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We are mindful of DHA and KHDA regulations and safety protocols, but we also know that just as Covid cases will come and go, so will infected students and staff. Positive students and staff should certainly be isolated from the general population but that doesn’t mean that the whole school or even a classroom should automatically be closed! Our approach aims to maximize face-to-face learning while keeping students and staff as safe as possible.

* Last week I mentioned January as a great time to set a new focus on learning goals and using IXL to help achieve those goals. While reviewing IXL usage I’ve noticed that some students are really maximizing their IXL usage and therefore it’s not surprising when those same students appear at the top of the honor rolls of each class.
* This recalls the IXL Effect. IXL is a supplementary program designed **to support students toward authentic skill mastery**, and research shows this approach works. When students consistently reach proficiency and mastery of IXL skills, American schools see as much as a 16-point rise on state assessments and American international schools also show significant gains.
* Last year we noticed some good gains with Emirati and other students who used IXL more than the average student. So, this year, we have embraced it as a key strategy in our academic improvement plan. Therefore, one great way to help your child reach their own MAP 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 actually used!* Please be sure that your child regularly uses IXL at home. For more information about your child’s personal MAP goals please contact your child’s homeroom teacher.

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* Check any of the links below to see if your child made the Mid-Month January Honor Roll! *Congrats to all the mid-month achievers! Will your child’s name appear in the top ten at the end of the month?*

[Mid January XL Math Honor Roll (Jan 3-Jan20)](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ocg9bQVo8uFkymJluZG7uxT1suY_cCQL/view?usp=sharing)

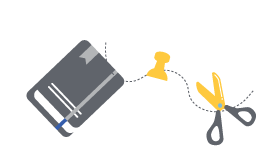
[Mid January IXL ELA Honor Roll (Jan 3-Jan20)](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Tgmclye4jItVroGQM6KBmmDnHQ8SwO8e/view?usp=sharing)

[Mid January IXL Science Honor Roll (Jan 3-Jan 20)](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IhNM7M5d6I1aMb00T0gyU_EEuA9KmXu8/view?usp=sharing)

* I’m pleased to let you know that our culture of literacy is slowly but steadily taking hold. Last week I mentioned our D.E.A.R. program which is now twice per week. This week I want to highlight the work of our wonderful librarian Ms. Regina who has been working hard to develop a love of reading in your children! I asked her today how’s it going in the library and this was her response: *I am proud to say that the library is flourishing and the students are thriving. The blossoming enthusiasm for reading is humbling and I've seen remarkable changes in even the unlikely readers who are now some of my best students.*
* We just received a shipment of 1000 books to add to our library titles!
* The 10 Book Club is successful! We have almost 150 book reports from grades 3 and 4 and a few from grades 1 and 2. (These students showed initiative so Ms. Regina supported them even further) Ms. Regina will soon implement it with all elementary students. We now have a grade 4 student, Ermina, 4 A who has surpassed the 25 Book Club Award. Her classmate, Ayah is right behind her. Next is the 50 Book Club Award and finally the 100 Book Club award which students expressed excitement at the thought of achieving something so monumental.
* I would like to remind and encourage students each week to fill out their Reading Log. I noticed students are still using the old one. We always have some extra copies to give students if they need.
* This is a blank copy of the revised Reading Log for your convenience  ****[**Reading Log.pdf**](https://ignitesschool-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/r_sabat_igniteschool_ae/EeQeIh-dAKZMj1SmA0m1BzMBmJWjNApLIHJLPpCLGijNJw?e=Ug6O23)

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

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