

GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, SHARJAH



Newsletter Issue #13
14th November, 2024



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

Dear WSS Parents,

Rainbows in School

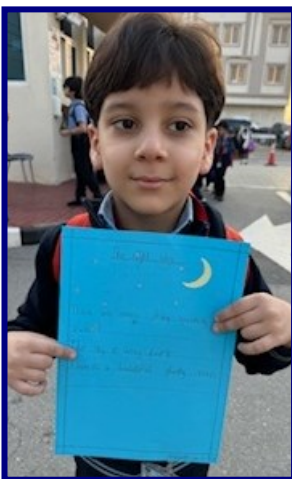
The Authorities do not allow schools to display rainbows, due to certain culturally prohibited links & connotations. They take this very seriously & it is a fining issue. Please **remind your children not to draw these on books/artwork in school, or bring in any items displaying rainbows.** Thank you.

Re-Linking to Daleel 2 (Returning Students) & New Students to be Registered

We still have 153 old children who have not been re-linked in Daleel 2 & 15 new students not Registered. This is an Authority requirement & not optional—unfortunately we will be **unable to provide T1 Reports or any kind of official document in such cases.** Do please resolve urgently, if you have not yet completed this for your WSS child. Thank you.

Dates for Your Diary

Date	Details
Open January 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The online registration system for new seats for the next Academic Year 2025-2026 has opened. Enrollment assessment will start from January 2025, on a 'first-come, first-served' basis. Since seats are very limited, please register early to avoid disappointment if you want new seats.
Tues. 26/11/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UAE National Day Celebrations. Students may come to school dressed in UAE dress/UAE flag colours & bring traditional food to share with classmates (<i>optional</i>).
From Wed. 27/11/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> T1 Exams (<i>exact dates for each year group TBC</i>) 7:15am-12:30pm Exam Day Timings for full school
Mon. 2/12/24 & Tues. 3/12/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible school closure for UAE National Day holiday (TBC by the Authorities)
Fri. 13/12/24 to Sun. 5/1/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Winter Break (3-weeks)
Mon. 6/1/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First day of T2. T2 fees due by latest first day of Term, thank you.
Thurs. 26th June Thurs. 3rd July, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last day of T3 Promotional Exams The last official day for students for this academic year.



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

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; Safeguarding Reporting for Students!

We're Listening

FEEDBACK

IDEA, RESPONSE, OPINION, SURVEY, COMMENT, ADVICE

Students are able to report any Safeguarding or Wellbeing concerns...

SPEAK UP

Take a stand against bullying, raise your concern.

Your details will be kept confidential and will be used only for investigation purpose.

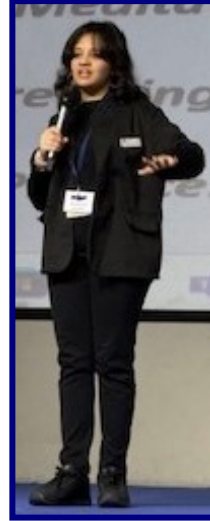
Scan the code to report!

WS

مدرسة جيمس وستمينستر الشارقة
GEMS Westminster School
SHARJAH

GEMS EDUCATION
We see *genius* in every child

Whole School News: WSS Student Wellbeing & Learning Conference, Saturday 9/11/24!



Huge thanks to our dedicated VP Mr. Shujahat for organising this fantastic event with our amazing student leaders, who organized & led most of the day. This successful event was truly 'By the students, for the students' & showcased our student leaders' growing range of organisational & life skills. Thank you to all staff & students involved.

Whole School News: WSS Student Wellbeing & Learning Conference, Saturday 9/11/24!



Whole School News: WSS Student Wellbeing & Learning Conference, Saturday 9/11/24!



MMR Vaccination Programme!



Staff Training!



We take Safeguarding very seriously. Safeguarding begins even before staff join with Safer Recruitment practices. Our HR Executive has just completed the L3 Safeguarding refresher course.

Whole School News; FOW Intervention Initiative!



Thank you to our hard-working FOW (Friends of WSS) parent volunteers—here we see various intervention sessions on 12/11/24. Thank you so much for the additional engagement & support!

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.

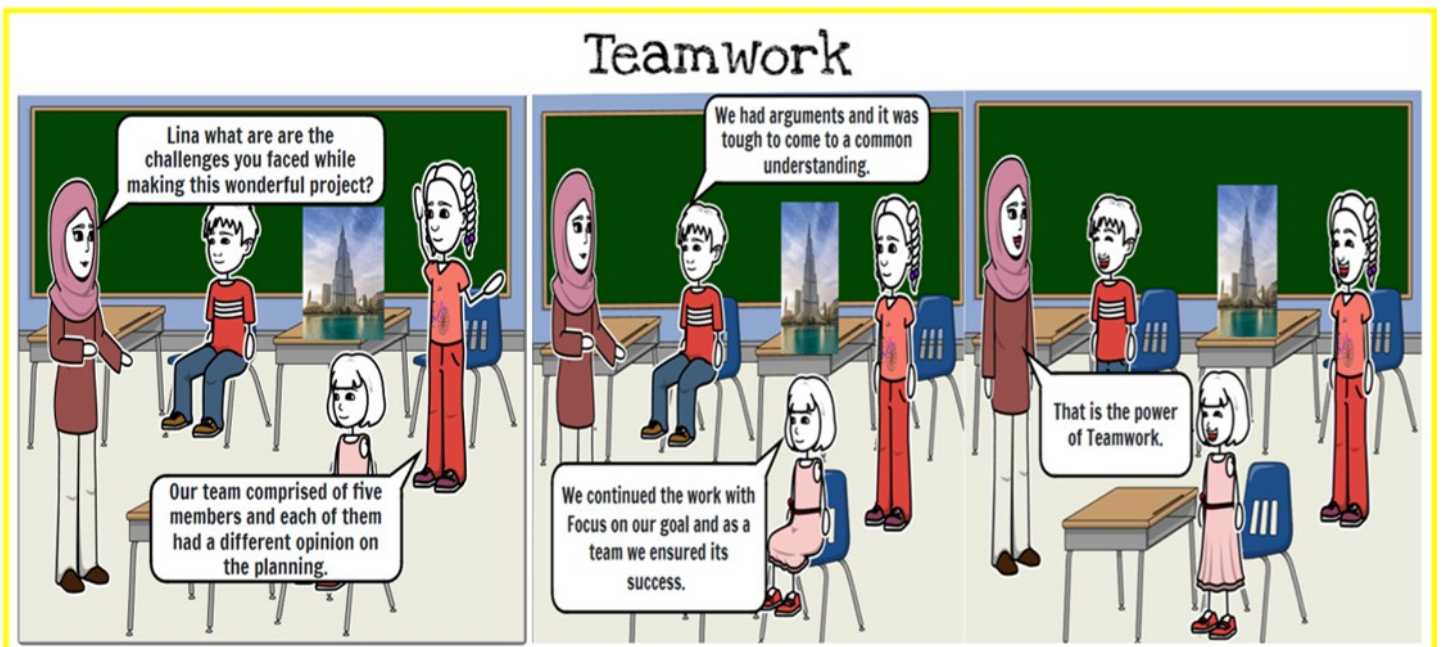
As a student, I lead my classmates to discuss the lesson and answer the questions to clear their doubts. I am happy to help them.

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

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."



Teamwork

Lina what are the challenges you faced while making this wonderful project?

Our team comprised of five members and each of them had a different opinion on the planning.

We had arguments and it was tough to come to a common understanding.

We continued the work with Focus on our goal and as a team we ensured its success.

That is the power of Teamwork.

WSS Superstar Champions!



We bid Mr. Hussain, BBT Driver a fond farewell & wish him a very long, happy retirement. Mr. Hussain retires from WSS after more than 20 years with GEMS. We thank him for his kind service over the years.

Happy Birthdays!



WSS Junior Section Superstar Champions!

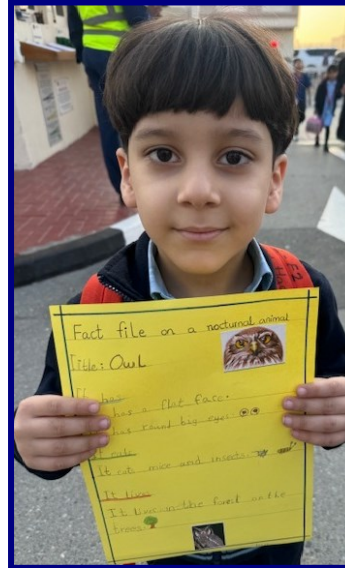


Eco Warrior Superstar Competition Participants

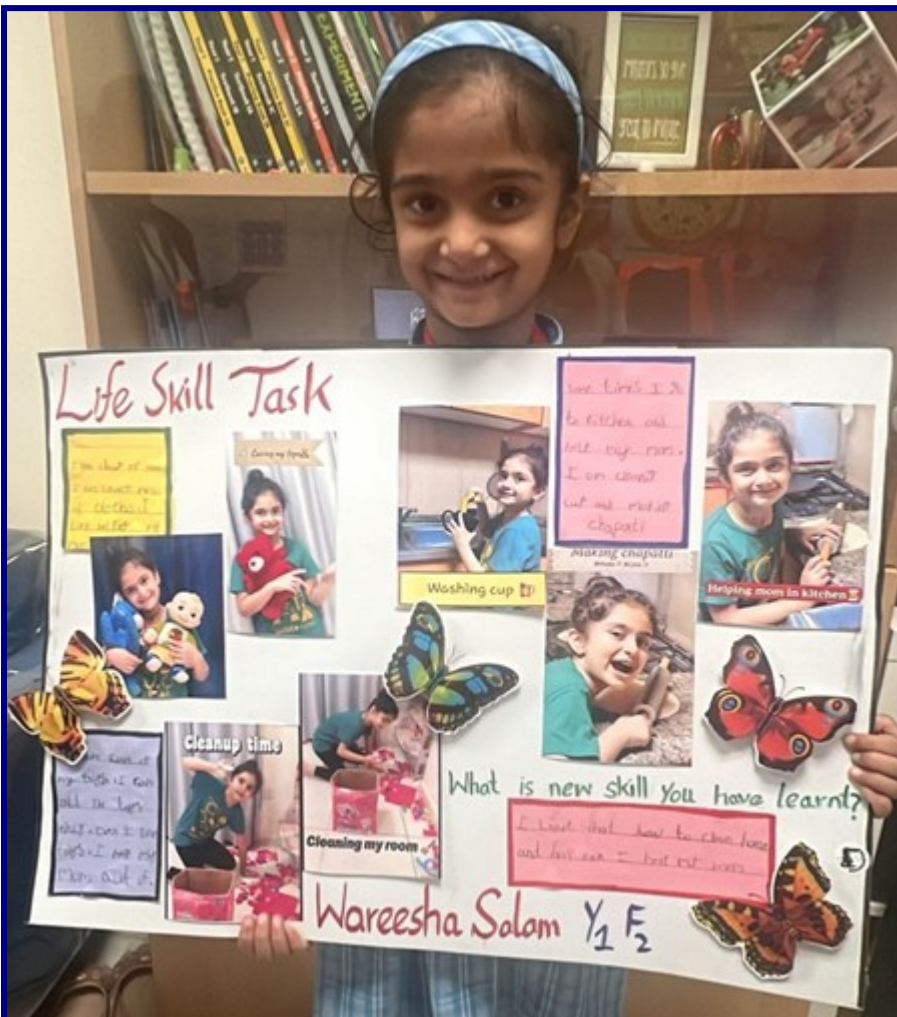
Congratulations to Ms. Uzma & Ms. Askia on winning the 'Growth Mindset Door Decoration Competition'!



Junior Section News; Learning Activities!



Thank you Sila for sharing your lovely project & confident explanatory video!



Thank you, Wareesha (Y1F2) for your fantastic 'Life Skills' project. We love how you have linked your skills to real-life situations.



Winner of the Y2 Growth Mind-set Door Competition!

Junior Section News; WSS GEMS Internal Review, 12/11/24!

WSS SLT undertook a mini internal review on 12/11/24, with the focus area 'Challenge for G&T & More Able Students in the Classroom'. Lesson observations by the full SLT team ran throughout the day, to provide feedback to help prepare for our forthcoming SPEA ITQAN SPR inspection.



Challenge through critical thinking & problem-solving was reinforced through classroom-corridor free-flow activities in the Junior Section. Children engaged in independent tasks.

Junior Section News; WSS GEMS Internal Review, 12/11/24!



Junior Section News; Assembly Time with Y2H2, 14/11/24!

We thoroughly enjoyed the lively & practical Assembly with Y2H2 on the theme, 'Mental Health & Wellbeing'. We learnt that mental wellbeing is as important as physical wellbeing, & we can keep our brain healthy with a proper sleep routine, healthy food, exercise & filling our minds with positive thoughts from books!



Junior Section News; Assembly Time with Y2H2, 14/11/24!



Junior Section News; Y2 Growth Mindset Door Competition!



These beautiful & mindful door decorations showcase our 'Growth Mindset' value, & include students' work & clear messages to motivate & encourage lifelong learning. Thank you teachers—super!



Junior Section News; Y1 Growth Mindset Door Competition!



These beautiful & mindful door decorations showcase our 'Growth Mindset' value, & include students' work & clear messages to motivate & encourage lifelong learning. Thank you teachers—super!



Junior Section News; FS2S2 Learning Activities!



Class Activities.



PIC+COLLAGE



Well done little Stars ✨



PIC+COLLAGE



Learning through Technology

PIC+COLLAGE



Class Activities.



PIC+COLLAGE

**FS2 S2 with
Ms.Sarah and
Ms.Maria**

Junior Section News; Y2D Learning Activities!



MS Millicent and MS Tahira Y2D2



Junior Section News; Y2F1 Learning Activities!



Y2F1 WITH MS SABIHA & MS ASHIKA

Junior Section News; Y2H1 Learning Activities!

Junior Section: Y2 H1 Learning Activities!



Junior Section News; Y2S1 Learning Activities!

Y2S1 With Ms. Sara & Ms. Fiza



Reading Lesson



ICT Lesson



Maths Lesson



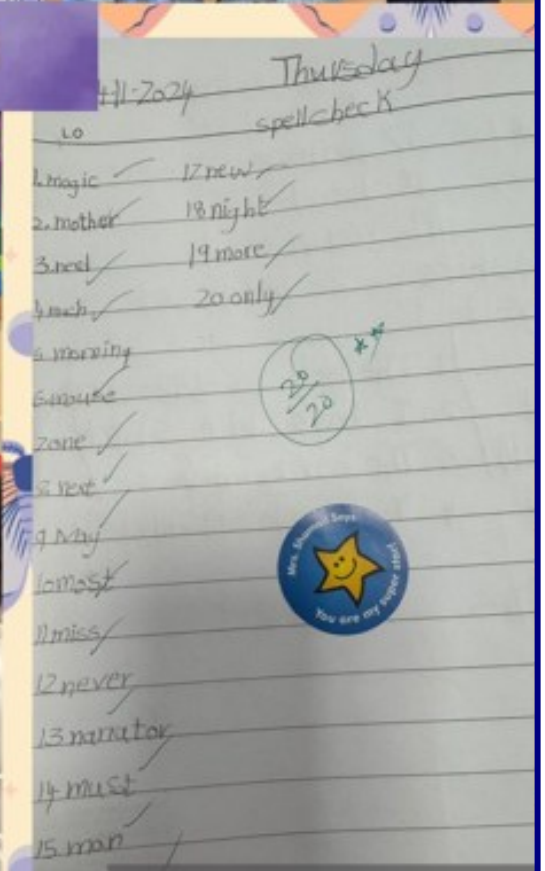
OLA Time

Junior Section News; Y2S2 Learning Activities!

SPELL CHECK STARS OF Y2S2



WITH MS. SAFIA AND MS. CATHERIN



WSS Primary Section Superstar Champions!



Y3S2 , Farid won the gold medal in UAE Open karate championship for individual kata for sports season 2024-2025.

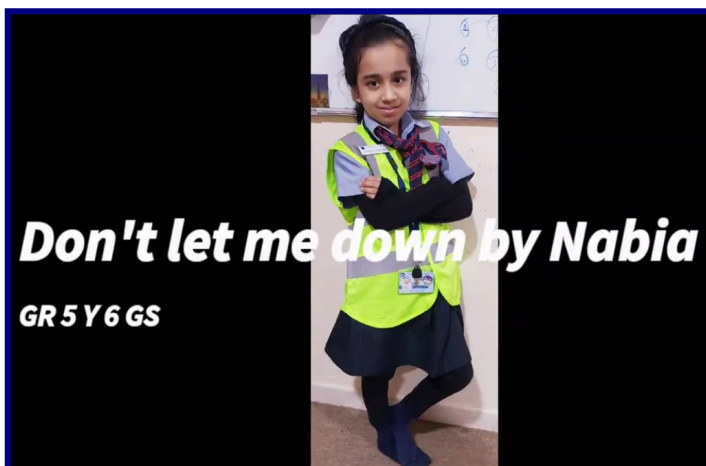
Dear Miss Panku,

I hope this message finds you well. I wanted to express my heartfelt appreciation for the wonderful assembly you organized. It was truly a joy to witness such a beautifully arranged event where Hasan and every child had the opportunity to participate.

Your efforts in ensuring each child could be involved are deeply appreciated, as these experiences are invaluable for building their confidence. We look forward to seeing more assemblies like this in the future, as they play a significant role in our children's growth and development.

Thank you once again for your dedication and hard work.

Warm regards,
Hasan's Parents.



Thank you Nabia for sharing your cute video of your song. We love to see students enjoying expressing their talents!

Primary Section News; GLS Inter-School Music Festival, 14/11/24!

GLS-Inter-School-Music-Festival-2024-Invite-FINAL.jpg

GEMS EDUCATION **GEMS LEGACY SCHOOL**



GLS JUNIOR INTER-SCHOOL MUSIC FESTIVAL

Join us for a joyous celebration of young talents as they share their passion for music and creativity

GUEST OF HONOR
Mr. Michael Guzder
SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT - EDUCATION, GEMS EDUCATION

CHIEF GUEST
Mr. Jogiraj Sikidar
FOUNDER & DIRECTOR, MALHAAR CENTRE FOR PERFORMING ARTS

14 NOV 06 PM GLS PRIMARY CAMPUS

AGENDA

HOLY QURAN RECITATION | UAE NATIONAL ANTHEM | PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME ADDRESS | GROUP CATEGORY ROUND
GLS CHOIR INTERLUDE | SOLO CATEGORY ROUND | JUDGE'S COMMENTS | SPECIAL ADDRESS BY CHIEF GUEST
FELICITATION CEREMONY | AWARDS CEREMONY | CLOSING REMARKS BY GUEST OF HONOR | VOTE OF THANKS



The Primary Choir have practiced hard to prepare for the GLS Inter-School Music Festival. The Principal & Ms. Sonia were super impressed by the quality of the singing & beautiful presentation. Thank you Mr. Benjamin.



Primary Section News; Assembly Time with Y3F2, 13/11/24!



Y3F2 put on an amazingly uplifting & fun Assembly on the theme, 'The Power of Your Smile'. We learnt that sharing a smile improves mood, health & destressing! We were then treated with a moving & beautiful Solo & Choir performance of the GLS Music Festival items with Mr. Benjamin.. Thank you!



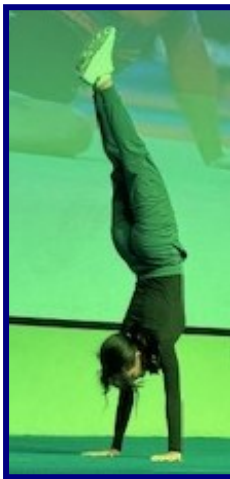
WSS Secondary Section Superstar Champions!



Y7 & Y8 Wellbeing Champions



Secondary Section News; Assembly Time with Y8GH, 11/11/24!



Y8GH put on a lively & important Assembly on the theme 'Resilience'. We learnt that setbacks are a normal part of life, but to finally achieve our goals we must keep trying so that we 'bounce back' & succeed.

Secondary Section News; KS3 Learning Activities!

Kindness tree!

"Be the 'i' in 'kindness' "



Secondary Section News; KS3 Learning Activities!



**Y8 Wellbeing
Leaders!**

A Well-being Champion doesn't just lift others up; they create spaces where everyone feels safe, seen, and valued. They are the quiet yet powerful force that transforms a classroom into a community

The Math Club Activity Y9

A vibrant hub for students to explore and deepen their understanding of mathematics through engaging activities. Participation in the Math Club allows students to collaborate with peers on challenging problems, develop critical thinking skills, and foster a love for mathematics beyond the classroom. Y9GH engaged in math club activity..



KS4-BOYS SPOTLIGHT STAR STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



KS4-UAE SPIRIT MONTH



STUDENTS COLLABORATED TO CREATE UAE-THEMED DOOR DECORATIONS, CELEBRATING THE NATION'S CULTURE AND HERITAGE.

Secondary Section News; KS4 Learning Activities!

**UAE THEMED
CLASSROOM DOOR**



Secondary Section News; KS4 Fun Trip Time!

KS4 GIRLS TRIP STREET MANIAX



Secondary Section News; KS4 Fun Trip Time!



KS4 students embarked on an unforgettable trip to Street Maniax, a place where excitement and adrenaline collide!

Secondary Section News; KS5 Learning & Leadership!



Birthday celebrations

KS 5 BOYS



The KS 5 Boys spreading awareness about digital data used in WSS

