# **GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, SHARJAH**





Newsletter Issue #19 28th January, 2021





# Ms. Valerie Thompson

**Message from the Principal/CEO** 

Dear WSS Parents,

We are very much looking forward to welcoming our Blended students back to school from Thursday 4th February. We hope that things settle soon considering that we are vaccinating now.

Amazing job, WSS Recycling Champions for collecting *thousands* of bottles for recycling. Look what a difference we have made to the Sharjah landfill! Let's keep it up.



Dates for Your Diary					
Date	Details				
Thurs 21st Jan to Wed. 3rd Feb. inclu- sive	<ul> <li>All students on 100% online RLP for 2 weeks.</li> <li>Cashier &amp; Registration offices open as usual, 7:30am-3:30pn</li> </ul>				
From 18/1/21	• Please note that Term 2 MOE books are now available in the school bookstore, Sundays-Thursdays, 8:00am-3:00pm.				
Thursday 4th Feb.	<ul> <li>If you have not yet cleared T2 fees, kindly do so urgently. Regretfully, we will have to start <u>Fee Defaulter exclusions from Blended &amp; RLP classes from Thursday 4th February for one week.</u></li> <li>To avoid disruption of learning, if you require a T2 Payment Plan, please clear January fees, then request the Cashier for a Payment Plan form at jelin.j wss@gemsedu.com Thank you.</li> </ul>				
Tues. 16th to Sat. 20th Feb.	School closed for Mid-Term 2 Break				
Fri. 26th March to Sat. 10th April	• T2 Spring Break (2 weeks)				

Happy India Republic Day from little Nancy, Mr. Andrew' adorable baby. She is learning her colours, fruits & vegetables too!





Raghi, who for Health against the dangers of COVID by 2 WSS Super-**Superheroes Week** them Superheroes & Ms. 1 getting your vaccination too Join unior Section. Here are Shamail was are Vaccinat at Ms. week Safety neroes, battle a [his 8

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

For details of policies & procedures, please refer to our Parent Handbook found at: <u>https://media.gemseducation.com/media/58401/</u> parent-handbook-3620.pdf



#### Whole School News; The Digital Decode; Top E-Safety Tips for Parents!

#### Are you aware what your children are doing on internet?

What is cyber bullying? Cyber bullying is where a person or a group of people are purposely and persistently being mean to another person using social networking and phone messaging.

#### What parents can do to help their child when they are being bullied:

Teach kids to solve problems without using violence and praise them when they do.

Give children positive feedback when they behave well to help their build self-esteem. Help give them the self-confidence to stand up for what they believe in.

Ask your children about their day and listen to them talk about school, social events, their classmates, and any problems they have.

#### Kids who are being bullied are most likely to:

- Do poorly in school
- Have low self-esteem
- Be depressed
- Turn to violent behavior to protect themselves.
- Get revenge on the bully

#### Facts about Cyber-bullying:

Nearly 43% of kids are being bullied online every year.

70% of students report seeing frequent bullying online.

90% of teens who have seen social media bullying say they have ignored it.

Only 1 in 10 victims will inform a parent or trusted adult of their abuse.

Girls are about twice as likely as boys to be victims and committers of cyber bullying.

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GEMS Westminster School

Cyber bullying can take various forms:

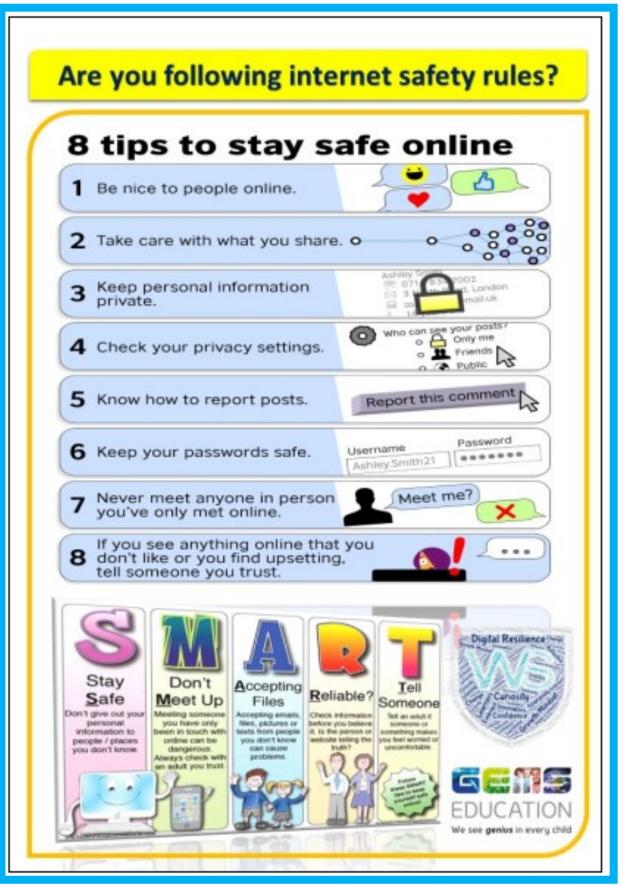
Messaging hateful or irritating words.

- Photo editing: where someone gets a photo and puts a nasty comment about the person or the persons family. Eg. Memes
- Anonymous messaging: people sending messages to someone without the victim knowing who this person is.
- Hate pages: where someone makes a page about someone else and makes nasty comments about them on that page for everyone to see.
- Impersonation: where someone sends horrible messages to another person pretending to be someone else to get that other person in trouble for it
- Groups: where groups of people gather together and target a person or group of people over messages etc.
- Outing: where people have private conversations that they don't want anyone else to know and then when those two people fall out the private information is revealed to everyone about that person
- Blackmail: when someone threatens someone to do something otherwise they will do something horrible to them or about them
- Exposing: when someone sends a personal picture to someone and that other person shows it to everybody.
- Hacking: when someone finds out the username and password to someone's account and logs into it and writes horrible comments about someone and posts horrible pictures etc.

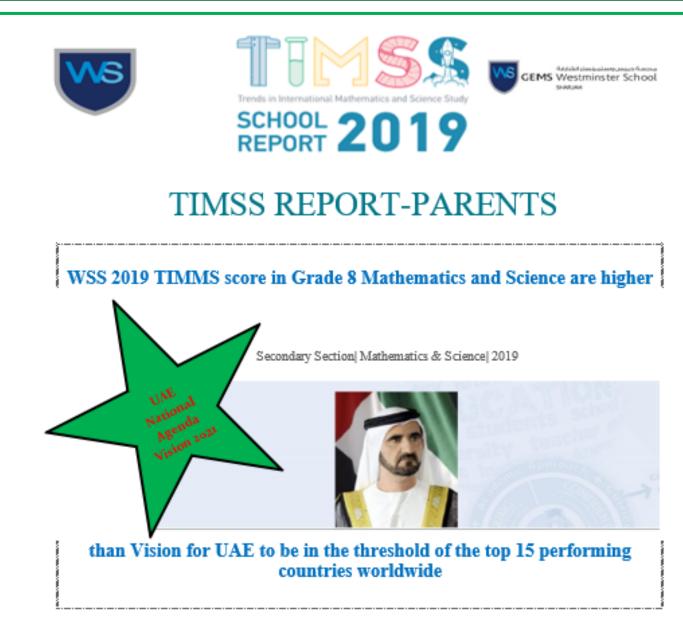


#LearnwithWSS #OnlineSafety

Whole School News; The Digital Decode; Top E-Safety Tips for Parents!



#### WSS Superstar Champions; Our Impressive TIMSS Results, 2019!



#### WHAT IS TIMSS?

- The acronym TIMSS means <u>T</u>rends in <u>International Mathematics and Science Study</u>.
- TIMSS is conducted by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA)
- It is one of the National Agenda 2021 parameters, International Benchmark for Grade 4 & 8 cohort.

#### HOW DID WSS PERFORM IN 2019?

WSS successfully outperformed both the UAE & Global average for Mathematics and Science for Grade 8 and Grade 4!!

#### Grade 8:

- 74% of our students are at or above Intermediate level in Mathematics.
- \$8% of our students are at or above Intermediate level in Science.

#### WSS Superstar Champions; Our Impressive TIMSS Results, 2019!







GEMS Westminster School

#### Grade 4:

- 56% of our students are at or above Intermediate level in Mathematics.
- 67% our students are at or above Intermediate level in Science.

#### WSS Forges Ahead in the World of Maths and Science!

WSS recently received the latest TIMSS report outlining our rating when compared to average score of students in Grades 4 and Grade 8 in Mathematics and Science during tests in 2019.

#### Sharing our WSS WOW Stories:

<u>G8 Math</u>: the average of the top 15 performing countries for Math is 500. At WSS our G8 students scored 514 for Maths. This compares very well to International League Tables as we outperformed the average scores for countries such as Norway, Finland and Italy. The average score for the UAE in Math was 465.

<u>G8 Science</u>: the average score for the top 15 performing countries for Science is 513. Our G8 students scored well with an average of 535. The league table would have given us Seventh Position where we have outperformed the average scores for countries such as the USA, England and Australia.

<u>G4 Math & Science</u>: WSS students performed well against the global benchmark. Our students exceeded the score for all UAE students (UAE scores were 481 for Math and 473 for Science). We significantly beat the average for the UAE and in International League tables & WSS finished above countries such France and New Zealand in both Maths and Science

We are very proud of our students' achievements in 2019, and know they will do even better in the next round. Since then the school has made considerable improvements, and we are looking forward to further successes in 2023 and another fantastic TIMSS report.

#### NEXT STEPS FOR WSS

WSS Grade 4 & 8 students will be taking the TIMSS next in 2023. Our Actions to prepare our student for TIMSS success are:

- 1. A Target of +20 points increase, set in line with the MOE recommendation for both grades in both subjects.
- 2. Elements of TIMSS 'Cognitive Domain' has been embedded in lessons of current Grade 3 & 7.
- 3. Analysis of results done based on 'Content Domain' recommendations, SOW has been realigned.
- 4. Every lesson, HL & exam to have 'TIMSS' style questions to prepare our students & for exam confidence.

# WSS Superstar Champions; T1 Awardees!



# WSS Superstar Champions; T1 Awardees!



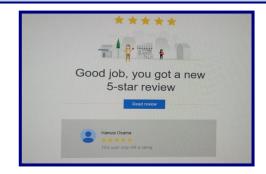
# WSS Superstar Champions; T1 Awardees!



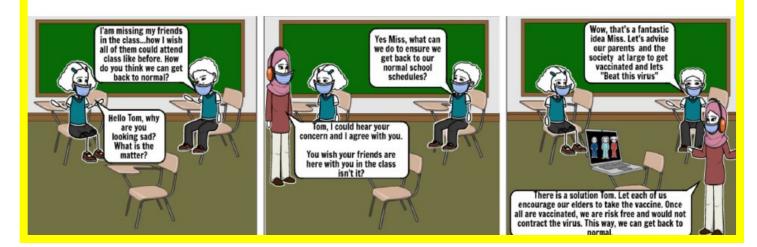
You can give your child are a quality education and the values that will guide them through life

Sunny Varkey

### Whole School News



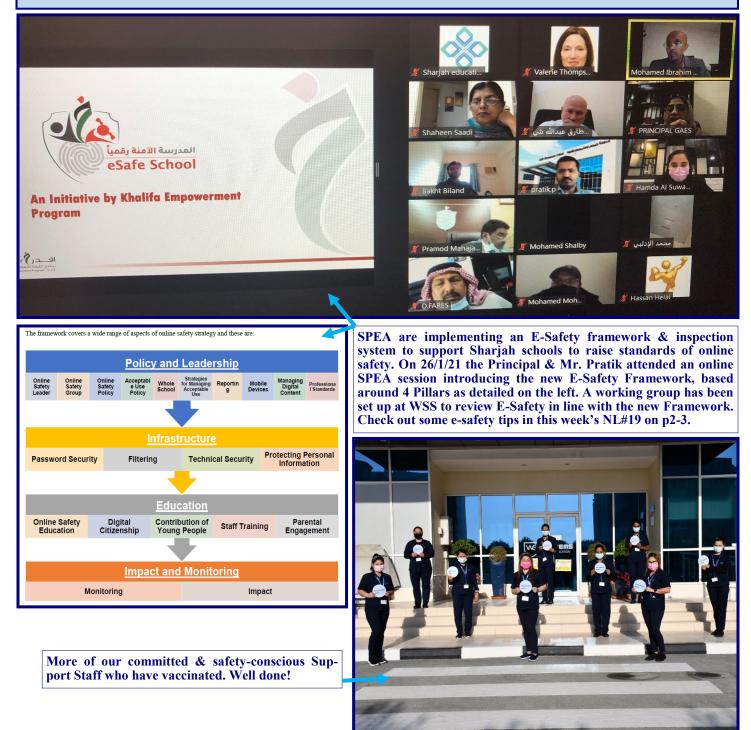
Let's beat the virus and get back to School





Students of sister school GCS presented about tehir Environmental Club to Ms. Valerie on 24/1/21. Ms. Valerie was impressed by their enthusiasm, commitment to the environment & practical strategies. A collaboration between GCS & WSS Environmental Club students is being discussed.

#### Whole School News



New Authority rules regarding enrollment age/cut off dates for new students. Please feel free to discuss with the Registrar, if you have any queries about new admissions into WSS from September 2021.

Class	Minimum Age	From	То	Age
Pre-Kg / FS1	3	1/9/2017	31/8/2018	3 Years
KG1 / FS2	4	1/9/2016	31/8/2017	4 Years
KG2 / Year 1	5	1/9/2015	31/8/2016	5 Years
Grade 1 / Year 2	6	1/9/2014	31/8/2015	6 – 8 Years

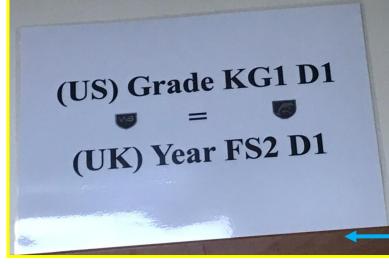
#### Whole School News; Recycling Superheroes!



Here are Abdulaziz (G5BS1) and Laren (G3D1) who have collected water plastic bottles for recycling. We love their commitment to saving their environment!

We will be keeping 3 Recycle bins permanently at school, so please encourage your children to keep collecting Plastic Water Bottles for *Simply Bottles* & drop them into our recycling bins when they next come to school (or into a recycling center.

Naya Mohamed (G4D2)- with her Term 1 Achievement Certificate .



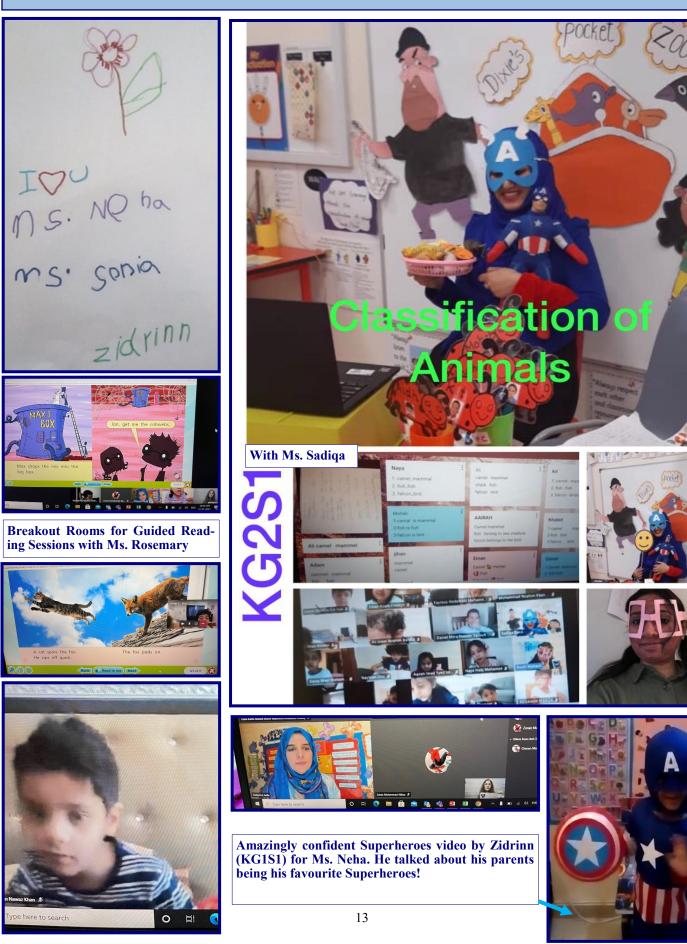


As we mentioned in a previous NL, from September we are renaming our American 'Grade' naming system to the UK 'Years' system. To prepare & inform our students & parents, we have added additional classroom signs above each classroom door, as left.

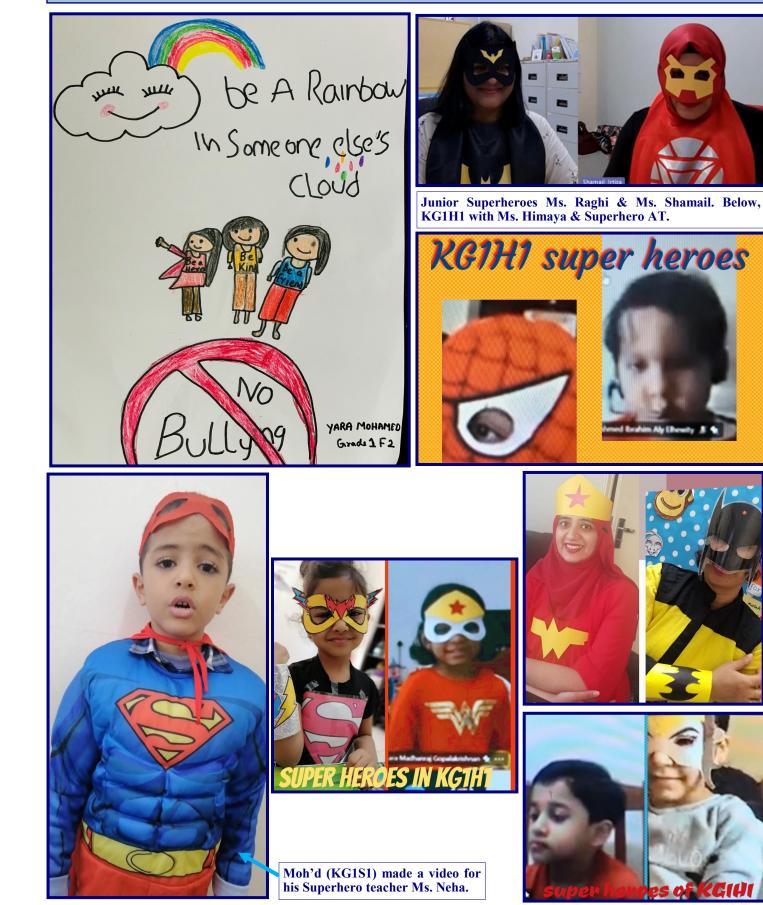
#### Whole School News; Sign up for a United Youth Climate Change Event!



### **Junior Section News**



### Junior Section News; Superheroes!



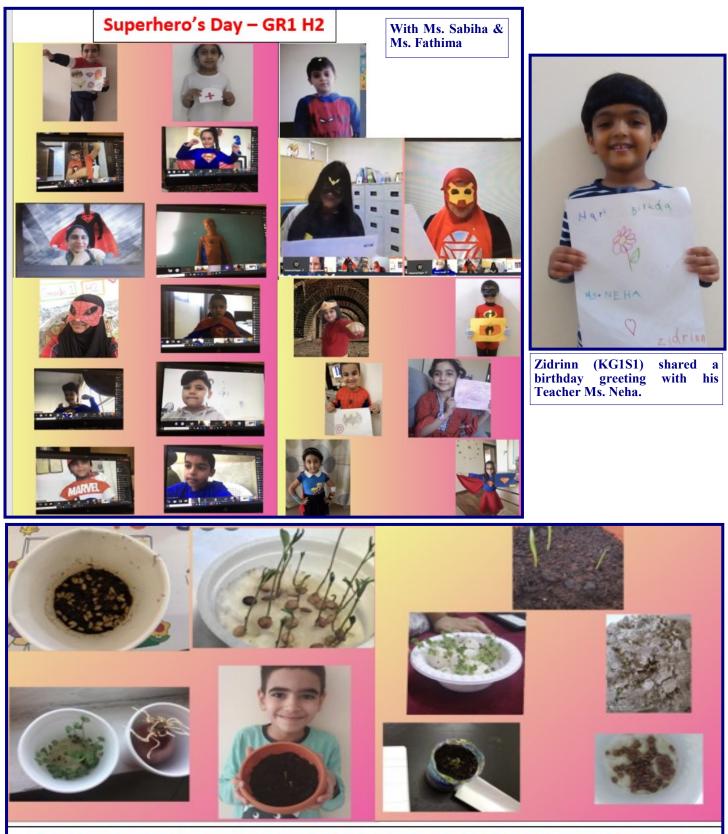
#### Junior Section News; Superheroes!



# Junior Section News; Superheroes!



# Junior Section News; Superheroes & Scientists!



Seed Germination Observation by G1H2, with Ms. Sabiha & Ms. Fathima

# Junior Section News; Superheroes Week!



# Junior Section News; Superhero Day!













super heroes are in



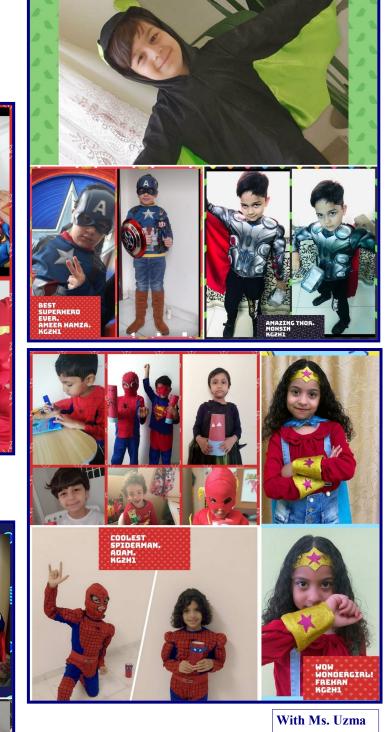






# Junior Section News; Superhero Day!





### **Primary Section News; Practical Maths & Science Activities!**

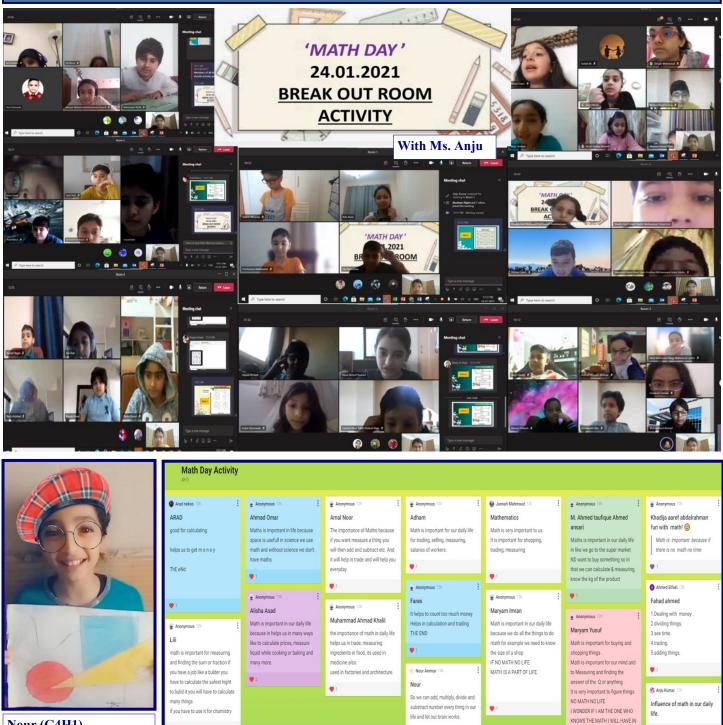


Above, Fraction Queen Aaqifa (G3D2). Right, G2D2 enjoying Maths' Day activities with Ms. Sarada. Below, G3F1 enjoying a practical schience experiment with Ms. Susweta.

### SCIENCE INVESTIGATION: ELECTRIC CIRCUIT G3F1



## Primary Section News; Maths Day!







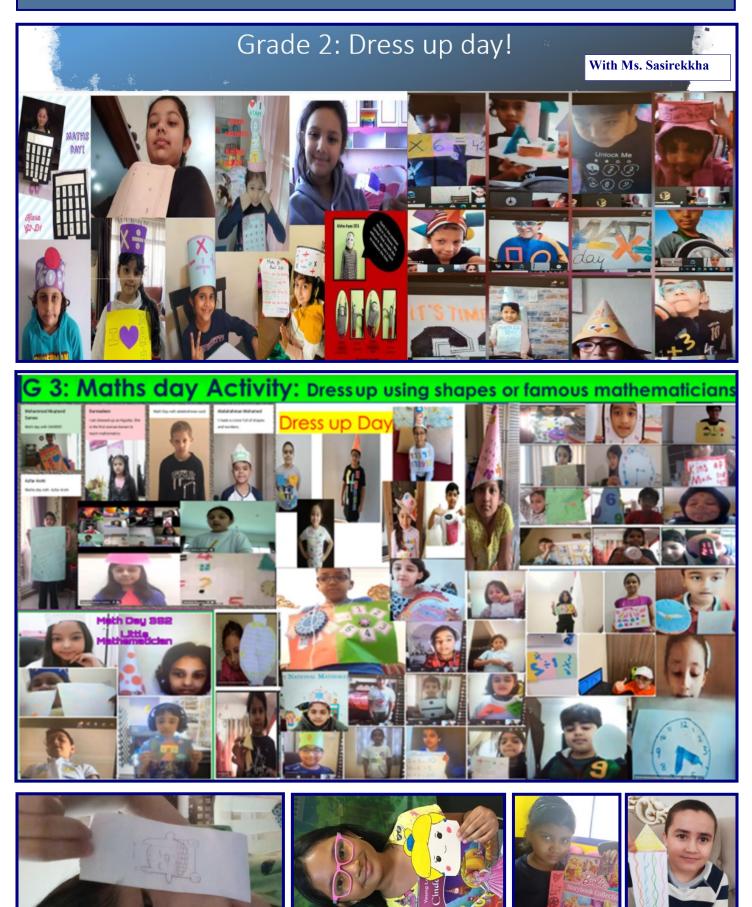




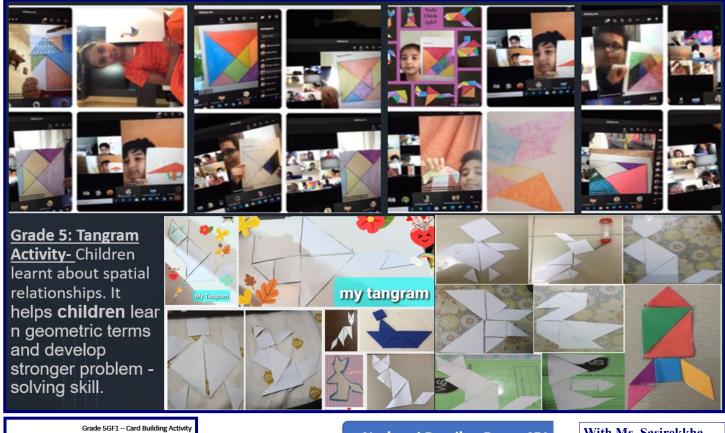
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1 SEC LOTS OF MONEY

# **Primary Section News; Maths Day!**



## Primary Section News; Maths & Reading Days!



National Reading Day – 4F1

With Ms. Sasirekkha









Reading Day with Ms. Vandana

#### Primary Section News; Reading Day!

#### The fox and the golden Apple

Once upon a time , there lived the fox name Zack . He was hungry and decided to search for foods . After a while . He saw a one golden apple lying on the ground This might be crunchy and tasty. So he picked up the golden apple but it started to grow and grow then Zack jumped over the apple . The apple now started to fly all over the world but he approached to the pacific ocean he was exhausted and started digging down in the apple to take shelter . This is going to be sick said zack After 2 days . The apple was shaking as it was an earthquake . Abbh what is going on said Zack . I feel like I am going to crush on the ground but it was not to be . There was the needle which cut through the center point of the golden apple and it is hanging the golden apple . What is the thing said I should better check it out said Zack . When he came out of the golden apple he was at the top of empire state building . I am feeling Dizzy I don't like heights I need to get back to golden apple pheww said Zack . News times : There is a giant golden apple and the fox in it at the top of empire state building . So Zack pushed hard to get to the ground . I can't do it let's try one more time hi yah !! It worked yay !!!! said Zack . I need to hold tight ! Ka boom ! You can come out now your safe said the man . Okay said Zack. Woah said zack when he came out . So Zack Got more plenty of food and water to survive . The end

#### With Ms. Vandana

The fox and the golden apple Word document

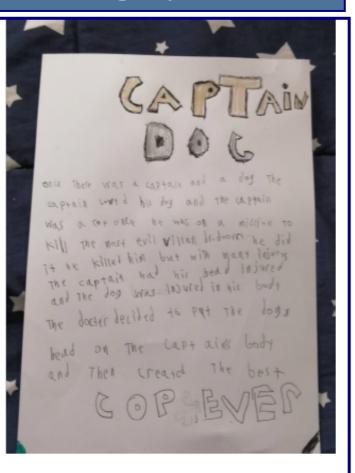
PADLET DRIVE

DAKSH KALER JAN 21, 2021 06:44AM

#### Swapping story of stroke and the fox then swap with lion and the mouse:

Once a lion invited a mouse to a dinner. He prepared a tasty soup and served it in tow flat plates. "Let us begin," said the lions and he soon finished drinking the soup. The mouse could not sip the soup but simply sniffed its smell only. He said to himself, "I must teach a lesson to this lion very shortly."

Another day, the mouse invited the lion to a dinner. He prepared a delicious soup and served it in a jug with a narrow neck. The lion tried to taste it but could not do so. Because of its narrow neck, the lion failed to taste the soup. But the mouse sipped it with ease. The lion realised that he was paid for his mischief.



#### ANONYMOUS JAN 21, 2021 06:58AM

#### namish

i am swapping wimpy kid rowley with dog and mr wonka.one day, rowley and dog man was talking about mr wonka, they decided to visit mr wonka and have some chocolate, but mr wonka said: a spy robbed my secret new recipe, they decided to take theyre detective minds, they decided to investigate. they found some clues that is some footprints. woof woof said dog man, rowley said what do you mean dog man. then mr wonka found out that dog man was meaning that there was the villain, and they found that the villian was found and the police catched them. and mr wonka was happy





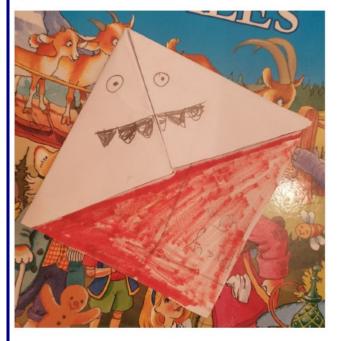
## **Primary Section News; Reading Day!**

# **Reading Activity: Interview**

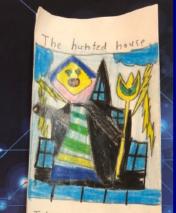
Upload the interview with your parents on their favourite books as a child.

SUSWETA BANERJEE NOV 08, 2020 05:09AM

#### Qazi Zarrar Ali



With Ms. Vandana



I Like the story of the hubbed house . It was a very funny ghost story. It was talking about a robber wanted to live in the hubbed house . One day when the robber was reading a book in the hubbed house and the ghost appeared and the ghost beat him and he never go to the hubbed house again.



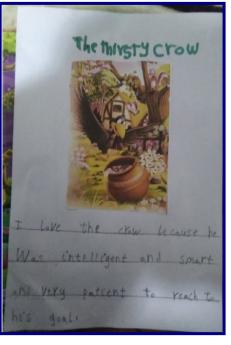




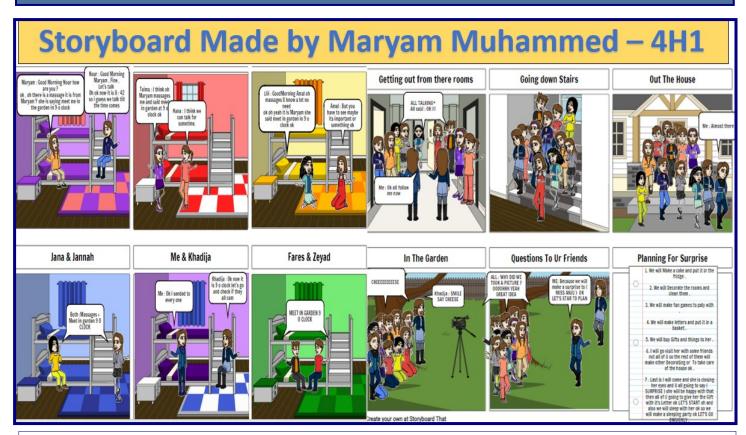
2:40 video PADLET DRIVE

zahraa Interview

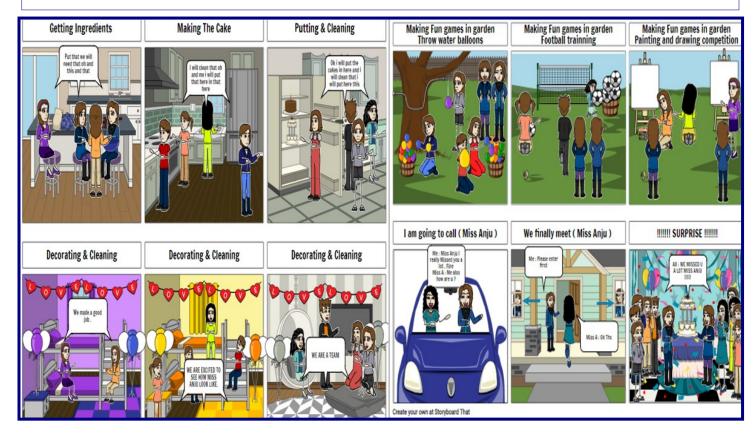
> My mother's forowrite book was secret motivitain by Erich Styton. She used to sear it from borrowing from school libery. She thinks that Fild Blyton has amazing stories for dilaton and are full of adjointure.



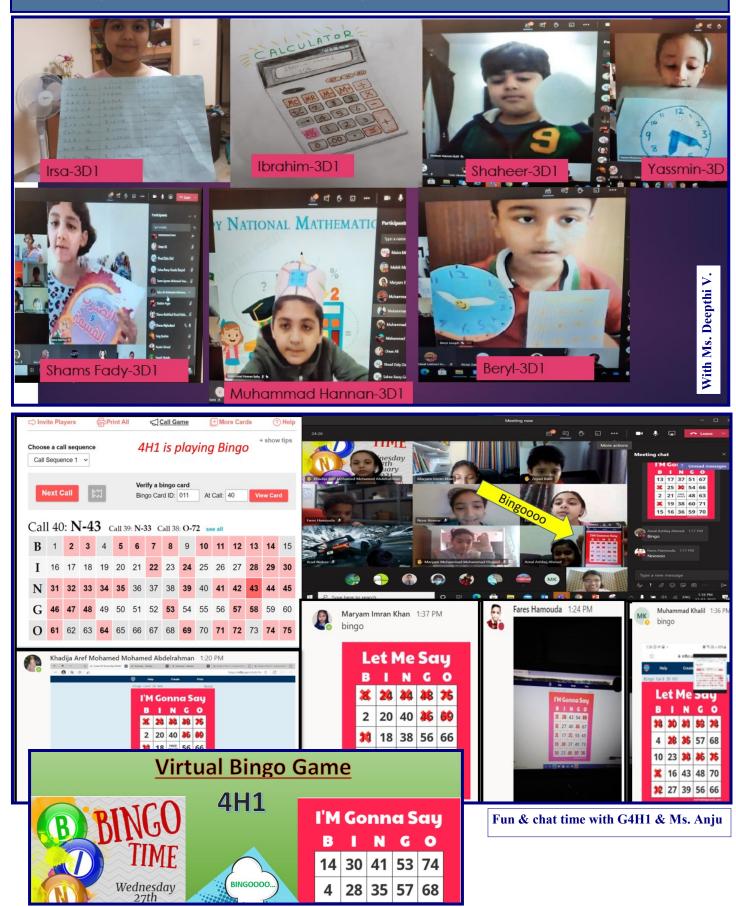
# Primary Section News; Maths Day!



This is a storyboard made by Maryam (G4H1) where she imagines a future where we are socially mixing & spending time together with our friends, classmates, Teacher Ms. Anju & family. Let's hope this happens soon, now we are vaccinating!



#### Primary Section News; Maths Day & Fun 'Meet 'N Chat' Activities!



#### Secondary Section News; Sustain 'N Exceed Magazine!



This is the Secondary Section's entry into the BEEAH Environmental contest for the BEST ENVIRONMENTAL MAGAZINE. The WSS entry is called 'SUSTAIN 'N EXCEED' & showcases the creative and innovative endeavors of our students in pursuit of a greener, more sustainable and futuristic environment, aligned to the developmental vision of UAE.

Check out our thought-provoking magazine at:

https://www.flipsnack.com/gemswss/best-environmental-magazine/fullview.html

Congratulations on a fabulous magazine to the enthusiastic, committed team, including Ms. Laneetha, Ms. Remya & Ms. Deepthi.

MART

**OLAR** 

POON



#### OUR MISSION

2.Protect and restore ecosy 3.Reduce ocean acidificatio

#### Problem we face:

14 BELOW WATER

Garbage in the ocean comes from trash cans, the streets, and landfills that gets blown into sewers, rivers, or directly into the ocean. It is transported by rivers to the ocean, where it moves with the currents, and is often eaten by birds and fish. Concentrating toxic chemicals in their tissues, and filling their stomachs, it causes them to starve and cause a bigger problem which is global warming.

#### "This is my carefree,

this is my freedom-

this is MY HAPPY." Carlos B. Stainart

Camera with a sensor which is programmed to detect litter which are being dumped into the ocean. • Identifies the type of waste collected is ic, metal, paper, or glass items, ally disposable and recyclable. The machine absorbs the trash from its funnel, it crushes and captures into the robotic bag. • The detecting system in the control

station will be alerted when the bag is full.





#### Solution:

MARINOBOT is a waterproof MARINE ROBOT which helps clean the surface of the water from pollutants and can go 900 feet deep into the water by MOVING from place to place UNDERWATER.

The inner portion in the picture shows what happens inside the Robotic machine. As the machine absorbs the trash from its funnel, it crushes and captures into the robotic bag. It functions through solar and the process will be continuous.



Highlights

a knife. r all a

What's so good about an ora

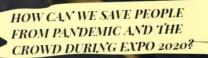
at does this ute

This device serves as a fork and probably the same time!

spoon? Well, let me tell you this sp isn't anything close to a

 The Smart Solar Spoon (shortened as SSS), the ability to detect food's nutrition facts • whether it is safe to consume for peop allergies or other health issues.

 The SSS is managed by a special app in which the user sets their desired food preferences (based on dietary plan and health management).
 The SSS also includes other features such as battery percentage for the user's convenience.



An estimated 600 million – almost 1 in 10 people in the world – fall ill after eating contaminated food and 420,000 die every year.

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

#### Intention/Focus

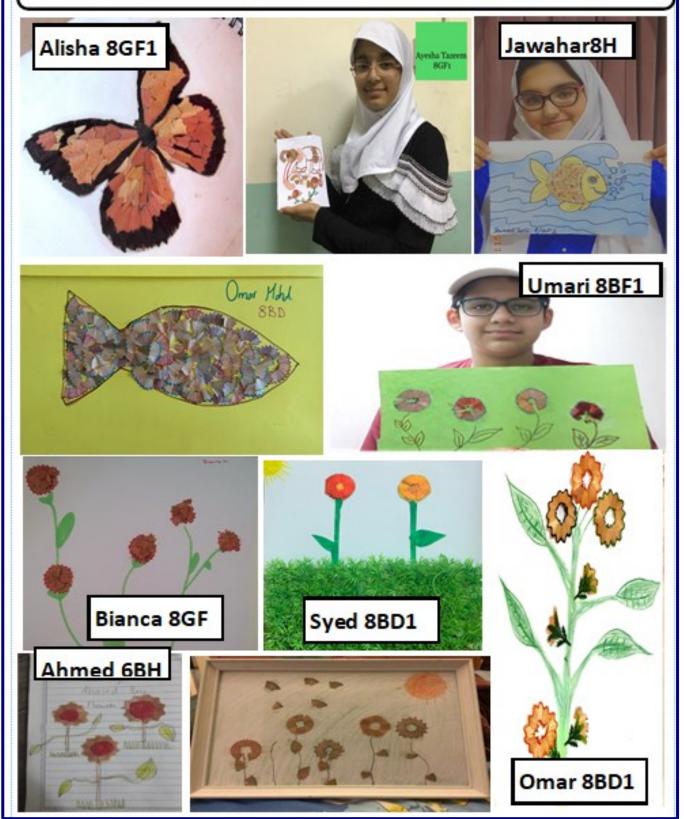
The aim of the SSS is to en food safety of citizens includi with health concerns, espec save the peoples life during the time expo2021 when then crowd is too 14

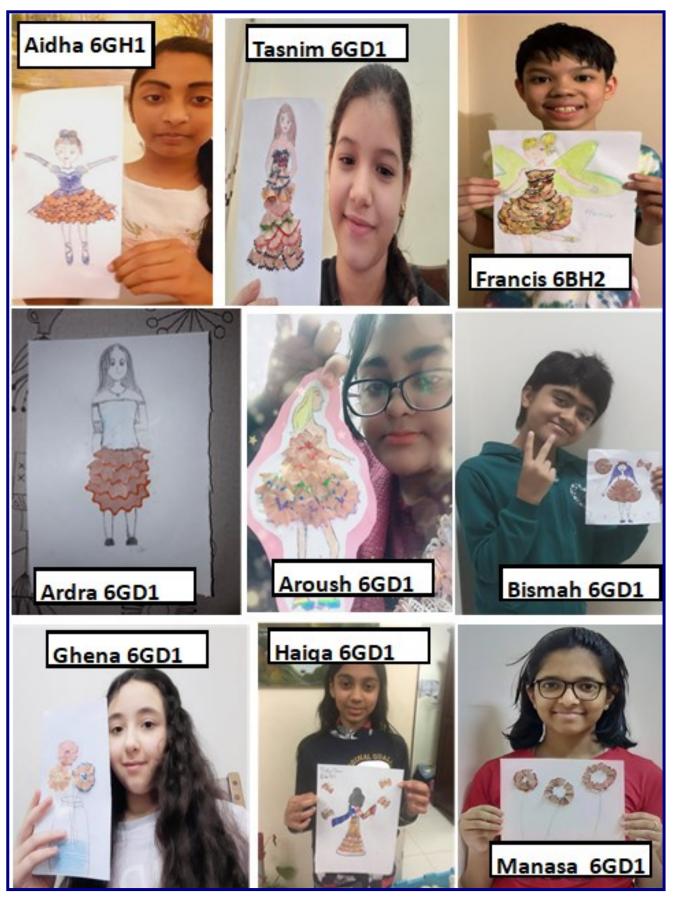
# Fun Activity- Terrarium





# Fun Activity- Pencil Shade Design





# Secondary Section News

