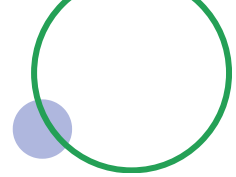


# Newsletter





Me and Lucy in the Al Madam Ghost Town



# Head of Primary's Message

## Inspiring Author Visits

This week, our students had the incredible opportunity to meet and learn from Alex Falase-Koya, an award-winning author known for his engaging children's fiction and collaboration on The Breakfast Club Adventures with Marcus Rashford. Organized by our librarian, Desi, the presentation for Years 3-6 was filled with inspiring insights into Alex's writing journey. Coming up next, our KG1 to Year 2 students are eagerly anticipating a visit from Kayla Diamond, a teacher-turned-author passionate about igniting young imaginations through storytelling and illustrations.

## Under the Circus Tent

The Pulma Circus provided another unforgettable experience for our school, with a private showing that left us all mesmerized. The highlight, without a doubt, was witnessing our brave staff members join the performers on stage, adding a touch of DIA spirit to the show.

## A Note on Deadlines

Sticking to deadlines really does improve safety and efficiency. Being able to plan and stick to seats, ratios and logistics means our staff are confident, prepared and able to be in moment. We are a bustling school by nature, however, we will always endeavor to provide ample notice for events, where possible. If deadlines are missed (and we are all only human) then we ask that the community respect that we may not be able to accommodate. Doing so for one means we must do this for all and while to each family it is just one seat, to us it may mean many seats and the need to rebook, reassign, and re-plan multiple times. If there is any issue that will prevent you meeting a deadline, I humbly ask families to please reach before it passes.

## Uniform: A Symbol of Unity and Positive Behavior ([Uniform shop link here](#))

A follow up on my uniform notice from last week. After the break, we will be further stepping up our vigilance on this important aspect of school spirit and unity. As mentioned uniforms can help to eliminate distractions, encourage discipline, and can even contribute to a sense of pride and belonging within the school community.

To help with this, a big shout out to our amazing parents who support our second hand uniform sales. The next one is scheduled on the 21st and 28th of February 7:30-9:30am at the main entrance. However, online enquiries are always available via [diarecycle@gmail.com](mailto:diarecycle@gmail.com) (Name / Contact Number / Year Group / Item / Size).



- Fully compliant uniform**
- Dark blue DIA jumper
  - Dark blue socks
  - DIA shorts
  - Black shoes



Acceptable example of a non DIA jumper

# WSG & Sports Day

## World School Games & Sports Days Success.

After starting the New Year with our new track and field module the students were well prepared and highly excited for our Year Group Sports Days which were held on the school field. The Sports Days consisted of running, jumping and throwing events with students gaining points for their classes for their achievements in 7 events. The top 2 performances in the Nerf, the 400m and the 75m progressed to the Friday Finals against the winners from all the other classes in the year group. The Sports days were a fantastic success with amazing performances from all our hard working and enthusiastic students and huge support from our families and the community. The Friday Finals showcased the high level at which our students are working at in their track and field with some ultra-competitive finals between our top athletes. Well done to all of our students on the progression this year in class and Sports Days and keep up the amazing energy and performances throughout the rest of the year. A special thanks must also go to Kibsons for generously sponsoring the event with an abundance of fruit and PADIA who organised this.

The World School Games event took place on January the 25th, 26th and 27th. The 3 days consisted of 3 different competitions in Athletics, Swimming and Football. Prior to the event it was impressive to see students dedication to training in order to prepare them for the event. Across the 3 days students showed passion, determination and resilience resulting in them winning individual events in Athletics and swimming. A particular mention to Frederico, who not only won his hurdle race, but beat the World School Games Record in a time of 9.25s.

Saturday was the final day of competition and what a day it was! The U11 girls Football team had some tough competition, however, they put up a good fight and never gave up throughout the duration of the tournament. The boys U11 Football team were undefeated and after a tough final they pushed through and won 2-1 to take the winning trophy. A huge well done to Max Knigge who was awarded player of the tournament.

Students then celebrated the event at the Gala which took place in the afternoon where awards were given out. Overall DIA Emirates Hills came in 4th place out of lots of Dubai and International schools. A massive well done to all students who were part of the World School Games squad and a big thank you to parents for giving up their time and showing their support throughout the 3 days.

Finally, a HIGE shout out to the PE department, who you can see from the above write up, dedicate so much of their time to provide these opportunities. We really appreciate each and every one of you!

[Link to final day podium photos here.](#)



Our Year 6 finalists on their last Sports Day in Primary School. We are very proud of you!!

# EXTRA EXTRA! EXTRA!



KG1

YEAR 3

THE ARTS

KG2

YEAR 4

STUDENT

COUNCIL

YEAR 1

YEAR 5

YEAR 2

YEAR 6



## NOTICES

- Click for the [lanyards order form](#) - Kindly contact [helpdesk@diadubai.com](mailto:helpdesk@diadubai.com) for any assistance.

### NEW FOOD PROVIDER:

All continues to go really well with our new food provider. This link will stay here for a few weeks to serve as a reminder.

- iOS (Apple) App Link: <https://apps.apple.com/ae/app/kalo-hospitality/id6461117251>
- Android App Link: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=munch.kalo.delivery>

### PTCs

Monday 5th NO SCHOOL for Primary



Head of Primary  
Tom Collar  
[tomc@diadubai.com](mailto:tomc@diadubai.com)

Deputy Head KG1 - Year 2  
James Heard  
[jamesh@diadubai.com](mailto:jamesh@diadubai.com)

Primary School Office  
[pssecretary@diadubai.com](mailto:pssecretary@diadubai.com)

Deputy Head of Year 3 - 6  
Stephanie Trueman  
[stephaniet@diadubai.com](mailto:stephaniet@diadubai.com)

IT  
[helpdesk@diadubai.com](mailto:helpdesk@diadubai.com)

Deputy Head Pastoral  
Manuella Watfa  
[manuellaw@diadubai.com](mailto:manuellaw@diadubai.com)

Accounts  
[accounts@diadubai.com](mailto:accounts@diadubai.com)

Head of Inclusion  
Francesca Edwards  
[francescae@diadubai.com](mailto:francescae@diadubai.com)

School Catering  
[schoolcatering@etasteuae.com](mailto:schoolcatering@etasteuae.com)

PYP Coordinator  
Ruchika Sachdev  
[ruchikas@diadubai.com](mailto:ruchikas@diadubai.com)

01.

FEBRUARY



2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
04 Beach clean up drive (refer comms from Mr. Nick)	05 PS Parent Teacher Consultation KG1-Y6 (No school for PS)	06 KG2 Trip to Oli Oli Y6 trip to the Louvre, Abu Dhabi	07 PS Sports Day Y6 trip to the Louvre, Abu Dhabi	08 Spanish MT Carnival	09 PS Sports Day Term 1 reports PS Ski Trip - Parent Info session (final) 11.15 am PS Gym	10
11	12 Mid Term Break (No school)	13 Mid Term Break (No school)	14 Mid Term Break (No school)	15 Mid Term Break (No school)	16 Mid Term Break (No school)	17
18	19 PS Olympic Week Y3-6	20 Author visit KG1-Y1 KG2 Animal Dress up day	21 Year 4 Camp Y2 & Y5 Dental Screening	22 Year 4B,E,F,G Camp Y3 Sleepover Y2 & Y5 Dental screening	23 Year 4A,C, D Camp. Y2 Exhibition, Sky Garden. Comms to follow from HR.	24
25	26	27 PS Musical Hairspray Jr.	28 PS Musical Hairspray Jr.	29	01	02

# MR TOM'S DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR PTC'S

Term 2  
PTC

Revisiting aspirations and goals from you as parents;

Development of attitude towards work in class;

Levels of curiosity towards learning topics;

What the internal and external assessments are indicating;

What the current barriers to learning might be;

What to expect in the reports and how recent classwork contributed;

Are there any levels of support or stretch being provided;

How home can contribute;

Work in books or on Seesaw in relation to curriculum standards/non-negotiables;

Remember to leave some positive praise.



# Discussion categories

Discussion categories are important as they guide the outcome of the discussion through a defined aim and ensure efficiency in what is a short timeframe. These are used by parents and teachers alike.

## Creating

What key observations have you noticed as a parent/teacher?

As you look ahead to the rest of the year, what do you hope/target to be accomplished?

## Clarifying

Looking back at previous discussions we talked about ..... how is this progressing?

You mentioned ..... am I right in understanding .....

## Negotiating

What is your opinion of .....

How does my observation or experience of ..... compare your your observation at home/school?

## Fortifying

"An example of ..... is ....."

"The strongest evidence I have to support .... is ....."

# TAKING ACTION

Has your child been taking action out of school over the winter break? Then we want to know all about it so we can celebrate it on our displays in school... Please complete the form below:

<https://forms.office.com/r/KW8tTenAY3>



Ameera (5D) and Haya (2B) participated as little MATCHmakers as part of a volunteer program for a maternal and child health organization called MatchUp. As part of the program, they visited Chennai over the winter break and delivered Mommy and Me care packages to women shelters in Southern India, serving mums and babies with much needed food and health products.



Sisters Aadya (3E) and Aarya (KG1A) have been getting involved in community giving projects. In the December holidays, they participated in distributing Christmas kits, including dry food items to construction workers as part of Feed a Labour Initiative.



# You're invited...

**Jebel Ali School**

**CONNECT**  
Psychology | Health | Life

**taaleem**  
Inspiring young minds

## UNIQUELY YOU: NEURODIVERSITY Talks

**JEBEL ALI SCHOOL**  
FEBRUARY 8TH 2024, 8.30AM-1PM

**CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST**  
  
Dr Ilan Ben-Zion  
ADHD: Wired for Brilliance

**EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST**  
  
Esra Uzsayilir  
Challenging stereotypes: Autism in Girls

**EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST**  
  
Dr Siara Nawaz  
Supporting ADHD in the Classroom

**INCLUSION EXPERT**  
  
Louise Dawson  
A personal reflection

**OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST**  
  
Adam Griffin  
Supporting Sensory Students in School

**SPEECH THERAPIST**  
  
Samantha Nash  
Connecting through Social Stories

SCHEDULE	
8.30AM	Registration and welcome Tea and coffee
9AM	Louise Dawson <i>Inclusion expert and educational consultant</i> Louise will share her personal story of autism diagnosis and what it has meant for her and her family.
9.35AM	Dr Ilan Ben-Zion <i>Clinical Psychologist, co-founder Connect Psychology</i> Ilan will offer an insight into how we can help children harness their ADHD superpowers for success in today's fast-paced world.
10.10AM	Esra Uzsayilir <i>Educational Psychologist, co-founder Connect Psychology</i> Drawing on the latest research, Esra will explore the gender-gap in autism diagnosis and challenge stereotypes for better understanding and support.
(20 MINS BREAK) 11AM	Dr Siara Nawaz <i>Educational Psychologist</i> Siara will present evidence-based strategies to support primary and secondary students with their emotion regulation and executive functioning skills.
11.45AM	Adam Griffin <i>Occupational Therapist</i> A bespoke training for teachers and parents on the use of sensory rooms. Attendees will receive a manual, written by Adam, to accompany the session.
12.30PM	Samantha Nash <i>Specialist Speech &amp; Language Therapist</i> A special, pre-recorded session: Practical guidance on creating Social Stories and Comic Strip Conversation. Followed by a group Q&A for the day.
CLOSING PANEL Q&A	

Dear parents,

There is a neurodiversity event happening next Thursday at Jebel Ali School. There are some fantastic speakers going who will be able to give insights on supporting children with neurodiversity. If you would like to go, please sign up using this link: [Neurodiversity Talks sign up](#)

Please reach out to myself at francescae@diadubai.com if you have any questions.

# RECYCLING DRIVE

## DIA-EH in Partnership with MEREX

### Initiating Nature Green Revolution Among Students

*We are proud to announce our upcoming sustainability partnership with The Beach, JBR, Dubai by Merex Investment.*

*As part of this exciting collaboration, DIA\_EH will be a part of the art installation that will be displayed at The Beach, JBR in March 2024. This year the theme is "Ocean Pollution".*

*We invite parents to donate recyclable materials listed in the image below. These may be dropped off at the front security foyer of the school in the respective labelled boxes.*

## Nurturing a green revolution at The Beach, JBR

Below listed are the materials to be collected:



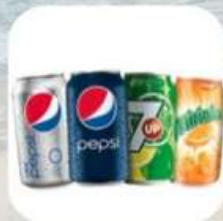
Glass bottles or jars



Plastic bottle lids



Plastic toys



Aluminium cans



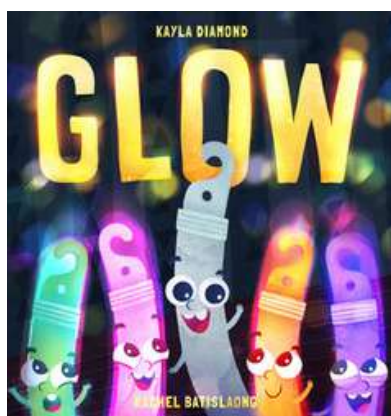
Broken/unusable sunglasses

**Please rinse the bottles, jars, plastic lids and cans ready for re-cycling.**

**Last date of collection is 23 February 2024.**

# AUTHOR VISIT!

Children's author Kayla Diamond will be visiting our school on Tuesday, 20th February. The students from KG1, KG2 and Year 1 will enjoy a fun and interactive session with one of her books.



Kayla's books carry the themes of self-acceptance and friendship.

If you wish to purchase for your child one or both books you can [click here](#) or [scan the QR code](#) to make a book order



DEADLINE for book orders is 12th of February

To read a message from the author, learn more about her books and their inspiring stories please [click here](#)

To order books after the deadline or the reading/visit, you can do so directly from the author at:



# INNOVENTURES EDUCATION SCHOOLS ART COMPETITION AND EXHIBITION 2023 - 2024

1

## SELECT YOUR CATEGORY

KG1, KG2 Year 2-4, 5-7, 8-10, 11-13

2D ARTWORK

Year: 2-4, 5-7, 8-10, 11-13

PRINT MAKING

Year: 2-4, 5-7, 8-10, 11-13

3D ARTWORK

Year: 6-7, 8-10, 11-13

DIGITAL ART

GROUP WORK

INSTALLATION

2

Print and complete a  
submission form

3

Submit your entries to your  
Art Teacher by 8th March 2024

*Art Competition*  
May 18, 2024

Dear Parents,

The Innoventures Art Competition is dedicated to nurturing the artistic talents and creative expression of students of all ages and abilities. Our competition is designed to foster an understanding and appreciation of the visual arts while simultaneously developing essential skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and digital media.

LAST DATE FOR FINAL SUBMISSION: 8th MARCH 2024

### **KG1, KG2 and Year 1:**

CATEGORY 2D ARTWORK ON A3 SIZE PAPER- students can use pencil crayons, oil pastels, chalk pastels, and watercolours. Students may create collage with different materials while following the mentioned size.

Suggested topics:

- My Family Portrait: Create a unique family portrait that includes all family members, even pets.
- My Favorite Animal: Create an artwork featuring your favourite animals, whether real or imaginary.
- A World of Ice Cream: Create an artwork showcasing a world made of your favorite ice cream flavors and toppings.
- When I Grow Up: Create an artwork depicting what you want to be when you grow up.

### **Years 2 – 6:**

CATEGORIES - Each year group must follow one of the suggested topics as per the age range. The student may choose to do more than one category (listed below), but the categories and topics must not be repeated.

Suggested topics:

- Cultural Kaleidoscope: Celebrate diversity by exploring and representing different cultures, traditions, and global perspectives.
- Life in Monochrome: Limit the color palette to black and white or shades of a single color, emphasizing contrast and tone.
- Wildlife Wonders: Depict the fascinating world of wildlife, from the tiniest insects to the mightiest mammals, and the breathtaking beauty of nature.
- Emotions Unleashed: Explore the diverse spectrum of emotions from joy and excitement to sadness and empathy.

### **2D ARTWORK ON A3 SIZE**

- Years 2 - 4: students can use pencil crayons, oil pastels, chalk pastels, and watercolours
- Years 5 – 6: students can use acrylic paints, tempera paints, and watercolours.
- Students may create collage with different materials while following the mentioned size.

### **PRINTMAKING (Batik Printing, Lino Printing, Mono Printing, Styrofoam Printing)**

- Students may use any materials and tools that align with the selected printmaking type.
- Students may do the batik on bags or t-shirts but please note the size of the item should be A3 or A4 paper size.

### **3D - MINIATURE ART**

- Miniature art is any work of art produced in a size much smaller than the normal size for that type of work. (SIZE: A3 or A4 size)

Some examples for the miniature art:

- Wild Life wonder Topic- A cardboard giraffe
- Emotions Unleashed Topic-A clay portrait expressing happiness
- Cultural Kaleidoscope Topic: A dream catcher which aligns with the given size for the miniature artwork.
- Life in Monochrome Topic- An abstract sculpture in shades of blue only.

### **Materials for the 3D MINIATURE ART**

- Students can use any available materials that align with the miniature art.

## Year 5 - 6

Category- DIGITAL ARTS (Animation, Video, Stop Motion)

Suggested topics:

- Cultural Kaleidoscope: Celebrate diversity by exploring and representing different cultures, traditions, and global perspectives.
- Life in Monochrome: Limit the color palette to black and white or shades of a single color, emphasizing contrast and tone.
- Wildlife Wonders: Depict the fascinating world of wildlife, from the tiniest insects to the mightiest mammals, and the breathtaking beauty of nature.
- Emotions Unleashed: Explore the diverse spectrum of emotions from joy and excitement to sadness and empathy.

Follow the link below for submission.

<https://padlet.com/felipel2/digital-design-competition-bnkvx6ky07glfok>

### Important rules:

1. All artworks must be aligned with the competition themes, conceptual framework, and guidelines.
2. Each student may only submit one artwork per category.
3. The submitted artworks will be used for display on websites, printed materials, newsletters, and press releases as deemed appropriate by Innoventures Education.
4. All artworks should be original and not entered in any previous competitions.
5. All participants must adhere to the sub- rules regarding size, format, material, and artwork count.
6. All submissions must be appropriately labeled with the participation form affixed to the back of the artwork. Any artwork that is sent without proper identification will be disqualified.

LAST DATE FOR FINAL SUBMISSION: 8th MARCH 2024



**ARTWORK SUBMISSION TO THE RESPECTIVE TEACHERS: WITH A COMPLETED SUBMISSION FORM**

Years 1, 3 and 5 students should submit their artwork to their art teacher Ms. Kiran Lakhiani  
Years 2, 4 and 6 students should submit their artwork to their art teacher Ms. Iti Sethi  
Year 5 and 6 Students to communicate with their ICT teacher Mr. Felipe San Juan De Leon for any queries related to the Digital Arts Category.

KG1 students may give their submissions to their respective class teachers.

For any questions, please contact:  
Ms. Kiran - kiranl@diadubai.com  
Ms. Iti - itis@diadubai.com

Kind regards,  
The PS Arts Team

*Art Competition*

Dear DIA Parents,

The **School Book Drive** for creating our very own **DIA Reading Oases** -areas around the school for all children and parents to enjoy-has not only reached its final date but also its happy end with 300+ books donated! With your candid support, generosity and community spirit we are getting one step closer to making this initiative a dream come true. For the love of reading! Stay tuned for more news on DIA Reading Oases Initiative!

# SCHOOL BOOK DRIVE

FOR DIA READING OASES INITIATIVE



## READING OASIS

**WE WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS  
OUR HEARTFELT GRATITUDE  
TO ALL KNOWN AND ANONYMOUS  
DONATING FAMILIES!**

We are grateful and proud with you:

Viraj Widge!

Gabriel Bisht 5E!

Zhaomu Chu 4A!

Sophia Shihab 1G!

Rasheed Moussa 3F!

Mahe Berger Fourage 1B!

Reya Khanna 3A & Ariana Khanna 6C!

Charles Dutton 8A & Henry Dutton 6E!

Helena Berger 7C & Michael Berger 3A!

Niklas Oberberg 1F, Lina Oberberg 4B,

Emma Oberberg 6G!





**DUBAI  
INTERNATIONAL  
ACADEMY**  
Emirates Hills

# Lost and Found

Claim your lost item at the  
**Quad** from **5th to 7th Feb**  
before it goes to a good cause  
for Mid-Term break.



diarecycle@gmail.com  
padiadubai@gmail.com  
Instagram @padia\_emirates\_hills