DIA

EMIRATES HILLS

AUG

29

2022

DIA WOLVES
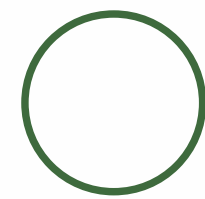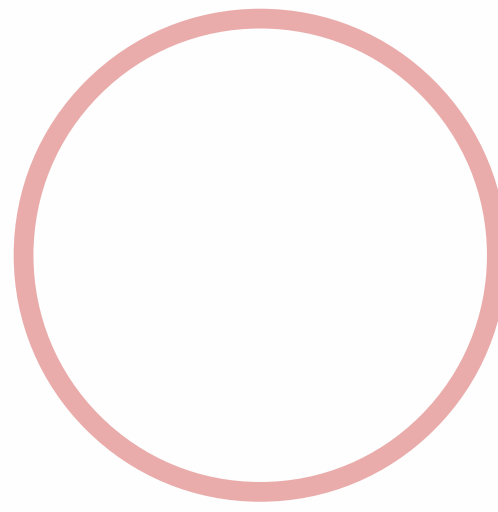
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WELCOME
BACK
PACK

2022-2023

DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY

School Principal Message

Dear DIA Parents and Students,

I am honoured to be leading DIA-Emirates Hills into the new academic year, working together to enhance the life-long learning for the students in our care. We are aspirational within every area of school-life and I am extremely proud of the opportunities we provide our students that go beyond academic success. We pride ourselves in nurturing a holistic approach to ensure our students are afforded opportunities to develop their academic prowess, as well as engaging in rich extra-curricular endeavours such as Model United Nations, Innovation Think-Tanks, Visual and Performing Arts, as well as a robust sports programmes competing internationally. Additionally, we pride ourselves by affording our students the opportunity to develop their own cultural identity through the Mother Tongue Programme, whilst also enhancing our Internationalism.

Furthermore, students participated in innovative PYP and Science Fair exhibitions to showcase their independent learning, collaboration and capacity to become world-leaders of the future. Additionally, our primary students also engaged within outdoor and holistic learning pursuits through the Junior Dukes programme.

We would also like to celebrate recent phenomenal student success in academics in secondary. Our Diploma students passed in exceptional style encompassing a 100% pass-rate, 5 of our DP students received a perfect score of 45 points. In the UAE as a whole, there were 12 students in total receiving perfect scores and DIA-EH encompassed 5 of those. Additionally, in our Careers related programme students continued to reach new heights with Distinction results and placement within superb universities. Building on this success, our MYP was also another cause for celebration with our student being awarded the only perfect score of 56 points in the UAE. Lastly, 117 university scholarships were awarded to our students from some of the most prestigious institutes around the world.

We at DIA-EH are constantly listening to our school community as a means of driving self-evaluation to enhance our students' experience, develop our teaching and learning, enhance our personal development and build a happy, productive environment. As such, this year we will be focusing on Community, Opportunity, Teaching and Learning, as well as Well-being as our driving forces to enhance our principles and practices.

I am grateful to be afforded an opportunity to help your child….

Hitesh Bhagat

Principal

Head of Primary Message

Dear Primary School Community,

I hope this letter finds you all safe and well, ready and looking forward to the start of the new school year. I trust you have all had an enjoyable summer and your children are ready to return to school safe and sound. As with each school year, we look to build upon previous successes and aim high into the future.

As the new Head of Primary, I would like say how tremendously excited I am to welcome the community back into school and begin getting to know you all. Whether you are an existing family, new to the school or perhaps even new to Dubai, I look forward to meeting you all and will share a dedicated coffee time in the near future.

The aim of this booklet is to provide you with confidence for the first week of school. Routines will naturally take time to settle and staff will be vigilant for any improvements we can make. If, however, you have any questions then please do look at the 'Comms Corner' for contact details.

All the very best,
Tom Collar
Head of Primary

Head of Secondary Message

Dear all,

A very warm welcome to DIA Secondary School, whether you are returning to us, transferring from the Primary School or are new to our community. We are excited to be opening our doors for this new academic year and we are working hard to get everything ready to ensure all students excel in every aspect of school life.

I feel extremely privileged to be welcoming you into school as the new Head of Secondary. The last few years have been a challenge, and one we have faced together as a community. There have been some incredible lessons learned from the pandemic that have helped to shape our current practice, shown how resilient and adaptable we are, and turned us into highly adept IT experts!

I am sure that your sons and daughters will have a happy and successful academic year here at DIA Secondary School and I look forward to working with you this year.

Warmest regards,
Michelle Puxty
Head of Secondary

Drivers
Whole school priorities

Opportunity:
To create, provide, and facilitate a diverse range of meaningful opportunities for all stakeholders to engage with, to further enhance and develop their learning journey.

Wellbeing:
To build and sustain an environment and culture that supports and prioritises the wellbeing of each member of our community.

Community:
To develop strong ties and relationships with our internal and wider communities and continue our commitment towards having a positive impact.

Teaching and Learning:
To cultivate a climate which fosters challenge, student autonomy and self-directed learning which leads students to develop international mindedness.

Principal
Hitesh Bhagat
Hiteshb@diadubai.com

Senior Leadership

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Head of Year

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Important Contacts

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Senior Leadership

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PE
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Important Contacts

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IT support
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Accounts Department
accounts@diadubai.com

Primary Key Dates

Dubai International Academy, Emirates Hills Primary School Calendar Outline 2022-2023	
SLMT First day (Orientation & Training)	17 August 2022
Teachers First day (Orientation & Training)	22 August 2022
Primary School 'Hopes & Dreams' KG1-Y6	29 August 2022
KG 1-2 settling in programme (stay and play - staggered start)	30 August – 01 September 2022
Lesson start Year 1 - 6	30 August 2022
Lesson start KG 1-2	02 September 2022
Mid-term Break	19 – 21 October 2022
Student-led Conference KG1 – 6 (No school for PS students)	15 November 2022
Commemoration Day & National Day Holiday **TBC	1 – 2 December 2022
Winter Break	12 – 30 December 2022
PS Parent Teacher Consultations KG1 – Year 6 (No school for PS students)	08 February 2023
Mid-term Break	16 – 17 February 2023
Ramadan **TBC	21 March 2023
Spring Break	27 March – 07 April 2023
Eid Al Fitr **TBC	20 – 21 April 2023
PS Student led Conference KG1 – 6 (No school for PS students)	25 May 2023
End of year for students and teachers	26 June 2023
Eid Al Adha **TBC	27 – 30 June 2023

** TBC – dates to be confirmed once announced by the Ministry
Please note that all dates are correct at the time of writing and could be subject to change owing to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.
Kind regards,
DIA Primary School

Secondary Key Dates

Dubai International Academy, Emirates Hills SS Calendar Outline 2022-2023	
SMT return to School for Orientation and Training	17 August 2022
HODs and Year level leaders return to School for Orientation and Training	22 August 2022
Teachers return to School for Orientation and Training	22 August 2022
Secondary School New Student and all Year 7 students Orientation	29 August 2022
All Students return	30 August 2022
Year 7 parent online information session (5:30pm)	5 September 2022
Year 8 & 9 parent online information session (5:30pm)	6 September 2022
Year 12 parent online information sessions (5:30pm)	7 September 2022
Year 10 parent online information session (5:30pm)	8 September 2022
Year 11 parent online information session (5:30pm)	12 September 2022
Year 13 parent online information sessions (5:30pm)	13 September 2022
BridgeU online session for Year 10 – 13 parents (5:30pm)	3 October 2022
Year 7 – 13 Parent Focus groups (8am – 9am)	10 – 14 October 2022
Mid-term Break	19 – 21 October 2022
Face-to-face Parent Teacher Consultations SS (No school for SS Students)	14 November 2022
Parent Teacher Online Consultations SS (3:30pm – 5:00pm)	15 - 17 November 2022
Winter Break	12 – 30 December 2022
All Students return	2 January 2023
Year 7 – 13 Parent Focus groups (8am – 9am)	6 – 10 February 2023
Mid-term Break	16 – 17 February 2023
Parent Teacher Online Consultations SS (No school for SS Students)	6 March 2023
Face-to-face Parent Teacher Consultations (3:30pm – 5:00pm)	7 - 9 March 2023
Spring Break	27 March – 07 April 2023
Eid Al Fitr **TBC	20 – 21 April 2023
End of year for students and teachers	26 June 2023
Eid Al Adha **TBC	27 – 30 June 2023

Buses

Arab Falcon Bus Rental LLC is a leading school transport provider to the number of schools in Dubai, UAE. Their core value is to provide safe and reliable school transport services to their customers with the highest level of safety, quality, reliability and customer service.

Please register for the bus service through the bus provider on the link on our website here.

For any query kindly call Customer Care Representative of Arab Falcon, Ms. Jaya Maini on 050 1042285 or email to **csr.diaeh@arabfalcondubai.ae**.

Buses will be arriving to school by 7:30am and will leave school around 3:15 pm and individual pickup and drop off timings will be shared by the bus provider.

Once CCAs start, there will be a later bus service provided for students and will leave school at around 4:10 pm

Students must follow all the safety rules on the bus.
Each bus will have a designated bus nanny on board.

Entry and Exit Procedures

Multiple entry gates are provided to ease congestion. Please use your discretion and family needs when deciding which to use.

Entrance options:

Time	Gate Opens	Gate Closes
Rear car park (parking or drop off)	7:00 am	8:00 am
Side field /bike entry from Emirates Hills (no parking)	7:00 am	8:00 am
Side entrance kiss & drop Emirates Hills side ONLY (no parking)	7:00 am	7:35 am (please use side field entrance after this)
Front reception/main entrance foyer	7:00 am	Security and late entrance available throughout the day.

Etiquette:
- Your child's safety is our first priority, so please respect the directives of our academic staff and security team.
- Please do all you can to ensure a timely drop off and reduce congestion.

From 7am, staff will be on hand to direct and supervise:
- Senior School students to the canteen.
- Year 4-6 students to the Sky Garden.
- Year 1-3 students to the Quad.
- KG2 students to the Kiss and Drop area.

Children will be sent to classrooms from 7:15am, where their teacher will greet them.

NB: Pick up locations will be communicated by Heads of Year as part of their Hopes and Dreams letter.

School timings - KG1&2

MONDAY - THURSDAY

TIME	LESSON
KG1 07:15 - 07:30 **KG2 07:00 - 07:30**	Drop off
07:30 - 07:40	Registration
07:40 - 08:20	Lesson 1
08:20 - 09:00	Lesson 2
09:00 - 09:40	Lesson 3
09:40 - 10:00	Break
10:00 - 10:40	Lesson 4
10:40 - 11:20	Lesson 5
11:20 - 12:00	Lesson 6
12:00 - 12:40	Lunch
12;40 - 13:20	Lesson 7

FRIDAY

TIME	LESSON
KG1 07:15 - 07:30 **KG2 07:00 - 07:30**	Drop off
07:30 - 07:40	Registration
07:40 - 08:20	Lesson 1
08:20 - 09:00	Lesson 2
09:00 - 09:40	Lesson 3
09:40 - 10:00	Break
10:00 - 10:40	Lesson 4
10:40 - 11:20	Lesson 5
11:20 - 12:00	Lesson 6

School timings - Primary

MONDAY - THURSDAY

TIME	LESSON
07:00 - 07:30	Drop off
07:30 - 07:40	Registration
07:40 - 08:35	Lesson 1
08:35 - 09:30	Lesson 2
09:30 - 09:50	Break
09:50 - 10:45	Lesson 3
10:45 - 11:40	Lesson 4
11:40 - 12:35	Lesson 5
12:35 - 13:15	Lunch
13:15 - 14:10	Lesson 6
14:10 - 15:05	Lesson 7
15:10 - 16:00	CCA

FRIDAY

TIME	LESSON
07:00 - 07:30	Drop off
07:30 - 07:40	Registration
07:40 - 08:35	Lesson 1
08:35 - 09:30	Lesson 2
09:30 - 09:50	Break
09:50 - 10:45	Lesson 3
10:45 - 11:40	Lesson 4
11:40 - 12:00	Lesson 5 (Homeroom)

School timings - Secondary

MONDAY - THURSDAY

TIME	LESSON
07:00 - 07:30	Drop off
07:30 - 07:40	Registration
07:40 - 08:35	Lesson 1
08:35 - 09:30	Lesson 2
09:30 - 10:25	Lesson 3
10:25 - 10:45	Break
10:45 - 11:40	Lesson 4
11:40 - 12:35	Lesson 5
12:35 - 13:30	Lesson 6
13:30 - 14:10	Lunch
14:10 - 15:05	Lesson 7
15:10 - 16:00	CCA

FRIDAY

TIME	LESSON
07:00 - 07:30	Drop off
07:30 - 07:40	Registration
07:40 - 08:20	Lesson 1
08:20 - 09:00	Lesson 2
09:00 - 09:40	Lesson 3
09:40 - 10:00	Lesson 4
10:00 - 10:40	Break
10:40 - 11:20	Lesson 5
11:20 - 12:00	Lesson 6

Co-Curricular Activities

Co-curricular activities form an integral part of the DIA school community and we will continue to enhance the depth and quality of these.

CCAs are planned to begin in Week beginning 12th September. Please await further communication regarding the options and sign up procedure.
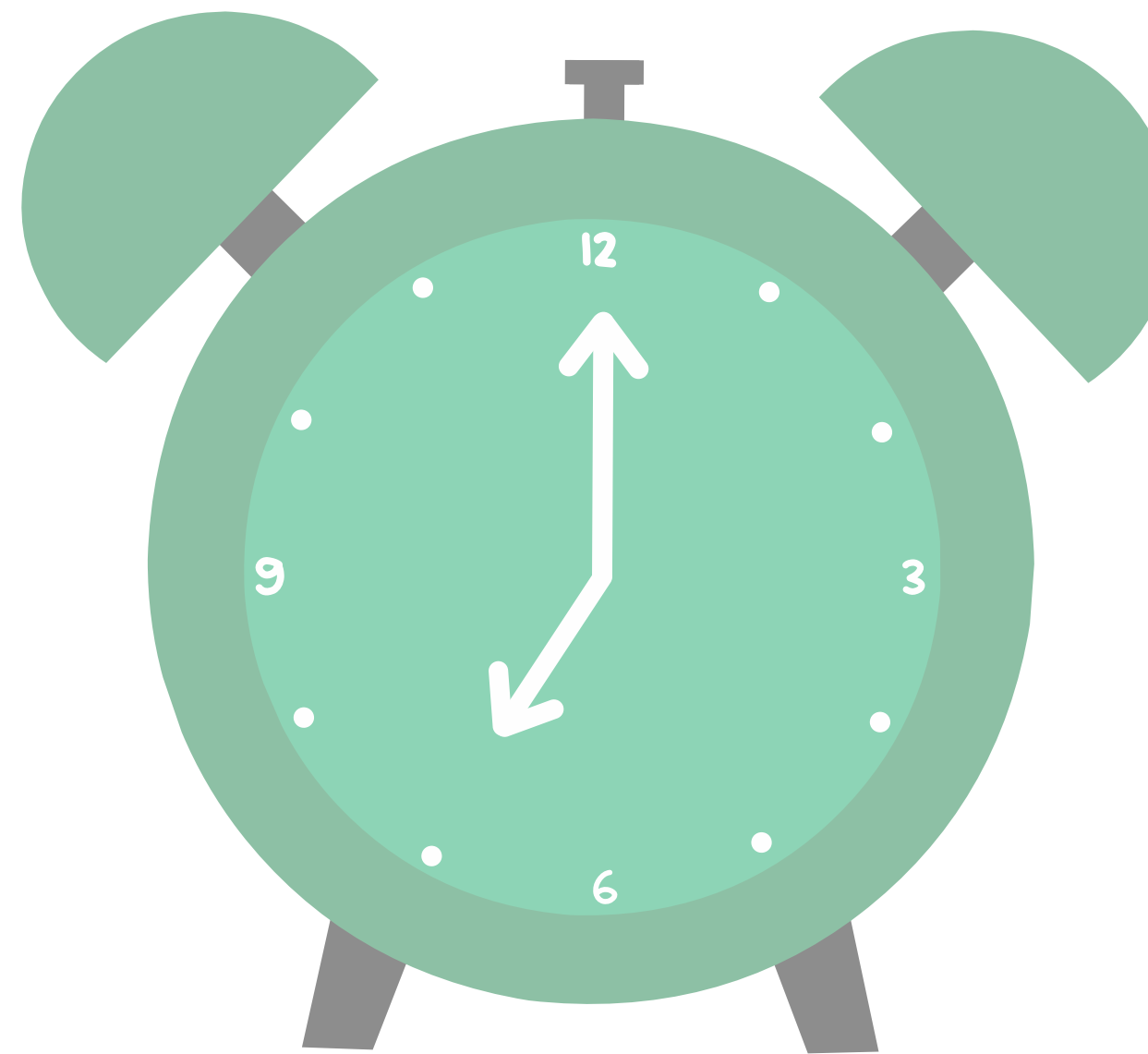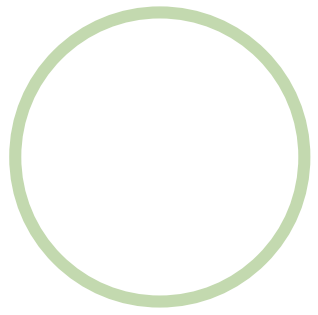
Dress Code

- Students should wear the regulatory school uniform with black shoes and the uniform can be seen <u>here</u>.

- Students should bring their full PE kit to school when there is a PE class on the same day and use the changing facilities. The only exception is on Friday, Years 10 and 11 can attend school in their PE kit.

- Students should make a special point of keeping personal hygiene at the highest possible level - regular washing of hair, keeping nails clean, along with consistent washing and sanitising hands.

- For safeguarding reasons, IDs and lanyards are compulsory. Should a student require a replacement during the year, this can be issued via the Secondary School Office at a cost of AED 20. Students new to school can upload their picture using the link <u>here</u>. They will be given out during the first week.
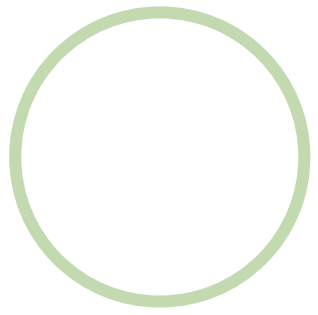
Student lockers

- All students will be allocated a locker on their first day. It will be their responsibility to keep this clean, not leave any food in there longer than a day and not graffiti it at all.

- Students must bring in their own small padlock to secure the locker.
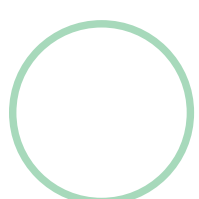
Timetabling & Homeroom

- Student timetables will be live on the ISAMS portal on Sunday, 28 August. This will include their homeroom.

- There are 7 lessons in the day with a duration of 55mts per lesson. There is a 20 minutes break and a 40 minutes lunch during the day.

Registration

- The registration period is from 7:30am – 7:40am and takes place in the homerooms.

- Students can make their way to their homeroom from 7:15am. Any student arriving between 7am and 7:15am must remain in the canteen.

- Any student arriving to school after 7:30am will be recognised as late in the homeroom. If a student arrives after 7:40am must report to the SS office to sign in and pick up a late slip before proceeding to their lesson 1. Persistent lateness to school will result in a detention.   Further details about the behaviour policy and expectations will be sent out in the next few days.

- If your child is absent, please can you inform Ms. Evelyn with the reasons as soon as possible: **evelynp@diadubai.com**

School Food

- Hot and cold food will be available from the school canteen.

- Cash or debit/credit card can be used to purchase the food in the first few weeks. This will give the new catering provider time to register the Student's ID card onto their system so money can be loaded onto this.

Day to day SS

Day to day SS
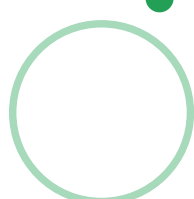
Technology

- DIA is a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) school and would provide Internet and storage space through the Microsoft platform. There will be a dedicated Technology session for new students during the orientation day to set up the various platforms.

- For Managebac, Microsoft TEAMS & Kognity (DP/CP), new students will obtain login details through their school email in the first week.

- Returning students will be provided with a reset password for the school network and Office login on Tuesday, 30 August. This is to ensure students choose a new password at the start of the academic year.

- For student I.T. support please contact helpdesk@diadubai.com

What to bring

- Students should bring:
  - **at least** one additional face mask.
  - Laptop.
  - Stationery including calculator
  - A padlock for their locker
  - Their school textbooks (can be kept in their locker)
  - Water bottle and food. Additional water is available in the vending machines (AED 1 coin) food can be purchased in the canteen.
  - Their own food and snack or money/credit/debit card to purchase food from the canteen.

Day to day PS

Uniform

- Students should wear the regulatory school uniform with black shoes. The uniform can be seen <u>here</u>.

- PE Kit should be worn with non-marking trainers.

- On days where students have PE, Swimming and Dance, they should come in their PE kit, and will remain in it for the day.

- We continue to be mindful of hygiene and encourage students to be clean and presentable.

Timetabling

- Relevant specialist lessons will shared by your child's Homeroom Teacher as part of the Hopes and Dreams letter.
- Specific timetabling information or questions should be directed to your children's Homeroom Teacher or Head of Year.

Day to day PS

Registration

- The registration period is from 7:30am – 7:40am and takes place in the homerooms.
- Students can make their way to their homeroom from 7:15am. Any student arriving between 7am and 7:15am must remain in there assigned area.
- Register closes and lessons begin at 7:40. Please ensure your child has ample time to reach their classroom before this time.

Student Absence

- If your child is absent due to illness, please complete the 'Absence Notification Link' before 08:00am of the day of the absence.
- If you are requesting leave for an extended period of time (3 or more days) submit the same form with reasons for the request. This will be subject to approval. We advise all non-essential travel plans be restricted to the prescribed holidays, so as not to impact on your children's attendance record.

Food

- We are pleased to share that we have contracted Emirates Tastes for our school food this year.
- A letter detailing how to avail of this service will be shared shortly.
- If you choose to bring a snack and lunch from home please ensure this healthy and adequate to the needs of your children.

Day to day PS

What to bring

- **Students should bring:**
  - Appropriate school bag (please avoid wheelie bags).
  - At least one additional face mask (Year 2 upwards).
  - iPad and headphones (Year 2 upwards). Apps will be shared within the 'Hopes and Dreams' letter.
  - Stationery (shared within the 'Hopes and Dreams' letter).
  - Water bottle.

Mother Tongue

- Information regarding the MT provision will be shared shortly.

Monday 29th August

New students and all of Year 7

Arrive: 8 am meeting in central quad
Depart: 10 am (exception of Year 10 with separate email sent)
Bring: Laptop, stationery, snack and water bottle

No School buses will be running

Tuesday 30th August

All students

Arrive: 7:15am - 7:30 am go to homerooms
Depart: 3:05pm
Bring: Full school equipment.

School buses will be running.
Canteen will be available.
Lessons 1 - 3 will be in homeroom/assembly
Lesson 4 onwards the timetable will commence.

Wednesday 31st August

Normal school timetable continues

Monday 29th August

Year 1-6
Hopes and Dreams appointments

KG1 and 2
Stay and Play sessions

Further information on the above will be communicated at the end of next week

No School buses will be running

Tuesday 30th August

Welcome morning for all students with Homeroom orientation.

Regular timetable to commence after Break.

School buses will be running

EMIRATES HILLS

If you have any questions please reach out.

Dream - Inspire - Achieve