

First, we welcome Ms. Ayssar, our new Grades 7&8 Science Teacher! Ms. Nada is still with us as our Science Lab Technician. We are so grateful to Ms. Nada for her care, guidance, and her planning to keep our scholars learning Science! We look forward to seeing how Ms. Ayssar can spark the curiosity of Science in our scholars now and in the future!

I'd also like to welcome Ms. Melodie Harnett, our new English teacher for grades 5&6! She comes to us from just having completed a school year in Peru! She arrived to the UAE on Wednesday morning, so some scholars may already have been introduced to her.

Further, we welcome Ms. Janie as our Middle School Art teacher. Some of you know Miss Janie already. Janie not only is a literacy guru, she is also skilled in many of the arts, including performance arts. Art class is a performance based class. Please do give her a warm welcome and welcome back!

For those who are new, it is challenging to come in after the start of a school year, when cultures and climates, as well as routines have been established. We have all been the New Kid on the Block at some point, so let's be empathetic and begin building positive partnerships with that two way dialogue whether at conferences, over email, phone or brief meet and greets after school during dismissal.

By now you have received communication regarding our 'new' Ignite weekly schedule. The first week back has everyone adjusting. I have asked for all teachers to be reminded to go LIVE, and I have also asked for them to spend some time reviewing and actually re-teaching expectations.

Please see this link for the scholar schedules and the timings of classes Mondays through Thursdays and Early Release Fridays. These have been sent to our scholars via their school email in Outlook:

[Ignite Middle School Student Schedules Grades 5-8](#)

[Ignite School Daily Period/Class Times](#)



As we get set to kick off the 2nd semester, I ask your help in the following areas as reminders:

Per KHDA guidelines, parents and guardians have 10 minutes to collect children after school. If you are perpetually late, as I remain with kids past 4:00 in the reception for safety, you can be fined and you could risk being dismissed from the school. It is a safety issue and can be considered neglect. This is especially important on Fridays as it is UAE Law that everyone leaves by 12:00, staff, teachers and Leaders.

Please ensure your child is coming with a charged device everyday. They should bring the charger along to school.

Please ensure your child has a water bottle and that they have plenty of masks with them in their possession.

Please reinforce that the mask **MUST** be worn at all times, above the nose, except while eating and drinking. If scholars cannot or refuse to comply, they will receive disciplinary consequences, such as being told to stay home. The risk is just too great and we need everyone's cooperation.

If you are having questions or concerns, please contact the classroom teacher for all things academic. If they are unresolved, please contact me.

Please give grace and be flexible with new teachers, and with any kind of Distance Learning. Teachers will need to adjust their own settings in Google Calendar, and these things take time. Going into a hybrid format is temporary, so please let's get back to Face to Face, as the DHA and KHDA permissions are still in effect. As a school, we will remain flexible as well. We have to, as the whole world is in this together. Ignite is no different right now than any other school on the planet, international or public.



We really need scholars only to carry books and items home that they need. Please do not let scholars have a roller bag. It is much too bulky and heavy for our scholars.

Spend time with your child at home asking them what they did, what they learned about, what homework they may have or any upcoming projects, tests or quizzes. Ask them to show you their yellow daily planner!

I realize there is a lot of information coming forward, especially in times where we must be vigilant with regard to the Pandemic to keep us open for optimal learning environments. However, if we aren't reading and staying in touch, there is a greater chance that things will not be understood and there is confusion.

I thank you for your continued support, especially this school year where around the world it's been ever more challenging than last year. We will continue to do the best we can, even when there are mistakes.

Happy New Year and New Semester!

Mrs. Sharin L. Tebo
Ignite Middle School Principal

