

HIA Insight

Edition # 1

News brought to you by 12-H

Mission

Al Hussan International Schools provide high quality education through a safe, stimulating, and multicultural environment to prepare leaders for a global society.

Vision

Our Vision is to be Leaders of Excellence in International Education

WORDS OF WISDOM

As we begin another exciting term, I take enormous pride in the commitment and passion our students have shown in putting this newsletter together. This act of dedication speaks volumes not only about the quality education that AlHussan International Academy aspires to but also reflects what defines us: At Al-Hussan, We Excel.

HIA is more than a school; we would like to inspire our students, prepare them as compassionate and exemplary leaders who can excel in the world that continuously changes. We achieve this in a safe and supportive environment that emphasizes academic rigor and personal growth, enabling every student to reach their fullest potential.

As we continue to grow and thrive together, I encourage each member of our school community to embrace the opportunities ahead and take pride in being part of an institution that values safety, high standards, and global citizenship like we do at the academy. Together, we can make this academic year one of the most successful and amazing yet.

Ms. Majida Ghandour
School Head

Stepping into a new semester, let's take a moment to appreciate all the exciting opportunities that lie ahead. A new semester is like a blank canvas—it's your chance to start fresh, face new challenges, and grow in ways you never imagined. Remember, every single day is a new opportunity to take a step closer to your dreams!

It's normal to feel a mix of excitement and nerves at the start of a new chapter, but remember that every step you take brings you closer to your goals. Stay motivated, stay curious, and remember that learning is not just about books and exams but also about discovering new things about yourself and the world around you.

As a word of advice, stay organized by setting goals, creating a study plan and keeping track of assignments; it makes a big difference. Believe in yourself because confidence helps you tackle challenges, and don't hesitate to ask for help when needed. Balance academics with self-care, enjoy your hobbies, and stay positive, seeing every challenge as a chance to grow.

Let this semester be a time of discovery, hard work, and success. Wishing you all the best of luck and happiness.

Ms. Abrar Alomar
School Principal

LEADERSHIP IN ACTION: NEXUS' MESSAGE TO YOU

Hello HIA students, we are Nexus, your Student Council. Our mission is to bridge the gap between students and the school administration; to ensure the voice and opinion of every student are heard and valued. Our interest is represented in addressing academic, extra-curricular, and social concerns through close collaboration with school leaders. Nexus believes in open communication and encourages students to share their valuable feedback to feel empowered. Representation apart, we aim at opportunities for the growth and collaboration of all individuals so that all may have a platform in our school. Let us strive together to construct a stronger and a united community.

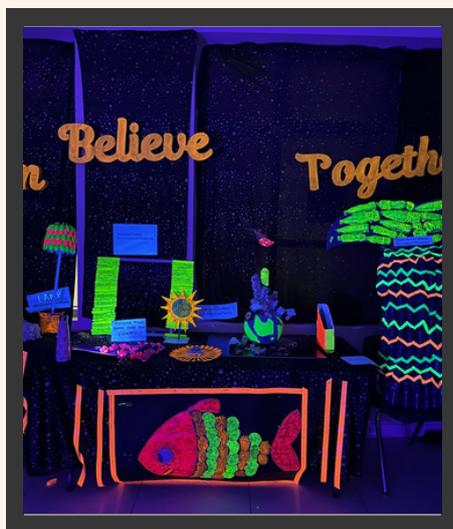


ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS



At HIA, we believe that education goes beyond academics. Our school provides a rich platform for the students to develop mental, emotional, and social skills with the availability of numerous enriching activities in store for them. Whether it's encouraging teamwork, creativity, or well-being, the wide-ranging events at HIA ensure the development of essential life skills in students while allowing them to enjoy their learning journey.

HIA has been abuzz with fun activities this term! Teacher's Day was celebrated with a heartfelt speech, a cake-cutting ceremony, and a "Memory Lane" segment in honor of the teachers. The Well-Being Committee continued its efforts to promote mental and emotional health within the school. They started the year with an amazing activity for students and staff by collecting motivational affirmations on a bulletin board to display to anyone passing by, cultural dresses, military performances, and traditional dances marked Saudi National Day in pride and unity on the 23rd of September, 2024.



Our Grade 11 IB students embarked on a creative Shining a Light on Sustainability Project to promote recycling and reusing. They collected recyclable materials from classrooms and the admin office, transforming them into vibrant, neon art pieces for an eye-catching glow show. Together, we're making a difference, one colorful creation at a time!

SERVICE LEARNING INITIATIVES



At HIA, service learning forms an intrinsic part of the educational approach, where academic learning is combined with real-life application for building character and other essential life skills. These initiatives call for students to engage in community activities, develop leadership capabilities, and build a sense of responsibility. Digital Citizenship and Cybersecurity Event was a great example where students advocated for digital citizenship through interactive games such as Monopoly among others, while infusing them with important lessons on online safety.

D.E.A.R. "Drop Everything and Read" program cultivates a love for reading throughout the school. We believe that reading is essential for academic and personal development, and our goal is to help students discover the joy of reading while developing important skills that will benefit them across all subjects and throughout their lives.

These service learning activities serve to enhance not only academic knowledge but also critical thinking, empathy, and a strong sense of community involvement.



The Math Genius Book Project is a remarkable testament to the creativity, teamwork, and dedication of young students engaged in service learning. The project aimed to create an interactive and engaging resource to simplify mathematics for younger learners, inspiring confidence and love for the subject.

ALUMNI STORIES:

A HIA INSIGHT EXCLUSIVE

“My years at HIA were filled with experiences that shaped me both personally and academically. After studying there for 11 years, I found my passion for technology—a path I’m now pursuing with excitement as I study Software Engineering, experiencing life to the fullest. I also had the privilege of serving as the chief editor of the school newsletter, which honed my communication skills and deepened my connection with the school community. One of my fondest memories was the thrill of our graduation rehearsals, culminating in the honor of delivering the valedictorian speech. That moment of pride and accomplishment continues to fuel my ambition and inspire everything I do today. I will always cherish the lessons learned and friendships made at HIA as I move forward into the future.”

– Zainab Asif, Class of 2022

“When I think of Al Hussan International Academy as an attending member of the Class of 2023, those years seem to bring a lot to my perspective in the future. Currently studying at Queen Mary University of London for Electrical & Electronic Engineering, I am able to track this passion back to high school. It wasn't just the classroom lessons, but rather hands-on experiences such as the projects for Tech Day or business competitions that made me enjoy problem-solving and innovation. Exploring physics and technology helped me find a direction I would like to take. Current students: explore all the things you're interested in; you never know where it can lead. And remember, the relationships you'll make along the way will far surpass graduation date.”

– Rayhana Alsalman, Class of 2023

“Looking back at my time at HIA, I realize how much those years shaped who I am today. Now a varsity student-athlete of the rowing team and research assistant at Ontario Tech University, studying Forensic Psychology with a minor in Criminology and Justice, I see that high school wasn’t just about learning from books—it was where I discovered my potential. It’s where I learned to push past limits, embrace challenges, and grow stronger with every setback. The perseverance and teamwork I developed back then are the same qualities that drive me now, both in sports and in my studies. Those years taught me that with hard work and passion, you can achieve more than you ever thought possible.”

– Rahmah Khan, Class of 2022

Congratulations HIA Students !

Celebrating Excellence: Outstanding Achievements by Our Students.

We are thrilled to announce and celebrate the remarkable accomplishments of our talented students who have excelled in their respective academic fields, earning top honors in international examinations.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Raneem, Muhammad, and Mahnoor, as well as their families and teachers for this well-deserved recognition.



Congratulations to our gifted grade 3 student Ahmed Muzzammil on your outstanding achievement at the World Math Championship 2024! Your dedication, hard work, and exceptional skills have truly shone through setting a remarkable example of excellence and determination.



At HIA, we are beyond proud to congratulate our grade 3 student Eliana Al-Bataineh on her incredible achievement as the Kingdom's Gymnastics Champion.

Since the beginning of her gymnastics journey in 2021, Eliana has been putting in great efforts into her passion for gymnastics. In 2022, she earned first place in the Eastern Province Championship and a silver medal in the Kingdom's Apparatus Championship. In 2023, she captured the gold medal and was crowned the national champion for ages 7-8.

As Eliana prepares to defend her title in 2025, all of us at HIA pray for her success and wish her goodluck on her future journey.

THE CLEAN CORNER

Personal hygiene is vital for everyone, especially during pre-teen and teenage years as bodies undergo changes. Staying clean not only helps prevent germs—like washing hands before meals and after using the toilet—but also boosts confidence. Maintaining good hygiene, wearing clean clothes, and having fresh breath can boost your comfort in social settings and put others at ease.

Here are 6 essential hygiene tips to keep you fresh:

Hand Hygiene: Wash hands for 20 seconds with soap, scrubbing all surfaces.

Showers: Use mild soap; rinse thoroughly and apply deodorant for freshness.

Oral Care: Brush teeth twice daily and floss for a bright smile.

Clean Clothes: Wear clean clothes daily; wash regularly to stay fresh.

Skincare: Wash your face twice daily and apply sunscreen.

Body and Hair Maintenance: Groom or shave with clean tools; moisturize afterward.



ACADEMIC TIPS AND TRICKS

Think about getting better grades without having to give up your sleep, hobbies, or social life—sounds too good to be true, right? Lots of students believe that in order to be an excellent student, they have to put in tons of hours studying. Yet this often unfortunately results in exhaustion and burnout. Actually, the wiser we learn, the better we are going to perform, and less stress we'll experience. What does that actually mean? Smart studying is to apply efficient strategies, and to create those peculiar study patterns that fit your learning needs. Below, we have listed tried-and-true techniques of how students can study less and achieve more.

Here are some tips and tricks that guarantee a productive and stimulating study session.

1. **Active Recall:** Instead of passively reading notes, quiz yourself regularly on key concepts. This strengthens memory and boosts retention.
2. **Spaced Repetition:** Study material over spaced intervals, review after a day, then after a week, etc...in order to avoid forgetting and help solidify knowledge.
3. **Practice Testing:** Do practice exams or quizzes under timed conditions to simulate test environments, build confidence, and acclimate yourself to test conditions.
4. **Mind Mapping:** Visual mapping of topics is a great way to organize and connect ideas, which is especially helpful for science subjects.
5. **Group Study:** Studying with friends/classmates enables you to discuss and clarify topics while motivating you at the same time.
6. **Pomodoro Technique:** This is a method in which you study intensively for 25 minutes and then take a five-minute break.
7. **Flashcards:** Perfect for memorizing facts, vocabulary, or formulas through quick self-quizzes.
8. **Note-taking:** You must jot down important points in class and go over them later. Keep listening in class and note the points shared by your teachers as they are knowledgeable and experienced.



Readers' Radar

Dear Bookworms,

Welcome to Readers' Radar, the perfect place for all things literary! If you're constantly on the hunt for your next great read or just love getting lost in the pages of a good book, you're in the right place. Every issue, we'll be sharing a must-read recommendations, hidden gems, and the latest page-turners that will have you hooked from cover to cover.

For ages 6-10

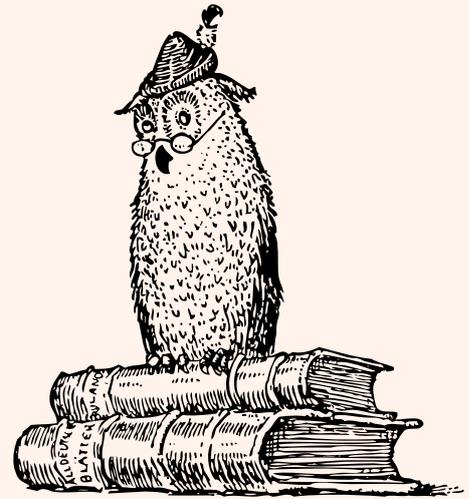
- "The One and Only Ivan" by Katherine Applegate (a true story with themes of friendship and freedom)
- "Ramona Quimby" series by Beverly Cleary (humorous and relatable stories about a spirited girl's everyday life)

For ages 11-13

- "A Series of Unfortunate Events" by Lemony Snicket (mystery and thriller - about three orphaned siblings facing off a villain who is after their inheritance)
- "Holes" by Louis Sachar (coming of age and realistic fiction - about a boy sent to detention camp who unravels a family mystery)

For ages 14-18

- "The Gifts of Imperfection" by Brené Brown (for motivation and positivity - provides guidance on embracing vulnerability and letting go of perfectionism)
- "A Study in Charlotte" by Brittany Cavallaro (mystery and thriller - a modern-day twist on Sherlock Holmes, following the descendants of Holmes and Watson)



Student Support

This column is intended for the purpose of aiding students regarding any issues they may face at school.

For inquiries regarding CAS, Media and Activities, please contact Ms. Rayane Ghanem.

For any issues related to academics, please contact the Academic Coordinators, Ms. Shadia Khalil and Ms. Ghina Sabih.

For inquiries regarding IB, please contact the IB Diploma Program Coordinator, Ms. Samar Deshmukh.

For any technical inquiries regarding Classera, please reach out to Ms. Fathima Sharaf.

For any concerns regarding personal matters, please contact the Student Counselor, Ms. Dalya Al Shayib.

You may reach them via Classera.

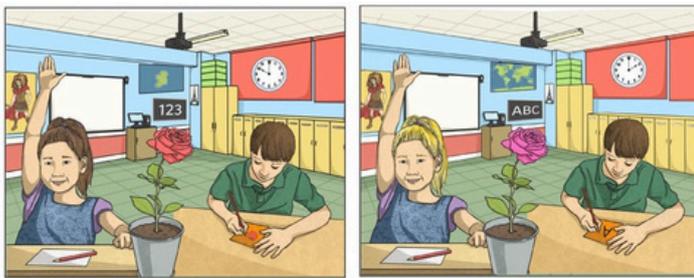
Games Corner

Here's a few games to entertain you:
Let's first start off with this woozy word search

L P D I V E R S I T Y O
S T E A M W O R K I O U
T A M O T I V A T E E C
Z L E M S O B C G B H L
I N S P I R E N E O L A
K S I V U J I L M I X S
A T N Q K N I E B J A S
V F C S R E W R J K J R
H A P A V O A U O Y H O
D X E E R R A W T Q I O
X L C K Y N I C W W N M
K F R I E N D S H I P N

LEARNING	MOTIVATE
CLASSROOM	TEAMWORK
DIVERSITY	INSPIRE
HOMEWORK	BELIEVE
FRIENDSHIP	LIBRARY

Bravooo! Next up we have this labyrinth of literature to get through to reconcile the stars. Let's see whether you defeat the games or the games defeat you.



Finally, Spot 5 differences between these pictures. Focus and pay attention to details; this one's tricky!