# **GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, SHARJAH**

YFIRST

1Y1



hanging lives through education

Newsletter Issue #6 19th September, 2024



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

Dear WSS Parents,

Smart, professional Dress We are training our students to become successful business people, with high standards of dress, including tie/ scarf, black shoes, uniform

hair ties/bands & the boys' shirts smartly tucked in. Many thanks to parents for sending your children to school so smartly dressed. For convenience, Ties (AED29/-) & scarves (AED34/-) are available to buy from the school Bookstore, if your child needs to get one. Thank you.

#### **Digital Literacy; e-books**

Long-term success starts in school & we are committed to preparing our students for a technological future, where digital literacy is a must. Reflecting this, one of SPEA's focus areas in the coming round of ITQAN inspections is going to be the use of technology in learning. This is one reason we have included more e-books in the curriculum, giving our students additional opportunities to gain confidence in IT skills. The curriculum will remain balanced between hands-on activities, books, hardcopy materials & licensed, paid for e-books, as we monitor onscreen time & the impact of digital learning on student outcomes. It may take a little time to adjust to the extended BYOD programme, but we are sure that our students will settle soon. Take a look at the range of classroom activities shared in our Newsletters-rest assured our learning programme continues to engage our children in meaningful & exciting ways!

Dates for Your Diary	
Date	Details
Mon. 2/12/24 & Tues. 3/12/24	• Possible school closure for UAE National Day holiday (TBC by the Authorities)
Friday 13/12/24 to Sunday 5/1/25	<ul> <li>Winter Break (3-weeks)</li> <li>T1 Exams will be held during the 2 weeks before the Winter Break (exact dates TBC)</li> </ul>





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

### رؤيتنا؛ "التميز من خلال العمل الجماعى؛ نجاح للجميع"

State () #

lec tricity



مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر الشارقة

SCHOOL

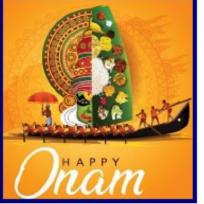
ر سالة من المديرة / الرئيس التنفيذي السيدة فاليري تومبسون

أولياء أمور مدرسة جيمس ويـ الشارقة الأعزاء،

ملابس أنيقة واحترافية

نحن ندرب طلابنا ليصبحوا رجاا أعمال ناجحين، مع معايير الملايس، بما في ذلك ريطة العنق/ الوشاح، والأحذية المبوداء، وربه الشعر الموحدة، وقمصان الأولاد

MILYTIRS









### الثقافة الرقمية؛ الكتب الالكترونية

VARKEY FOUNDATION

naing lives through educati

العنق (29 در همَّا إماراتيًّا) والأوشحة (34 در همَّا إماراتيًّا) للشراء من مكتبة المدرسة، إذا كان طفلك بحاجة إلى الحصول عليها. شكرًا لك. يبدأ النجاح الطويل الأمد في المدرسة ونحن ملتزمون بإعداد طلابنا لمستقبل تكنولوجي، حيث يعتبر الإلمام الرقمي أمرا

وسة بذكاء. شكرًا جزيلاً للآباء والأمهات لإرسال أطفالهم إلى المدرسة مرتدين ملابس أنيقة. ولتسهيل الأمر، تتوفر ربطات



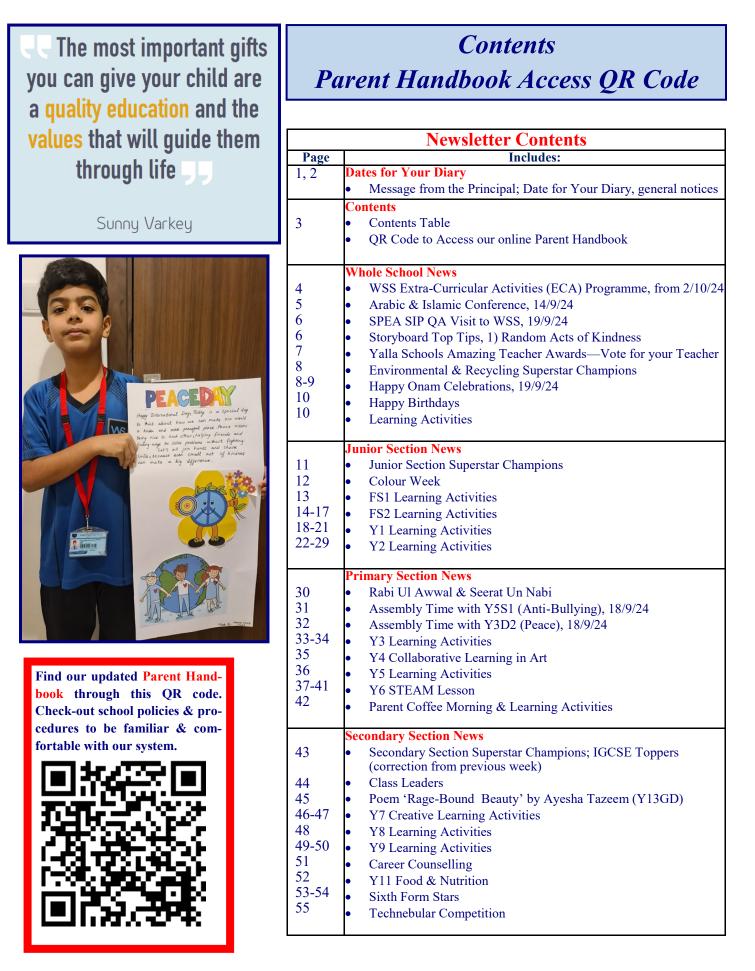




النشرة الإخبارية رقم # 6

19 سبتمبر 2024

المواعيد	
التقاصيل	التاريخ
<ul> <li>احتمال إغلاق المدارس خلال عطلة اليوم الوطني لدولة الإصارات العربية المتحدة (سيتم الإعلان عن ذلك من قبل السلطات)</li> </ul>	الاشين 2/12/24 والثلاثاء 3/12/24
<ul> <li>الحللة الشنوية (3 أسابيع)</li> <li>سيتم عقد امتحانات TTخلال الأسبوعين قبل العطلة الشنوية (سيتم تحديد التواريخ الدقيقة لإحقًا)</li> </ul>	الجمعة 13/12/24 إلى الأحد 5/1/25 إ



# Whole School News; WSS Extra-Curricular Activities Programme (ECA), from 2/10/24!

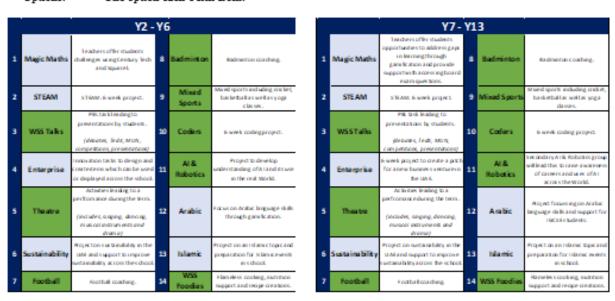
GEMS GEMS	Payment should be made under 'activity' section choosing the 'ECA' option and not under 'tuition fees'.
17/09/24	<ul> <li>Once the payment is made, the registration form should be completed using the link provided.</li> </ul>
Deve Devents	<ul> <li>We will allocate students to appropriate activities and share these by 01/10/24.</li> </ul>

Dear Parents.

#### Subject: WSS Optional Term 1 Extra-Curricular Activity (ECA) Programme

After feedback from parents (from the survey) and students we have designed a dynamic ECA schedule which supports students to develop additional confidence, skills, and competencies each term. Details of the ECA program options are as follows:

Day:	Wednesdays after school
Time:	2:30pm to 4:00pm
Transport:	BBT students will be dropped by bus, OT students to be picked up at 4:00pm
Dates:	Term 1: 6 weeks, every Wednesday, starting from 02/10/24 until 07/11/24
	Term 2: 6 weeks, every Wednesday, starting from 16/01/25 until 20/02/25
	Term 3: 6 weeks, every Wednesday, starting from 17/04/25 until 22/05/25
Cost:	250 AED per Term
Registration:	Online on GEMS Parent Portal
Options:	One option each Term from:



Please complete the payment on your GEMS Parent Portal as soon as possible. This will allow us to distribute the students into groups for the various activities. We will run with the most popular options. So far options 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 14 are the most popular, so we request students to select one of these as either their 1st or 2nd choice. Here are the steps to follow:

- 1. Parents pay on GEMS Parent Portal.
- After payment, parents should complete the registration form: <u>https://forms.office.com/r/8PfPnNmTS2</u> using students login credentials.
- 3. Students will be allocated activity groups on a first come first registered basis.
- 4. If you have any questions, please direct these to your child's Form Tutor.

Thank you. WSS Management

## Whole School News; Arabic & Islamic Conference, 14/9/24!



Our MOE Subjects Team attended an Arabic & Islamic Conference on Saturday 14/9/24 at Winchester School, Jebel Ali. The event was attended by KHDA & GEMS dignitaries, including HE Aisha Miran (Director General KHDA), Dr. Saima Rana (Deputy CEO) & Mr. Jay Varkey. There were over 300 delegates from GEMS schools & beyond. Well done to WSS HOD MOE Subjects Mr Osama, who presented one of the work-







Ehr Winchester Beboel, Jebel Illi

Her Excellency Aisha Miran Director General of KHDA

Ms. Fatma Belrehif - Chief Executive Officer of Dubai Schools Inspection Bureau

> Dr. Abdul-Rahman Nassir CEO Business Support Sector

Ms. Fatima Bu Ali Director of Quality Assurance

> Mr. Yasser Atwi Principal Inspector

Mr. Magdy Ragab Principal Inspector

Dr. Ghassan Hussein Ali Senior Inspector

Mr. Jay Varkey Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Dr. Saima Rana Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Ms. Lisa Crausby Group Chief Education Officer

> Ms. Ranju Anand SVP Schools

Ms. Nargish Khambatta SVP Schools

# Whole School News; SPEA School Improvement Advisor Ms. Lynn on Quality Assurance Visit to WSS, 19/9/24!





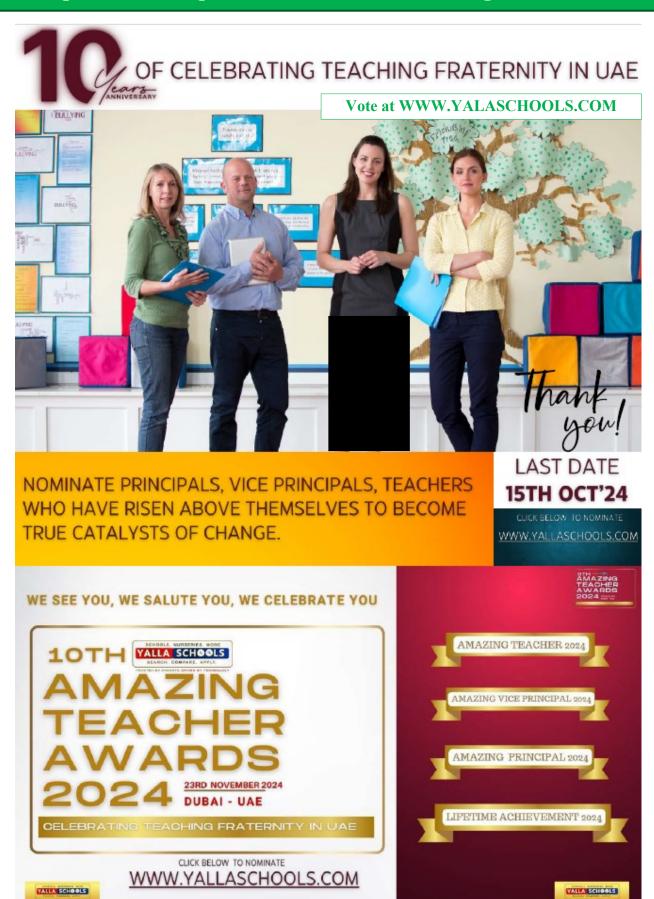
Ms. Lynn visited classes for Lesson Observations & met SLT for feedback on strengths & next steps to SLT. Thank you, Ms. Lynn, we appreciate the support.



## Whole School News; Storyboard Top Tips



WSS Superstar Champions; Yalla Schools Amazing Teacher Awards!



# **Environment & Sustainability Superstar Champions!**



As part of the WSS Sustainability programme, we have permanent plastic recycling bins in school (one at Main Gate #1 & another in teh carpark). Let's 'Go Green!' Please bring your empty plastic water bottles for recycling. Thank you.



Whole School News; Happy Onam Celebrations, 19/9/24!



# Whole School News; Happy Onam Celebrations, 19/9/24!







Thank you to our very creative MSO Ms. Sera for this beautiful treat, & to our graceful dance team!







#### Happy Birthdays!





#### WSS Junior Section Superstar Champions!







# Junior Section News; Y2 Colour Week!























# Junior Section News; FS1H1 Learning Activities!





# Junior Section News; FS2D1 & FS2D2 Learning Activities!



We are learning "t" sound







# Junior Section News; FS2F1 Learning Activities!

# FS2 F1 with Ms Pooja and Ms Priyanka



# Junior Section News; FS2H2 Learning Activities!



FS2 H2 with MS. Karen and MS. Monika.

# Junior Section News; FS2S1 Learning Activities!



# Junior Section News; Y1D1 Learning Activities!





Y1D1 MS. Beena & Ms. Rahna



# Junior Section News; Y1D2 Learning Activities!





# Junior Section News; Y1F2 Learning Activities!





# Engaged in our class















# Junior Section News; Y1H2 Learning Activities!



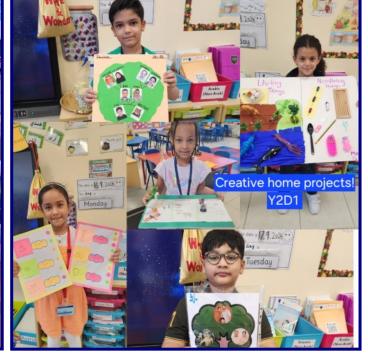
Y1 H2 Ms. Kishwar & Ms. Mani

# Junior Section News; Y2D1 Learning Activities!

















# Junior Section News; Y2D2 Learning Activities!



# Junior Section News; Y2F1 Learning Activities!



# Junior Section News; Y2F2 Learning Activities!

# Teacher: Ms. Fauzia TA. Ms. Benil Image: State of the s



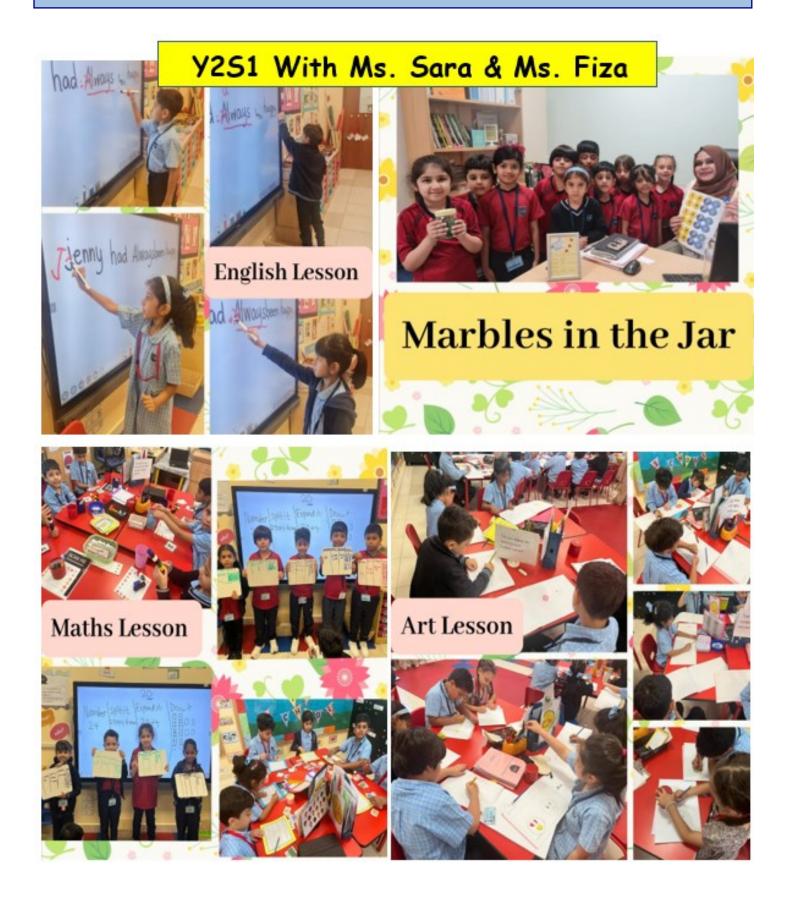
# Junior Section News; Y2H1 Learning Activities!



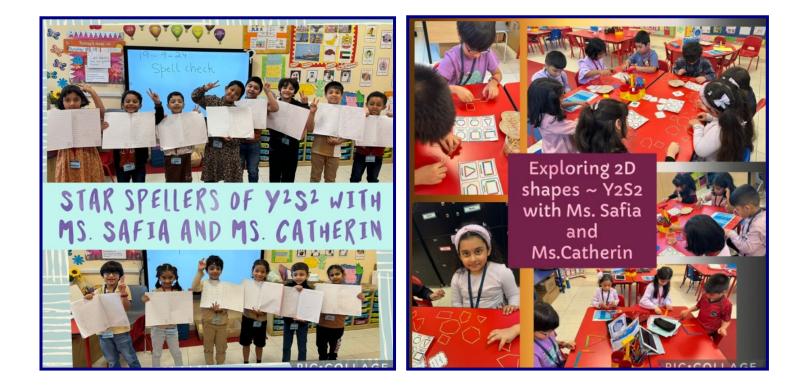
# Junior Section News; Y2H2 Learning Activities!



# Junior Section News; Y2S1 Learning Activities!



# Junior Section News; Y2S2 Learning Activities!







# Primary Section News; Rabi-Ul-Awwal Activities!

#### Rabi-ul-Awwal Activities in the Primary Section for Years 3 to 6.

IN THE MONTH OF RABI-UL-AWWAL, STUDENTS FROM YEARS 3 TO 6 CELEBRATED THE LIFE AND TEACHINGS OF THE PROPHET MUHAMMAD (PBUH) THROUGH A VARIETY OF MEANINGFUL ACTIVITIES. THESE INCLUDED STORYTELLING SESSIONS ABOUT THE PROPHETS KINDNESS AND COMPASSION, ART COMPETITIONS FOCUSED ON ISLAMIC VALUES, AND BROUP DISCUSSIONS EMPHASIZING EMPATHY AND COMMUNITY. THE STUDENTS FOSTERED A DEEP SENSE OF CONNECTION TO THE SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MONTH.



Excellence Through Teamwork, Success For all

# Primary Section News; Assembly Time with Y5S1, 18/9/24!







This was a super Assembly with an important, clear message on Anti-Bullying. We learnt to use our words & actions to raise up our friends, not to hurt them. Well done Y5S1!













# Primary Section News; Assembly Time with Y3D2, 18/9/24!





# Primary Section News; Y3 Collaborative Art Lesson!



# **Primary Section News; Y3 Collaborative Art Lesson!**

Y3S2 Students have been diving into the fascinating world of flowers! Using engaging resources, we are discovering the important parts of a flower with Ms. Lissy

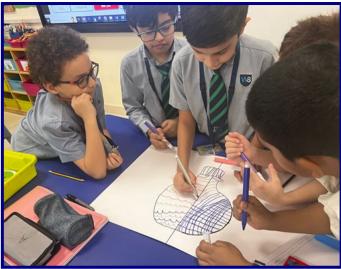




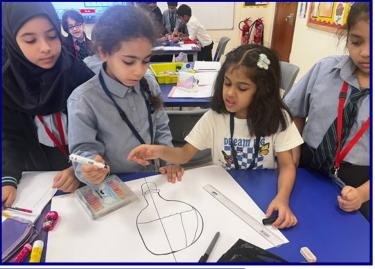
Hands Together for Peace: Year 3S2 Journey to a Kinder World!" Our little peacebuilders are learning how love and kindness can make the world a better place 💐 💙 With Ms. Lissy

# **Primary Section News; Y4 Collaborative Art Lesson!**











Together everyone achieves more!

# **Primary Section News; Y5 Celebrate World Peace Day!**



Ms. Sonia, the Primary Asst. Principal led the Reading Buddy program orientation in the Primary department. This initiative were introduced by Ms. <u>Ringam</u> and Mr. Arvie, the Primary Reading Leaders.



#### Primary Section News; Y6 STEAM Lesson, 18/9/24!





Y6 enjoyed a practical STEAM lesson building & testing an operational catapult





STEAM Lesson – Y6BF

The students built a catapult using popsicle sticks, and everyone participated enthusiastically. They were all



#### Primary Section News; Y6 STEAM Lesson, 18/9/24!

#### STEAM Lesson – Y6BH & Y6 GF

The students built a catapult using popsicle sticks, and everyone participated enthusiastically. They were all



Dear Ms.Valerie I am writing to sincerely thank you for the introduction of STEAM lesson at WSS. This initiative is truly commendable and is already making a positive impact on my children's learning journey. As a parent, I deeply value the balance between academics and creativity. The STEAM lesson is doing exactly that.

My children have come home excited about the new creativity they did today in STEAM lesson. Syed Taha made a catapult in Steam class today using popsicles and rubber bands. Attached is his creativity.



#### Primary Section News; Y6 Music Lesson, 18/9/24!



Students are learning how to create rhythm sequences.







 Science Lesson - Y6BF

 Demonstrating the functions of switch in an electric circuit by the student leaders and virtual lab activity.

 Image: Comparison of the function of switch in an electric circuit by the student leaders and virtual lab activity.

 Image: Comparison of the function of switch in an electric circuit by the student leaders and virtual lab activity.

 Image: Comparison of the function of switch in an electric circuit by the student leaders and virtual lab activity.

 Image: Comparison of the function of switch in an electric circuit by the student leaders and virtual lab activity.

 Image: Comparison of the function of switch in an electric circuit by the student leaders and virtual lab activity.

 Image: Comparison of the function of switch in an electric circuit by the student leaders and virtual lab activity.

 Image: Comparison of the function of switch in an electric circuit by the student leaders and virtual lab activity.

 Image: Comparison of the function of switch in an electric circuit by the student leaders and virtual lab activity.

 Image: Comparison of the function of switch in an electric circuit by the student leaders and virtual lab activity.

 Image: Comparison of the function of switch in an electric circuit by the student leaders and virtual lab activity.

 Image: Comparison of the function of switch in an electric circuit by the student leaders and virtual lab activity.

 Image: Comparison of the function of switch in an electric circuit by the student leaders and virtual lab activity.

 Image: Comparis

#### **Primary Section News; Y6 Learning Activities!**



#### **Primary Section News; Y6 Learning Activities!**

#### Y6 GH - Healthy Week Highlights: A Focus on Wellness!





















#### Primary Section News; Primary Coffee Morning, 16/9/24!

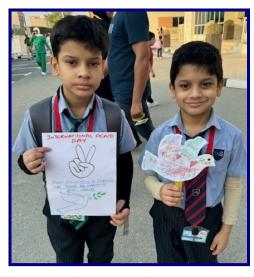


Thank you to the Primary Parents who came in to school for the Coffee Morning session on 16/9/24. We love the teamwork-we were able to address queries & share ideas.









Celebrating International Peace Day, on 19/9/24



tapult using popsicle sticks.

Usman of Y6 BF, successfully built a circuit and gained a clear understanding of its components

#### WSS Sectondary Section Superstar Champions!





MENNA AHMED

5A\* 1A

**ABDELHAMID ALIAN 5A\*** 

YOUMNA OSAMA

YANA CHINTALAPUDI 6A\*

SYEDA TAYYIBA ZAINUB

6A\*



(8

SALI OMAR BADRAN

SALI OMAR BADRAN 5A\* 1A

FARIDA AHMED 5A\*1A

> ZAHRA ABBAS 4A\* 2A

4A\* 1A

5A\* 1A

 SEINAH JAFAR

MAYMOONA ATHAR





#### WSS Secondary Section Superstar Champions; Class Leaders!



#### **Secondary Section News**





## Page-bound beauty

In pages worn and stories told. literature's light breaks the cold. Through every page, our hearts are shown. the truths and dreams we'ce always known. literature's light guides us clear. in stories deep and voices clear. it shapes our thoughts and helps us see. the endless realms of what could be. in simple words, a world can bloom, transforming silence, lifting gloom. a careful phrase, a gentle rhyme. can turn the ordinary sublime. through crafted words and tales so fine. we touch the hearts of human kind. literature's spark, a light so true. reveals our world in shades anew. in every line and verse we find. a depth and grace of the human mind.

Ayesha Tazeen yr1360.

#### Secondary Section News; Y7 Creative Learning Activities!



#### Secondary Section News; Y7 Learning Activities!

Consistency: Add to the kindness jar daily. Thoughtfulness: Recognize genuine acts of kindness. Fairness: Everyone gets a chance. Positivity: Celebrate each contribution. Inclusivity: Encourage participation.





**KINDNESS JAR** 

TATI

#### Secondary Section News; Y8 Learning Activities!



#### Secondary Section News; Y9 Learning Activities!



# Creativity Unfolds: Year 9 Students Excel in XS3 Art & Origami Competition!

As part of our exciting KS3 co-curricular activities, Year 9 students recently embarked on an artistic journey through the fascinating world of origami. With focus, creativity, and enthusiasm, they transformed simple sheets of paper into intricate masterpieces! This hands-on activity not only nurtured their artistic skills but also encouraged patience and tearwork. It was a joy to see their proud smiles as their creations came to life. We couldn't be more impressed by their efforts—what a fantastic way to blend fun with learning! Congratulations to all our budding artists!



#### Secondary Section News; Y9 Learning Activities!

#### Year 9 Students Dazzle in KS3 Art Painting Challenge!

Our Year 9 students showcased their creativity and talent in the KS3 Art Painting Challenge, producing vibrant and imaginative works of art. Through this exciting co-curricular activity, they expressed themselves beautifully on canvas, making us proud of their artistic achievements!





#### Secondary Section News; Career Guidance!

#### Secondary Section News: Career Guidance





Ms. Anisha (Career Counselor/GC) Explaining the importance of Passport program hours for University admissions.





Y12BH Class leader explaining Volunteer ship Passport program to the class.

#### Sixth form Volunteer ship



#### Secondary Section News; Y11 Food & Nutrition!

### DOUGHNUT DELIGHTS: FLUFFY CREATIONS FROM YEAST TO FEAST-Y11 BOYS FOOD & NUTRITION





#### Secondary Section News; Sixth Form Stars!



Mentoring IGCSE students by Fatima Bashir (Yr 12 GH)



#### Secondary Section News; Sixth Form Stars!



The Principal & Vice Principal held final round interviews this week to select our new Student Council leaders. Competition was tough as the talent pool was so deep! Congratulations to all the shortlisted students on their impressive achievement so far. Interview results will be published shortly. Secondary Section News; Technebular Competition!

## TECHNEBULA: EXPLORING THE FUTURE OF INNOVATION

This competition challenges students to address realworld environmental and social issues using innovative technology solutions

