



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Mr. David Hicks
School Principal

Dear parents, students and colleagues,

Another exciting couple of weeks at DIA-Barsha with so much going on. We closed last week with our Innovents Pink Day to raise awareness of breast cancer. Students and teachers embraced this very important cause by donning pink for the day and wearing symbolic pink ribbons. This week then began with the visit of Virgin Radio as DIA Barsha was chosen to kick off the 20 schools in 20 days challenge. This was followed on Monday by our inaugural House Day where students pitted themselves against each other to solve challenges and problems which required teamwork and collaborative planning. The day closed with a fun but competitive tug-o-war bringing Primary and Secondary together.

Once again I have enjoyed seeing the quality of learning happening across the school on my daily rounds. It is quite amazing how far we have come in just a few weeks. I trust that, like me, you will enjoy seeing and reading about these and other exciting events.

VIRGIN RADIO - THE KRIS FADE SHOW 20 schools in 20 days, Sunday, 14th October 2018, DIA Al Barsha



We were delighted to be the first school chosen as part of the 20 schools in 20 days campaign.



- Wednesday 24th October** : Learner Focused Conferences—No school for Primary
- Thursday 25th October** : Professional Development Day - School Closed to All Students
- Friday 26th October** : 30x30 Fitness Challenge
- Sunday 28th October** : Mid Term Break - School Closed






SCHOOL NEWS - HIGHLIGHTS

House Day Sport Activities

It was an day of fun filled house events with students taking part in problem solving challenges and team building exercises during the morning and then taking part in tug of war during the afternoon. KG2 – Grade 1 students also completed an obstacle and relay race. All houses Earth, Air, Fire and Water participated against one another and thoroughly enjoyed the challenges. Was nice to see our students so enthusiastic and most importantly enjoying themselves. Even the parents got involved and were highly competitive! Amazingly after awarding around 3400 points since the start of September there was only one point separating the leading houses. Congratulations to Earth House who, with 902 points, pipped Fire into second place by 1 point.

“It’s not about winning and losing, it’s about how you play the game”

Overall Grand Total

			
<u>902</u>	807	787	901

Grade 2 – 5 Tug Of War



KG2 /Grade 1 – Obstacle Race and Relay



Grade 6 – 9 students worked together in house teams on problem solving activities



SCHOOL NEWS - HIGHLIGHTS

Pink Day

October is breast cancer awareness month around the world.

Schools in Dubai are chalking out ways to involve young minds to raise awareness about this disease.

“Education helps students and teachers not only protect their families, but also their own lives”.



On Thursday, 11th October, we hosted Pink Day and we were blown away by the amazing support of our students, parents and teachers.

Take a look at some of the creative masterpieces we created and please feel free to leave a ribbon on our tree.

THINK PINK



PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS—HIGHLIGHTS

'HOMEWORK' for parents in Grade 3 to 5

Yes, you read right – you have some homework. Now as you know, we are not keen on sending work home to keep your children busy. Doing 'work' at home is not sitting down and writing out maths sums, etc. – however, it should be an activity that will have a meaningful impact on student learning. Do feel free to do some research on 'impact of homework in the primary school'.

We know you might feel that you don't have an idea of what is going on in class, but us sending homework is not the answer...rather ask your child the RIGHT questions about what they are learning, this is by far a better approach.

To help get you started, we would like you to set some time aside to chat with your child about what they are **learning** (note – not what they are doing). A platform we will be launching soon is SEESAW. It's a school wide app from KG2 to Grade 5 where students save work and where teachers assign activities and respond to work shared. Before we open the app to parents, we would like you to see what your child has done over the past month in SEESAW.

Now don't stress – we will host a few sessions for parents on how to use it (should you want to view on a more regular basis) and a session or 2 on how we use the iPad in class.



Questions you could ask...

What were you learning about when you did this piece of work?

How has your work become better?

What did you enjoy learning about during this unit – can you show me?

What activity are you most proud of? Why?

"Aliens Love Underpants" at the Madinat theater

On the morning of the 10th of October, the KG1 to Grade 1 classes headed off to our first outing of the year. We were fortunate enough to be able to go and see the stage production of "Aliens Love Underpants", based on the very popular book written by Claire Freedman. For many of our young children this was their first trip on a bus, as well as their first experience in a theater! The Madinat Theater did not disappoint, and it was filled with gasps and shrieks of delight while the children enjoyed the production. Back at school the children were excited to write, draw and talk about all that had happened on this incredible adventure. It was a wonderful start to a year that is bound to be filled with many more incredible outings!

ZESPRI KIWI VISIT

From our 'Baby Sharks' in KG1 to grade 5's - we shared our first event together as DIA Barsha Primary! Excitement was in the air as we all headed to the auditorium to meet the Zespri Kiwi Team. We really enjoyed learning about all of the important vitamins and minerals that kiwis and other healthy foods contain that help us to grow big and strong. We answered questions about healthy living and got to meet Super Sun-Gold and Big Green! It was great to see all of the children excited about leading a balanced, healthy lifestyle.



PRIMARY SCHOOL

How can you support our PYP?

As most will know, one of the key features – if not THE aspect of the IB are the Learner Profiles. These are not just words in the Primary – but cross over all the way to the final years of school...and hopefully a LIFE-LONG journey!

So how can you help? Each issue we will share an IB Profile with you and we hope that this family 'homework' is something you will all complete with amazing results. Wouldn't it be great if you could use these words as part of positive encouragement at home and take ACTION by seeing it come alive. It is with this in mind that we kick off with an 'easy' one – one we hope you all have a connection with...**CARING**

Students who are CARING want people around them to be happy and are sensitive to their needs. They think about the world and work to take care of their community and the environment. They remember to treat others how they themselves would like to be treated.

*How can parents help to develop students who are **CARING** at home?*

- Role model the caring behaviour you would like to see in your child all the time. Your child has big eyes and ears and notices everything you do. Using kind words, helping people without being asked, and being an active listener all show your child that you care about people. Even a simple thing, like holding a door for someone, shows your child that you are aware of others around you and want to help them.
- Think about how your family can get involved with community organisations.
- Reduce, Reuse & Recycle. Sometimes this can be challenging, but make the effort to establish these habits in your home. By developing children who care about the environment, you are helping the future of the planet for us all.
- Easy one: Smile!

After reading a book, spend some time considering how the people in the book acted. Was someone in the book caring? All of the time or just some of the time? Were all of the characters in the book caring or just some of them?

Some books to consider:

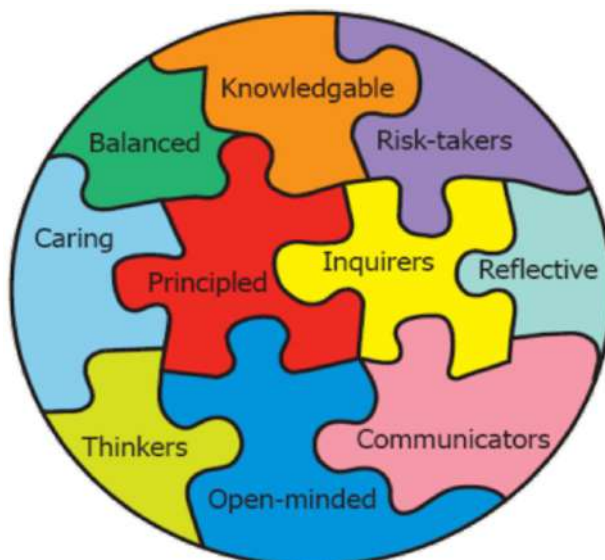
***Lily's Purple Plastic Purse* by Kevin Henkes**

***The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein**

***Yertle the Turtle* by Dr. Seuss**

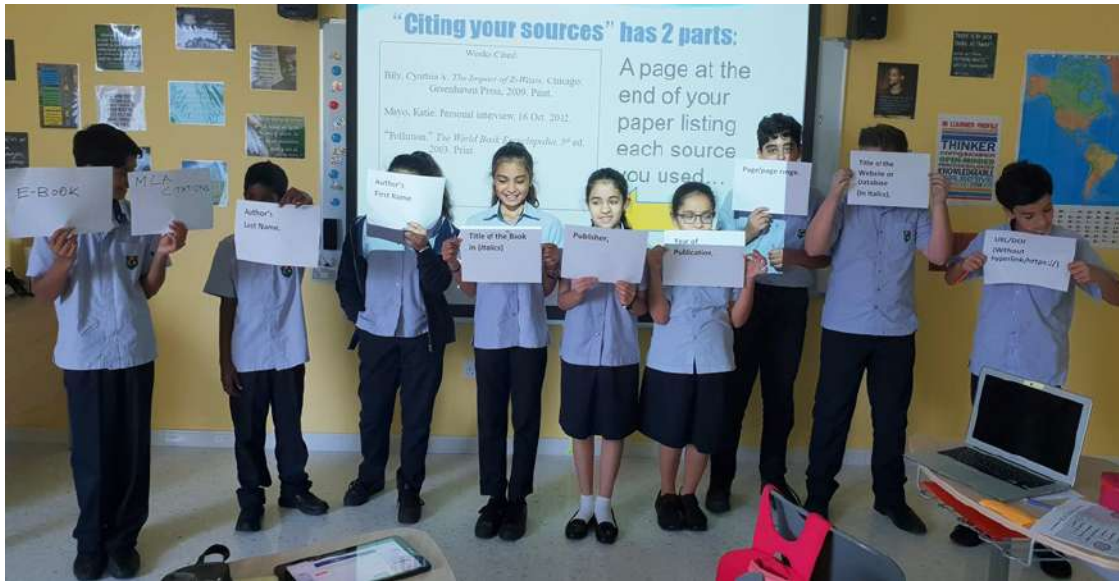
***The Grouchy Ladybug* by Eric Carle**

Hope this helps and we look forward to sharing more with you in the coming meDIA issues.



SECONDARY SCHOOL

MYP Highlights



Are you completing your IB assignments honestly?

The IB expects Diploma Programme candidates to exercise academic honesty in all of their work, which includes acknowledging any sources used within an assignment.

The IB *General Regulations: Diploma Programme* defines malpractice as behaviour that results in, or may result in, the candidate or any other candidate gaining an unfair advantage in one or more assessment components.

EXAMPLES OF MALPRACTICE

- **Plagiarism** - the representation of the ideas or work of another person as your own.
- **Collusion** - supporting malpractice by another candidate, as in allowing your work to be copied or submitted for assessment by another candidate.
- **Duplication of work** - the presentation of the same work for different assessment components and/or IB diploma requirements.
- **Misconduct during an examination**, including the possession of unauthorized material.
- **Disclosing information to another candidate, or receiving information from another candidate**, about the content of an examination paper within 24 hours after the examination.

ASK FOR ADVICE

As a Diploma Programme candidate you are responsible for ensuring that all of the work you submit is authentic and that any sources used are appropriately acknowledged. If you have any doubts please ask for advice.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- IB students are principled and act with integrity and honesty.
- IB students should be content creators not content imitators.
- If you engage in any form of malpractice you may not be eligible for a grade in the subject concerned.
- Do it right, remember to cite!
Credit where credit is due!

HOW TO AVOID PLAGIARISM

- Credit all the sources you use, even if you have paraphrased or summarized.
- Clearly distinguish between your work and the source being used (using quotation marks, indentation or a similar method).
- Use a style of referencing that is appropriate for the subject.



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The IB takes academic honesty very seriously!

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SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS—HIGHLIGHTS

STUDENT COUNCIL

Thank you to all students who put themselves forward for either an Executive Committee position or a Class Representative position, and whether they were successful or not, it is testament to both their personal ambition and their commitment to DIA Al Barsha that they put themselves forward for consideration. The full list of students is below. Well done to everyone for taking part in the process.

Noa Berbari, Akshata Ramachandran, Waiz Sheik, Dev Vohra, Keyaan Nanjwani, Arha Joshi, Chiara Gottschalk, Samir Daadouch, Anjana Viegas, Aaron Amarnath, Nil Gukurkaya, Jaikrit Saraf, Aditya Lachan, Om Potdar, Ayushman Anant, Varun Subramanian, Ayaan Rayani, Ayham Al Madani, Aarya Mukunth, Devashri Das, Manha Lalani, Urvi Sinha, Lauditya Malik, Anish Pai, Lottie Commons, Sankalp Mundra, Kushi Anand, Spandan Urprit, Swagath Srinivasan, Naina Singla, Rhea Mehta, Celine Jabbour, Mia Nacheff.



The Student Council comprises of 12 positions, of which 4 form the Executive Committee and 8 have combined responsibilities of being grade representatives and leaders of specific portfolios that will drive student initiatives for this year. The successful candidates for DIA Al Barsha's first Student Council were announced on Thursday, 11 October 2018. The elected Student Council members for 2018-2019 are listed below.

Chairperson **Mia Nacheff**

Vice-Chairperson **Lottie Commons**

Secretary **Celine Jabbour**

Treasurer **Manha Lalani**

Grade 6 Representative & Public Relations Officer **Akshata Ramachandran**

Grade 6 Representative & Sustainability Portfolio Chair **Jaikrit Saraf**

Grade 7 Representative & School Environment Portfolio Chair **Aditya Sachan**

Grade 7 Representative & Public Relations Officer **Ayaan Rayani**

Grade 8 Representative & Sports Portfolio Chair **Lauditya Malik**

Grade 8 Representative & Performing Arts Portfolio Chair **Spandan Urprit**

Grade 9 Representative & Peer Support Portfolio Chair **Rhea Mehta**

Grade 9 Representative & Service Learning Portfolio Chair **Swagath Srinivasan**

Student of the Month

Each month, our teachers will choose one student per Grade level to be awarded a certificate as the Student of the Month. The criteria is that they must meet one of the attributes of the IB Learner Profile. This is done in each subject to celebrate student achievement. These are our outstanding students for the month of September:

