

As you all know from last week's newsletter, we have begun half-day Fridays along with the rest of Dubai Private Schools. At Ignite, Fridays still have 7 periods, but the actual scheduling is as follows:

Time	Period
7:15-7:45	Arrival
7:45-8:12	1
8:14-8:41	2
8:43-9 <mark>:10</mark>	3
9:12-9:39	4
9:41-1 <mark>0:08</mark>	Lunch/Break
10:08- <mark>10:35</mark>	5
10:37- <mark>11:04</mark>	6
11:05- <mark>11:30</mark>	7
11:30	Dismissal

 Due to the recently announced KHDA reopening protocols designed to spread Covid-19, regular PE classes have been suspended. Instead, your child will receive PE instruction pertaining to health standards and skills along with exercises they can do at home. So don't be surprised if your child says *I need to do 25 jumping jacks and 10 pushups for PE homework tonight!*



- Our first round of assessment for the second semester has been postponed to January 31st when we will begin our Middle of the Year Benchmark tests. Middle of the Year MAP testing has also been pushed back to February 15th.
- The second week of January is an excellent time to teach your child about organization and our Student Planner is the perfect tool! Grade 3-4 students should be regularly using their planners to record not just homework or reading log but also their goals. 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. One excellent addition to the planner are the MAP Norms charts found on Page 5. These can easily be used as goals for your child in each subject. Simply compare your child's Fall MAP scores to the Winter score norm!

lan Student Planner Year 2021-2022 Name: 





- As an example, if your G2 child achieved a RIT score of 173 on the Fall Reading test, then their Winter goal could be 183. There is a much more complicated way that regulators like KHDA assess whether your child met or did not meet his/her goals but the method I've described here will usually achieve the same result! When the Winter scores are disseminated, you will then know whether your child met or did not meet or did not did not meet his/her goals.
- One great way to help your child reach those academic goals is to ensure that they use IXL regularly.



- When your child or even the teacher must remain at home due to illness, IXL becomes even more valuable than usual if it's used! Please be sure that your child regularly uses IXL at home.
- 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 read silently for 15 minutes from 7:30-7:45 during the Arrival Period on Tuesdays and Fridays. 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.
- 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.
- Since some of your children are just returning to school this week, I thought it would be a helpful reminder to repeat the following from last week's message: Please be reminded of the following:

## Daily Health Check.

In the morning check your child: Ask (or assess) him/her with the

following questions:

- Does he/she feel unwell today?
- Does he/she have a cough or sore throat?
- Does he/she have a fever or feel feverish?
- Does he/she have shortness of breath?
- Has he/she had a loss in taste or smell?



If the answer is yes to any of these questions, you should keep your child at home and consider contacting your family doctor. If able, they should instead participate in the online live stream lessons.

## What to bring to school?

While the school has an emergency supply of these items, you should supply your child with the following items daily:

- 2 disposable face masks
- 2 sets of gloves

• Hand sanitizer with 60% alcohol content (as per DHA Guidelines) Your child should also bring healthy food and enough water for the day. Put the food in clean containers with your child's name on them.

## **Social Distancing**

Protecting your child and others from possible infection should

always be a top priority. Whether you bring your child to school

or he/she rides the bu<mark>s, please</mark> speak with your child about the

following:

- Always wear your masks except when eating
- Wash hands frequently with soap or hand sanitizer
- Stay at least 1m from other children
- Don't borrow from or lend any objects to other people



Reminder: As parents ourselves, we understand that some parents wish to
recognize their child's birthday in the classroom. However, KHDA regulations
prevent us from permitting the usual birthday items, including cakes, donuts, chips,
soda etc. See the following article for the banned foods list: <u>KHDA Banned School
Foods List</u>. Most pizza (without processed meats) and other healthy snacks may be
permitted as birthday items if they are individually wrapped and personally
delivered by you. Note also that most types of juice are not permitted (unless it is a
natural juice without any added sugar). Please be sure to speak with your child's
teacher several days in advance for proper planning. Please note that any nonpermitted food items will be removed at Reception or at the Rear Gate.

I thought I would end this week's newsletter with a look forward to Monday, January 17th which, while not a holiday here in the UAE, is the federally recognized Martin Luther King Jr. public holiday in the USA. MLK Jr. was an American Baptist Minister and civil rights leader who advocated for nonviolent resistance against racial segregation.

Wishing you all the best for a peaceful, successful and healthy second semester!





