

GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, SHARJAH



Newsletter Issue #17
11th January, 2024



Message from the
Principal/CEO
Ms. Valerie Thompson

Dear WSS Parents,

We are looking forward to meeting you all with your child (in smart school uniform) for **PTM on Friday 12/1/24, 8am to 12pm**, to discuss the T1 Report, progress, achievement & 'next steps'. Thank you.



Dates for Your Diary

Date	Details
Thurs. 11/1/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> T1 Reports released (online)
Friday 12/1/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am-12pm; Parent Teacher Meeting (PTM) Cashier open for Fee payment (Cashier also open on Saturday 13/1, 8am-12pm) Parents are invited to come into school to meet their child's teachers to discuss T1 progress, achievement & next steps.
From Wed. 24/1/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> System re-enrollment opens for Sept. 2024 seats, subject to <u>T2 fee payment & no serious behaviour issues</u> (students with WLs are 'On Probation') Online re-enrollment is a non-binding indication only. Seats are only confirmed once the re-enrollment fee plus T3 fees have been cleared in full, by the given deadlines. Regardless of any system-generated email, the re-enrollment fee is non-refundable for any reason, as per the Sharjah Authority Circular.
Mon. 15/4/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The <u>deadline to pay the re-enrollment fee is Monday 15th April</u>. After this date, any un-booked seats would be given to the Waiting List. To avoid any inconvenience & disappointment, do please keep to the given deadlines to secure your child a seat if required. Thank you.
Wed. 14/2/24 & Thurs. 15/2/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School closed for Mid-Term 2 Break (2 days) Admin offices open (timings TBC)
Friday 29/3/24 to Sunday 14/4/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School closed for Spring Break (2 weeks) T2 exams will run 1-2 weeks before Spring Break (exact dates TBC) Admin Offices open on working days throughout the Break for Enrollment & Fee Payment (timings TBC) Online fee payments recommended to avoid queues. However, the Cashier will be open in school on Saturday 13/4/24, 8am-1pm for convenient fee payment Term 3 fees due by latest Monday 15th April. Thank you.

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

مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر الشارقة



النشرة الإخبارية رقم # 17
11 يناير 2024



رسالة من
المديرة / الرئيس التنفيذي
السيدة ألياء أمور

أولياء أمور مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر
الشارقة الأعزاء،

نحن نطلع إلى لقاءكم جميعاً مع طاقم
(الفرق) المدرسي الثمين لحضور PTM يوم الجمعة 12/1/24 - الساعة 8 صباحاً و 12 ظهراً، لمناقشة تقرير T1 والتقدم
والإنجاز و"الخطوات التالية" شغراً لكم



المواعيد

التاريخ	التفاصيل
11/1/24	• تم إصدار تقارير T1 (عبر الإنترنت)
الجمعة 12/1/24	• 8 صباحاً - 12 ظهراً، اجتمع أولياء الأمور والمعلمين (PTM) • ولياء الأمور مدعوون للحضور إلى المدرسة لمناقشة تطورات أطفالهم لمناقشة التقدم في T1 والإنجاز والخطوات التالية
من الأربعاء 24/1/24	• سيتم فتح إعادة التسجيل في النظام لمقاعد سبتمبر 2024، مع مراعاة فتح رسوم T2 وعدم وجود مشكلات سلوكية خطيرة (الطلاب الحاصلون على "WL" تحت المراقبة) • إعادة التسجيل عبر الإنترنت هي إشارة غير ملزمة فقط لا يتم تأكيد المقاعد إلا بعد سداد رسوم إعادة التسجيل بالإضافة إلى رسوم T3 بالكامل. بحلول المواعيد النهائية المحددة. • بغض النظر عن أي بريد إلكتروني يصدره النظام، فإن رسوم إعادة التسجيل غير قابلة للاسترداد لأي سبب من الأسباب. وفقاً لتعليم هيئة الشارقة. • الموعد النهائي لتفويض رسوم إعادة التسجيل هو يوم الاثنين 15 أبريل. بعد هذا التاريخ، سيتم تحويل أي مقاعد غير محجوزة إلى قائمة الانتظار. • لتجنب أي إزعاج وقتية أمل، يرجى الالتزام بالمواعيد النهائية المحددة لتفويض مقعد لطفلك إذا لزم الأمر. شكراً لكم.
الأربعاء 14/2/24 و الخميس 15/2/24	• المدرسة مغلقة لعملة منتصف الفصل الدراسي الثاني (يومين) • المكاتب الإدارية مفتوحة (المواعيد سيتم تحديدها لاحقاً)
من الجمعة 29/3/24 إلى الأحد 14/4/24	• المدرسة مغلقة لعملة الربيع (أسبوعين) • سيتم إجراء اختبارات T2 قبل أسبوع أو أسبوعين من عطلة الربيع • المكاتب الإدارية مفتوحة في أيام العمل طوال فترة الإسترخاء للتسجيل وتفتح الرسوم (المواعيد سيتم تحديدها لاحقاً) • يوصى بتفويض الرسوم عبر الإنترنت لتجنب طوابير الانتظار. ومع ذلك، سيكون أمين الصندوق مفتوحاً في المدرسة يوم السبت 13/4/24، من الساعة 8 صباحاً حتى 1 ظهراً لتفويض الرسوم بشكل مريح • رسوم الفصل الدراسي الثالث مستحقة بحلول يوم الاثنين 15 أبريل. شكراً لكم.

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	Dates for Your Diary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Message from the Principal; Date for Your Diary, general notices
3	Contents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contents Table QR Code to Access our online Parent Handbook
4 5 6-11 12 13 14	Whole School News <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SPEA Climate Change Survey SPEA Traffic Congestion Survey WSS MUN, 5-6/1/24 Storyboard Top Tips; 1) Cyber security (risks of oversharing online), 2) Wellbeing; Believe in Yourself! Staff CPD Happy Birthdays
15 16 17 18-19 20-24	Junior Section News <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Junior Section Superstar Champions FS1 Learning Activities FS2 Learning Activities Y1 Learning Activities Y2 Learning Activities
25 26-28 29 30-40	Primary Section News <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary Section Superstar Champions Y5 Sports Day, 8/1/24 Y4D1 Assembly on Wellbeing World Science Day & Parent Engagement Activity
41 42 43 44-45	Secondary Section News <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y7 Learning Activities Y8 Reflection Time Y9 Learning Activities KS5 Student Reflection on Mock 1

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



Whole School News; SPEA Climate Change Survey

Sharjah Private Education Authority is pleased to extend its warmest greetings to you.

The Ministry of Climate Change and Environment is pleased to invite you to participate in the completion of the annual survey on environmental awareness and behavior for the year 2023. The objective is to evaluate and monitor the level of environmental awareness among students, educators in the field of education, parents, and community members. Understanding the impact of this awareness on their behavior will contribute to the development of appropriate plans and initiatives to enhance awareness and environmental behavior among these groups.

Therefore, kindly circulate this survey to the targeted audience mentioned above and encourage them to complete the survey.

Survey link for students (general and private education), in the second cycle and secondary stage:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/X86P9BX>

Survey link for employees in the educational sector:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XVFD9JK>

Survey link for all parents and members of the community:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XKBL9JW>

Please note that the registration deadline is

on Thursday, February 8, 2024

Thank you for your cooperation.

يطيب لهيئة المشاركة للتعليم الخاص أن تهديكم أطيب التحيات وصادق الأمنيات...

بالإشارة إلى الموضوع أعلاه، يسر وزارة التغير المناخي والبيئة دعوتكم للمشاركة في تعبئة الاستطلاع السنوي لحالة الوعي والسلوك البيئي لعام 2023 وذلك بهدف تقييم ورصد مستوى الوعي البيئي بين أبنائنا الطلبة والعاملين في الميدان التعليمي وافراد المجتمع من اولياء الامور وانعكاسات هذا الوعي على سلوكهم مما سيساهم في وضع الخطط والمبادرات الملائمة

لتحسين مستويات الوعي والسلوك البيئي لدى هذه الفئات

وعليه يرجى التعميم على المستهدفين نحو تعبئة الاستبانة.

فئة الطلبة (التعليم العام والخاص) الحلقة الثانية والمرحلة الثانوية

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/X86P9BX>

العاملين في القطاع التعليمي

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XVFD9JK>

كافة اولياء الأمور وأفراد المجتمع

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XKBL9JW>

يرجى العلم بأن اخر موعد للتسجيل يوم الخميس الموافق 8

فبراير 2024

شاكرين حسن تعاونكم

وتفضلوا بقبول فائق التقدير والاحترام

Whole School News; SPEA Traffic Congestion Survey

Sharjah Private Education Authority is pleased to extend its warmest greetings to you...

We would like to inform you that SPEA is currently conducting a study to collect and analyse your observations regarding traffic congestion in your school area or nearby, to assess the impact of the improvements made to the roads in reducing traffic congestion.

Therefore, kindly distribute the survey to the administrative and educational staff, as well as the parents of students in your esteemed school, and encourage their participation. Please note that the survey is available until 18/01/2024.

English Survey Link:

<https://survey.zohopublic.com/zs/3OCs6w>

Thank you for your cooperation.

Best Regards,

يطيب لهيئة الشارقة للتعليم الخاص أن تهديكم أطيب التحيات وصادق الأمنيات...
بالإشارة إلى الموضوع أعلاه، يرجى العلم بأن هيئة الشارقة للتعليم الخاص تقوم حالياً بعمل دراسة والتي تسعى من خلالها إلى جمع وتحليل ملاحظاتكم فيما يتعلق بالازدحام المروري في منطقة مدرستكم أو بالقرب منها، وذلك للتعرف على أثر التحسينات التي تمت على الطرق لتقليل الازدحام المروري.
وعليه يرجى التكرم بتعميم الاستبانة على الكادر الإداري والتعليمي وأولياء أمور الطلبة في مدرستكم الموقرة، وحثهم وتشجيعهم على المشاركة فيه.

علماً بأن الاستبانة متاحة حتى تاريخ 2024/01/18

الرابط باللغة العربية:

<https://survey.zohopublic.com/zs/3OCs6w?lang=ar>

شاكرين حسن تعاونكم

وتفضلوا بقبول فائق التقدير والاحترام

Whole School News; WSS MUN, 5-6/1/24!



WSS Sixth Form students had worked very hard for about a year, alongside their teachers, organizing our first ever Modul United Nations (MUN) event last weekend. The MUN event was an educational simulation of the United Nations, where students acted as delegates of different countries and debated on various global issues. The MUN event aimed to enhance the students' skills in leadership, research, diplomacy, public speaking, and critical thinking. Around 15 schools from Sharjah, Dubai & Abu Dhabi are participating (plus 3 from overseas), with nearly 200 students. Our Y12 & Y13 Sixth Form students were the key organisers, led expertly by Zuha Raees & Mariam Shams.

The theme of the WSSMUN'23 event was 'Fostering Global Digitalization for Sustainable Development: Embracing a Digital Revolution'. Special thanks to our SPEA School Improvement Advisor Ms. Lynn, who took time from her very busy schedule to attend the opening ceremony & to share a few words of encouragement. We were also treated to musical items from the Primary Choir & the Sixth Form Band. It was an absolutely fantastic event & the organisers are to be congratulated!



Ms. Lynn said, "Thank you for inviting me to the first MUN at WSS – it was a privilege to be there and most insightful – your students were impressively well-organized."



Whole School News; WSS MUN, 5-6/1/24!



Delegates were divided into Committees under specific areas to debate key concerns relating to their assigned country. Delegates had to do a lot of research into real world issues.



Whole School News; WSS MUN, 5-6/1/24!

Model United Nations (WSS MUN'23) event at WSS



The WSSMUN conference, held on 5th and 6th January at our school, marked a significant gathering of 15 schools participating in eight dynamic committees. With a focus on fostering a beginner-friendly environment, the conference saw active participation and engaging discussions that reflected the diverse opinions and insights of the attendees.



The atmosphere at WSSMUN was charged with enthusiasm as students actively engaged in the significant debates taking place. Their awareness and involvement highlighted the success of the conference in fostering an environment where everyone felt comfortable expressing their thoughts. The diverse range of opinions added a layer of richness to the discussions, making the experience truly memorable for all participants.

Whole School News; WSS MUN, 5-6/1/24!



In addition to the committee discussions, participants had the opportunity to craft journalistic articles documenting the fruitful debates. Notably, the BBC emerged as the winning team, showcasing their dedication and skill in presenting well-researched perspectives on the discussed topics.



Whole School News; WSS MUN, 5-6/1/24!



WSSMUN's success is attributed to the efficient leadership of key departments: logistics led by Jwan Alfuqaha and Noor Al Azizi, Press and Media managed by Haya Mutasim, Gloria Thomas, and Eva Tony, Research overseen by Fariha Khot, and venue management directed by Areej Moin and Maira Eman. Secretary Generals Zuha Raees and Mariam Shams, with the coordination of MUN Coordinator Ms. Nirmal, played a crucial role in ensuring a smoothly run and effective conference.



A special thanks goes to the SLT of our school for their unwavering support, cooperation, and aid in successfully establishing and executing the WSSMUN conference. Their commitment played a crucial role in making this event a resounding success.

WSSMUN 2024 was more than just a conference; it was an enriching experience that brought together students, fostering collaboration, and encouraging them to actively contribute to global discourse.

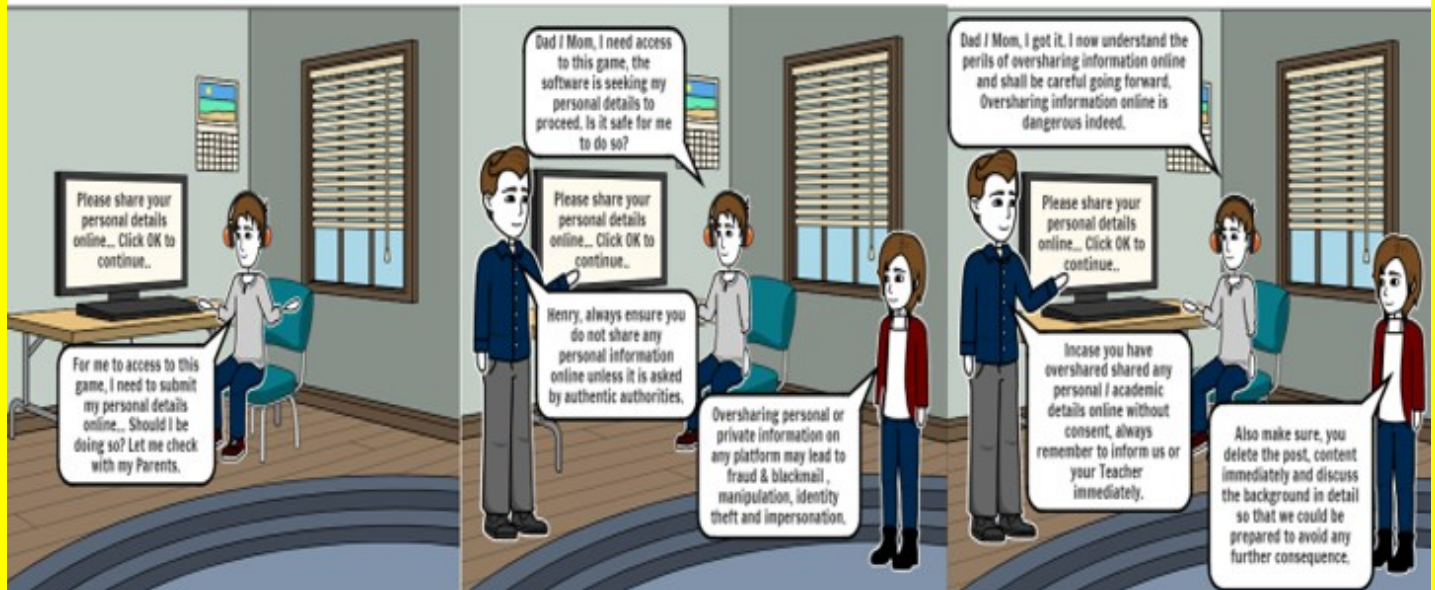
Student leaders of WSS MUN committee.

Whole School News; WSS MUN, 5-6/1/24!



Whole School News; Storyboard Top Tips!

RISKS OF OVERSHARING INFORMATION ONLINE



BELIEVE
Yourself

SELF-CONFIDENCE

I can't do it



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."

Whole School News; Staff CPD!



How to Personalise learning in Lessons using data

Ms. Valerie led a session on Identifying the ideal WSS Learner Profile, in order to better align school vision with educational provision. We will also be inviting student leaders, PPP & LAB to contribute to defining the WSS Learner Profile.



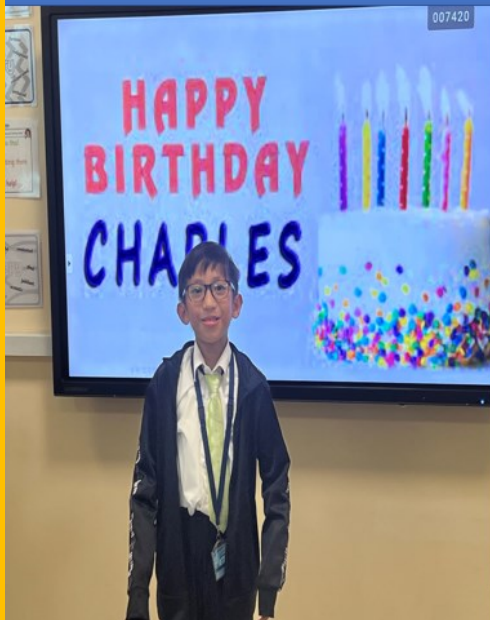
Happy Birthdays!

Y3D1 Happy Birthday Ranaaya & Tristen



Charles, Hoor and Qusai Celebrated their BIRTHDAY

Y5 D1



WSS Junior Section Superstar Champions!



Hurray! first marble jar stickers in Term-2



Junior Section News; Learning Activities in FS1!



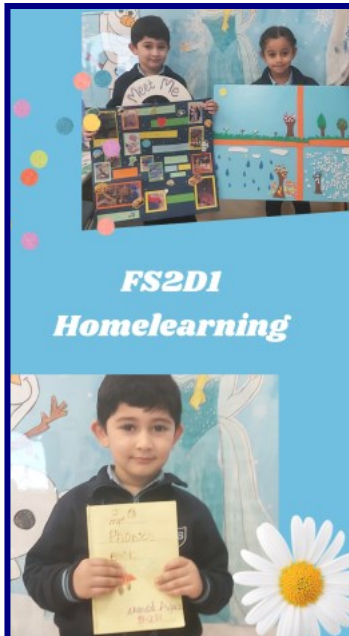
FS 1 H ready for Sports Day with Ms. Kishwar and Ms. Shayani



FS1 busy with class activities with Ms. Kishwer and Ms. Shayani



Junior Section News; Learning Activities in FS2D1!



Junior Section News; Learning Activities in Y1!



Junior Section News; Learning Activities in Y1!



Learning number bonds of 10



Learning number bonds of 10



Recap of addition



Learning about Punctuations.



Junior Section News; Learning Activities in Y2D1!

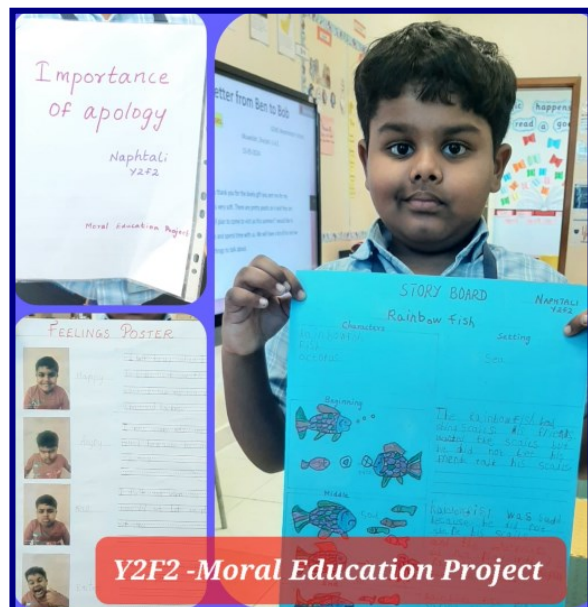
Y2D1 Class activity Picture

TR: Jinitra Rajesh

TA: Asma Mohamed



Junior Section News; Learning Activities in Y2F2!



Junior Section News; Learning Activities in Y2H1!



Junior Section News; Learning Activities in Y2H2!



GETTING READY FOR THE SPORT'S DAY.



ARABIC LESSON WITH MS SAIDA.



FILLED OUR 1ST MARBLE JAR.

WITH MS SABIHA AND MS ASHIKA

Y2H2



WE'RE LEARNING MULTIPLICATION



WE KNOW TO MULTIPLY.



Junior Section News; Learning Activities in Y2S2!

Y2S2 Class Activities



Congratulations



Moral Education Project



Ph sound (English lesson)



With Ms. Safia & Ms. Fiza



ICT lesson

WSS Primary Section Superstar Champions!



Congratulations to Maths superstar Alaqmar Kothawala (Y5H1)! He participated in the 9th National Abacus & Mental Arithmetic competition held in Oxford School, Dubai., & was awarded a trophy as a runner up.



Mohammad Ibrahim from Y5H2 donated a few books to the Primary Library.

Congratulations & well done to these Y4 Class Champions & Class Dojo Superstar Champions of the week!



Primary Section News; Y5 Sports Day, 8/1/24!

The first Sports Day on our new Astro-Turf!



Primary Section News; Y5 Sports Day, 8/1/24!



Y5H2 Sports Day

Primary Section News; Y5 Sports Day, 8/1/24!

Everyone enjoyed the activities during the Sports day which was held on 8th January at WSS Astroturf. Y5F1 with Mr. Arvie were so happy as they garnered many medals during the competition. Students said that this year's experiences were exciting and thrilling. With or without medal was fine as long as they enjoyed the moment of sportsmanship and had fun! #wssthebest



Primary Section News; Y4D1 Assembly, 10/1/24!



Thak you to Y4D1 for the first Primary Assembly of T2! The important theme was on Wellbeing.



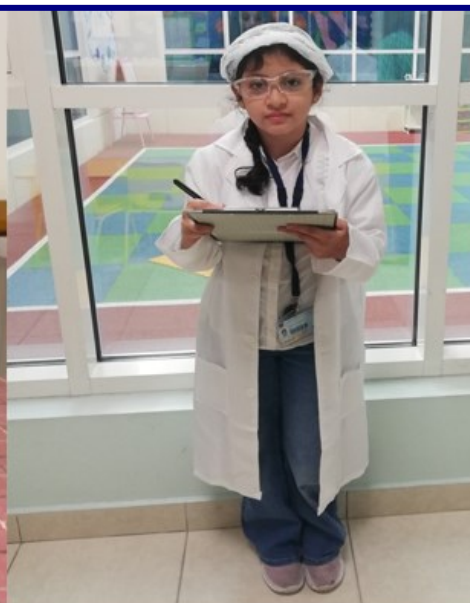
Primary Section News; World Science Day with Parent Engagement!



Many thanks to the enthusiastic parents who joined their child's classes for some scintillating science as part of our World Science Day activity.



Primary Section News; World Science Day with Parent Engagement!



Muhammad Shuraim of Y3F1 explained the density of salt water through the experiment.

Eliana of Y3 F1 has dressed up as a young scientist as a part of Science day activity.

Primary Section News; World Science Day with Parent Engagement in Y3!



World Science Day – Parental engagement. Parent of Rahma from Y3D2 demonstrated science experiment where they made use of milk, water colour and vinegar.

Primary Section News; World Science Day with Parent Engagement in Y3!



Primary Section News; Learning Activities & Parent Engagement in Y3!



Y3F2 students with their science projects and memory games



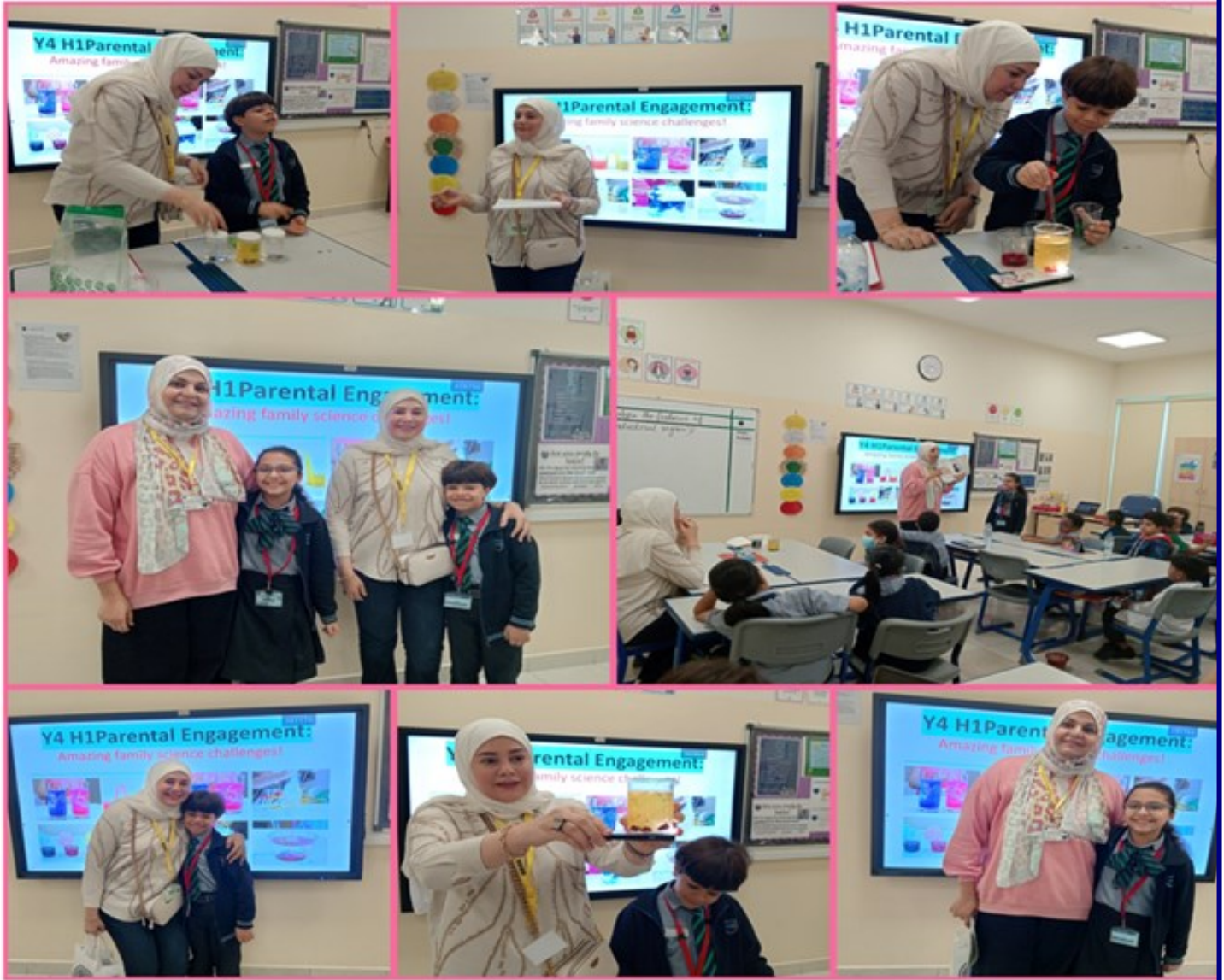
Ms. Mary ,
Thomas's parent
with an engaging
science experiment
Y3F2

Primary Section News; Learning Activities in Y3!



Y4 H1Parental Engagement

Amazing family science challenges!



WSS hosted a World Science Day Activities on 11th January 2024.

Y5F1 with Mr. Arvie conducted the activity in the class and were so lucky to be visited by some parents and students of Y5D1, Y5F2 and Y5H2 to showcase their science-related experiments.



Primary Section News; World Science Day in Y5!



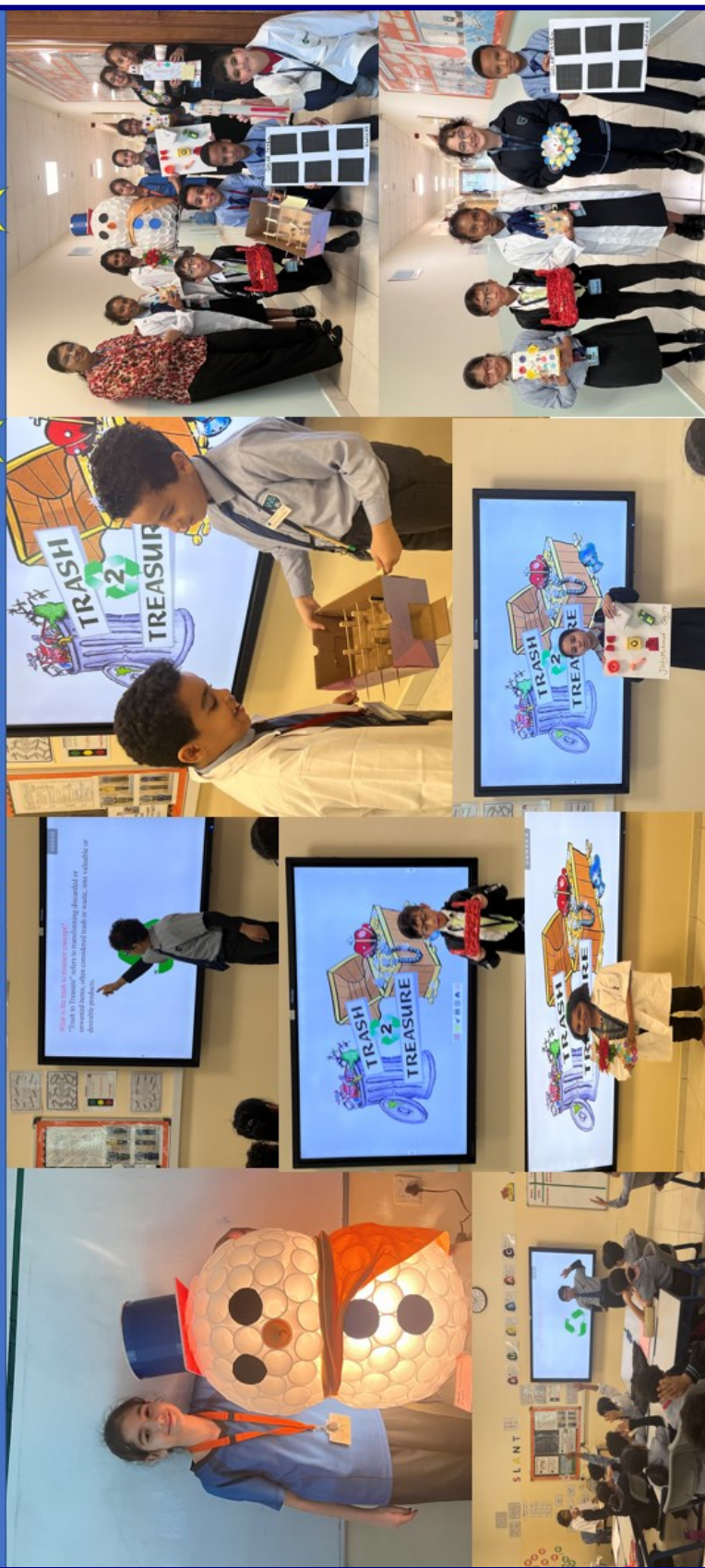
Y5S2-World Science Day Activity (Parental Engagement)



Primary Section News; World Science Day With Parent Engagement in Y5D1!

Y5 Science Day

Y5 D1 students participated in science day. They brought beautiful models used with the waste materials. ★ ★



Primary Section News; World Science Day with Parent Engagement in Y5S1!

SCIENCE DAY ACTIVITIES Y5S1



Newsletter Poster

In this captivating collage, students are depicted standing in a relaxed pose, focusing on their breath and the sensations in their bodies. The atmosphere is serene, capturing the essence of a mindfulness session. Each student appears engaged in the present moment, fostering a sense of calm and self-awareness.

In this poignant collage, students are engrossed in writing reflections after carefully examining papers. The scene portrays a thoughtful and introspective atmosphere, as students delve into their thoughts and articulate their observations on the materials before them.



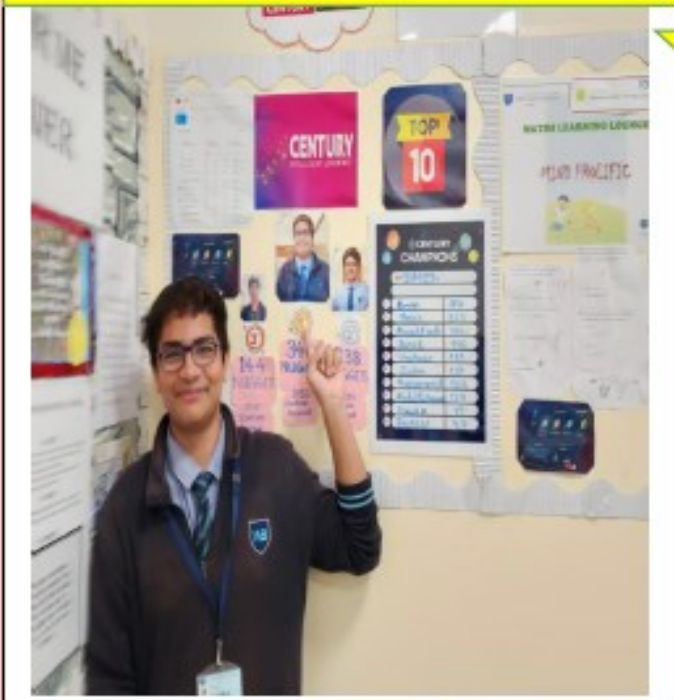
Y8 LEARNING JOURNEY- SELF REFLECTION TIME



Secondary Section News; Y9 Learning Activities!

Exploring Boundless Horizons: A Pictorial Journey Through Our Dynamic Learning Environment-KS3 -Y9 SECTION

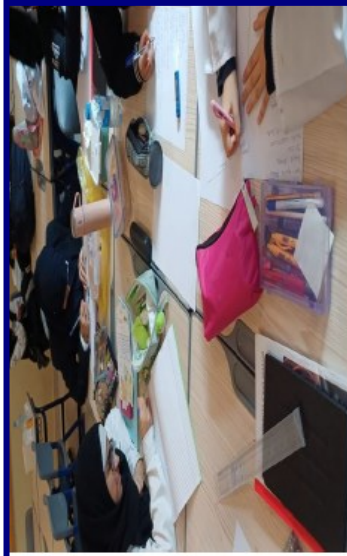
Interactive Classroom Setting



Technology-Enhanced Learning



Secondary Section News; KS5 Student Reflection on Mock 1!



This week the students of KS5 girls have spent their time of break to reflect their outcome of Mock 1. They have written their next steps which will be informed to the subject teacher. The teachers will cater the need of each student for improvement during their regular lessons.

KS5 Girls:
Self Reflection on Mock 1.



Secondary Section News; KS5 Student Reflection on Mock 1!

KS5 BOYS MOCK 1 REFLECTION WEEK



This activity has helped us to reflect on our mock exam results . We identified our areas of strength and the areas to improve, the topics we are confident about and the topics we need to improve. It helped us to plan our steps further to work hard with subject teacher 's guidance and improve our grades in our forthcoming exams.
KS5 Class Leaders.

