



Raha Reminders

Issue 34

Principal's Message



My old mentor and I were sharing a joke about half-and-half football scarves this week after she saw the cartoon below. It made her laugh as it reminded her of my strong opinions on half-and-half scarves (Full disclosure: I hate them passionately).



1 - (Picture downloaded from Fitbatweets, X, June 13, 2024)

In my defence, why would you have one? All fans know your team is *your* team; you get behind *them*, not the other one. It's not about trophies (unless you are a City fan); you support your team because they are a part of your story, often your family's story; they are somewhere you find belonging and where you share your passion. So why celebrate another one?

My mentor let it slip that she is the only person on the planet who owns an Ireland/England half-and-half scarf, which made me laugh. However, it perfectly represents who she is and her identity. We all belong to multiple interest groups, meaning there should be nothing wrong with half-and-half scarves.

This got me thinking about educational half-and-halves. All great schools do the *same* things well. They ensure children possess mental models with which to view the world; develop children who can quickly enter into dialogue about what matters and what is right; and deliberately connect children to cultures and societies beyond their own so they know their place and how they can make a positive difference; while instructing their children with the best of what is known so they possess the knowledge of 'educated' people. You will probably recognise several curricula in that sentence and the need for educators to wear a half-and-half daily.

However, all great schools do *one* thing well. They do not wear a half-and-half. Their scarves are about their one thing, their team, and their story. Raha is a great school. We grow people. That is our thing. We do this every day, and we do it well.

Last week, I asked you for your "Wish You Were Here" postcards (and thank you to those who shared them). This week, I am going to ask you to do the same but with more specificity:

- *What do you value in the way we grow people? What are the examples?*
- *What is it that we do that others do not? Where do we see this?*
- *When we are at our best, what are we doing? What is it we need more of?*

Our stories matter. They connect us, tell people new to our community what matters, and celebrate who we are. So, like last week, please [put your answers on a postcard!](#)

Have a great weekend.

Parent Team Newsletter



Key Dates

- **20 June:** Inclusion Coffee Morning - Staff Hub @ 8.00am
- **24 June:** Summer Concert - Auditorium @ 6.00pm

General

Eid Mubarak

As we approach Eid Al Adha, we extend our warmest greetings to you and your families. May this occasion bring abundant blessings, joy, and peace into your homes. On this special day, let us reflect on the values of sacrifice, compassion, and generosity, and may we be inspired to extend kindness to others and uphold the spirit of community.

Yearbook

We're thrilled to inform you that the yearbook is in its final stages of printing! After Eid, we will be reaching out with all the details regarding how you can pick up your orders.

Inclusion Coffee Morning

Coffee morning for parents with Ms Mairéad and Mr Ben. Ms Mairéad will be leaving at the end of the school year for a new adventure on which we wish her the very best. Mr. Ben will oversee Inclusion in Primary in his role as whole school Head of Inclusion.

Parents are invited to join them in the Staff Hub on 20 June at 8.00am.

Arabic Assemblies

The Auditorium buzzed with excitement during the recent Arabic Assemblies. Students took centre stage, showcasing their talents in acting and singing, while performing for their peers, teachers, and proud parents.

Beyond the entertainment, this assembly provided a valuable chance for the students to explore new skills, express themselves in Arabic, and celebrate Arabic cultural heritage. The audience enjoyed the concert and came out with a big smile.

We thank the parents for honouring our ceremony and also the students and teachers for their tireless efforts in preparing and performing.

شهد مسرح مدرسة الراحة الدولية أجواءً من الحماس والإثارة خلال احتفال الإذاعة المدرسية لقسم اللغة العربية. صعد الطلاب المسرح بكل ثقة، وعرضوا بكل فخر مواهبهم في التمثيل والغناء والأداء أمام زملائهم ومعلميهم وأولياء أمورهم الكرام.

بالإضافة إلى المتعة والترفيه، وفر هذا النشاط منصة قيّمة للطلاب لاستكشاف مهارات جديدة والتعبير عن أنفسهم بلغتهم العربية الأم والاحتفال بتراثهم الثقافي. لقد استمتع الجمهور بفقرات الحفل وخرجوا بابتسامة عريضة.

نشكر لأولياء الأمور تشريفهم لحفلنا الكريم ونشكر للطلاب والمعلمين جهودهم الحثيثة في الإعداد والتقديم.

قسم اللغة العربي

Early Years



- **24 June:** Crazy Hair Day
- **27 June:** EY2 Graduation Ceremony @ 8.00am

EY2 Graduation

Families are invited to join us in celebrating our EY2 Graduates on Thursday, 27 June, at 8.00am!

The ceremony will start promptly at 8.00am. When the ceremony has finished, students and families are welcome to take photos in the foyer and hub areas. From 9.30 am class parties will begin.

Class parents are in touch with homeroom teachers, so please liaise with your class group about what to bring to the party. We look forward to celebrating with you.

Primary



- **20 June:** U11 Football and U11 Netball Tournaments (rescheduled from rain days).
- **24 June:** Crazy Hair Day
- **26, 27 & 28:** Class Parties

Trips

- **20 June:** Matilda trip for G2-5 students with consent.
- **24 June:** G3 trip to Bounce, Al Forsan
- **25 June:** G2 trip to Adrenark
- **27 June:** G4 trip to Bounce, Al Forsan

Assessments Completed

Grade 3-5 PT assessments are now complete. Parents who would like to request their child's results may send the request to dbadmin@ris.ae

Class Parties

Class parties for Grades 1-4 will be on 26/27/28 June. Teachers will communicate the selected date in the grade level weekly newsletter, and class rep parents will circulate sign-up sheets for food contributions (let's aim for a healthy balance!) Grade 5 will have their party on the last day of term. A kind reminder that there are no heating or refrigeration facilities at school, **please do not send nut products**. There is also no need for each family to provide a serving for each child (this results in too much food!).

It is most convenient for the students to bring the food in the morning of the party rather than have it delivered during the day. Thank you for your support in helping our students celebrate their year of learning!

Familiarisation visit

On Friday 21 June, students will spend some time in the classrooms for their next grade level. Teachers who currently teach in that grade level will explain some of the exciting features of the year, and students will have the opportunity to ask questions. Please note that the purpose of the visit is to familiarise students with their new learning spaces and to get excited for the year ahead, however, the classroom and teacher they visit may not be the specific teacher for next year.

GOT JUNK?

**THE INNOVATION HUB
WANTS YOUR STUFF!**



We want your:

- Craft materials (i.e. popsicle sticks, pipe cleaners)
- Old electronics (i.e. computers, headphones)
- Sewing materials (i.e. old sewing machines, clean fabric like old bedsheets, t-shirts, yarn)

Anything else? Send it in!

For inquiries, please email akirby@ris.ae.

Secondary



- **19 June:** Osrah Day
- **20 June:** Evening of Plays - Black Box at 7.00 pm

- **21 June:** DP Transition Day

Evening of Plays

Secondary students present an evening of short plays in the Black Box on Gardens Campus on Thursday 20 June beginning at 7.00pm.

DP Transition Day

On Friday, June 21, we are excited to host our DP Transition Day! This event is designed to enhance Grade 10 students' understanding of the IB Diploma Programme at Raha, build excitement for the upcoming academic year, and welcome them to our DP community of learners. Highlights of the day include connecting with current DP students who will share their first-hand experience, meeting key members of the DP team, and participating in interactive panel sessions on topics such as student wellbeing and effective revision strategies.

Osrah Day (Grades 6 - 10)

On Wednesday, 19 June, we will be celebrating the team spirit shown by our MYP students throughout the year in their participation in Osrah events. The afternoon of activities will allow students further to build their sense of Osrah pride and team spirit. The event is free for students to participate in, with a few optional activities requiring an AED 5-15 ticket cost. All money collected from this event will go directly back into future Osrah related events and activities. Students are encouraged to wear their Osrah colour or the jersey of a team participating in the Cricket World Cup or Euros.

Events This Week



2 - Greetings from Baku!

WSC Global Round in Baku

Huge congratulations to our incredible IB students who participated in The World Scholar's Cup Global Round in Baku from 11-16 June. Your hard work and dedication have truly shone through. You've not only honed your critical thinking, debate skills, and collaborative writing but also made connections with like-minded peers from around the globe. You've tackled exciting challenges and experienced the joy of collaborative learning. We're so proud of your achievements in this unforgettable academic adventure!

Best moments of PYP Arabic Assembly



3 - Enjoying the show



4 - Let's sing in Arabic!



5 - A beautiful poem.



6 - G1 performance.



7 - Our Arabic/English hosts



8 - Quran recitation



Best moments of MYP Arabic Assembly





9 - Nabati Poetry



10 - Nabati Poetry



11 - Explanation of the Eid Al Adha



12 - Fashion Show



13 - Loving this performance.



14 - Modest Fashion











G6 & 7 Arabic A students showed appreciation for the hard work of our school's workers and security personnel. Their gesture of buying hats and offering ice cream is not only a kind act but also a reminder of the importance of acknowledging those who contribute to our school community's safety and well-being. Well done!

Sports



15 - Female Student vs Staff Football Game - Staff won 2-0!



RAHA
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL
Gardens Campus

NEW

Scan to
Register Interest

Do a little or a lot but
get involved!



RAHA RAPTORS
PARENT SUPPORT

Enhancing Our Sports Community

Raha Raptors Parent Support.

Every flock needs leaders - Become a guiding raptor in our pack!

We are excited to invite you to join the Raptors Parent Group, a dedicated parent group committed to supporting our young athletes by creating more community, official cheering, organizing engaging activities, and raising funds to ensure our sports program's continued success and growth. Please fill out the [FORM](#) to express your interest.

ECPs

- **28 June:** Last day for CF Tennis and Infinite Sports ECPs

[Infinite Sports Summer Camp](#)

Get an early bird discount of 20% off.

Infinite CAMPS RAJA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
www.infinitecamps.com

SUMMER CAMP

USE CODE **RIS20** TO GET **20% OFF**

8TH JULY - 23RD AUGUST 2024

SPORTS & CREATIVE PLAY
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FOR AGES 4 - 11 YEARS OLD

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