

# GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, SHARJAH



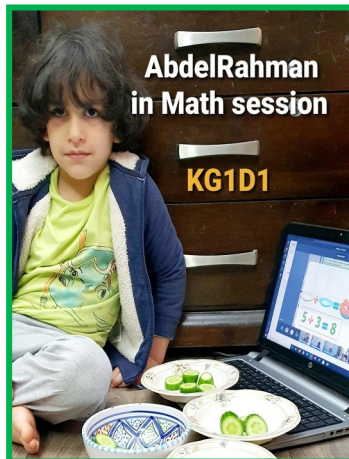
Newsletter Issue #20  
4th February, 2021



## Message from the Principal/CEO Ms. Valerie Thompson

Dear WSS Parents,  
There was lots to celebrate this week; Junior Section Student Leaders' Investiture Ceremony, G4 Talent & Achievement Assemblies, Secondary participation in the 'Speak Like a Pro.' competition & much more. We hope that these pages give you a feel for some of the ongoing, engaging learning experience at our school, each & every week!

Do please check out the 'Dates for your Diary' section on this page, as we will keep you updated about re-enrollment deadlines & other important dates, so that you can budget & plan ahead.



## Dates for Your Diary

Date	Details
Thurs 21st Jan to Wed. 3rd Feb. inclusive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All students on 100% online RLP until Wednesday 3/2/21. Normal Blended/RLP Programmes resume from Thursday 4/2/21, unless otherwise informed.</li> </ul>
From 18/1/21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please note that Term 2 MOE books are now available in the school bookstore, Sundays-Thursdays, 8:00am-3:00pm.</li> </ul>
Sunday Feb. 7th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>System <u>re-enrollment</u> facility opens for Sept. '21 seats.</li> <li><u>Deadline book your seat online &amp; also to pay the AED500/- Seat Booking Fee is Thursday 25th March. After this date seats will be given to the Waiting List.</u></li> <li>Seats Booking Fee can only be paid subject to clearance of full T2 fees.</li> <li><u>Seats will not be held beyond the last day of T3 if T3 fees remain pending.</u> Any paid Seat Booking Fee would be lost. Seats would be given to the Waiting list, &amp; if parents decide later that they want a seat, this would be subject to availability, &amp; not guaranteed.</li> <li>You may change your mind about enrollment at WSS at any time, however the <b>seat booking fee is non-refundable</b> (but it will be deducted from T1 Fees, Sept-Dec. '21).</li> </ul>
Thursday 4th Feb.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you have not yet cleared T2 fees, kindly do so urgently. If you require a <b>T2 Payment Plan</b>, please clear January &amp; February fees, then request the Cashier for a <b>Payment Plan</b> form at <a href="mailto:jelin.j_wss@gemsedu.com">jelin.j_wss@gemsedu.com</a> Thank you.</li> </ul>
Tues. 16th to Sat. 20th Feb.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School closed for <b>Mid-Term 2 Break</b></li> </ul>
Fri. 26th March to Sat. 10th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>T2 Spring Break (2 weeks)</li> </ul>

**Our Vision; 'Excellence Through Teamwork; Success For All'**

For details of policies & procedures, please refer to our Parent Handbook found at: <https://media.gemseducation.com/media/58401/parent-handbook-3620.pdf>



**Lets make INTERNET a better place for our children!**

64% Parents do not know what their children are doing online due to their busy schedule or less knowledge of Internet. Lets not be one of them and educate ourselves!

# 10 INTERNET SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS

**1** Don't block all access to technology. Help your child learn to use tech **safely** and **positively**.

**2** Take an **interest** in your child's favourite apps or sites. Co-view or co-create at times.

**3** Be the parent. You're in charge. Set **boundaries** and consider using filtering software.

**4** Create a family media **agreement** with tech free zones such as cars, bedrooms, and meals.

**5** Teach your child what **personal information** they should not reveal online (YAPPY acronym).

**6** Help your child learn to **filter** information online and navigate fact from fiction.

**7** Navigate digital **dilemmas** with your child. Avoid using devices as rewards or punishments.

**8** **Balance** green time and screen time at home. Focus on basic developmental needs.

**9** Don't support your child to sign up for sites with **age restrictions** (e.g. 13+) if they're underage.

**10** **Learn more:** Explore reliable resources for parents so you can educate yourself.



مدرسة جيمس وستمينستر الشارقة  
**GEMS Westminster School**  
SHARJAH



**#DigitalResilience #LearnWithWSS**





## TIPS FOR STUDENTS

### DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP AND INTERNET SAFETY

**1 LAWS** Many sites and web tools are 13+. Most images and work online are protected by copyright.



**2 TALK** Tell your parents what you're doing online. Always ask a trusted adult if you're unsure of anything.



**3 FRIENDS** Don't add or meet online friends without parent permission. Don't trust everything friends tell you.



**4 PRIVACY** Keep personal info private: **Y**our full name, **A**ddress, **P**hone number, **P**asswords, **Y**our plans and birthday.



**5 REPUTATION** Don't post anything you wouldn't want teachers, family, friends, and future employers to see.



**6 QUESTION** You can't believe everything you read and see online. There's a lot of incorrect and biased info.



**7 BULLYING** Tell someone if you think cyberbullying is happening to you or other people you know.



**8 ACCOUNTS** Choose sensible email addresses and usernames. Use strong passwords and don't share them with others.



**9 MANNERS** Be polite and respectful at all times. Treat others online how you'd like to be treated.



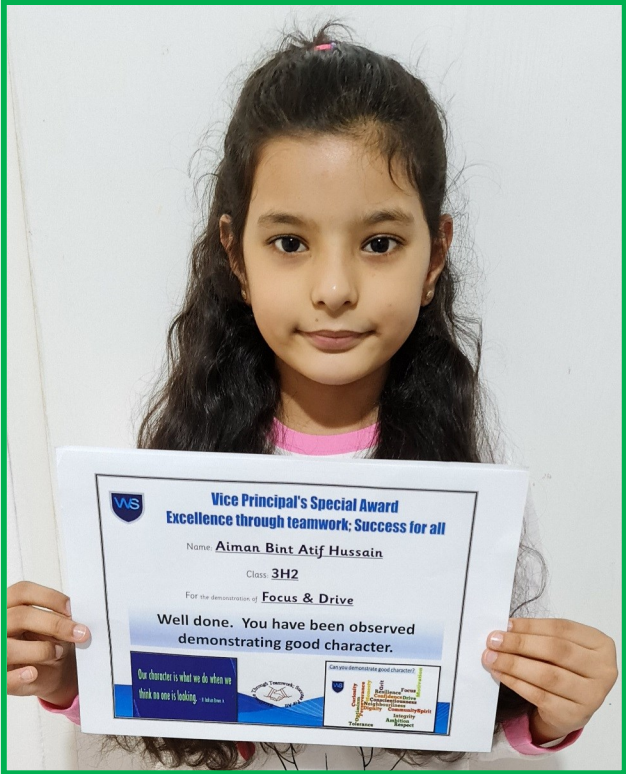
**10 UNPLUG** Balance your screen time and green time. Get outdoors, move, play, and interact face to face.



If in doubt, **think** about and **talk** it out

#DigitalResilience #LearnWithWSS

# WSS Superstar Champions!

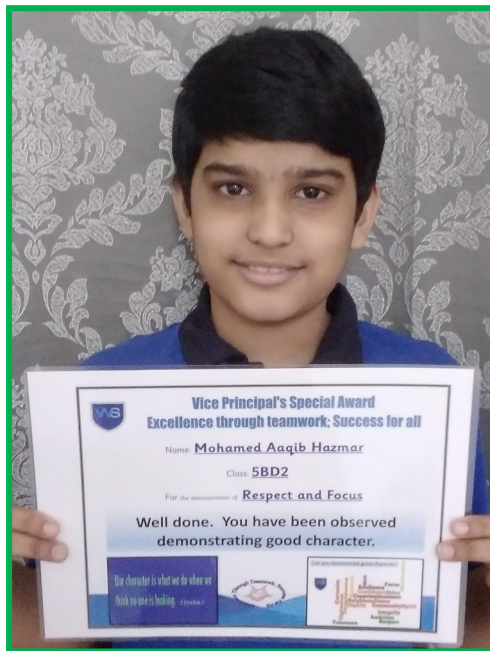




# WSS Superstar Champions!



Mr. Arvie is one of our Superstar Teachers. He recently showed his total 'Above & Beyond' commitment to learning & professional development by attending online PD (training) from his hospital bed! Despite being very sick, Mr. Arvie remained in communication with his SLT so that teaching for his class would continue. We appreciate Mr. Arvie's model contribution to the WSS community. Thank you!!



Staff Name
Rosielyn Tebia
Nora Capulong
Melanie Dulay
Jhe-Bhe Sayan
Shyja Thomas
Victoria Dagdag
Sapana Rai
Pampha Khanal
Elena Altura Bagsit
Chandrakala Chhetri

We would like to appreciate & commend these Support Staff, who gave up their time to support GEMS sister schools GCS & WSR when they were short-staffed because of COVID. Thank you for your hard work—you are WSS Superstars!!!

# WSS Superstar Champions!

WSS is participating in the SPEA Spelling Bee. Ms. Anju is coordinating the event for WSS. The first round of the Spelling Bee competition was in the month of November and two of our students qualified for the next round. The first Emirates round was this week, and we hope to qualify for the next round. The student spelling stars are Fathima Aatika (G8GH) and Omer Ashraf Abdelkarem (G8BD).



Congratulations to Hamad Munir, who engaged with the Model United Nations event held at another GEMS school in October. Such activities promote confidence, leadership & critical thinking skills!



The most important gifts you can give your child are a **quality education** and the **values** that will guide them through life

Sunny Varkey

## Whole School News

The Importance of the School Planner. Does your child have his/her Planner? Please visit the Bookstore if your child needs a Planner. Thank you.



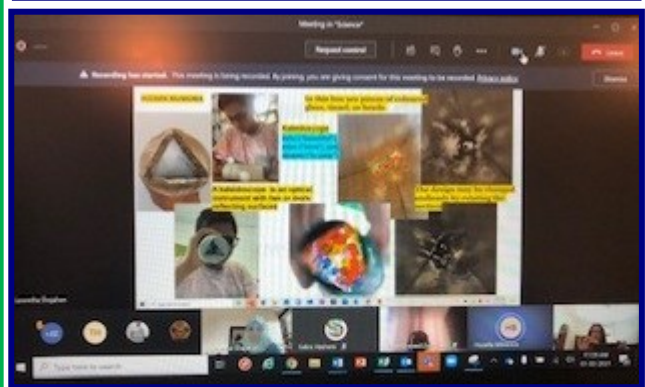
Jazerial (G7GD1) being a recycling champion



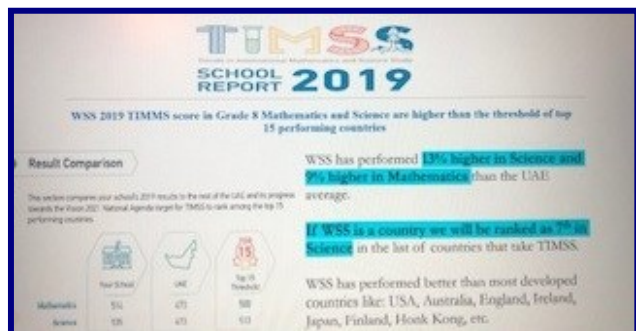
Mr. Franklin, Ms. Sreeja, Ms. Michelle & Ms. Valerie all got their 2nd dose of Vaccination this week! Well done team for your commitment to community health & safety!



# Whole School News; Local Advisory Board (LAB)



Our Local Advisory Board (LAB) met on TEAMS on 1/2/21. LAB is the school's 'Critical Friend' to support school development, & members were invited to attend online lesson observations on 1/2/21. Above is the lesson that Ms. Valerie observed with Ms. Laneetha & G7BF1. The lesson was an interesting investigation about the movement of light. Section SLT presented T1 data on progress, achievement & 'next steps'.





*Junior Section News; Student Leaders Investiture Ceremony, 3/2/21!*

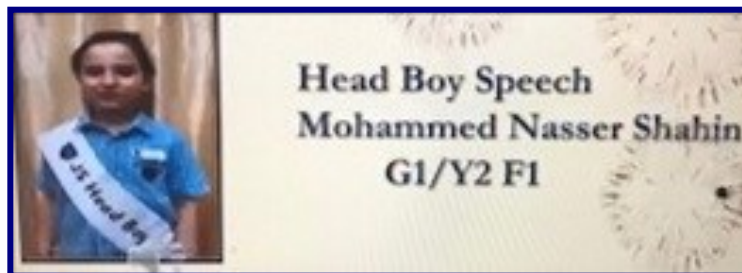
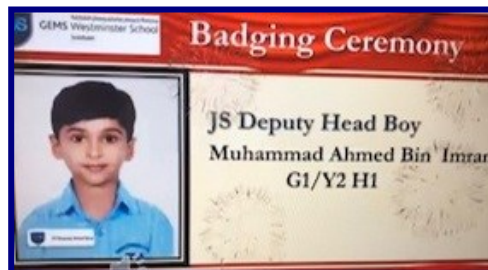
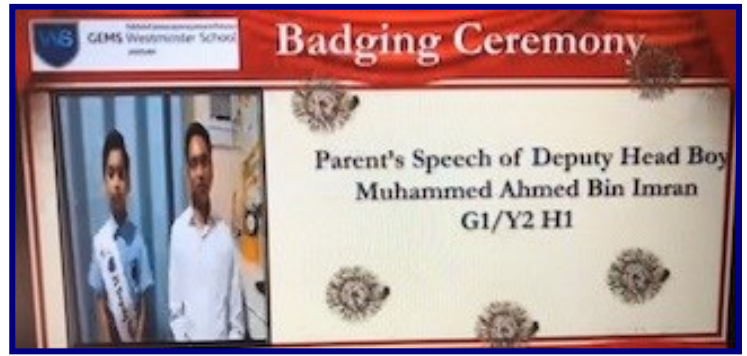


The KG1, KG2 and Grade 1 Students Welcome You All to Our  
JS Investiture Ceremony

**'Excellence Through Teamwork; Success For All'**



# Junior Section News; Student Leaders Investiture Ceremony, 3/2/21!

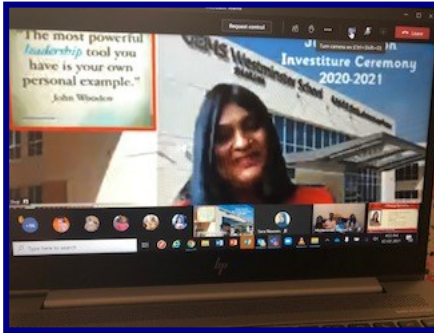


Dear Junior Section Student Leader Parents,  
Thank you so much for attending our Student Leader Investiture Ceremony on 3/2/21, & for your ongoing support of school & your children's teachers. We appreciate how important your contribution is to your children's success on their learning journey & value you for being important, positive role models in your children's lives. Thank you to the parents who addressed the gathering. Thank you!

We hope you enjoyed the ceremony as much as we did! It was a proud moment for us all. The children spoke so confidently, looked super cute in their uniform & showed such respectful manners. Well done superstars of the Junior Section!



# Junior Section News; Student Leaders Investiture Ceremony!



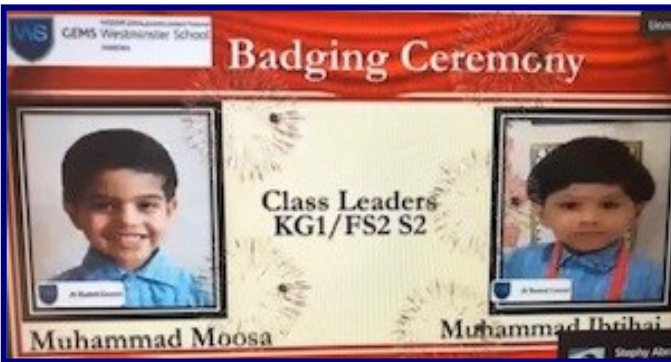


# Junior Section News; Student Leaders Investiture Ceremony!





# Junior Section News; Student Leaders Investiture Ceremony!



More than 100 accounts logged in to attend & enjoy this wonderful ceremony, where we celebrated the leadership achievement & potential of our young, Junior Superstars! We heard from students, parents & Ms. Valerie about what leadership means to them, which included service, kindness & being a positive role model to their peers. We all felt very proud of these leaders of today & tomorrow.



G1 artwork with Ms. Maha. Students learnt how to draw a dog with lines and shapes. The lesson was also linked to science, with a discussion that the dog is an omnivore. Students had learnt in the previous week why bears are omnivorous & drawn them. The children were excited, & enjoyed linking the topic to animals.



# Junior Section News

**KG1 F2**

$4+3=7$  ✖  
 $5+2=7$  ✖  
 $6+3=9$  ✖  
 $7+3=10$  ✖

$2+2=4$   
 $3+4=7$   
 $3+2=5$   
 $3+1=4$   
 $3+3=6$   
 $5+5=10$

Enjoying the maths lesson

$4+3=7$   
 $5+2=7$   
 $6+3=9$

Master Chef

$3+3=6$

With Ms. Safia

*"The little Bear is stuck at home"*

**KG1 F2**

nurse doctor  
 KG1 F2  
 teacher  
 nurse doctor  
 KG1 F2  
 teacher  
 nurse doctor  
 KG1 F2  
 teacher

**Community helpers**

in

**KG1 F2**

nurse doctor  
 KG1 F2  
 teacher  
 nurse doctor  
 KG1 F2  
 teacher  
 nurse doctor  
 KG1 F2  
 teacher

Enjoying the fun session by making Thank you card for Doctor

**KG1 F2**

Thank you

Learning the sound "sh"

**KG1 F2**

I see a sheep.  
 ship  
 sniff  
 shop  
 I like shop

Enjoying the fun session by making Thank you card for Doctor

**KG1 F2**

Thank you



# Junior Section News



KG1S2 with Ms. Kishwar

With Ms. Beena



Little Chefs ready with their bread pizza!! KG2 D1



# Junior Section News



KG1D1 shows gratitude

PIC·COLLAGE



KG1 D1 shows gratitude

PIC·COLLAGE



KG1 D1 pretend play

PIC·COLLAGE



For KG1 D1 maths is fun

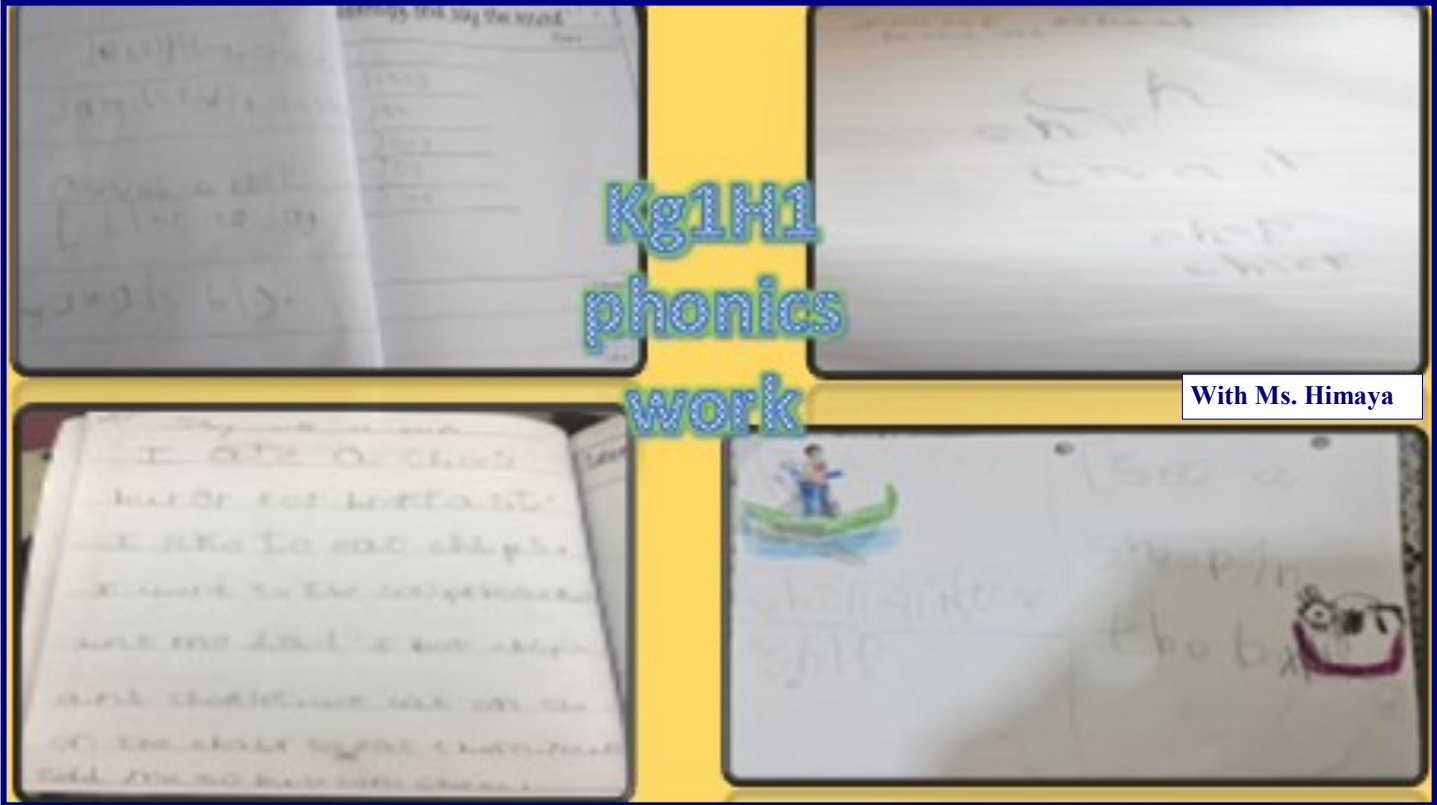
PIC·COLLAGE



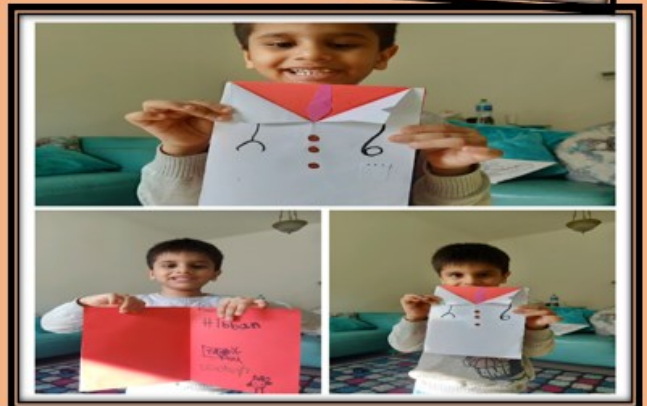
With Ms. Nikhat



# Junior Section News



**Kg1H1 making  
thank you cards  
for our  
community  
helpers**



# Junior Section News

### Fun Activities GR 1 H2

With Ms. Sabiha & Ms. Fathima

Cylindrical palace  
Gr1 H2

Different types of dinosaurs with 2D shapes  
Gr1 H2

(Arlo) Usman  
Gr1 H2

Story time - English  
The good dinosaur

3D Shapes -  
Maths

## KG2S1

With Ms. Sadiqa

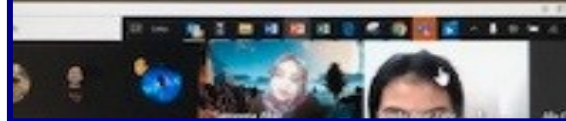
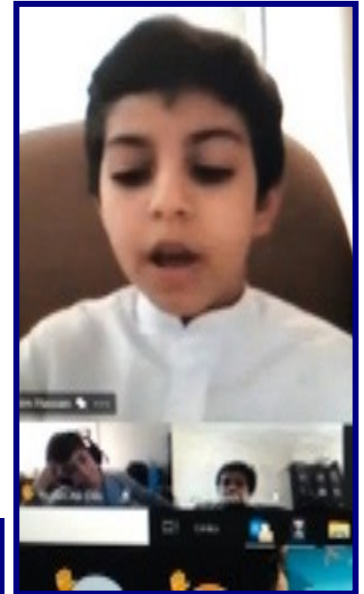
bread pizza

Ms. Sadiqa



# Primary Section News; G4D1 Achievement & Talent Assembly!

## G4D1 Achievement & Talent Assembly with Ms. Sameena

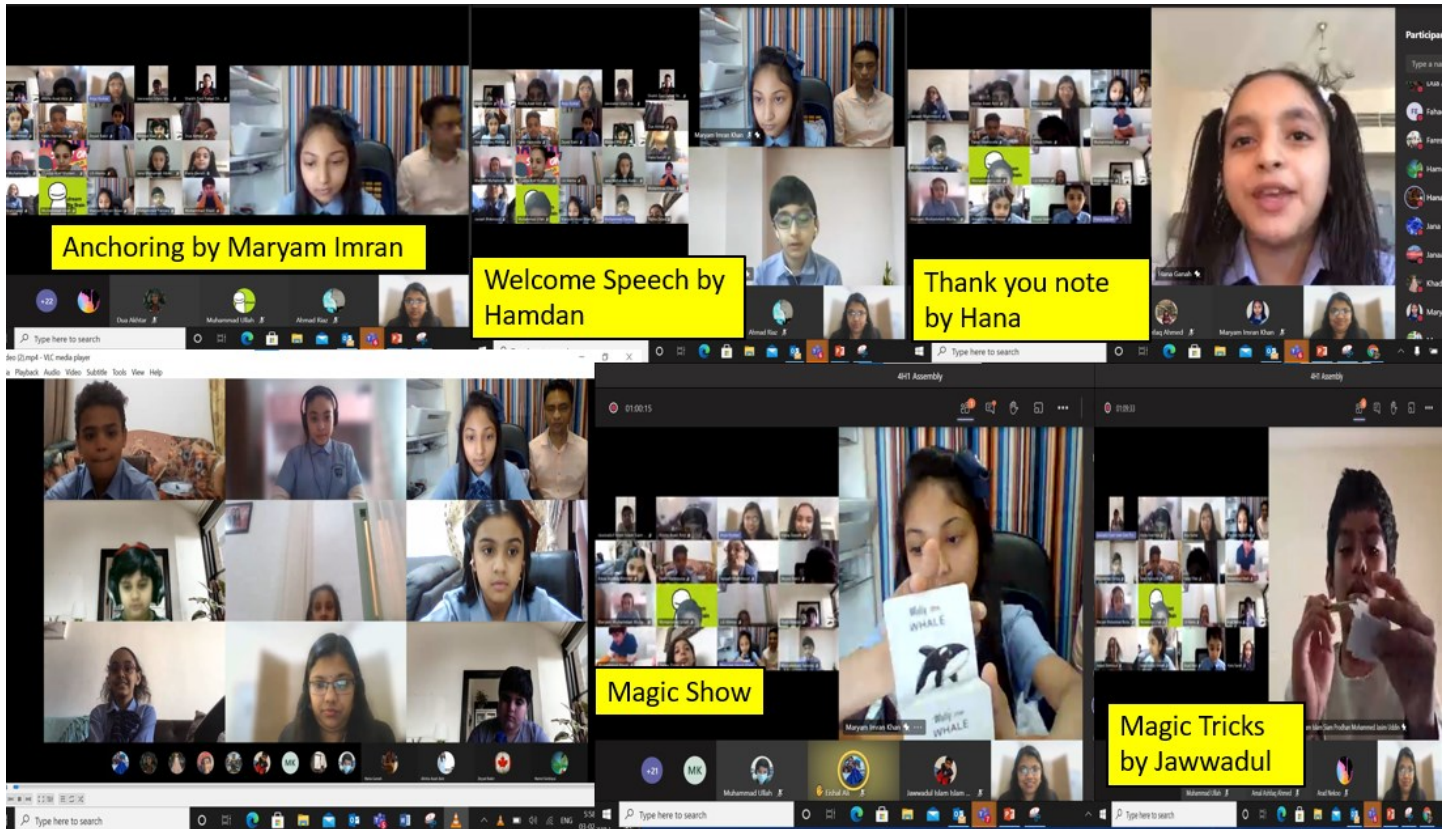


- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
- Ameen Nasreldin Kamal Eltayeb
  - Ala Ghali
  - Tamem Momen Nabil Abdelaziz Mohamed
  - Mariam Ali Mohamed Mohamed Abdelmawla
  - Naqi Haider Sajjad Haider
  - Amaan Wali Wali Muhammad
  - Yazan Ali Dib
  - Jovan Paulose
  - Sohaib Iyad Mahmoud Ali
  - ABEERA RASHID SARFRAZ
  - AYRA RASHID SARFRAZ
  - Anah Mariyum Abdul Munaff
- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★





# Primary Section News; G4H1 Achievement & Talent Assembly!

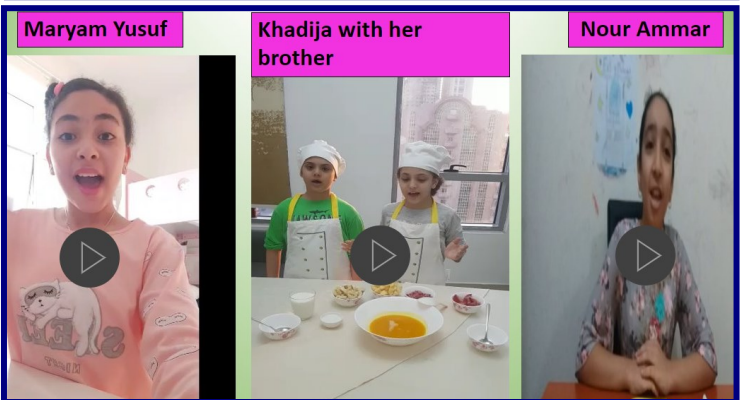


## G4H1 Achievement & Talent Assembly with Ms. Anju

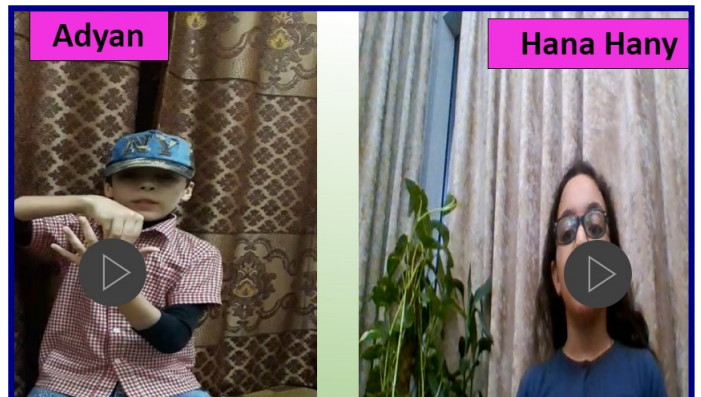




# Primary Section News; G4H1 Achievement & Talent Assembly!

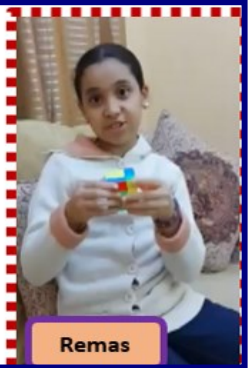
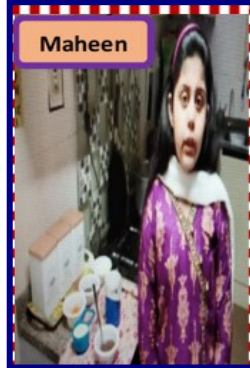


G4H1 show off their talents with Ms. Anju on 3/2/21.





# Primary Section News; G4F1 Achievement & Talent Assembly!



The talented class of G4F1 with Ms. Lakshmi

## TERM 1 Achievement Awards



**Lamer**  
Accurate Attire



**Sama**  
Eminent Explorer



**Vareena**  
Authentic Author



**Yogesh**  
Noteworthy Netiquettes



**Shane**  
Maths Wizard



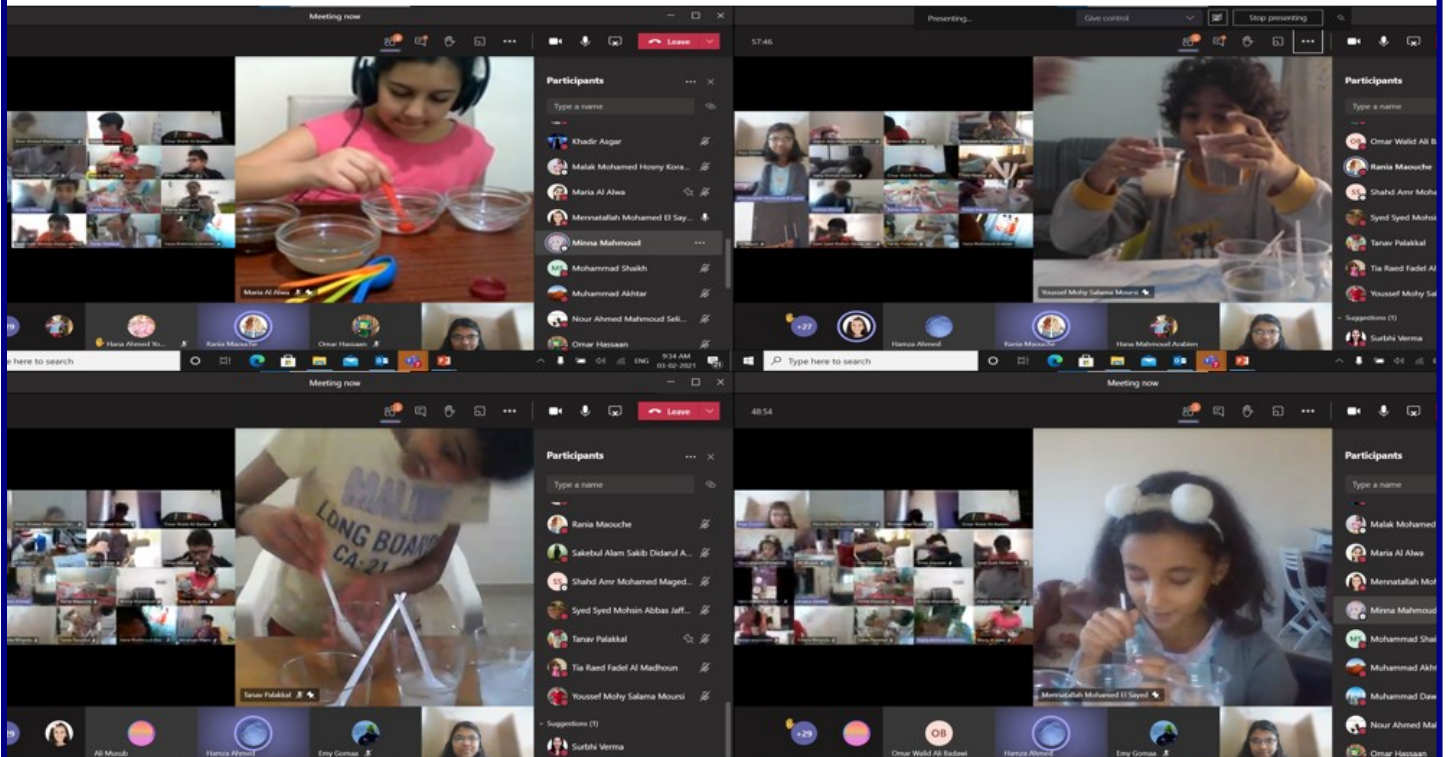
# Primary Section News

## SCIENCE INVESTIGATION – SOLUBILITY – GRADE 4F2

With Ms. Anju



## SCIENCE INVESTIGATION – SOLUBILITY – GRADE 4F2





# Primary Section News



Mohamed (G3H1) went hiking last week in Khor Fakkan. We love his focus on health & fitness!



The fabulous talent of Viswajeeth (G4D1), who completed the Rubik Cube in under one minute! He can also write our school name using the 7X7 Rubik Cube. Check out his video at:

<https://norrgroup.box.com/s/1i06dkwh7ypy1g1a1ubxbylvc6ceehbb>



G4D2 T1 Achievement Superstars with Ms. Lincy





# Linguistic Talent Week 2021

Coming soon!  
Sign up!

Starting  
February 7-11

ARE YOU  
READY?

## COLUMNISTS



## Creative Columnist

An opportunity to create  
and publish your own  
piece of writing!

## Vocabulary Royale

Show your word power



## Battle of Minds

Don't hate, just debate  
Show your power of argument

Speak to your English Teacher to register

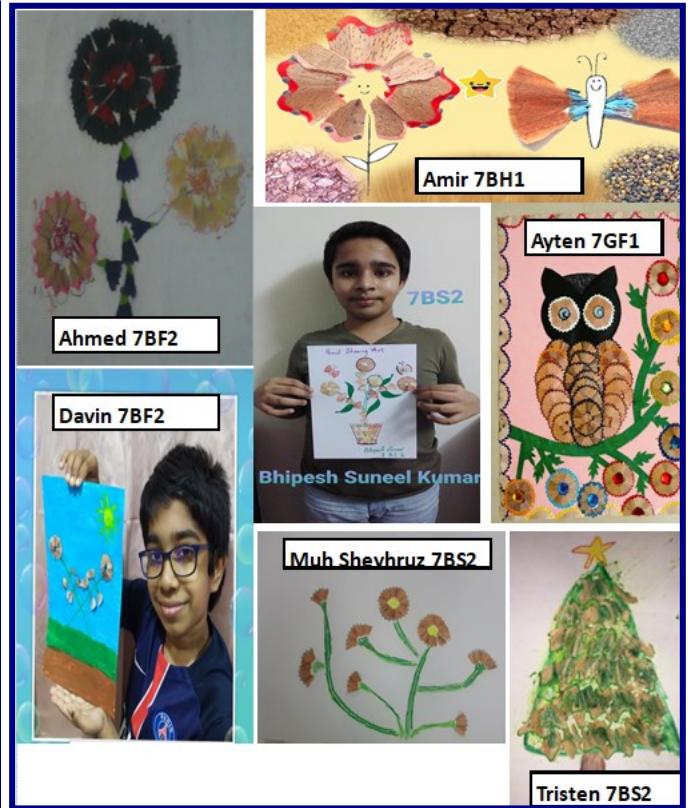
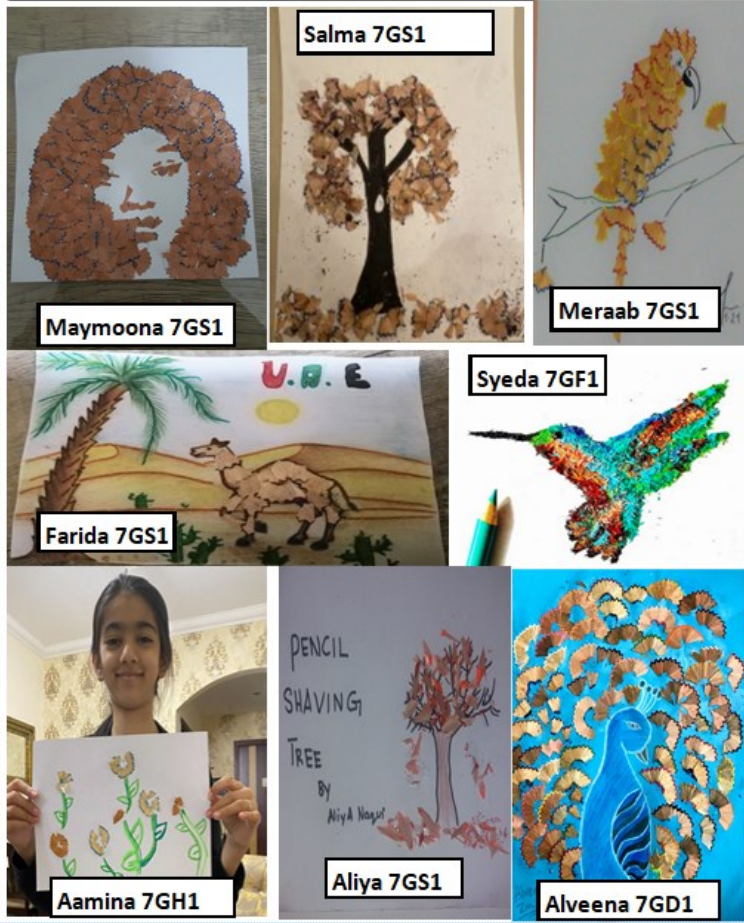


مدرسة جيمس وستمنستر الشارقة  
GEMS Westminister School  
SHARJAH



# Secondary Section News; Fun Activity & Star Islamic Studies Students!

## Fun Activity– Pencil Shade Design



## Fun Activity– Family Hand Print



## Students of the Week Award

(The Holy Quran memorization with correct pronunciations)

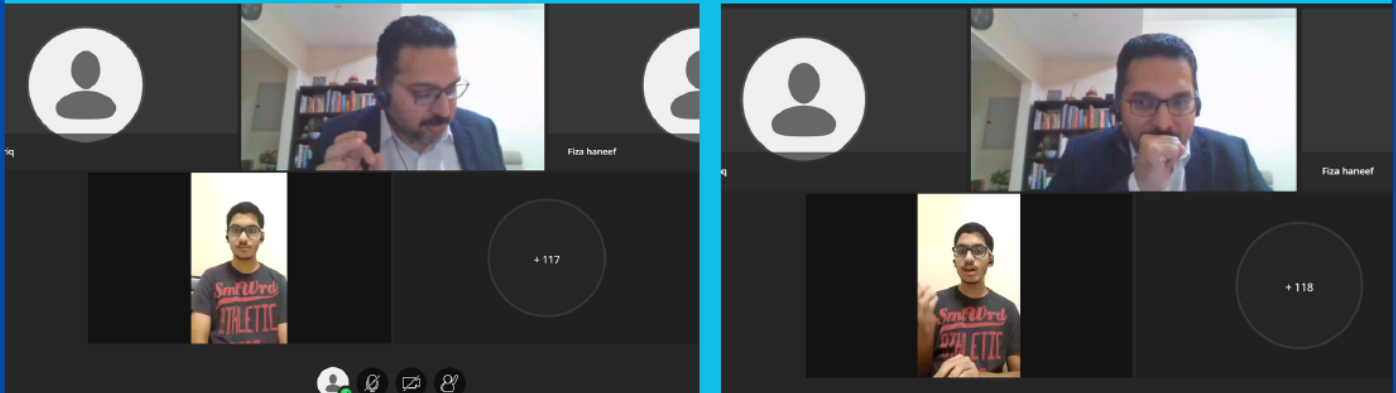
With Ms. Khatma





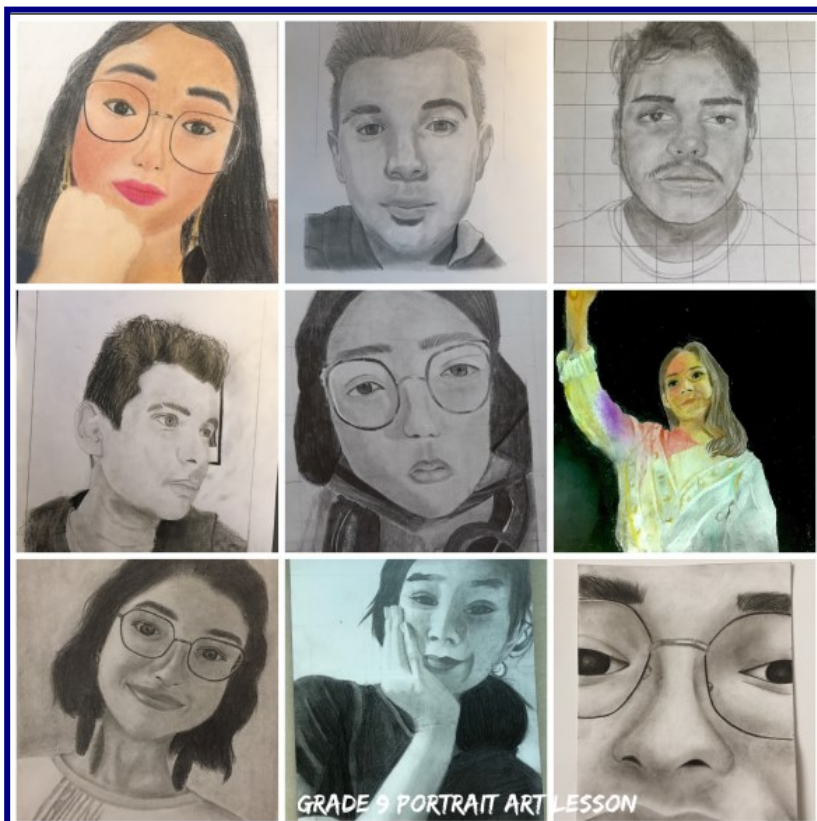
## Secondary Section News; 'Speak Like a Pro' Competition!

**Grade 12 students participating in Speak like a Pro – PAN UAE Impromptu speaking contest conducted by University of West London UAE Branch Campus on 28th January 2021.**



**It is an exciting and thrilling experience to compete with more than 100 participants from all the Emirates. It helped me improve my public speaking skills and motivates me to participate in such events in future.**

**-Rashaad Hasan - Gr12BS1**



G 12 students participated in the 'Speak like a pro.' competition recently conducted by the University of West London.

G9 Self-Portraits with Ms. Maha.