Primary DIAlogue

Newsletter

23rd October, 2026

Term 1, Issue 7

Dubai International Academy
Emirates Hills















Courtesy of our wonderful parent workshops

PADIA
Passionate About DIA

innoventures education



My little pumpkin!

Head of Primary's Message

Dear DIA families,

Parents Take Over… and the Teachers Take a Breath! 🎓
Each week, we dedicate time to the professional development of our teachers, but this week's session came with a rather lovely twist. Our parents took over!

Thanks to the wonderful coordination of Mr Sean, members of our parent community generously gave their time and expertise to deliver a range of workshops focused on staff wellbeing, confidence and connection.

A huge thank you to Aprajita and Gaelle, who explored the patterns that influence our confidence and how we respond to challenges; Charlonne and Erika, who guided colleagues through a calming sound-healing experience; Haniya, Sharon and Ashwini, who shared insights into gut health and its relationship with our energy and wellbeing; and Shikha and Rashi, who brought colleagues together through activities encouraging teamwork, empathy and reflection.
It was a wonderful reminder of just how much knowledge, experience and talent exists within our parent community. We spend so much time thinking about what our teachers can offer our children, but this week it was lovely to see our parents sharing something valuable with our teachers.
Thank you to everyone involved. The generosity of your time and willingness to contribute to our school community is genuinely appreciated.

900 Teachers, Seven Schools and One Very Brave Year 5 Student! 🎤
Continuing the theme of professional development, please remember that school will finish at 11:40am next Thursday, 29 October, as all seven schools across the Innoventures Education group come together for our annual Innoventures Conference. Workshops are led by our own educators, creating opportunities to challenge our thinking, reflect on what we do and explore how we can continue improving the education we offer our children.

One of the things I value most about these opportunities is the chance to step outside our own classrooms and schools, question familiar approaches and return with new ideas. Great schools should never stop learning themselves. And this year, we have a rather special contribution from DIA Emirates Hills! Kian from Year 5 will be helping deliver a keynote speech to all 900 delegates. His message is a particularly powerful one: "You may not realise how much the little things you do matter to us."

A wonderful reminder that, while we spend considerable time discussing curriculum, assessment and teaching strategies, it is often the smallest interactions that leave the greatest impression on a child. Standing in front of 900 teachers is no small undertaking, particularly when you are in Year 5! I am enormously proud of Kian for taking on this challenge and wish him every success next week.

Camp, Camp, Camp… The Final Countdown! ⛺
A final reminder that the deadline for Ecoventure camp payments is tomorrow, Saturday 24 October, at 11:59pm. Once the deadline has passed, we will be unable to accept further payments or registrations. I appreciate that deadlines can sometimes feel a little inflexible, but there is a considerable amount of organisation that begins immediately afterwards. Staffing ratios, supervision arrangements for children attending and those remaining, transport, accommodation and catering all depend on confirmed numbers.

Making an exception for one family would mean offering the same flexibility to everyone, which quickly creates challenges for the teams working hard to ensure these experiences are safe, enjoyable and well organised. If you are experiencing any difficulty with payment, please contact us before the deadline passes so that we are aware of the situation. Thank you for respecting our deadlines and helping us make these wonderful experiences possible for so many children.

Picture Perfect… Or at Least in the Right Uniform! 📸
School photographs begin next week! Please check the calendar on the following pages carefully to confirm which day your child's class is scheduled.

It is also a timely opportunity to check uniforms and ensure children are arriving at school looking smart and wearing the correct items.
As the cooler weather thankfully begins to approach, a gentle reminder that only plain dark navy jumpers or official DIA jumpers are permitted. Other hoodies, jumpers and tops, particularly those in non-school colours, should be kept for outside school. As outdoor lunchtime play has resumed, please send a hat. Without hats, children must sit in the shade.

Kind regards,
Tom

Comm's Corner

EXTRA EXTRA!

KG1

KG2

YEAR 1

YEAR 2

YEAR 3

YEAR 4

YEAR 5

YEAR 6

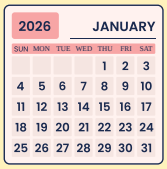
STUDENT LEADERSHIP

NOTICES

TURN OVER

YEAR 4-6 CAMPS & RESIDENTIALS BOOKLET

REGISTRATION DEADLINE - SATURDAY 24 OCTOBER



DIA Y4,Y5,Y6 - RESIDENTIAL_INTERNATIONAL TRIP - PARENTS' PRESENTATION.MP4

PARENTS PRESENTATIONS DIA Y4,Y5,Y6 - RESIDENTIAL TRIP 2026-27.PDF

COPY OF DIA - SRI LANKA LAUNCH PRESENTATION.PDF

Head of Primary
Tom Collar
tomc@diadubai.com

Deputy Head KG1 - Year 2
Jodie Harries
jodieh@diadubai.com

Deputy Head Year 3 - 6
Stephanie Trueman
stephaniet@diadubai.com

Deputy Head Pastoral
Manuela Watfa
manuellaw@diadubai.com

Assistant Head - Primary
Ruchika Sachdev
ruchikas@diadubai.com

Head of Inclusion
Kanika Kalra
kanikak@diadubai.com

Primary School Office
pssecretary@diadubai.com

IT
helpdesk@diadubai.com

Accounts
accounts@diadubai.com

School Catering
hello@kalohospilality.com

10 OCTOBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				01 OCT KG1-Y6 PS HOUSE DAY (WEAR HOUSE COLOURS)	02 OCT PADIA WORLD TEACHERS DAY FOOTLOOSE FRIDAY BEGINS, CHECK EMAIL COMMUNICATION FOR SIGN UP,	03 OCT PINK IS PUNK, ANANTARA PALM, BY IGNITE 6 AM ONWARDS
04	05 PASS TESTING 5-9 OCTOBER (PS & SS)	06 PASS TESTING 5-9 OCTOBER (PS & SS) Y6 ASSEMBLY REHEARSAL L6-7 QUAD PADIA CLAIM LOST ITEMS, QUAD 6-8 OCTOBER	07 PASS TESTING 5-9 OCTOBER (PS & SS) Y6 ASSEMBLY, L1-2, QUAD YEAR 5 AI TRAINING L3-4 (STUDENTS ONLY), CANTEEN EXTENSION PS THE WHITE CONCERT FAMILY EVENT - YEAR 1, KISS & DROP, 7.45 -9.00 AM PADIA CLAIM LOST ITEMS, QUAD 6-8 OCTOBER WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY 7-8 OCTOBER	08 PASS TESTING 5-9 OCTOBER (PS & SS) ONLINE PARENT INFO SESSION - ECOVENTURES SRI LANKA AND LOCAL CAMPS KG1-Y6 PS DYSLEXIA AWARENESS DAY (WEAR RED) PS THE WHITE CONCERT FAMILY EVENT - YEAR 2 KISS & DROP, 7.45 -9.00 AM PADIA CLAIM LOST ITEMS, QUAD 6-8 OCTOBER WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY 7-8 OCTOBER	09 PASS TESTING 5-9 OCTOBER (PS & SS) Y2-6 PARENT INFO SESSION, STANDARDIZED TESTING, 7.45 AM, CANTEEN EXTENSION PADIA LOST & FOUND UNCLIAMED ITEMS DONATED TO CHARITY	10
11	12 MID TERM BREAK 12-16 OCTOBER (NO SCHOOL FOR PS & SS)	13 MID TERM BREAK 12-16 OCTOBER (NO SCHOOL FOR PS & SS)	14 MID TERM BREAK 12-16 OCTOBER (NO SCHOOL FOR PS & SS)	15 MID TERM BREAK 12-16 OCTOBER (NO SCHOOL FOR PS & SS)	16 MID TERM BREAK 12-16 OCTOBER (NO SCHOOL FOR PS & SS)	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 PADIA GARAGE SALE, 7.00 AM TO 1.00 PM, PS GYM PADIA 2ND HAND UNIFORM SALE 7.00 AM-1.00 PM, PS GYM	24 Y4-6 CAMPS PAYMENT DEADLINE 
25	26 KG1 PHOTOS 26-27 OCTOBER PADIA 2ND HAND UNIFORM SALE 7.30-9.30 AM, FOYER Y1AE, Y1CG LAKES WALK, 7.50 AM, 9.50 AM	27 KG1 PHOTOS 26-27 OCTOBER Y1F, Y1BD LAKES WALK 7.50 AM, 8.35 AM	28	29 IVEI STAFF PD (11.40 AM DISMISSAL FOR ALL STUDENTS). NO CCA'S Y5-6 HYDROGEN GRAN PRIX, PS GYM, 1-4 PM 	30	31 10TH DUBAI FITNESS CHALLENGE - 31 OCTOBER TO 29 NOVEMBER

11 / 12 NOVEMBER / DECMBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
01 10TH DUBAI FITNESS CHALLENGE - 31 OCTOBER TO 29 NOVEMBER	02 PS BOOKFAIR BOOKTOPIA 2-6 NOVEMBER, FOYER KG1 MT BEGINS PS PHOTOS 2-27 NOVEMBER	03 PS BOOKFAIR BOOKTOPIA 2-6 NOVEMBER, FOYER PS PARENT TEACHER CONSULTATION (PTC) (NO SCHOOL FOR PS STUDENTS)	04 PS BOOKFAIR BOOKTOPIA 2-6 NOVEMBER, FOYER Y5-6 INNOVENTS MATH CHALLENGE, DIAAB PS PHOTOS 2-27 NOVEMBER Y2ADEF TRIP SAFARI PARK	05 PS BOOKFAIR BOOKTOPIA 2-6 NOVEMBER, FOYER PS PHOTOS 2-27 NOVEMBER Y2BCG TRIP TO SAFARI PARK	06 PS BOOKFAIR BOOKTOPIA 2-6 NOVEMBER, FOYER PS PHOTOS 2-27 NOVEMBER WS - PARENT SESSION - GUEST SPEAKER - EXECUTIVE FUNCTION SKILLS & EMOTIONAL REGULATION, KG GYM 7.45 AM NEW!	07
08	09 PS PHOTOS 2-27 NOVEMBER Y4-6 POETRY FESTIVAL, PS GYM, 8.00 AM NEW!	10 S4K PRODUCTION (WINTER) KG1-Y6 THE UGLY DUCKLING PS PHOTOS 2-27 NOVEMBER	11 PS PHOTOS 2-27 NOVEMBER	12 KG2 TEACH REX DINASSOUR, DANCE ROOM Y4-6 INNOVENTS PS DEBATE, RWA PS PHOTOS 2-27 NOVEMBER PS ADHD AWARENESS ACTIVITIES IN THE DAY	13 MT SPANISH MOVIE NIGHT, QUAD, 5 PM ONWARDS Y4-6 INNOVENTS PS DEBATE, RWA Y3-6 IVEI PS SWIMMING AT DIA-TS PADIA COOKING EVENT PS PHOTOS 2-27 NOVEMBER	14
15	16 PS WINTER CONCERT YEARS 1-6 (KG GYM & DANCE ROOM) 16-20 NOVEMBER PS PHOTOS 2-27 NOVEMBER PS ANTI BULLYING WEEK 16-20 NOV	17 PS WINTER CONCERT YEARS 1-6 (KG GYM & DANCE ROOM) 16-20 NOVEMBER PRILS 2026 PS PHOTOS 2-27 NOVEMBER PS ANTI BULLYING WEEK 16-20 NOV	18 PS WINTER CONCERT YEARS 1-6 (KG GYM & DANCE ROOM) 16-20 NOVEMBER KG2B,E,G PICNIC, QUAD, 4.30-6.00 PM PS PHOTOS 2-27 NOVEMBER PS ANTI BULLYING WEEK 16-20 NOV	19 PS WINTER CONCERT YEARS 1-6 (KG GYM & DANCE ROOM) 16-20 NOVEMBER KG2A,C,D,F PICNIC, QUAD, 4.30-6.00 PM PS PHOTOS 2-27 NOVEMBER PS ANTI BULLYING WEEK 16-20 NOV	20 PS WINTER CONCERT YEARS 1-6 (KG GYM & DANCE ROOM) 16-20 NOVEMBER PS PHOTOS 2-27 NOVEMBER PS ANTI BULLYING WEEK 16-20 NOV	21
22	23 PS PHOTOS 2-27 NOVEMBER	24 PS PHOTOS 2-27 NOVEMBER	25 Y4 CAMP (GROUP 1 - 25-26 NOV) Y5 CAMP 25-27 NOV Y6 CAMP 25-27 NOV PS PHOTOS 2-27 NOVEMBER	26 Y2 EXHIBITION, SKY GARDEN, 1.30 PM ONWARDS Y4 CAMP (GROUP 1 - 25-26 NOV) Y4 CAMP (GROUP 2 - 26-27 NOV) Y5 CAMP 25-27 NOV Y6 CAMP 25-27 NOV PS PHOTOS 2-27 NOVEMBER NEW! PS PARENT INFO SESSION - ASSESSMENT & REPORTING Y1-6, KG GYM 7.45 AM	27 WINTER SOUQ (PADIA) Y4 CAMP (GROUP 2 - 26-27 NOV) Y5 CAMP 25-27 NOV Y6 CAMP 25-27 NOV PS PHOTOS 2-27 NOVEMBER	28
29 10TH DUBAI FITNESS CHALLENGE ENDS	30	01 DEC PS NATIONAL DAY ASSEMBLY NEW!	02 DEC UAE NATIONAL DAY* 2-4 DEC (NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS & STAFF) TBC	03 DEC UAE NATIONAL DAY* 2-4 DEC (NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS & STAFF) TBC	04 DEC UAE NATIONAL DAY* 2-4 DEC (NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS & STAFF) TBC	05 DEC
06 DEC	07 DEC PS ARABIC BOOK FAIR LUGHATI 7-11 DECEMBER	08 DEC PS ARABIC BOOK FAIR LUGHATI 7-11 DECEMBER KG1 WINTER CONCERT (MONTGOMERIE CAMPUS) 8.30 AM 8-10 DEC	09 DEC PS ARABIC BOOK FAIR LUGHATI 7-11 DECEMBER Y4 WAX MUSEUM, SKY GARDEN L1-2 KG1 WINTER CONCERT (MONTGOMERIE CAMPUS) 8.30 AM 8-10 DEC NEW!	10 DEC PS ARABIC BOOK FAIR LUGHATI 7-11 DECEMBER SWEDISH MT WINTER ASSEMBLY, L1, PS GYM KG1 WINTER CONCERT (MONTGOMERIE CAMPUS) 8.30 AM 8-10 DEC TERM 1 REPORTS TO PARENTS	11 DEC PS ARABIC BOOK FAIR LUGHATI 7-11 DECEMBER	12 DEC WINTER BREAK BEGINS

Dubai International Academy, Emirates Hills Calendar Outline 2026 – 2027	
SMT return to School for Orientation and Training	19 August 2026
HODs, Subject leaders, HOYs and Year level leaders return to School for Orientation and Training	20 August 2026
Teachers return to School for Orientation and Training	24 August 2026
Prophet Mohammad's birthday* (No school for students and staff)	25 August 2026
Primary School 'Hopes & Dreams' KG1 – Year 6	31 August 2026
Secondary School new students' orientation - All Year 7, 11 and 13 students' orientation	31 August 2026
Lessons start for Year 1 – Year 13 students	1 September 2026
KG1 & KG2 settling in programme	1 - 4 September 2026
Mid-term Break	12 – 16 October 2026
Innoventures Education PD Day (Early dismissal for all students)	29 October 2026
Parent Teacher Consultations KG1 – Year 6 (No school for PS students)	3 November 2026
Parent Teacher Online Consultations Year 7 – 13 (No school for SS students)	10 November 2026
Parent Teacher Consultations Year 7 – 13 (No school for SS students)	20 November 2026
UAE National Day* (No school for students and staff)	2 – 4 December 2026
Winter Break	14 December 2026 – 3 January 2027
Lessons start for KG1 – Year 13 students	4 January 2027
Innoventures Education PD Day (Early dismissal for all students)	2 February 2027
Parent Teacher Consultations Year 11 – 13 (No school for SS students)	5 February 2027
Ramadan begins*	8 February 2027
Eid Al Fitr* (No school for students and staff)	8 – 12 March 2027
Innoventures Education PD Day (Early dismissal for all students)	25 March 2027
Parent Teacher Consultations KG1 – Year 6 (No school for PS students)	31 March 2027
Spring Break	5 – 9 April 2027
Parent Teacher Consultations Year 7 – 10 (No school for SS students)	22 April 2027
Eid Al Adha* (No school for students and staff)	15 – 18 May 2027
Parent Teacher Consultations KG1 – Year 6 (No school for PS students)	24 May 2027
Hijri New Year* (No school for students and staff)	6 June 2027
End of Year for Students and Teachers	2 July 2027
Please note that all dates are correct at the time of writing and could be subject to change owing to the lunar calendar and government announcements for public holidays	

DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY
EMIRATES HILLS

DIAEH WOLVES

ARE READY FOR THE

H2 SPRINT

GLOBAL CHALLENGE #1

(ONLINE) **Y5-6 By Invite only**

28 - 29 OCTOBER 2026



TEAMWORK • INNOVATION • SUSTAINABILITY

DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY
Emirates Hills

BOOKTOPIA
A PERFECT WORLD OF BOOKS!

BOOKFAIR

2- 6 NOVEMBER 2026

DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY EMIRATES HILLS, 7:30AM -4PM

5 NOVEMBER
KG1 CAMPUS 8AM-2PM



WWW.BOOKTOPIA.COM

MYBOOKTOPIA

MYBOOKTOPIAUAE

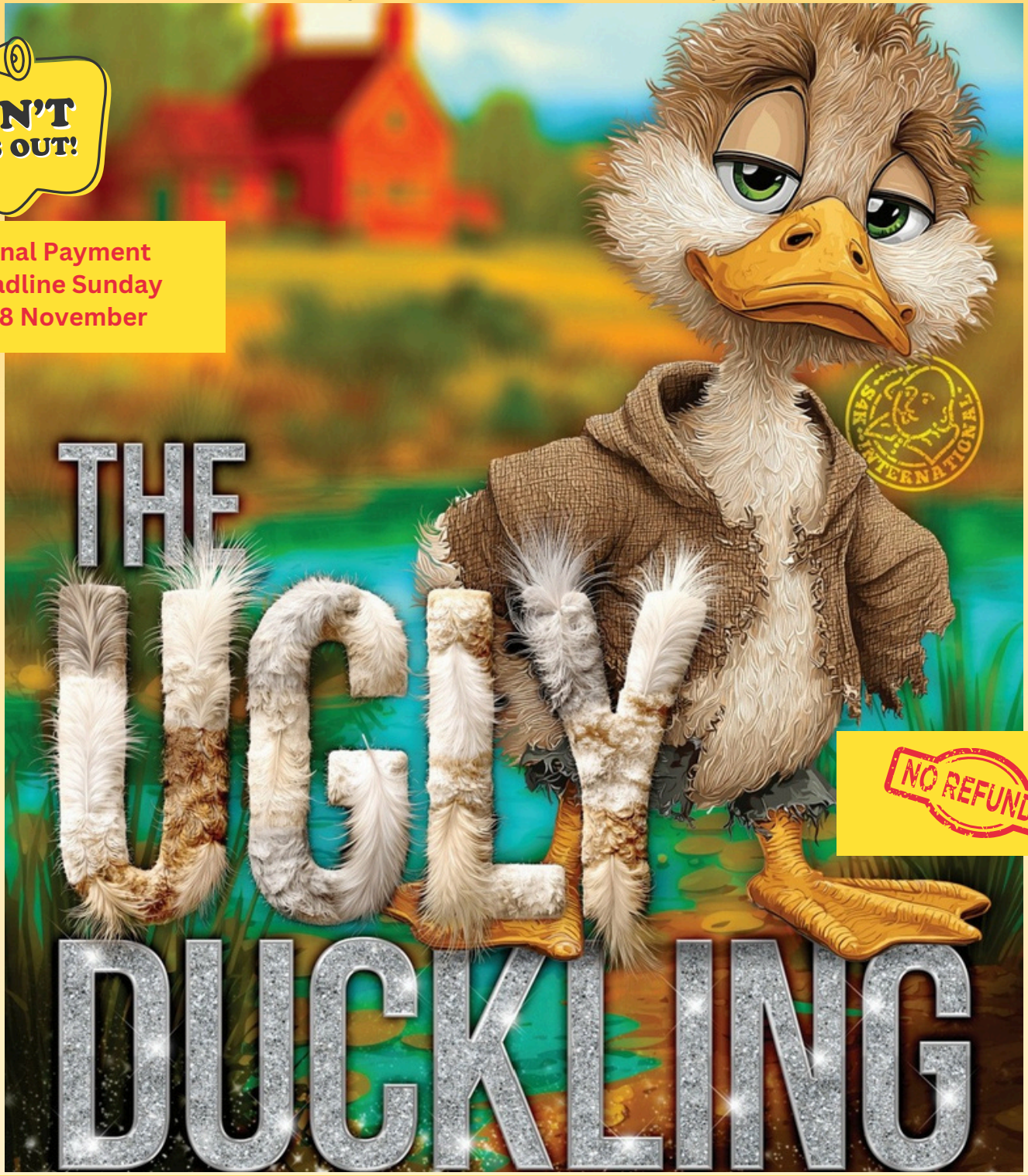
COMING TO DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY ON TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2026

Is Beauty only Feathers-Deep?

The Ugly Duckling is a musical comedy show written for young children and based on the famous fairytale by Hans Christian Anderson.

It is the story about a young bird who is mocked and bullied by his newly-hatched brother and sister ducklings because he is different from them. They think he is ugly! Even his mother thinks he is ugly! Feeling unwanted, unloved and alone he runs away - only to meet other farm animals who either reject him or want to eat him. Then the winter arrives - cold, freezing, icy and snowy. What is a young duck to do? How can our little guy survive? When spring arrives, he meets a flock of beautiful swans and has the surprise of his life! The Ugly Duckling is a delightful, musical comedy show with plenty of audience participation and interactive fun. Our young audiences will go on a journey with the characters where we explore themes of personal growth, discrimination, positivity, kindness and diversity.

This show is performed in English and sensitively adapted for young, international audience



Show times:

KG1, KG2 & Year 1 - 9:30 - 10:20 am

Years 2-3-4 - 10:40 - 11:40 am

Year 5-6 - 12:30 - 1:30 pm

The show will take place in the SS PE Hall, where all students will be seated. Students who are not watching will remain in class with one of the year level team teachers.

If you wish your child to attend this fantastic performance then please arrange an online payment of AED 60 via Zenda using either of the following:

Zenda App through mobile: app.zenda.com/getstarted

Zenda webpage: https://innoventureseducation.zenda.com/

DIA Arts Presents

CLASSROOM CURTAIN CALL

NOV 16TH - 20TH

Presentations will take place during your child's music and dance lesson this week

Classroom Curtain Call Timetable:

Years 1-6 **CLICK HERE TO VIEW**

KG2

We're excited to invite you to our KG2 Family Picnic!

Join us for a lovely afternoon together as we celebrate our students' hard work and creativity. Each class will take the stage to perform their Zog 'Talk for Writing' piece – we can't wait for you to see how confidently they bring the story to life!

16:30-18:00

18 NOVEMBER: KG2B,E,G

19 NOVEMBER: KG2A,C,D,F

Location: The school quad

What to Wear:

The students are invited to come in their own clothes with a splash of orange to match our Zog theme.

What to Bring:

Pack your favourite snacks and don't forget your picnic blanket for a cosy spot on the grass!

(If you'd prefer to bring a chair, please pop it at the back of the quad so everyone has a great view.)

SAVE THE DATE

KG1 WINTER CONCERT

Please join us for festive fun and entertainment from our KG1 children under the KG1 trees.

Tuesday 8 December
KG1B • KG1C • KG1G

Wednesday 9 December
KG1A • KG1E

Thursday 10 December
KG1D • KG1F

8:30 AM

Venue: KG1 DIA Campus

Children to wear festive colours:

RED, WHITE OR GREEN

More information will be shared by your class teacher closer to the time.

DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY
Emirates Hills

2ND HAND SALES
UNIFORMS & TEXTBOOKS

20AED ANY ITEM

23 Oct @ DIA EH garage sale 7am-1pm
26 Oct @ main lobby 7:30-9:30am

Contributions of outgrown uniforms & textbooks welcomed!
diarecycle@gmail.com

PADIA

PADIA

PASSIONATE ABOUT DIA

INVITES YOU TO OUR 2026

WINTER SOUK

JOIN US FOR A FESTIVE FILLED WITH HOLIDAY CHEER, SHOPPING, ACTIVITIES, AND WONDERFUL MOMENTS WITH OUR DIA COMMUNITY.

Book your stall NOW through the attached link

27TH NOVEMBER
10:00 AM
TO
2:00 PM

DIA Parents & Staff:
https://forms.gle/e6XKPhuzqjQkXs9UA



COME SHOP, CONNECT & CELEBRATE THE SEASON WITH US! ❤