

# GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, SHARJAH



Newsletter Issue #12  
7th November, 2024



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

Dear WSS Parents,

### SPEA SPR Inspection Survey

Have you completed the SPEA SPR Inspection survey? If so, many thanks. If

not, please do so as it is a requirement of inspection. Thank you so much.

### Certificates to be Extracted from Daleel 2 by Parents (as required)

Parents please note that once your child is linked/Registered on SPEA's Daleel 2, the following certificates would be available directly from the Daleel 2 system by parents as required (not by school, but **subject to no pending fees**):

- Report Cards
- Certificate of Transfer
- Certificate of Good Conduct
- Certificate of Continuity of Study
- Diploma Certificate

### SPEA Request for Updated Primary Contact Residence Emirate & Area

Please update your family's WSS primary contact's **Emirate & Area on your school Portal by Sunday 10/11/24**. The GRE will then update it on the SPEA system. Please see **p4** for the Parent Portal Pathway Guidance to do this.

## Dates for Your Diary

Date	Details
<b>Open</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>online registration system for new seats</b> for the next Academic Year 2025-2026 has opened.</li> <li>• <b>Enrollment assessment will start from January 2025</b>, on a 'first-come, first-served' basis. Since seats are very limited, please register early to avoid disappointment if you want new seats.</li> </ul>
<b>January 2025</b>	
<b>Saturday 9/11/24,</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>3pm; deadline for parents to complete the SPEA school SPR inspection survey. Thanks.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Tues. 26/11/24</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>UAE National Day Celebrations.</b></li> <li>• Students may come to school dressed in UAE dress/UAE flag colours &amp; bring traditional food to share with classmates (<i>optional</i>).</li> </ul>
<b>From Wed. 27/11/24</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>T1 Exams (exact dates for each year group TBC)</b></li> <li>• <b>7:15am-12:30pm Exam Day Timings</b> for full school</li> </ul>
<b>Mon. 2/12/24 &amp; Tues. 3/12/24</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Possible school closure for UAE National Day holiday (TBC by the Authorities)</b></li> </ul>
<b>Fri. 13/12/24 to Sun. 5/1/25</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Winter Break (3-weeks)</b></li> </ul>
<b>Monday 6/1/25</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>First day of T2.</b></li> <li>• <b>T2 fees due by latest first day of Term.</b></li> </ul>



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

# مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر الشارقة



النشرة الإخبارية رقم # 12  
7 نوفمبر 2024



رسالة من  
المديرة / الرئيس التنفيذي  
السيدة قليري تومسون

أولياء أمور مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر  
الشارقة الأعزاء،

## مسح تفتيش SPEA SPR

هل أكملت استطلاع رأي SPEA

SPR؟

إذا كان الأمر كذلك، فتمكّنًا جزيلًا لك.  
وإذا لم يكن الأمر كذلك، فيرجى القيام  
بذلك لأنه أحد متطلبات التفتيش. شكرًا  
جزيلًا لك.

## الشهادات المطلوب استخراجها من دليل 2 من قبل الوالدين (حسب الحاجة)

يرجى من أولياء الأمور ملاحظة أنه بمجرد ربط طفلكم/تسجيله  
على نظام دليل 2 التابع لهيئة التعليم في الشارقة، ستكون  
الشهادات التالية متاحة مباشرة من نظام دليل 2 من قبل أولياء  
الأمر حسب الحاجة (وليس من قبل المدرسة، ولكن بشرط عدم  
وجود رسوم معلقة):

- بطاقات التقارير
- شهادة نقل الملكية
- شهادة حسن السيرة والسلوك
- شهادة استمرارية الدراسة
- شهادة الدبلوم

## طلب SPEA لتحديث جهة الاتصال الأساسية وإمارة الإقامة والمنطقة

يرجى تحديث جهة الاتصال الرئيسية لدائرة خدمات المياه  
والصرف الصحي في الإمارة والمنطقة الخاصة بعائلك على بوابة  
مدرستك بحلول يوم الأحد 10/11/14. سيقوم GRE بعد ذلك  
بتحديثه على نظام SPEA بحلول يوم الاثنين 11/11/24. يرجى  
الاطلاع على الصفحة 4 للحصول على إرشادات مسار بوابة  
الوالدين للقيام بذلك.

## المواعيد

التفاصيل	التاريخ
تم فتح نظام التسجيل الإلكتروني للمقاعد الجديدة للعام الدراسي المقبل 2025-2026.	مفتوح بنابر 5 2025
سيبدأ تقييم التسجيل اعتبارًا من بنابر 2025، على أساس "من يأتي أولاً يُخدم أولاً". ونظرًا لأن المقاعد محدودة للغاية، يرجى التسجيل مبكرًا لتجنب خيبة الأمل إذا كنت تريد مقاعد جديدة. شكرًا لك.	
الساعة 3 مساءً؛ الموعد النهائي للآباء لإكمال استبيان التفتيش على المدارس التابع لـ SPEA. شكرًا.	السبت 9/11/24
احتفالات اليوم الوطني لدولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة يُسمح للطلاب بالحضور إلى المدرسة وهم يرتدون الزي الإماراتي/أثوان علم الإمارات العربية المتحدة وإحضار الطعام التقليدي لمشاركتهم مع زملائهم في الفصل (اختياري).	الثلاثاء 26/11/24
امتحانات TI1 (التواريخ الحقيقية لكل مجموعة عمرية سيتم تحديدها لاحقًا) 7:15 صباحًا - 12:30 ظهرًا مواعيد يوم الامتحان للمدرسة الكاملة	من يوم الأربعاء 27/11/24
احتمال إغلاق المدارس خلال عطلة اليوم الوطني لدولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة (سيتم الإعلان عن ذلك من قبل السلطات)	الاثنين والتلاثاء 2/12/24 3/12/24
العطلة الشتوية (3 أسابيع)	الجمعة 13/12/24 إلى الأحد 5/1/25
اليوم الأول من T2. يجب دفع رسوم T2 في موعد أقصاه اليوم الأول من الفصل الدراسي.	الاثنين 6/1/25



رؤيتنا؛ "التميز من خلال العمل الجماعي؛ نجاح للجميع"

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

Sunny Varkey

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### *Parent Handbook Access QR Code*

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Find our updated **Parent Handbook** through this QR code. Check-out school policies & procedures to be familiar & comfortable with our system.



# Whole School News; GEMS Parent Satisfaction Survey!

## Parent Survey Score Calculation



Our WSS Vision is based on positive, productive Teamwork. Your feedback & good opinion matter to us & our parents are important members of the WSS team.

GEMS send out a bi-annual Parent Satisfaction Survey for parents to formally share their feedback (the T1 Survey is currently going out to new parents). However, please do not wait to receive a survey invitation to share your valuable insights. Please share your feedback, concerns or appreciation as the situation arises, so that we can work with you as a team to make WSS the best school possible for your child.

There re always areas which can be improved—the WSS team works hard & are committed to school development for the benefit of all our children, so please work positively with us—Excellence Through Teamwork; Success For All!

**Parent Portal Pathway to update your Emirate & Area address for SPEA**

The screenshot shows the 'Update Student Details' page in the Parent Portal. The 'Parent Details' section is active, showing fields for 'Mother Photo', 'First Name', 'Middle Name', 'Last Name', 'Mother's Country of Origin 1\*', 'Mother's Country of Origin 2', 'Residential Address Country\*', 'Residential Address Area\*', 'Residential Address City\*', and 'Residential Address Street\*'. Red arrows point to the 'Residential Address City\*' and 'Residential Address Area\*' fields. A 'Copy Father Details' button is also visible.

*Whole School News; WSS Inter-School Northern Emirates  
Soccer Cup Highlights!*



**Day 2 - Highlights**

*Whole School News; WSS Inter-School Northern Emirates  
Soccer Cup Highlights!*



**Day 3 - Finals and Semi Finals**

*Whole School News; WSS Inter-School Northern Emirates Soccer Cup Highlights!*



# *Whole School News; WSS Inter-School Northern Emirates Soccer Cup Highlights!*



On behalf of the WSR family, I want to thank you for inviting us to participate in the Northern Emirates Football Competition, Season 3. We were excited to take part and appreciated the chance to compete with other schools in the region. It was a great opportunity for our students to show their skills, promote sportsmanship, and make new friends. We also want to thank you for adjusting the fixture times to fit our travel schedule. We truly appreciate all the effort your team put into organising this event.

Thank you again for including us and we really enjoyed it!

We look forward to seeing you all next season!



## *WSS Superstar Champions!*



**Huge thanks to our superstar PE team for a highly successful WSS Inter-school Northern Emirates Soccer Cup, Season 3. We had a record number of schools attending & the event was well-organized & ably supported by our fully engaged student leaders.**

To the Organizers of the Northern Emirates Soccer Cup  
GEMS Westminster School Sharjah

Dear Organizers,

On behalf of our entire team and school community, I would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to you and your team for the exemplary organization of the Northern Emirates Soccer Cup, Season 3. The tournament, held from October 29-31, 2024, was an outstanding success, thanks to your hard work and dedication.

Your efforts in promoting student leadership through their involvement in the tournament's organization were particularly inspiring. This approach not only enhanced the event's efficiency but also instilled invaluable skills in the students, nurturing them as lifelong learners who will carry these experiences forward. The result was a well-coordinated, highly organized tournament that ran smoothly and adhered strictly to its schedule – a testament to your team's commitment to punctuality and professionalism.

The addition of a Well-Being Exhibition Match for guest coaches was a thoughtful touch, demonstrating your dedication to community well-being and the holistic nature of the event. This initiative provided a meaningful opportunity for guest coaches to connect, unwind, and enjoy the event from a different perspective.

Moreover, the high standard of the award ceremony added a special touch to the closing of the tournament. The ceremony was memorable, uplifting, and a fitting conclusion to an event of such caliber. We were equally impressed by the consistency and dedication of the match officials, who maintained an exceptional level of accuracy and fairness throughout the games.

However, we did note that the players were expecting certificates in recognition of their participation and efforts. Such tokens of appreciation would have further enhanced their experience, serving as a lasting reminder of their achievements and the spirit of the tournament.

Thank you once again for hosting an inspiring and well-organized event that brought the community together to celebrate youth sports at its finest. Please extend our appreciation to everyone involved in making the Northern Emirates Soccer Cup a memorable experience.

Warm regards,

Rasheedali Thonikkara  
Head of Physical Education  
Al Amana Private School- Sharjah

# Whole School News; Safeguarding—Termly Fire Drill, 5/11/24



The whole school undertook a Fire Evacuation Practice on 5/11/24. A Termly drill is part of our Safeguarding programme, to ensure that everyone knows what to do & where to go in case of a real emergency evacuation.

## Week 6 Primary ECA Report!

### PRIMARY- ECA ACTIVITES (Week -6)



# Whole School News; Storyboard Top Tips!

**BELIEVE Yourself**

**SELF-CONFIDENCE**

I can't do it

Hi Mariam, how's your day at school?

Hello dad! I am so happy today because my teacher praised me for the confidence that I had shown in the class during the flip learning in the lesson.

Wow! I am so glad that you are confident in everything you do especially in front of others. How can self confidence drives success as a student like you?

Self-confidence has been defined as a feeling of trust in one's abilities and qualities. It is the essence of how to overcome and handle challenges as they arise.

You are right! People who lack confidence often struggle with emotions like fear, depression, and anxiety, which are associated with negative health effects.

As a student, I lead my classmates to discuss the lesson and answer the questions to clear their doubts. I am happy to help them.

So, what does it mean to be confident?

These are the examples of having a confident behaviour:

1. Doing what you believe to be right, even if others criticise you for it.
2. Being willing to take risks and go the extra mile to achieve better things.
3. Admitting your mistakes, and learning from them.
4. Accepting compliments graciously. "Thanks, I really worked hard on that". I'm pleased you recognise my efforts."

## Knowing your specific targets

Lara, could you tell me your achievement targets in Science?

Sure Miss, I had a challenge in understanding the concept as to how objects reflect light. To clarify this, I asked questions to my teacher in School on the topic and got my concepts clear.

At Home, I watched a few video tutorials and read a few books on how objects reflect light. This helped me clearly understand the concept.

Well Done Lara!! you know your specific targets. I am happy to note that you are aware on the areas you have to work on and as to how you go about achieving your goal.



*Environment & Sustainability Superstar Champions!*



# Whole School News; Storyboard Top Tips!

**Grit**

Don't Give UP

**IF YOU CAN IMAGINE IT, YOU CAN MAKE IT**

Grit is a personality trait that helps you working toward long-term goals despite of setbacks or failures.

I agree to you sir! I think grit has similarity with perseverance because it requires growth mindset to keep working to get better at something.

Yes. Grit helps you achieve a goal, even though challenges get in your way. Just keep working to be successful.

WOW! I am so happy and thankful for the mindset that you have in yourself, my child.

I am proud of you for helping me in the house chores. Sometime you think that you can't do it but you finished it because you have grit and perseverance. Keep it up!

Mum, I am so happy today! I learnt the word "grit" from school! I reflected well and I should keep working to be successful to reach my dreams.

A PLAN!

## Celebrating Handwriting Excellence

Dad, I got my Pen Licence today. I can write with a real pen.

That's wonderful Ruby! What's a Pen Licence?

That's Fantastic! Ruby you have worked hard for it.

The Pen Licence is an initiative to improve students' handwriting skills.

You are setting a great example for your classmates!

Let's have a little celebration to motivate your friends as well.

## WSS Junior Section Superstar Champions!

Dear teacher (Ms. Syeda Sidra)

No word can describe how much I appreciate you and your efforts to make Ahmed's day 🥹🥹🥹🥹🥹

Really I cried when I see how you care about him

I trusted from the first day of school you're so kind ,but you're more kind and caring than any one can think 😊😊😊😊😊

Now , I know why Ahmed returned in his birthday happy and didn't miss us ,because of you 😊

Thank you so much for making Ahmed's birthday special for him as you deal with him as a mother

Thanks for being you a mother before being a teacher

Really Thank you for making my heart feel at ease about Ahmed being with you. This is a source of security and confidence for him and for us.

Thank you soooooo much 🥹🥹🥹

I hope this message finds you well. I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt appreciation for all the hard work and dedication you put into making our school a wonderful place for learning.

Ms. Jennifer, your passion for teaching and your ability to inspire your students is truly remarkable. You go above and beyond to ensure that each child feels valued and confident in their abilities.

Ms. Foza, your supportive role as an assistant is invaluable. Your kindness and patience greatly enhance the learning environment, making it accessible for every student.

To the entire school team, thank you for your tireless efforts in creating a nurturing and engaging atmosphere.

Your teamwork and commitment do not go unnoticed. We are grateful for everything you do.

Together, you are making a significant difference in the lives of our students.



Y2 Superstar Wellbeing Champions of the Week

# Junior Section News; Making Learning Meaningful - Learning to Compare Size!



Making learning meaningful; students learning how to compare sizes in a Maths lesson using real life situations & people.





*Junior Section News: Assembly Time with Y2H1, 7/11/24!*



**Super Sustainability Assembly by Y2H1 on 'Caring for the Environment.' Great costumes, parents, thank you!**



*Junior Section News: Assembly Time with Y2H1, 7/11/24!*



# Junior Section News: Assembly Time with FS2H2, 7/11/24!



VP Mr. Suj launching the 'Life Skills' & Family First Programme coming shortly. We will share life skills-related activities for parents & students to have fun completing together at home.



## *Junior Section News: Assembly Time with FS2H2, 7/11/24!*



FS2H2's super cute Assembly was all about Farm Animals. An important message was that it is important to care for animals.

## *Assembly Time with Y1H2, 7/11/24!*



Y1H2's Assembly was very clever. They adapted the Humpty-Dumpty story to have a 'Growth Mindset'.



## Junior Section News: Assembly Time with Y1H2, 7/11/24!



Y1H2 put on an amazing Assembly on the theme 'Growth Mindset'. They enacted an adapted story of Humpty-Dumpty, who adopted a growth mindset & got better. There were also Islamic links. We also learnt that having a 'I can do it' approach to solving challenges will help us to succeed.

Dear Ms. Kishwar and Ms Mani,

You've surprised us with the incredible performance put on by the children today in the assembly.

It's inspiring to see such talent and confidence in such young students.

Your hard work and dedication are evident in every aspect of the performance. We know it takes a lot of effort to prepare the children, and we appreciate your commitment to making this event a success.

We would also like to thank Ms. Mani for her invaluable assistance. Her support undoubtedly contributed to the overall success of the assembly.

Thank you again for all your efforts. We are truly grateful for your dedication.

Please find the attached card 🍷

Warm regards from all the parents,

Mariam Mamdouh  
Mother of Soufian  
Y1H2

Dearest Ms.Rishwar & Ms.Mani,

Thank You!



With heartfelt appreciation.

Parents of Y1 H2

# Junior Section News: Y2D1 Learning Activities!



Sheikh Zayed Competition!

Champs of the week!

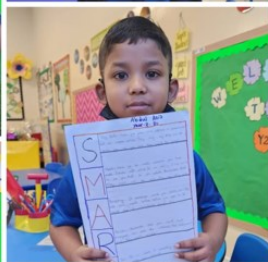
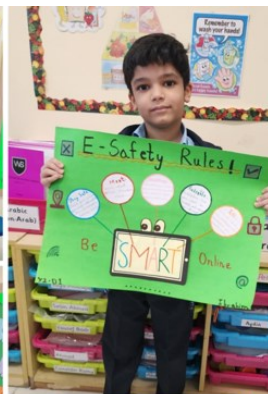
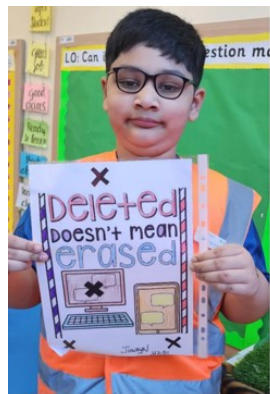
Spell check champ



Flag day!



Gift from SLT for consistent performance! Y2D1



E-Safety project! Y2D1 with Ms. Uzma and Ms. Askia

E-Safety Projects

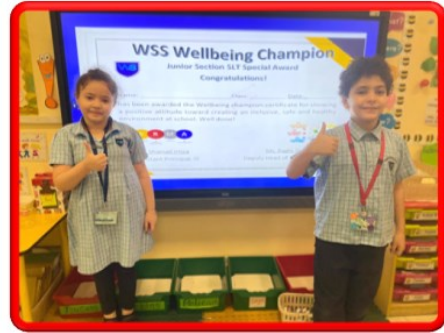
*Junior Section News: Y2F SST Learning Activities!*

SST activity  
Y2 F1-F2  
MS Amira



# Junior Section News: Y2F2 Learning Activities!

## Y2F2-With Ms. Fauzia and Ms. Benil



## Y2F2-Class Activities with Ms. Fauzia and Ms. Benil



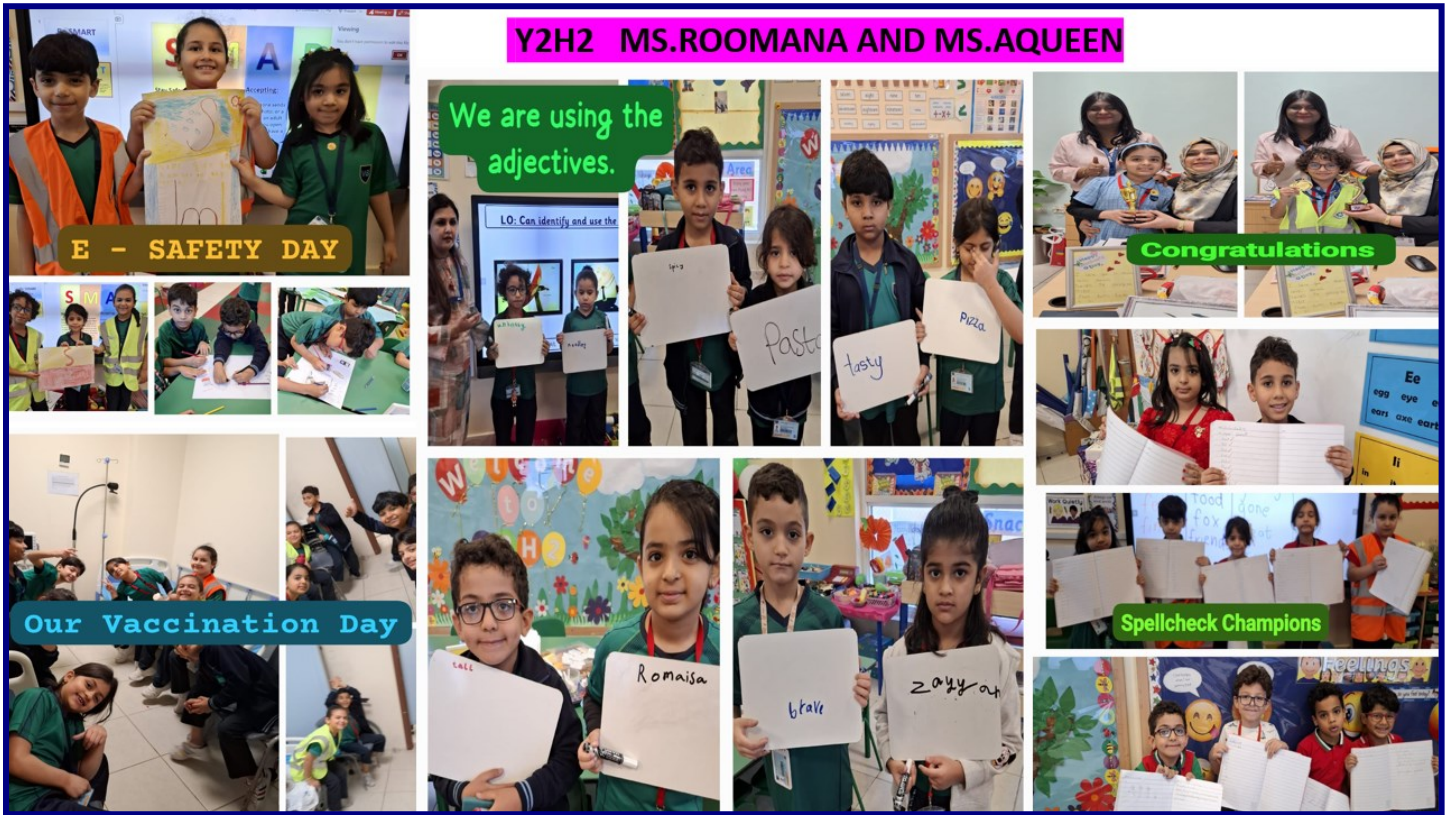


# Junior Section News: Y2H1 Learning Activities!

## Junior Section: Y2 H1 Learning Activities!



# Junior Section News: Y2H2 Learning Activities!



# Junior Section News: Y2S1 Learning Activities!

## Y2S1 With Ms. Sara & Ms. Fiza



## WSS Primary Section Superstar Champions!



Y5 & Y4 Superstar Champions of the Week!



# WSS Primary Section Superstar Champions!

## Y4 S1 Champions



Swimming champion:  
Malek Y4 S1



Gymnastic  
Champion: Asiyah  
Y4S1



*Primary Section News; Assembly Time with Y5H1, 6/11/24!*



**Y5H1 put on a super Assembly on 'Respect'. We learnt that we should treat others as we would like to be treated, & that respect is the glue that holds the WSS family together.**



*Primary Section News; Assembly Time with Y5H1, 6/11/24!*



*Primary Section News; Assembly Time with Y4S1, 6/11/24!*



*Primary Section News; Assembly Time with Y4S1, 6/11/24!*



**Y4S1's important Assembly was on the theme 'Perseverance'. We learnt to believe in ourselves, never to give up & to keep 'pushing through'.**





## WSS Primary Radio Station



RJ Kabeer  
Y5 H2



RJ Wareesha  
Y5 H2



RJ Inaya  
Y5 D2



RJ Yara  
Y5 H2

Our super enthusiastic & confident RJs presented a fascinating item relating to the UAE's long-term goals.

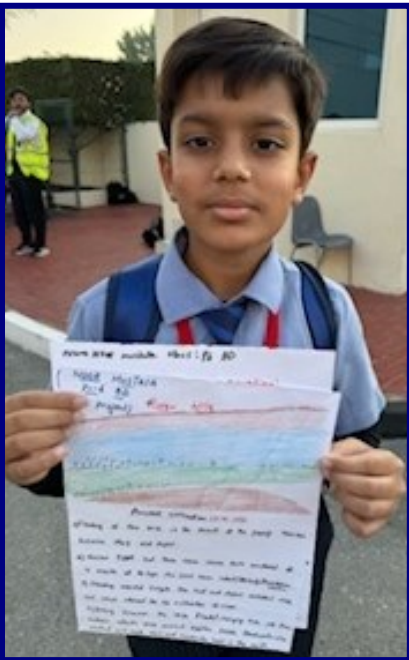


# Primary Section News

Y5 Contemplation area)



Thank you to the dedicated Y5 team for coming in over their weekend to beautify the Contemplation Zone.



Coming soon!

# WINTER CUP 2024



**WIN A TROPHY**

**10TH NOVEMBER – 8TH DECEMBER**



# WSS Secondary Section Superstar Champions!

Really, I am deeply grateful to Mrs. Hala's great efforts and outstanding support this year with my son, I appreciate her hard working and care . We are lucky this year to have a great teacher like her. Thanks, Mrs. Hala for everything and wish you all of the best.  
Regards



Meet our Kindness Champions, honored with the Wise Shield Savior Award!  
These students have shown outstanding compassion and empathy, going above and beyond to uplift their peers and create a supportive community. Their actions inspire us all, reminding everyone that kindness is the true strength that shields and unites us!



**Y9GH**



**Y9GD**



**Y9GF**



**Y9BH**



**Y9BS**



**Y9BF**



**Y9BD**

*Secondary Section News; KS3 Extra-Curricular Quiz, 4/11/24!*



The fun educational quiz was arranged during Assembly Time as part of our extra-curricular programme to engage more students in a greater range of activities during the school day.



# KS3 GIRLS QUIZ ASSEMBLY

The KS3 Girls Sports Quiz Competition was an exciting event that tested the participants' knowledge of various sports topics, including famous athletes, key moments, and records. This competition promoted teamwork, collaboration, created a fun, and competitive environment that celebrated the love of sports among the girls. It was a great opportunity for everyone to engage, learn, and showcase their sports expertise!



# Secondary Section News; KS3 Character Day!



# Secondary Section News; KS3 Kindness Tree (Wellbeing)!

## KINDNESS TREE YEAR 7



"A "Kindness Tree" is a classroom display where students add leaves noting acts of kindness, fostering positivity and compassion."







# UAE FLAG DAY CELEBRATION



**"UAE FLAG DAY  
CELEBRATES  
NATIONAL PRIDE  
AND UNITY, WITH  
CITIZENS AND  
RESIDENTS  
RAISING THE UAE  
FLAG TO HONOR  
THE COUNTRY'S  
ACHIEVEMENTS,  
HERITAGE, AND  
LEADERSHIP"**



# Secondary Section News; KS3 UAE Flag Day!

**Y8**

Today, we raise our flag with pride, honoring a nation built on unity, resilience, and ambition. Under its colors, we stand as one—celebrating the achievements of our past and embracing the limitless promise of our future. Long may it wave, a symbol of our nation's strength and spirit



**Y8GD STUDENTS**

## Secondary Section News; KS3 UAE Flag Day!

*"Join us as we celebrate a day filled with joy, laughter, and cherished memories!!! Let's make this birthday unforgettable—filled with love, laughter, and all the happiness in the world. Y9GH bday celebrations*



*"Today, we celebrate Flag Day—a tribute to the symbol of our unity, resilience, and freedom. Our flag represents the values we hold dear: liberty, justice, and hope for a brighter tomorrow. As we honor our flag, let us also remember the sacrifices and dreams of those who came before us, paving the way for a nation that strives for peace and equality. May we continue to stand together, inspired by the strength of our shared identity and commitment to a better future. Happy Flag Day!"*



# Secondary Section News; KS4 Character Day!



# Secondary Section News; KS4 Learning Activities!

## KS4-SPOTLIGHT

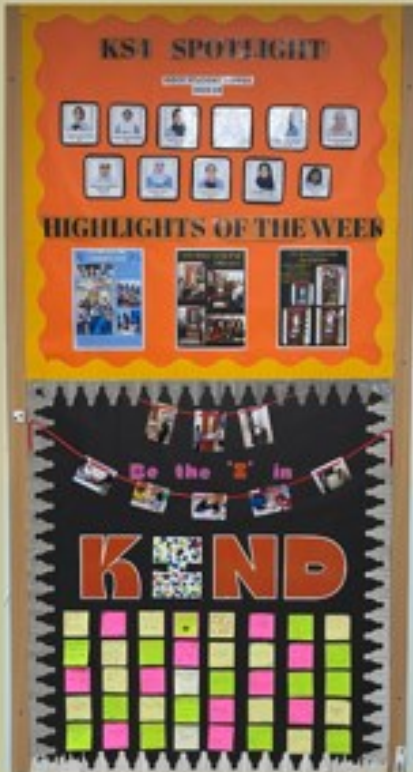
### PEER MENTORING



KS4 PEER MENTORSHIP  
FOSTERS STUDENT  
SUPPORT, GROWTH, AND  
LEADERSHIP.



### BULLETIN BOARD



### STAR STUDENTS



# Secondary Section News; Leadership & Learning in KS5—The WSS Student Wellbeing Conference, Saturday 9/11/24!



WSS is hosting a Student Wellbeing Conference on Saturday 9/11/24 for GEMS Cluster schools (WSS, GCS, WSR, WSF). Our committed student leaders will be leading many of the sessions. Here VP Mr. Suj is upskilling student leaders in preparation to deliver sessions at their Conference.

## Fire drill



## Y12 & 13 B'day celebration



# Secondary Section News; Leadership & Learning in KS5!

## SIXTH FORM Girls

### Rewards & Coupons



### LIV O RIGHTS

On October 30, 2024, Year 12 and 13 students participated in the LIV O Rights competition organized by Our Own High School Dubai. This event provided an outstanding platform for students to express their perspectives on human rights in today's world through a discussion forum and a graffiti competition.

The discussion forum centered on "Climate Refugees: Navigating Human Rights in the Face of Environmental Displacement." Zahra Manaswala captivated the audience with a powerful speech on the hardships faced by those displaced by climate disasters. Her responses to questions from the opposing speaker were widely praised. She received valuable research and preparation support from Amana Bukhari, Kenda, Nadine Tabche, and Aliha Tahr.

The graffiti competition was themed "Climate Change Knows No Borders, Neither Should Compassion." Students Muskan, Dua Ghanl, Jarrell, and Zainb created a visually striking piece that conveyed their thoughts on the topic, impressing viewers with their use of colors and imagery.

Both events encouraged students to reflect on the plight of people displaced by climate disasters, who often struggle to find acceptance and refuge.