



Secondary School Newsletter



EMIRATES
HILLS

6th October 2024

Head of Secondary Message

Hello All,

As we almost wrap up the first half of the term, I would like to take a moment to share some exciting highlights from the past few weeks.

Firstly, a huge thank you to all the parents who attended our Career Counselling Parent Sessions. Your involvement and engagement in these sessions have been invaluable in supporting our students as they plan their future paths. We're thrilled to see how well-attended they were, and your continued support plays a crucial role in guiding our students toward success.

I would like to extend my appreciation for the valuable feedback from the parent focus groups. Your insights are helping us refine our approaches and ensure we are meeting the needs of our school community. Your voice makes a difference!

In addition, our new PADIA Representatives held their first meeting, and they are eager to bring fresh ideas and initiatives to life this year. We are excited to work together to build an even stronger school community.

Finally, a massive thank you to all the parents and students who made Teacher's Day extra special with your thoughtful treats and gestures. The appreciation shown to our dedicated educators was truly heartwarming, and it means so much to all of us.

Michelle Puxty

Head of Secondary



Key Diary Dates

Thursday 10th October

DELFL - Parent Meeting

If you are interested in your child taking a French Language Diploma exam, please join us from 7.30 - 8.20am in the Presentation Hall

Thursday 10th October

Study in the USA & Canada - Coffee Morning

Join us from 7.45 - 9am to discuss study pathways in the USA & Canada

Friday 11th October

Pink Day

We are raising awareness for Breast Cancer - join us in wearing pink for the day

Friday 11th October

Final Day of School

Our half-term holiday takes place from Monday 14th - Friday 18th October. Students return on Monday 21st October.

Key Diary Dates

Tuesday 22nd October

Year 11 into 12 Options Evening - 5-7pm

We look forward to discussing subject options with our current Year 11 students and families. This evening will provide you with everything you need to plan for Year 12 & 13 study.

Wednesday 23rd October

Year 9 into 10 Options Evening - 5-7pm

We look forward to discussing subject options with our current Year 9 students and families. This evening will provide you with everything you need to plan for Year 10 & 11 study.

Friday 25th October

Year 9 & 11 Careers Fair

An opportunity for our Y9 & 11 students to dive into workshops and panel discussions, led by industry experts and professionals in a wide range of fields

PADIA 2024-25

CORE LEADERSHIP



Whole School Coordinator- Gina

Primary Coordinator- Saba

Secondary Coordinator- Pooja

Events Coordinators - Richa & Afsah

DIA Recycle & Sustainability Coordinator- Sharon

We are thrilled to introduce our new PADIA Year Level Representatives, who will be working closely with us to enrich our school community and bring fresh ideas from parents. These dedicated parent volunteers are here to foster a positive and collaborative environment by helping organize events, initiatives, and projects that benefit our students and enhance school life. The PADIA Reps are not a channel for collecting complaints but are focused on generating ideas that reflect what parents would like to see in the school, contributing to a vibrant and supportive community. We are excited to see the impact they will have in strengthening the bonds between families and the school. Let's work together to make this an exceptional year!

PAVIA Parent Reps



Year 7
Abhilasha Sinha



Year 8
Marlene van Antwerpe



Year 9
Farrah Dutton



Year 10
Giuseppina Morana

PADIA Parent Reps



Year 11
Gabriela Sandoval



Year 12
Poonam Agrawal



Year 13
Matilda Gradnitzer



PADIA Secondary Leader
Pooja Chopra

Teacher's Day

**Thank you
for the
treats**





**DUBAI
INTERNATIONAL
ACADEMY**
Emirates Hills

Lost and Found

Claim your lost item at the
Quad from **9th to 11th Oct**
before it goes to a good cause.

PADIA

diarecycle@gmail.com
padiadubai@gmail.com
Instagram @padia_emirates_hills

مسابقة
صحة وسعادة

HEALTH & HAPPINESS
STUDENTS CHALLENGE



Only for Yr 7-13 Students!



Dubai International Academy Emirates Hills

Scan or click the QR code to join your schools' challenge and leaderboard. Earn points through the Core Direction app and help your school find a place on the podium



Scan or click the QR code to view the school leaderboard.

WIN an iPhone 13!

50 iPhone 13s up for grabs! Join the Challenge & you could be a winner!



Explore Your Future with **BridgeU**

Powerful Tools for Career & College Planning



University & Course Matching

Get tailored university and course recommendations based on your academic profile and preferences. Explore global options, including top universities in the US, UK, Canada, and beyond.



Smart Application Management

Stay on top of deadlines and track application progress in one easy-to-use platform. Collaborate with counselors, teachers, and parents for a smooth application process.



Personalized Career Tool

Discover careers that match your interests and skills. Access up-to-date labor market data and career pathways to plan your future.



Student Content Hub

Access a wealth of guidance articles, videos, and tips on everything from application strategies to managing stress. Stay informed and organized with resources designed to support your academic journey. Set goals, explore your strengths, and build your academic and career profile.

Take Control of Your Future with BridgeU
EVERY DIA student has an account!

Check your school email or
talk to your counselor to get started today.



BridgeU





DYSLEXIA AWARENESS DAY



October is world Dyslexia Awareness month. The DIA-EH community celebrated the whole school Dyslexia Awareness Day on Thursday, 3rd October.



Led by the inclusion team and supported by Year 13 student inclusion ambassadors and leadership team, the event was a great success. Students engaged with activities to build their awareness about strengths and challenges of people with Dyslexia. The funds raised from the bake sale were contributed towards the GIVE foundation.

To Learn more about Dyslexia and how you can support your child with reading, please visit this parent edition course offered by Nessy. [Link](#)

RE-LAUNCHING IB LEARNER PROFILE AWARD



EMIRATES
HILLS

The attributes of the IB Learner Profile describe the qualities we aim to develop in our students, equipping them to become well-rounded, responsible global citizens who contribute meaningfully to the world.

To celebrate and promote these attributes, each month we will focus on one specific IB Learner Profile attribute. At the end of every month, each department is invited to nominate four students who exemplify that attribute.



The nominated students will be celebrated by our school community. Their photos and the reasons for their nominations will be displayed on a board near the IB office, and they will receive certificates recognizing their achievements. Furthermore, their names will be included in the monthly newsletter highlighting their contributions and encouraging the continued development of the IB Learner Profile qualities.

MONTHLY CALENDAR

Communicator -	October
Caring -	November
Risk-Taker -	December
Thinker -	January
Open-Minded -	February
Inquirer -	March
Principled/Balanced -	April
Knowledgeable -	May
Reflective -	June

NOMINATIONS



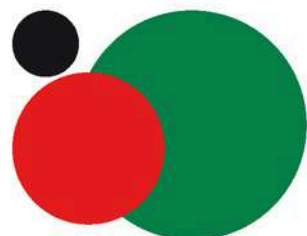


Student Council's First Meeting

DIA STUDENT
COUNCIL

We are thrilled to introduce our newly elected Student Council for this year!

They recently held their first meeting, and we are excited to see their ideas come to life as they work to make a positive impact on our school community. Below is a picture from their inaugural meeting—stay tuned for updates on the exciting initiatives they have planned!



AIR



WATER

House Kickoff

Our House Kickoff Day was a huge success! The atmosphere was full of energy, especially from the House Team, who brought amazing spirit to the event. We were also excited to welcome Wolfie, our beloved school mascot, for his very first appearance.

The highlight of the day was the Talent Show, where Dalia Moussa and Lara Jomma wowed everyone with their stunning performance, *Creatures in the Dark*, and took home first place!




EARTH



FIRE

STUDY SKILLS - TIME MANAGEMENT

How to do your first Pomodoro:

- 
- 1 Get into an optimal work space without distractions.
 - 2 Choose ONE task to focus on.
 - 3 Set your timer for 25 minutes.
 - 4 Do your work.
 - 5 STOP when the timer ends.
 - 6 Take a 5-minute break.
 - 7 Repeat 3 times.
 - 8 Take a longer break (30 minutes).

WHAT IS THE POMODORO TECHNIQUE AND HOW CAN IT HELP?

The Pomodoro Technique is a simple, effective method to help students focus while studying. It involves working for 25-minute intervals, followed by a 5-minute break. After four sessions, a longer break (15-30 minutes) is taken. Parents can support their children by helping them set a timer, encouraging focused study during each interval, and promoting relaxation during breaks. This technique prevents burnout, improves concentration, and makes study time more manageable. By creating a distraction-free study space and reinforcing these habits, parents can play a key role in helping their child develop better time-management skills.

HOW DOES SPACED PRACTICE AID KNOWLEDGE RETENTION



Spaced practice enhances long-term retention by spreading revision sessions over time, strengthening neural connections and preventing cognitive overload. It promotes better understanding by allowing reflection between sessions and improves focus through shorter, more manageable study periods. This method also boosts motivation and engagement, as frequent, shorter sessions feel more achievable. By revisiting material in varied contexts, spaced practice helps students adapt and apply knowledge in different situations. Overall, it leads to more effective, sustainable learning and improves performance in assessments by consolidating information into long-term memory.



Poetry Recital Competition



On **Tuesday, Oct 1st**, our DIA learners successfully completed the first round (internal) of **Emirates NBD Poetry For All Competition**. The event included performances across two age groups (8-13 & 14-18 year olds), and brought together students from both Primary and Secondary school. Our learners showcased passionate and heartfelt performances, full of deep emotion and creativity.

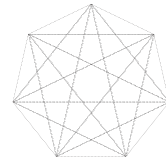


Secondary School students skillfully delivered the work of **J. R. R. Tolkien** (*All That is Gold Does Not Glitter*), **Simon Armitage** (*Give*), and **Lemn Sissay** (*Inspire and Be Inspired*), showcasing reading literacy skills which go far beyond the IB curricula. The event was also facilitated by our Year 11 students, **Maria Vlastou** and **Riddhi Bahl**, who not only assisted with the organization but also served as excellent hosts, guiding participants and audience through the program with confidence and enthusiasm.

Finally, huge thanks to **Dr. Maha Zaouil** and **Ms. Aida Aljeires** for organizing the event and best wishes to **Ananya Iyer** while she represents our secondary school in the semi-final round of the competition.

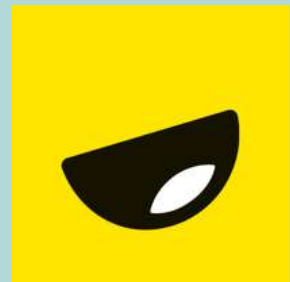


Digital Awareness @ DIA



As part of our ongoing efforts to support the well-being of our students, we want to keep parents informed about the digital platforms their children may be using. Social media apps are evolving rapidly, and many teens are exploring new ways to connect online. While some of these apps can offer positive social interactions, they also come with potential risks that parents might not be aware of. By staying informed and involved, parents can better guide their children towards safe and responsible use of these platforms. Here are a few apps gaining popularity among teenagers that parents should keep an eye on.

Yubo, often referred to as "Tinder for teens," allows users to make new friends through swiping and live-streaming. While it encourages socializing, the live-streaming feature can expose teens to inappropriate content, and the relatively loose age-verification process means younger users may interact with older individuals. This poses risks of exploitation or unwanted contact. Parents should be aware of who their children are interacting with and ensure they understand the potential dangers of broadcasting live.



Wizz is a chat-based social networking app where users can swipe to connect with strangers from around the world. While it can be fun for teens to expand their social circles, the random nature of matching means they may encounter inappropriate content or potentially harmful individuals. The lack of filters and the anonymity of the app pose risks, so it's important for parents to monitor who their teens are chatting with and emphasize the need to protect personal information online.



Zepeto is an app where users create 3D avatars to explore virtual worlds, play games, and interact with others. Though it may appear to be a harmless game, the app's chat feature allows communication with strangers, which can lead to inappropriate conversations or online bullying. Additionally, the in-app purchases for avatar customization can become expensive quickly. Parents should monitor these interactions and set limits on spending to avoid unexpected costs and ensure their teen's safety within the virtual world.



POST-16

INTERVENTION PROGRAM

FOR YEARS 13



For revisiting and consolidating learning for subjects

You can always ask your subject teacher for more resources and intervention if needed!



Programs Include:

- Mathematics
- English
- Physics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Language B
- Economics
- Business
- ESS
- Psychology
- DT
- DS

AS LOW AS
FREE!
PER CHILD

Contact the subject HOD for more information



INTERVENTION

YEAR 13



Lesson 8, 3:15

Monday

Maths AA HL

Mr. Singh

Maths AI HL

Ms. Shiram

Maths AA SL

Ms. Usman

Maths AI SL

Ms. Upreeti

Language B: French

Ms. Poudin

Language B: Spanish

Ms. Trevino

Tuesday

English

Mr. Williams

Business

Ms. Zubin

Computer Science

Ms. Harikrishnan

Design Technology

Ms. Jajor

Psychology

Ms. Cunnife

Digital Societies

Ms. Anoop

Thursday

Biology

Ms. Sharp

Chemistry

Mr. Dordevic

Economics

Ms. Shaikh

ESS

Ms. Khreis

Physics

Mr. Sivakumar



Dubai *International Academy*

Presents

International Happiness Week

23 - 27 Sept.



Focusing on Staff Wellbeing week in International Happiness Week gave staff the opportunity to appreciate everyone for their unique qualities.

Furthermore, it also allowed for individuals to reflect on their own aspirations and personal goals for a balanced lifestyle.

Dubai International Academy - Emirates Hills hold wellbeing as one of its top priorities with the mission of ensuring every member of the community feels supported and is thriving on a daily basis.

From Monday 23rd September - Friday 27th September we arranged a host of activities, talks and events that aimed to support the social, physical and emotional wellbeing of staff, including staff yoga, staff dodgeball, staff Padel, staff golf at Emirates Golf club, and a lunch hosted by SMT and the Inclusion team.





Hello, I'm
**Asha
Kumar**

I've been appointed as the Care and Guidance Officer for our DP students at Dubai International Academy. Having been with the school since 2007, my role is to support the emotional, social, and academic well-being of students in Years 12 and 13, ensuring they thrive both in and out of the classroom.

I believe that a strong partnership between home and school is key to a student's success.

Please feel free to contact me via email or use the QR code below to book an appointment.

Looking forward to a great year ahead!

Warm regards,
Asha Kumar



Care and Guidance
Officer

"The best way to predict your future is to create it. Embrace your journey, learn from every step, and always believe in your potential."



To Book an Appointment:



Contact E-mail: Ashas@diadubai.com

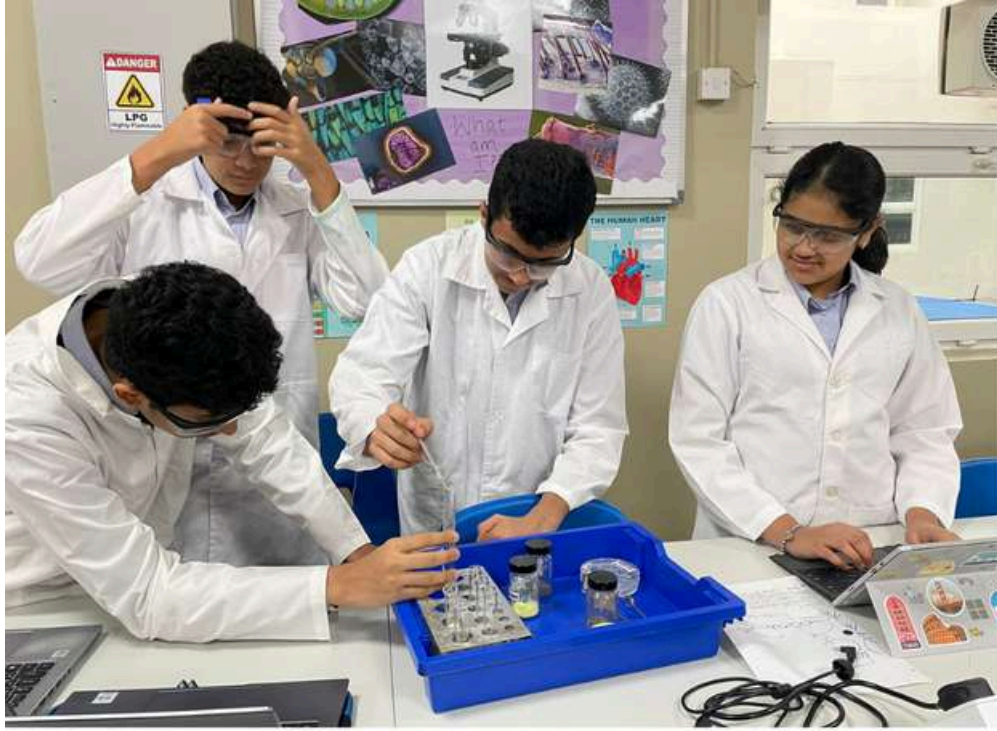


SCIENCE

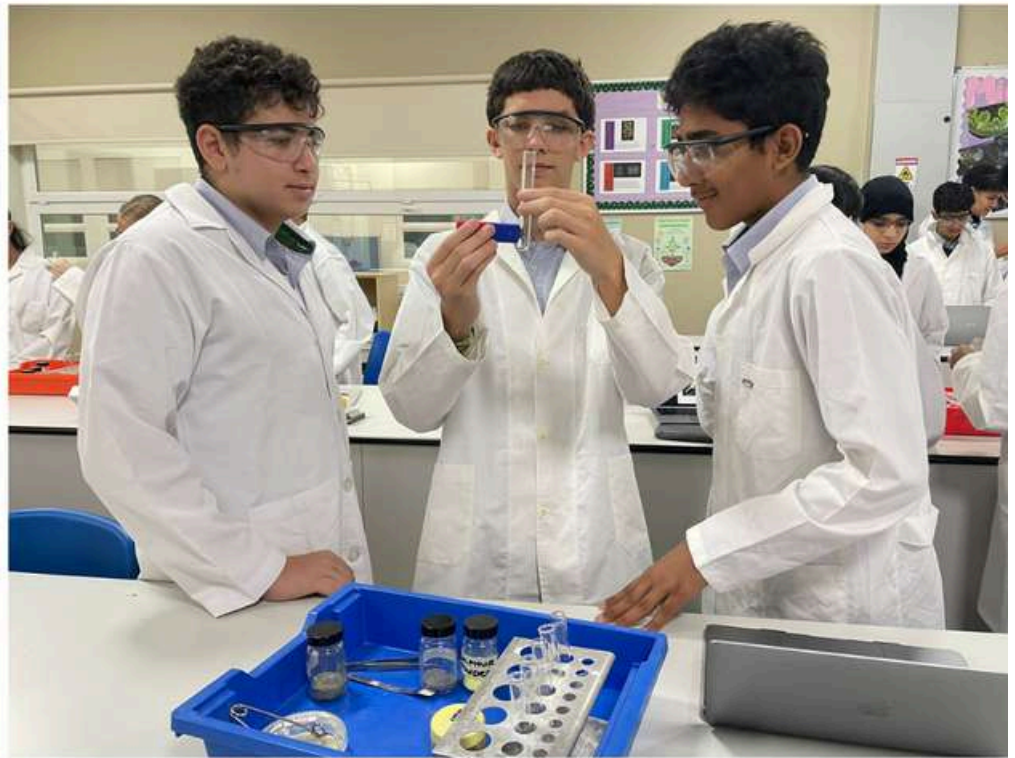


**LEARNING
THROUGH
ACTION**





SCIENCE



**LEARNING
THROUGH
ACTION**



The UNESCO WORLD SCIENCE DAY science fair returns to DIA for 2024.



Dubai International Academy
Emirates Hills



SCIENCE FAIR 2024

EACH YEAR INTERNATIONAL WORLD SCIENCE DAY FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT IS CELEBRATED ON 10TH OF NOVEMBER TO HIGHLIGHT THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF SCIENCE IN SOCIETY.

UNLEASH YOUR CREATIVE SKILLS AND BRING YOUR IDEAS INTO REALITY.

WHETHER IT IS A CONCEPT, A PROJECT OR A PRODUCT - BRING IT TO LIFE BY DESIGNING A MODEL TO SHOWCASE YOUR INNOVATION! TO ENTER - SCAN THE QR CODE

EACH YEAR GROUP WILL HAVE THEIR OWN CATEGORY:

Y7 - RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS

Y8 - SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE

Y9 - ROBOTICS AND AUTOMATION

Y10 - TRANSPORT AND MOBILITY SOLUTIONS

*Best in Category Award
Best Overall Project Award*



UAE Relevance Award



SCAN TO ENTER



**ENTRIES CLOSE 12TH
OCTOBER
JUDGING -
FRIDAY 8TH NOVEMBER**



DUBAI
INTERNATIONAL
ACADEMY
Emirates Hills

MANDARIN COURSES

Open for admission of freshmen with zero foundation.

ABOUT US

HEKMAT AL SHARO EDUCATION was established in 2018 and has built an excellent reputation within the local Chinese community. We have successfully nurtured over 200 students of various ages and proficiency levels.

In the upcoming 2024-2025 academic year, our current students will be preparing for the HSK, YCT exam, demonstrating their progress and language skills.

COURSE CONTENT:

YCT, HSK, Chinese poetry, Daily conversation, Chinese culture.....

COURSE TIME:

For Freshman of grade 24-25 with zero foundation:

Class A: Monday and Thursday, 15:00 - 16:00.

Class B: Tuesday, 15:00 - 16:00; Friday, 12:00 - 13:00.

Locations:
Dubai International Academy-Emirates Hills

CONTACT US

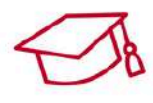
WHATSAPP: +971 52 602 8869 +971 58 299 1029

EMAIL: HEKMATALSHARQEC2022@GMAIL.COM



Mother Tongue Dutch

with **LanguageOne** at DIA - EH



Integrated KG2 - year 7
After school Senior School



The LanguageOne classroom

www.languageone.nl/inschrijven 🔍



+971 585280845



dirk.van.der.maal@languageone.org



DIA Emirates Hills

FINNISH MOTHER TONGUE PROGRAM AT DIA
(DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY)

SUOMEN KIELEN OPETUSTA KOULUPÄIVÄN AIKANA!

OPETUKSESSA SEURATAAN SUOMEN
OPETUSSUUNNITELMAN PERUSTEITA

SUOMEA ÄIDINKIELENÄÄN
PUHUVILLE OPPILAILLE

VUOSILUOKAT
KG - DP2



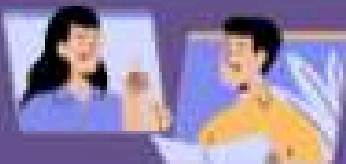
**Opettajana toimii
KM, luokanopettaja
Katariina Kholeif**

OTA YHTEYTTÄ!

info@finnishdiadubai.com
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SPANISH MOTHER TONGUE

MTSpanish@diadubai.com



Aprende tu
lengua
materna

HOLA

Comparte y
aprende la
cultura de
nuestros países



Forma parte
de la
comunidad
hispana de
DIA



¿Quieres más
información?

Escribenos a nuestro
correo o ven a vernos a
PS047

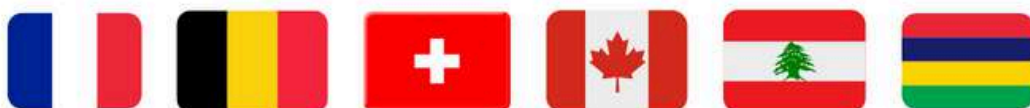


¡Es una oportunidad
única aprender tu
lengua materna
durante el horario
escolar!

DIA Emirates Hills

**Dedicated to
French Native speakers**

LE PROGRAMME DE FRANCAIS LANGUE MATERNELLE A



Notre programme s'adresse aux élèves de KG2 à year 11
dont le français est une des langues utilisées à la maison.
Nos élèves parlent et comprennent couramment le français.

Ils grandissent dans leur langue et culture.

Nous suivons le programme de l'éducation nationale français.

Pour nous rejoindre : rien de plus simple : contactez-nous !

Nom: Laetitia

Classe: SS153

Contact : dia.francais@gmail.com

Whatsapp : (971) 56 101 5629



DIA Emirates Hills

DELE Spanish diploma

The registration for the **DELE Spanish Diploma November session** is now open.

The exam will take place on November 22nd, and the deadline for registration is **October 9th**.



Information and registration:

UCAM Dubai

<https://spanish.ucam.ae/spanish-official-exams/dele>

For further assistance, please contact us:

blancag@diadubai.com

robertog@diadubai.com

I.DELE CCA- Mondays after school
Roms S217/2S18





SchoolsCompared.com presents The Top Schools Award for...

Best International Baccalaureate Curriculum School in the UAE 2023 - 2024

DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY
EMIRATES HILLS

WINNER

Best

**INTERNATIONAL
BACCALAUREATE
CURRICULUM
SCHOOL IN THE UAE 2023-24**



Johnathan Westley
Managing Editor

James Mullen
Co-Founder

David Westley
Co-Founder

Awarded by the Editorial Board of **SchoolsCompared** and the **Top Schools Awards** Independent Judging Panel for consistently outstanding feedback from parents and teachers, school-wide innovation, whole child development and outstanding contribution to the quality and standards of education for children in the UAE 2023.

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EMIRATES
HILLS



Dream - Inspire - Achieve