



DIA is an IB  
World School



DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY



DIA is a regular  
member of CIS

## DIAlogue 70

23 June, 2009

### THE NEWSLETTER OF DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY

#### ★ FORTHCOMING DATES ★

Tuesday, 23 June	-	Year 7 - Year 12 reports issued
Tuesday, 23 June	-	KG1 - Year 6 reports issued
Tuesday, 23 June	-	End of Term III
Tuesday, 23 June	-	Last day for students, school finish at 12:00 noon.
Thursday, 25 June	-	Last day for teachers
Monday, 31 August	-	New Student Orientation
Tuesday, 1 September	-	First day of Academic Year 2009-2010

#### HAVE A NICE SUMMER HOLIDAY

The end of a school year seems to come upon us very quickly in the last month of school. So many events take place as the students present their accomplishments. Three way conferences, graduations for KG2, Year 1 and Year 6, the Rats Musical, portfolios presented, final trips and class parties all seem to keep us in a very busy state.

Our teachers are wrapping things up in the classrooms and also getting ready for a break. All the things that have been done over the year are coming down off the walls and the students become fewer each day. By next Wednesday the halls will be quiet and stripped of all the student work. What will remain are the memories of another year.

During the Year 6 graduation I met several students who I have known since they began school as KG1 kids 8 years ago. Seeing what they have achieved is so impressive. The transition to Secondary is a big one but then we have transitions happening all the time in this dynamic environment.

Thank you to all of you who have stopped by or sent a kind note, we always appreciate hearing from you. Good luck to all of those moving on and thank you for the contributions you have given to DIA. We do hope to hear from you again. Enjoy your holidays, travelling, visiting family and even staying home this summer.

All the best,  
**Donavon Reinsmoen, Elementary School Principal**





## ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AT DIA

In the coming academic year, staff and students will become more aware of their individual environmental impact on our planet. A new strategy will be introduced that will make all users of the computer network at DIA aware of their paper and printer usage. Information will be available on the number of trees, greenhouse gases and the equivalent light-bulb hours used to produce the paper that everyone utilises.

Using specialised software, students in the Secondary School will begin a user-pays system to encourage them to be economical and responsible in their printer use and in the Elementary school, students will be able to actively track how much they are printing and their own impact on the environment. Teachers also will become part of this new system and be able to act as environmental role-models to their students.

Further details will be provided at the beginning of the academic year along with information relating to new resources that students will have at their disposal.

**Matt Greening, on behalf of the DIA Technology Taskforce**

## ◆ RECENT HAPPENING ◆

### BATTLE OF THE HOUSES, 22 JUNE

The Secondary School Student Council held the "Battle of the Houses" on Monday, 22 June.

The day included:

- Football Tournament
- Basketball Tournament
- DIA's Got Talent
- Dodgeball Match
- Art competition
- Trivia Quiz

Overall the houses had a great turnout and everyone enjoyed the day with **Fire** coming out the winners at the end.

Well done everyone. Have a great summer!

**DIA Secondary School Student Council**

### YEAR 3MK PERFORMANCES, 18 JUNE

Enthusiastic, creative and confident Year 3MK put up performances, in groups, for their summative assessment on 18 June in class. The unit of inquiry was Arts around the World. It was amazing to see plays complete with script, stage directions, cast and costumes all put together by the students.



Paintings, pottery pieces, solo songs, mime artists, break dancing, ballet, belly dancing, a brilliant pianist and recorder player completed the wonderful art galleries.

**Meetali Khanna, Year 3MK Homeroom Teacher**

## ***RATS!***

### **DIA'S 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR 6 PRODUCTION, 15 AND 16 JUNE**

Risk-taking Year 6 took to the stage last week for a production of *Rats!* Based on the story of the Pied Piper of Hamelin, this musical gave many students their first experience of an extended performance. The show was the fruit of five weeks of committed hard work and enthusiasm in break times as well lessons.



There were many hurdles to overcome, from performing with broken limbs to learning a new way of breathing, and from singing complicated harmonies to overcoming stage-fright, but nothing would stop these dedicated students from aiming for excellence. They developed empathy with their characters' emotional states, choreographed dances, painted sets and learned to communicate through body language, facial expressions and tone of voice.

When the highly anticipated performance days finally arrived, everyone rose to the occasion, conquering their nerves to give their very best effort. Congratulations to all the performers for their confidence and skill on stage, as well as their maturity and integrity off stage: you have created memories that will last a lifetime and set a high standard for others to follow!

**Sarah Perry, Elementary School Teacher**



### **END OF YEAR SPORTS AWARDS 2009, 14, JUNE**

<b>DCC U16 Girls Football</b>	<b>DCC U18 Girls Football</b>	<b>DCC U14 Girls Football</b>
Best Player - Maria Karlsson	Best Player - Gemma Curtis	Best Player - Briar Finn
Most dedicated - Alannah Pilling	Most dedicated - Danya Al Omary	Most dedicated - Suraya Watfa
Coach: Pascal Ashkar	Coach: Pascal Ashkar	Coach: Carina Saunders
<b>DCC U16 Boys Football</b>	<b>DCC U18 Boys Football</b>	<b>DCC U14 Boys Football</b>
Best player - Shuaib Al-Sulaimani	Best Player - Luke Bell	Best Player - Shayan Mirzazadeh
Most dedicated - Tamer Hijaz	Most dedicated - Ryan Fanton	Most dedicated - Saahil Chiragh
Coach: Stephen Hurren	Coach: Kemsley Dickinson	Coach: Richard Evans
<b>DCC U 16 Boys Basketball</b>	<b>DCC U18 Girls Basketball</b>	<b>DCC U18 Boys Basketball</b>
Best player - Chad Williams	Best player - Emily Clote	Best player - Ali Al Bukhari
Most dedicated - Luca Maccotta	Most dedicated - Gemma Curtis	Most dedicated - Samuel Borja
Coach: Chris Young	Coach: Stephanie Young	Coach: Jim Hildebrand
<b>DCC U 14 Boys Basketball</b>	<b>DCC U 14 Girls Basketball</b>	<b>DCC U16 Girls Basketball</b>
Best player - Mark Philips	Best player - Yara Jouzy	Best Player - Abby Christy
Most dedicated - Zaid Abu Khader	Most dedicated - Berbel Hanemaaijer	Most dedicated - Mona Selma Prytz
Coach: Jim Hildebrand	Coach: Jonafe Jalos	Coach: Janice Smith

DCC Swimming	DCC Cross Country	DCC Track and field
Most dedicated- Nikita Kalinin	Most dedicated- Michael Efstathiou	Most dedicated - Chelsea Murdoch
Most dedicated -Olivia Scott	Most dedicated- Therese Mchugh	Most dedicated - Eivind Kjolberg
Most dedicated- Giulia Filocca	Most dedicated - Anna Leksell	Most dedicated - Mitali Mirle
Most dedicated -Omar Irdis	Most dedicated - Kasper Pancewicz	Most dedicated - Saahil Chirag
Coach: Mihail Kouzev Jonafe Jalos	Coach: Mihail Kouzev Maria Elena Torcelino	Coach: Daniel Patching Maria Elena Torcelino
Out-of-school Sports		
James Loubser - Triathlon	Malika Faber -Horse Riding	Andre Chatterjee - Tennis
Pinja Viljajarju -Swimming	Alyssa Ritters - Horse Riding	Rachel Dixon - Badminton
Lawrence Jokun -Skateboarding	Cyndi Faber - Horse Riding	Britany Dixon - Badminton
Stephan Venter - Rugby	Amy Barrack - Horse Riding	Heino Havenga - Golf
Karin Lindbom - Dressage	Yara Jouzy - Figure Skating	

**Mihail Kouzev, Athletic Director**

### **DIA STUDENTS TAKE PART IN AL NOOR ANNUAL MUSICAL, 13 JUNE**

On 13 June, 2009, a group of DIA students participated in the Annual Concert conducted by the Al Noor Center for Special Needs Children as part of Community and Service. The students were mentored by Mr Karinga and trained to sing as a group for the musical. The students had the privilege of meeting and interacting with these children. They spent many lunch breaks in the music room preparing the different songs and choruses composed or arranged by the Al Noor faculty, and even went for a rehearsal a few days before the actual concert.



The concert involved almost all the children in Al Noor, and had special scenes for children with different needs (e.g. speech-impaired children). The play revolved around a city called Ranoor, which lived in prosperity thanks to the Book of Life. When the Book is suddenly stolen, the three heroes of Arabia (Aladdin, Ali Baba, and Sinbad), are sent to retrieve it. There was lots of dancing and music, and the props and costumes of the actors and actresses were all very intricate and well made. It was done in English, but there were Arabic translations in some

parts to accommodate the Arabic speaking audience.

The students at the centre were full of life and it was clear they had spent a long time practicing and rehearsing for the play. They knew all their lines and dances, and they also knew their cues. When the DIA students arrived during rehearsal for the first time, it was a bit emotional seeing those children, but as soon as the play began and everyone saw how vibrant they all were, it became much easier. During the actual concert, the auditorium was graced by a large audience. The DIA students performed for the first hour, from 6:00 - 7:00 pm, and then the Regent International School of Dubai took over after the intermission from 7:45 pm onwards.

It was a rewarding experience for all the students, and many hope to get invited to participate again in the future.

**Selma Mona Priyetz, Year 11A**

## I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The children in Year 1SG have been creating some fantastic things that they can use at home from everyday junk that is thrown away. We made giraffe pencil holders from empty tins, a magazine holder from an empty cereal box, a decorative shaker from a glass jar and a small blanket from old t-shirts. In line with our last unit for the year, the children have really understood how they can reuse and recycle things rather than filling up more landfill sites. The children also made superhero puppets and wanted to tell all the children in Dubai to reduce, reuse and recycle and help make a difference to where we live. What great inquiry and what a creative lot they are!

**Smara Ghafoor, Elementary School Teacher**



## YEAR 2ZJ THINK DIA IS SPECIAL

**DIA is special because:**

We have lots of units - **Rayan**

We have many activities - **Stacey**

We learn a lot of interesting things - **Daan**

It has kids from all over the world - **Hannah P**

You can have so many friends - **Dennis**

All of the teachers are kind - **Ye Eun**

It is fun and DIA has very smart teachers -

**Elina**

It has book fairs - **Shiv**

It has so many pretty things and so many projectors - **Caroline**

All my teachers and friends are there - **Tamara**

We have nice teachers - **Aishini**

It is clean - **Adam**

It has so many playgrounds - **Rodmehar**

You get treats when it's your birthday - **Luna**

The teachers have Barnaby Bear - **Tanishka**

It has a lot of sports - **Himanshu**

It has so many books and so many parties and a lot of fun activities. I love DIA. It's the best school in the world. - **Hannah R**

It is an international school. I am very happy in DIA. I love all my teachers and friends. This school is the best school I ever went to. DIA is so special to me. - **Habiba**



## THOUGHTS IN VERSE

### My Puppy

My beagle puppy, soft and fluffy, always licking me  
I try to make him comfy but he's too busy chasing me.  
I try to look for bones at the store but there's never any there  
I'm always looking everywhere.

My puppy's cute when it smiles and jumps and plays;  
We play everyday in the bright sun.  
I love him and I hope he loves me too.

**By Amun Chaudhary 3AD**

### Foxes

Foxes are cute with sharp pointy noses  
Out at night, what a bright sight  
Fluffy white bellies from nose to tail  
Sharp teeth, tongue hanging out  
They live in dens with their cute fluffy friends  
Hiding, sleeping until the day ends.

**By Lara Al Schamma 3AD**

### DIA STUDENTS PERFORMANCE AT OUT OF SCHOOL SPORTS



#### KARIN LINDBOM - HORSE RIDING

I have been riding since I was 7 years old. It is a pretty big part of my life. Seven years later, I still love it. I have my own horse whose name is Mermer, she has competed loads with me, mainly dressage but I have also done

jumping and eventing. I won the dressage league (Got the highest points throughout the season). I also won the FEI world dressage challenge, came second in the dressage challenge and my team won the championships. I also participated in many smaller in house competitions.

**Karin Lindbom, Year 9C**

#### RACHEL DIXON'S - BADMINTON

Before leaving South Africa she was ranked No. 2 in the U17 age Category in Kwazulu Natal. She was ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in South Africa in the U17 age Category.

She is currently playing in the UAE Open Badminton Championships and progressed to the top 8 in the Ladies Doubles playing with her sister Brittany.

She is at present ranked in the top 8 in the Ladies Singles Championships and will be competing this week.

She is currently ranked in the top 2 in the UAE in the U18 age category. She was a runner up in the Singles Final for U18 girls.

#### BRITTANY DIXON'S - BADMINTON

Brittany was in the 2012 Olympic Training Squad for South Africa before leaving. She was ranked No 1 in Kwazulu Natal in the U15 Age Category. She was ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in South Africa in the U15 Age Category.

She is currently playing in the UAE Open Badminton Championships and progressed to the top 8 in the Ladies Doubles playing with her sister Rachel.

She is at present ranked in the top 8 in the Ladies Singles Championships which is being held at present. She finished in the top 4 in the UAE in the U18 age Category for singles.

#### YARA JOUZY - FIGURE SKATING

Yara first participated in a competition as a beginner seven years ago.

Al Nasr Leisureland arranges a yearly competition for people from the region. The competitors come from Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Kuwait, Oman and Qatar. This year Yara came second with another girl from Oman competing for free style 6 on 23 May.

**Mihail Kouzev, Athletic Director**



★ UPDATES ★

**MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL CLINIC**

The last of my newsletters in Dialogue, for this scholastic year. I know that everyone is in the holiday mood but there are a few things I am going to add to your 'to do' list for the holidays.

I have enclosed below a schedule of Vaccinations suggested by the Dept of Health Dubai. The list is in accordance with the WHO specifications. I suggest you check your family vaccination records to confirm which vaccinations have been administered. In particular Hepatitis B, which I have noted is not given in most countries as a routine vaccine. This is one vaccine I would recommend everyone should have.

GOVERNMENT OF DUBAI  
 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & MEDICAL SERVICES  
 وزارة الصحة والخدمات الطبية  
**PRIMARY HEALTH CARE  
 SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES**  
**SCHOOL HEALTH IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULE:**

Name of Vaccine	Age	Interval	Dose	Remarks
Mantoux test	5-6yrs		0.1ml	Mantoux should be given if the child did not receive BCG at birth.
DPT / OPV 2 <sup>nd</sup> booster	5-6yrs	2½yr interval from the first booster.	0.5ml	Only for Children not vaccinated in Child Health Services.
MMR 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose	5-6yrs	4yrs	Single	If 2 <sup>nd</sup> MMR was not given along with 2 <sup>nd</sup> booster keep 5yr interval
Td/OPV 3 <sup>rd</sup> booster	10yrs	5yrs from 2 <sup>nd</sup> booster	0.5ml	
Td 4 <sup>th</sup> booster	15yrs	5yrs interval	0.5ml	Td If not given at 15yrs it can be given upto 18yrs. No Polio should be given after 15yrs.
HBV 1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	5-12yrs		0.5ml	
HBV 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dose	5-12yrs	1-2 months	0.5ml	
HBV 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dose	5-12yrs	4 months	0.5ml	HBV is given in SHS if not given in CHS

**NOTE:**  
 If the child was never vaccinated (Up to 15yrs) give Mantoux test. If Mantoux Reading after 72hrs is negative give BCG, one dose of MMR, one dose of Td & OPV.

The other vaccine recommended is for young girls. It is called Gardasil and protects against infection with Human Papilloma Virus. It is administered with a course of three doses and is available in Dubai, however the school does not administer it. Further information on this vaccine can be found on the internet or you could discuss in more detail with your family doctor.

Before I leave you I would like to add.....We are all aware of the benefits associated with keeping within a healthy weight range. If you child happens to fall into the overweight category I would like to suggest that you have their Lipid Profile completed. This process can identify any hormonal problems which may be associated to the weight gain. Happy, energetic and healthy children are our aim.

WHO has increased the global pandemic level to phase 6, indicating a global pandemic of influenza H1N1 virus. Phase 6 is characterised by a community level outbreak in two different WHO regions.

Be aware of the symptoms if your travels take you near the current hotspots. Seek medical attention immediately should anyone in the family suffer from the following symptoms:

Fever, cough, sore throat, rhinorrhoea and in some cases nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, myalgia and headache.

Enjoy your holidays and always be aware of the 'do's and don'ts' highlighted in previous letters.

**Dr Indira George, School Doctor**

### **TO ALL MY FRIENDS AT DIA**

I am leaving DIA to take the position of Headmaster at the British International School, Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia.

In addition to the School, there is an Adult learning centre and 2 feeder kindergartens. The School Director is also working on some tourism ideas, which I hope to get the missus involved in. We will also be working on teacher training, CPD and with the Government of Ethiopia in developing a national curriculum over there.

In the summer I will be getting married in Bali and we are expecting our first daughter in October.

I would like to take this final opportunity to thank all parents, staff and students at DIA for their incredible support. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here in Dubai and at DIA and I wish you all the best in the future development of the school. Have a safe summer and enjoy the holidays.

**David Turner, Humanities Teacher**

### **CAR PARKING AND ROAD WORKS IN AND AROUND DIA**

Road works will continue at the front and surrounds of the school over the summer break. On your return in September the traffic flows will be significantly different so please leave plenty of time in the first few days of next term to get used to the new road and car park layouts. A detailed map of the current car park arrangements may be found on our website in "What's New". We will keep this information updated as and when changes take place. <http://www.diadubai.com/pdf/DIA-ParkingArea.pdf>

### **STUDENTS LEAVING DIA**

If your child/children will be leaving DIA at the end of this academic year, and not returning in September, please ensure you complete a withdrawal form and return this to the Admissions Team as soon as possible, and at the latest by 23 June, 2009. Please specify in the withdrawal form your request for issuance of a Leaving Certificate or a local Transfer Certificate and specify exactly the school name and location and Emirate where your child will be transferred and if you require an attested certificate. Please be aware at this time of the year it normally takes approximately 2 weeks to prepare a local Transfer Certificate from the last day of term three (if moving to another school within the UAE) and in the Summer holidays it may take significantly longer due to staff being on vacation.

**Dina Yehia, KHDA Coordinator**

### **COMMENT AND FEEDBACK**

If you would like to comment or give feedback on any aspect of what is offered by Dubai International Academy, please do so at your convenience, using the e-mail address [diafeedback@diadubai.com](mailto:diafeedback@diadubai.com). We look forward to hearing from you.