

Primary

# Newsletter

3rd February 2023

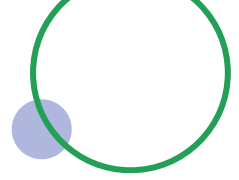
Volume 2, Issue 5



Photos courtesy of the Year 2 Sustainable Bag Initiative, Arabic sandwich making, Year 2 Dubai Safari trip, Year 3 Sleepover and the foRWARD Talks

**PADIA**  
PASSIONATE ABOUT DIA

**innoventures**  
education



# Head of Primary's Message

When needing to leave the house on Monday, I couldn't find Arthur. I drop him at dog school at 6:30am but he prefers to sleep.

Dear Parents,

#Walkathon. Thank you to all the community who were able to attend our Walkathon. An incredible AED 4000+ was raised for our GIVE charity. A big thank you also to Mr. Mihail, our Director of Sport, who championed this event. A further shout out to our World School Games coaches and athletes who spent their weekend representing the school in a wide range of events. At this stage of the year, I am blown away by both the standard, but more so the commitment that DIA displays in the sporting community. A big well done to Mr. Ross and his team for this.

Talking of going the extra distance, Year 3 hosted the first school sleepover for many years. This is an important part of the school's commitment to residential camps. For many children, this would represent their first time away from home without their family.

Last night two of our Year 6 children, Krisha and Prithvi, represented DIA at the Innoventures foRWARD Ideas, which is a TED Style Talk held at Raffles World Academy. They spoke about their vision for the world of tomorrow. Being able to present on a stage is not something we all feel comfortable with, though having the confidence to share our ideas, in a range of environments, is an important part of IB education.

Kind regards,  
Tom Collar



# Student Led Conference Guidance

Student-led conferences are a way to engage with your child in a conversation about their learning. It goes beyond academics to include your child's engagement, interest and attitude towards their learning. It is a culmination of a process of self-evaluation, reflection, goal setting and ownership of learning.

Students choose snap-shots of their learning journey and present these to you. This may not be their 'best' work according to adults, but it is their best work in terms of their recognition of their learning from it. They have spent time identifying the work they want to discuss with you, to share with you their reasons for choosing their work and how they see it as an achievement. They will also demonstrate their learning at stations set up around the room.

Please be reminded this is a 'Student Led' conference and although class teachers will be facilitating the activities this is not a formal discussion between yourself and the teacher.

## The purpose of Student-led conferences:

- To put students at the center of their learning by allowing them to own it
- To celebrate their learning
- To facilitate critical thinking skills in evaluating their work
- To develop communication skills and confidence in presenting themselves and their work
- To encourage an open and honest dialogue between parents and children
- To help students accept responsibility for their work and learning
- To help parents see how their children learn in an inquiry-based, hands-on classroom

## Parents role:

- Be the audience
- Celebrate your child's learning
- Support them in their effort to explain their work by asking guiding questions
- Listen patiently and allow them to make mistakes
- Encourage and motivate to talk and demonstrate
- Participate in their engagements
- Be mindful of your time allocation

## Some questions you could ask your child:

- Show me how you did that?
- What did you find most challenging in this unit?
- What did you enjoy the most?
- How can I help you in achieving your goal in reading/writing/math?
- Why did you choose this work?
- What did you learn from this?
- Did you use any strategies to solve this?

## What not to say and do at the SLC:

- Turn up without your child
- Compare your child with another
- Give negative comments work e.g.; Why is your handwriting untidy? Why did you get this wrong? I know you can do better than this.
- Ask teachers about the progress of your child- 'So tell me how my child is doing in English/Math/Science', or 'What can my child do to get a better grade?'



**BOOK NOW**

- 6th February  
Year 5 Trip to Emirates Literature Festival  
Communication from Homeroom
- 7th and 9th February  
Year 6 Trip to Sharjah Museum  
Communication from Homeroom
- 8th February  
Student Led Conferences  
School Closed for Primary School Students
- 9th February  
KG1 Trip to Green Planet  
Communication from Homeroom
- 10th-18th February  
Year 5 & 6 Trip to Borneo
- 13th-14th February  
Year 4 A, B, C & D Camp
- 14th-15th February  
Year 4 E, F & G Camp
- 17th-18th February  
School Closed for Mid Term Break

## REMINDERS

- Student Led Conference Wednesday 8th February
- Please drive calmly around the community. We all have the same goal, to arrive and depart school safely. There is space in the rear carpark most days, yet parents are choosing to stop and park on the road. Please use all available space.



**SATURDAY, FEB 4 AND SUNDAY, FEB 5**

I am pleased to share with you that one of community role models, Kathy Urban, who is an accomplished author, will be at the Emirates Airline Festival of Literature this year.

The details are below and should you wish to attend then please follow [this link](#) for either or both of the two sessions.



## Join local children's author Kathy Urban at LitFest 2023



Includes a fun crafts workshop

**Sunday 5 February**  
**13:00-13:45**

Venue: Al Amwaj II,  
InterContinental, Dubai  
Festival City

Age: 3+  
Session No: 233  
AED40

**Saturday 4 February**  
**16:15-17:00**

Venue: Al Riwaq I,  
InterContinental, Dubai  
Festival City

Age: 3+  
Session No: 192  
Free Entry



مجموعة عمل الإمارات للبيئة  
EMIRATES ENVIRONMENTAL  
GROUP



Environmental Drawing  
Competition

# Environmental Drawing Competition 2023



## Age Groups

6 - 8 years  
9 - 11 years  
12 - 14 years

## Topics

Bringing Back the Wildlife  
Nourishing the 8 Billion  
Envisioning & Embodying Goal 17 at COP 28

## Environmental Drawing Competition 2023 Topics & Concept Note

### **TOPIC: Bringing Back the Wildlife (Age 6 – 8)**

#### **Art work should be done on A4 sized drawing sheets**

According to the Living Planet Report published by World Wildlife Fund in 2022, there is an overwhelming drop of 69% of monitored population of all vertebrates (mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles & fishes). This is due to a range of factors including habitat loss, over exploitation, pollution etc.... Students must understand that the animals they might be able to see today may go extinct in their lifetimes if no action is taken. Under this topic, students are asked to draw their favourite vertebrates that are currently endangered that they think must be preserved and what life would be like if their population rise again. Are any vertebrates endangered in UAE of the region? Can human beings co-exist with them and live sustainably?

**The students can use any of the following mediums to colour their drawings; i.e. pencils, crayons, pastels or water colors**

### **TOPIC: Nourishing the 8 Billion (Age 9 – 11)**

#### **Art work should be done on A3 sized drawing sheets**

In November 2022, a United Nations Report declared that the world has crossed the 8 Billion People mark. An increasing population means that more people need the adequate resources to live. One of that crucial resource is food. As climate change progresses, the food production also faces challenges. However, as the world start shifting towards sustainable food production practices, it must have the capacity to cater to the entire population of the world equally. Students are expected to draw how we can produce food in a sustainable manner and feed the growing population. What sustainable agricultural practices from the past or practiced in one part of the world can be implemented on a wider scale? As population of UAE increases, can we achieve food sustainability? What innovative technologies can be used? Can new sources of food be adopted by others – insects, lab meat, indigenous sustainable crops?

**The students can use any of the following mediums to colour their drawings; i.e. pencils, crayons, pastels or water colors**

Please note the following:

**FINAL DATE OF SUBMISSION: 13TH MARCH 2023**

All artwork must be submitted to the student's respective art teacher in the school. It must be an original idea and the creation of the student artist.

Colouring, drawing, painting or outline printed by non-participating students are unacceptable and will be disqualified.

Please ensure that the name of the Student or School is NOT mentioned within or in the front of the drawing. You must write the name of the student and the class with a pencil at the back of the artwork.

Artwork that have been shown or accepted in other competitions will not be accepted.

The final artwork selected for the competition and sent to EEG, become the property of EEG and will not be returned to the school or individual. EEG reserves the right to use, publish, or otherwise display the work in any relevant platform or event.

The final entries will be assessed by a panel of qualified artists who will select the winners on the basis of creativity, imagination, composition, use of colour and choice of subject.

Students and their parents will be informed if their artwork is selected for the final entry. After which a form will be sent out to be filled in and returned back to the respective art teacher.

Please note that the entries must be in the correct format i.e. the size of paper and material used. Entries that do not meet these requirements will be disqualified and returned upon receipt.

**For any further communication, please feel free to email to**

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