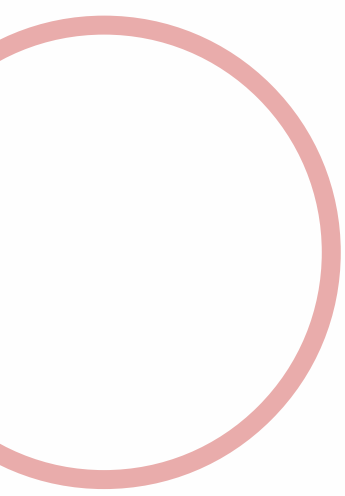




EMIRATES
HILLS

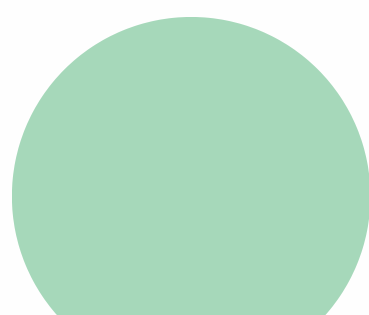
Secondary School Newsletter



27 January 2023



2022-2023



Head of Secondary Message



Hello all,

This week, we have two international trips taking place, our first Ski Trip to Switzerland and our DIAMUN trip to the Hague. I would highly recommend students taking part in any out of school opportunities. Trips can provide students with hands-on learning experiences that complement what they are learning in the classroom. It can also challenge students in new and different ways, helping them to develop independence, self-confidence, and problem-solving skills. All part of the IB philosophy and approach. There will be more opportunities throughout the year for students to take their learning beyond the classroom - watch this space!

I also wanted to take this opportunity to thank those parents who have visited school to take part in the Focus Group discussions. Taking valuable feedback from you will help the school to grow and develop.

We are one team!

Have a wonderful week ahead.

Michelle



Key Information

Monday 30th January

DIA Walkathon

The Walkathon schedule will be as follows on Sports Field:

7:45am – 8:05am: KG & Year 1 + parents (if registered)

8:10am – 8:30am: Year -2 & 3 + parents (if registered)

8:35am – 8:55am: Year 4 , 5 & 6 + parents (if registered)

9:00am – 9:20am: Year 7 & 8 + parents (if registered)

9:25am – 9:45am: Year 9-10 + parents (if registered)

9:50am – 10:10am: Year 11, 12 & 13 + parents (if registered)

10:15am event ends

Tuesday 31 January

Year 7 Focus Groups

Focus Groups are a scheduled opportunity for interested parents to discuss their experiences with Heads of Year and a member of SMT, and to give their feedback, both positive and otherwise so that we are informed in our future practice.

Please see emails for specific information and a Microsoft Form to provide questions/concerns ahead of time. The meeting will be held from **08.00 to 09.00 in the Presentation Hall.**

Tuesday 31 January

PADIA International Day Coffee Morning

Join PADIA to explore our plans for International Day and provide your insights to make our celebration bigger and better than ever!

Tuesday 31 January

Half-Day for Students

Students will be dismissed at 12.00

Key Information

Wednesday 01 February

Outdoor Cinema

All year 8 & 9 students are invited to join us for an outdoor screening of 'Spiderman: Into the Spideverse' in the Quad, starting at 17.00. All proceeds will be donated to GIVE. Please see the advert in this newsletter!

Tuesday 07 February

Year 7 - 9 Sports Day

All Year 7, 8, and 9 students will participate in our annual sports day. Students should come to school in their PE Kit. Specific information regarding events and the general program has been shared with students.

Wednesday 08 February

Year 10 - 13 Sports Day

Students in years 10 to 13 will participate in our annual sports day. Students should come to school in their PE Kit. Specific information regarding events and the general program has been shared with students.

Thursday 09 February

TEDxYouth@DIA

Students in years 10 to 13 will participate in our annual sports day. Students should come to school in their PE Kit. Specific information regarding events and the general program has been shared with students.

Friday 10 February

Year 11-13 Mid-year (MR) Reports Issued

Reports will be issued through the iSAMS Parent Portal. Please contact helpdesk@diadubai.com if you are unable to access this platform.

#Opportunity

The Troublemakers!

We are incredibly proud of our Year 7 student who has published her first book at the age of 11! *The Troublemakers* is a book about 3 sisters. The oldest sister, Aura, is extremely frustrated at the twins, Mystic and Athena, as they go out of their way to prank Aura in every way possible. The twins suddenly cast a spell that sends their dear mother all the way to FairyVille where many secrets are unraveled.



DIAMUN Trip to the Hague



2023 DIA Ski Trip 1



Secondary School Inclusion Team



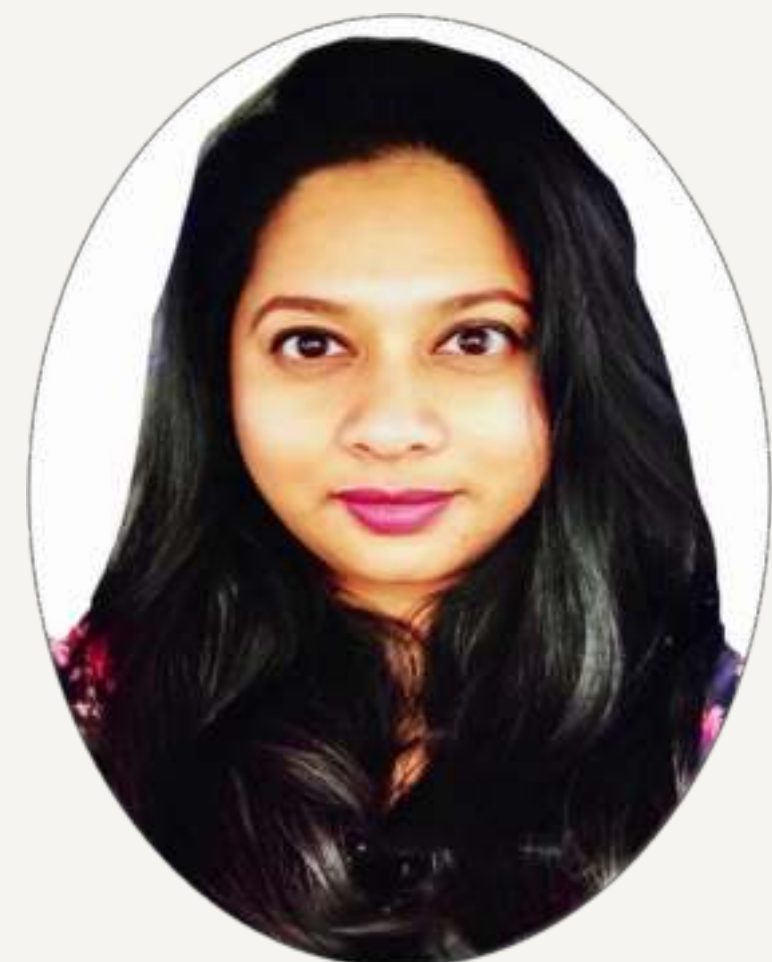
Asha Karam
Head of Inclusion

I am an Inclusion advocate who believes in holistic student development. A passionate and experienced professional in the field, I work with students, teachers and families to create more inclusive learning communities. In my current capacity leading the inclusion team at Dubai International Academy, I collaborate with heads of departments, teachers, school leaders, students and parents to ensure all students engage with their learning to the best of their potential, keeping their well-being at the forefront of this process. My team and I are available for support, so please feel free to reach out.



Mojdeh Niyousha
Learning Support Teacher

My journey of Inclusive education started 30 years ago. Since then, I have tried to advocate this system actively in my home country, Iran and UAE. I believe learning is a nonstop and never-ending process, and everybody must have a chance to study and learn. With this pursuit, I recently acquired my third master's degree (Educational Studies). Because of my diverse educational background, I support Science, Math, and I&S and conduct students' skill interventions and executive functioning sessions.



Mala Joseph
Learning Support Teacher

I truly believe in the IB system and the Inclusion Department that we have at DIA. I have worked here for 11 years now and have been a parent here for 14 years and counting. I am the Learning Support Teacher for Year 9, and the MYP I&S Subject Specialist for our High School Learning Support team. I also support our high school students for History and Geography. I am passionate about supporting our students in any way I can and look forward to being part of the inclusive culture at DIA.

Secondary School Inclusion Team



Lojain Rajkhan
Learning Support Teacher

I strongly support the idea of putting students needs first. I support students that are in Year 10 and 11 specifically in Maths and Science subjects. I am a believer that there is no limit to any student, but different approaches, effective modifications, and accommodation will facilitate a student's accessibility to learning. I am passionate about the learning of each of my students and I am enjoying watching them grow both academically and as individuals. I am a patient, understanding and cooperative person and my goal will always be to make a students academic life as smooth as possible.



Izel Joubert
Learning Support Teacher

I am an experienced Mathematics and Inclusion teacher who believes in valuing student differences and supporting their learning needs to the greatest extent possible. I am passionate to help learners and ensure they understand their work, and develop & grow as individuals. I am a positive person who has an enthusiastic outlook on life. I love my role as both Math and Inclusion teacher and I get a great sense of achievement from seeing my students develop and grow as individuals.



Urvi Shah
learning support assistant

Full of energy and enthusiasm, I love to work with children. Science and Math fascinate me. They envision me with Logic that is all around us. I love to share my knowledge and discover new points-of-view with young minds. I have been imparting knowledge in the fields of Graphics and Animation since a decade and worked with a diverse age group of students ranging from 10 years to late adolescence. Inclusion for me is the joy of working with diverse and gifted-minds who are willing to make a mark of brilliance.

Secondary School Inclusion Team



Hala Mahmoud
Learning Support Assistant
Arabic

I am an Inclusion educator who believes that our greatest strength as human-beings is that we are not all the same. A passionate professional who is blessed to work in an inclusive culture that empowers students to connect, belong and grow. I work with students to ensure our inclusive learning community is aligned with our goals: "celebrating differences, nurturing abilities and transforming communities". In my current capacity supporting the inclusion learning at DIA, I strive to equip our students with tools that empower them to connect with others, overcome their challenges and reach their goals.



Maryam alsuwaidi
Learning Support Assistant
Arabic

I have recently joined the inclusion team and am looking forward to have a positive impact on student learning. During my bachelor studies for four years I have worked with different schools and companies both within the private and government sectors, in order to become aware and upskill my ability to work with different styles of learning and communication. Currently I will support both Primary and Secondary Inclusion teams and am eager to work with your children.



Srishti Jain
EAL Coordinator

I find that teaching English and teaching Dance are not that far apart. Both are languages and can be used to express an individual's deepest deliberations. It is my mission to help students acquire the fundamentals of these tools of expression. Students are the drivers of my lessons, I am only there to facilitate their learning journey. I strive to create meaningful, immersive experiences for my students so they can experiment with these new languages and build a sound foundation in their language acquisition journeys.



#Community

A Visit from Our International Community!

DIA welcomed teachers from the International School DELFT in the Netherlands. The plan is to establish a partnership which can lead to increased opportunities for learning and growth for both schools, starting with developing an exchange programme.





WALKATHON

Walking for a great cause

Monday 30 January



The Walkathon schedule

- 7:45am – 8:05am: KG & Year 1 + parents (if registered)
- 8:10am – 8:30am: Year 2 & 3 + parents (if registered)
- 8:35am – 8:55am: Year 4, 5 & 6 + parents (if registered)
- 9:00am – 9:20am: Year 7 & 8 + parents (if registered)
- 9:25am – 9:45am: Year 9-10 + parents (if registered)
- 9:50am – 10:10am: Year 11, 12 & 13 + parents (if registered)
- 10:15am event ends

Location:

DIA Emirates Hills Main Field



DIA PRESENTS

YEAR 8 & 9 MOVIE NIGHT

WEDNESDAY 01 FEBRUARY

5PM QUAD

AED 30 INCLUDES
PIZZA, CRISPS &
DRINK

Spiderman -
into the Spider-
Verse



SIGN UP LINK



International Day
17 March
4pm - 8pm

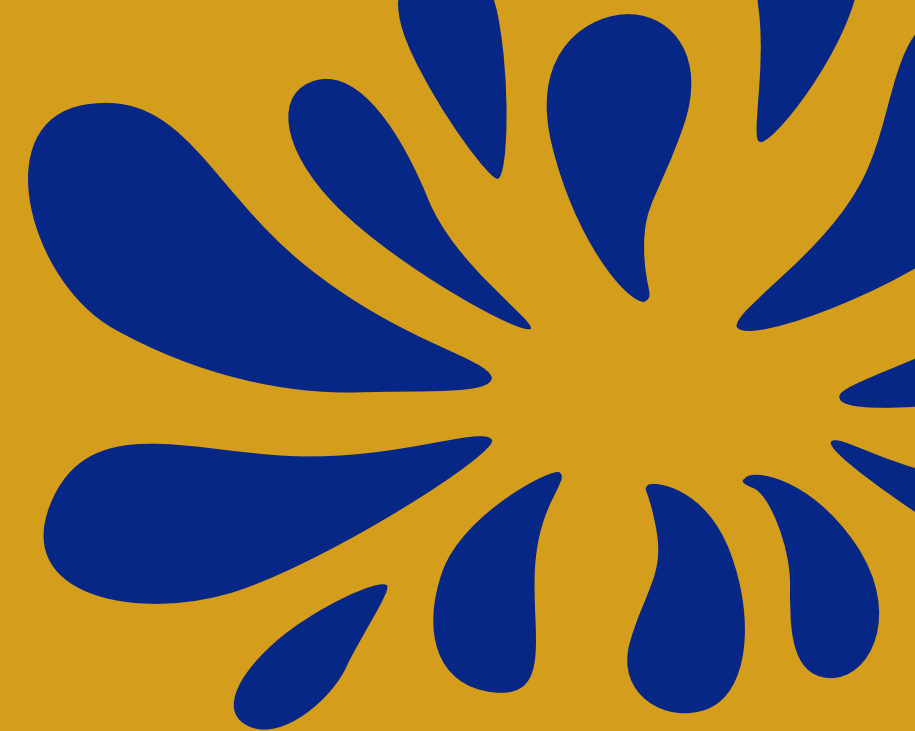


Let's celebrate diversity, cultures,
food, art, music & dance

@DIA Emirates Hills

PADIA

PASSIONATE ABOUT DIA 



Sports Fixtures

Day	Date	Team	Opponent	Home/Away	Start Time
Monday	30-Jan	U14 Tennis Team	DASSA Tournament @ Kinds Al Barsha	Away	1:30pm
Monday	30-Jan	U16 Girls Netball	The Arbor School	Home	4:00pm
Monday	30-Jan	U19 Girls Volleyball	Emirates International School, EIS Meadows	Away	4:00pm
Monday	30-Jan	U19 Boys Football	DASSA Cup vs NLS	Home	4:00pm
Monday	30-Jan	U9 Girls Football	DASSA Tournament	Away	3:00pm
Tuesday	31-Jan	U16 Tennis Team	DASSA Tournament @ Kinds Al Barsha	Away	1:30pm
Tuesday	31-Jan	Golf Team	Jebel Ali Golf Club	Away	1:30pm
Tuesday	31-Jan	U19 Boys Volleyball	Uptown International School	Away	3:30pm
Tuesday	31-Jan	Y5 Tennis	WIS	Away	3:00pm
Tuesday	31-Jan	DIA AQ	DASSA Tournament	Away	3:00pm
Wednesday	1-Feb	U19 Girls Netball	GEMS International School, Al Khail	Home	4:00pm
Wednesday	1-Feb	U11 Rugby	Arbor Tournament	Away	3:00pm
Wednesday	1-Feb	U14 Girls Volleyball	EIS Meadows	Away	4:00pm
Wednesday	1-Feb	U14 Boys Volleyball	EIS Meadows	Away	4:00pm
Wednesday	1-Feb	U10 U11 G Football	Arcadia	Away	3:00pm
Thursday	2-Feb	U19 Boys Cricket	Collegiate International School	Away	4:00pm
Thursday	2-Feb	U14 Boys Football	DASSA Cup vs Star International School	Home	4:00pm
Thursday	2-Feb	Athletics Festival	DIA DASSA Host Tournament	Home	Home
Thursday	2-Feb	U14 Girls Netball	GEMS FirstPoint School	Away	4:00pm
Thursday	2-Feb	U16 Boys Volleyball	Nibras International School	Away	4:00pm
Thursday	2-Feb	U16 Girls Volleyball	Raffles International School	Away	4:00pm



We are changing how we communicate with you!

We have received a lot of great feedback from the parent body around the level and frequency of email communication. As a result, we have decided to revisit our approach to try and streamline the communication sent.



Our new approach will only apply to Years 7 - 11 (MYP). We feel that the nature of the Diploma Programme (Years 12 & 13) necessitates separate, and perhaps more frequent, communication to ensure the best opportunities for our students.

In the MYP (Years 7 - 11) we will attempt the following:

- All year-level communication will be streamlined into one email each week.
- This email will encompass all subjects and any special events or programs that will occur in the week(s) ahead.
- A glimpse of events and programs will still appear in the weekly newsletter - this email is designed to reduce the amount of curriculum information sent to parents.
- The email for Years 7, 8 and 9 will be sent by Ms. Susan McMechan (Assistant Headteacher) and the email for years 10 & 11 will be sent by Mr. Michael Norton (Deputy Headteacher).
- This approach will be reviewed over the coming weeks and we will seek your feedback as we trial this new system.

The Raymee Grief Center

The Raymee Grief Center provides free one-on-one Grief Consultations and Grief support groups for individuals and families who are affected by grief. Run by therapists at The LightHouse Arabia, the center can help you to understand what to expect from grief, how grief can impact you, and how to heal you and your family.

<https://www.lighthousearabia.com/services/raymee-grief-center>

Teen Tribe Online Support Group

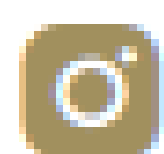
Teen Tribe is a bi-monthly support group for teens aged 13 to 16 years of age who would like to get together with others and talk about the stressors they are currently facing in their lives.

<https://www.lighthousearabia.com/events/teen-tribe-online-support-group-9>

Adult Grief Online Support Group

The Adult Grief Support group runs Online via Zoom. The group is open to adults ages 18 years and above, who are grieving the death of someone significant to them.

<https://www.lighthousearabia.com/events/adult-grief-online-support-group-17>



@lighthousearabia

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EMIRATES
HILLS



Dream - Inspire - Achieve