



Secondary School Newsletter



EMIRATES
HILLS

Thursday 26th June

Head of Secondary Message

Hello All,

As we come to the close of another remarkable academic year, I want to take a moment to reflect on all that we have achieved as a community. From academic milestones to student-led initiatives in sustainability, leadership, and innovation, this year has truly showcased the talent, drive, and spirit that define our school. Whether it was celebrating our global recognition for environmental action, the outstanding creativity displayed in our AI competitions, or the inspiring moments of cultural unity during International Evening, our students have embraced every opportunity to lead, grow, and make an impact. These successes were made possible by the unwavering dedication of our staff, the determination of our students, and the incredible support of you, our parents.

On behalf of the entire leadership team, I would like to sincerely thank you for your partnership, trust, and ongoing commitment to your children's education. Your involvement—whether through feedback, attending school events, volunteering for PADIA, or simply encouraging your child at home—has been invaluable. It is through this strong collaboration between school and home that we are able to create an environment where every child can thrive. We wish you a restful and joyful summer and look forward to welcoming you back in the new academic year, recharged and ready for even greater achievements.



Michelle Puxty

Head of Secondary

Key Diary Dates

Thursday 26th June

Final Day of 2024-2025

Wishing you all a wonderful summer break

Saturday 5th July

IBDP Results Day

We are looking forward to celebrating your examination success with you all

Friday 1st August

IB MYP Results Day

We are looking forward to celebrating your examination success with you all

Monday 25th August

First Day (for some)

Secondary School new students orientation
All Year 7, 11 and 13 students orientation

Tuesday 26th August

All students welcome back to lessons

We look forward to starting the new academic year with a refreshed mindset - see you in August!

EXHIBITION, COMPETITIONS & WORKSHOPS



After months of hard work and anticipation, the much-awaited DIATECH event took place today at the DIA Secondary School PE Hall. DIATECH is our annual celebration of technology and innovation, where students from the Digital Design (DD) and Product Design (PD) programs showcase their amazing projects and creative boards. This year's event featured inspiring presentations, hands-on workshops, exciting competitions, and lively performances by the school band, making it a highlight of the school calendar. The energy was contagious as judges evaluated projects, recognizing the talent and dedication of our young innovators. DIATECH continues to inspire students to push boundaries and explore new horizons in technology and design.

A big part of Diatech was the exhibition where students showed off their projects and design boards. The large boards clearly explained the research and ideas behind each project, giving visitors a great look at all the hard work involved. Alongside these were smaller boards for Product Design and Robotics projects, featuring cool prototypes and interactive displays. Together, these exhibits created an exciting space that highlighted the creativity and skills of our DIA students.



TECHNOLOGY EVENTS OF 2024-25



This year DI@TECH sponsored a colorful blend of events and workshops intended to foster curiosity and creativity in people from all ages.

In the annual hackathon DI@BYTE we had students experiment with new-age coding exercises using Scratch, prompt engineering, and web-based Capture the Flag games, emphasizing teamwork as much as programming abilities.

Subsequently, in partnership with Mech Lab and Project Elevate Her, we hosted the Medieval Engineering Challenge, where more than 60 students experienced engineering in real life through building catapults and bridges while working under virtual budgets and bargaining for resources.

Younger students also took part in Pico-Satellite Design Workshops, where they learned satellite essentials, practised 3D modeling competencies, and created virtual prototypes through the guidance of experts.

Through such programs, students were exposed to the many fields of technology while at the same time acquiring crucial soft skills, including communication, leadership, and time management.

These programs and initiatives enable us to assert with pride. At DI@TECH, the emphasis stretches beyond cutting-edge technologies toward actually shaping great future leaders along with self-assured innovators of the future.



SERVICE INITIATIVES

Mother Teresa once rightly said, “It is not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving.” DI@TECH, DIA’s Technology club, which focuses on providing a platform for community engagement and innovation, has embarked on a mission to be a catalyst for change. In its endeavor to give back to society, DI@TECH 2025 has engaged in 2 major charitable causes.

Through an amazing raffle hosted by DI@TECH this year, over 15,000 AED was raised and donated to the ‘Gift of Innoventures Education’ (GIVE), a charity focused on providing support to local and international communities. Donating to this esteemed cause has helped to make a difference in the lives of many children across the world and we thank all the students, parents as well as teachers who contributed towards this.

DI@TECH 2025 also gave back to the school’s custodians by creating an engaging session on tech literacy and awareness for the support staff of the school (housekeeping and security). The workshop provided various engaging activities for the support staff and gifted all of them earphones to conclude this successful event.

DI@TECH truly embodies the wise words “Technology is best when it brings people together”.

Inclusion Department

End of Year Message



Dear Parents and Students,

This year, the inclusion department led key initiatives that fostered greater awareness and advocacy within the school. Highlights included the successful hosting of the ADHD Unconference, a dynamic event that brought together educators, parents, and experts to discuss strategies for supporting students with attention differences, as well as Dyslexia Awareness Day, which featured interactive activities, classroom discussions, and student storytelling aimed at building empathy and understanding.

Throughout the year, students receiving inclusion support have made significant strides in both academic and personal growth. From tailored intervention plans and enrichment opportunities to the development of self-advocacy skills, every achievement—big or small—has been celebrated. The strong collaboration between the inclusion team, teaching staff, and families has played a vital role in fostering environments where all learners can thrive.

As the year draws to a close, I say farewell, as I am transitioning from next year. I would like to thank the community for all their advocacy, love and support throughout my time here.

Looking ahead, the Inclusion Department will continue to flourish under the guidance of Mrs. Pashu Bhattacharya, who will join as the new Head of Inclusion in August 2025. With over 17 years of experience in the field of inclusive education—both in Dubai and internationally—Mrs. Bhattacharya brings with her a wealth of expertise and a strong passion for supporting diverse learners. The school is confident that the department is in excellent hands as it moves into the next chapter.

I wish you all a rested break and all the best for your future endeavours.

Asha Karam

26TH JUNE 2025

WELLBEING CORNER

TERM 3: 'A YEAR TO REMEMBER – FAREWELL FOR NOW'

Dear Students and Parents,

As the academic year comes to a close today, we pause to celebrate a year filled with learning, growth, and shared accomplishments. From the first day of Term 1 to the final exam scripts of Term 3, our school community has shown incredible resilience, kindness, and purpose.

To our students—whether you completed your first year of secondary or reached the end of your IB journey—this year has brought with it both challenges and triumphs. You've tackled complex material, grown in independence, supported each other, and contributed meaningfully to school life. Your progress, both seen and unseen, is something to be proud of.

We also say a heartfelt farewell to those moving on to new adventures. Whether you're leaving for university, another school, or a new country altogether, you take with you the friendships, memories, and values formed here. You will always be part of our story.

To our staff and families—thank you for your unwavering support and dedication throughout the year. It is through this strong partnership that our students continue to thrive.

As we head into the summer break, we encourage students to take time to rest, reflect, and reset. Whether you plan to travel, take on new challenges, or simply enjoy some well-earned downtime, make the most of this opportunity to recharge. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in August with fresh energy and new goals. Until then, have a safe, joyful, and restful summer holiday.

Mr. Murphy



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MYP COMMUNITY PROJECT EXHIBITION



On Friday, 20th June, our Year 9 students proudly showcased their learning, passion, and commitment to service during the **Community Project Exhibition**—a culminating event that highlighted the creativity, empathy, and initiative of our MYP learners.

As part of the IB MYP, **the Community Project** empowers students to identify local or global issues that matter to them, conduct in-depth research, and take meaningful action. This year's exhibition brought together an inspiring variety of projects, ranging from environmental conservation efforts and mental health awareness campaigns to educational outreach, animal welfare, and sustainability drives.

Each student group thoughtfully presented their journey—from the initial inquiry and planning stages to the implementation of their chosen action. The exhibition was not only a platform to showcase products and outcomes but also a celebration of the personal growth, collaboration, and reflective thinking that took place throughout the process.

Visitors—including teachers, parents, and fellow students—were deeply impressed by the confidence, clarity, and passion with which students spoke about their experiences. The event served as a true testament to the power of student agency and the role of service in nurturing responsible global citizens.

We are incredibly proud of our Year 9 students for their dedication, and we thank our supervisors, and parents for their continued support in guiding them through this meaningful learning experience.

ARABIC CALLIGRAPHY EXHIBITION



We were delighted to host a vibrant Arabic Calligraphy Exhibition, where students from both the Primary and Secondary sections came together to celebrate the beauty of Arabic script through art and creativity. The exhibition was a visual and cultural feast, featuring an impressive collection of calligraphy pieces that reflected our students' deep appreciation for the Arabic language and its artistic heritage.

From the careful strokes of our younger learners in Primary to the intricate, stylized compositions by our Secondary students, the gallery of artworks demonstrated not only skill but also a strong sense of identity and cultural pride. The integration of color, texture, and symbolism added depth to each piece, making the exhibition both aesthetically captivating and emotionally resonant. The event was a wonderful opportunity for students to connect with Arabic as a living art. Parents and staff were deeply moved by the students' dedication and talent.

A heartfelt thank you to our Arabic Department for guiding the students with passion and to all those who supported this enriching celebration of heritage and expression.



2024-25



INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC COMPETITIONS



This is the 10th annual Asian Championships at the JW Marriott Khao Lak Resort and Spa in Khao Lak, Thailand held on 13-15 June, 2025. 12 students from year 7-10 and Year 12 this year, the biggest group so far.

Advik Shetty (Year 12) took the silver for the academic bee, varsity level.

Chayn Gupta Murthy (year 10) placed 5th in the middle school geography bee.

Richard Koval placed 1 of 30 participants in the middle school history bee bring home the gold medal!!

Van Gupta Murthy made it in the semi finals in the elementary history bee.



History bowl teams are:

DIA A- Alejandra Casanova Chavez, Sanvi Agarwal , Tara Vishwakarthik, Sara Johnson and Yizhen Liu.

DIA B- Richard Koval, Yuvraj Dewan, Ryan Hoef, Andrija Mihajlovic, and Vann Gupta Murthy. They won 2nd place in the junior varsity division.



Prefect Investiture

CLASS OF 2026

TUESDAY 17TH JUNE 2025





DUBAI
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EOY Student Recognition Awards

Wednesday 18th June 2025





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