

# SPOTS



## NEWSLETTER

Vol. 17 Issue 6 / November 22, 2014

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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/ECC)

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
<b>NOVEMBER, 2014</b>							
<b>23</b> PS/ES Day 4 MS/HS Day 7	<b>24</b> PS/ES Day 5 MS/HS Day 8	<b>25</b> PS/ES Day 6 MS/HS Day 1	<b>26</b> PS/ES Day 7 HS Day 2	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	
PS "Paws-itive Behavior" Dance Party  Season 2 Try-outs-V/JV/U14 Cross Country B/G V Tennis B/G	DAAPA PS/ES Coffee Morning 8:00 a.m. PS/ES Conf Rm  Grade 6 JEAC Track and Field sign-ups Lunch / MS commons  Second Season U14 Soccer B/G	Season 1 MVP Awards 4.30 to 5.30pm DAA Auditorium. All season 1 events and age groups, Volleyball, Swimming and Academic Games.	Annual HS Thanksgiving Lunch  ES Thanksgiving Picnic and ES Student Council Socks and Shoes for Syria shoe collection and Run  Season 2 Tryouts-U14 Basketball B/G	School Holiday			
<b>DECEMBER, 2014</b>							
<b>30</b> PS/ES Day 8 MS/HS Day 3	<b>1</b> PS/ES Day 9 MS/HS Day 4	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	
	PS UAE National Day Celebration  ES UAE National Day Celebration 10:20 a.m. - Track	UAE National Day Holiday The Ministry of Education has announced that the UAE National Day Holiday will be December 2-4. DAA will be closed from December 2-5 with classes resuming on Sunday, December 6 <sup>th</sup> .					
<b>7</b> PS/ES Day 1 MS/HS Day 5	<b>8</b> PS/ES Day 2 MS/HS Day 6	<b>9</b> PS/ES Day 3 MS/HS Day 7	<b>10</b> PS/ES Day 4 MS/HS Day 8	<b>11</b> PS/ES Day 5 MS/HS Day 1	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	
	ES Trimester 1 Report Cards Mailed  PS Winter Concert 8:15am (KG1JT/KG1AP/ KG2TA/KG2NH/1NK/ 1JM/2GT/2CA)	ES Winter Concert Grade 3 11:50 a.m.  PS Winter Concert 8:15am (KG1HR/KG1RL/ KG2AD/KG2ES/1LH/ 1ME/1DM/2SP/2MH)	ES Winter Concert Grade 4 12:30 p.m.	ES Winter Concert Grade 5 12:30 p.m.  PS Winter Concert 8:15am (KG1SM/KG1BH/ KG2NK/KG2HJ/ KG2KN/1MD/1SG/ 2MMa/2BG) 9:30am (KG1AM/KG1SS/ KG1YA/KG2JB/KG2SF/ 1RK/1MM/2MM/2CL)			

### GEMS - DUBAI AMERICAN ACADEMY

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GEMS Website: [www.gemseducation.com](http://www.gemseducation.com)

## ALL SCHOOL NEWS

### FROM THE SUPERINTENDENTS OFFICE

Dear DAA Families,

Thank you again for your continuing support for and cooperation with our efforts to improve security measures at DAA. The U.S. Consulate's warning was issued on 30 October, which is now three weeks ago. While the initial anxiety ignited by that warning seems to have subsided, I would like to assure parents that DAA will continue to review and improve its security. I consider the Consulate's warning to have been a much-needed wake-up call that forced us to improve our security protocols and systems. Our work is both short- and longer-term in nature. Some of the current systems we are working to enforce (vehicle decals, for example) are not ideal, so while we are implementing these rules with rigor, we are also researching longer-term systems using RFID technology that I think we will significantly improve our security.

I anticipate you will notice physical changes to our campus soon as well. If you are a PS/ES parent, you may have noticed that I am less frequently posted at Gate 2 these days and more often "out and about." On Monday this week I merely counted cars entering Gate 2. Between the hours of 7:00 and 8:00am, there were 438 vehicles that drove on to DAA's campus, which does not include the 60+ cars (approximately) that arrive before 7:00 each day. And, of course, these numbers do not include the 100s of vehicles that drop off MS and HS students in the front of the school each day. The covered parking near the PS/ES building will soon be torn down, which will certainly make me the least popular superintendent with teachers *ever*, and we are planning a major reconfiguration of traffic that we believe will improve building security *and* reduce congestion. All of this work is being planned with the help of security experts from GEMS and the U.S. Consulate, so I am confident we are taking positive steps in the right direction. These infrastructure projects take time, so I appreciate your patience as we continue to clean up and improve the more obvious flaws in our systems around decals and family passes.

I would like to extend very sincere congratulations to many deserving students and teachers around DAA who have recently concluded major productions or competitions. Let me begin with the superb production of *The Importance of Being Earnest*. "Hats off" to the cast, which was exceptional, the crew, Mr. Pdraig Downey, and his many colleagues who gave time, energy, and talent to make the production so successful. Also, we are nearing the finish of Season 1 in our athletics programs. Varsity, junior varsity, and U-14 athletes performed exceptionally well in EAC and MESAC conference tournaments and meets. MESAC champions included Varsity Boys Swimming, JV Academic Games, JV Academic Games Olympiad, and JV Academic Games Academic Bowl. Our volleyball teams, both boys and girls, also performed exceptionally well. DAA's Athletic Director, Jodi O'Reilly, tells me 90% of DAA's participating athletes placed 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in year-ending tournaments and competitions. Now *that* is outstanding. You'll read more about our athletes' successes from division principals later in this edition of SPOTS.

Last week, DAA was visited by ten inspectors from the Dubai School Inspection Bureau. These inspectors came from around the world and spent four days evaluating and making judgments about every conceivable aspect of DAA's programming. DSIB has inspected schools around Dubai for seven years, and we are proud that DAA is the only American curriculum school in Dubai thus far to receive the highest overall rating of "outstanding." This year's results will be made public by KHDA later in the school year, and while we have been given provisional results from last week's inspection, I am not allowed to disclose specifics until KHDA releases its report. However, I can share that we were very pleased by the feedback offered by the inspection team. Their particular praise for DAA focused on how we do not rest on our laurels, as "outstanding" schools sometimes do. There's no complacency at DAA and its teachers and school leaders are determined to compare themselves against the best international schools in the world, not only to other schools in Dubai, the UAE, and the Middle East. Thank you to those parents who completed the DSIB survey and to those of you who were interviewed by inspectors. Your support and feedback are very much appreciated.

**FROM THE SUPERINTENDENTS OFFICE, continued**

Next Wednesday, 26 November, we will celebrate American Thanksgiving across the four divisions and school will be closed on Thursday, 27 November. Of the many holidays Americans have either adopted or invented over the years, Thanksgiving is special and has always been my favorite. It's the one holiday that reminds us to count our blessings and to be grateful for the many good things in life that we enjoy - most importantly, friends and family. Specific information will be provided by principals and classroom teachers, as each division observes Thanksgiving traditions a little differently. In particular, the annual Thanksgiving lunch in our High School is special. This lunch is always held in honor of our support staff who keep DAA running strong each day. We thank DAAPA for their financial support of this popular tradition, which I think goes a long way toward reinforcing our Culture of Kindness.

Our next major celebration will be the following week for UAE National Day. **School will be open on Sunday, 30 November, and our school-wide celebrations for National Day will occur on Monday, 1 December.** Divisions have organized their own celebrations that day, but *all* students and faculty will meet briefly at 10:20am on the football pitch to sing the national anthem (to the best of their abilities!). At 10:30am, we hope to be connected via a live stream to one of our sister schools, GEMS Wellington Academy - Silicon Oasis, where students from across the GEMS network (including 10 students from DAA) are gathering to set a world record for the most nationalities at one time to sing a national anthem. This should be quite a spectacle, but it will be a quick gathering, so don't be late.

Parents are welcome at this event; however, as a precautionary security measure Gate 2 will be closed between 9:00-11:00am. This means no vehicles will be allowed to drive on campus. Parents who wish to attend the singing of the national anthem will need to park in front of the MS/HS building or wherever they can find parking off campus. They will then need to enter on foot through Gate 1, which is the main security gate in front of the MS/HS building. Also, no one will be permitted at this event without a visible Family Pass or Visitor's Pass. I apologize in advance for any inconvenience that these measures cause, but I also thank you for your cooperation.

**Also, it was formally announced last week that the holiday to celebrate the 43<sup>rd</sup> National Day for the government sectors, ministries, and schools across the UAE is for three days from 2nd December to the 4th December. School will resume on Sunday, 7th December.**

Finally, I would like to thank my faculty and my leadership team for their remarkable effort, dedication, and strength over these past few weeks. The demands on teachers at high-performing schools like DAA are intense and our pace can be exhausting. The weeks between the Eid holiday in October and the winter holiday in December are especially intense - perhaps 'unrelenting' is a better choice of words. I think it's worth asking why DAA's teachers are willing to give so much. I assure you it's not they're overpaid or because they can't find work elsewhere. DAA's teachers are willing to give so much because they love working with their students - that is, your children. That matters a great deal, I think, to the ethos and culture of a school. The quality of the relationships between teachers and students is noticeable in so many ways. KHDA inspectors commented on it last week, and I observed it in Wednesday's performance of *The Importance of Being Earnest*, where the audience consisted mostly of teachers who had come to support their students who were performing in the play.

Happy Thanksgiving and my best to all of our families. I hope the days off school in the next couple weeks provide you and your children with some valuable and well-deserved time together.

Kind Regards,

Jim Hardin  
Superintendent / CEO





## 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.

### ANNOUNCING "THE SPOT"

The HS gymnasium foyer has a newly-designed entrance, with designated space for the DAA Booster Club to provide refreshments during extracurricular activities. The place is called THE SPOT, and will be open during most athletic and performing arts events, as well as after school on Wednesdays. Members of the DAA community (students, teachers, parents...) can purchase food and drink after school on Wednesdays from 2:45-4:00. Some of the refreshments provided include: hot dogs, grilled cheese sandwiches, fruit smoothies, popcorn, freeze pops, cookies, nachos, granola bars, and various bottled/canned beverages. If you have any suggestions or questions, please send an email to [saadmichelle@yahoo.com](mailto:saadmichelle@yahoo.com)

### DAAPA IN THE PRIMARY / ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

DAAPA Connect Coffee morning - **Come join us on November 24<sup>th</sup> in the Conference room for a small coffee.** You can catch up with friends and find out about upcoming DAAPA events.

UAE National Day celebrations are fast approaching. DAAPA will be decoration the ES/PS Foyer on Wednesday Nov. 26 after drop off. Come join us make our lobby a tribute to our host country.

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### DAAPA IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

**Sunday, December 7** - please join your MS DAAPA team as we decorate the commons area for Christmas. We will meet at 8am on the ground floor commons area where we will decorate Christmas trees and bring a festive spirit to the middle school. All supplies will be provided we just need your help for 2 hours. Please RSVP to <mailto:stayintouchwithdaams@gmail.com>

Have a good week,  
Christina Lundgren & Theresa Starta  
DAAPA MS Vice President & DAAPA MS Communications Coordinator

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### DAAPA IN THE HIGH SCHOOL

Please save the date for Parent Connect Christmas Lunch on Wednesday, December 10th! 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

Primary School Parents,

Lots to look forward to in our month of school before the winter holidays. Below is your cheat sheet for what is coming, but don't hesitate to ask your child's teacher, as well!

You likely saw this in the communication from your child's teacher, but if you didn't hear, we did meet our goal of 100 spots for Diego so we have our **Dance Party on Sunday**. The kids have done a great job practicing positive behavior in school and we're really looking forward to it. Kids can wear dance party clothes to school on Sunday, but please kids still need to have closed toe shoes and appropriate clothing choices (no tank tops, midriff showing, and no short shorts please).

This week we also have our **Thanksgiving celebrations**. It is our favorite American holiday in that it is truly about time with friends and family and being grateful for what we have. We do not do a school-wide celebration, but be sure to check in on the blogs to learn about how your child's grade level celebrates Thanksgiving.

On Monday December 1st of our two-day week, we will be celebrating UAE Day. In addition to learning about **UAE Day** in Arabic class and the classroom we will have our third whole-school assembly. At every assembly we sing a little, laugh a lot, and talk about PAWsitive behavior in the Primary School, but we also will be learning about how Dubai has changed over time and, on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Sheikh Zayed's passing, we will discuss the impact of his leadership on the development of the UAE. If we could fit you in the auditorium we would love to have you, but unfortunately there is no space for parents to attend. After the assembly at 10:30 we will be joining the whole school, and all GEMS students, for a collaborative singing of the UAE National Anthem.

Lastly, we are very excited about the production of our mini-musical, *The Big Chill*, for the winter concert this year. Below is a note from our fabulous music teachers, Ms Fabrizio and Mr. Andrew, and more information is on the music blog ([www.psmusicdaa.blogspot.ae](http://www.psmusicdaa.blogspot.ae)) but take special note of the times & dates for your child's concert and also the concert dress for the show.

Thanks for a great fall and we're looking forward to seeing you during our celebrations over the course of the next month!

Warm regards,  
Your PS Admin Team



## PRIMARY SCHOOL WINTER CONCERT

"The Big Chill" is coming...to DAA!

Hello DAA community!

By now, you have probably heard your child/children sharing their excitement about our upcoming concert--THE BIG CHILL! This is a huge undertaking for the Primary School at DAA as all 700+ students are working together to bring this mini-musical to you in December.

**IN THIS FUN-FILLED MINI-MUSICAL WITH A WITTY RHYMING SCRIPT, THE STUDENTS AND THE FACULTY ARE BOTH PLEASANTLY SURPRISED TO LEARN THAT THEY SHARE A COMMON WINTERTIME WISH--A SNOW DAY!! OUR HOT, DESERT SETTING WILL ONLY MAKE THIS SHOW EVEN MORE FUN AS DREAMS OF SNOW AND ICE BECOME CATCHY SONGS, LIVELY DANCES, AND FUNNY SCENES.**

Working together on dances, songs, and spoken dialogue, your children have gained first-hand experience of preparing for a theatrical production! Hard-work, responsibility, commitment, dedication, and leadership are just a few of the life-skills that your children have practiced each and everyday in music class!

We have been amazed at the sense of responsibility that our students show. Our PS Music Blog ([www.psmusicdaa.blogspot.ae](http://www.psmusicdaa.blogspot.ae)) has grown from 92 pages views on September 30th to **2,805** views as of November 18th! What an amazing accomplishment----and the extra practice shows in their smiles!

Great care was taken when we organized the concerts to make sure that groupings were done in the students' best interests. Further, families with three or more students in the PS were considered and have been organized into just two concerts. During each of the 4 concerts, nearly 200 students will delight you with their production of "The Big Chill."

- Concert 1      [Monday, December 8 @ 8:15am](#)  
(KG1JT/KG1AP/KG2TA/KG2NH/1NK/1JM/2GT/2CA)
- Concert 2-    [Tuesday, December 9 @8:15am](#)  
(KG1HR/KG1RL/KG2AD/KG2ES/1LH/1ME/1DM/2SP/2MH)
- Concert 3-    [Thursday, December 11 @ 8:15](#)  
(KG1SM/KG1BH/KG2NK/KG2HJ/KG2KN/1MD/1SG/2MMa/2BG)
- Concert 4-    [Thursday, December 11 @ 9:30](#)  
(KG1AM/KG1SS/KG1YA/KG2JB/KG2SF/1RK/1MM/2MM/2CL)

[Concert Dress:](#)

### ALL STUDENTS:

- Black trousers (long black skirt BELOW THE KNEE is acceptable for girls)
- Black or dark-colored, closed-toe shoes (please, no light-up runners)
- OPTIONAL: Winter scarf and/or winter vest (no parkas, please)

**KG1:** Light blue shirt--no designs, words, etc. (The DAA uniform polo shirt is acceptable)

**KG2:** Royal Blue shirt/blouse--no designs, words, etc.

**Grade 1:** White shirt/blouse--no designs, colors, words, etc.

**Grade 2\*:** Grey or Silver shirt/blouse (sequins and sparkles are fine!)---no designs, colors, words, etc.  
\*Students in Grade 2 with a specific speaking part will receive separate instructions.

*If you have specific questions about the concert attire, please stop in to see Mr. Andrew or Ms. Fabrizio or send an email directly to them.*

### [What is the Next step?](#) **Practice, Practice, Practice!**

Encourage your child/children to take responsibility for their learning. Download the movement videos and song files from the music blog and practice alongside of your child!

This is a great opportunity for students to share their learning at home become your "teachers." Consider taking time over the next couple of weeks to talk about, explore, practice, dance, and sing to "The Big Chill!" Help us to make this an experience that the students won't soon forget---their first theatrical production! They are so excited to know that YOU are excited to watch them!

As always, we are here for you and to help you in anyway that we can!  
We are always an email away and our doors are always open!

Looking forward to seeing you at the performances and singing all the way, we remain...

Musically yours,

**Mr. Andrew**, Room 112, [a.arcello\\_daa@gemsedu.com](mailto:a.arcello_daa@gemsedu.com)

**Ms. Fabrizio**, Room 110, [j.fabrizio\\_daa@gemsedu.com](mailto:j.fabrizio_daa@gemsedu.com)

## 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



**Jr. EAC:** Congratulations to all of our Grades 4-5 Jr. EAC teams for a very successful first Jr. EAC soccer season. Thank you to all of you who came out to support our teams! There will be more Jr. EAC sports to come later in the year.

**Guest Speaker and Fun Run:** On Thursday, November 20th, we were pleased to have a representative of the Terry Fox Foundation for cancer research and inspirational speaker, Fred Fox, speak to our Grades 3-5 students. Following his presentation, ES students participated in a fun run around the DAA track to raise awareness for cancer research. Check out our photos on this page!



**Thanksgiving, November 26<sup>th</sup>:** On Wednesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> all grades 3-5 classes will enjoy a picnic lunch together on the grass soccer field in celebration of Thanksgiving. Reminder – if you have not ordered a box lunch for your child, please send a packed lunch as there will be NO HOT LUNCH for grades 3-5 in the ES Cafeteria that day. **Students are also asked to bring a wadi blanket or other large blanket for them and their classmates to sit on.**



**A note from the ES Student Council:** On Wednesday November 26<sup>th</sup>, in addition to giving thanks (celebrating American Thanksgiving) we encourage the students to also give a pair of shoes. The ES will be hosting a run around the track to increase awareness of the plight in Syria. We are partnering with the charity Socks and Soles for Syrians to collect gently used shoes to send to Syria. As a symbolic gesture to the charity, students will be invited to run around the track in *just their socks, silly socks encouraged!* We don't really want them to donate the shoes off their feet, though. So, please **send your child to school on Wednesday with shoes you no longer need and would like to donate.** All sizes and styles are welcome, but please no high heels.

Please note that student dress on Wednesday will be: PE shorts, a t-shirt of their choice (something to match their crazy socks) and, of course, crazy socks!

**UAE Day:** The ES will be proudly celebrating UAE Day on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Students are encouraged to come to school dressed in UAE national dress or they may wear the colors of the UAE flag (red, white, green, black). The day will also be celebrated with a number of special activities, including an all-school singing of the national anthem on the school track. Parents are welcome to join or watch this event which is set to begin at 10:20 a.m. on the large school track.

#### Other Important Dates:

- November 27<sup>th</sup>: School closed for American Thanksgiving
- December 2-4<sup>th</sup>: School Closed for UAE National Days Celebration
- December 7<sup>th</sup>: Trimester 1 reports cards mailed home
- December 9-11<sup>th</sup>: Grades 3-5 Winter Concerts in the auditorium
  - Grade 3: December 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:50am
  - Grade 4: December 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm
  - Grade 5: December 11<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm

Roberta Wiens and Patrick Molloy,  
ES Admin Team

**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

### PTS Conferences:

Thank you parents and students for meeting with teachers for our fall Parent Teacher Student Conferences. Our teachers have reported that students were present at almost all of the meetings, and we greatly appreciate your support as parents in making this happen. We certainly hope the meetings provided for a good opportunity to touch base on student progress at this point in the school year. If you were unable to meet with particular teachers, please feel free to contact teachers directly to arrange for an alternative time. Please also keep in mind that grades will naturally fluctuate until the end of the first semester and while it is important to monitor progress on Engrade, some of our students will experience rises and falls which is to be expected. In the end, we collectively hope that all students will experience much success both in and out of class as we move forward.

### JEAC Track and Field:

We will have sign ups for our **Grade 6 JEAC Track and Field** team on Monday, November 24<sup>th</sup> at lunch in the MS commons area. At sign-up we will require you to pay the 50AED fee to get a uniform shirt for those that have not yet purchased one. If you already have a shirt through the JEAC soccer team, you do not need to purchase another one. The **Track and Field Jamboree will take place on January 24 at GEMS World Academy**. For further information, please contact Mr. Wagner Pierre or Ms. Maggie Moffat.

### DAA Support Staff Gift Bags:

Communication will be coming out soon to Middle School students via Life Skills class with respect to donations for our annual gift bag drive for our amazing support staff here at DAA. We thank you in advance for supporting this initiative as it means a great deal to all involved, both for our students with the act of giving and the heartfelt appreciation of those members of our community on the receiving end.

Warm regards,  
Andrew Ball and Joan Wiens  
MS Admin. Team





## 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



Academic games participants

JV Girls Swim Team – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

This week began with **Academic Games** being hosted on campus. Students from the Middle East and South Asia Conference (MESAC) competed in various academic competitions through the weekend. A big "thank you" to Nathan Moffett who helped supervise and coordinate the entire event. It is also important to thank you- our DAA parents - for hosting guests. MESAC tournaments run because parents at the host school volunteer to host student visitors and take care of them for the weekend. So THANKS to all of you who hosted this past weekend.

Congratulations to all of our other **student athletes** who traveled for MESAC tournaments, we had many who brought medals home. Please see Ms. O'Reilly's Athletic page for all of the results and information. There will be an **awards celebration** for the Fall MESAC season on Tuesday, November 25 at 4:30 in the school auditorium - all are welcome!



**Parent teacher conferences** were held on Thursday and we have a very strong turn-out by parents. If you were unable to make it to parent-teacher conferences, please be sure to set an appointment with your son/daughter's teacher(s) via email. Teachers are in their classrooms everyday at 7:30 and are also available from 2:45-3:30.

If you have not already done so, please be sure to **access student grades** on our electronic grading system Engrade. You can get all the information you need at this link: <https://pcauley.clarify-it.com/d/yq2vah>.

If you did not get to see the HS Drama production *The Importance of Being Earnest*, you really missed out! The cast(see picture right) was fantastic and the laughter didn't stop. Thanks to Mr. Downey for putting together a first-rate show.

Next week will see our annual tradition of Thanksgiving in the High School. This year the HS Senate has been working extra-hard to ensure that a proper feast will be had by all. We are also excited about the gift that our support staff will receive this year. If you are new to DAA, this is one of the best days on campus. Our student Senate serves a traditional North American Thanksgiving meal to our support staff. Our support staff come from many corners of the globe and work very hard every day to ensure that DAA is a safe and clean learning environment. Once a year we give thanks to them for all they do for our community.



Follow the High School on Twitter @LeopardPrideDAA

See you on campus,  
HS Admin Team



## ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES

# EAC

Emirates Athletics Conference

### Important Season 2 Dates

<b>EAC</b>	Fri Jan 30	Cross Country
	Sat Jan 31	JV Basketball, JV Soccer, Tennis
	Sat Feb 7	Varsity Soccer, Varsity Basketball
	Sat Feb 14	Under 14 Basketball, Under 14 Soccer

<b>MESAC</b>	Feb 6- Feb 8	JV Basketball	ASDubai
	Feb 5 - Feb 9	JV Soccer	AESDelhi
	Feb 5 - Feb 9	Senior Fine Arts	ABA Oman
	Feb 11 - Feb 14	Varsity Basketball	ACS
	Feb 11 - Feb 15	Varsity Soccer	Doha
	Feb 11 - Feb 15	Varsity Tennis	DAA
	Feb 12 - Feb 15	Varsity Cross Country	DAA

### MESAC events

This school year DAA is hosting the following MESAC events:

- JV/Varsity Academic Games Nov 13-17
- Varsity Tennis Feb 11-15
- Varsity Cross Country Feb 12-15
- Varsity Softball/Baseball April 22-26

### **Season 1 MESAC ACADEMIC GAMES**

Thank you to everyone who assisted during last week's MESAC Academic Games and especially to those families who welcomed visiting students into their homes.

**If you did not host during season 1 but took part in a MESAC event, please be prepared to host during Cross Country and Tennis in February.**

### **Season 1 Sports and Activities**

Season 1 MESAC has just come to a close in what can be declared as the best season 1 result ever by our DAA teams. Leading the way was **our Swim team** who lived up to previous years' reputations by taking out the Championship in Varsity Boys and coming in 2nd in JV Boys, JV Girls and 2nd Overall school. Our Varsity Girls supported the overall team result by finishing in 4th. The teams came home with over 50 individual medals, countless relay medals, 8 MESAC records and 2 school records. **An amazing achievement by our swim team and coaches.**

Trying to match the performances in the pool were our **Academic Games** teams, who showed their mental fortitude across a range of academic competitions. Our JV A team ended up Champions in 3 categories - Academic Bowl, Olympiad and the Overall Academic Games Champions. On the Varsity side our B team came home with 3rd place in the Overall school category. Add to the mix, 3 individual gold medals and another 3 individual silver and bronze. **Great effort by our Leopard Academic Games coaches and teams.**

Not to be left out our **Volleyball teams**, for the first time ever, all returned from MESAC with medals around their necks. Each team fought nail biting matches and this year were able to show their competitive spirit right through to the last game. All 3 teams finished in 3rd place. Our Varsity boys had it tough, being seeded 3rd after upsetting Doha, only for the top 3 schools to be equal on wins/losses after the round robin. The Varsity girls overcome injuries to their setter and co captain of the team, while in Abu Dhabi our JV boys team fought some tough 5 set matches to celebrate their medal. The JV girls held their heads high storming home in their consolation final. Congratulations to every team that participated last weekend.

## ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES, continued

### Season 1 MVP Awards

The season 1 MVP/MVP awards will take place on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November from 4.30pm to 5.30pm in the auditorium. The awards will be for all season 1 events and age groups, Volleyball, Swimming and Academic Games. Students are asked to wear either full school uniform or school uniform bottoms with team tops.

### Season 2 Tryouts

Season 2 tryouts are now starting with Soccer and Basketball tryouts already underway for JV and Varsity teams. The first week of tryouts has been posted on MS and HS Athletics notice boards so please make sure you check the schedules. **Season 2 is very broken up with holidays and exams so teams will be selected after no more than 3 tryouts.** To give yourself the best chance possible in making the teams, you need to attend all sessions.

#### First day of tryouts for each team:

- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| ▫ Varsity/JV/U14 Cross Country Boys/Girls | Sun Nov 23 |
| ▫ Varsity Tennis Boys/Girls               | Sun Nov 23 |
| ▫ U14 Soccer Boys/Girls                   | Mon Nov 24 |
| ▫ U14 Basketball Boys/Girls               | Wed Nov 26 |

### JEAC Youth League

The first round of Jamborees comes to a close this weekend with our Grade 4, 5 and 6 soccer teams taking part at various schools around Dubai and Abu Dhabi. Good luck to our teams as they travel for their first JEAC tournaments.

See you courtside (or on the field),  
Miss Jodi O'Reilly  
Athletic Director



PRIMARY/ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MENU



	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
	<b>MAIN COURSE</b>				
<b>PROTIEN</b>	BONELESS CHICKEN TIKKA MASALA	BONELESS ROASTED WHOLE CHICKEN w/PEPPERCORN SAUCE	GRILLED FISH FILLET w/THAI STYLE PINEAPPLE SALSA	TANDOORI CHICKEN BIRIYANI w/PAPAD & RIATA	
<b>(V) = VEGETARIAN</b>	(V) ASIAN STYLE VEGETABLE CHOP SUEY	(V) RAJMA MASALA	(V) VEGETABLE KOFTA w/TOASTED CUMIN & TOMATO SAUCE	(V) MEXICAN 3 BEAN CHILLI	
	<b>RICE/POTATO/VEGETABLE - VEGETARIAN</b>				
<b>VEGETARIAN</b>	STEAMED WHITE RICE	VEGETABLE FRIED RICE	LEMON SCENTED RICE	RICE & PEAS	
<b>VEGETARIAN</b>	MINTED GREEN PEAS	RATATOUILLE VEGETABLES	BUTTERED GREEN BEANS & ONION	SEASONAL HERB ROASTED VEGETABLES	
	<b>LIVE PASTA a la carte station (12aed)</b>				
<b>VEGETARIAN</b>	PASTA - SPAGHETTI	PASTA - TRICOLOUR PENNE	PASTA - BOWTIE	PASTA - TRICOLOUR FUSSILI	
<b>(V) = VEGETARIAN</b>	BEEF BOLOGNESE SAUCE	ARABIATTA (V)	ITALIAN SAUSAGE & TOMATO SAUCE	NAPOLITANA (V)	
	PESTO SAUCE (V)	SHREDDED CHICKEN & GARLIC SAUCE	MUSHROOM & CHEESE SAUCE (V)	CARBONARA w/TURKEY BACON	
	<b>YOUR CHOICE OF JUICE</b>				
	APPLE JUICE	COCKTAIL JUICE	MANGO JUICE	APPLE JUICE	
	<b>WATER</b>				
	WATER	WATER	WATER	WATER	

CAFETERIA MENUS

# MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL MENU



	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
<b>MAIN COURSE</b>					
<b>PROTIEN</b>	BONELESS CHICKEN TIKKA MASALA	BONELESS ROASTED WHOLE CHICKEN w/PEPPERCORN SAUCE	CHICKEN MANCHURIAN	TANDOORI CHICKEN BIRIYANI w/PAPAD & RIATA	
<b>PROTIEN</b>	BEEF PATTIES w/ONION GRAVY	NOODLE CRUSTED FISH w/SWEET CHILI SAUCE	GRILLED FISH FILLET w/THAI STYLE PINEAPPLE SALSA	BEEF HOTPOT	
<b>(V) = VEGETARIAN</b>	(V) ASIAN STYLE VEGETABLE CHOP SUEY	(V) RAJMA MASALA	(V) VEGETABLE KOFTA w/TOASTED CUMIN & TOMATO SAUCE	(V) MEXICAN 3 BEAN CHILLI	
<b>RICE/POTATO/VEGETABLE - VEGETARIAN</b>					
<b>VEGETARIAN</b>	STEAMED WHITE RICE	VEGETABLE FRIED RICE	LEMON SCENTED RICE	RICE & PEAS	
<b>VEGETARIAN</b>	GREEK STYLE POTATOES	ROAST POTATO w/BELL PEPPER & ONIONS	SPICY SWEET POTATO	SAUTEED POTATO & ONIONS	
<b>VEGETARIAN</b>	MINTED GREEN PEAS	RATATOUILLE VEGETABLES	BUTTERED GREEN BEANS & ONION	SEASONAL HERB ROASTED VEGETABLES	
<b>LIVE PASTA a la carte station (12aed)</b>					
<b>VEGETARIAN</b>	PASTA - SPAGHETTI	PASTA - TRICOLOUR PENNE	PASTA - BOWTIE	PASTA - TRICOLOUR FUSSILI	
<b>(V) = VEGETARIAN</b>	BEEF BOLOGNESE SAUCE	ARABIATTA (V)	ITALIAN SAUSAGE & TOMATO SAUCE	NAPOLITANA (V)	
	PESTO SAUCE (V)	SHREDDED CHICKEN & GARLIC SAUCE	MUSHROOM & CHEESE SAUCE (V)	CARBONARA w/TURKEY BACON	
<b>SALAD BAR - PRE PACKED (1=6aed, 2=10aed, 3=14aed)</b>					
<b>PROTIEN SALAD</b>	CAESAR SALAD w/CHICKEN	MEXICAN BEEF TACO SALAD	CHICKEN NOODLE SALAD	CHICKEN HAM & CHEESE SALAD	
<b>(V) = VEGETARIAN</b>	PASTA w/TUNA & CORN SALAD	GREEK SALAD (V)	ROASTED VEGETABLE PASTA SALAD (V)	MACARONI PASTA SALAD (V)	
	POTATO SALAD w/GREEN ONION (V)	PROVENCAL BEAN SALAD (V)	CHICK PEAS & TOMATO w/CORIANDER (V)	RUSSIAN SALAD w/EGG (V)	
<b>SALAD BAR - MAKE YOUR OWN, SMALL PACK (1=6aed, 2=10aed, 3=14aed) - VEGETARIAN</b>					
<b>(V) = VEGETARIAN</b>	TOMATO	TOMATO	TOMATO	TOMATO	
	CUCUMBER	CUCUMBER	CUCUMBER	CUCUMBER	
	LETTUCE	LETTUCE	LETTUCE	LETTUCE	
	GREEN PEPPER	GREEN PEPPER	GREEN PEPPER	GREEN PEPPER	
	SWEETCORN	SWEETCORN	SWEETCORN	SWEETCORN	
	SLICED BLACK OLIVES	SLICED BLACK OLIVES	SLICED BLACK OLIVES	SLICED BLACK OLIVES	
<b>DAILY SPECIALS (13aed) - BEEF</b>					
	NACHOS - CORN TORTILLA CHIPS	BEEF FRANKFURTER FOOT LONG	TACOS	BEEF LASAGNE	
	CHILI CON CARNE	FOOT LONG BUN	CHILI CON CARNE		
	GRATED CHEESE	GRATED CHEESE	GRATED CHEESE		
	SLICED JALAPENOS	SLICED JALAPENOS	SLICED JALAPENOS		
	SOUR CREAM	BBQ SAUCE	SOUR CREAM		
	LETTUCE	LETTUCE	LETTUCE		
	TOMATO	TOMATO	TOMATO		
<b>PANINI &amp; SPECIAL WRAPS (13aed) - CHICKEN</b>					
PANINI BREAD WHITE. PANINI BREAD BROWN, CHICKEN, SLICED CHEESE					
<b>SPECIAL WRAPS (13aed) - CHICKEN</b>					
	TORTILLA WRAP	TORTILLA WRAP	TORTILLA WRAP	TORTILLA WRAP	
	CHICKEN FAJITA	SPICY CHICKEN CRISPY TENDERS	CHICKEN SHAWARMA	CHICKEN QUESADILLA	
	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	
<b>SMOOTHIES (10aed)</b>					
<b>(V) = VEGETARIAN</b>	YOGHURT - 4 LITER, HONEY-BOTTLE, MANGO PUREE - KG, STRAWBERRY PUREE - KG, WHOLE BANANA				

# CAFETERIA MENUS

