



EMIRATES  
HILLS

# Secondary School Newsletter

08 September 2023



co-curricular activities





# Head of Secondary

## Message



Welcome to the first edition of our school newsletter for the year! Welcome to new and returning parents. Our team of dedicated and wonderful staff are ready to embark on a journey filled with growth, learning, and endless possibilities.

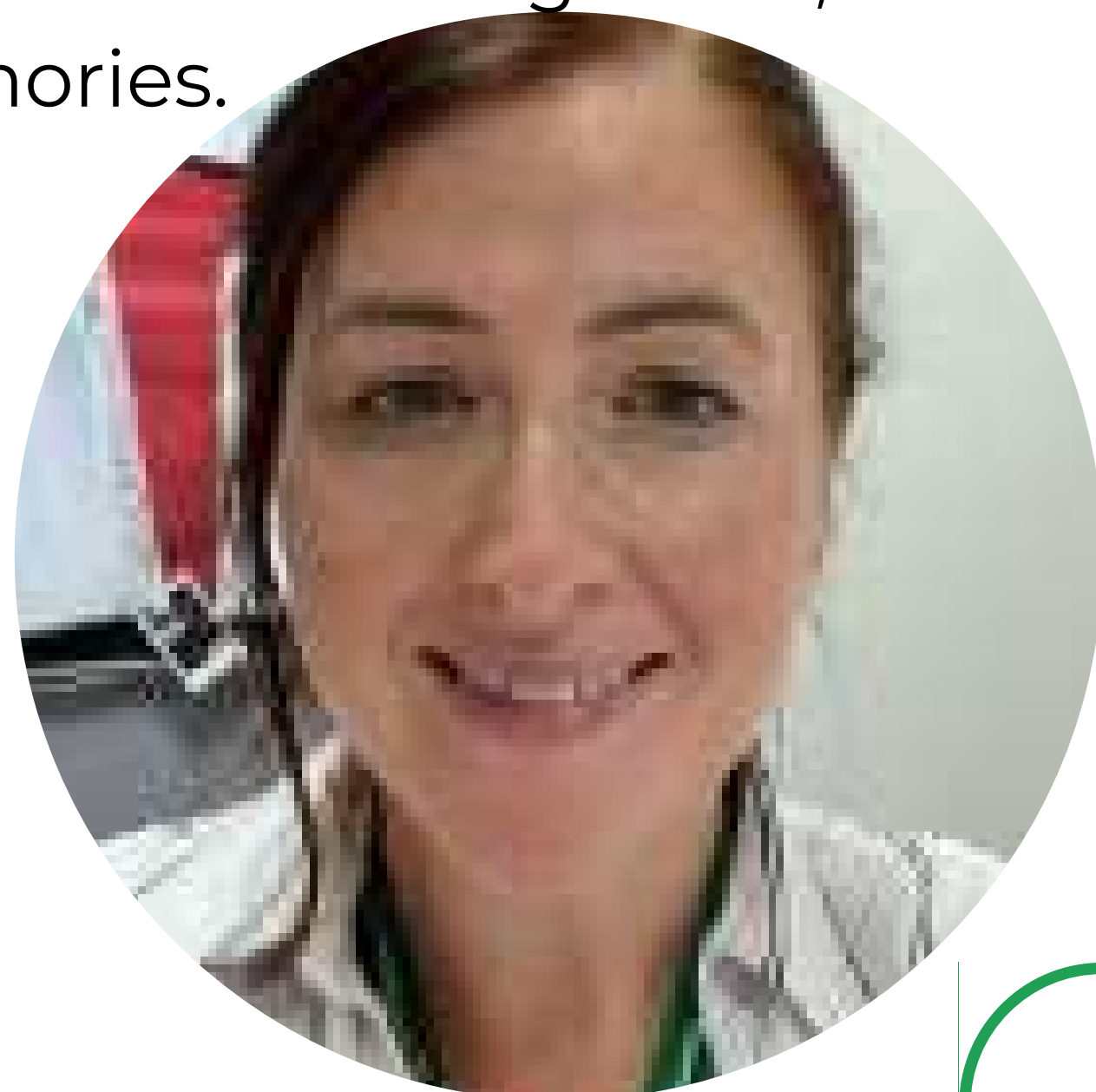
This year, our primary driving focus will be on community building, creating opportunities for all, and ensuring the wellbeing of our entire school community. We believe that a strong, supportive community is the foundation upon which our students can flourish both academically and personally.

We are excited to announce that international trips will be a highlight of this academic year, providing students with unique experiences to broaden their horizons. More information regarding these incredible opportunities will be shared soon.

As we move forward, we look forward to working closely with our parent body. Your involvement and support are invaluable, and together, we can create a nurturing environment where every student can thrive. Let's embark on this exciting journey together, making this academic year one filled with growth, achievements, and unforgettable memories.

Here's to a fantastic year ahead

*Michelle Puxty*



# Key Information

**Monday 11 September**

**CCAs for Term 1 Begin**

Information has been shared via emails for signups. Please contact your child's homeroom teacher with questions.

**Monday 11 September**

**Year 11 Parent Information Session**

Please check your email for a form that allows you to ask questions. We will meet in the Presentational Hall at 5.30pm.

**Tuesday 12 September**

**Year 13 Parent Information Session**

Please check your email for a form that allows you to ask questions. We will meet in the Presentational Hall at 5.30pm.

**Thursday 14 September**

**Year 12 IBCP University Information Session**

This session will focus on pathways for our IB Career-related Programme students. Join us in the Presentational Hall at 5.00pm.

**Tuesday 19 September**

**New Parent Learning Systems Sessions**

This session is designed for parents of students who are new to DIA. The session will be held in the Presentational Hall at 7.45am and repeated at 5.30pm.

**Thursday 21 September**

**World Peace Day**

We invite all students to wear white on this day.

**Friday 22 September**

**Inclusion Coffee Morning**

We invite parents to learn more about inclusive education at DIA and the ways in which we support various learning needs

**Friday 22 September**

**Guest Speaker: Ebraheem Al Samadi**

Ebraheem will speak to Year 10-13 students about entrepreneurship and innovation in the UAE.





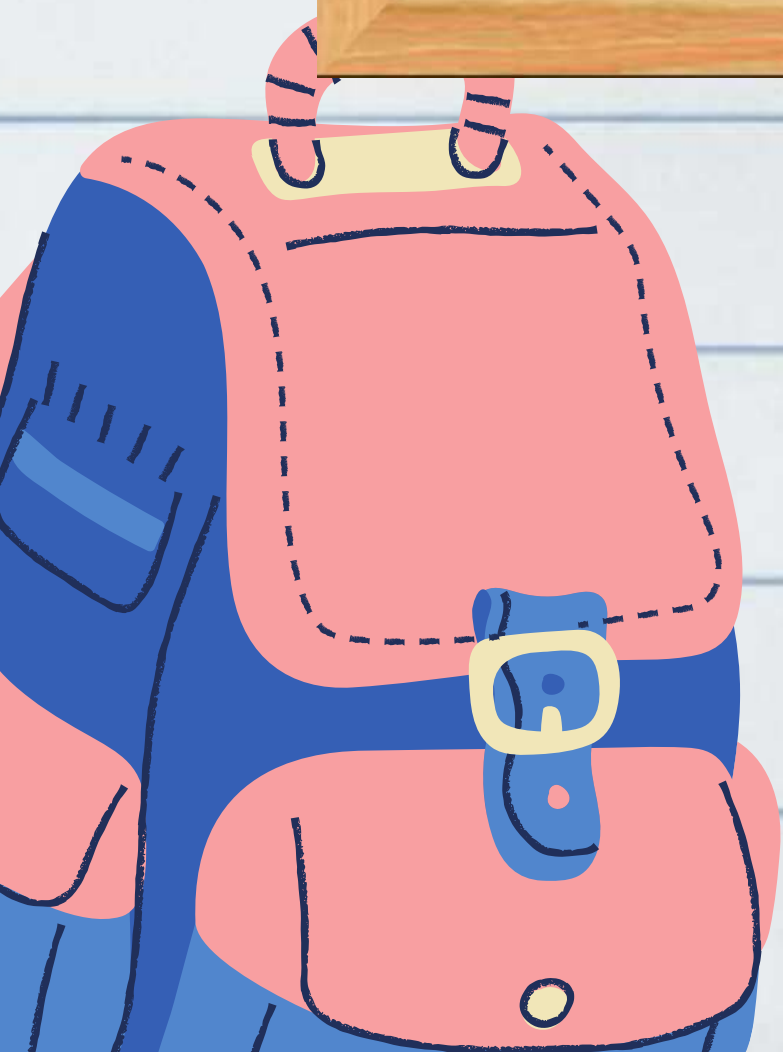
# ***YEAR 13***

## ***PARENT INFORMATION EVENING***

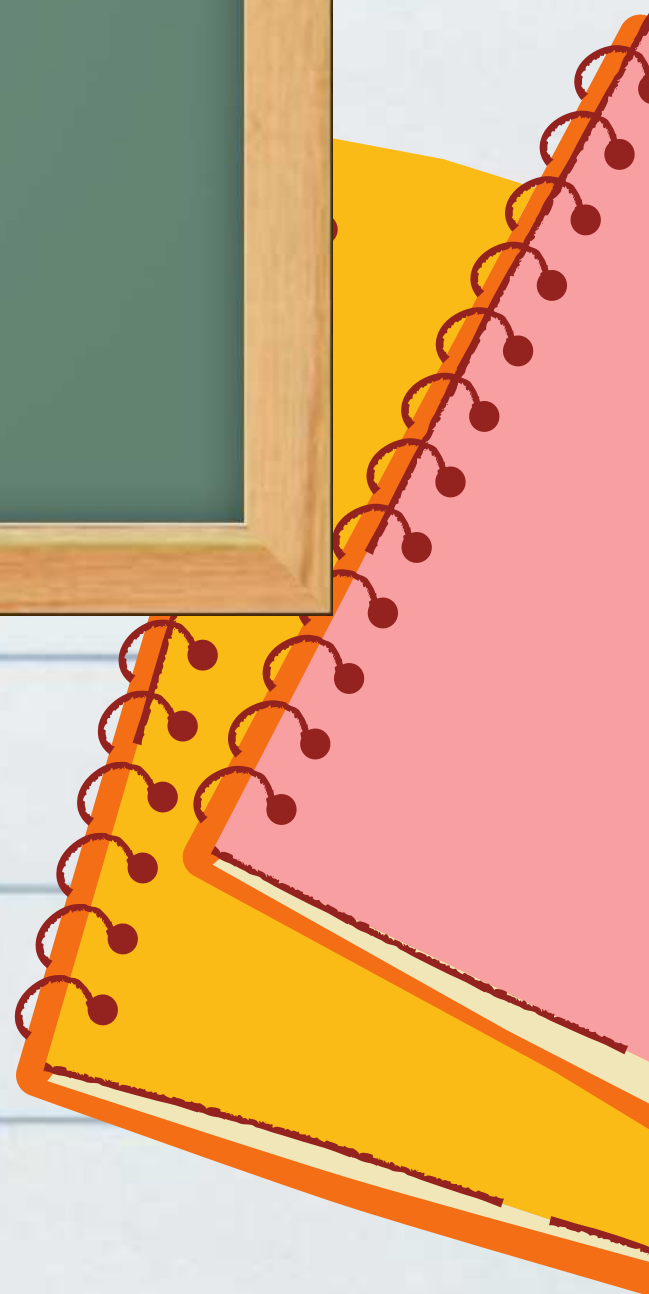


**Tuesday 12th September**  
**5.30-7.00pm**  
**Secondary School**  
**Presentation Hall**

***University Application***  
***Timeline***  
***Mock Examinations***  
***IA Deadlines***  
***Core Points***  
***DP Retreat***  
***Well-being***  
***Sport***



**RSVP:**  
**[https://forms.office.co](https://forms.office.com/r/VyACTpVAiE)**  
**[m/r/VyACTpVAiE](https://forms.office.com/r/VyACTpVAiE)**





AIR



EMIRATES  
HILLS



EMIRATES  
HILLS

WATER



# DIA SPIRIT Day



YEARS  
7-13

15TH SEPTEMBER

THE ACTIVITIES WILL BE SENT TO YOUR  
HOMEROOM TEACHER AND DONE IN YOUR  
CLASSES, ALL ACTIVITIES ARE DURING THE  
LAST TWO LESSONS

ICE CREAM TRUCK WILL BE  
AVAILABLE SO BRING MONEY

WEAR YOUR HOUSE COLORS  
TO SHOW SUPPORT

RAISE YOUR  
VOICES AND RAISE  
YOUR SPIRITS ON  
SPIRIT DAY!



LET'S CREATE  
MEMORIES  
TOGETHER!

LOOK OUT FOR THE HOUSE TEAM  
WHICH WILL BE GOING AROUND  
THE SCHOOL!



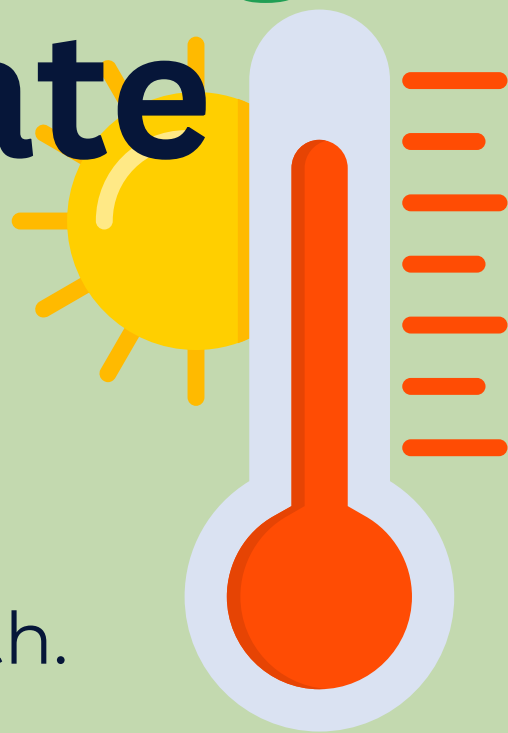
EARTH

FIRE



# Teaching & Learning Learning Environment & Climate

The learning environment and climate significantly impact students' engagement, motivation, academic achievement, social-emotional development, psychological well-being, and creativity. By creating a positive and supportive learning environment, educators can enhance the overall educational experience and facilitate students' holistic growth.



## Student engagement and motivation

A positive learning climate encourages active student engagement and motivation. When students feel safe, respected and supported, they are more likely to participate in class activities, ask questions, and take risks in their learning. A conducive learning environment fosters a sense of belonging, which enhances students' intrinsic motivation to learn and succeed.

## Academic achievement

When the learning environment is supportive, students are more likely to focus on their studies and achieve higher academic outcomes. A well-structured and organised class with clear expectations helps students understand what is expected of them and how they can succeed. Additionally, a positive learning climate that promotes collaboration and teamwork can enhance peer learning and improve overall academic achievement.

## Social-emotional development

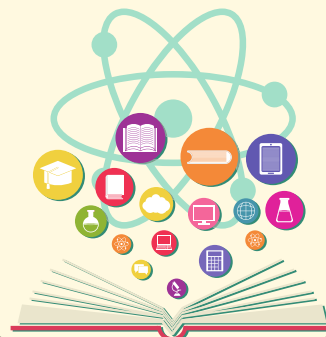
The learning environment plays a significant role in nurturing students' social-emotional development. When schools prioritize creating a positive climate, it allows students to develop healthy relationships with their peers and teachers. This fosters empathy, emotional intelligence, and social skills, which are essential for students' personal growth and future success in various aspects of life.

## Psychological well-being

A supportive learning environment contributes to students' psychological well-being. When students feel respected and valued by their teachers and peers, they are more likely to experience lower levels of stress, anxiety, and depression. Supportive classroom environments also provide a safe space for students to express themselves, seek help when needed, and build resilience.

## Creativity and critical thinking

A positive learning climate encourages creativity and critical thinking. When students feel comfortable expressing their ideas and opinions without fear of being judged or ridiculed, they are more likely to think critically, explore different perspectives, and engage in meaningful discussions. A learning environment that promotes creativity and critical thinking helps students develop essential skills for problem-solving and innovation.





# Lower MYP: Years 7, 8 & 9



There's been much excitement around the campus! Our Year 7 students are quickly discovering about life in the Secondary School and have shown fantastic engagement in their lessons. Amongst a host of activities, they have enjoyed learning about scientific apparatus and are designing templates to cut out of wood in Product Design.



Meanwhile, our Year 8s and Year 9s have smoothly transitioned into their new year levels. This week, they have completed diagnostic formative assessments, took part in sports trials and met their new teachers, sometimes in brand new subjects such as Media Arts for our Year 9s.



It has also been a pleasure meeting many of you in our Parents' Information Mornings. We hope you have found the sessions helpful and have been able to access the slides which were sent out via iSAMS by Mrs. Susan McMechan after the events.





# *Pastoral & Wellbeing*

## Friendship Ambassador Programme 2023/24

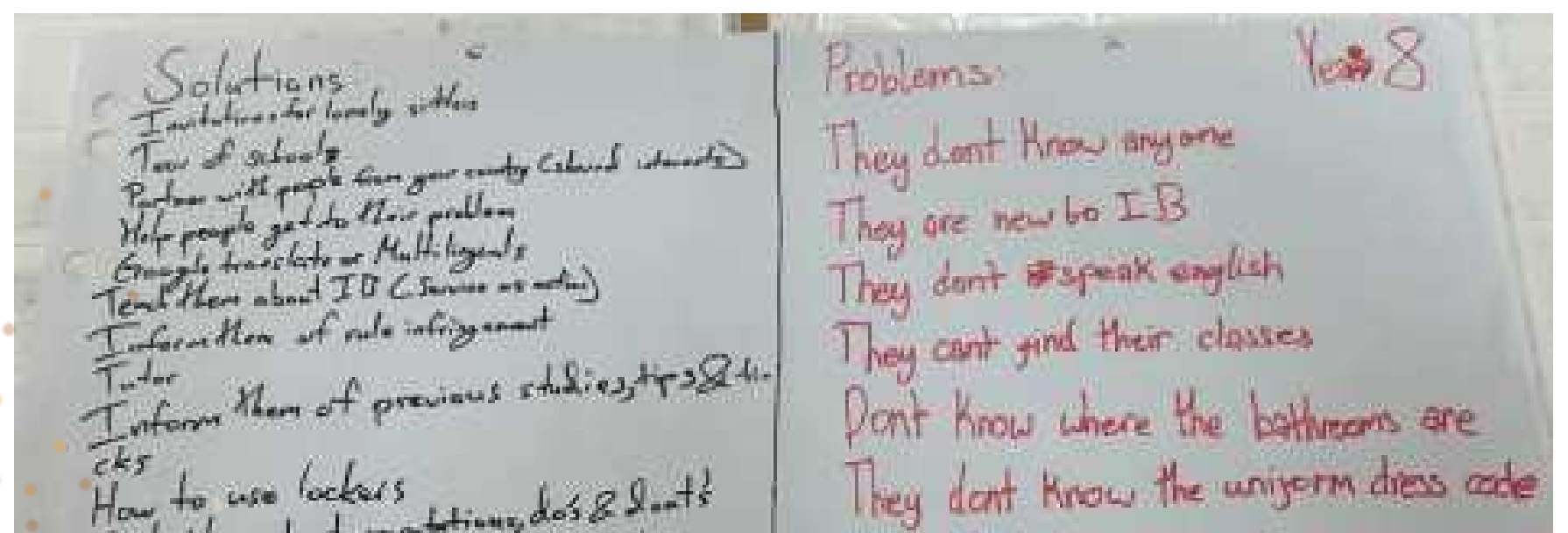
This week saw the commencement of the Friendship Ambassador Programme 2023/24.

We were all new to school at some point. New surroundings, new faces, new friends, new teachers, new rules. With over 90 new students joining DIA Emirates Hills this year, the Friendship Ambassador programme pairs new students up with one or more students from their Homeroom and / or Year group. This eases the transition into a new school and gives new students some familiar faces to look out for.

On Monday 4th September the Friendship Ambassadors for 2023/24 were trained up while having discussions with staff and their peers about how to be most helpful for the new students this year.



On Wednesday 6th September the Year 7 & 8's and on Thursday 7th September the Year 9, 10, and 11's Friendship Ambassadors and new students had a lunch in the school Presentation Hall where they enjoyed some food provided by the school while having discussions with their peers and staff, Mr Daniel Murphy, Mr Colin Leacy, Ms Saira Cherian, and Mr Stewart Pinkerton. There were also some interesting team challenges that included lots of newspaper and sellotape.





# INCLUSION COFFEE MORNING

## Session Highlights:

- DIA-EH Inclusion Provision
- Insights into the Teenage Brain
- Routines and Rituals

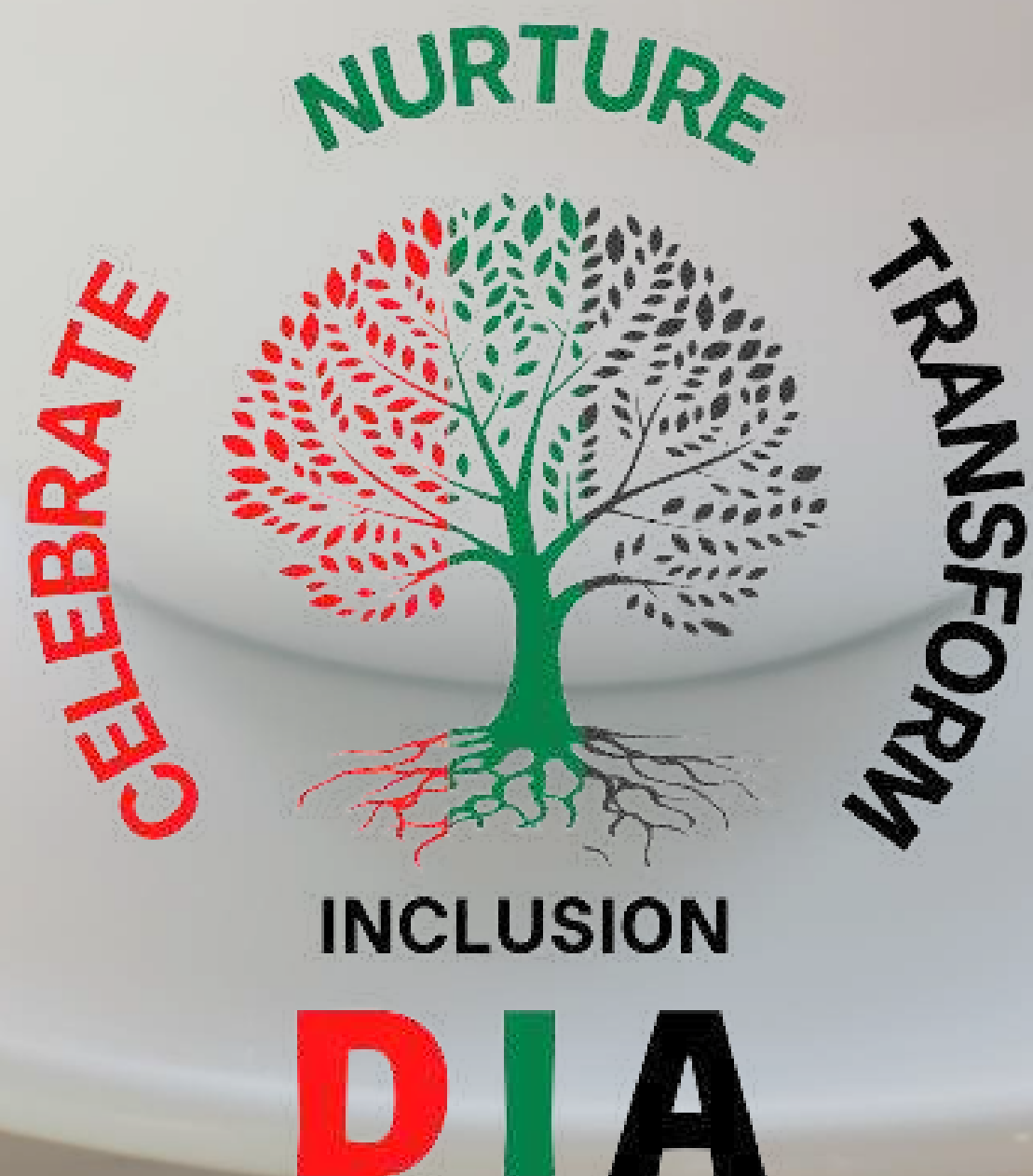
**Date: 22nd Sep 2023**

**Time: 8-9**

**Venue: Presentation Hall**

**RSVP Registration:**

**<https://forms.office.com/r/ReXArTceRr>**







# Stewart Pinkerton

## Career & College Counselling

My focus here at DIA - Emirates Hills is career exploration and college readiness. Collaborating with my fellow Counsellors, I engage Year 10 and 11 students, helping them discover their strengths, interests, and potential pathways for future studies and careers. As they transition to their final years of secondary education, we delve into the world of work, uncovering employment trends, and honing essential skills. By the time they reach our esteemed DP and CP programs, they'll be ahead of the curve, ready to thrive in life and learning beyond high school.



- Know yourself & your strengths
- Know the world around you
- Know your goals and the path to achieve them



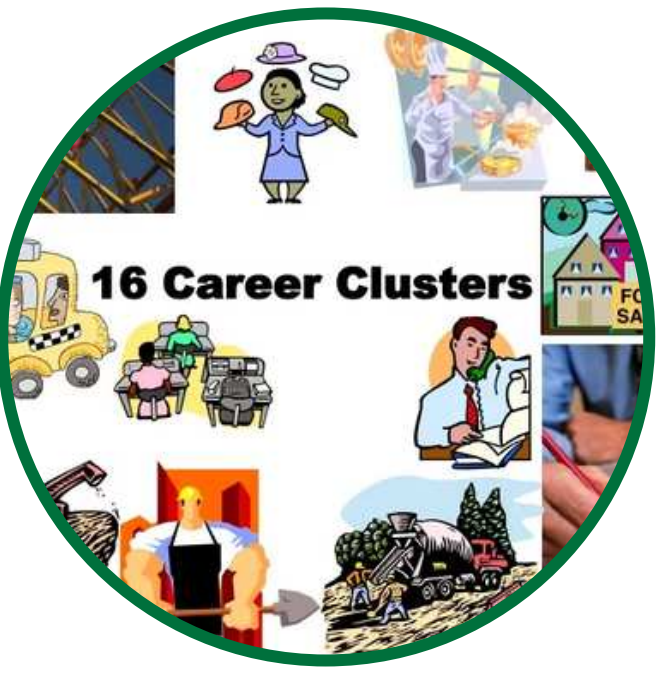
Here are some topics we'll be diving into during our careers and college counseling sessions:

- 🌟 Career readiness
- 🏭 Industry trends and knowledge
- 🎓 College readiness
- 💪 Life skills and personal strengths
- 📅 Timelines (university deadlines, CAS hours, 4-Year Plan, and more)
- 📝 Standardized testing insights
- 📄 Crafting CVs, interview practice, online profiles, and smart social media use
- 🗣️ Navigating major year transitions and subject choices (DP and CP)
- ⌚ Mastering organization, time management, and resilience
- 😊 Handling motivation and pressure with grace

But that's not all! Our younger students are in for an exciting journey too. Year 8 and 9 students will explore success, set goals, and even craft their own electronic portfolios. Even our energetic Year 7 students will receive support to ensure a smooth transition to MYP and beyond.

Meet the Team





# Stewart Pinkerton

## Career & College Counselling

I'm here for students and parents, available during breaks, lunchtimes, and after school.

Email: [stewartp@diaduba.com](mailto:stewartp@diaduba.com)

Phone: 043684111

Appointment: Click Here (link to <https://appt.link/pinkerton-meeting>)

Already looking for helpful resources? Check out our wealth of Counseling materials **HERE** (link to Padlet: <https://padlet.com/stewpinkerton/careers-college-planning-resources-ecopepci5d53eexo>)



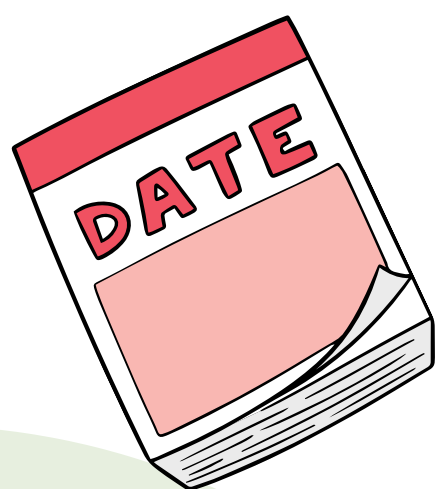
### A Little About Me...

I'm a proud father of three, a devoted husband for 31 years (applause, please!), and a certified School Counselor from the USA. I've worn many hats, including roles in engineering, insurance, and education. This diverse journey has taught me to embrace change and leverage my skills to the fullest. Over the past 12 years, I've had the honor of guiding students and families across various international and American schools. The most rewarding part? Forging close bonds with families and fostering unique opportunities for our incredible students.

Wishing you a fantastic year ahead - Mr. Pinkerton

### Upcoming Counseling Dates and Events:

- 14th September: Year 12 University Information Evening (5:30 - 7:00pm) in the Presentation Hall
- 2nd October: Year 9 MYP to DP/CP Awareness Coffee Morning (7:45 - 9:00am) in the Presentation Hall
- 4th October: Year 11 & 12 Study in UK and Europe Coffee Morning (9:00 - 10:00am) in the Presentation Hall
- 11th October: Year 11 & 12 College Counsellor Coffee Morning (9:00 - 10:00am) in the Presentation Hall
- 13th October: Year 11 - PSAT Exam (morning) in the PE Hall
- 18th October: (repeat) Year 11 & 12 College Counsellor Coffee Morning (9:00 - 10:00am) in the Pres. Hall



Meet the Team



# DIA CAREER COLLEGE Padlet Website

[https://padlet.com/stewpinkerton/  
ecopepci5d53eexo](https://padlet.com/stewpinkerton/ecopepci5d53eexo)

Resource  
Topic

Updated  
with New  
Resources

Stewart Pinkerton + 1 • 22m

## Careers & College Planning Resources

Disclaimer: Please verify the resources shared here. Every attempt is made to keep the items up-to-date.

### Independent Learning Experiences

Updated May 29, 2023

Online Research with College Professors

**Pioneer academics**

pioneeracademics.com

Pioneer Academics - The world's only online research program with US college credit for high school students

edX - Online Learning

### COLLEGE PREPARATION

Updated May 29, 2023

CampusTours - Interactive Virtual Tours & Maps

campustours.com

CampusTours - Interactive Virtual Tours and Campus Maps

YouVisit - College Tours Online

youvisit.com

Virtual College Tours, Virtual Reality Education

### SAT / ACT / PSAT / UK College Testing

UK Admissions Tests - Medicine/Law/OxBridge

ucas.com

Admissions tests

SAT Goes Online!

satsuite.collegeboard.org

Digital SAT

SAT - College Entrance Test

satsuite.collegeboard.org

### JOBS, CAREERS + INTERNSHIPS

UAE - Internships

internships.moe.gov.ae

Job Search Results - The Internship Portal

Planit Career Resources

planitplus.net

### FINANCIAL AID & Scholarship Search + Information

Updated May 29, 2023

Low Cost Colleges in USA

Rank	College	Cost	Location
21	CUNY Baruch College	\$4,119	New York, NY
26	Austin Community College District	\$4,194	Austin, TX
28	CUNY Brooklyn College	\$4,211	Brooklyn, NY

Check out #4 and #27 - great education at a low price.  
Link [HERE](#)

CSS Profile

cssprofile.collegeboard.org

CSS Profile

An online application for finances used by colleges and scholarship programs to award non-federal institutional aid

CareerOneStop Scholarships

Scroll Down  
Links & Info

Useful topics  
for **ALL YEAR-GROUPS**  
(YR7 - YR13)

Make your own suggestions  
for **RESOURCE TOPICS!**

**OR SHARE WITH US THE  
RESOURCES YOU HAVE USED!**

SCAN FOR THE  
PADLET LINK:





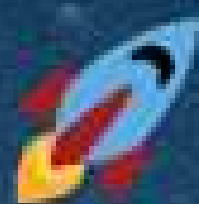
# ***cubesat challenge***

**WORK WITH ASTRONAUTS & BUILD A SATELLITE!**

***"SPACES ARE LIMITED, BOOK NOW TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT"***

- LEARN WITH **ASTRONAUTS**
- OCTOBER 17-21 at DIA AL BARSHA
- FOR STUDENTS AGED 12-15
- EXCLUSIVE 5-DAY SPACE & STEM PROGRAM
- DESIGN & PROGRAM YOUR OWN SATELLITE WITH NASA SCIENTISTS & EXPERT EDUCATORS
- LEARN STEM & TEAM WORKING SKILLS

**SIGN UP TODAY!**



**CUBESAT CHALLENGE  
PROGRAM AMBASSADOR,  
NASA ASTRONAUT  
STEVEN SMITH**

An incredible group of astronauts, professional scientists and educators has been assembled to provide this first-of-its-kind educational experience where participants actually build a satellite!





# **HMCSF YOUNG LEADERSHIP PROGRAM** **BY** **HARVARD MODEL CONGRESS** **SAN FRANCISCO**

**HOSTED BY**  **innoventures**  
education

A unique and intensive 3-Day Program on  
Leadership and Creating Future Change-makers

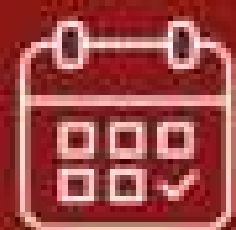
## **PROGRAM DETAILS**



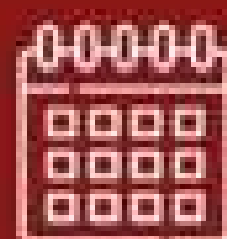
In-person at Dubai  
International Academy,  
Emirates Hills



Program Fee: AED 1,575



29th September - 1st  
October, 2023



3 Days



Grade Level: 8 - 12



Students earn certificate  
from Harvard Model  
Congress San Francisco



# DIRECTOR OF SPORT & PHE MESSAGE



## #TeamWork



[@diadubaisport](https://www.instagram.com/diadubaisport)



[@DIA\\_Sports](https://twitter.com/DIA_Sports)



[@diadubaisport](https://www.facebook.com/diadubaisport)

## Sport at DIA

Dear Parents and Students,

I wanted to take a moment to wish everyone a successful and exciting sporting season.

Our school's sports programmes have always been a source of pride for the entire school community, not just the dedicated players. We achieve greatness on and off the pitch because of your passion, devotion, and unrelenting support.

I urge all of our students to actively participate in the variety of sporting activities that we provide throughout the year. Whether you're an experienced athlete or just getting started, there's a place for you in our sports community. Sports offer us important life lessons, build teamwork, discipline, and resilience, and improve our physical and mental health.

To our parents, your support is invaluable. Whether you're cheering from the sidelines, offering your time, or simply being present to encourage your children, your participation makes a major difference in their sports path. We ask you to join us in the stands and on the sidelines, where we can foster an atmosphere of excitement and unity that will motivate our teams to achieve new heights.

Let's make this sporting season unforgettable by giving it our best, whether we're on the pitch or on the sidelines. Together, we can achieve greatness and celebrate the tiny and large triumphs that will come our way.

Here's to another year of sportsmanship, togetherness, and achievement!

Yours in Sport, Mr Mihail Kouzev



## Passion for Sport

[www.diadubaisport.com](http://www.diadubaisport.com)





# DIA SECONDARY SPORT



***We are indeed very proud of our sports programmes, community, and culture at DIA!***

## ***Sport at DIA***

Sport isn't just about competition; it's a journey of self-discovery, discipline, and friendship. Every athlete, regardless of skill level, is nurtured to surpass their personal best, teaching them resilience and the spirit of perseverance. Our coaches instil values that transcend the playing field, shaping champions of character and integrity. Unity in diversity defines our teams, where athletes from varied backgrounds come together, forging bonds that last a lifetime. In the heart of DIA EH, sport is more than a game; it's a life lesson, a passion, and a commitment to excellence while promoting inclusion.



**@diadubaisport**



**@DIA\_Sports**

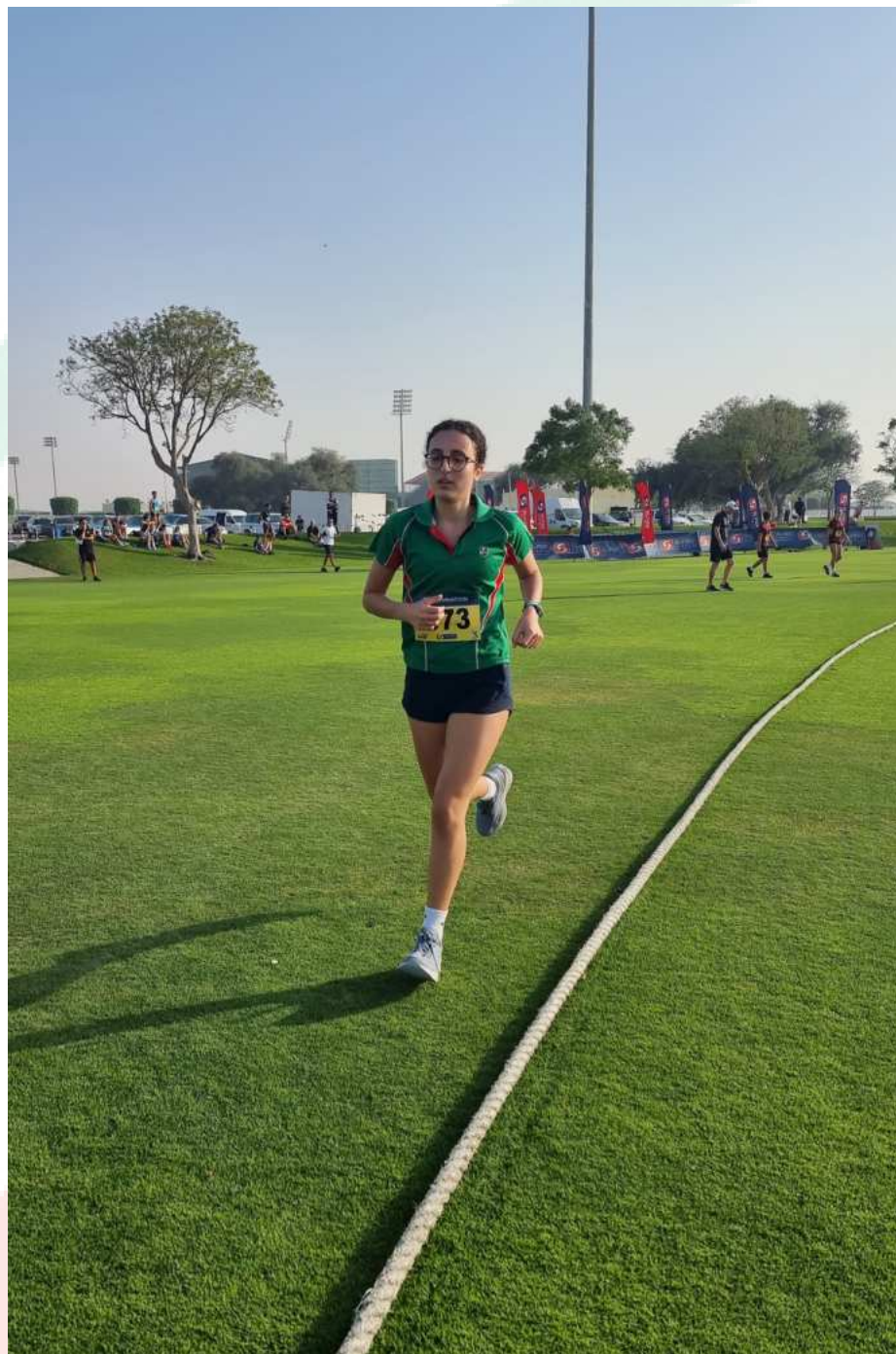


**@diadubaisport**

***Passion for Sport***

**[www.diadubaisport.com](http://www.diadubaisport.com)**





## Leagues and Competition

We participate in premier interschool competitions on both the national and international stages. Previously, we've been recognised as one of Dubai's top three sports schools and youth development programmes, and ranked top in the World Sports Games' and the best sports schools category.

Additionally, we've garnered multiple individual and team awards, gaining recognition across various sports on both national and international sports platforms.

## Providing Opportunities



Participation in sports is not just a physical endeavour but a transformative experience for our young students. It goes beyond boosting physical and mental growth; it motivates, nurtures, enhances self-esteem, and creates bonds that empower. Through sports, students cultivate a positive mindset and acquire skills that benefit them throughout their lives.

At our programmes, every student receives an opportunity not just to excel in sports but also to nurture their holistic well-being, spanning their social, emotional, physical, moral, and mental facets.

The true essence of sports shines through values like sportsmanship, respect, care, teamwork, discipline, responsibility, self-confidence, and accountability. These core values, which we deeply cherish, are seamlessly woven into the fabric of Dubai International Academy's curriculum and philosophy.

The passion and active involvement of students, teachers, and parents in sporting activities enrich the lives of DIA students and foster a robust school community.

GO WOLVES!







# Training schedule - Term 1

## FOOTBALL

### • Mondays

- U13 Boys at 6:20am - 7:20am
- U14 Boys at 6:20am - 7:20am
- U12 Girls at 6:20am - 7:20am
- U12 Boys "A" & "B" at 3:10pm - 4:10pm
- U13 Girls at 3:10pm - 4:10pm
- U14 Girls at 3:10pm - 4:10pm

### • Tuesdays

- U19 Boys at 6:20am - 7:20am
- U16 & U19 Girls at 6:20am - 7:20am
- U13 Girls at 3:10pm - 4:10pm
- U14 Girls at 3:10pm - 4:10pm
- U16 Boys "A" at 3:10pm - 4:10pm

### • Wednesdays

- U12 Girls at 6:20am - 7:20am
- U13 Boys at 6:20am - 7:20am
- U16 Boys "B" at 6:20am - 7:20am

### • Thursdays

- U19 Boys at 6:20am - 7:20am
- U16 Boys "A" at 6:20am - 7:20am
- U16 & U19 Girls at 6:20am - 7:20am
- U16 Boys "B" at 3:10pm - 4:10pm

### • Fridays

- U12 Boys "A" & "B" at 6:20am - 7:20am
- U14 Boys at 6:20am - 7:20am

## GAME EVENINGS

- Mondays - U16 Boys & Girls
- Tuesdays - U12 Boys & Girls
- Wednesdays - U19 Boys & Girls
- Thursdays - U13 & U14 Boys & Girls



in Football field







# Training schedule - Term 1

## BASKETBALL

- **Mondays**

- U16 Boys at 6:20am - 7:20am
- U16 Girls at 3:10pm - 4:10pm

- **Tuesdays**

- U16 Boys "B" at 6:20am - 7:20am
- U19 Boys at 3:10pm - 4:10pm

- **Wednesdays**

- U19 Girls at 6:20am - 7:20am
- U16 Boys "A" at 3:10pm - 4:10pm

- **Thursdays**

- U16 & U19 Girls at 3:10pm - 4:10pm

- **Friday**

- U19 Boys at 6:20am - 7:20am

## GAME EVENINGS

- Mondays - U19 Boys
- Tuesdays - U19 Girls
- Wednesdays - U16 Girls
- Thursdays - U16 Boys



\*Main PE Hall

## CROSS COUNTRY & AQUATHLON

- **Tuesdays**

- U13 to U19 at 6:20am - 7:20am

- **Wednesdays**

- U13 to U19 at 6:20am - 7:20am

\*Aquathlon athletes can join in swimming and Cross Country sessions

\*Main Field







# Training schedule - Term 1

## SWIMMING

- **Mondays**

- U13 to U19 at 3:10pm - 4:10pm

- **Tuesdays**

- U13 to U19 at 6:20am - 7:20am

- **Wednesdays**

- U13 to U19 at 3:10pm - 4:10pm

\*Aquathlon athletes can join in swimming and Cross Country sessions

\*Main Swimming Pool



## WATER POLO

- **Thursday 7 September 2023**

- U19 Boys at 6:20am - 7:20am

\*Main Swimming Pool



## CRICKET

- **Mondays**

- U19 Boys at 6:20am - 7:20am

- U15 Boys at 3:10pm - 4:10pm

- **Tuesdays**

- U19 Boys at 6:20am - 7:20am

- U15 Boys at 3:10pm - 4:10pm

- **Thursdays**

- U13 Boys at 6:20am - 7:20am

- U19 Boys at 3:10pm - 4:10pm

\*Cricket Nets

## GAME EVENINGS

- Tuesdays - U16 Boys

- Fridays - U19 Boys







# Coaches

## FOOTBALL

- Coach Lisa Hynes U12 Girls
- Coach Paul McCabe U12 Boys "A"
- Coach Ateeb Mohammed U12 Boys "B"
- Coach Jay Thomas U13 Boys
- Coach Glen Patrick Doyle U14 Boys "A"
- Coach Joe Sidebottom U13 Girls
- Coach Shannon Meehan U14 Girls
- Coach Susan Maria McMechan U16 & U19 Girls
- Coach Glen Patrick Doyle U16 Boys "A"
- Coach Jamie Denis O'Sullivan U16 Boys "B"
- Coach Joe Sidebottom U19 Boys

## SWIMMING

- Coach Donna Campbell
- Coach Niccy Rodeman
- Coach Lewis Hague

## CROSS COUNTRY

- Coach Mihail Kouzev

## BASKETBALL

- Coach Fiona Turnbull U16 Girls
- Coach John Aboaja U16 Boys
- Coach Lea Jean Chavez U19 Girls
- Coach Mihail Kouzev U19 Boys

## WATER POLO

- Coach Mihail Kouzev

## CRICKET

- Coach Mahesh Kumar U13 Boys
- Coach Mahesh Kumar U15 Boys
- Coach Hitesh Bhagat U19 Boys

## AQUATHLON

- Coach Mihail Kouzev

Contact: Mr Mihail Kouzev Director of Sport & PHE Email: [mihailk@diadubai.com](mailto:mihailk@diadubai.com)



# CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



Dear Secondary School Students and Parents,

Our Co-Curricular Activities (CCA) programme offers a broad range of activities that cater to diverse interests, ensuring every student has the opportunity to engage, learn, and grow outside the regular classroom setting.

Here are the key dates for this Term 1:

- Start of Term 1 CCAs: Monday 11 September 2023
- End of Term 1 CCAs: Friday 8 December 2023

CCAs list here:

<https://apps.innoventureseducation.com/diaeh/cca/ss/>

\*you can contact the teachers directly for more information

Additionally, for those interested in exploring more, we have Paid Co-Curricular programme . For a sneak peek into the contacts of our sports clubs and academy partners that operate on our campus after school hours, you can visit the link provided here:

<https://www.diadubai.com/learning/paid-co-curricular-activities> .

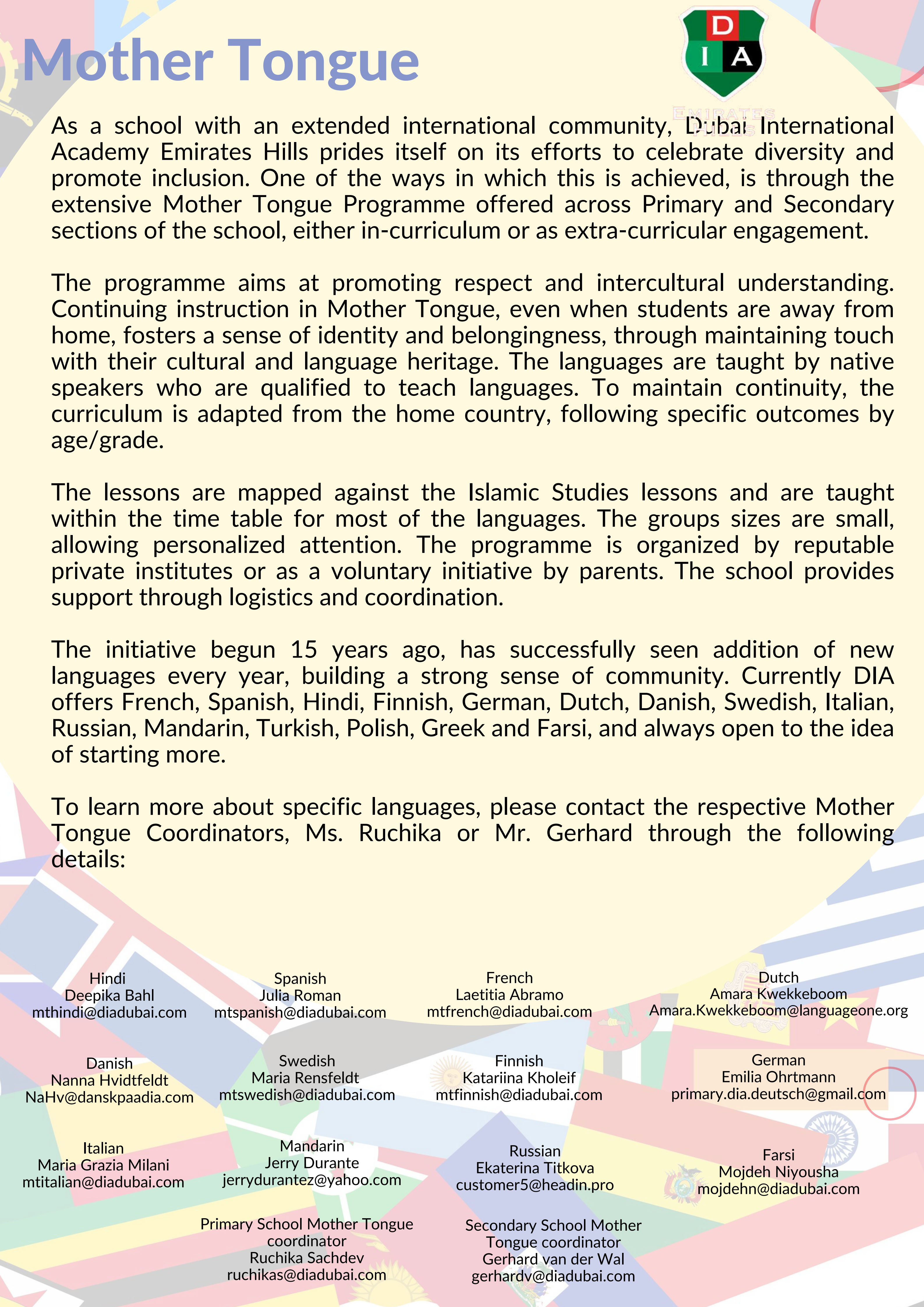
Should you have any questions regarding their programmes, please reach out to them directly.

We encourage all our students to take advantage of this diverse offering and sign-up for the activities that resonate with them. These opportunities are more than just Co-Curricular; they're platforms for self-expression, skill-building, and friendship.

Looking forward to an action-packed Term 1 filled with new learnings and memories!







# Mother Tongue

As a school with an extended international community, Dubai International Academy Emirates Hills prides itself on its efforts to celebrate diversity and promote inclusion. One of the ways in which this is achieved, is through the extensive Mother Tongue Programme offered across Primary and Secondary sections of the school, either in-curriculum or as extra-curricular engagement.

The programme aims at promoting respect and intercultural understanding. Continuing instruction in Mother Tongue, even when students are away from home, fosters a sense of identity and belongingness, through maintaining touch with their cultural and language heritage. The languages are taught by native speakers who are qualified to teach languages. To maintain continuity, the curriculum is adapted from the home country, following specific outcomes by age/grade.

The lessons are mapped against the Islamic Studies lessons and are taught within the time table for most of the languages. The groups sizes are small, allowing personalized attention. The programme is organized by reputable private institutes or as a voluntary initiative by parents. The school provides support through logistics and coordination.

The initiative begun 15 years ago, has successfully seen addition of new languages every year, building a strong sense of community. Currently DIA offers French, Spanish, Hindi, Finnish, German, Dutch, Danish, Swedish, Italian, Russian, Mandarin, Turkish, Polish, Greek and Farsi, and always open to the idea of starting more.

To learn more about specific languages, please contact the respective Mother Tongue Coordinators, Ms. Ruchika or Mr. Gerhard through the following details:

<b>Hindi</b> Deepika Bahl mthindi@diadubai.com	<b>Spanish</b> Julia Roman mtspanish@diadubai.com	<b>French</b> Laetitia Abramo mtfrench@diadubai.com	<b>Dutch</b> Amara Kwekkeboom Amara.Kwekkeboom@languageone.org
<b>Danish</b> Nanna Hvidtfeldt NaHv@danskpaadia.com	<b>Swedish</b> Maria Rensfeldt mtswedish@diadubai.com	<b>Finnish</b> Katariina Kholeif mtfinnish@diadubai.com	<b>German</b> Emilia Ohrtmann primary.dia.deutsch@gmail.com
<b>Italian</b> Maria Grazia Milani mtitalian@diadubai.com	<b>Mandarin</b> Jerry Durante jerrydurantez@yahoo.com	<b>Russian</b> Ekaterina Titkova customer5@headin.pro	<b>Farsi</b> Mojdeh Niyousha mojdehn@diadubai.com
<b>Primary School Mother Tongue coordinator</b> Ruchika Sachdev ruchikas@diadubai.com		<b>Secondary School Mother Tongue coordinator</b> Gerhard van der Wal gerhardv@diadubai.com	



# HINDI MOTHERTONGUE PROGRAM

DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY  
EMIRATES HILLS



## Program

Hindi MT program is an initiative aimed at connecting children back to their roots by teaching them language and aspects related to India. Knowing that every state in India speaks a different language, the program is tailored for children of Indian origin and prior knowledge of Hindi is not a prerequisite.

## More Information

✉ Deepika Bahl  
[mthindi@diadubai.com](mailto:mthindi@diadubai.com)







# **MOTHER TONGUE ITALIAN-DIA**



**Imparo a comunicare nella mia lingua madre**



**Condivido con i  
compagni di classe  
la cultura e le  
festività italiane**

**Imparo a leggere, a comprendere testi e a  
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**Per maggiori informazioni:  
[mtitalian@diadubai.com](mailto:mtitalian@diadubai.com)**

**Faccio nuove amicizie**





德

HEKMAT AL SHARQ EDUCATION CENTER



DUBAI  
INTERNATIONAL  
ACADEMY  
Emirates Hills

# OPEN FOR ADMISSION

2023-2024

## ABOUT US

HEKMAT AL SHARQ EDUCATION was established in 2018 and has built an excellent reputation within the local Chinese community. We have successfully nurtured over 200 students of various ages and proficiency levels.

In the upcoming 2023-2024 academic year, our current students will be preparing for the HSK exam, demonstrating their progress and language skills.

## OUR COURES

- YCT(1) Mandarin Enrollment Year 1-2 Students
- YCT(2) Mandarin Enrollment Year 2-3 Students
- YCT(3) Mandarin Enrollment Year 3-4 Students
- YCT(4) Mandarin Enrollment Year 4-5 Students

(2023-2024) Join our Mother Tongue Class and embark on your journey with:

- Chinese in Grade 1
- Chinese in Grade 2
- Chinese in Grade 3

### Locations:

1. Dubai International Academy- Emirates Hills
2. Office 104, Icon Tower, BarshaHeights.

## CONTACT US

WHATSAPP: +971 52 602 8869

EMAIL: HEKMATALSHARQEC2022@GMAIL.COM



DIA Mother Tongue Department proudly  
announces



کلاس آموزش زبان فارسی

# Persian Language CCA

*Are you of Persian descent and  
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**Studying Persian opens the door to  
understanding Persian literature, art, music,  
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significant impact on world history and culture.**

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1. Beginner Level: For students with little or no previous exposure to Persian language and culture. Students will learn basic vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation.
2. Intermediate Level: For students with some knowledge of Persian language and culture. Students will build on their existing knowledge to expand their vocabulary, improve their pronunciation, and develop their language skills.
3. Advanced Level: For students who are proficient in Persian language and culture. Students will refine their language skills, engage in more complex conversations, and explore advanced grammar and literature.

For more information, contact **Ms. Mojdeh Niyousha**  
**[mojdehn@diadubai.com](mailto:mojdehn@diadubai.com)**



# SPANISH MOTHER TONGUE

MTSpanish@diadubai.com



Aprende tu  
lengua  
materna

**HOLA**

Forma parte  
de la  
comunidad  
hispana de  
DIA



Comparte y  
aprende la  
cultura de  
nuestros países



¿Quieres más  
información?

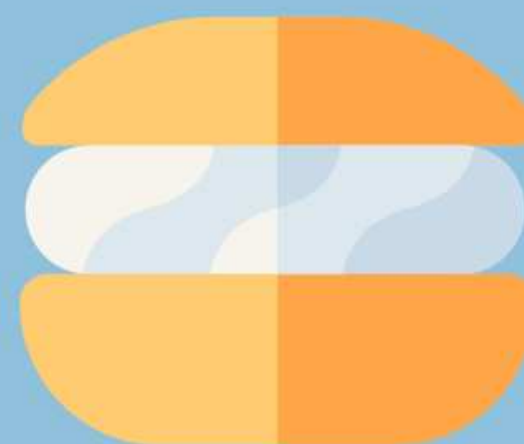
Escribenos a nuestro  
correo o ven a vernos a  
PS047



¡Es una oportunidad  
única aprender tu  
lengua materna  
durante el horario  
escolar!



**Välkommen till oss på svenskan! Vi uppmärksammar alla stora svenska högtider och traditioner.**



# SWEDISH MOTHER TONGUE

**Vi lär oss om Sveriges natur och kultur, studerar språkets uppbyggnad, och vi läser mycket.**

**Vi erbjuder undervisning från årskurs 1 till 11. Välkoma att höra av er till vår lärare Maria Rensfeldt på mail:**

**[mtswedish@diadubai.com](mailto:mtswedish@diadubai.com)**

Hvis du gerne vil vide mere, er du velkommen til at kontakte os:

 [bestyrelsen@danskpaadia.com](mailto:bestyrelsen@danskpaadia.com)



DANSK PAA DIA



## DANISH MOTHER TOUNGE

Dansk på DIA startede for over 10 år siden af en gruppe danske forældre på skolen. De syntes, at det var vigtigt, at deres børn lærte godt dansk, selvom de boede i udlandet

Modersmålsundervisning er danskundervisning for børn, der allerede taler og forstår dansk. Vores tilbud er således ikke dansk for begyndere eller dansk som andetsprog. Eleverne skal som udgangspunkt have sproglige kundskaber, der er på - eller tæt på - modersmålsniveau, for at kunne deltage i undervisningen. Vi har dog ingen krav til danskniveauet for KG-elever,

VI  
TILBYDER  
DANSK TIL  
ALLE ALDRE

KG2

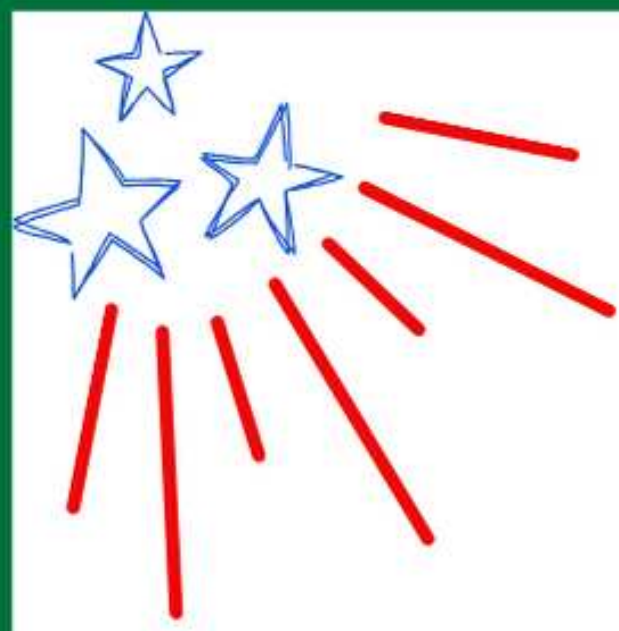
PRIMARY

SECONDARY

DIPLOMA



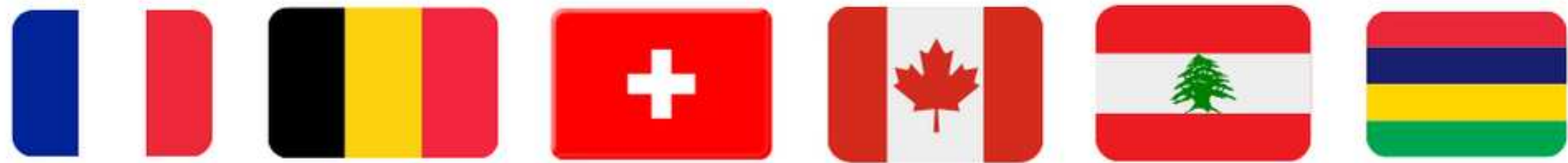




# LE PROGRAMME DE FRANCAIS LANGUE MATERNELLE A



**Dedicated to  
French Native speakers**



Notre programme s'adresse aux élèves  
de **KG2 à year 11**

dont le français est une des langues  
utilisées à la maison.

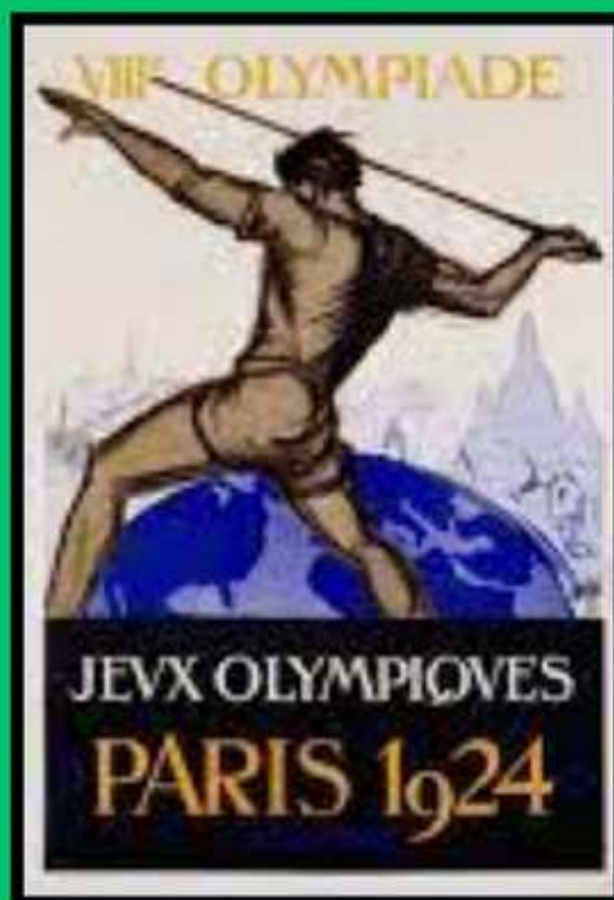


Nos élèves grandissent dans leur langue et culture.

Nous suivons le programme  
de l'éducation nationale français.

Pour nous rejoindre : rien de plus simple :

**Contactez-nous !**



**CETTE ANNÉE :**

**LES JEUX OLYMPIQUES  
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**WE CELEBRATE THIS YEAR THE  
OLYMPIC GAMES PARIS 2024 !**



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Classe:  
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Contact :  
dia.francais@gmail.com

Whatsapp :  
(971) 56 101 5629





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[amara.kwekkeboom@languageone.org](mailto:amara.kwekkeboom@languageone.org)





2022-2023

# Who should I contact?

*A guide to help streamline Year 7 communication.*

REASON TO CONTACT	STAFF NAME / TITLE	EMAIL
Absence, late, or leave early.	Evelyn Pakatan	sssecretary@diadubai.com
Bus transportation, travel, canteen/meals. or facilities.	Kevin Johnson	kevink@diadubai.com
PHE, competitive sport, CCAs, or an after-school club.	Mihail Kouzev	mihailk@diadubai.com
School uniform concerns.	Shannon Meehan	shannonm@diadubai.com
The Middle Years Programme.	Ruba Jeshi	rubaj@diadubai.com
Lack of detail/clarity regarding a school event.	Shannon Meehan	shannonm@diadubai.com
I want to contact a teacher of a specific subject.	Identify your child's subject teacher on his/her timetable.	first name + first letter of surname @diadubai.com
Inclusion / EAL / Alpha	Asha Karam	ashak@diadubai.com
Assessment questions, including standardized tests.	Susan McMechan	susanm@diadubai.com
University / Careers Counselling.	Stewart Pinkerton	stewartp@diadubai.com
My child's physical, social, or emotional wellbeing.	Shannon Meehan	shannonm@diadubai.com
Transition from Year 6 - Year 7	Shannon Meehan	shannonm@diadubai.com
IT issues.	IT Support	helpdesk@diadubai.com
DIA Parent Association	TBC	padiadubai@gmail.com
Urgent/serious concerns	Michelle Puxty	michellep@diadubai.com







2022-2023

# Who should I contact?

*A guide to help streamline Year 8 communication.*

REASON TO CONTACT	STAFF NAME / TITLE	EMAIL
Absence, late, or leave early.	Evelyn Pakatan	sssecretary@diadubai.com
Bus transportation, travel, canteen/meals. or facilities.	Kevin Johnson	kevink@diadubai.com
PHE, competitive sport, CCAs, or an after-school club.	Mihail Kouzev	mihailk@diadubai.com
School uniform concerns.	Donna Campbell	donnac@diadubai.com
The Middle Years Programme.	Ruba Jeshi	rubaj@diadubai.com
Lack of detail/clarity regarding a school event.	Donna Campbell	donnac@diadubai.com
I want to contact a teacher of a specific subject.	Identify your child's subject teacher on his/her timetable.	first name + first letter of surname @diadubai.com
Inclusion / EAL / Alpha	Asha Karam	ashak@diadubai.com
Assessment questions, including standardized tests.	Susan McMechan	susanm@diadubai.com
University / Careers Counselling.	Stewart Pinkerton	stewartp@diadubai.com
My child's physical, social, or emotional wellbeing.	Donna Campbell	donnac@diadubai.com
Transition from Year 7 - Year 8	Donna Campbell	donnac@diadubai.com
IT issues.	IT Support	helpdesk@diadubai.com
DIA Parent Association	TBC	padiadubai@gmail.com
Urgent/serious concerns	Michelle Puxty	michellep@diadubai.com







2022-2023

# Who should I contact?

*A guide to help streamline Year 9 communication.*

REASON TO CONTACT	STAFF NAME / TITLE	EMAIL
Absence, late, or leave early.	Evelyn Pakatan	sssecretary@diadubai.com
Bus transportation, travel, canteen/meals. or facilities.	Kevin Johnson	kevink@diadubai.com
PHE, competitive sport, CCAs, or an after-school club.	Mihail Kouzev	mihailk@diadubai.com
School uniform concerns.	Amy Dowling	amyd@diadubai.com
The Middle Years Programme.	Ruba Jeshi	rubaj@diadubai.com
Year 10 Subject Options	Ruba Jeshi	rubaj@diadubai.com
I want to contact a teacher of a specific subject.	Identify your child's subject teacher on his/her timetable.	first name + first letter of surname @diadubai.com
Inclusion / EAL / Alpha	Asha Karam	ashak@diadubai.com
Assessment questions, including standardized tests.	Susan McMechan	susanm@diadubai.com
University / Careers Counselling.	Stewart Pinkerton	stewartp@diadubai.com
My child's physical, social, or emotional wellbeing.	Amy Dowling	amyd@diadubai.com
Future transition into Year 10	Amy Dowling	amyd@diadubai.com
IT issues.	IT Support	helpdesk@diadubai.com
DIA Parent Association	TBC	padiadubai@gmail.com
Urgent/serious concerns	Michelle Puxty	michellep@diadubai.com







2022-2023

# Who should I contact?

*A guide to help streamline Year 10 communication.*

REASON TO CONTACT	STAFF NAME / TITLE	EMAIL
Absence, late, or leave early.	Evelyn Pakatan	sssecretary@diadubai.com
Bus transportation, travel, canteen/meals. or facilities.	Kevin Johnson	kevink@diadubai.com
PHE, competitive sport, CCAs, or an after-school club.	Mihail Kouzev	mihailk@diadubai.com
School uniform concerns.	Stephen Cleary	stephenc@diadubai.com
The Middle Years Programme.	Ruba Jeshi	rubaj@diadubai.com
University / Careers Counselling.	Stewart Pinkerton	stewartp@diadubai.com
I want to contact a teacher of a specific subject.	Identify your child's subject teacher on his/her timetable.	first name + first letter of surname @diadubai.com
Inclusion / EAL / Alpha	Asha Karam	ashak@diadubai.com
Assessment questions, including eAssessment	Ruba Jeshi	rubaj@diadubai.com
Lack of detail/clarity regarding a school event.	Stephen Cleary	stephenc@diadubai.com
My child's physical, social, or emotional wellbeing.	Stephen Cleary	stephenc@diadubai.com
Future transition into Year 11	Stephen Cleary	stephenc@diadubai.com
IT issues.	IT Support	helpdesk@diadubai.com
DIA Parent Association	TBC	padiadubai@gmail.com
Urgent/serious concerns	Michelle Puxty	michellep@diadubai.com







2022-2023

# Who should I contact?

*A guide to help streamline Year 11 communication.*

REASON TO CONTACT	STAFF NAME / TITLE	EMAIL
Absence, late, or leave early.	Evelyn Pakatan	sssecretary@diadubai.com
Bus transportation, travel, canteen/meals. or facilities.	Kevin Johnson	kevink@diadubai.com
PHE, competitive sport, CCAs, or an after-school club.	Mihail Kouzev	mihailk@diadubai.com
School uniform concerns.	Naveen Tyagi	naveent@diadubai.com
The Diploma Programme.	Mona Khreis	monak@diadubai.com
The Career-related Programme / BTEC	Kanchi Das	kanchid@diadubai.com
I want to contact a teacher of a specific subject.	Identify your child's subject teacher on his/her timetable.	first name + first letter of surname @diadubai.com
Inclusion / EAL / Alpha	Asha Karam	ashak@diadubai.com
Assessment questions, including eAssessment	Ruba Jeshi	rubaj@diadubai.com
University / Careers Counselling.	Stewart Pinkerton	stewartp@diadubai.com
My child's physical, social, or emotional wellbeing.	Naveen Tyagi	naveent@diadubai.com
Aim High Programme	Gerhard Van Der Wal	gerhardv@diadubai.com
IT issues.	IT Support	helpdesk@diadubai.com
DIA Parent Association	TBC	padiadubai@gmail.com
Urgent/serious concerns	Michelle Puxty	michellep@diadubai.com







2022-2023

# Who should I contact?

*A guide to help streamline Year 12 communication.*

REASON TO CONTACT	STAFF NAME / TITLE	EMAIL
Absence, late, or leave early.	Evelyn Pakatan	sssecretary@diadubai.com
Bus transportation, travel, canteen/meals. or facilities.	Kevin Johnson	kevink@diadubai.com
PHE, competitive sport, CCAs, or an after-school club.	Mihail Kouzev	mihailk@diadubai.com
School uniform concerns.	John Aboaja	johna@diadubai.com
The Diploma Programme.	Mona Khreis	monak@diadubai.com
The Career-related Programme / BTEC	Kanchi Das	kanchid@diadubai.com
I want to contact a teacher of a specific subject.	Identify your child's subject teacher on his/her timetable.	first name + first letter of surname @diadubai.com
Inclusion / EAL / Alpha	Asha Karam	ashak@diadubai.com
Assessment questions, either internal or IB.	Mona Khreis	monak@diadubai.com
University Counselling.	Rachana Sippy	rachanas@diadubai.com
My child's physical, social, or emotional wellbeing.	John Aboaja	johna@diadubai.com
Aim High Programme	Gerhard Van Der Wal	gerhardv@diadubai.com
IT issues.	IT Support	helpdesk@diadubai.com
DIA Parent Association	TBC	padiadubai@gmail.com
Urgent/serious concerns	Michelle Puxty	michellep@diadubai.com







2022-2023

# Who should I contact?

*A guide to help streamline Year 13 communication.*

REASON TO CONTACT	STAFF NAME / TITLE	EMAIL
Absence, late, or leave early.	Evelyn Pakatan	sssecretary@diadubai.com
Bus transportation, travel, canteen/meals. or facilities.	Kevin Johnson	kevink@diadubai.com
PHE, competitive sport, CCAs, or an after-school club.	Mihail Kouzev	mihailk@diadubai.com
School uniform concerns.	Dollour Toma	dollourt@diadubai.com
The Diploma Programme.	Mona Khreis	monak@diadubai.com
The Career-related Programme / BTEC	Kanchi Das	kanchid@diadubai.com
I want to contact a teacher of a specific subject.	Identify your child's subject teacher on his/her timetable.	first name + first letter of surname @diadubai.com
Inclusion / EAL / Alpha	Asha Karam	ashak@diadubai.com
Assessment questions, either internal or IB.	Mona Khreis	monak@diadubai.com
University Counselling.	Rachana Sippy	rachanas@diadubai.com
My child's physical, social, or emotional wellbeing.	Dollour Toma	dollourt@diadubai.com
Aim High Programme	Gerhard Van Der Wal	gerhardv@diadubai.com
IT issues.	IT Support	helpdesk@diadubai.com
DIA Parent Association	TBC	padiadubai@gmail.com
Urgent/serious concerns	Michelle Puxty	michellep@diadubai.com





School Principal  
Hitesh Bhagat  
hiteshb@diadubai.com

# Secondary Communications

## Secondary School Senior Leadership

Head of Secondary  
Michelle Puxty  
michellep@diadubai.com

Deputy Head Years 7 - 11  
Michael Norton  
michaeln@diadubai.com

Deputy Head Year 12 -13  
Claire Inglis  
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Director of Sports  
Mihail Kouzev  
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Deputy Head Pastoral  
Colin Leacy  
colinl@diadubai.com

Assistant Head Pastoral  
Daniel Murphy  
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Assistant Head Years 7 - 9  
Susan McMechan  
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Assistant Head Years 10 - 13  
Gerhard Van Der Wal  
gerhardv@diadubai.com

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DP Coordinator  
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CP Coordinator  
Kanchi Das  
kanchid@diadubai.com

Head of Inclusion  
Asha Karam  
ashak@diadubai.com

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shannonm@diadubai.com

HoY 8  
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HoY 9  
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HoY Year 10  
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Assistant HoY Year 10  
Srishti Jain  
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HoY 11Assistant HoY 11  
Naveen Tyagi  
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Assistant HoY 11  
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HoY 12  
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johna@diadubai.com

HoY 13  
Dollour Toma  
dollourt@diadubai.com

## Heads of Department

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Arabic B  
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Islamic  
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English DP  
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Maths MYP  
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Maths DP  
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Science DP  
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Humanities MYP  
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Humanities DP  
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Language B MYP  
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Language B DP  
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Design MYP  
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Design DP  
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Performing Arts  
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Visual Arts  
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Media  
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PHE  
VFiona Turnbull  
fionat@diadubai.com

## Important Contacts

College Counsellor 12-13  
Rachana Sippy  
rachanas@diadubai.com

College Counsellor 7-11  
Stewart Pinkerton  
stewartp@diadubai.com

Attendance Officer  
Evelyn Pakatan  
evelynp@diadubai.com

Secondary Secretary  
Marian Steyn  
marians@diadubai.com

IT Support  
helpdesk@diadubai.com

Accounts Department  
accounts@diadubai.com





EMIRATES  
HILLS



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