




# DI A LOGUE


The Newsletter of Dubai International Academy

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DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY  
DREAM + INSPIRE + ACHIEVE



GENERAL

PRIMARY  
SCHOOL NEWS

SECONDARY  
SCHOOL NEWS

PADIA



## UAE NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS







## NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY UAE NATIONAL DAY - LIBRARY DISPLAY



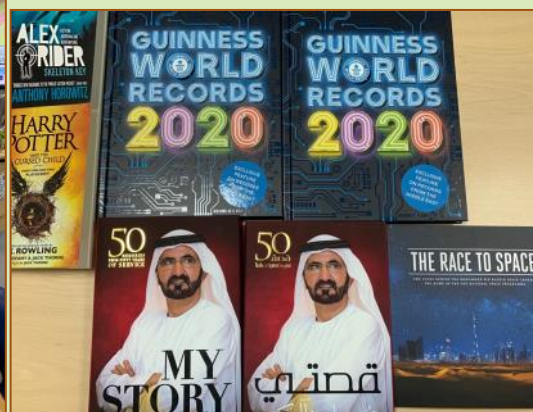
**48** روح الاتحاد  
SPIRIT OF THE UNION  
اليوم الوطني  
NATIONAL DAY  
الإمارات العربية المتحدة  
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES



Thank you PADIA for donating best selling and new release books in English and Arabic to our School Library.  
We really appreciate your generosity and support.

**PADIA**

PASSIONATE ABOUT DIA



# RAISE IT HIGH...RAISE IT PROUD

3 NOVEMBER, FLAG DAY



On the 3rd of November, the student leadership of the Primary and Secondary School, consisting of the Senior Prefect Team, House Captains and the Primary and Secondary Student Councils, congregated in the Quadrangle to honor the momentous and patriotic occasion of National Flag Day.

We stood together in unison as a multicultural student leadership team of diverse individuals, singing the national anthem of the UAE, while the Head Students proudly raised the national flag, respecting and preserving the values which resonate within the anthem and the flag. The flag stands as a symbol of unity and hope for the seven Emirates, and as a testament to the continued strength, drive and determination of the founding forefathers and the current pioneering leaders of the nation.







# The World Scholar's Cup®

## 2019 TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS WORLD SCHOLAR'S CUP, YALE

What an achievement by the DIA Junior and Senior teams at the 2019 Tournament of Champions, World Scholars Cup, Yale!

### Junior Team

15 gold medals, 8 silver medals!

Reyansh Airan won the Top Scholar position and was awarded not only a gold medal but the prestigious chair award too!

The team picked up silver for the team debate!

Competing against more than 3000 students and winning so many golds is indeed something to be very proud of!



### Senior Team

The DIA Senior Team - Hiral Verma, Jamie Simpson and Siddhant Tandon made the entire DIA family extremely proud winning 18 gold medals and 9 silver at the Tournament of Champions, World Scholars Cup, Yale!

Hiral Verma won the top Scholar award and the team picked up gold for the extremely difficult Scholar's Challenge!

This event is based on multiple choice questions on 6 subjects and not only tests the scholar's depth and breadth of knowledge in these 6 subjects but also their interdisciplinary connections!

Hiral, Jamie and Siddhant won gold in the individual subjects too!

The Senior team also aced the Scholar's Bowl and picked up gold here.

Competing against more than 350 teams from 60 countries, the performance of the DIA senior team was stellar! This was their first experience at this academic decathlon and they were winners all the way! They were among the top teams in this competition!

Both the Junior and Senior teams have inspired the DIA student body with their performance and we look forward to celebrating more such amazing journeys with our students!



**Congratulations!**



## INNOVENTS - MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE - DIA OVERALL WINNER 12TH NOVEMBER 2019

**Main highlights:** The Innoventures Education Mathematics Challenge has become the platform for the sharpest Mathletes from schools across the Innoventures Group to go head to head in a battle for the keenest & brightest mathematicians. 56 students from the primary, lower secondary and upper secondary competed for the event. The Math Challenge gives a chance to the students to show their strengths in applying Math Skills to new challenges. Judges from the Innoventures Education schools kept a vigilant eye and scores of our participants across various rounds.

**Objective of event:** The Innoventures Education Mathematics Challenge is a competition that gives students the opportunity to tackle a variety of engaging mathematical activities while developing teamwork and communication skills. The challenge consists of 3 rounds which involves Crossnumber, Team and Relay rounds.

Primary (Grades 3-5)	Middle (Grades 6-10)	Secondary (Grades 11-12)
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place:</b> Dubai International Academy, Emirates Hills <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place:</b> Dubai International Academy, Al Barsha <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place:</b> Raffles International School	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place:</b> Dubai International Academy, Emirates Hills <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place:</b> Dubai International Academy, Al Barsha <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place:</b> Raffles International School	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place:</b> Raffles World Academy <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place:</b> Dubai International Academy, Emirates Hills <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place:</b> Raffles International School



## INNOVENTS - INNOVENTURES GOT TALENT - DIA OVERALL WINNER 14TH NOVEMBER 2019

The *Innoventures Got Talent* competition was a wonderful evening showcasing our multi-talented students across the *Innoventures* schools. The event was held at the multifaceted auditorium of Dubai International Academy, Al Barsha.

It was a successful and entertaining evening and a memorable experience for all involved. There was more competition than ever this year. The introduction of the new *dance group category* offered more diversity to the event and provided a collaborative and creative opportunity for our students who share a passion for dance to choreograph and perform together.

We would like to commend all of the competitors at this year's event. They performed with confidence, highlighting their passion for their various talents through their finely honed skills. It was lovely to see them being supportive to one another behind the scenes too. The judges expressed their difficulty in choosing winners in every category and were extremely impressed with the level of talent from our schools.

Variety Category	Music Solo Category	Dance Solo Category	Music Group Category	Dance Group Category
Benjamin Criel and Morgan De Wit (Taekwondo) (DIA EH)	Gokal Shyamsundar (Classical Indian Guitar) (RWA)	Joint winners: Pratyay Sengupta (DIAAB) and Swarashri Shridhar (DIA EH)	Aadi Patel, Kate Pereira, Georgia Clarke, Elli Mia Tolan and Kiara Tanwar (DIA EH)	Naina Marwah, Tricia Van Gorp, Dina Ben Haj Amor, Aya Valentina Lamfuss, Youssef Hassan, Hania Abdelhamid, Miraya Srivatsa, Jacqueline Biouki, Sasha Karlson Giertz and Julia Crous Guasch (DIA EH)





INNOVENTS - INNOVENTURES GOT TALENT - DIA OVERALL WINNER  
14TH NOVEMBER 2019





# Upcoming Events

ACADEMIC YEAR 2019 - 2020

Upcoming Events:

## DECEMBER 2019

Monday, 9 December	IVEI Secondary Football - U12, U14 Boys at RWA
Monday, 9 December	PS Winter Concert KG1, KG2, YR1, YR5
Tuesday, 10 December	PS Winter Concert YR2, YR4, YR6
Wednesday, 11 December	CCA Cycle 1 ends
Friday, 13 December - Tuesday, 31 December	Winter Break for Students and Staff

## January 2020

Wednesday, 1 - Saturday, 4 January	Winter Break for Students and Staff
Sunday, 5 January	Students and Staff return
Monday, 6 - Tuesday, 14 January	Year 11 examinations
Monday, 6 - Tuesday, 21 January	Year 13 examinations
Sunday, 12 January	CCA Cycle 1 resumes
Tuesday, 14 - Thursday, 16 January	Year 6 Camp
Wednesday, 29 January	Innovents Academic Olympiad
Thursday, 30 January - Saturday, 1 February	World School Games U11 Teams Boys and Girls (Swimming, Football and Athletics)

## February 2020

Saturday, 1 February	World School Games U11 Teams Boys and Girls (Swimming, Football and Athletics)
Monday, 3 February	PTC (Year 7-9) - No school for SS students only
Monday, 3 - Thursday 6 February	PS Sports Days
Tuesday, 4 February	IVEI Road Run – All age groups @ DIA AB
Thursday 6 February	IVEI Primary Football – U9 and U11 Girls @ RWA
Thursday 6 February	CCA cycle 1 ends
Sunday, 9 - Thursday, 13 February	Mid-term break for students
Tuesday, 11 - Thursday, 13 February	PD days for teachers
Sunday, 16 February	CCA cycle 2 begins
Monday, 24 February	Innovents - Science Fair
Wednesday, 26 February	IVEI Athletics – All age groups @ DIA AB
Thursday, 27 - Saturday, 29 February	World School Games U13 Team Boys and Girls ( Swim, Football and Athletics) – Dubai
Friday, 28 - Saturday, 29 February	DIA Hackathon



## SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS

### DIA SECONDARY SCHOOL'S 'TEACHING AND LEARNING TEAM' HOST THE FIRST 'PDEXPO SHARING HUB'



Recently, the Secondary School's 'Teaching and Learning Team' hosted their first PD Expo. This event was devised as a means of enhancing learning through shared exploration of classroom practice and the development of innovative, pedagogical strategy. The 'Teaching and Learning Team' surveyed the staff body as a means of engaging in needs analysis, which became specific foci for Action Research projects.

The outcomes of the research were presented during the exhibition event, whereby teachers freely circulated the stalls to pursue their personal interests. Rich discourse ensued, on best practice, model lessons, use of technology and methodology centering on differentiated learning, flipped classrooms, inclusion, checking progress, utilization of data, as well as, staff and student wellbeing.

The Secondary School team valued this new approach to personal development, which allowed teachers to explore a number of different areas of interest, but also engage in practical discussions across subject disciplines. Meet the 'Teaching and Learning Team'.

*Claire Inglis - Lead Practitioner*



(top left-right) Reda Al Ashmawey, Colin Leacy, Maeve McKeogh, David Leacy,  
Sarah Walsh, Renda Kayali, Nagina Chaudry)

(bottom-left to right) Ashling Tully, Laura Cunniffe, Claire Inglis,  
Susan Daniel, Elriza Taljaard



## AN UPDATE FROM THE ECO CLUB

The Eco Club is a student-led action, service and awareness group that aims to increase the environmental and ecological actions taken at DIA.

Environmentally Conscious

Last year, we raised awareness of current issues such as mental health and paper wastage through a range of events and initiatives taken by the DIA community to encourage students to be more eco-friendly. This year, our aim is to focus on physical and mental wellbeing, water and energy consumption through internal and external activities and competitions. With the commitment to “Clean the Air. Clean our Bodies. Clean the Earth”, we have a group of over 40 enthusiastic ASA members and 12 board members who collaborate on a weekly basis.

We are passionate to provide a wonderful opportunity to create awareness, build attitudes and help students take up sustainable activities in the real world, beyond the classroom and curriculum. We have taken action from the start of this academic year. An enthusiastic student body was selected to form the Eco Club Core Committee and to plan exciting events and propose new ideas. The Eco Club ASA is back with double the number of individuals as we have over 30 participants from Years 7–12, taking action together every Monday after school led by the Core-Committee members.

The students have turned cardboard boxes used to place school notebooks into recycling boxes for paper and have recently introduced plastic in the classrooms. We hope to achieve a lot and therefore show our commitment to the environment. Moreover, for the first time, the Eco Club has started to recycle coffee pods and evaporated milk cases in the staff rooms, which is an initiative inspired by our thoughtful teachers.

The Eco Club at DIA organises diverse, interactive activities to involve the DIA community to be environmentally conscious. We have hosted many successful events within the school to raise awareness of certain environmental issues and make the DIA community a more eco-friendly one. For instance, last year we held the Adopt-A-Plant day on 22nd April, which is Earth Day. We provided students and teachers across primary and secondary schools with plants to purchase and a chance to take a small step to create a bigger impact. Following this, we also initiated our first Wellness Wednesday, which was aimed to allow students to reflect on the choices they make in their lives. It was a day dedicated to allow each and every one of us to understand the potential benefits of physical and mental well-being through activities the Eco Club planned. This year, we hope to organise activities for both students and teachers to take part which would benefit the DIA community as a whole. We will also be renovating the Green Screen Room and turn it into a sustainable, learning hub for students to study and relax. Along the way, the creative ideas of both the Core Committee and the members of the ASA will be implemented to make the club open-minded and sustainable in action.

Following this, for the second time this year, Dubai International Academy has enrolled in the DEWA Conservation Programme, where teams are already being prepared and are currently planning their projects. It has previously been a great opportunity for students to innovate, create and propose ideas for the future which will serve for the betterment of our Mother Earth.

Our other achievements this year include, replacing plastic spoons with metals ones in the staffrooms. There has been 50% paper reduction in our school facilities from September 2018 to September 2019. As a club, we ensure that we will continue retain the Green Flag status. Each Core Committee member has created an action plan highlighting the main areas for improvement around the school and the steps we can take to achieve a more eco-friendly school. We hope to ensure that DIA students will be more inspired to protect the environment.

**Jessica Hughes, Year 12C**





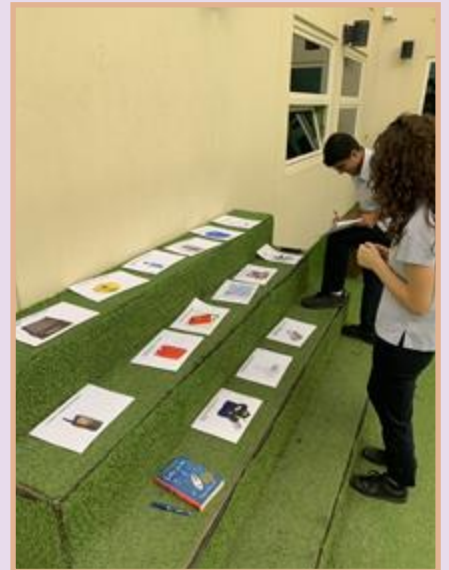
## MS. RENDA'S YEAR 10 ENGLISH

Students conducted an opinion column analysis in a form of a podcast or powerpoint presentation.



### Learning Garden

Students have started their Unit 2 on the theme of survival with a focus on the novel *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel. Students are working on an individual one-page summary of their assigned chapters.



## THE LOUVRE TRIP, YEAR 10, HISTORY

The trip started at 8 am, where the Islamic and History students were to meet up for the next steps in reaching our destination, the Louvre. Once everyone was assembled into the foyer, the teachers assigned everyone buses to travel to Abu Dhabi. For 2 hours we all rode on the bus; the law states that a bus cannot exceed the speed limit of 80km/h, so this caused quite the delay but everyone was quite entertained and didn't notice the time fly by.

Once the buses docked and we were allowed to exit the buses, we strode towards the semi-circle shaped building ahead of us. This allowed us to have an inkling of what lay inside the dome. As we entered

the front of the building, we were told that no bags, scissors, pens, or pencil cases were permitted on site. This also caused another delay that was handled quite thoroughly and efficiently. The Louvre even equipped us with pencils. Once we were finally let into the Louvre, we were all directed into the exhibit which would benefit our learning. The exhibits depicted many different paintings done at the beginning of the 20th century in Paris. There were fruits, men, women, children to show different perspectives all in the same era. Some of these were for example, Amedeo Modigliani who painted 'The Young Apprentice', Kees Van Dongen, who painted the 'Jasmy Jacob', Tamara de Lempicka who painted the 'Girl in a Green Dress' and 'Thadeus Lempicki', Max Beckmann who painted the 'Portrait of a Frenchman', etc.

Prior to reaching the Louvre, we were given a sheet of paper which had questions on our learning topic and linking it to the artwork. After being able to explore two art galleries which seemed to focus directly towards our learning, we were allowed to explore any other galleries we wished to. This appealed to many students. We discovered themes of different eras, maps, art, and much more. There were many different stories linked to each painting, artwork, and painter. This pulled many students towards paintings that stood out particularly for themselves. For example; Tsuguharu Foujita who painted 'My Interior' had depicted a range of common objects in his painting: a pair of clogs, a rustic sideboard and painted earthenware plates, all of which had the characteristics of his adopted country. This tribute to France is nonetheless executed in a style that is indicative of traditional Japanese paintings. The figure of the painter is subtly referenced by the pair of glasses on the checked tea towel.

Overall the trip was an amazing experience that enhanced our learning in a very easy descriptive way. It would be amazing if we could go back again.





# NEWS FROM PADIA

## PADIA Bake Sale



PASSIONATE ABOUT DIA





### PADIA Winter Souq



### Library Initiative (Donating books)





