

# GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, SHARJAH



Newsletter Issue #16  
4th January, 2024



Message from the  
Principal/CEO  
Ms. Valerie Thompson

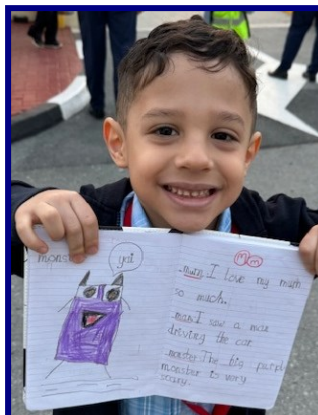
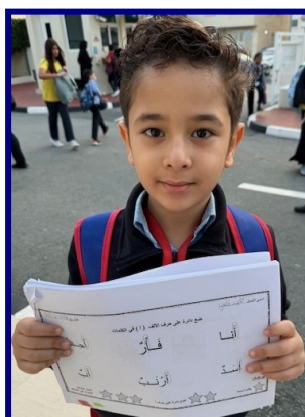
*Dear WSS Parents,*

*Happy New Year 2024! We wish all our families a safe, healthy & successful new year.*

*Welcome back for another busy, learning-rich Term.*

## Dates for Your Diary

Date	Details
<b>Thurs.</b> 11/1/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>T1 Reports</b> released (online)</li> </ul>
<b>Friday</b> 12/1/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>8am-12pm; Parent Teacher Meeting (PTM)</b></li> <li>Parents are invited to come into school to meet their child's teachers to discuss T1 progress, achievement &amp; next steps.</li> </ul>
<b>Wed.</b> 14/2/24 & <b>Thurs.</b> 15/2/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School closed for Mid-Term 2 Break</li> <li>Admin offices open</li> </ul>
<b>Friday</b> 29/3/24 to <b>Sunday</b> 14/4/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>School closed for Spring Break</b> (2 weeks)</li> <li>T2 exams will run 1-2 weeks before Spring Break</li> <li><b>Admin Depts. will be open</b> on working days throughout for Enrollment &amp; Fee Payment</li> <li>Online fee payments recommended to avoid queues, however, the <b>Cashier will be open in school on Saturday 13/4/24, 8am-1pm</b> for convenient fee payment</li> <li>Term 3 fees due by latest Monday 15th April. Thank you.</li> </ul>



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



# مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر الشارقة



النشرة الإخبارية رقم # 16  
4 يناير 2024



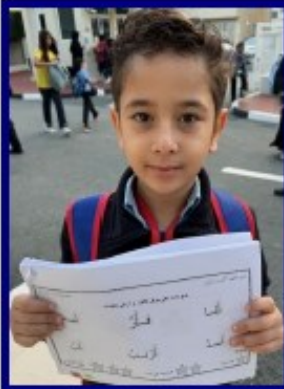
رسالة من  
المديرة / الرئيس التنفيذي  
السيدة فاليري تومسون  
أولياء أمور مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر  
الشارقة الأعزاء،

سنة جديدة سعيدة 2024! نتمنى لجميع  
عائلاتنا سنة جديدة آمنة وصحية وناجحة.

مرحبًا بكم مرة أخرى في فصل دراسي آخر  
مزدحم وغني بالتعلم.

## المواعيد

التاريخ	التفاصيل
11/1/24	تم إصدار تقارير T1 (عبر الإنترنت)
الجمعة 12/1/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8 صباحًا - 12 ظهرًا: اجتماع أولياء الأمور والمعلمين (PTM)</li> <li>أولياء الأمور مدعوون للحضور إلى المدرسة لمقابلة معلمي أطفالهم لمناقشة التقدم في T1 والإنجاز والخطوات التالية.</li> </ul>
الأربعاء 14/2/24 و الخميس 15/2/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>المدرسة مغلقة لعطلة منتصف الفصل الدراسي الثاني</li> <li>المكاتب الإدارية مفتوحة</li> </ul>
من الجمعة 29/3/24 إلى الأحد 14/4/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>المدرسة مغلقة لعطلة الربيع (أسبوعين)</li> <li>سيتم إجراء اختبارات T2 قبل أسبوع أو أسبوعين من عطلة الربيع</li> <li>الأقسام الإدارية سيكون مفتوحًا طوال أيام العمل للتسجيل ودفع الرسوم</li> <li>يوصى بدفع الرسوم عبر الإنترنت لتجنب طوابير الانتظار، ومع ذلك، سيكون أمين الصندوق مفتوحًا في المدرسة يوم السبت 13/4/24، من الساعة 8 صباحًا حتى 1 ظهرًا لدفع الرسوم بشكل مريح</li> <li>رسوم الفصل الدراسي الثالث مستحقة بحلول يوم الاثنين 15 أبريل. شكرًا لك.</li> </ul>



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

## Whole School News












### Newsletter Contents

Page	Includes:
1, 2	<b>Dates for Your Diary</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Message from the Principal; Date for Your Diary, general notices</li> </ul>
3	<b>Contents</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contents Table</li> <li>QR Code to Access our online Parent Handbook</li> </ul>
4 5 5 6 7 8 8	<b>Whole School News</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff of Term 1 Award Winners</li> <li>Environmental &amp; Recycling Superstar Champions</li> <li>Sharing a Beautiful Arabic Display Board</li> <li>Whole School News; New Astroturf, Staff CPD (Training)</li> <li>Storyboard Top Tips 1) Grit &amp; Perseverance, 2) Awaiting Results</li> <li>Happy Birthdays</li> <li>Parent Appreciation</li> </ul>
9-10 11-12 13-18	<b>Junior Section News</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FS2 Learning Activities</li> <li>Y1 Learning Activities</li> <li>Y2 Learning Activities</li> </ul>
19 20-21 22	<b>Primary Section News</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary Activities &amp; Parent Appreciation</li> <li>Y5 Personalised Learning Activities</li> <li>Y5 &amp; Y6 Learning Activities</li> </ul>
23 24 25 26-27 28 29	<b>Secondary Section News</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MUN Preparation</li> <li>Y13 Wellbeing Activity</li> <li>Back to school; Y7 &amp; Y8 Learning Activities</li> <li>Y9 Learning Activities; Developing Collaboration &amp; Independent Learning Skills!</li> <li>Back to School for T2; KS4 Learning Activities</li> <li>Sixth Form Learning Activities</li> </ul>

Find our updated **Parent Handbook** through this QR code.  
Check-out school policies & procedures to help you & your children to become more familiar & comfortable with our system.



## *WSS Superstar Champions; Staff of Term 1 Awards!*

		Staff Awards; WSS Staff Stars of Term 1		Term 1: September 2023 – December 2023	
					
					
<p>Ms. Sadiqa Banu</p> <p>Teacher of the Term Junior</p>		<p>Ms. Tahira Khalil</p> <p>Teacher Assistant of the Term Junior</p>		<p>Mr. Dineshlal Suseela</p> <p>Teacher of the Term Primary</p>	
				<p>Mr. Satish Benjamin</p> <p>Teacher of the Term Primary</p>	
					
		<p>Ms. Leena Sudeesan</p> <p>Teacher of the Term Secondary</p>		<p>Ms. Sofia Sayed</p> <p>Teacher of the Term Secondary</p>	
				<p>Celebrating excellence &amp; ‘going the extra mile’; Staff of Term 1 Awards!</p>	
					
<p>Ms. Siji Bobby</p> <p>Admin. Staff Award of the Term</p>		<p>Ms. Rapunzel Rocio</p> <p>Admin. Staff Award of the Term</p>		<p>Ms. Ram Kumari Shrestha Janak Raj</p> <p>Support Staff of the Term</p>	
					
				<p>Ms. Choolanayani Saumya Lekamalage</p> <p>Support Staff of the Term</p>	



## *Environment & Sustainability Superstar Champions!*



## *Whole School News; Beautiful Learning Displays in School!*





## Whole School News



Our beautiful new Astroturf!

أعضاء مجلس مديري المدارس الخاصة  
بإمارة الشارقة في دورته الثالثة  
Members of Sharjah School  
Principal Council, 3<sup>rd</sup> Cycle

Together we Learn,  
Lead, and Serve

مسؤول  
والترام

الأستاذة فاليري تومبسون  
Ms. Valerie Thompson  
مديرة مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر الخاصة  
Principal of GEMS Westminster Private School

Sharjah Private Education Authority | هيئة الشارقة للتعليم الخاص

## Staff CPD (Training)

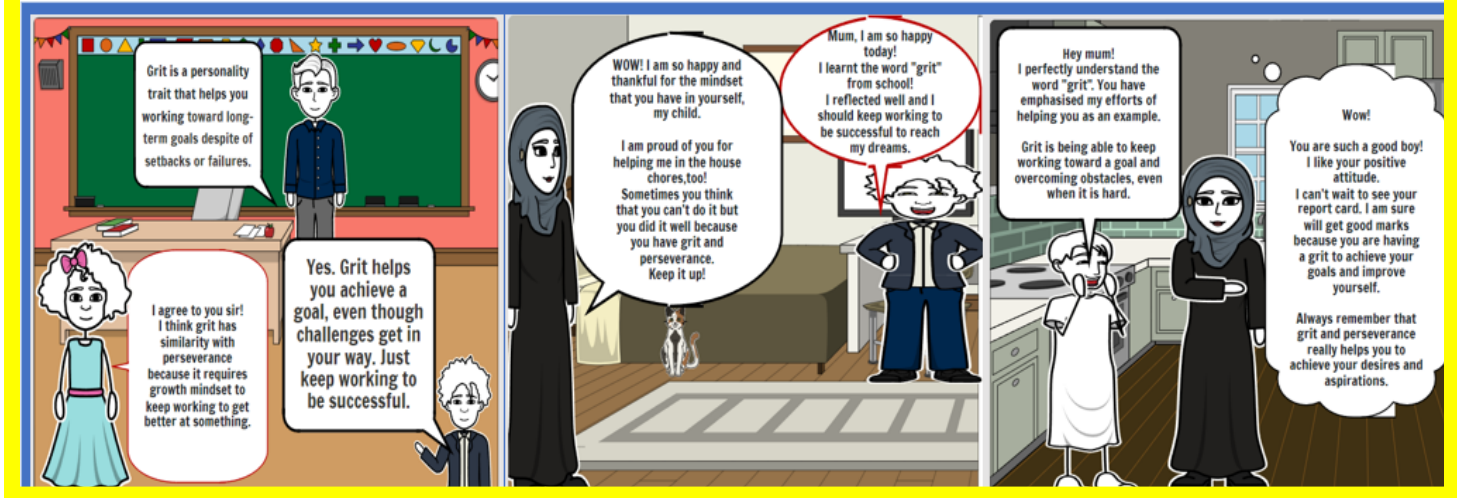
Staff receiving First Aid training over the weekend. Schools are required to have a certain % of staff trained in first Aid.



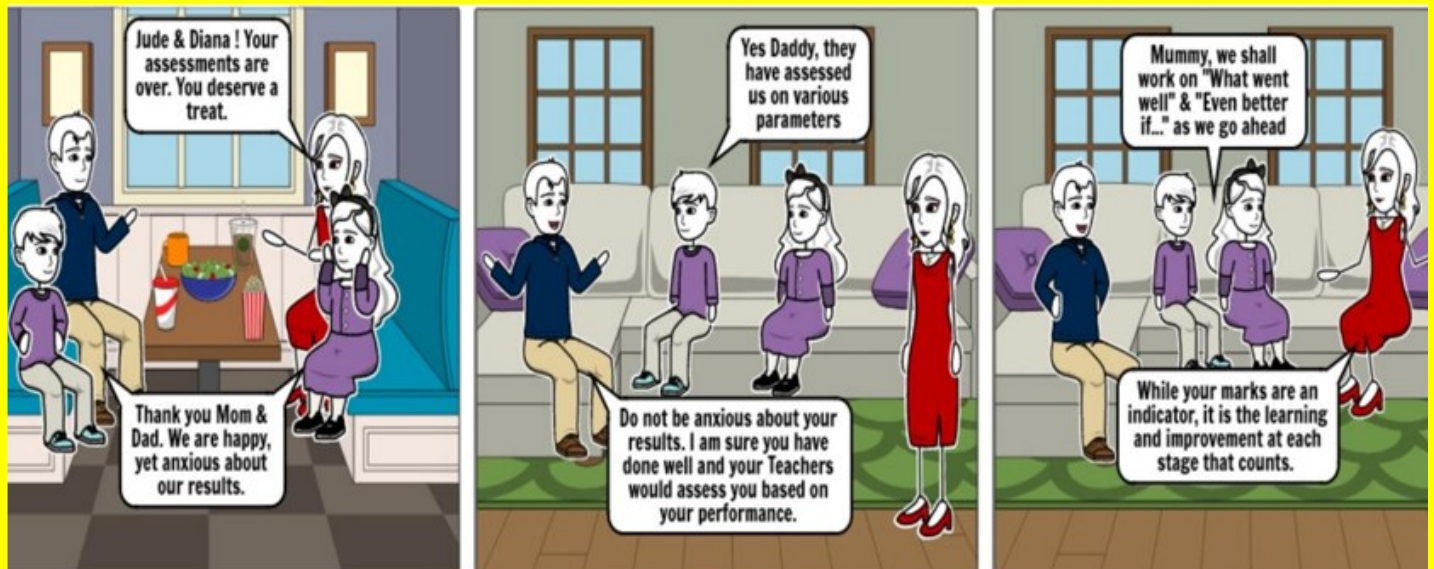


## Whole School News; Storyboard Top Tips!

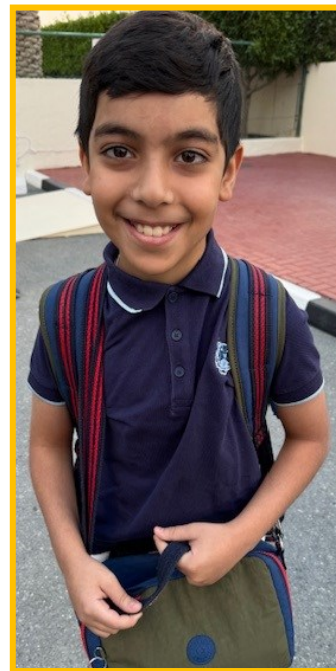
### Grit and perseverance storyboard



### Awaiting Results



## Happy Birthdays!



## WSS Junior Section Superstar Champions!

Dear Ms. Sadiqa

First of all happy new year

I'm writing this mail to you to express about my deep thanks for your efforts with Mahmoud during the first term , the results which we noticed as family on Mahmoud is unbelievable and makes us so happy and grateful for you

The great thing that Mahmoud improve a lot not only in the educational part but completely his character and mentality which is so important to us and him as well

As a family of Mahmoud we would like to thank you a lot and really forever we will not forget that.

Dear Ms. Aisha ,

I sincerely appreciate your thoughtful message as we conclude the first term. It has indeed been a rewarding journey, and I am grateful for the progress my child has made under your guidance.

Your acknowledgment of the collaborative efforts between home and school resonates deeply. I am thankful for the positive and enriching learning environment you have helped create. The various activities and events, from parental engagement days to UAE national day celebrations, have not only been memorable but also instrumental in the holistic development of our students.

As we approach the holiday season, I extend my heartfelt wishes for a joyful and restful break to you and the entire school community. May it be filled with warmth, laughter, and cherished moments.

Thank you once again for your dedication and the impactful role you play in our children's lives. I eagerly look forward to the upcoming term and the continued growth of our students.

If there are any specific feedback or suggestions you seek, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Wafa ( Mohamed Ahmed Meshref mother. )

On Wed, Dec 13, 2023, 12:41 PM Aisha Yasmin <[aisha.y\\_wss@gemsedu.com](mailto:aisha.y_wss@gemsedu.com)> wrote:



## *Junior Section News; FS2 Learning Activities!*



*Using our creative ideas in*

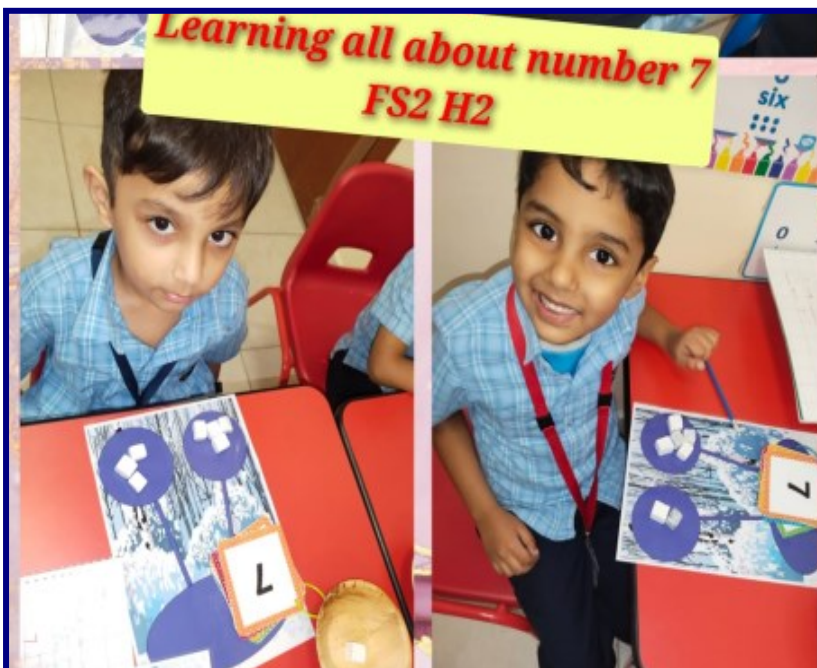
**FS2 H2**



*I like Olaf..*  
**FS2 H2**



*Learning all about number 7*  
**FS2 H2**



*Learning all about number 7*  
**FS2 H2**



## ***FS2D1***

### ***Homelearning***



## ***FS2D1***



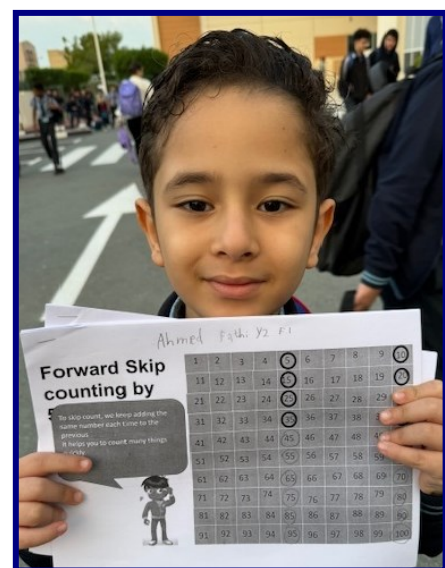
***Making number 7 in different ways***



## Junior Section News; Y1 Learning Activities!



With Ms. Sadiqa and Ms. Asma  
Y1-D2





## Junior Section News; Y1 Learning Activities!

### Enjoying P.E Lesson



Y1 F1

### Enjoying art and craft on New Year



### Learning ICT



Y1 F1

### Arabic lesson



Y1 F1



## *Junior Section News; Y2 Learning Activities!*

### Y2D1 Class activity Picture

TR: Jinitra Rajesh

TA: Asma Mohamed

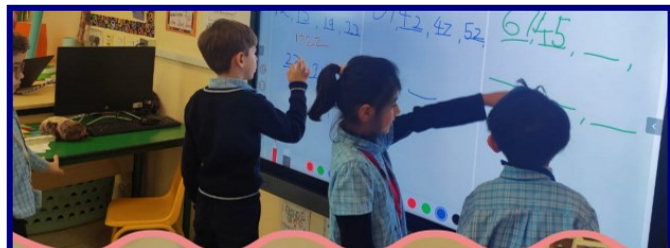




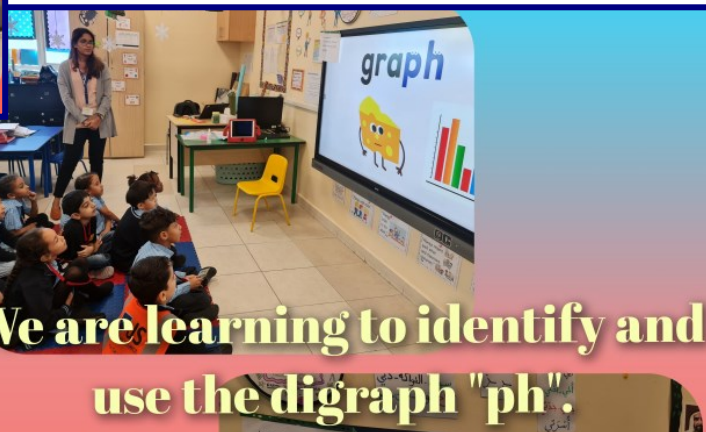
## *Junior Section News; Y2 Learning Activities!*



**We learn about excel in ICT**



**We are learning about skip counting with Ms Milicent and Ms Tahira**



**We are learning to identify and use the digraph "ph".**



**Music is fun**



**Discussion time in Y2 D2 with Ms Milicent and Ms Tahira**



## Junior Section News; Y2 Learning Activities!

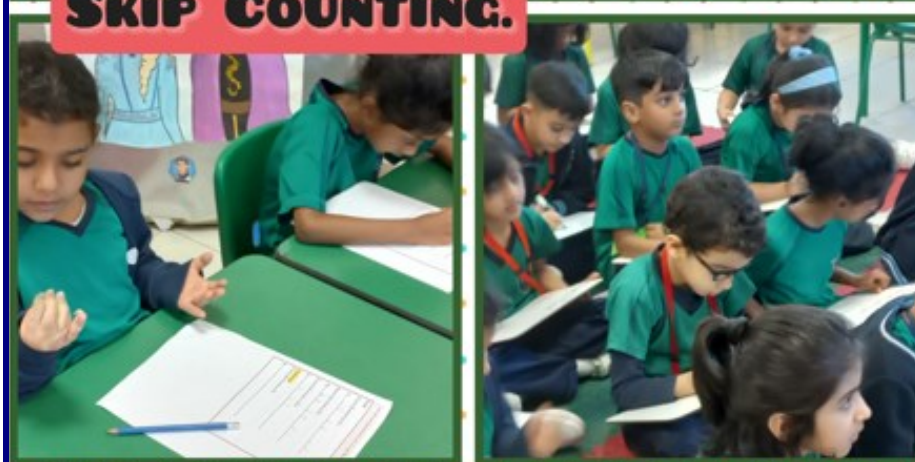




## Junior Section News; Y2 Learning Activities!



**SKIP COUNTING.**



**Y2H2 WITH MS SABIHA & MS.ASHIKA.**

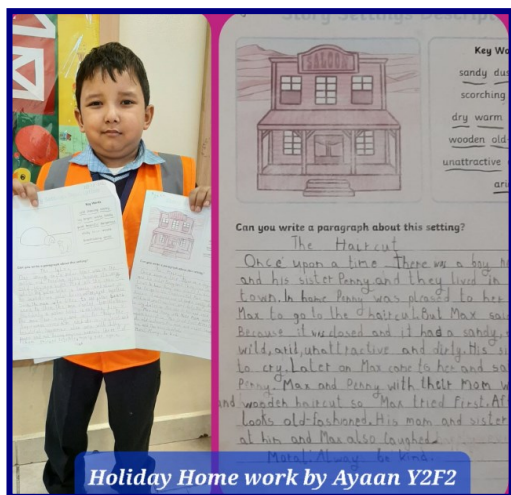


**BEGINNING OF AN ENERGETIC YEAR.**



Well done Ayaan and Anaya

Home Learning



Holiday Home work by Ayaan Y2F2

Y2F2



Story time -Frozen-2  
with  
Ms.Fauzia and Ms.Benil



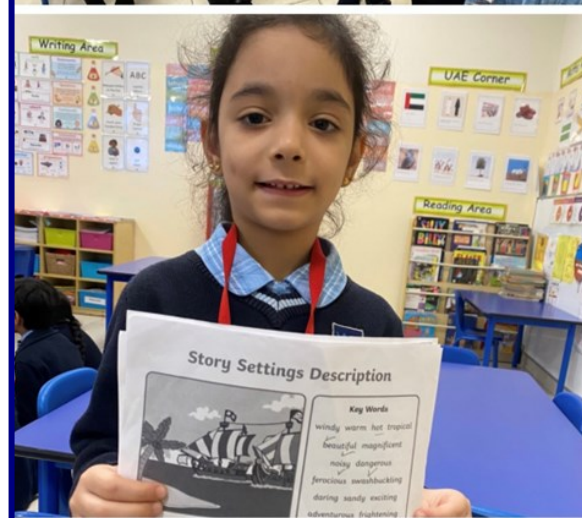
## Junior Section News; Y2 Learning Activities!



We are learning to use past progressive tense  
Y2S1 with Ms. Sara and Ms. Catherin



Home Learners



Y2S1 busy in doing skip counting with Ms. Sara and Ms. Catherin



We started practicing for  
our sport day



## Junior Section News; Y2 Learning Activities!





## Primary Section News



Hello (Ms. Anju),

How are you? hope you are doing well and had a great new year. I want to show my gratitude for the class photos that you shared, it was amazing to see the effort and the hard work you have been doing. I can really see the progress and improvement in faris 😊.

Thank you for your guidance, much appreciated!

Regards,

Faris mom ❤️

## WSS Primary Radio Station



RJ Hibah



RJ Zohaib



RJ Jouriya



RJ Maryam



## *Primary Section News; Learning Activities Using IT for Personalisation of Learning in Y5!*

Exploring the Century Tech online Educational app in the science lesson by the students of Y5D1.



Exploring the Century Tech online Educational app in the maths lesson by the students of Y5F1.

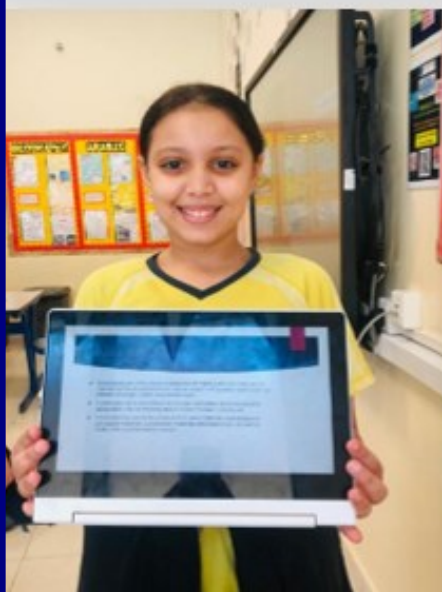




## *Primary Section News; Learning Activities in a Y5 STEAM Lesson!*

### STEAM Lesson in Y5F1 with Mr. Arvie

Students selected any one out of the 4 categories (Sustainable Science, Sustainable Technology, Sustainable Engineering, and Sustainable Art) to create a power point presentation explaining the topic in further detail with real life examples/ any projects/ case studies to illustrate the idea more in depth.





## *Primary Section News; Y5 & Y6 Learning Activities*

**Y5 S2**

**Steam Activity**

**Students are creating powerpoint presentation on sustainability**



With Ms. Anjukrishna R



**Y6 GD with Ms. Lakshmi**

Research and Collaborative  
learning during the steam  
session





## Secondary Section News: Preparing for WSS MUN, 5th-6th January 2024!



WSS Sixth Form students have been working very hard organizing our first ever Modul United Nations (MUN) event, scheduled for the coming weekend.

The MUN event is an educational simulation of the United Nations, where students act as delegates of different countries and debate on various global issues. The MUN event aims to enhance the students' skills in leadership, research, diplomacy, public speaking, and critical thinking. Around 15 schools from Sharjah, Dubai & Abu Dhabi are participating, with nearly 200 students. Our Y12 & Y13 Sixth Form students are the key organisers, led by Zuha Raees & Mariam Shams.

The theme of the WSSMUN'23 event is 'Fostering Global Digitalization for Sustainable Development: Embracing a Digital Revolution'.

Thank you to all staff involved in supporting the MUN event over their weekend.





## *Secondary Section News; Y13 Wellbeing Activity!*



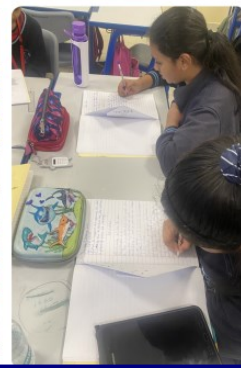
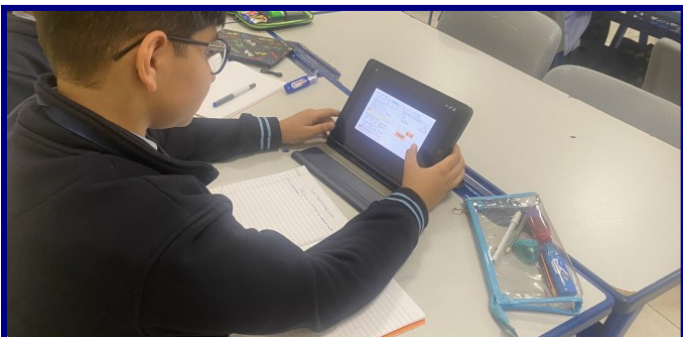
### **Y13 Wellbeing Activity:**

We organized a Secondary box crafting party, in which Secondary students were able to apply their artistic imagination to the surfaces of a plain wooden boxes, in which students would be able to store their personal treasures. Our aim was not only to enable our fellow students to flourish with innovation, but to also create and store things that'll remain with us for years and years to come. Thank you for Ms. Ayesha for making it possible with clear guidance.

By Parvana Safari  
Year 13 GD



## *Secondary Section News; Y7 & Y8 Learning Activities!*



**Back to School for T2;** Year 7 & Y8 students actively participating in classroom discussions and focusing on doing individual tasks. They also applied the effective use of digital resources.

### **Y8 Learning Journey**



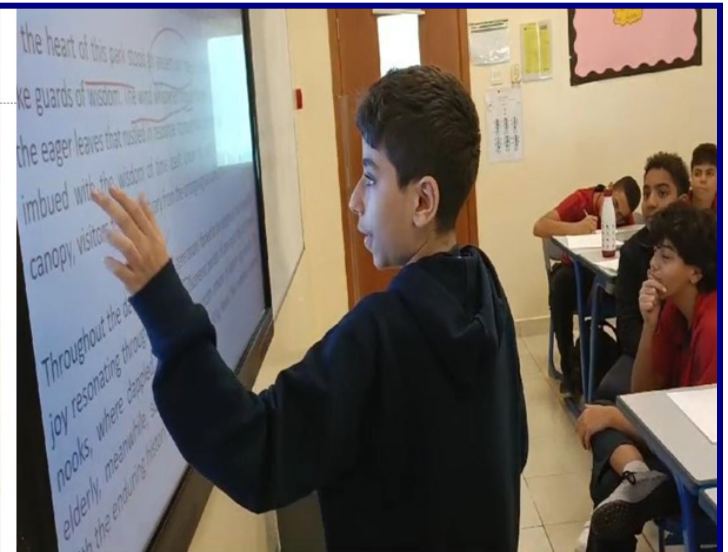
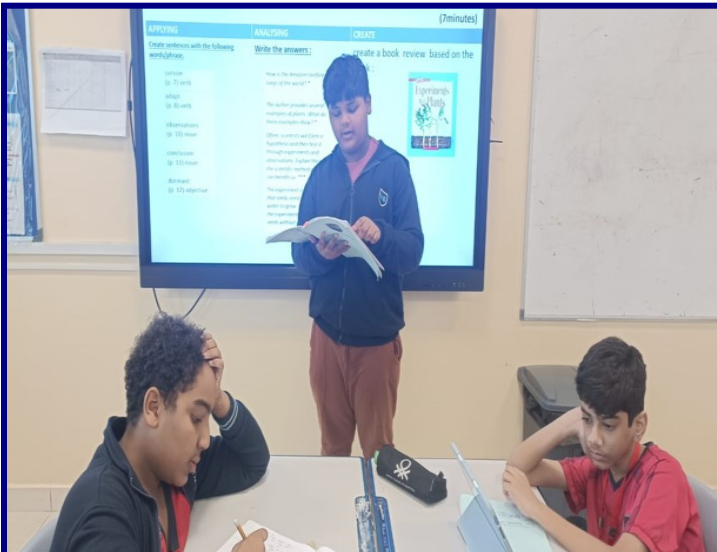
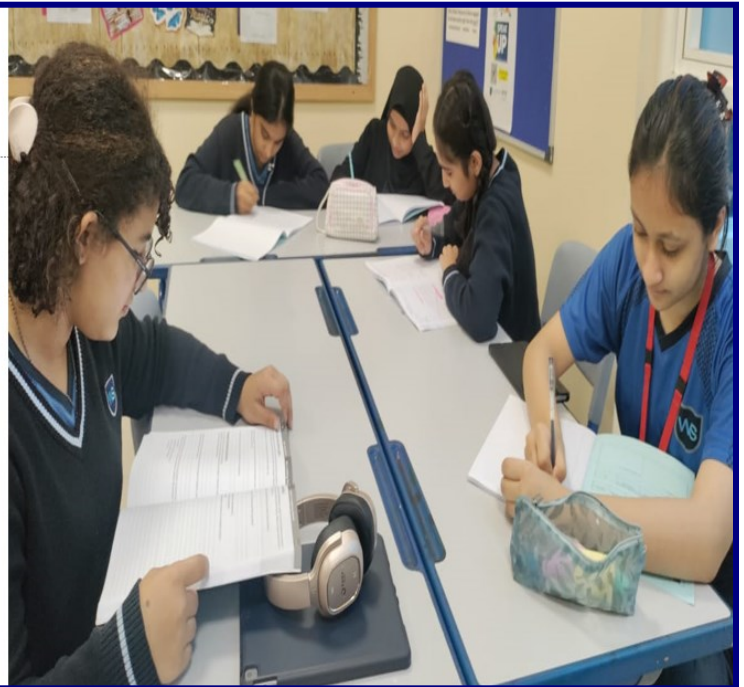


## *Secondary Section News; Y9 Developing Collaboration & Independent Learning Skills!*



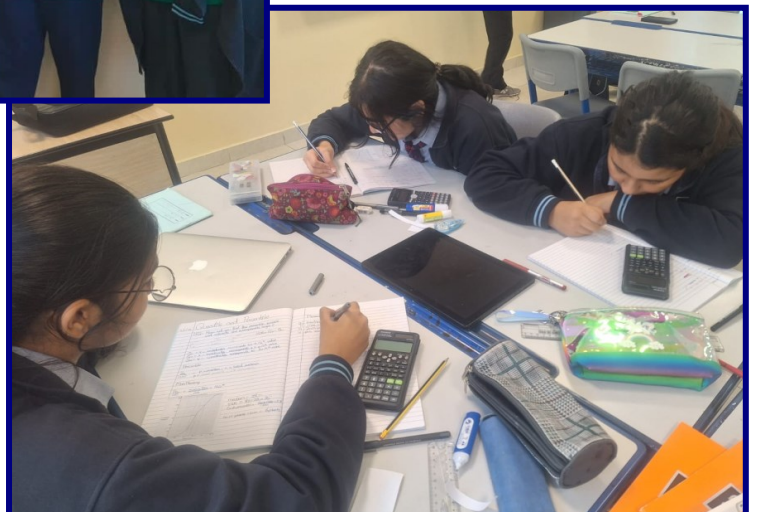
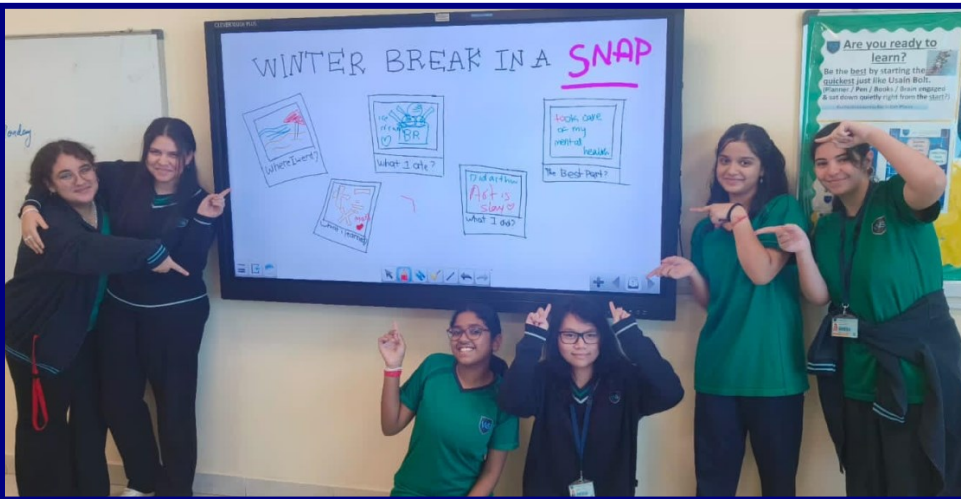


## *Secondary Section News; Y9 Learning Activities; Developing Collaboration & Independent Learning Skills!*





## Secondary Section News; KS4 Learning Activities!





## *Secondary Section News; Sixth Form Learning Activities!*

