

Elementary School

National Day

This is really an exciting time of year for both Emiratis and Americans. As we approach the most celebrated and uniquely American Thanksgiving Holiday, as well as, of course, a very significant 50th National Day here in the UAE, we have a lot to be thankful for on both sides of the globe. People from all around the world are looking with admiration toward the UAE and it's really amazing to think here we are, right in the midst of it, offering high quality American education and igniting cultural passions in the minds of our Emirati and international student population representing 34 nationalities!



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Facilities Manager

Last week we also informally recognized one of our own staff members, Facilities Manager, Mr. Barry, for his service in the British military all over the world before he settled in Dubai. We salute veterans like Mr. Barry, as well as all those who serve in the UAE armed forces, and we will always have a special place in our hearts for the Martyrs who died serving the UAE nation in various international conflicts. But more about that next week!





Winter Break

Time is really flying and It's truly hard to believe that as of this upcoming Sunday, there are only13 instructional days remaining until Winter Break.

Please note the following:

- Week of Nov 21 Grade-level Anti-Bullying Assemblies
- Nov 30 UAE National Day / Martyrs' Day Commemoration
- Dec 1 UAE Martyrs Day Holiday
- Dec 2 UAE National Day Holiday
- Week of Dec 6 G1-4 Award Recognition Assemblies
- Dec 9 Winter Break Class Awards and Celebrations
- Please remember that although the first day of Winter break is Sunday, December 12th, the last day of Semester 1 is Sunday, January 9th.
- The first day of Semester 2 is January 10th

IXL

As many of you are aware we have reduced the amount of daily screen time during the regular school day. However one of the tools that we have found effective last year is IXL. So we are still utilizing IXL usually when students have completed their paper and pencil assignments. Therefore, we are asking parents to permit their children to complete personalized teacher assignments on the students' individual level at home as part of their homework.

IXL Honor Roll

Please look for your child's name on our IXL Honor Roll. If their name is not there then you may wish to have a conversation with your child about how they can improve their ranking and perhaps next month, make the IXL Honor Roll!

Please find the IXL Honor Roll here:

Nov 17 IXL LA Honor Roll NOv 17 IXL Math Honor Roll

Drop Everything and Read at Ignite!

Drop Everything and Read at Ignite! is a new ES initiative designed to develop an awareness of the significance of reading for all of our students. All students in Grades 1-4 will read silently for 15 minutes from 7:30-7:45 during the Arrival Period. As you know students usually respond to a Writing Prompt during the Arrival Period but now, by adding reading, we are demonstrating to your children the significance of *reading and writing*, the first thing in the morning.



Library

Good news! Students can now borrow books from our growing library! If your child wishes to borrow a book, please let them tell their homeroom teacher who will review the check-out procedures with Ms. Regina. Books will be sanitized before being checked-out and again when being returned.

Grades 3 and 4

If you are the parent of a Grade 3 or 4 student, please be sure to see how they are using their planners! The purpose of the planner is to help your child develop organizational skills and awareness as well as to help you *see* what your child is doing in school or is expected to do at home for homework. You can also note your child's MAP Grade Goals (See below) in the planner. I recently asked one student how she was using her planner and she smiled and showed me all the places she had written down her homework. Another student showed me how she uses her planner to help her memorize her times tables.

Reading Logs

Regarding the reading logs, after some discussion about the form of the Reading Log, we have decided that we will no longer use the blank pages of the Planner. Instead we will use an electronic form which you can find here: <u>Book Log</u>. Feel free to help your child maintain it! Teachers will ask students for their book logs in order to earn recognition points!

Ms. Regina's Reading Corner

Please be sure to see Ms. Regina's Reading Corner is this weekend's Curriculum Newsletter. There is a special section on the Ten Book Club Award!

As you can see, by developing our culture of literacy, our students will experience learning in a way that lasts beyond their life at school.

Wishing you a joyful and literary weekend!



