



## ALEXANDER MACKENZIE HIGH SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

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### IB Newsletter - Alexander Mackenzie High School

March 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Hope you are doing well. In this newsletter, you will find some relevant information and updates about our IB program at AMHS.

I came across this article that talks about advantages and disadvantages of the IB programme. I found that the point of view in this article is realistic and objective. Please take a look when you have a moment.

<https://thedeweyschools.edu.vn/en/advantages-and-disadvantages-of-the-international-baccalaureate-ib-program/>

### Exam preparation - Lunch and Learn for Gr. 9 and 10 students



Student leaders from the IB Council organized a lunch and learn for Gr. 9 and 10 students on Feb 6, 2025. Student leaders shared some practical strategies for exam preparation.

### Extended Essay for DP1

Most DP1 students are able to follow the timeline and checkpoints in the EE process. If you have an opportunity to chat with your child about school, you may want to ask "How's the EE going?". Most teenagers will answer the question with one word, "Good", but you can probe a bit more by asking, "Do you know how to access all available resources provided by the school library?"

Students have access to many of our subscribed databases for research purposes. These are academic research databases that link to authentic academic journals and papers. Please encourage your child to make use of these resources in the research phase of their EE journey.



EE research workshop for DP1 students  
March 4, 2025

## **IB EXAMS (DP1 and DP2)**

Below is the schedule for the upcoming IB exams. Please make sure your child is able to write the exam at the indicated date and time. Because the IB exams materials are strictly regulated and confidential, all IB students in the same time zone will write the same exam at around the same time.

There is no room for students to make up any exam if they missed the date indicated below. For DP1 students, the only option for writing a missed exam is writing the exam in the November exam session, but this is strongly discouraged as they are in Gr. 12 during November of the school year and they will be very busy meeting all expectations in their HL courses. Please let me know as soon as you have any concerns about the exams.

<b>DP1</b>	<b>DP2</b>
April 29, Afternoon, Physics SL - Paper 1a and 1b	May 5, Afternoon, History HL - Paper 1 and Paper 2
April 30, Morning, Physics SL - Paper 2	May 6, Morning, History HL - Paper 3
May 12, Afternoon, Biology SL - Paper 1a and 1b	May 8, Afternoon, English HL - Paper 1
May 13, Morning, Biology SL - Paper 2	May 9, Morning, English HL - Paper 2
May 15, Afternoon, Math AA SL - Paper 1	May 16, Afternoon, Chemistry HL - Paper 1a and 1b
May 16, Morning, Math AA SL - Paper 2	May 19, Morning, Chemistry HL - Paper 2
	May 20, Afternoon, French SL - Paper 1 and 2 Reading Comprehension
	May 21, Morning, French SL - Paper 2 Listening Comprehension

### **Using AI as a tool**

AI is an emerging tool that is widely used in our daily life. From the IB standpoint, AI is a great tool for collecting ideas and brainstorming. *“The IB will not ban the use of AI software. The simplest reason is that it is an ineffective way to deal with innovation.”* (IBO, Feb 2025) What is more important is that students will need to keep in mind about academic integrity when using new technologies, including AI.

*“Students should be aware that the IB does not regard any work produced—even only in part—by such tools, to be their own. Therefore, as with any quote or material from another source, it must be clear that AI-generated text, image or graph included in a piece of work, has been copied from such software...”* (IBO, Feb 2025)

Please kindly remind your child to be aware of academic honesty. The standard of academic honesty is upheld in high school and beyond. Our teachers use various tools to investigate potential suspicious plagiarism situations.

<https://www.ibo.org/news/news-about-the-ib/statement-from-the-ib-about-chatgpt-and-artificial-intelligence-in-assessment-and-education/>

The IB guidelines are also similar to the new YRDSB AI guidelines that were drafted in January 2025. From the YRDSB Guideline, it listed the responsibilities in using AI Tools. Transparency, Critical Thinking, Privacy and other areas are emphasized.

### **New link added to our AMHS IB page**

I have received inquiries from students and families about the post-secondary destination from our former IB students. We have recently included a “statistic” tab under our [AMHS IB page](#). This page, which will be updated annually, listed the Universities and the corresponding programs that our former AMHS IB graduates were admitted to.

**Thank you for your attention and continued support of the IB Programme at AMHS. If there are any specific questions about the IB program, please contact me directly by phone or Email.**

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