugging—the process of finding and fixing errors in computer programs. We discussed everyday examples of mistakes and how to correct them, just like computer scientists do. Through plugged and unplugged activities, students explored how to identify and fix errors in different situations. Using the codeSpark Academy platform, they solved problems by giving the correct steps to complete a task (the “algorithm”) or by finding a mistake—a “bug”—in an algorithm and debugging it. They learned that when something goes wrong, we can debug it by finding and fixing the error.



Nick Neubert

Principal, Primary School

A MESSAGE FROM THE SECONDARY PRINCIPAL



Dear parents,

G6 Community Engagement

This month, our Grade 6 students excitedly launched their first Community Engagement project, focusing on the importance of caring for the earth and understanding how everyday choices can help protect our planet. The launch began with an interactive presentation on soil health, sustainability, and the science of composting, helping students see how waste can be transformed into something that gives life back to the environment.

Inspired by what they learned, students have now started collecting kitchen waste from home -such as fruit peels, eggshells, and vegetable scraps- and bringing it to school each morning. During break time, they take turns adding the waste to the compost bins and observing how it begins to decompose over time.

Through this hands-on experience, students are encouraged to be responsible global citizens, promoting environmental awareness and teamwork within their community. Over the coming weeks, they will monitor the progress of their compost and later use it to help enrich the school garden's soil; proving that small, mindful actions can create lasting change.



Hispanic Games in Spanish Class

During the past week, the Spanish Department brought culture to life with a vibrant and fun activity inspired by traditional games from Spanish-speaking countries. After exploring these games in class, students had the chance to experience them firsthand, enjoying moments filled with laughter, movement, and teamwork. It was a dynamic way to celebrate language and culture beyond the classroom!

Mental Health Awareness Month

As we embrace Mental Health Month, I would like to communicate with you about the biggest causes of mental health issues amongst teenagers; smartphones and social media. After reading Jonathan Haidt's book, 'The Anxious Generation,' I was astounded by just how dangerous smartphones can be. Haidt demonstrates, with rigorous data, an explosion in teenage mental health illnesses, such as anxiety and depression, since smartphones became available in 2012.

Indeed, he statistically proves that Depression and anxiety among adolescents **almost doubled** between 2010 and 2019 in the Anglosphere. Haidt indicates that there has been a sharp decline in face-to-face interaction, shows that fewer teens have close friends, and loneliness is an increasing trend amongst teenagers since 2012; all of which did not appear in older age groups, who were not exposed to smartphone usage and social media.

Whilst these statistics make grim reading, all is not lost. Based on Haidt's recommendations, there are many things that we, as parents and educators, can do:

Delay smartphone and social media access

Wait to give children smartphones until high school (~14+), and delay social media adoption until at least age 16. Some parents pledge collective norms like "Wait Until 8th"

Model healthy tech habits

Set screen-free zones (e.g. dining rooms, bedrooms), limit your own device use, and lead by example with intentional tech boundaries and digital detoxes.

Give age-appropriate independence

Support self-reliance by stepping back, letting kids experience manageable risk, failure, chores, problem-solving—thus building resilience and confidence.

Educate children about social media algorithms

Teach teens how platforms amplify emotional content to maximize engagement, and encourage them to curate feeds, use mute/block tools, and take social media breaks.

I hope these strategies are useful and I would be very interested to hear how you implemented any of them and the extent of their success.

Regards,

Ronan Banks

Deputy Principal - Student Wellbeing

LIBRARY NEWS



Dear parents,

We are energized by the success of our **Summer Reading Celebration!** Thank you to every parent, student, and staff member who helped make our recognition events for primary and secondary students so special.

It was genuinely heartening to see how many students maintained their reading habits throughout the summer holidays. The celebration was filled with laughter, stories, and the shared joy of reading — a wonderful reminder of how books connect us all. We were proud to honor their dedication and progress. A huge congratulations to our secondary students, who earned well-deserved certificates, vouchers, and pizza for their achievements.

At IAA, we believe that fostering a love of reading is a shared journey between home and school. Your encouragement makes a world of difference, and we're grateful for your partnership in nurturing lifelong readers.

Our library team recently visited the Amman International Book Fair, an annual celebration of Arab creativity and storytelling. Surrounded by vibrant displays and passionate authors, we selected a diverse range of Arabic titles that reflect the region's traditions, contemporary voices, and shared values.

The new collection — featuring books from local and regional publishers — brings together stories that inspire curiosity, empathy, and cultural pride. The upcoming collection includes a mix of fiction, non-fiction, and cultural heritage stories that celebrate the richness and diversity of the Middle East. These titles will soon be available in our libraries for readers of all ages to enjoy.

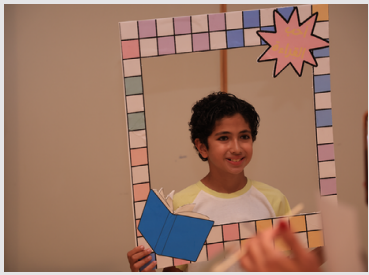
We encourage all students—from native speakers to those learning Arabic as a second language—to explore these exciting new additions! Look for them on our shelves in the coming weeks as we catalog and process the new collection.

As always, we welcome you into the libraries.

Warm regards,

Dima Shaka'a

Head of Libraries





CAREER AND COLLEGE COUNSELING NEWS



Greetings IAA Family,

The University application season is intensifying with the first round of applications due on October 15; then the next round will be in two weeks on November 1. We are currently working with the seniors to make sure that their essays, personal statements and applications are 100% complete and to the standard of the Universities and IAA. I am happy that G12 students and their parents are setting up meetings with us in the UCC office to finalize and work through next steps of the process. During the Fall Mid-term break G12 students should work on their University applications.

We have hosted multiple University visits and presentations this application cycle from IE Spain to the Swiss Education group and beyond. Our Four University Fairs brought together Uni's from the USA, United Kingdom, Canada, Ireland, Spain, Cyprus, Egypt, Lebanon, Bahrain, UAE, and Germany.

The PSAT administration for the 10th & 11th grade will take place this week. We look forward to student individual reports in early December. These reports will provide individualized feedback for each student regarding their academic strengths and areas for improvement. Additionally, the reports will provide a career profile and advanced course potential in the Diploma Programme. We will use this as one data point in our individualised academic advising sessions with students next semester.

Please know that our door is always open. We heartily welcome your input as an IAA stakeholder and greatly look forward to celebrating all of our wonderful successes with you throughout the upcoming year.

Sincerely,

Haethem Abdlrasul

M.S.Ed. Educational Leadership & Counseling

Head of College Counseling

SPORTS NEWS



IAA Hawks Shine at the All Jordanian Schools Championship and Beyond

The most exciting recent news comes from the **IAA Hawks Swimming Team**, which excelled at the **All Jordanian Schools Championship**, delivering an outstanding and memorable performance. Our champions won multiple medals across various categories, firmly establishing the Hawks as one of the top competing schools.

Our results were as follows:

- **Joanna Bani Younis (Grade 6):** Silver medal – 50m Freestyle
- **Sewar Al Khatib (Grade 9):** Gold medal – 200m Backstroke; Silver medal – 200m Freestyle
- **Seema Al Khalidi (Grade 10):** Gold medal – 50m Backstroke; Silver medal – 50m Freestyle
- **Serina Mehayar (Grade 8):** Gold medal – 200m Freestyle; Gold medal – 200m Butterfly

- **Hashem Al Jawhari (Grade 6):** Gold medal – 100m Freestyle; Silver medal – 200m Freestyle

- **Ghazal Abu-Sneineh :** Broke her personal record by two seconds for the 50m Butterfly

To view the wonderful photos of our Hawks being crowned with their medals, **click**

Here <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1p9P1VOQrusMrLt82sN1EhCh4iGowHfue>

Another remarkable highlight for the Hawks is the achievement of **Ayasofia (Grade 7)**, who secured second place at the Women's Tennis Jordanian Championship. Ayasofia is already ranked among the top players worldwide in the Under-14 category and is expected to have a very bright future in tennis.

In the same championship, in the **Under-8 category, Eyas Al Taji** from Grade 3 secured **second place**. Eyas is considered one of the most promising young talents, showing impressive progress in tennis.

Moving to equestrian sports, **Sereen Al Taji (Grade 10)** earned third place in the Nashama Kingdom Championship in the 90 cm jumping category. Most recently, she also successfully completed the Al Shaqab International Summer Clinic, held from August 4–15 at the Al Shaqab Longines Arena in Doha, Qatar. Only 15 riders from around the world were selected for this prestigious program, led by Cedric Jacques Triolet, an FEI international tutor.

The clinic provided intensive training, covering professional jumping up to 110 cm, course design, and veterinary classes. At its conclusion, Sereen participated in the Al Shaqab Summer League Competition, finishing 6th in the 80 cm class and 10th in the 100 cm two-phase course, competing alongside international riders. This achievement marks a significant milestone in Sereen's equestrian journey.

Congratulations to all the Hawks on these remarkable achievements. We wish them continued success and prosperity.

A Night to Remember: Fifth Graders Shine at Their Unforgettable Sleepover

Last Thursday night marked one of the most memorable and delightful sleepover events the fifth grade has ever experienced. The joy and excitement reflected on the students' faces stood as a true testament to the success of the event. It not only enriched their personalities but also gave them valuable opportunities to take responsibility, make decisions, and showcase a wide range of fascinating talents.

We would also like to extend our deepest gratitude and appreciation to everyone who contributed to the success of this overnight activity—from supervisors and staff to teachers—whose dedication made the event truly special. It was a wonderful experience, made even more meaningful by the overwhelming happiness we witnessed in our students.

To view more of the best photos and videos from this event, click
HERE <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1bSBCGuB4daxeetYXI6-a7ZtiBPZbgqel>

For further details, please click on the link below "IAA Sports News Bulletin"

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TmvWNEc_dxj5ZsMz-8gDk9uFivjs0qgs/view?usp=sharing

Thank you.

Dr.Eyad Makanai

Athletics Director and Head of PE Department

EDTECH AND INNOVATION NEWS



Greetings to our IAA Community

Our students have had an exciting month in Tech and Innovation! From exploring flight in the Drone Workshop to building creativity through Robotics in both Primary and Secondary, learners are developing real world problem-solving and coding skills. Here's a glimpse into how technology is coming to life at our school!

Little Coders, Big Debuggers!

By Ms Suzan

During our coding lessons, our young KG2 coders learned about debugging—the process of finding and fixing errors in computer programs. We discussed everyday examples of mistakes and how to correct them, just like computer scientists do. Through plugged and unplugged activities, students explored how to identify and fix errors in different situations. Using the codeSpark Academy platform, they solved problems by giving the correct steps to complete a task (the “algorithm”) or by finding a mistake—a “bug”—in an algorithm and debugging it. They learned that when something goes wrong, we can debug it by finding and fixing the error.

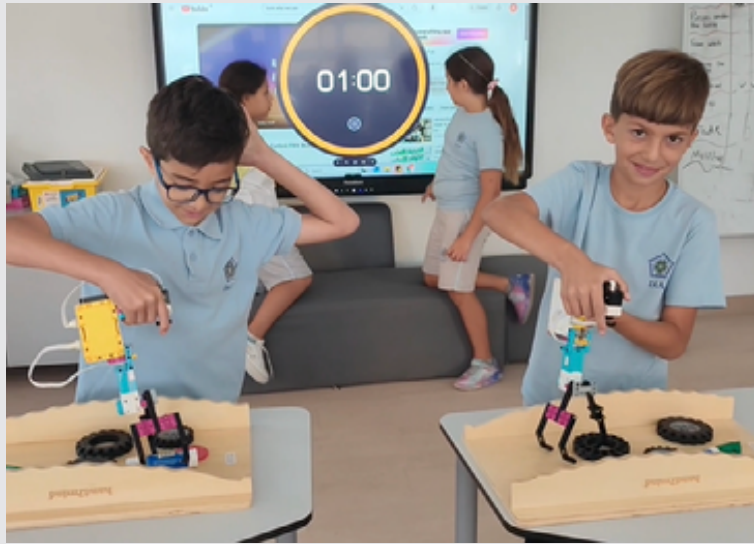


Robotics Sparks Innovation in Our Primary Classrooms!

By Ms Alzahraa

During our Grade 4 and 5 robotics lessons, students have been exploring the exciting world of engineering and programming. They learned how to use different sensors and how to adjust their robot designs by using their own building instructions to make their models more efficient and suitable for each task.

Throughout the unit, students practiced critical thinking, teamwork, and problem-solving as they faced various challenges and friendly competitions. It's been wonderful to see their creativity and innovation shine as they build, code, and test their ideas.



School Robotics Teams Gear Up for Robofest!

The Robotics Team tryouts have successfully concluded, and we are proud to announce that **two Secondary teams** and **five Primary teams** will represent our school in this year's Robofest competition, an international robotics event that encourages students to design, build, and program autonomous robots to complete real-world tasks. The competition challenges students to apply creativity, problem-solving, and coding skills while fostering teamwork and innovation. Our teams have already begun their practice sessions, preparing strategically and working hard to refine their designs. We can't wait to see their efforts come to life as they compete for top honors in this exciting event!

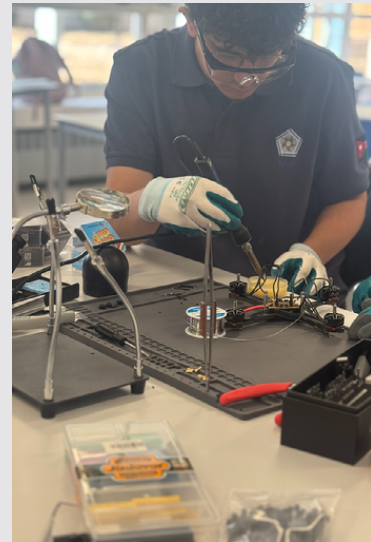
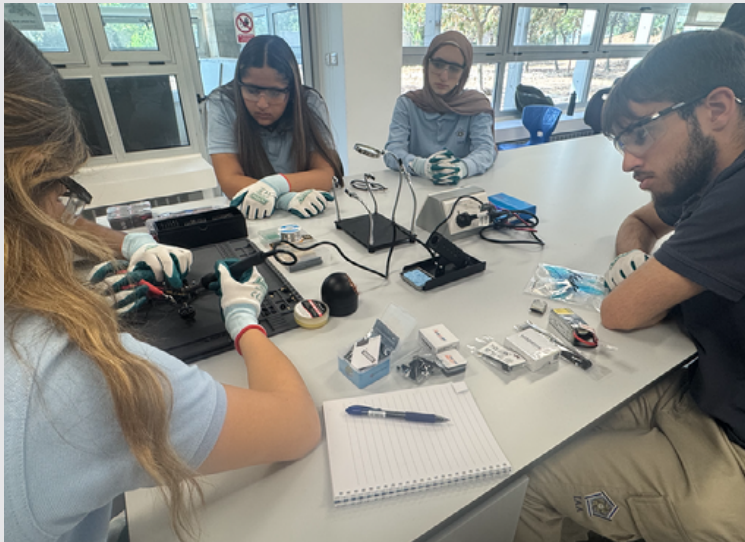


Our Secondary Students Soar High at the Drones Workshop

2 weeks ago, a group of our Grade 9–11 students had an incredible opportunity to participate in an extensive Drones Workshop that introduced them to the exciting world of drone technology. Throughout the week, students explored drone theory, types, components, and real-world applications in areas such as agriculture, photography, and emergency response.

The workshop combined theory with hands-on experience. Students assembled and tested drones, practiced flight control through simulation activities, and learned the basics of drones navigation.

The week concluded with a thrilling visit to the newly opened **HoverUp Drones Park**, where students demonstrated their skills and had the exciting chance to fly drones in a professional training environment.



Reham Al-Saleh

Edtech and Innovation Coordinator

IB DP Computer Science Teacher

PTA NEWS



Dear IAA Community,

It has been an inspiring and eventful month for the **IAA PTA**, as we've been busy organising a series of initiatives that brought our community together through learning, appreciation, and wellbeing. From raising health awareness to celebrating our teachers and fostering a love for reading, each event reflected our shared commitment to building a stronger, more connected IAA family.

King Hussein Cancer Foundation Awareness Session

The **PTA** hosted the annual awareness session in collaboration with the **King Hussein Cancer Foundation**, bringing together parents, staff, and Grades 11 and 12 students to learn about the importance of early detection and the value of regular family check-ups. The session also featured a live demonstration on home examinations, reflecting IAA's ongoing commitment to proactive health education and community wellbeing.

World Teachers' Day

The **PTA** celebrated **World Teachers' Day** on **October 5th** by treating our devoted teachers to a complimentary lunch in recognition of their exceptional dedication and hard work. This gesture of appreciation reflected our gratitude for the teachers' unwavering commitment to shaping the minds and futures of IAA's students.

World Mental Health Day

In recognition of **World Mental Health Day**, observed globally on **October 10th**, the **PTA** organised an awareness session on **October 9th**, led by **Dr. Leen Amro** from **The Mind Clinic**. The session focused on parental mental health, stress management, and family communication strategies, offering practical tools to help parents maintain balance and strengthen wellbeing within their families.

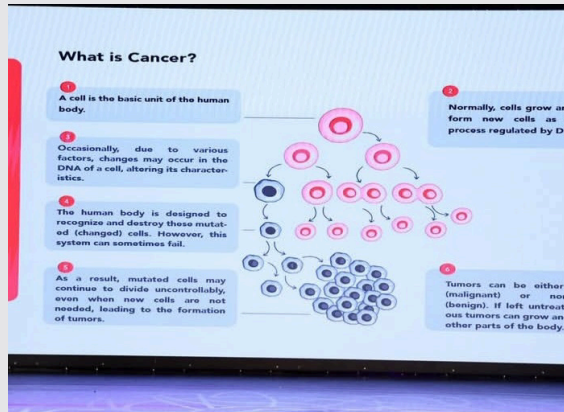
Book Club Update

The **PTA Book Club** members enjoyed a wonderful visit to the **Amman International Book Fair** on **September 30th**, where they explored new titles and met local publishers. They have since selected "*Never Lie*" by **Freida McFadden** as their next read, with the discussion set for **October 16th**. We look forward to another inspiring gathering with our community's passionate readers.

Wishing you and your families a great break ahead!

Regards,

IAA PTA



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IAA School