

SPOTS



NEWSLETTER

Vol. 17 Issue 13 / April 18, 2015

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MONTH AT A GLANCE (K-12 All School Event; PS = Primary School; ES = Elementary School; MS = Middle School; HS = High School; DAAPA; MESAC/EAC)

Welcome to the SPOTS calendar. We encourage parents to check weekly as occasionally dates or times may change.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
APRIL 2015							
19 PS/ES Day 4 MS/HS Day 7	20 PS/ES Day 5 MS/HS Day 8	21 PS/ES Day 6 MS/HS Day 1	22 PS/ES Day 7 MS/HS Day 2	23 PS/ES Day 8 MS/HS Day 3	24	25	
PS Innovation Week (April 19th to 23rd) / HS Yearbook pre-orders							
	HS Parent Coffee Morning 8:00 a.m. PS/ES Conf. Room		HS IB Art Year 1 Exhibition PS Maker's Day for Earth Day ES/PS Parent Connect Coffee Life Coach Workshop, 8am / RSVP req,	DAAPA PS Movie Night			
Var/JV Badminton - ABA Oman / Var/JV Track and Field - ASDoha JV Soft/Baseball - ACS Abu Dhabi / Var Soft/Baseball - DAA (at Dubai Little League)							
26 PS/ES Day 9 MS/HS Day 4	27 PS/ES Day 10 MS/HS Day 5	28 PS/ES Day 1 MS/HS Day 6	29 PS/ES Day 2 MS/HS Day 7	30 PS/ES Day 3 MS/HS Day 8	1	2	
HS IB Art Year 1 Exhibition							
			ES Musical Production Aladdin Jr. Two Shows: 3:30 AND 6:30 p.m.	ES Musical Production Aladdin Jr. Matinee Only MS Astronaut Visit During Assembly			
MAY 2015							
3 PS/ES Day 4 MS/HS Day 1	4 PS/ES Day 5 MS/HS Day 2	5 PS/ES Day 6 MS/HS Day 3	6 PS/ES Day 7 MS/HS Day 4	7 PS/ES Day 8 MS/HS Day 5	8	9	
HS IB Exams (May 4-22) / MAPS Testing (April 3-21)							
10 PS/ES Day 9 MS/HS Day 6	11 PS/ES Day 10 MS/HS Day 7	12 PS/ES Day 1 MS/HS Day 8	13 PS/ES Day 2 MS/HS Day 1	14 PS/ES Day 3 MS/HS Day 2	15	16	
DAAPA HS Mother's Day Gathering	ES Parent Coffee Morning 8:00 a.m. PS/ES Conf. Room	DAAPA Annual Teacher Appreciation Lunch					
17 PS/ES Day 4 MS/HS Day 3	18 PS/ES Day 5 MS/HS Day 4	19 PS/ES Day 6 MS/HS Day 5	20 PS/ES Day 7 MS/HS Day 6	21 PS/ES Day 8 MS/HS Day 7	22	23	
MS Spring Theatre Festival							
	ES Parent Coffee Morning 8:00 a.m. PS/ES Conf. Room	Annual Volunteer Breakfast DAAPA General Elections					

GEMS - DUBAI AMERICAN ACADEMY

Telephone 04 347-9222 Fax 04 347-6070

e-mail: communication_daa@gemsedu.com

DAA Website: www.gemsa-dubai.com GEMS Website: www.gemseducation.com



ALL SCHOOL NEWS

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENTS OFFICE

Dear DAA Families,

I hope everyone enjoyed fantastic spring holidays. A well-timed, two-week break can really make a difference, allowing students and teachers an opportunity to recharge their batteries for the final two months of the school year. Things never really seem to slow down at DAA, as will be evident in this week's edition of SPOTS. We begin a season of graduations and transitions, of testing and exams, and of competitions, celebrations, and performances across all four divisions of the school.

2015-16 CALENDAR INFORMATION

DAA finally has a KHDA-approved calendar for next year, which was shared with you via mini-SPOTS last week. We have attached it again to this edition for your convenience. KHDA has required all schools in Dubai to include 188 instructional days in next year's calendar, which left us very little flexibility. Nevertheless, I am pleased to finally share this calendar with you, as I appreciate that it is difficult for families to make travel and holiday arrangements until the school has shared its dates.

THE HOLY MONTH OF RAMADAN

As most of you will be aware, Ramadan will begin on June 18, which means we will need to modify some of our normal routines around DAA for the final week of the school year, including the starting and ending times for school. In SPOTS two weeks from now we will publish these details so that parents can begin to plan for the final days of school.

TRAFFIC, PARKING, AND SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS

PS and ES parents will be aware of the improvements made during spring holiday to our campus grounds. These improvements were motivated by our yearlong efforts to improve DAA's security, but we are doing everything we can to improve the flow of traffic and parking options as well. Most importantly, I think it will be apparent that we have student safety as our chief priority. We have needed to move deliberately and more slowly than we would like with our construction projects, as they require time (two-week breaks are essential!) and a great deal of coordination. As you might expect, we've got big plans for the upcoming summer months. I appreciate your continued patience, support, and cooperation with our efforts to improve DAA's security and safety. I also ask that everyone who drives on DAA's campus continue to be patient, calm, and cautious. Courtesy and respect make such an important difference!

MESAC HOSTING

We found it quite difficult to provide housing for the MESAC baseball and softball tournaments that DAA is hosting April 21-24. DAA is a member of MESAC, which is an athletics and activities conference that has six schools, including the American School of Dubai, the American School of Doha, the American Community School of Abu Dhabi, the American-British Academy of Muscat, and the American Embassy School of Delhi. DAA's students benefit from its partnership with these schools and they are hosted by generous families from these schools when our student-athletes and performers visit Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Doha, and Delhi. The reason hosting MESAC schools provide homestays for visiting students is to build camaraderie between students and to help reduce costs so that all students across the six schools can choose to participate and compete. I ask that DAA families whose children benefit from participation in MESAC please accept the responsibility of hosting; currently, we have a core of wonderful families who always volunteer to host, but we need all families to do their part in order to ensure the continued success of the program.

Thank you for your continued support!

Kind Regards,
Jim Hardin, Superintendent / CEO

ALL SCHOOL NEWS, continued



DAA 2015-16 School Calendar, KHDA-Approved

Release date: March 26, 2015

Thursday, August 13	Leadership Team reports; division offices open
Friday-Saturday, August 14-15	New teachers arrive in Dubai
Monday, August 17	New teachers – first day of orientation
Sunday, August 23	Counselors – first day
Wednesday, August 26	All returning faculty, staff, & nurses – first day
Thursday, August 27	New Student Orientation: PS – 8:30; ES – 9:30; MS – 10:30; and HS – 11:30
Sunday, August 30	First day of school for Grades 1-12
Monday, August 31	First day of school for KG1 and KG2
Tuesday, September 22	Arafah Day (no school)
Wednesday-Thursday, September 23-24	Eid Al Adha (no school)
Sunday, September 27	Classes resume
Thursday, October 15	Islamic New Year (no school)
Wednesday-Thursday, October 21-22	Parent Teachers Conferences: PS and ES <i>only</i>
Wednesday-Thursday, November 18-19	Parent Teachers Conferences: MS and HS <i>only</i>
Thursday, November 26	Thanksgiving (no school)
Tuesday, December 1	PS and ES: End of Trimester 1
Wednesday-Thursday, December 2-3	UAE National Day
Sunday, December 6	PS and ES: Start of Trimester 2
Thursday, December 17	Beginning of Winter Holiday; 12:00 dismissal
Sunday, January 3	Classes resume
Thursday, January 28	MS and HS: End of First Semester
Sunday, February 1	MS and HS: Start of Second Semester
Sunday, February 14	Mid-Term Break (no school)
Wednesday-Thursday, March 16-17	Parent-Teachers Conferences PS, ES, and MS – March 16 <i>and</i> 17 HS – March 17 <i>only</i>
Thursday, March 17	PS and ES: End of Trimester 2
Sunday, March 20	PS and ES: Start of Trimester 3
Thursday, March 24	Beginning of Spring Holiday; 12:00 dismissal
Sunday, April 10	Classes resume
Thursday, May 5	Isra'a Miraj (no school)
Thursday, June 9	Grade 12 Graduation
Monday, June 27	Last day of school for students and teachers

DUBAI AMERICAN ACADEMY
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRESENTS

APRIL 29TH AT 3:30 & 6:30 P.M.
APRIL 30TH AT 3:30 P.M.
DAA AUDITORIUM



Lyrics by Howard Ashman and Tim Rice
Music by Alan Menken
Music Adapted and Arranged by Bryan Louiselle

Based on the Screenplay by Ron Celemets and John Musker and Ted Elliott and Terry Rossio
Book Adapted and Additional Lyrics by Jim Luigs

TICKETS ON SALE FROM
APRIL 19TH

25 AED
ES RECEPTION
MS/HS RECEPTION
AED 25
PROCEEDS DONATED TO CHARITY.

Disney's Aladdin Jr is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.
421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019 Phone: (212) 541-4684 Fax: (212) 397-4684 www.MTIShows.com





STS BUS PROMO OFFER FOR MAY 2015

School Transport Services LLC, in partnership with Dubai American Academy, would like to reach out to all students and let them experience the bus ride to school.

Terms and Conditions:

- Areas eligible include Down Town, Business Bay and Trade Center, Al Safa 1 and 2, Satwa, Jumeirah, Al Bada, Dubai Silicon Oasis, Facon City and The Villa.
- This offer is only valid for May 2015.
- This offer can be availed subject to availability of seats
- This offer is not valid for the current STS customers. Valid for first-time bus users only.

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS
APRIL 20, 2015**

Sign up today by sending your details of residence area, children details and contact information to

cce-daa@stss.ae

Learn more about at STS on www.stss.ae.



DID your child ever ride to school in an STS School Bus?

If not, we would like to invite all the non-bus users to try out the bus ride (2way) **FREE OF COST** from 'Sunday May 03 - Sunday May 31, 2015'

This offer is limited to first- time bus users who reside in the below areas:

Down Town, Business Bay & Trade Center, Al Safa 1 and 2,- Satwa, Jumeirah, Al Bada, Dubai Silicon Oasis, Falcon City, The Villa

You can register for this service by sending your details of residence area, children details and contact to cce-daa@stss.ae
(Last Date to Register is 20 April 2015)

We would like to encourage all students to use the school bus and help contribute towards **green environment** and reduce traffic.

Learn more about STS, visit: www.stss.ae.
Watch the STS Safety Video: <http://schooltransportservices.com/corporate-video.php>



DAAPA NEWS

DAAPA (DAA Parents Association) is an active parent association dedicated to enriching the lives of DAA students and community, promoting cooperation between DAA parents, staff and administration and spreading the "culture of kindness" that is at the core of DAA's values. All parents/guardians of DAA students are *automatically* members of DAAPA.

DAAPA GENERAL ELECTIONS

The DAAPA Family includes all of the parents of DAA students! However, there is a group of parents who plan activities and events for the school community outside of the academic curriculum. These parent volunteer to be elected for specific jobs within the Executive and Standing Committees, so that planning and implementation of events such as the International Food Festival, the Teacher Appreciation lunch, the Winter Wonderland, the Pumpkin Patch, Movie Nights, plus many other grade-level events, can provide added fun for the DAA community. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet other parents and work alongside each other to provide extra-curricular fun for DAA students, teachers, and parents.

Elections will be held after the Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast on May 19th this year. The following positions are open and ready to be filled by YOU!

Executive Committee Positions

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Financial Operations Coordinator
- Primary School Vice President
- Elementary School Vice President
- Middle School Vice President
- High School Vice President
- Hospitality/Food and Beverage Coordinator
- Publications and PR
- IFF Chair

Standing Committee Positions

- Elementary School Communications Coordinator
- Middle School Communications Coordinator
- High School Communications Coordinator
- Leopard's Den Chairperson
- Friends of Fine Arts Chairperson
- Pizza Day Coordinator
- Booster Club Chairperson
- Homeroom Parent Coordinator
- Photographer

If you would like to know more about any of these positions, please inquire via email to saadmichelle@yahoo.com.

DAAPA ANNUAL TEACHER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

The **Annual Teacher Appreciation Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, May 12th**. If you would like to contribute your time, culinary skills, or both to show your appreciation for our amazing staff at DAA, please complete and return the volunteer form below. Each family will also receive a form home through their homeroom parent or parent connect group. This is an annual event and we rely solely on our volunteers to provide a special luncheon for our teachers – one that reflects the diversity of our school population. Please let us know what you can provide by contacting Colleen Sommerin by email at csommerin70@gmail.com. (See form on next page.)



DAAPA NEWS, continued

**Teacher Appreciation Lunch
Tuesday, May 12th, 2015**

DAAPA is hosting a **Teacher Appreciation Lunch** on **Tuesday, May 12th 2015**.

As a way to show your appreciation to the amazing DAA teachers, we are requesting you to showcase your culinary skills and prepare an appetizer or salad, an entrée (cold or hot), or a dessert that will serve up to 20 people for the lunch. In order to get a good selection of sweet and savory, we ask that you bring an:

- Appetizer or salad if your last name begins with the letters A-F
- Entrée if your last name begins with the letters G-R
- Dessert if your last name begins with the letters S-Z

(For example, Smith begins with "S", so bring a dessert)

It is an early release day so the children will be going home at 1:45. We suggest that you drop off your dish between 12:45 and 1:30 p.m. at the Middle School/High School Cafeteria. DAAPA volunteers will be on hand in the High School parking lot to assist you. If you would rather send your dish in the morning, please bring it to the Middle School/High School Cafeteria, but be mindful there is limited space for keeping items refrigerated. For further information contact Colleen Sommerin at csommerin70@gmail.com

Kindly fill out the form below and turn it into the DAAPA box in ES or MS/HS reception, or email it to csommerin70@gmail.com by Wednesday, May 6th.

Guidelines:

- Dish must be in a DISPOSABLE foil pan or tray.
- If entrée is hot, please put in a 12" x 8.5" (22cm x 31cm) foil pan so we can keep it warm in a chafing dish.
- Please do not send any items containing alcohol or pork.

I would like to bring the following item to the Teacher Appreciation Lunch on Tuesday, May 12th between 12:45 and 1:30 p.m.

Name: _____ Tel: _____

Email: _____

___ Appetizer/Salad _____

___ Entree _____

___ Dessert _____

Check here if you need a chafing dish to keep your food hot.

Thank you,
DAAPA Teacher Appreciation Lunch Committee



DAAPA NEWS, continued

DAAPA IN THE PRIMARY/ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

There is still more to come from DAAPA in the Primary and Elementary Schools. Please mark your calendar for these events:

ES/PS Parent Connect Coffee / Life Coach Workshop, Wednesday April 22nd at 8am

Join us in a one hour workshop right after the drop off. We will focus on this main question:

- *How would it look like if you were living the life you really want (professionally, family, friends, environment)?*

Participants will leave with a plan to move forward and the tools necessary to keep it real and moving.

The facilitator:

M. Belen Settembri works as a Leadership Coach. She is married with two children. They have a bi-national (Swiss-Uruguayan) family and Belen works supporting clients going through transitions both personally and in their professional lives.

PS ES Movie Night, Thursday April 23rd at 6pm (sundown)

Come join us for a night filled with laughter. Bring your blanky or a comfy mat. We will be watching **Despicable Me!** Pizza, corn dogs and hot dogs will be available for purchase.

DAAPA IN THE HIGH SCHOOL

High School Mom's please mark the **10 May in your calendars, to celebrate 'Mother's Day'**. Details to follow!.



PRIMARY POINTS (Kindergarten 1 - Grade 2) *Make sure to read the corresponding DAAPA NEWS section of this issue of SPOTS for all the latest Primary School parent sponsored events!*

FROM THE PS PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear PS Parents,

We hope you all had a fabulous and restful break and a great first week back. The kids this week did a great job getting back into their routines and jumping into the engaging learning in class and we finished this great week with our most recent **PAWSitive Behavior Assembly**.

It seems our assemblies keep getting better and better, and this assembly was no exception. In addition to our PAWSitive Behavior skits by our grade 2 leaders and our update on our goal of reaching One Million Minutes of Reading (over half-way there!!!), we had three great videos that you might want to watch again with your child:

- SEWA Day video showing our kids learning about and celebrating our workers!
https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B7pbknXX_5UJbHczdmlhTFpDelU/view?usp=sharing
- A trailer for the upcoming Grade 5 musical, Aladdin!
https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B7pbknXX_5UJSFF2WI9sVzFtVIE/view?usp=sharing
- An overview of the preparation for our Week of the Arts art displays!

Coming Up: Innovation Week (this week, April 19th to 23rd)

This week we will have our first ever **Innovation Week**. Increasing the levels of student innovation is one of the goals in our DAA Mission Statement and in our School Improvement Plan and this week is a great chance for you to see how your child is creating and innovating at DAA. There are two main components:

1. You are invited to join your child's class for I.T. class this week to see what they are learning and creating (KG2 to Grade 2, only). Here is a link to the I.T. blog with the complete schedule: <http://itprimaryew.blogspot.ae/>
2. We will be celebrating **Earth Day (April 22nd)** by creating a PS Recycled City. See the [Overview of Earth Day 2015](#) for all the details. See your child's blog for even more details, but we need your help bringing in recycled products this week. The list of items to collect are on the blogs and in the Earth Day Overview. ***You are also invited to come at the end of the day to see what your children built and learn about their experience throughout the day!***

Warm regards,
Your PS Admin Team



ELEMENTARY ESSENTIALS (Grades 3-5) *Make sure to read the corresponding DAAPA NEWS section of this issue of SPOTS for all the latest Elementary School parent sponsored events!*

FROM THE ES PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Welcome back! We hope you had a great spring break.

Below you will see several important events that you need to be aware of:

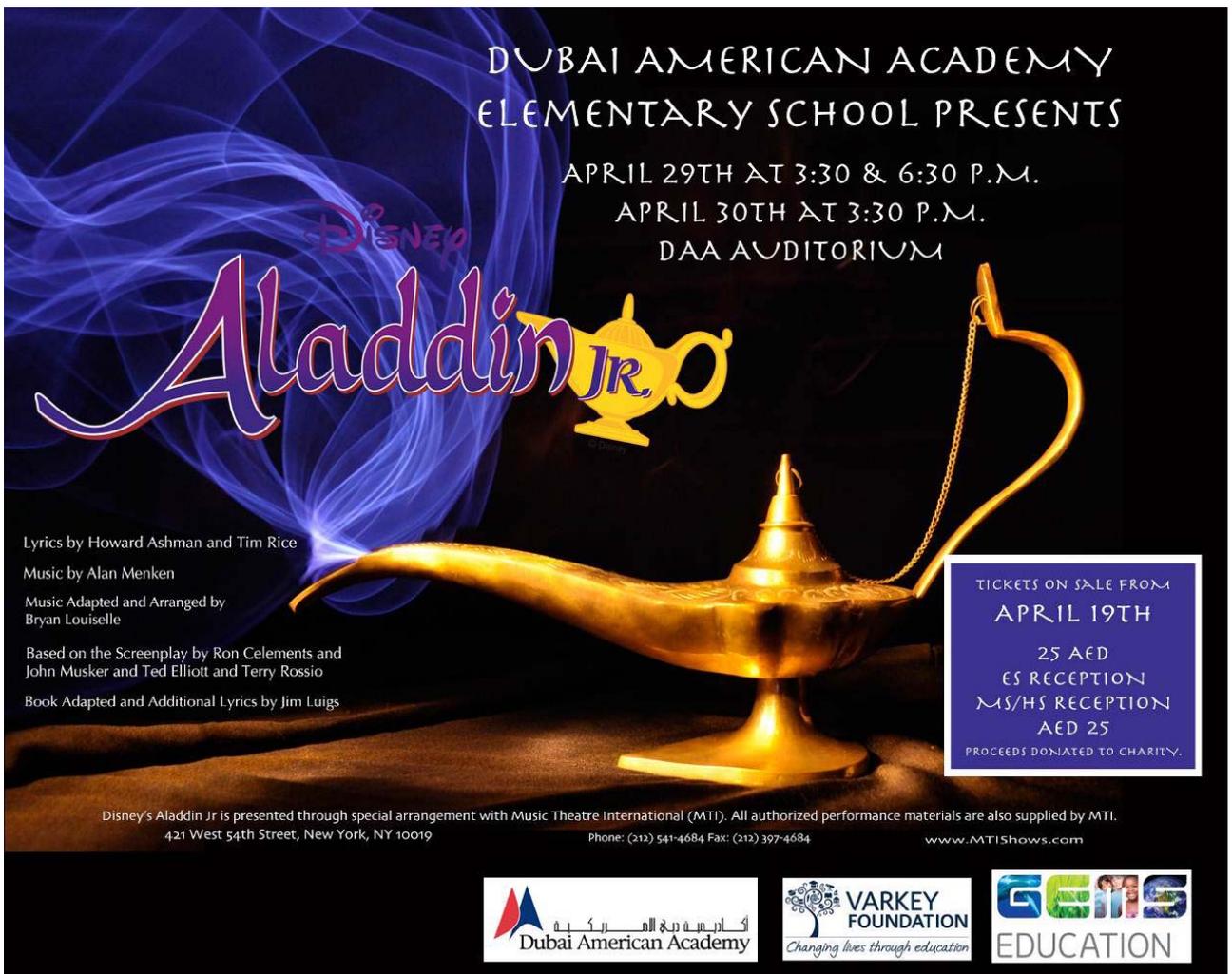
MAP Testing:

The spring session of MAP testing for students in grades 3-5 will take place from May 3-20th. We give students MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) tests to determine individual instructional levels and to measure academic growth throughout the school year, and from year to year in the areas of reading, language arts and mathematics. The tests are completely computerized and will be conducted in the computer labs.

MAP tests are unique in that they adapt to be appropriate for each child's level of learning. As a result, each student has the same opportunity to succeed and maintain a positive attitude toward testing. A parent letter will be coming home with your child soon to provide you with additional details.

ES Musical: Saturday rehearsals have begun in addition to rehearsals on Mondays and Wednesdays. Please check the blog link for more information: <http://aladdinjrdaa.blogspot.ae>. The excitement is growing! Be ready to buy your tickets on begin **April 19th!**

Roberta Wiens and Patrick Molloy,
ES Admin Team



DUBAI AMERICAN ACADEMY
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRESENTS

APRIL 29TH AT 3:30 & 6:30 P.M.
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DAA AUDITORIUM

Aladdin Jr.

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PROCEEDS DONATED TO CHARITY.

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421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019 Phone: (212) 541-4684 Fax: (212) 397-4684 www.MTIShows.com

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MIDDLE SCHOOL MESSAGES (Grades 6-8) *Make sure to read the corresponding DAAPA NEWS section of this issue of SPOTS for all the latest Middle School parent sponsored events!*

FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL OFFICE

MS Messages:

We hope all members of the community experienced a successful first week back to the routine of school following the Spring Break holiday . . . our students and staff always enjoy reconnecting and the sharing of stories from holidays when we return to school following a break.

Astronaut Visit:

We are highly fortunate to have **NASA Astronauts** visiting our Middle School on Thursday, April 30th. Dr. Donald Thomas along with 2 NASA colleagues will join us to give a presentation to our students in an afternoon assembly.

DESC Math Competition:

Ms. Milkeraitis and eight of our Grade 8 Algebra students participated in a Math competition at Dubai English Speaking College, (DESC), on Thursday, April 16th. We entered 2 teams with the following students participating:

- Mohit Garg,
- Yongha Lee,
- Faisal Jaradat,
- Peter Venton,
- Mina Song,
- Sumer Mehta,
- Saksham Bajaj,
- Matthew Garcia.



Our two teams performed extremely well placing 3rd and 9th overall out of 20 teams participating from schools across Dubai.

MS Dance:

Our students had a great time at our second dance of the year, following a **Hawaiian** theme. The music was great, activities fun and of course the food was enjoyed by all! Thank you to Ms. Eversteyn and Ms. Bonner and our MS Students' Council for organizing this key event on our social calendar.

Have a great week Middle School!

Mr. Ball and Mrs. Wiens



HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS (Grades 9-12) *Make sure to read the corresponding DAAPA NEWS section of this issue of SPOTS for all the latest High School parent sponsored events!*

FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL OFFICE

Welcome back from Spring Break, we hope it was a relaxing and healthy time for your family!

There will be a Parent Coffee Morning on Monday morning, April 20. We will update parents on May Week and then have a discussion on some current best practices in education.

Here is the latest example of DAA's amazing student body:

- Last year, Ria Chinchankar, Kian Sohrabi, Shane Sullivan, and Santiago Suarez, four eighth graders, entered a science competition. The challenge was to address a community issue, and the team decided to tackle the traffic situation outside of the school by creating a carpooling website, daacarpool.com. The website creates a database for DAA parents to post information about their carpooling needs so they can find other parents with complementing needs and arrange a carpooling system. This year, Ria Chinchankar decided to take the website further with the help of Anush Arvind and Raghav Kapur, two computer science students in eleventh grade. The website is now up and running and ready for use. The site has been developed exclusively for the DAA community, and all contact information posted on the website can only be viewed by DAA parents. We urge you to take advantage of this opportunity to help the school community, reduce your carbon footprint, and cut down your driving time!
- Good luck to all Leopard student-athletes who will be competing next weekend at MESAC competitions. **Thank you to all parents who will be housing guest student-athletes this weekend.** These fantastic tournaments could not happen without your help, and of course when DAA students travel to other cities, we depend on the kindness those schools' families!
 - IB Spanish presentations were this week - students did a fantastic job!



Follow the high school on Twitter @LeopardPrideDAA

Your HS Admin Team

HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Dear Juniors,

There are several items the HS Counseling office wanted to make sure you knew about:

1. On **Wednesday, April 22nd**, **DAA will be hosting a CIS college fair** during the morning break with over twenty schools visiting. For the first time, these universities are willing to give personal interviews to any students who are interested. This is a fantastic opportunity for you so the counseling office strongly suggests you take advantage of as it is a great chance to practice your interviewing skills. Email Ms. Evans if you would like to set up an interview time which will take place directly after the morning break with the following universities:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ American College of Greece, ▫ Bard College at Simon's Rock, ▫ Clark University, ▫ Colgate University, ▫ Fordham University, ▫ IE University, ▫ Kansas State University, ▫ Les Roches International School of Hotel Management, ▫ Marist College, ▫ Penn State University, Richmond, ▫ The American International University in London, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ St. Olaf College, ▫ Stony Brook University, ▫ Suffolk University, ▫ Trinity College, ▫ University of Colorado, ▫ University of Iowa, ▫ University of Missouri, ▫ University of Tulsa, ▫ University of Vermont, ▫ Wentworth Institute of Technology.
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HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS, continued

HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR'S CORNER, continued

2. DIA is hosting top five universities from US for an open session including Dartmouth College, Johns Hopkins University, Rice University, University of Chicago & Vanderbilt University.

When: 21 April, 2015 from 6 pm to 8 pm

Where: Dubai International Academy, in the Exam Hall.

If you would like to attend, please register for the at

<http://app.e2ma.net/app2/audience/signup/1783202/1366214/?v=a>

3. The Common Application has just released the new essay questions that will be used in the 2015-2016 common application. These will be helpful for any student applying to American Universities that use the Common Application:
 - a. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
 - b. The lessons we take from failure can be fundamental to later success. Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
 - c. Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again?
 - d. Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma-anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.
 - e. Discuss an accomplishment or event, formal or informal, that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood within your culture, community, or family.
4. On **May 3rd** in the elementary conference room the **U.S. Embassy will be presenting on student visa procedures**. If you will be requiring a student visa for the USA this would be a great opportunity to begin gathering information on the lengthy process.

2014-2015 HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK PRE-ORDERS!

The high school will be taking orders for their 2014-2015 yearbook from April 14-21.

Yearbooks are 80AED during this time.

Students can buy their books during both lunches in the atrium.

Don't miss out on the memories!
Pre-order now!



ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES

EAC

Emirates Athletics Conference

Important Season 3 Dates

EAC	Mar 19/20	Var/JV Track and Field	Abu Dhabi
	Mar 21	VG Softball	ASD hosted by DAA
	Apr 18	JV Badminton	ACS
	Apr 18	Var Badminton	UAS
	May 1	U14 Track and Field	GWA
MESAC	Apr 22-25	Var/JV Badminton	ABA Oman
	Apr 22-25	Var/JV Track and Field	ASDoha
	Apr 22-26	JV Soft/Baseball	ACS Abu Dhabi
	Apr 22-26	Var Soft/Baseball	DAA (at Dubai Little League)

MESAC Hosting

Thank you to those families that have offered to take visiting students next weekend for MESAC Varsity Softball and Baseball. We are still in need of a few families to assist us in providing beds for boys. If you can assist in welcoming athletes from Doha, New Delhi or Abu Dhabi please contact Yvonne Sidani, our Housing Coordinator. y.sidani_daa@gemsedu.com.

Season 3 Sports and Activities

Season 3 EAC competitions have come and gone for some events, with the final ones taking place this weekend. Congratulations go to the Track and Field team who came away with Overall School Champion at the recent Varsity and JV tournament. To add to this they were Champions in Varsity Boys, JV Boys and JV Girls, with the Varsity Girls finishing in second by 4 points. The teams are gearing up for MESAC in Doha next weekend and we wish them good luck.

Our Varsity Girls Softball team played host to other EAC schools in their recent Championships and came away with 3rd place. It was a long day with 4 games being played and the girls should be proud of their achievements in being competitive against those schools that finished in the championship game. Well done Varsity Girls Softball.

There is currently no EAC official tournament for Varsity Boys and JVB Boys Baseball or JV Girls softball, however, these teams have been honing their skills in practice matches as they prepare to head to MESAC next weekend. Each team is showing great improvements as the aim for medal positions at MESAC Good luck to everyone.

Under 14 Track and Field are heading into their final preparations for EAC which takes place on May 1st at GWA. They are improving their skills and speed and this was evident in the competition at ASD prior to the break. The meet was a great introduction to competing for our younger athletes.

In the last group of EAC tournaments our Varsity and JV badminton players head to GWA and ACS respectively to compete this weekend. Both age groups have a great win/loss record to date and are aiming to place amongst the medals.

JEAC and Elementary Sports

Our JEAC Basketball practices at grades 4 and 5 are underway with their first matches scheduled for next week. The Grade 6 teams will have a short season starting late April.

See you trackside or on the courts,
Miss Jodi O'Reilly, Athletic Director



GEMS Notes

ECOLE DES ROCHES FRENCH SUMMER PROGRAMME

We are delighted to announce that GEMS Education will be offering the Ecole des Roches French Summer Programme again this year. There are a limited amount of spaces on offer, giving students the wonderful opportunity to extend their knowledge of the French language in the safe, friendly and beautiful green open space of campus of the Ecole des Roches, which promotes and encourages creativity, sports and learning.

There is a choice of attending a 3, 5, 6 or 9 week programme. To help register your interest please visit <http://www.gemseducation.com/our-schools/ecole-des-roches-summer-programme> or contact Liz Jahanbani either by email edr@gemseducation.com or by telephone 600 56 7771 or 00971 4 395 8494 (Outside UAE).

There will be information sessions regarding the programme held at DAA on April 21st and April 23rd.



Learn French, Experience France

Ecole des Roches Summer School 2015
The Most Famous Private School in France




GEMS Education invites parents to an information session about the world class French Summer Language programme at the esteemed international boarding school, Ecole des Roches, now part of the GEMS network of schools.

Venue	Date	Time
 GEMS World Academy, AI Barsha South, Dubai	Wed Mar 18 / Apr 29	10:00am 6.30pm
	Sun, Mar 22	10:00am
	Thu Mar 26 / Apr 23	10.00am
	Mon, Apr 20	10:00am 6.30pm
	Tues Mar 17 / Apr 28	10.00am
 GEMS Wellington Int'l School, Sheikh Zayed Road Dubai	Sat Mar 21 / Apr 25	6.30pm
	Wed Mar 25 / Apr 22	10.00am
 Dubai American Academy, AI Barsha 1, Dubai	Sun, Mar 22	10.00am
	Thu Mar 26 / Apr 23	10.00am
	Tue, Apr 21	10.00am
 GEMS Wellington Academy, AI Khail, Dubai	Tues, Mar 17	10.00 am
	Mon Mar 23 / Apr 20	10.00 am
 GEMS Wellington Academy, Silicon Oasis, Dubai	Tues, Apr 21	10.00 am
	Sat Mar 21 / Apr 25	6.30pm
	Wed Mar 25 / Apr 22	10.00am
	Thu Mar 26 / Apr 30	10.00am
 GEMS American Academy, Abu Dhabi, Khalifa City A	Thu, Mar 19	10:00am
	Tue Mar 24 / Apr 21	10.00am
	Mon, Apr 27	10:00am

Our Language Summer Camp are dedicated to young people aged 8 to 18 years, coming from all over the world. Dates are from mid June – mid Aug.

What will it cost?

3 weeks: AED 17,400* 5 weeks: AED 27,350*
 6 weeks: AED 32,000* 9 weeks: AED 44,050*

*Prices include: tuition, full board, outings, cultural trips, transport, sports, supervision and additional activities. Airfares are not included.

Our linguistic programmes include every week:
 20 hours of French lessons, 2 cultural or tourist visits
 A wide variety of sports, activities and social events.

To confirm your attendance please call 600 567771 or 9714 395 8494
Or email us at edr@gemseducation.com



PRIMARY/ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MENU

					
	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
MAIN COURSE					
MAIN PROTEIN 1	BAKED CHICKEN BELL PEPPERS & MOZZARELLA	TANDOORI CHICKEN	CHICKEN KEBAB WITH BELL PEPPERS	GRILLED FISH WITH TOMATO ARTICHOKE	EGGPLANT ROLLED FISH W/PROVENCAL SAUCE
VEGETARIAN (1)	EGGPLANT & TOMATO CASSEROLE	PUMPKIN CURRY	ROASTED THREE BEANS	STIR FRY VEGETABLES	CHANA MASALA (Chickpea)
RICE/POTATO/VEGETABLE - VEGETARIAN					
RICE	Mushroom Rice	STEAMED WHITE RICE	VERMICELLI RICE	LEMON RICE	CUMIN RICE
VEGETARIAN (2)	BOILED MARROW & CARROT	GARDEN VEGETABLES	BROCCOLI POLONAISE	FRENCH BEANS SAUTE	SPINACH CHEESE PIE
PASTAS	PASTA - SPAGHETTI	PASTA - TRICOLOUR PENNE	PASTA - BOWTIE	PASTA - TRICOLOUR FUSSILI	PASTA - PENNE
SAUCES	SAUCE CAPRESE	ARABIATTA (V)	CHICKEN MEAT BALL TOMATO SAUCE	SAUCE AMATRCANA	TOMATO ROASTED VEGETABLE SAUCE
	CILANTRO PESTO SAUCE	CARBONARA WITH TURKEY BACON	SPINACH CREAM SAUCE	PARSLEY CREAM SAUCE	MUSHROOM & GREEN PEAS SAUCE
SALAD BAR - PRE PACKED (1=6aed, 2=10aed, 3=14aed)					
VEG SALADS	ROASTED VEGETABLE PASTA SALAD (V)	GREEK SALAD	POTATO, GREEN ONION SALAD	TOMATO, CORN & BELL PEPPER SALAD	CHICK PEA & TOMATO w/CORIANDER (V)
DESSERT	MARBLE CAKE	CRÈME CARAMEL POTS	MANGO MOUSSE POTS	BREAD PUDDING WITH CUSTARD	WHOLE BANANA/ORANGES
YOUR CHOICE OF JUICE					
JUICE	APPLE JUICE	COCKTAIL	MANGO JUICE	APPLE JUICE	ORANGE JUICE
OR MILK					
MILK	MILK-LOW FAT	MILK-LOW FAT	MILK-LOW FAT	MILK-LOW FAT	MILK-LOW FAT
WATER					
WATER	WATER	WATER	WATER	WATER	WATER

CAFETERIA MENUS

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL MENU



	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
MAIN COURSE					
MAIN PROTEIN 1	BAKED CHICKEN BELL PEPPERS & MOZZARELLA	MEATBALL WITH MINT FLAVOR TOMATO SAUCE	CHICKEN KEBAB WITH BELL PEPPERS	CHICKEN JALFREZI	EGGPLANT ROLLED FISH W/PROVENCAL SAUCE
MAIN PROTEIN 2	CHICKEN TIKKA DRY	CAJUN SPICE CHICKEN WITH COCKTAIL SAUCE	SUMAC CHICKEN	MOUSSAKA ALA GREEK	CHICKEN MARRYLAND WITH BANANA FRITTERS
MAIN PROTEIN 3	FISH ORLY WITH TOMATO SAUCE	TANDOORI CHICKEN	SPINACH & FETA STUFFED CHICKEN	GRILLED FISH WITH TOMATO ARTICHOKE	BUTTER CHICKEN
VEGETARIAN (1)	EGGPLANT & TOMATO CASSEROLE	PUMPKIN CURRY	ROASTED THREE BEANS	STIR FRY VEGETABLES	CHANA MASALA (Chickpea)
RICE/POTATO/VEGETABLE - VEGETARIAN					
RICE	Mushroom Rice	STEAMED WHITE RICE	VERMICELLI RICE	LEMON RICE	CUMIN RICE
POTATOES	GREEK STYLE LEMON POTATO	ITALIAN STYLE CHEESE POTATO	MEXICAN POTATO	ALOO JEERA	DILL POTATO
VEGETARIAN (2)	BOILED MARROW & CARROT	GARDEN VEGETABLES	BROCCOLI POLONAISE	FRENCH BEANS SAUTE	SPINACH CHEESE PIE
LIVE PASTA a la carte station (12aed)					
PASTAS	PASTA - SPAGHETTI	PASTA - TRICOLOUR PENNE	PASTA - BOWTIE	PASTA - TRICOLOUR FUSSILI	PASTA - PENNE
SAUCES	SAUCE CAPRESE	ARABIATTA (V)	CHICKEN MEAT BALL TOMATO SAUCE	SAUCE AMATRCANA	TOMATO ROASTED VEGETABLE SAUCE
	CILANTRO PESTO SAUCE	CARBONARA WITH TURKEY BACON	SPINACH CREAM SAUCE	PARSLEY CREAM SAUCE	MUSHROOM & GREEN PEAS SAUCE
SALAD BAR - PRE PACKED (1=6aed, 2=10aed, 3=14aed)					
PROTIEN SALAD	POTATO BACON SALAD	CHICKEN HAWAIIN SALAD	THAI CHICKEN NOODLES SALAD	CHICKEN SALAD WITH GRAPES	COUSCOUS SALAD
VEG SALADS	ROASTED VEGETABLE PASTA SALAD (V)	GREEK SALAD	POTATO, GREEN ONION SALAD	FATOUCHE SALAD	CALIFORNIA CHICKEN SALAD
	BABAGANOUSH	PEACH SALAD	SWEET POTATO SALAD	TOMATO, CORN & BELL PEPPER SALAD	CHICK PEAS & TOMATO w/CORIANDER (V)
SALAD BAR - MAKE YOUR OWN, SMALL PACK (1=6aed, 2=10aed, 3=14aed) - VEGETARIAN					
CONDIMENTS	TOMATO	TOMATO	TOMATO	TOMATO	TOMATO
	CUCUMBER	CUCUMBER	CUCUMBER	CUCUMBER	CUCUMBER
	LETTUCE	LETTUCE	LETTUCE	LETTUCE	LETTUCE
	ARABI PICKEL	ARABI PICKEL	ARABI PICKEL	ARABI PICKEL	ARABI PICKEL
	SWEETCORN	SWEETCORN	SWEETCORN	SWEETCORN	SWEETCORN
	SLICED BLACK OLIVES	SLICED BLACK OLIVES	SLICED BLACK OLIVES	SLICED BLACK OLIVES	SLICED BLACK OLIVES
	REDKIDNEY BEANS	REDKIDNEY BEANS	REDKIDNEY BEANS	REDKIDNEY BEANS	REDKIDNEY BEANS
CHICKPEAS	CHICKPEAS	CHICKPEAS	CHICKPEAS	CHICKPEAS	
PANINI & SPECIAL WRAPS (13aed) - CHICKEN					
	PANINI W/ CHICKEN & CHEESE	PANINI W/ CHICKEN & CHEESE	PANINI W/ CHICKEN & CHEESE	PANINI W/ CHICKEN & CHEESE	PANINI W/ CHICKEN & CHEESE
	PANINI BREAD BROWN	PANINI BREAD BROWN	PANINI BREAD BROWN	PANINI BREAD BROWN	PANINI BREAD BROWN
	CHICKEN	CHICKEN	CHICKEN	CHICKEN	CHICKEN
	SLICED CHEESE	SLICED CHEESE	SLICED CHEESE	SLICED CHEESE	SLICED CHEESE
DAILY SPECIALS (13aed)					
	TORTILLA WRAP	TORTILLA WRAP	CHILLI CON CARNE	TORTILLA WRAP	
	CHICKEN FAJITA WRAP	CHICKEN SHAWARMA WRAP	TACOS	CHICKEN QUESADILLA	JACKET POTATO
	REFRIED BEANS	CHEESE - GRATED	CHEESE - GRATED	CHEESE - GRATED	
	CHEESE - GRATED	JALAPENO	LETTUCE	LETTUCE	
	LETTUCE	LETTUCE	TOMATO	TOMATO	
	SLICED PICKLE CUCUMBER	SLICED PICKLE CUCUMBER	SLICED PICKLE CUCUMBER	SLICED PICKLE CUCUMBER	
TOMATO	TOMATO	GARLIC SAUCE	GARLIC SAUCE		
SMOOTHIES (10aed)					
MANGO / STRAWBERRY / BANANA					

CAFETERIA MENUS

