

GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, SHARJAH



Newsletter Issue #27
20th March, 2025



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

Dear WSS Parents,

Wishing all our dear WSS families a **blessed Eid Al Fitr & a happy, relaxing Spring Break**. We thank parents sincerely for the continuous engagement with their children's learning & ongoing support for school. We are looking forward to welcoming your children back on **Monday 7th April** for a learning-rich & exciting Term 3.

Term 3 Fee Invoices

Please note that the school has changed Bank. Please ignore the previous invoice details for HSBC. **New invoice & payment details** are as follows:

New Bank Account	
Account Name:	GEMS Westminster School, Sharjah LLC
Bank Name :	Dubai Islamic Bank
Account No. :	001520152534301
IBAN :	AE970240001520152534301

Dates for Your Diary

Date	Details
Thurs. 20/3/25	• Last day of T2. Happy holidays & Eid Mubarak!
Mon. 7/4/25	• Start of T3. T3 Fees due, thank you. • Deadline to pay the re-enrollment fee to hold seats for September. • Re-enrollment possible subject to a clean discipline record & T2 fees cleared.. After this date unenrolled seats would be given to the Waiting List.
Thurs. 10/4/24	• FS1-Y9 T2 Reports & PTM (subject to no pending T2 fees)
Thurs. 26th June	• Last day of compulsory T3 Promotional Exams
Thurs. 3rd July, 2025	• The last official day for students for this academic year.

Re-enrollment for next year is open. Please book your seats early to avoid disappointment. Thank you.



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

مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر الشارقة



النشرة الإخبارية رقم # 27
2025 مارس



رسالة من المديرية / الرئيس التنفيذي
السيدة فاليري تومسون

أولياء أمور مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر
الشارقة الأعزاء،

نتمنى لجميع عائلات WSS الأعزاء
عيد فطر مبارك وعطلة ربيع سعيدة
ومريحة.

نتقدم بالشكر الجزيل لأولياء الأمور
على مشاركتهم المستمرة في تعليم
أطفالهم ودعمهم المستمر للمدرسة.
نحن نتطلع إلى الترحيب بأطفالك مرة
أخرى يوم الاثنين 7 أبريل لقضاء فصل دراسي ثالث غني بالتعلم
والمثير.

قواتير رسوم الفصل الدراسي الثالث

يرجى ملاحظة أن المدرسة قامت بتغيير البنك.
يرجى تجاهل تفاصيل الفاتورة السابقة لبنك HSBC. تفاصيل
الفاتورة والدفع الجديدة هي كما يلي:

New Bank Account	
Account Name :	GEMS Westminster School, Sharjah LLC
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تم فتح باب التسجيل للعام القادم. يرجى حجز مقاعدكم مبكرًا
لتجنب خيبة الأمل. شكرًا

المواعيد

التفاصيل	التاريخ
آخر يوم في T2. إجازة سعيدة وعيد مبارك!	يوم الخميس 20/3/25
بداية الفصل الدراسي الثالث. رسوم الفصل الدراسي الثالث مستحقة، شكرًا لك.	الاثنين 4/7/25
آخر موعد لإعادة التسجيل ودفع رسوم حجز المقعد إذا كنت تريد مقاعد لشهر سبتمبر 2025. بعد هذا التاريخ، سيتم منح المقاعد	يوم الخميس 10/4/24
تقارير FS1-Y9 T2 و PTM (مع عدم وجود رسوم T2 مطقة)	الاثنين 26 يونيو
اليوم الأخير من امتحانات الترقية الإلزامية للفصل	الخميس 3 يوليو 2025
آخر يوم رسمي للطلبة لهذا العام الدراسي.	



رؤيتنا؛ "التميز من خلال العمل الجماعي؛ النجاح 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

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



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Parent Handbook Access QR Code

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Whole School News; Family First!
The WSS Ramadan Iftar Cooking Challenge!

GEMS
EDUCATION



FAMILY FIRST
RAMADAN
KAREEM

RAMADAN
Family Iftar
Cooking Challenge

- **Activity:** To prepare homemade iftar meal with your family members.
- **Choose a theme** such as “traditional recipes” or “Ramadan dishes”
- **Deadline:** 8th April 2025
- **Click pictures and create one A4 size poster**(include Child’s name & class)
- **Scan the QR Code and upload the poster with a description**

<https://forms.office.com/r/jHS5jpzfnR>



*Whole School News; Family First!
Sharing Special Family Time During Ramadan!*



Family of Youssof Samir, Y9 BS

Ramadan Vibe



Family of Fiza Ahammad, Y8 GD

Compassion, gratitude, and kindness.

Whole School News; Values, Kindness & Character

WSS Ramadan Charity Drive!



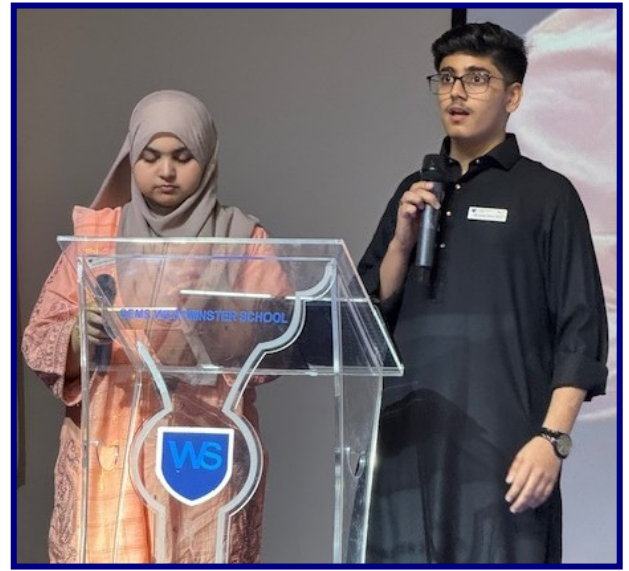
Huge thanks to our kind, generous parents & students for all your donations of charity food items to be shared with Support Staff & Drivers. Your thoughtful donations brought smiles of appreciation to their faces, as we shared appreciation for their ongoing hard work & dedication. Thanks to the Islamic Student Counsel & Islamic Team for their organisation of this special drive.



*Whole School News; Values, Kindness & Character
WSS Ramadan Charity Drive!*



Whole School News: WSS Iftar Event, 13/3/25!



Thank you to Mr. Farooq Rumanee from the Manar Islamic Center for his thought-provoking talk on the everlasting blessings of Ramadan.

Thank you to Ms. Mukhsana, her Islamic Team & the wonderful Student Islamic Council students for their hard work organizing this beautiful event.



Whole School News: WSS Iftar Event, 13/3/25!



WSS
Iftar
2025



Whole School News: WSS Iftar Event, 13/3/25!



Thank you to our special VIP guests for sharing this special event with us.




Dear our beloved teachers ,

I would like to express my deepest gratitude and appreciation for inviting us to the amazing school iftar . Everything was perfectly arranged and the set up was absolutely stunning. Thank you for sharing such sweet memories and moments in our hearts . I hope all your coming days are full of blessings and love forever . ❤️

From Dr Mai Mohammed
Youssef's mother

Whole School News; WSS Excellence Plan Report!

WSS continues to work hard on school development, with an absolute commitment to the GEMS four Core Values & how these are applied to the daily lives of our students. Progress is not the lone responsibility of a few staff, but is a reflection of the Growth Mindset & teamwork of the whole WSS community.

	WSS Excellence Plan, 2024-2026	<i>Format Updated: 19/3/25</i>
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<i>GEMS Core Value</i>	<i>WSS Focus Areas for the Year</i>	<i>WSS Actions</i>	<i>WSS Next Steps</i>
Excellence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum Review • Personalised learning goals • CPD Programme Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of additional Apps & digital resources to support AFL & personalized learning • Significant improvement noted in the SPEA SPR verbal feedback after inspection in January 2025 • WSS Awarded by SPEA for exceeding international expectations in PISA & TIMMS Benchmarking Assessments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum review for 2025-2026 • App review
Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wellbeing Workshops • Refine Parent Communication channels • Challenge in the classroom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empowerment of the student leadership body for voice & leadership development • Refinement of the Behaviour Policy • Assembly themes • Wellbeing & Learning Conference • Family First Competitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Wellbeing Ambassadors • Transition & parent Induction (Key Stage & Section) • Assembly themes to continue to be curriculum & wellbeing focused
One Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-departmental collaboration • <u>Team-building</u> • Inter-school communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Partners group updated (FOW) & engaged 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FOW engagement • Additional Parent Coffee Morning sessions • 360 SIP Review with Key stakeholders
Always Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth Mindset • Personal Learning Goals • Bespoke online courses & resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National College courses assigned to teachers to support meeting individual goals • Bluesky implemented for all staff to support professional development • Junior Section Learning Journals in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Prepare</u> next year's Induction Programme • Twinning project with a school in UK • Personalised targets for staff

WSS Superstar Champions!

Dear Miss Valerie,

I hope this email finds you well. As a parent of Muhammad umer. Irha imran. Zirwa imran. I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to you and the entire school team for achieving the Well-Being Award. This is a remarkable accomplishment and a testament to the school's dedication to fostering a positive, supportive, and nurturing environment for students.

It is truly reassuring to know that our children are learning and growing in a school that prioritizes their well-being. Your leadership, along with the efforts of the teachers and staff, has made a significant impact on creating a safe and encouraging atmosphere for all students.

Once again, congratulations on this Well-deserved recognition. We appreciate all that you do for our children and look forward to seeing the school continue to flourish.

Best regards,

Kiran riaz.

Mother of Muhammad umer imran. FS 2 . F1.

Mother of Irha imran. G-S- Y6.

Mother of Zirwa imran. Y 5 .D 1.

Dear Dear Mrs. Valerie,

Good morning,

I hope this email finds you well,

I would like to sincerely apologize for the delay in sending the photos, as I was unwell.

I would like also to express my heartfelt gratitude for the wonderful Iftar gathering. The organization was excellent, and the food was delicious.

Thank you so much for your kind invitation to the Students Council and Quran memorizes.

A special thanks for your continuous care and encouragement of the students in all aspects. Your recognition of the students who have memorized the Holy Quran was truly inspiring and has given them great motivation to move forward.

I also deeply appreciate your dedication every morning, standing at the school gate, greeting students and parents with a warm smile that radiates positive energy.

Thank you for your dedication and efforts in creating a positive and motivating environment for the students ❤️

Best regards

Yaseen & Ayla Moaz Khattab's parents



You Said,

Primary Section parents requested for timely communication to stay informed about school activities and their children's progress.

We Did,

Reading session organised where parents and students collaborated to foster a love for reading and strengthen their bond. This interactive activity was a great success, encouraging shared learning experiences.

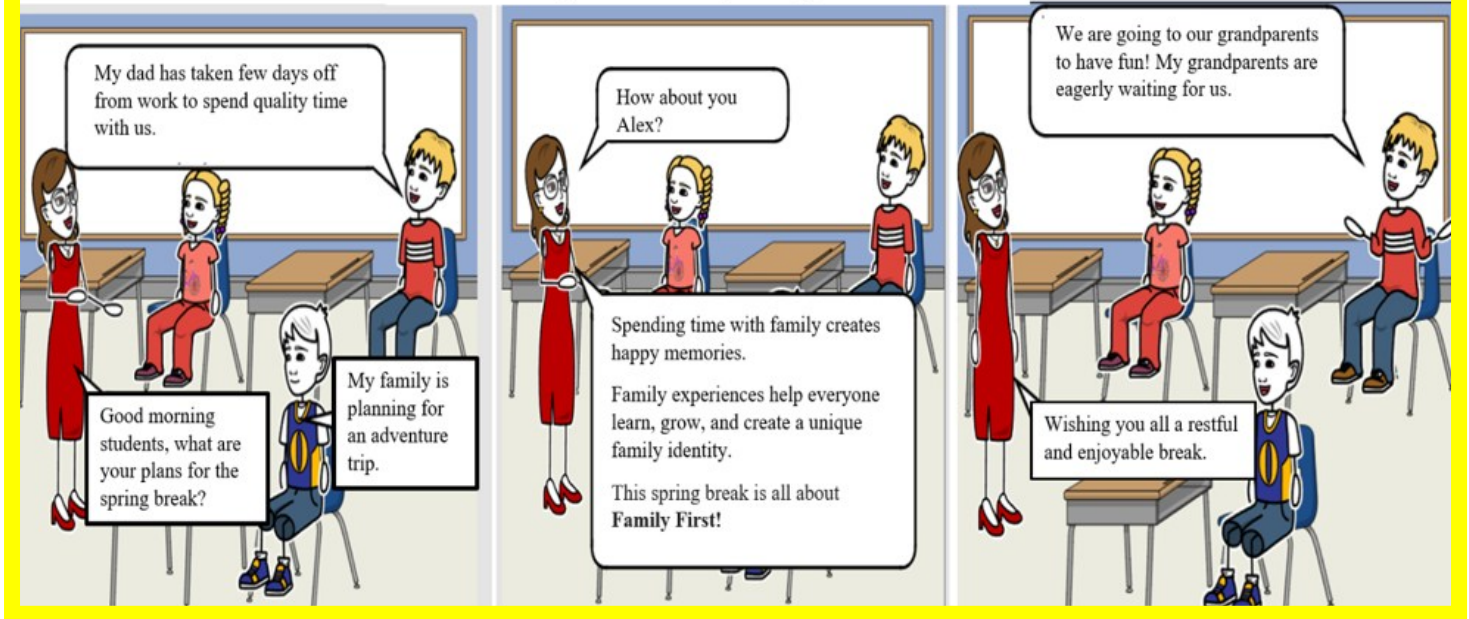
A classroom scene showing a teacher at the front of the room, addressing a class of students. The students are seated at desks, and a large screen is visible at the front of the classroom.

Environment & Sustainability Superstar Champions!

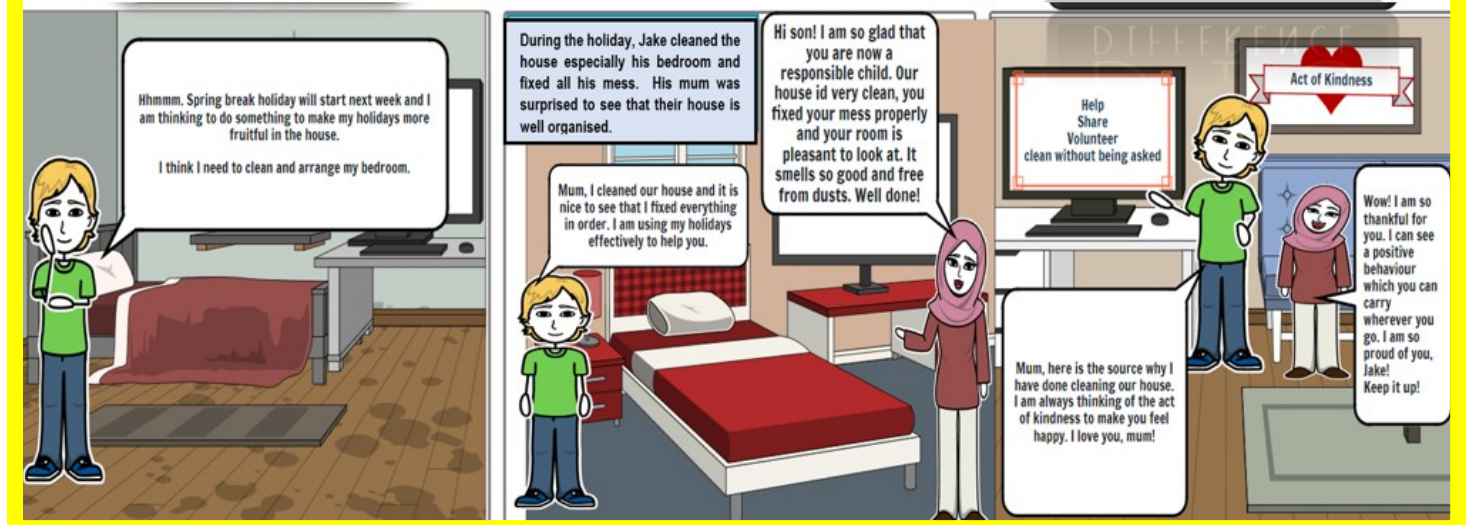


Whole School News; Storyboard Top Tips!

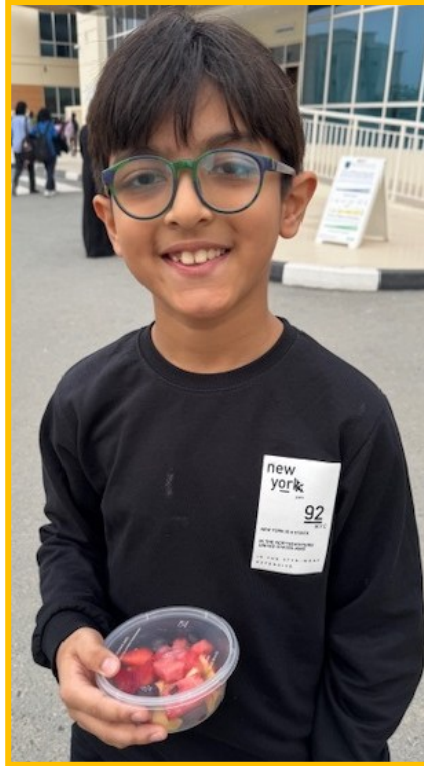
Family First Spring Break



Acts of Kindness



Happy Birthdays!



WSS Junior Section Superstar Champions!



'Take Home Teddy' winner! Well done!



Dear Ms. Kishwar,

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to express my heartfelt thanks as a parent for the remarkable progress I've seen in my son's studies, particularly in his reading, writing, and, most impressively, his logical thinking, which surprises me every time. As a working mom, it is truly a blessing to have teachers like you who work closely to develop a child's abilities. I wanted to share my happiness and gratitude, as this progress is a direct result of your efforts.

I hope Affan continues to learn and grow under your guidance and shines in Term 3. I will also work closely with him to support his progress.

Thank you so much.

Dear Ms. Mariam,

Thank you for initiating the CARD activity. It has truly strengthened the bond between parent and child in a meaningful way. Yesterday when I return from work, I am greeted with a big smile from Ivaan, excitedly telling me, "There's a surprise for you!" He eagerly shared how his teacher helped create a Ramadan card, spoke about the card he made, and sweetly said, "I love you, Mummy."

As a mother, it was an incredibly emotional and heartwarming moment.

The joy didn't end there—we continued talking about it until he fell asleep. I sincerely appreciate your efforts and the initiative you took to make this happen. Thank you once again!

Thanks,
Padmini
M/O Ivaan sathishkumar

Junior Section News; Learning Activities!

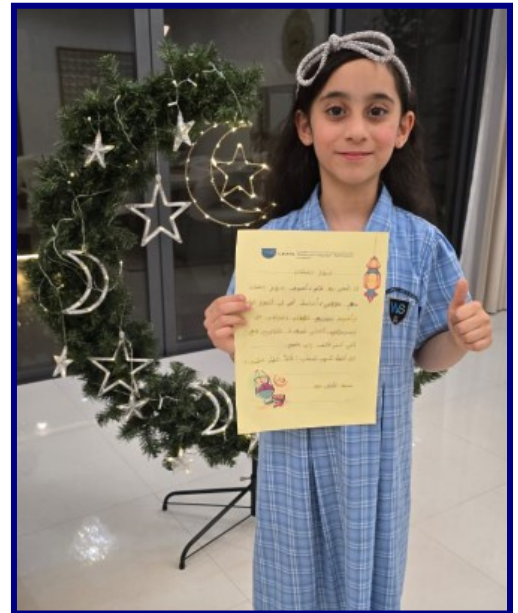


... I want to thank Kinda's teachers for the values that Kinda learned during this period about Ramadan and their teaching. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the effort you make.

Thank you



Applying Ramadan principles to daily life. Thank you for sharing your lovely videos.



Junior Section News; Y2 Ramadan Activities!

Y2 Students Ramadan Activities



Junior Section News; Y1D Learning Activities!

Y1D1 with Ms. Beena and Ms. Rahna



Y1D2 WITH MS. SADIQA AND MS ASMA



Junior Section News; Y1F Learning Activities!

Y1F1 WITH MS. AYSHA AND MS. JAMILA



Y1F2 WITH MS. ANEEZA AND MS. GURPREET



Junior Section News; Y1H Learning Activities!

Y1H1 WITH MS. AAFREIN AND MS. NOORA



Y1H2 WITH MS. KISHWAR AND MS. MANI



Junior Section News; Y1S Learning Activities!

Y1S1 with Ms. Mariam and Ms. Nadia



We made mother's day cards.



Ramadan Kareem



Happy Mother's day!



Y1S2 with Ms. Rajina and Ms. Fizza



Recap of
punctuations



Ramadan charity



Ramadan Kareem



Congratulations



Happy
MOTHER'S
Day
Happy mother's
day

RAMADAN KAREEM

Junior Section News; Y2D Learning Activities!



MS MILLICENT & MS TAHIRA Y2D2



Junior Section News; Y2F1 Learning Activities!



Happy Holidays!
Y2F1 with Ms Sabiha & Ms Ashika

Junior Section News; Y2F2 Learning Activities!

Y2F2-With Ms. Fauzia and Ms. Benil



Y2F2-With Ms. Fauzia and Ms. Benil



Junior Section News; Y2H2 Learning Activities!

Super stars of Y2H2



Y2H2 MS.ROOMANA AND MS.AQUEEN

Music Lesson



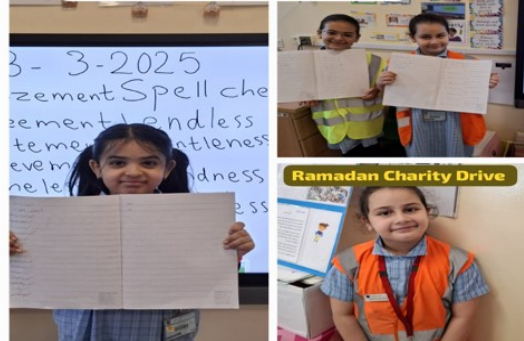
Happy Mother's Day



Teddy goes home



Spell Check Champions



Ramadan Charity Drive

Y2H2 MS.ROOMANA AND MS.AQUEEN

We filled our marble jar!!!



Ramadan Mubarak



Act of Kindness



Learning about temperatures



Ramadan Charity



Spelling Champions



Creative Writing



ICT lesson with



Junior Section News; Y2S2 Learning Activities!

Y2S2 with Ms. Safia and Ms. Catherin

Happy Mother's Day



Contributors - Ramadan Charity Drive



WSS Primary Section Superstar Champions!

I am writing to express my utmost satisfaction and gratitude for Simal's remarkable progress this term. This is exactly what I have always aspired for—Simal achieving full marks or, at most, a minimal deduction of just one mark. I am absolutely over the moon and immensely proud.

I would especially like to extend my deepest gratitude to you, Ms. Azreen .

Your unwavering support, dedication, and understanding have played a pivotal role in making this possible.

Working together with you has truly made a difference, and I cannot thank you enough for your efforts and commitment.

Alhamdulillah, this session has been everything I have dreamed of for Simal—not only excelling academically but also actively participating in extracurricular activities, recitations, and every aspect of her holistic development.

It truly feels like a dream come true, and I am incredibly grateful to both you and GEMS for this achievement.

I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to all the subject teachers who have equally contributed to Simal's progress. Ms. Azza (Arabic teacher) and Ms. Benish (Islamic teacher) As i met them during the last parent-teacher meeting, I unfortunately did not have the opportunity to meet Ms. Kavitha. Nonetheless, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to her and all the other subject teachers for their tireless efforts and dedication.

Their understanding and collaboration have been invaluable in shaping Simal's progress, and I truly appreciate their hard work.

Looking ahead, I am hopeful and confident that we will continue to see the same remarkable progress in Term 3 as well.

Once again, a big, heartfelt thank you to everyone involved in Simal's journey. Your dedication and guidance are deeply appreciated.

Warm regards,

Zaima (Simal's Mother) Roll no 22699

Dear Ms. Valerie 😊

As we conclude Term 2 , I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the dedication and hard work of the teachers at WSS. Their commitment to the growth, learning, achievements, and overall well-being of my children has been truly commendable.

Under their guidance, my children continue to thrive academically and I am grateful for the positive impact they have had on their educational journey throughout the term.

Wishing you and the entire WSS team a joyful Eid Mubarak and a restful Spring Break.

Regards,

Parent Syed Taha Y6BH
Syed Talha Y4S1

Happy Mothers'
Day!



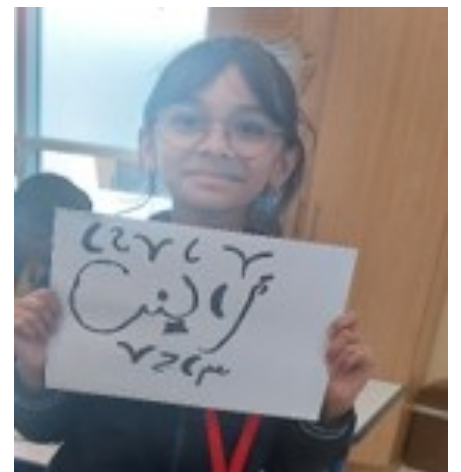
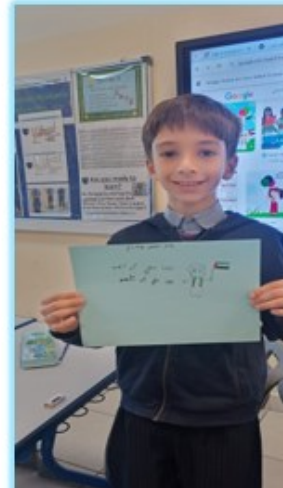
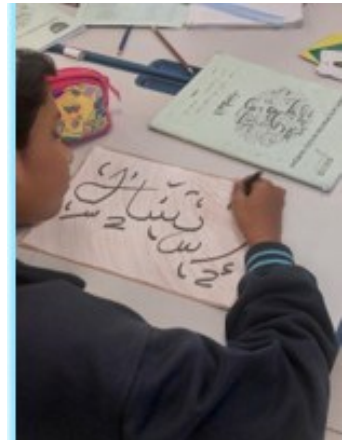
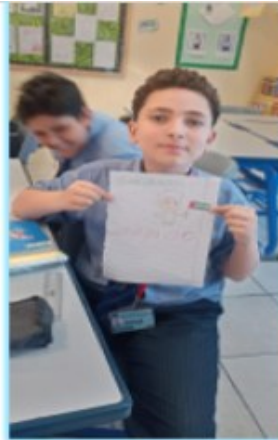
Primary Section News; Ramadan Awareness Session with the Islamic Student Council!

Primary Islamic Council Members Lead Ramadan Awareness Sessions

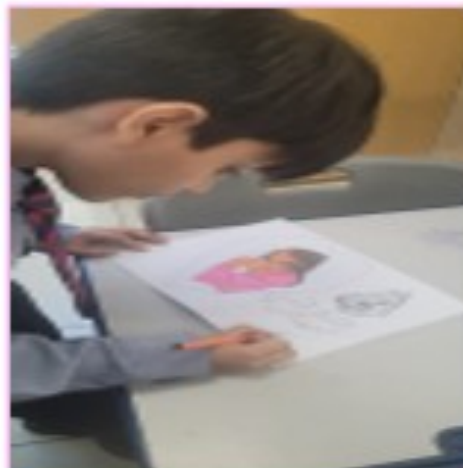
This week, Primary Islamic council members led informative sessions on Ramadan for students from Year 2 to Year 6. They shared key facts, Quranic references, and Hadith, highlighting the significance of fasting, gratitude, and charity. Through engaging discussions and activities, they helped deepen understanding of this special month. Well done to our student leaders for their fantastic efforts!



Arabic Children's Day & Ramadan Activities with Ms. Asma S!



Primary Section News; Happy Mothers' Day!



Activities with Ms.
Lamyaa

Y4 D2 Mother's Day Activity



Mother's Day Card making - Y4H1

We created beautiful tulip pop-up cards for Mother's Day to celebrate our wonderful mothers and honor their love and dedication.



Primary Section News; Emirati Children's Day!

Y6BH

Emirati Children's Day



Students explored the beauty of **Arabic calligraphy**, learning to write their names and artistic designs with precision and creativity. This activity enhances cultural appreciation, fine motor skills and artistic expression. 🎨✍️



STEAM lessons gives a scope for putting their knowledge into making new things.



WSS Secondary Section Superstar KENKEN Champions!



KENKEN MATHS CHAMPIONSHIP



Congratulations to our KenKen Champions! 🏆🍀 These brilliant minds cracked the code and conquered the challenge!

WSS Secondary Section Superstar KENKEN Champions!

KENKEN
INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

WSS Students Shine in the KenKen International Championship! 🎉



A Proud Moment for WSS!

We are proud to announce that two of our talented Year 10 students Alman Ahmad and Sheikh Araf Rahman have successfully cleared Round 1 and out of which Alman Ahmad have been *selected for the second round* of the 'X KenKen International Championship'! This prestigious competition challenges students to apply their logic, mathematical skills, and critical thinking abilities in an exciting and competitive environment

🌟 Keep Aiming High & Making WSS Proud! 🌟

📌 *"Mathematics is not about numbers, equations, computations, or algorithms: it is about understanding."* – William Paul Thurston

Secondary Section News; KS3 Wellbeing Activities!



KS3 - Girls BEHAVIOURAL MANAGEMENT The Golden Steps



Choose Respect, Choose Kindness



KS3 - Boys BEHAVIOURAL MANAGEMENT The Golden Steps



Stand
Strong,
Stand Kind

