GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, SHARJAH

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Newsletter Issue #37 1st July, 2021





Message from the Principal/CEO Ms. Valerie Thompson

Dear WSS Parents,

This is the last Newsletter until August. Parents, do please read any Newsletters emailed home from August, as they will contain important & useful details of our educational programme,

starting arrangements & more. We will keep you updated with Authority safety rules too!

We are hoping that the COVID situation will allow for a return to normal schooling shortly & are eagerly awaiting Authority approval for this, but whatever the situation in September, you can be assured of our full commitment to the highest standards of personalized learning, wellbeing & development for every child in our care.

Parents, you have worked so hard this year in partnership with your teachers, to support your children's success & achievement. You really are amazingly supportive superstars & we are very grateful. THANK YOU!

Massive congratulations & best wishes for future success & happiness to all our G12/Y13 Graduates!! Please sign up for the Alumni App & keep in touch. We would love to hear from you about your ongoing experiences & successes. We will miss you!

We wish all our WSS family a safe, happy & relaxing summer break & look forward to welcoming you back to WSS from 29th August for the new academic year.

Dates for Your Diary	
Date	Details
Sunday 20th June	• Deadline to apply for a TC if leaving WSS is Sun- day 20th June. After this date the GRE is not available for late TC processing & there would be delays in processing.
Thurs. 1st July	 Students' last day of the academic year. Finish time for students <u>11am.</u> Seats will not be held beyond the last day of T3 if <u>T3 fees remain pending</u>. Any paid Seat Booking Fee would be lost. Seats would be given to the Waiting list, & if parents decide later that they want a seat, this would be subject to availability, & not guaranteed. The seat booking fee is non-refundable (but de- ductible from T1 Fees, Sept-Dec. '21).
From Sun- day 29th Aug. 2021	 Start of new Academic Year 2021-2022. Your child's exact start date will be staggered & informed in August. Students who have travelled must have completed 10 days' quarantine before rejoining school. All students over age 12 years must bring a negative PCR Test (validity 48 hours) to rejoin school Full T1 fees must be paid before any student has their class confirmed or admitted for the new academic year. Please Budget accordingly—there will be no Payment Plans in T1 (no exceptions). Thank you.



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

WSS Superstar Champions; Home-School Teamwork!

Dear All Teachers,

TEACHER

Tolerant Energetic Awesome Caring Helper Excellent Responsible

Thank you for instilling discipline and the right code of conduct in Muhammad Aoun Haider I want to thank and express my sincere gratitude for all the efforts you have taken during the academic year.

This year due to pandemic has been tough on everyone, including you to adapt to the new normal but the way you have taught and assisted each and individual child is really commendable.

We are blessed to have you as a guiding force in his life and for your love and affection towards him. Your work and dedication are greatly appreciated by us.

Thank you once again for your excellent efforts.





Dear Ms. Theresa Shankar,

Hope you are very fine. I just take the opportunity to appreciate hard work and efforts made by you in the class in grooming the students by giving them every kind of opportunity, atmosphere and confidence in developing their skills by giving all the students an equal opportunity to excel.

We as parents of Hamza Noaman look at your contribution towards our child with great appreciation by giving him confidence to develop and proof his skills.

We are very thankful of all of your efforts and we have full confidence that our child will be more confident, polished by the term end.

Warm regards Parents of Hamza Noaman 7B/F1.

WSS Superstar Champions!

لى : الأستاذ أسامة

المحترم

بالإشارة الى الموضوع اعلاد نود ان نشكر سيادتكم على المجهود المبنول في العام الدراسى بما فيه من صمويك و تطبع افتراض و لكن رغم كل المسمويك فقد تخطيتم كل هذا و بغضل مجهوداتكم وصلنا لتثانج طبية و الحداف و نود ان نشكر كل طائم التدريس بما فيه أستاذ محد مدرس اللغة المربية و الأستاذ أحمد مدرس الثربية الإسلامية و الأستاذ دعاء مدرسة الدراسات الإجتماعية لما قاموا به من مجهود لتدريس الأولاد و أيصالهم للمطومات و شرحهم الجيد من خلف شائبات الحاسوب و ددعو الله ان و ليواقع مق العار الدى من مجهود لتدريس الأستاذ الحسوب و ندعو الله ان زبلع عدا البلامة في الأعوام التدامة و من المها التراسي بما فيهم أستاذ محمد مدرس اللغة

" و لكم جزيل الشكر "

ولى امر الطالب f1 إياد كريم حجازي صف الخامس

Sent from my iPhone

To: Professor Osama

Respectable

With reference to the above topic, we would like to thank you for the efforts you have made in the school year, including the difficulties and virtual teaching, but despite all the difficulties, you have overcome all this, and thanks to your efforts, we have achieved good results, thank God. We would like to thank all the faculty members, including Mr. Muhammad, the Arabic language teacher, Mr. Ahmed, the Islamic education teacher, and Ms. Doaa, the social studies teacher, for their efforts in educating children and communicating and explaining the information well from behind. computer screens. We ask God to lift the affliction and epidemic from us, and to grant you success in the coming years and from success to excellence, God willing.

" thank you very much "

Student's guardian Iyad Karim Hegazy, fifth grade, p.1



Whole School News; Welcome to Dr. Lisa Patterson!

Dr Lisa Patterson-Igwe

We look forward to welcoming Dr. Lisa to the WSS family for the next academic year. Dr. Lisa will be joining WSS as the Teaching & Learning Coach following Ms. Anneka's return to UK, from August 2021.

Currently Dr. Lisa is working at the University of Northampton in UK as Senior Lecturer in Education and Project Manager for Higher Level Teaching Assistant as part of the National Assessment Board in



the United Kingdom. She has international experience as she also worked in the Caribbean (Jamaica and the Turks and Caicos Islands) before migrating to the United Kingdom. Since 2008 she has worked in various schools across England

Prior to Joining the University, she worked for 20 years in Secondary and all-through Education. During this time, she served as Head Teacher, Deputy Head Teacher, Head of Department, Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), SENCO and Teaching Learning Lead on driving improvement to outstanding teaching. These roles enabled her to work with a wide range of students and multiagency, over 13 Local Authorities across England. She has also served on school boards with a focus on raising aspiration and parent engagement. Her area of expertise is in school accountability and standards in Education with a passion for teaching and learning. She is very approachable and supportive, driven by a student-centred approach designed to have the student at the heart of their learning.

We are excited to welcome Dr. Lisa to the team at GEMS Westminster School, Sharjah. & she looks forward to working with you all.

Dr. Lisa joins WSS in August as our new Teaching & Learning Coach, to lead on our staff professional development programme across the school, following Ms. Anneka's departure for UK in July. Please join us in welcoming Dr. Lisa to the WSS family! We are looking forward to her contribution to taking WSS to the next level of our development.

Whole School & Junior Section News



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



HOD Arabic Mr. Osama attended an important SPEA training session on Saturday 26/6/21, regarding developments in Arabic teaching & learning.



Junior Section News



Junior Section News











Junior Section News; KG2/Y1 Concerts on 28/6/21!



Ms. Marium Rizwan Team Leader KG2/Y1



Ms. Uzma Kanwal Class Teacher KG2/Y1H1



Assistant Teacher KG2/Y1H1



















Nothing has stopped our ongoing learning, engagement in fun activities & creativity! We enjoyed wonderful online con-certs this week, full of drama, confident speakers, dancers & cultural exploration. Thank you to all involved!















Junior Section News; KG2/Y1 Concerts on 28/6/21!







Junior Section News; KG2/Y1 Concerts on 28/6/21!









G4/Y5 S1 with Mr. Arvie explored wellbeing in a session on 27/6/21. Students reflected on the meaning & purpose of their life & shared their thoughts on a Padlet wall.

Secondary Section News: Innovation Times #8!



Secondary Section News; G12 Graduation Ceremony, 28/6/21!





Secondary Section News; G12/Y13 Graduation Ceremony, 28/6/21!







Dear Class of 2021, Our WSS vision is 'Excellence Through Teamwork; Success for all!' Remember this as you forge ahead on new pathways, new learning journeys and new relationships. We are all interconnected, part of a bigger picture, unique pieces of the same complex puzzle, and how we engage with others is central to our wellbeing and success. I thank you for your contribution to WSS and wish you every happiness and success in your life ahead!

Ms. Valerie Thompson Principal/CEO







Secondary Section News; G12/Y13 Graduation Ceremony, 28/6/21!

























Secondary Section News; G12/Y13 Graduation Ceremony, 28/6/21!













Secondary Section News; G12/Y13 Graduation, 28/6/21!



Secondary Section News; G12/Y13 Graduation, 28/6/21!



Secondary Section News; GEMS Global Ambassador Initiative!

GEMS Global Ambassadors' Society Investiture, 24/6/21

The GEMS Global Ambassadors' Society is a collaborative community created with the goal of spreading awareness, taking concerted actions and providing innovative solutions for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

GEMS Legacy School, Dubai hosted the GEMS Global Ambassadors' Society Investiture with the participation of 20 global schools, as far away as Australia, USA, Germany, Italy India, Oman, Bangladesh, Jeddah, Kuwait and Pakistan in an august online gathering on 24th of June 2021. This is just the beginning of the journey in creating an impact towards a sustainable present for a better future.

Ms. Asha Alexander, Principal of GEMS Legacy school, Executive Leader- Climate Change, GEMS Education presided over the function. She mentioned in her address that Global Ambassador society is a space for sharing knowledge, expertise, technology and resources to support the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals. She wished that the partnership offered through this platform would enable students to ideate prototypes and create solutions to eradicate poverty, hunger and ensure quality health care and gender equality.

The key note address was given by Yumiko Yokozeki, Director of UNESCO, International Institute of Capacity Building in Africa. She was extremely delighted to see the noble endeavors taken by the GEMS team on the path of SDGs.

The chief guest on the occasion was Dr. Eesa Mohmmed Bastaki, President of the University of Dubai, and his speech was followed by the address to the Global Ambassadors which was given by Jaymie Hoyzer, Executive Vice President Finance, Siemens Industrial.

Speeches were followed by the badging ceremony of the nominated teacher and student ambassadors. From WSS, Ms. Laneetha Shajahan was nominated as GEMS Global Teacher Ambassador and Aadil Nawab Khan of G9/Y10 was nominated as the GEMS Global student Ambassador.

The closing ceremony was blessed by the gracious presence of Mr. Dino Varkey, Group Chief Executive Officer, GEMS Education. He rendered appreciation to the organizers of the event and also the flag bearers of the noble venture. His presence and words were indeed an inspiration to all teacher and student ambassadors who had taken the oath.



Secondary Section News; GEMS Global Ambassador Initiative!



Secondary Section News; Celebrating the Arts in G10/Y11!



Secondary Section News; Celebrating the Arts in G10/Y11!



Secondary Section News; Celebrating the Arts in G9/Y10!



















Secondary Section News; Celebrating the Arts in G9/Y10!

success is no accident. It is hard work, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love what you are doing or learning to do

-Pele











Secondary Section News; Celebrating the Arts in G9/Y10!



With Ms. Smitha Jabu