AMS PARENT NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPALS UPDATES

11TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Our second week with students has brought a real sense of rhythm to Ash Mount. Timetables are now underway, specialist lessons have begun and students are becoming more confident with their routines. This week, staff and students have been working together to shape our Clubs programme. Clubs give students the chance to explore their interests, try something new and spend time with others who share those interests.

Students have also been signing up for our sports squads, where they can develop their skills, work as a team and, in time, represent Ash Mount. We have also opened self-nominations for PAMS,Parents at Ash Mount School. This is an opportunity for parents to become more involved in school life, support events and represent the views of their year group.

Meanwhile, work continues at our new campus. UAE Sports, Barçalona Football Club, Brooklyn Music and GL Assessments have all visited Ash Mount to begin setting up their facilities and programmes. Their visits are another important step in getting the campus ready and bringing our wider provision to life.

Resources have been unpacked, spaces prepared and deep cleaning is well underway. Cleaning will continue during the evenings and weekends once we open, alongside the final snagging work. In any new building, there are always small issues, known as “snags”, to identify and fix. These will be dealt with one by one as we complete the campus. As we prepare to move into our Ash Mount home, we will initially open the areas students will use during this academic year. This phased approach will gives us the full MYP curriculum specialist rooms and everyone time to settle into the new campus safely and confidently while the remaining spaces are completed.

After the October half term and winter break, we plan to open more areas of the school in stages. This will allow us to expand our facilities gradually and make sure each space is ready for students. It will also support our growth next year, as students move into the final years of the MYP and begin using more of the campus. We are very close now, and this is our final weekly roundup from Plan B before we begin moving into our Ash Mount home. Next week, we will also invite parents who may be interested in becoming a School Governor to find out more and put themselves forward.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, patience and belief in Ash Mount. The wait is nearly over.

AMS PARENT NEWSLETTER

PYP UPDATES

primaryhead@ashmount.ae

Week 2 – Building Momentum

Another busy and exciting week at Ash Mount, and we are beginning to see our Primary community really come to life.
Connecting Our Community

We continue to build the functionality of Madrasa, giving parents greater visibility into school life. Soon, families will be able to see more of the learning taking place, connect with teachers through our new Groups, and access class pages and timetables – strengthening that important partnership between home and school.

Learning in Action
Across Primary, learning is gaining real momentum. Our younger students have begun their baseline phonics assessments, while our specialist teachers are building strong connections with their classes. Our Inclusion team are getting to know their students, with relationships forming and IEPs beginning to take shape.

Ms Hibaaq has also completed training on WellComm, supporting our approach to baseline assessment for English Language Learners. Alongside this, myON and Accelerated Reader will help us provide targeted opportunities for students to develop their English and grow as confident readers. Our first PYP Unit of Inquiry, Who We Are, is now well underway, with students exploring the unit through the lenses of leadership, community and values. We are also beginning to embed White Rose Maths and Science across our programme, bringing further consistency and progression to learning. A personal highlight for me this week was visiting every class from Pre-K to Grade 1 to share The Pigeon HAS to Go to School! by Mo Willems and The Day You Begin by Jacqueline Woodson. Connecting with our youngest learners through stories, laughter and conversation was incredibly special. Our MOE team are also gaining momentum, and it has been wonderful to hear Arabic flowing from classrooms and through our corridors as our students become increasingly immersed in their learning. There is so much beginning to take shape, and each week we are seeing more of the Ash Mount we have envisioned come to life.

Have a wonderful weekend – and fingers crossed for some good news very soon!

AMS PARENT NEWSLETTER

MYP UPDATES

secondaryhead@ashmount.ae

Dear Parents and Families,

Learning Begins to Build Momentum

This week, students began meeting their subject teachers, experiencing introductory lessons and engaging with the first stages of subject-specific content. From next week, learning will begin to pick up pace as students explore, inquire and develop the knowledge, understanding and skills required across their MYP subjects.

Moving to Our Regular Academic Timetable

Over the past two weeks, we intentionally merged classes within each year group. This gave students valuable opportunities to build relationships across their grade, develop a sense of belonging and settle confidently into Secondary School. Now that we are following our regular academic timetable, classes will separate from next week. For example, Grade 6 will have two separate classes following their own schedules and so on for Grades 7 and 8. Updated timetables will be available on Madrasa today, and students have also received their own copies.

Smaller Classes, More Personalised Learning

Students will remain in similar groupings for many of their core subjects, while there will be some variation for subjects including PHE, the Arts, Arabic, Islamic Education and UAE Social Studies. This structure allows us to create smaller and more appropriate teaching groups, enabling teachers to know students well, respond to individual learning needs and provide more personalised support and challenge. It also enables us to meet specific curriculum and language requirements within these subjects. Importantly, students will continue to have plenty of opportunities to spend time with friends across their year group during breaks, lunchtimes and our before- and after-school provision.

Have a fantastic weekend!

Thomas Nelson

AMS PARENT NEWSLETTER

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, INCLUSION AND WELLBEING UPDATES

headofinclusion@ashmount.ae
headofmoe@ashmount.ae

Inclusion

What a wonderful week it has been for Inclusion at Ash Mount!
This week has been all about building relationships, getting to know our students and creating a sense of belonging. We have really started to form some of those important, trusting relationships with our children and young people, giving us the opportunity to understand them as individuals and learn more about the strategies that help them to feel happy, confident and successful in school.

A particularly important focus this week has been pupil voice. We have been speaking with our students about what they feel works best for them, what helps them when learning feels tricky, and the things that make them feel comfortable and supported at school. After all, our students are an essential part of the conversation when deciding how we can best support them. We have also been exploring the clubs and activities our students are interested in, so that we can continue to create opportunities that reflect their strengths, interests and personalities.

It has been lovely to see relationships beginning to grow, and we are excited to continue building on these foundations over the coming weeks.
Inclusion at Ash Mount is about ensuring every child feels known, heard, valued and that they truly belong.

MOE Subjects

Our second week has been a wonderful continuation of building strong relationships and a positive sense of belonging across the school. Students continued to explore language, values, culture, and community through engaging and age-appropriate learning experiences.

In Arabic, students developed their communication skills according to their individual levels and needs. In Islamic Education, they explored values and behaviours that promote respect, kindness, and positive relationships. Through Social Studies, students developed an appreciation of their identity, culture, heritage, and the diverse community of the UAE. Across all year groups, students shared ideas, collaborated with others, and developed a deeper appreciation of themselves and the community around them.