GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, SHARJAH









Newsletter Issue #7 23rd September, 2024



Message from the Principal/CEO Ms. Valerie Thompson

Dear WSS Parents,

Student ID Cards (For Old Bus Users)

If your child was previously a Bus user, but is no longer using the bus, please be sure to submit a 'Bus Discontinu-

ation Form'. Once tis has been submitted, BBT will be able to print your child a new ID card as OT.

Locker Fees

If your child has paid for a locker but has still not received a key, kindly check that you paid under the 'Activities' Header. If not, the amount will not reflect for a locker & needs to be paid again into the Activities header. Thank you.

pates 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	 Winter Break (3-weeks) T1 Exams will be held during the 2 weeks before the Winter Break (exact dates TBC) 	





















الشارقة مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر

النشرة الإخبارية رقم #7 23 سيتمبر 2024









أولياء أمور مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر الشارقة الأعزاء،

بطاقات هوية الطالب ولمستخد الحافاؤت القدامي)

إذا كان طفلك يستخدم الحافلة سابقاء لكنه لم يع يستدوم الدافلة، فيرجى التقد من تقديم "لمورذج إيقاف استخدام الحقلة".

بمجرد تفهم هذا ، سيتمكن BBTمن طباعة بطاقة هوية جديدة لطظك ك OT.

المواعيد التثرين 1/12/24 الأنين احتمال إغلاق المدارس خلال عطلة اليوم الوطني لدولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة (سيتم الإعلان عن ذلك من قبل والثلاثاء السلطات) 3/12/24 الحللة الشنوية (3 أسابيع) الحمعة 13/12/24 إلى سيتم عقد امتدفات T1خلل الأسبوعين قبل العطلة 5/1/25 savi الشنوية رسيتم تحديد التواريخ الاقيقة لاحقا

رسوم لخزانة

إذا قام طفلكُ بدفع ثمن الخزانة واكنه لم يحصل على المفتاح بحاء يرجى التقد من أنك قمت بالافع تحت عنوان "الانشطة". إذًا لم يكن الأمر كِذَلكُ، فلن يظهر المبلغ في الدِّزانة ويجب دفعه مرة أخرى في رأس الأنشطة. شكرًا لكُ.



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



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



Contents Parent Handbook Access QR Code

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WSS Superstar Champions; New Student Council Leaders!

Second	ary Girls Student Council Leaders	
Head Girl	Mashal Afzal Malik Mohammad Afzal	$C_{0\eta g_{r_{2f-1}}}$
Deputy Head Girl	Mridini Sur	Congratulations!
Head of 6 th Form	Carine Firas Jizdan	
Deputy Head of 6 th Form	Maymona Athar	

Secondary Boys Student Council Leaders				
Head Boy	Abdul Aaiz Khan			
Deputy Head Boy	Amir Ahmed Shawki Abdelhalim			
Head of 6 th Form	Tamim Mahmoud Hijazi			
Deputy Head of 6 th Form	Elie Bechaalany			

Primary Student Council Leaders			
Head Girl	Hiba Binti Irfan		
Deputy Head Girl	Abrish Naveed		
Head Boy	Abdul Hadi		
Deputy Head Boy	Shlok Bharatkumar		

Whole School News; WSS School Improvement Plan Targets for 2024-2025!

Following a thorough review of school outcomes in 2022-2023 against all the Inspection framework Performance Indicators (compiled in a comprehensive Self-Evaluation Form, or SEF), the WSS leadership team, along with 360° consultation with a group of student leaders, FOW parents & staff, have identified the four following key priorities for our School Improvement Plan (SIP):

- 1. To achieve consistency of challenge in a large majority of lessons for students, especially higher-attainers each term.
- 2. To provide a dynamic and enriching extra-curricular activities (ECA) program throughout the academic year to enhance students' personal development.
- 3. To consistently provide effective feedback to enhance teaching and learning in most lessons across the school.
- 4. To improve students' punctuality with almost all students in class before the start of lesson 1.

Whole School News; FOW & Our T1 360° Review, 23/9/24!



Our lovely new Parent partners group, 'Friends of WSS' (FOW) met with the Principal & PRE on 23/9/24 to discuss T1 parent initiatives. Many thanks to our enthusiastic & dedicated parent team for their time & contribution. We are looking forward to supporting our children's learning experience even further.



A group of FOW parents, student leaders & WSS staff met together to review our SEF & SIP targets along with SLT & VP Mr. Suj. Focus areas were 1) Challenge in the Classroom, 2) Attendance & Punctuality, 3) Teacher Marking & Feedback, 4) ECS Programme. WWW & EBI points were shared for further discussion & action by SLT.

Thank you very much to all who attended & shared your valuable insights.













Thank you to the Islamic Team & the Islamic Student Council for organising a very special awareness event, a Sunnah Product Display & Garden Marker. The event aimed to bridge Islam with climate action & healthy living. This event brought the Quran to life for the whole WSS community, as well as reinforcing our 'Healthy Lifestyle' policy. Thank you for this special event!













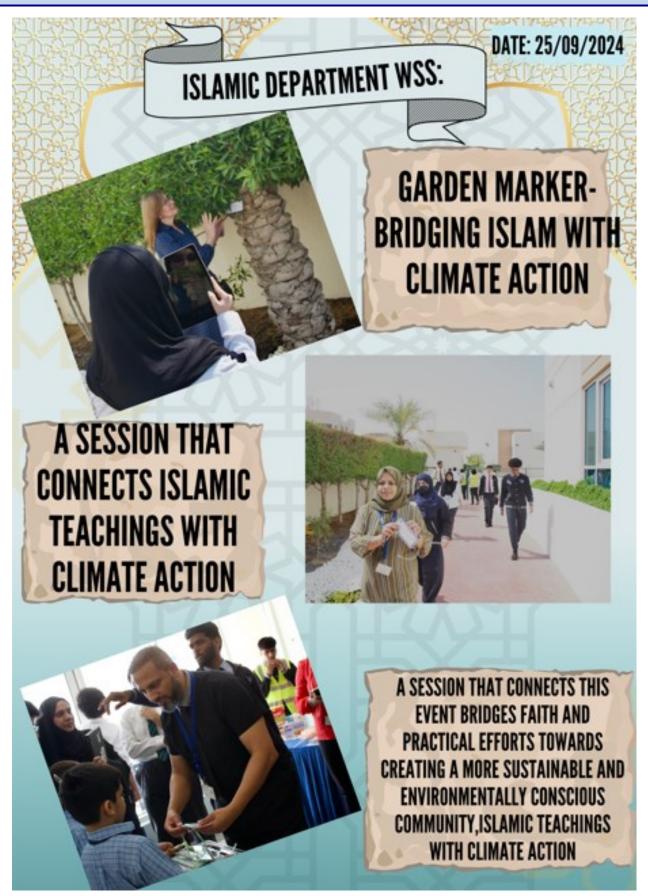












Whole School News; SPEA's SPC (Sharjah Principals' Council) Meeting, 24/9/24!



The Principal Ms. Valerie attended an SPC meeting at SEA (Sharjah Education Academy) on 24/9/24, as part of the 14-member Principal team selected/voted to represent Sharjah Principals & work closely with SPEA to support ongoing school operations & development.

Whole School News; SPEA's School Improvement Advisor (SIA) Ms. Lynn's Beacon Schools CPD Initiative; A CPD Session at WSS with Ms. Christine, 25/9/24!





WSS Learning Coach Ms. Christine led an interactive CPD session for around 25 staff from other Sharjah schools on 25/9/24. The session was 'Accelerating the Skills of New Teachers' & aimed to support other school CPD leaders to design & deliver a strategic, cyclical & effective CPD programme. Thank you SPEA SIA Ms. Lynn for attending.

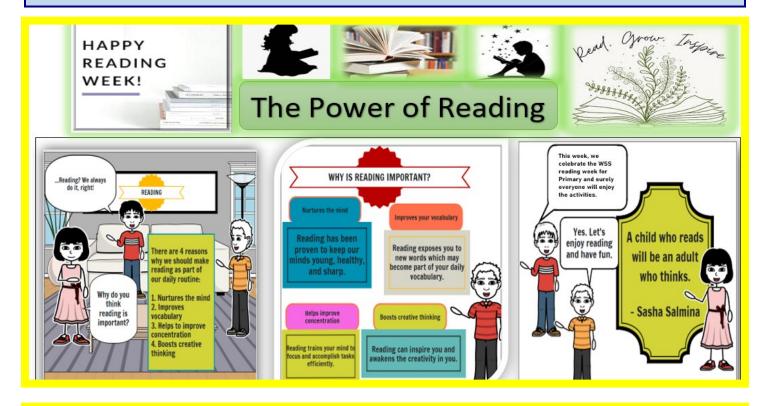
Environment & Sustainability Superstar Champions!



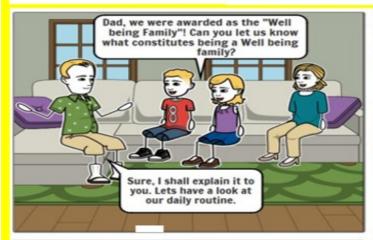




Whole School News; Storyboard Top Tips!



WELLBEING









Whole School News; Values, Kindness & Character!



Happy Birthdays!









WSS Junior Section Superstar Champions!





Congratulations to Aynor (Y1D1) for winning 3rd prize in the inter-school Quran competition at Al Amanah School. We are very proud of all your hard work & thank parents for their ongoing support. Special thanks to Mr. Abed for his dedication in helping her practice the Quranic verses so thoroughly. Also gratitude to both Mr. Issam and Mr. Abed for their excellent supervision of the students during the competition over their weekend.

Respected Mr. Essam Badawi,

Peace, mercy, and blessings of Allah be upon you.

It gives me great pleasure, on behalf of myself and my son, Omar Ahmed, to extend our sincerest thanks and appreciation for choosing Omar to represent the school in the Quran Recitation Competition between schools, held on September 22nd at Al-Amana School. This selection is a great honor for us and reflects your trust in him, which we deeply cherish.

I would also like to express my deepest gratitude for your tremendous efforts in training Omar and his peers, preparing them in the best possible way before the competition. Your hard work and dedication to providing them with proper guidance had a profound impact on Omar's outstanding performance during the competition, which filled us all with pride.

Your continuous encouragement for our children to memorize and recite the Quran, guiding them towards excellence, reflects your noble character and commitment to your sacred mission. As the Prophet (peace be upon him) said, "The best among you are those who learn the Quran and teach it."

I promise you that Omar will continue to put in the effort and training to improve and perform even better in future competitions, God willing. We ask Allah to reward your work and grant you the best in this life and the hereafter.

With sincere thanks and appreciation, Parent of the student: Omar Ahmed Askar

WSS Junior Section Superstar Champions!





A beautiful Arabic project on the letter 'Taa' by Haya (Y1)







WSS Junior Section Superstar Champions!



A WSS gymnastics superstar! We love your perseverance & focus!







Junior Section News; Learning Activities!



















Junior Section News; Assembly Time with Y2D1, 26/9/24!





Y2D1 Taught us about 'Feelings'. We learn that taking a deep breath if we are experiencing negative feelings can help us to feel more positive & control ourself.







Junior Section News; Assembly Time with Y2D1, 26/9/24!







Junior Section News; Assembly Time with Y1D1, 26/9/24!



Junior Section News; FS1 Learning Activities!

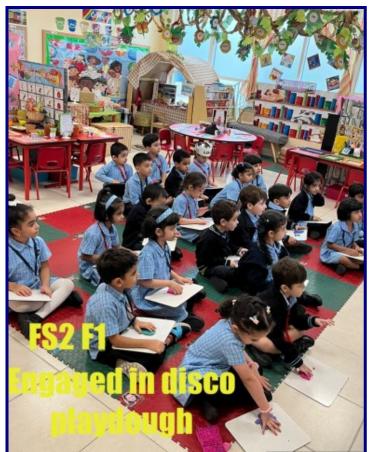








Junior Section News; FS2F1 Learning Activities!









Junior Section News; FS2H1 Learning Activities!













Junior Section News; FS2H2 Learning Activities!



FS2 H2 with Ms. Karen and Ms. Monika

Junior Section News; FS2S2 Learning Activities!



Junior Section News; Y1D1 Learning Activities!



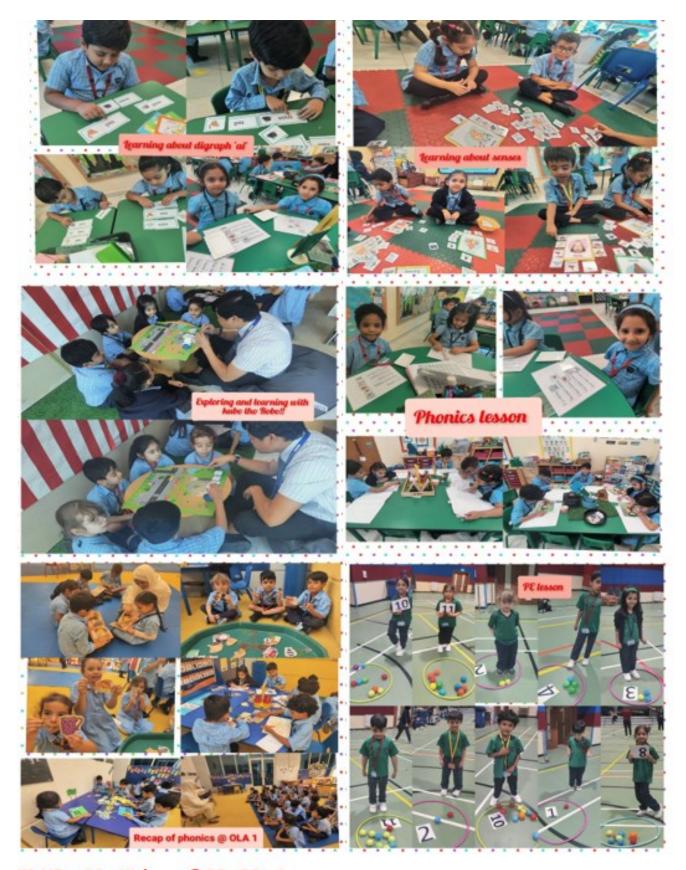
Junior Section News; Y1F1 Learning Activities!







Junior Section News; Y1H2 Learning Activities!



Y1 H2 Ms. Kishwar & Ms. Mani

Junior Section News; Y2 Islamic Learning Activities!

Y2, Islamic Education (NA) Rabi-ul Awwal Activities



Junior Section News; Y2D1 Learning Activities!

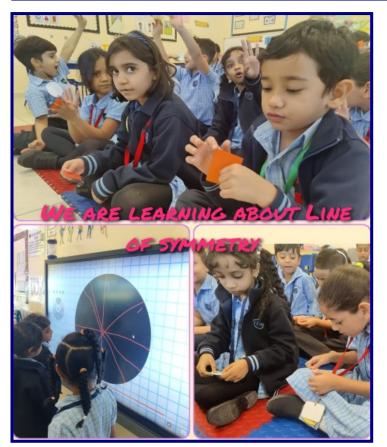


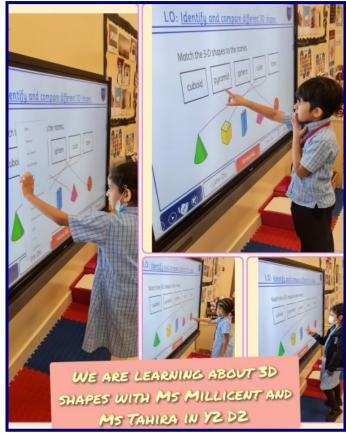






Junior Section News; Y2D2 Learning Activities!









Junior Section News; Y2F1 Learning Activities!



Junior Section News; Y2F2 Learning Activities!

TR- Ms. Fauzia

TA- Ms. Benil



Junior Section News; Y2H2 Learning Activities!









12H2 WITH MS.ROOMANA AND MS.AQUEEN



Junior Section News; Y2S1 Learning Activities!



Junior Section News; Y2S2 Learning Activities!







WSS Primary Section Superstar Champions!



Dear Teacher Mr Dhayan

We wanted to take a moment to express our heartfelt appreciation for the wonderful assembly that you and the students organized. It was truly a delight to witness, and we incredibly impressed with how smoothly everything ran.

We especially proud of our son (Abdul hadi imran) for the role he played, and I am very pleased with the confidence and poise he displayed. Although there's always space for improvement but overall It's really amazing in very short time.

The assembly was not only a testament to his growth but also to the effort and guidance you have provided to all the students.

We also want to commend the entire class for their remarkable performances. Each student showed great enthusiasm and confidence, and it was evident that they had worked hard under your leadership. It's clear that their efforts and your dedication have created a supportive and encouraging environment for them to thrive.

Thank you for your continued hard work and for giving the students such wonderful opportunities to showcase their talents. We are truly fortunate to have you as part of our children's educational journey. Hope you and entire primary department always encourage to your all students and give them these kind of opportunities frequently as they will do remarkable thrives . once again Thanks a lot to you and entire WSS family 30 .

Warm regards,

Parents.

Dear Sir (Mr. Dhayanchand)

Special thank you to you Sir for making this assembly a wonderful show and giving our children opportunity to be a part of this event. All the students did wonderful job on stage with limited time n practice. Their hardwork was clearly seen on the stage.

I highly appreciate your support and encouragement in making this event so special n memorable for all of us.

Thank you once again

Regards

Masooma

Alaqmar's parent

Hi Ms. Mrudula,

I hope this email finds you well. I wanted to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude for your assistance to find the missing earrings of Nia. Your kindness and willingness to go out of your way to help truly mean a lot to us.

Thanks once again,

Nithva (Nia's Mother)

WSS Primary Section Superstar Champions!



A WSS Swimming Superstar Champion! We love your hard work & resilience!



I wanted to extend my sincere appreciation for the fantastic Reading Week at WSS. My children thoroughly enjoyed all the activities and were excited to actively participate throughout the week.

The Parental Engagement Story Reading Day was particularly special. It was a wonderful experience to be involved alongside teachers and see the students so engaged.

I believe such initiatives greatly contribute to developing a love for books in children and enhancing their awareness of the world of literature. Thank you once again for organizing such an enriching experience.

Attached are the glimpse of today's activity.

Syed Taha Y6BH as sports story on legend Lionel Messi (book character day)

Syed Talha Y4S1 as Flowering plant (vocabulary parade day)

FLONE RING PLANT
LUGA GAIGLE

LUGA GAIGLE

LOGA GAIGLE

L

Primary Section News; Learning Activities!



















Primary Section News; Learning Activities!

















The Y3 Radio Club theme was 'Turning Dreams into Reality'. Advice included to believe in yourself, to work hard, practice & to have a long-term plan. The students presented so confidently & clearly—well done to our 3 RJ superstars!!

Primary Section News; Assembly Time with Y6BH, 25/9/24!

















Y6BH put on an amazing Assembly on 25/9/24 on the theme 'Self-Discipline'. It was full of humour, important strategies to apply, innovative use of IT (using the App Plicker to record plenary answers) & even parental engagement. Well done Y6BH & Mr. DHayanchand—it was a model of marvelous Assembly.



Primary Section News; Assembly Time with Y4D2, 25/9/24!











Y4D2 put on a super Assembly on the theme 'Resilience'. We learnt that an open mindset, hard work, having a 'Plan B', resisting distraction & never giving up helps us to achieve our long-term goals.





Primary Section News; Parent Engagement—Reading Week!

Year 4 Parents Inspire Young Readers with Storytelling Sessions

GEMS Westminster School

During these engaging events, parents read a selection of captivating stories, sparking the imagination of their children and drawing them into the world of literature.

These sessions provided an excellent opportunity for parents and students to bond over shared stories, facilitating lively discussions about the narratives and themes presented.













tomorrow a leader Today a reader,



In a delightful initiative to promote literacy and foster a love for reading, Year 3 parents participated in an engaging storytelling session with their children.

positively impact their children's learning experiences. We look forward to more of these enriching activities in the future! parental involvement in education, and these storytelling The school community recognizes the importance of sessions are a fantastic example of how parents can







Primary Section News; Parent Engagement—Reading Week!



Year 6 Literary Adventure: Parents Bring Books to Life!

Interactive Storytelling: Parents read aloud from a variety of genres, showcasing their enthusiasm for literature. Their expressive storytelling styles helped create a lively atmosphere that captivated the attention of Year 6 students. Discussion and Engagement: After each reading, discussions were held to explore the themes, characters, and messages within the stories. This engagement encouraged critical thinking and allowed students to express their thoughts and feelings about the narratives.









Year 5 Parents Unleash the Magic of Storytelling!







Primary Section News; Parent Engagement—Reading Week!













Primary Section News; Y3 Learning Activities!





Y3F1





Y3H1

Primary Section News; Y3S2 Learning Activities!

Discover New Worlds, One Page at a Time:
Celebrating Reading Week!

Y3S2 celebrated reading week with the
support of parents and our children.

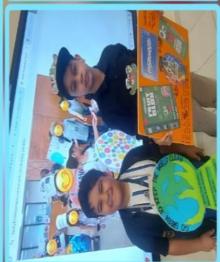
















IGSCE STUDENT TOPPER 2023-24



SYEDA TAYYIBA ZAINUB 6A*



YANA CHINTALAPUDI 6A*



SALI OMAR BADRAN 5A* 1A



FARIDA AHMED 5A*1A



ZAHRA ABBAS 4A* 2A

WSS Secondary Section IGCSE Toppers Superstar Champions!



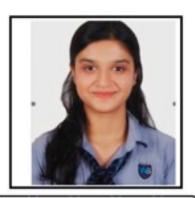
YOUMNA OSAMA ABDELHAMID ALIAN 5A*



MENNA AHMED 5A* 1A



LEEN NAEL 5A* 1A



MRIDINI SUR 5A*1A



MAYMOONA ATHAR 5A*1A



ZEINAH JAFAR 5A* 1A

Student Council - Secondary

Results unveiled - Excitement at its peak.



WSS Secondary Section KS3 Superstar Champions!





WSS Secondary Section Art & Origami Superstar Champions!



Thank you Ms. Maha.



Secondary Section News; Assembly Time with Y9GD, 23/9/24!



The Assembly theme was 'Gratitude', an important contributor to our well-being. Choosing to 'count our blessings' or have a Gratitude Journal, can impact positively on how we feel about & manage life experiences.











Secondary Section News; Assembly Time with Y9BF1, 24/9/24!









The Assembly theme was Environmental Resilience, a hot topic. As one of the boys quoted, "This is the first generation to be impacted critically by Climate Change, & the last generation who can make a difference."

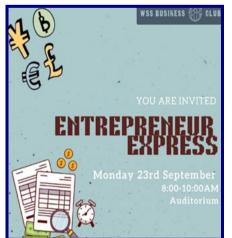






Secondary Section News; WSS 'Entrepreneur Express' Competition, 23/9/24!





The WSS Business Club organized & led a 'link to life' competition called Entrepreneur Express on 23/9/24. Groups of Business students presented their business idea to a panel of judges.

Competition was fierce & there were some really creative product ideas.







Secondary Section News; WSS 'Business Club Report!

WSS BUSINESS













"At the recent business event which involved the pitching of business plans, I learned several valuable lessons. First, the importance of clear and concise communication became evident. Judges appreciate pitches that get straight to the point while maintaining an engaging narrative. I also realized the significance of preparation; anticipating questions and tailoring the presentation to the judges' interests made a difference. Additionally, I observed the value of adaptability being able to adjust my pitch on the spot bused on feedback. Overall, the experience highlighted the need for confidence and the power of storytelling in business presentations. It also enhanced my practical view on business by encouraging real-world business scenarios."



"As a scheme student, attending the Entroperson Express our was an spe-opening comprision. I wan able to may outside any toned academic focus and capture the dynamics of entropersonship and fractions strategy. It give me a now perspective on how my analyzed skills, networking with pertion different fields allowed not to-exchange ideas and faces about intendinglinary cancer approximation. I also gained majors in the importance of effective communication, teamwork, and errange tritidi ing. Overall, it was a valuable experience that breached my codinois and enhanced my preference that breached my codinois and enhanced my preference that breached my codinois.





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President: Asia Khan, Y1388

"As one of the lead organisers and a member of the judging panel for Entrepreneur Express, it was an absolute pleasure to winness students' entrepreneurial spirit from Years II to 13. Their innovative ideas and projects not only demonstrated creativity but also reflected their ability to collaborate, think critically, and solve real-world problems. It was impring to see their passion and coffective drive come to life in such a dynamic and supportive environment, showcasing the potential of future leaders and changemakers."

resident: Mariam Shams, YINGD



Secondary Section News; Y7 International World Peace Day!



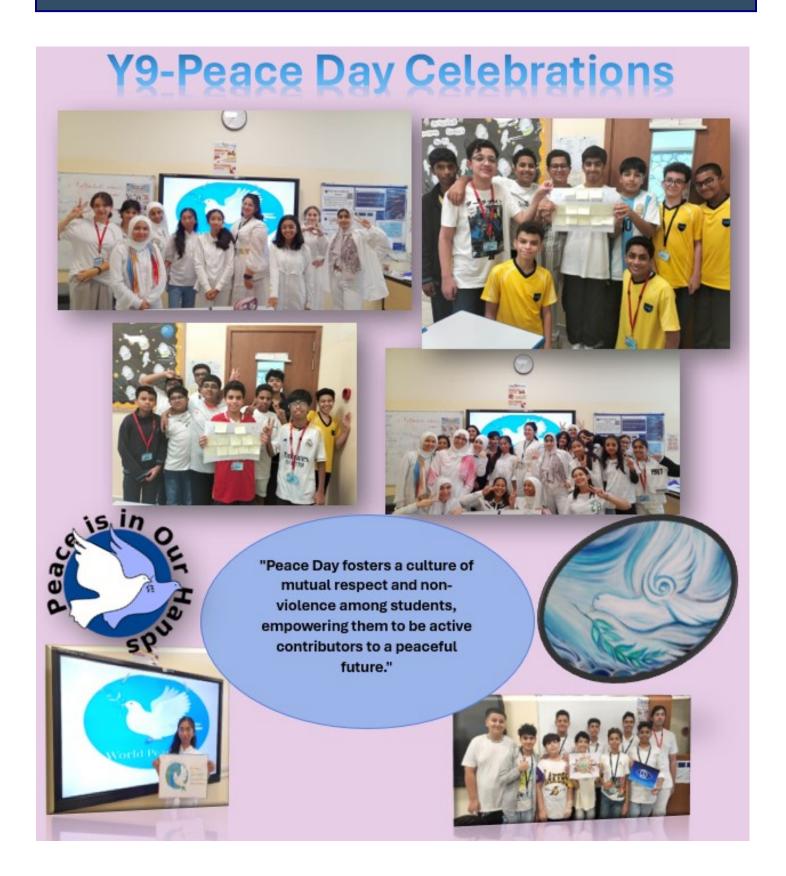






Secondary Section News; Y8 International World Peace Day!











Year 10 students, guided by their activity leader, have taken the initiative to enhance their classroom environment by designing creative boards that highlight 'pathways to success'.

These boards serve as motivational tools, offering visual inspiration and practical steps to help students reach their 'academic goals'.



KS4 PEER MENTORSHIP PROGRAM: Empowering the academic journey. This initiative pairs top-performing students with their peers to provide personalized support and guidance in key subjects. Through one-on-one mentoring, students receive tailored assistance to enhance their understanding, boost their confidence, and excel in their studies.



KS4 HACK-A-THON Competition, an exciting initiative organized by the Tech Nebula team.





TEAM TECHNEBULA, Year 11BH students dedicated to promote innovation for a sustainable future.

Muhammad Mustafa Waqar Muhammad Butt Ihtizaz Mirza Jasir Baig Muhammad Abdullah Irfan





Y12 and Y13 students hosted an insightful session for Year 11 students, aimed at helping them prepare for their upcoming IGCSE exams.



Drawing from their own recent experience, the Y12 students shared valuable tips on effective study techniques, time management, and balancing revision with well-being.

O/A Time



peers.

encouraged and uplifted by their

Best resources

PEACE DAY PEACE DAY



Year 10's Secret Ingredient? The Perfect Roux!"









We are excited to announce the selection of our new class leaders for the upcoming school academic year 2024-25!

These students have demonstrated exceptional leadership skills, commitment, and a passion for making our school a better place.

We believe these leaders will serve to the best of their ability and organize events that enhance our school community.

Please join us in congratulating them and wishing all the very best for their future role as class leader







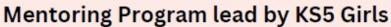
Sixth form Passport Program - IGCSE introductory session for Y11 students

AS students sharing their Success story to current IGCSE students, who found this session informative as well as inspiring. session was led by Ms. Remya Llyod and Ms. Nirmal.



KS5- New initiatives launched by Sixth Form Team (Volunteer ship Pass and KS5 Incentive Coupons)









Student's commitment towards class environment













Program event where they conducted a debate on the topic "Is Al a threat to humanity?" Participants 'For' and 'Against' sides, had appreciated the students' future perspective about the topic an interesting debate using relevant statistics and evidences. The 'Girls Sociology Club' has inaugurated the first Passport Judged by Ms Seema, Mr Manoj and Ms Swarupa who discussed.



Secondary Section News

Exploring the Planets: 5-Minutes GK Session in Secondary Library











