

# GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, SHARJAH



Newsletter Issue #1  
August, 2020



## Message from the Principal/CEO Ms. Valerie Thompson

Dear Parents,

### SPEA RLP Evaluation Report, June 2020

We are proud & excited to share that WSS Achieved top marks in the SPEA Evaluation carried out in June 2020. We were judged overall as ‘Developed’ (the highest possible grade) with all 13

Themes also judged as ‘Developed’. This is testament to the fantastic teamwork between home & school, & the massive hard work of the WSS community. Congratulations to all the WSS family. Development points as we move forward are the balance between academic & fun activities, & reporting learning progress to parents, as per Parent survey feedback.

### Approval to Open FS1 (Pre-KG, age 3-4 years)

We would like to thank SPEA for their approval to add Pre-KG (FS1, age 3-4) to our License, which means we would be able to offer the full 2+13 year British Curriculum programme. We are excited to be planning to open **pre-KG (FS1 instead of Nursery) classes from September 2021**. Children would have to be 3 years old by 31/8/21 to join. Admission details will be published later in the Term.

### Parent-Principal Induction Sessions; Re-opening Plans

Thank you to the hundreds of parents who attended our Parent-Principal Induction sessions this week. We hope that you found your session helpful. Parents who have cleared T1 fees may request the ppt copy if required for reference.

We are looking forward to welcoming your children back to school shortly. Meanwhile do please clear T1 fees & return the Contract to the Class Teacher as soon as possible, so we can finalise plans for your children.

Please note that it will take **24 hours to add late joining students to the class group for RLP access**, if T1 fees are paid after 29/8/20.

Seats will be given to the Waiting List, once school has sent 3 Warning Letters home to parents who have paid the Re-enrollment Fee, but not joined back.

## Dates for Your Diary

Date	Details
Saturdays (22/8-26/9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cashier open 8am-1pm for fee payments.</li> </ul>
Monday 31/8/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deadline to receive a 4% discount from the full year's fees, if cleared in full!!</li> </ul>
27/8/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online Booksale starts; home delivery or facility will be available free for purchase of full bundle (paid @ AED15/- for part-bundles). Email sent on 26/8/20 with full guide.</li> </ul>
Sunday 30/8/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First day for new, paid students for the new academic year. We will start the Term with a 2-week 100% online Remote Learning Programme. Details will be shared with parents by the class teachers.</li> <li>Full T1 fees due. <b>No child will be enrolled for the new academic year without full clearance of T1 fees. No Payment Plans for T1.</b> Please Budget accordingly. Thank you.</li> <li>Social distancing &amp; health &amp; safety rules will be in place—students must come to school wearing a face mask. No student (or other guest) will be admitted with a temperature over 37.5 &amp; without wearing a mask.</li> </ul>
Monday 31/8/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First day for returning, paid students for the new academic year. We will start the Term with a 2-week 100% online Remote Learning Programme. Details will be shared with parents by the class teachers.</li> <li>Full T1 fees due. <b>No child will be enrolled for the new academic year without full clearance of T1 fees. No Payment Plans for T1.</b> Please Budget accordingly. Thank you.</li> <li>Social distancing &amp; health &amp; safety rules will be in place—students must come to school wearing a face mask. No student (or other guest) will be admitted with a temperature over 37.5 &amp; without wearing a mask.</li> </ul>

## Our Vision; ‘Excellence Through Teamwork; Success For All’

For details of policies & procedures, please refer to our Parent Handbook found at: <https://media.gemseducation.com/media/58810/wss-parent-handbook-7720.pdf>



# Whole School News; Return to School Dos & Don'ts

## Required Actions by Parents & Students

1. All students over age 12 must take a COVID-19 test before rejoining school & submit the report.
2. A declaration form (Contract) must be completed, signed & submitted to school by parent before any student joins.
3. Download the government's Al Hosn tracking App (find it in the App Store) onto your personal mobile phone
4. Students must bring 2 face masks to school daily for personal use.
5. Bring daily snack & water bottles to school (canteen closed & water dispensers not allowed)
6. Bring all personal stationary items to school daily (students not allowed to share stationary items)
7. Clear fees online through your fee account if possible.
8. Buy books online (delivery service available)
9. Make an appointment with Registration team, SLT etc. when you wish to meet us.
10. Drop OT children at the main gate 7:30-8am.

## Parents must not...

11. Entering inside the school by parents is not allowed. Please report to Reception. Thank you.



## WSS Summer Upgrades

The Admin & Support Teams have been very busy over the summer upgrading the campus ready to welcome back our students. Here are some of the items completed:

1. Rearrangements of class rooms as per COVID19 requirements from SPEA
2. EPDM flooring for the outdoor play area between buildings
3. Refurbishment of KG washroom counters
4. Washroom flush tank replacement
5. Football fence repair
6. Football field leveling
7. Soft padding for football poles and basketball stands
8. Leveling of cricket pitch
9. Expansion of football field exit doors
10. FAHU rectification and commission
11. New furniture's for Secondary & Primary libraries, Art room and classrooms
12. Additional 58 soft boards in the corridor wall
13. Automatic hand sanitizer in all the location
14. Additional sign boards and floor signs
15. KG resource room rearrangements
16. Senior library rearrangements
17. Installation of token machine in the main Reception
18. Additional CCTV for blinds spots
19. Additional access control devices for exit doors
20. General maintenance, paintings and other repair work.



## Free Arabic App

### App Overview:

'Alphabet Journey' is a free mobile application will take your child on a fun educational journey that motivate them to read and write the Arabic alphabet. It is filled with games, stories and songs on early literacy skills including alphabet knowledge and phonics. Completely free, no ads and no subscription needed, and does not require internet connection. Guaranteed to enrich your child's learning experience and their free time during summer. Find it at:

### App Store:

<https://apple.co/37NOD6O>

### Google Play:

<https://bit.ly/2Nj1BA6>

# Whole School News; Uniform



## UNIFORM DISTRIBUTION AUGUST 2020

PRE-BOOK NOW  
YOUR STORE  
VISIT

GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL - SHARJAH

**UNIFORMS AVAILABLE AT STORES ONLY  
FROM 20<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2020 ONWARDS.**

### PRE-BOOK NOW YOUR VISIT TO THREADS STORES

As part of the Covid-19 Social Distancing Guidelines, it is important to restrict the number of parents/students visiting the Threads stores every hour. In order to ensure the same, Threads has introduced an online booking facility to pre-book your store visit at a date and time that is convenient for you.

This would help to manage the customer flow effectively and reduce waiting periods. It is now **MANDATORY** for every parent to pre-book their visit to retail stores on Threads website ([www.threadsmc.com](http://www.threadsmc.com)) prior to visiting the store. **PRE-BOOK NOW** to confirm your convenient slot.

Once you complete the booking, you will receive an email (with QR code) and SMS confirming the date and time of your visit which you are requested to present when you visit the store.



**TRIAL SAMPLES ARE SANITIZED AS PER REGULATIONS.**

### THREADS RETAIL SHOPS

Uniforms of GEMS Westminster School - Sharjah will be available at Threads Stores.

1. Al Nadha Outlet - Dubai
2. Ramez Mall - Sharjah

### MADE TO MEASURE SERVICES

Made to Measure orders to be placed before 15<sup>th</sup> August 2020 to receive the delivery on or before 25<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

MTM & Alteration services are available at Threads Outlet at Times Square Center on all working days.

This service will be provided at other outlets on specific date and time.

PRE-BOOK your Made to Measure Service at [www.threadsmc.com](http://www.threadsmc.com).

### ONLINE ORDERING FROM 20<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

To free up your time, please order online at [www.threadsmc.com](http://www.threadsmc.com). Orders will be delivered to your preferred address.

5-7 working days will be required for the delivery during peak sale period (Aug-Sep).



### UNIFORM GUIDE

This guide/catalogue will illustrate the entire uniform range and other specific details.

To view the Uniform Guide, please visit [www.threadsmc.com](http://www.threadsmc.com)



[support@threadsmc.com](mailto:support@threadsmc.com)



[www.threadsmc.com](http://www.threadsmc.com)



800-8473237 (THREADS)

*threads*™

# Whole School News; Uniform

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*threads*

**UNIFORMS AVAILABLE AT STORE ONLY  
FROM 20<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2020 ONWARDS.**

**Pre-book  
to stay safe.**



#### Step 1:

Pre-book your appointment to visit the store  
[www.threadsme.com](http://www.threadsme.com)



#### Step 2:

Present your appointment confirmation (QR code)



#### Step 3:

Enjoy a safe and socially distant shopping experience



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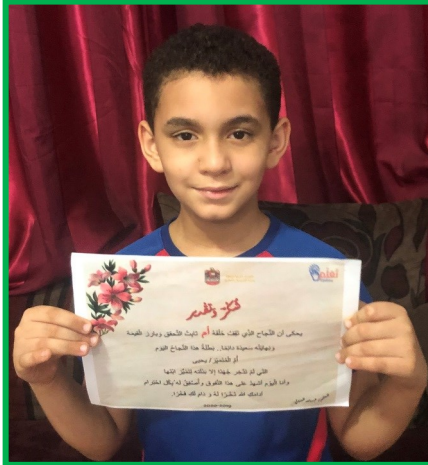
**BOOK NOW  
TO SAVE YOUR SLOT**

800-8473237

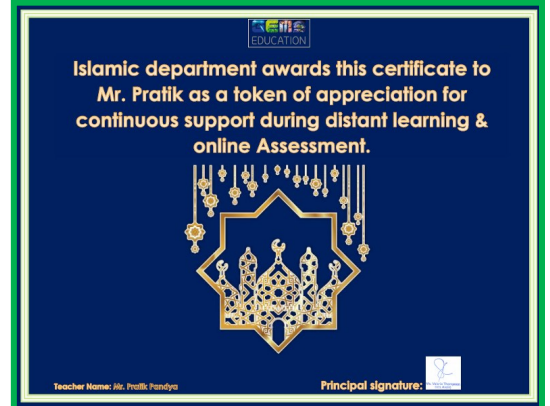
support@threadsme.com

[www.threadsme.com](http://www.threadsme.com)

# WSS Superstar Champions!



WSS Superstar Teachers of the Week Ms. Miada, Ms. Manjari & Ms. Azreen received their prize for going 'above & beyond'.



## WSS Superstar Champions!

Congratulations to Bilal Javaid & Muhammad Faiz for winning the SPEA-Sheraa Start-up, young entrepreneurs Competition!! Thank you to Ms. Maha for organizing & supporting our students' participation.

**First Place:** - *Gems Westminster School Sharjah*

**Team Members:**

1. Bilal Javaid - Gems Westminster School Sharjah (**Idea Owner**)
2. Muhammad Faiz Salman Ali - Gems Westminster School Sharjah

**Idea Brief - Al-Furat:** This is a device that assists in re-using unused water from our taps with the help of Lidar sensors that create a 3D virtual image of the path taken by the water once it leaves the tap. If the lidar sensors determine that the water was wasted it would be transferred to a clean channel that transports it to Al Furat chlorination facilities where it is treated and then sent to people who do not have access to clean water.

### IGCSE & 'A' Level Examination Board Results

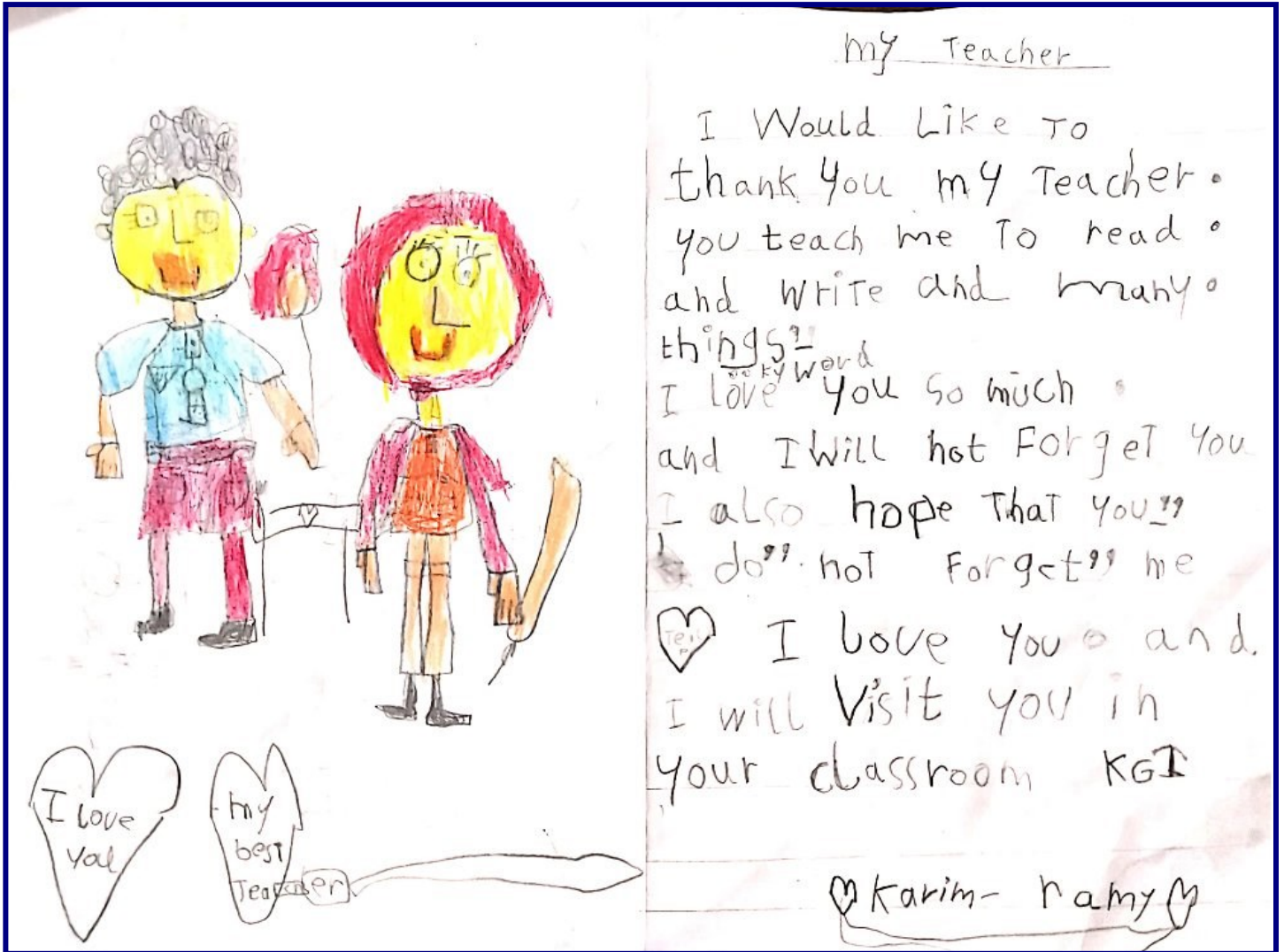
We are very proud of our students, their parents & Teachers for the following examination success 'WOW'! stories. We congratulate each one for their commitment to learning & hard work, especially during the challenges of the COVID-19 situation:

- \* A total of 1300 entries were made for IGCSE examinations. 832 entries (**Large Majority 64%**) attained A\* - B. 1093 entries (**Most 84%**) have attained A\* - C. This equates to a '**Very Good**' judgement of KS4 as per the Inspection Framework.
- \* In 8 Subjects which includes, Accounting, Biology, Chemistry, Economics, Arabic as First Language, ICT and Physics, the **Large Majority achieved A\* - B. This equates to a 'Very Good' judgement** as per the Inspection Framework.
- \* In 5 subjects which includes Business Studies, Combined Science, EVM, Geography and Mathematics, the **Majority achieved A\* - B. This equates to a 'Good' judgement** as per the inspection Framework.

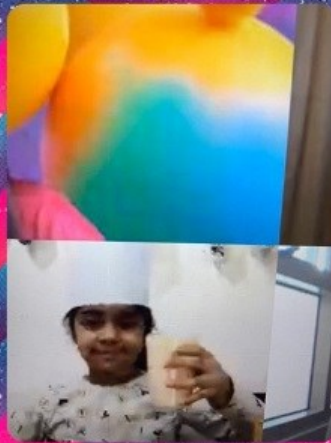
#### A Level:

- \* A total of 19 entries were made for A level qualification. 10 entries (Majority 53%) attained A\* - B. 13 entries (Large Majority 68%) have attained A\* - C. This equates to a '**Good**' judgement of KS5 as per the Inspection Framework.
- \* In 4 Subjects which includes, Accounting, Biology, Business Studies, ICT, Large Majority have scored A\* - B. This equates to a '**Very Good**' judgement of these subjects as per Framework.

## Junior Section News



*Primary Section News*

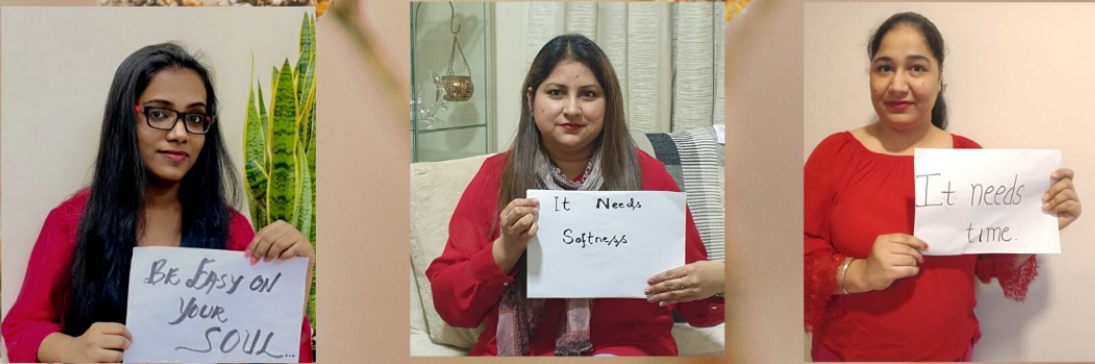




# Secondary Section News



## WSS SECONDARY MATHS DEPARTMENT *The Wars Inside Me-Charles Cottrell*



# Secondary Section News; Inspiring Exam Success Stories

Success Story: AS English 2019-2020

Date: 17-8-2020

Name of a student: Mahmoud Galal

Comments by Mahmoud Galal:

*"I walked into my first English class full of anything but excitement, looking around the classroom, also known as the IC room. It didn't take long for me to notice that not many people were keen on taking English at AS level; as far as I knew there was only one more student taking it alongside me, and in similar circumstances as mine (he's also taking it because he has to, not because he wants to). The first term of AS English was filled with nothing but pessimism, students opting for the subject then dropping it after one lesson. I liked to call it the dark age of AS English, but little did I know that this was all going to change when we entered the second term of Grade 11, when students taking the subject were offered a change of syllabus; not only was this syllabus significantly easier, but it was also more interesting and opened more room for discussion. I felt rather glad that it WSS now possible to aim for an 'A' grade rather than just expecting a fat C, so it was a change I quickly took a liking to. That being said, it didn't exactly go uphill from there, as the unexpected happened and disaster struck. Suddenly we found ourselves locked inside four walls with nothing to do except wait due to COVID-19. However, I decided to keep my hopes up and still try and work hard to achieve what I could, attending every lesson (allegedly), submitting evidence, etc, until in the end, the stars aligned and I got nothing less than I deserved and I felt like all the work and tolerance paid off, both from the teachers and students. It was definitely an emotional roller coaster throughout this academic year of taking AS English, but I've come to appreciate the subject and the teacher. I am thankful for the school, teachers, my parents and Saif. Contradicting to what I would've said at the beginning of the year, I would recommend opting for AS English if you're looking for an interesting and easy going subject."*

*His English teacher: Ms. Swati Worlikar said, "Mahmoud Galal achieved a Grade B as predicted in his MEG. He had shown tremendous effort during his AS English classes and would always raise questions that would initiate topic related productive discussion. The change in the course in the middle of the term was a smooth transition for Mahmoud as he did his research aptly and never missed any English lessons."*



## **Success Story: KS5 (International AS/A Level Mathematics):**

### **A level (International Edexcel Mathematics: YMA01)**

We introduced the Edexcel International Mathematics to WSS in year 2018-19, and our first ever batch has just qualified for their A level Mathematics course in June 2020. The first ever AS/A level International Edexcel Mathematics batch achieved their exit qualification from WSS with **60 % A\*-A and 80 % A\*-C at A level**. The students who have enrolled for linear A level mathematics course in September 2018 completed their 6 papers at the end of A level course in June 2020.

Congratulations to the 80% of the students who either met, or exceeded, their Minimum Expected Grade (MEG) in A levels.

**In both A level and AS level** students were able to achieve these grades with the consistent efforts from teachers and students. Here are a few students whose scored two grades better than their Minimum Expected Grade (MEG).

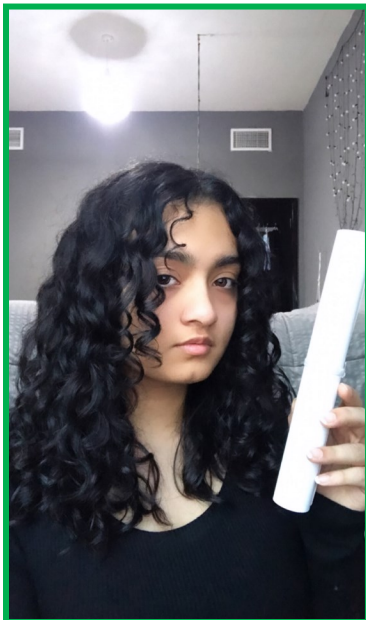
1. **Isra Iqbal (A level)**
2. **Afraz Haleel (AS level)**
3. **Darshan Dakshinamurthy (AS level)**
4. **Dania Gharbieh (AS level)**
5. **Sara Waleed (AS level)**

Here are a few words by our A level student Isra Iqbal, whose MEG was a C and she secured an A!!

*"I remember joining my very first maths class in WSS two years ago. It was quite strange to me that we used calculators and not just mentally calculating solutions- but suffice to say, I was EXTREMELY grateful for their invention later in A levels. Maths at A-level feels like a course comprised of innumerable challenges. Calculus and Trigonometry in my final year were the most challenging areas, yet I am proud to say that now I can solve any of those questions without the slightest difficulty. I conquered many challenges successfully and went from a B/A grade throughout the two years to a victorious A grade with the guidance and support of my maths teacher. She had constantly pushed me to do my very best- taking a minimum of two classes per day and a maximum of four, checking my work regularly and pointing out alternatives to each solution so that I could tackle any problem and ultimately reach the solution. After filling in eight registers of solving Math - we finally did it! I'm extremely grateful to my teacher who made a challenging course a fun one for me."*



## Secondary Section News; Inspiring Exam Success Stories



### **1-year Intensive A-level Business Course at WSS; Jessica's learning journey to achieving an 'A' grade on completion of the 1-year A-level in Business at WSS.**

Teacher Mr. Manoj has high praise for Jessica's effort, achievement, and ability. This is what he said,

*"Jessica, today I am feeling very proud of you for the success achieved in the Cambridge examinations. The way you have transformed yourself as a student with immense Business knowledge and skills is commendable. I wholeheartedly appreciate you for bringing such a positive change within yourself and scoring an 'A' grade in A Level Business. The courage to do AS and AL Business Studies together as a one-year course is really laudable.*

*As Jessica's teacher, I witnessed her extraordinary critical thinking during the discussions of case studies and analyzing consumer behavior. She has the ability to conclude to a self-regulatory judgement by depending on her own analytical and evaluative skills and application of the knowledge she gains in class to real life examples. Jessica showed great interest in the subject by actively participating in the group projects and presentations. She showed willingness and ability to study material beyond the limits of the textbook and was eager to learn much more as she is able to absorb and grasp the knowledge at a fast rate.*

*Over the years, I have watched Jessica grow into an outstanding individual who excels in both her academic and personal pursuits. A student like you brings pride to our wonderful school. I appreciate your hard work, dedication and intelligence and hope that you will seize more such opportunities coming on your way and making us proud. I, once again, congratulate you for getting excellent results in the Cambridge Examinations and wish that you will maintain this level in future also. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors..."*

### **Success on the 1-year intensive A-level Business course at WSS.**

#### **My journey towards achieving an 'A' grade at completion of the 1-year A-level in Business at WSS, by Jessica Nazareth**

*"As a child of two business owners, I have always had an interest in studying Business, which is why I chose Commerce during my IGCSEs. However, I wasn't very sure about what my next steps would be, which is where WSS' workshops/assemblies for IGCSE students and my knowledgeable and ever-read-to-help subject teachers motivated and guided me in deciding what I wanted to study in the future. Where did I want to study? What did I need in terms of grades, extracurriculars, etc. to make my dreams and plans a reality?*

*This is when I found my dream University and course, a Japanese business school offering a 4-year global business (intl. business) bachelor's degree. As I had set my mind on this University with its unique requirement, the only way for me to be able to graduate at the same time as my peers and enroll into university was if I took a 1-year A-level course. So when I got the Sixth Form subject options form offering a 1-year a level course alongside A/S level subjects I was elated, and on the first day of 12<sup>th</sup> Grade I had my first A-level business lesson with 2 other classmates taught by none other than Mr. Manoj, the Business subject leader at WSS. He had a huge role in my understanding of the subject and my A grade in IGCSE Business. |*

*The school provided us with 15 lessons a week of business studies alone due to a large amount of syllabus to cover and practice. To be honest it could have got old quickly but aside from the small class size that allowed for everyone to participate, work together, discuss, Mr. Manoj's classes were engaging, very clear to understand and he made sure everyone understood the lessons and had frequent if not daily past paper practice. This not only resulted in us being able to finish the whole portion, but also finish years of past papers for both AS and A-level, have enough time for me to participate in the business cup challenge 2020, and rack up 100 hours of volunteer programme Community Service hours by the second Term. But then in the third term, the Coronavirus pandemic resulted in the closure of schools, a lockdown and cancelation of the June/July 2020 exam series. I thought all our hard work would have been in vain as I'd missed out on the chance to sit my exams and on the grades I needed for University, but during the third term classes resumed online on Microsoft Teams where we, with the guidance of our teachers, worked on our evidence and also wrote our third term exams. After all that it was a waiting game until the 11<sup>th</sup> August when I logged in to look at my results and I was so happy to see 2 A's, one for Business A level and the other for Economics AS level. My parents, teachers and I are proud of my results. And I wouldn't be able to apply to my dream university if it wasn't for WSS' 1-year A-level program and my Business and Economics teachers Mr. Manoj and Mrs Leena Mariyam."*

## Secondary Section News; Inspiring Exam Success Stories

**Success Story: AS English 2019-2020**

Date: 17-8-2020

Name of a student: Saif Salem

*“Ecstatic with my IGCSE results, I was beginning to think that it was all easy sailing from here on out, only to be dumbstruck a few days later when I realized I had to make the jump from IGCSE English as a second language to AS level English. It was impossible, I thought to myself. My biggest accomplishment then was writing a half-decent email to an imaginary friend describing the most mundane of circumstances. It was nothing compared to the in-depth analyses of the most intricate nuances of the English language and how they reflected the personality of the writer/speaker. I was hopeless of course, that was until school started when I was met with peers who were in a similar position, and a teacher who understood exactly where each of us stood and what was needed to bring us up to the level. It was far from easy. However, it was clear to me that this is a war of attrition; only through constant practice and perseverance would I manage to score well in this subject. And at its core, it was curiosity and a fervent yearning to uncover the stark semantics that lie below the most inconspicuous of words, that defines this subject and ultimately, what fueled my love and enthusiasm for it.”*

This is what his English teacher Ms. Swati Worlikar said,

*“Saif had studied English as Second Language in IGCSE and secured Grade B. For AS English, he was consistent in his efforts to maintain a B grade. In addition, he accepted wholeheartedly the challenge of changing course in the middle of the Term. Saif’s research work was commendable and helpful not only to him but to the entire batch of AS English. His active participation in Student-led learning was very professional and presented the PowerPoint with such precision.”*

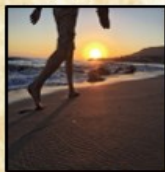


# Secondary Section News

## THE PAST PRESENT AND FUTURE

### "REFLECT"

It was a pleasant walk by the beachside, I stood to witness the roll of waves coming in with such a roar right up to the shore. The waves beat over and over on the beach. Each wave happened to be the same yet every wave was so unique. As I continued to walk, I inhaled the salty smell of the Sea water, it gave me the feel of



wanting to ponder with depth. Ponder about life and existence around life.

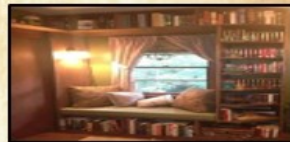
### "2020"

This happens to be my 1<sup>st</sup> hand experience on printing thoughts from the mind to paper, each heed flows through like a whirlpool. That's exactly how our lives are in today's times "WHIRLPOOL"

1

### "AMBIENCE"

So here I am comfortably sitting in my most favourite area of my home, its known as my reading territory, my in-home library zone, the space that holds colours of peace, lights to suit the ample mood, (currently at this moment) its dim yellow subtle lights of reflection, the corners surrounded by lots of soft fluffy pillows to give that comfort, builds a connectivity directly to my inner mind.



### "CHANGE"

I've timed mapped life to take us to the past, the very old past, where I am sure all of us have heard our elders (parents/guardians/ teachers) say "OH WE

## THE PAST PRESENT AND FUTURE

NEVER DID THIS" or "IT WASN'T LIKE THAT WITH US". So on this point I'm directly emphasizing it on technology and its revolution.

An era behind us that was exclusively dependant on the mind and its cognitive skills. Dependant on self-experience, personal trials and errors. Comparative to today's era where we humans are only functional on technology and become very lifeless lost without this technology magic.



### "ERA"

The past era where reading books was of necessity & where writing notes was of importance. The tender minds that would read and absorb everything to the maximum brain's capacity, everything of which would always reflect in the progress of any work assigned or engaged in.

2

It was that past era where science was at a different tangent, where the physical involvement was on a higher level, where people would use practical Physics, Maths and human intelligence to develop any productive work.

A very small example I will share which was narrated by my grade 7 tuition mentor in order for me to understand how the before & after times have evolved.

e.g. "how to extract coal from a Coal Mine"

**BEFORE:** they would have to study the distance & time using manual materials like metal rods numbers physical strength & the planning would start much earlier as all the research had to be practically tested on a model mine before the final task would be implemented.

A much longer duration of study is required to reach a successful outcome, everything would be of self-calculation also

the risk factor was at the higher scale too.



**NOW:** Research preparations will be of equal necessity however the self-calculation is of less importance as everything is calculated through gadgets and uses of calculators and computers. Even the physics studies are always eased through programmers. Including how physical weight body size mass and its safety according to the depth of task is calculated by applications and programs. Technology has reduced time span but also reduced mental skills. Man, no longer needs to think. Even if the calculator is a good invention, man no longer makes mental calculation and no longer works his memory.

3

### "LEARNING"

The skills obtained by readers & writers & artists are magnificent.

Reading ensures that you're endlessly exposing yourself to new potentials for change, it's the easiest platform to build your knowledge. The more time you spend reading the faster you'll be able to connect new concepts and it is highly beneficial for the Body too. Reading enhances memory power.

**O**ur brains are designed to absorb data our store information, by reading we are printing this all in our brains and then it excels when we are writing or placing the source to use. An example (from a religious prospect) The holy QURAN for Muslims holds a total number of **77797 words divided in 30 chapters**, With the statistics that there are **15 to 20 million Quran Memorizer (Hafiz) in the world**.

Keeping in mind that each year **more Memorizers are qualified**.

It is to be noted that we have thousands of languages globally and these memorizers are from any country of the world but the QURAN is not in any language but must only be learnt in Arabic. Therefore, this indicated how beneficial; **READING** is, it not only opens the brain cells making room for data storage but it operates in any language too. (the qur'anic reference was just a single example out of the 1000s of other) Reading strengthens the eye and brain coordination, it's very therapeutic it keeps the eye stimulated.

**N**ow let's also give a brief reasoning to why writing is beneficial too. It has been indicated through a variety of studies, that writing activities generate a number of intellectual, physiological and emotional

strengths to individuals. These benefits include improve memory function and is instructed by doctors that writing can be very remedial by reaching the death on one's emotional side. It holds greater feelings of happiness too. On the physical front writing is a skill that keep's the hand muscles strong too.

**A**rt is another extremely beautiful talent which a lot of commendable advantages. Sadly, once again in this new present era has come to its minimal. Art stimulates the imagination.

Art opens the heart and mind to possibilities and fuels the imagination, makes you more observant, enhances problem-solving skills, boosts self-esteem and provides a sense of accomplishment, reduces stress, encourages creative thinking,



4

# Secondary Section News

## THE PAST PRESENT AND FUTURE

research suggests making art may have benefit for people dealing with health conditions as it activates the pathways to the brain directly and connects to one's emotional state. A talent which has slowly faded in this present time.

### "REVOLUTION"

The world presently is in its maximum potential of a technological revolution that differs from the periodic waves of technical change that has marked the progress of industrial society since its 200 years ago.

There is a shift occurring in what we call the "sociotechnical" system (this means it is an approach to organizational work design that uses the interaction between people and technology). This



underlies our current sophisticated structure. The old system used to rely on mass-producing essentially standard goods which required high inputs of fund, energy resources, raw materials, etc... whereas now in the present times its totally of contrast, the new system is taking shape on quality and diversity of processes and products. Diffusion of small yet highly production that depend on new methods. The adoption of these new processes requires far less input choice of materials and resources.

Now shuffling on from what the new revolution is about I will elaborate on how it has impact on human lives. We are in a period of transition between two ages, a time comparable to the industrial revolution, when the steam engine was introduced, coal was the emerging energy source and manpower would be the direct point of movement. Then, as now, the ongoing revolution brings in

5

## THE PAST PRESENT AND FUTURE

terms of new activities where the existence of coal and steam engines are no longer and everything is operated at a controlled robotic device. labor manual skilled worked is coming to an end in many field related jobs.

### "PROs or CONs"

We are pretty much educated and aware on the advantage's technology has in our lives, its very evident as it's a revolution we are all very deeply involved in, but here I will very briefly discuss the negative impacts technology has had on the human world and as individuals too.

For the elder adult's technology has had an impact on the job prospect. The job insecurity has increased and careers have taken a different dimension.

For the younger children/students the most drastic impact its had is that students have lost their mental grasping power and skills

to research and memorize.

Although technology has made learning much easier but at the same time its actually frozen a lot of the leaning abilities.

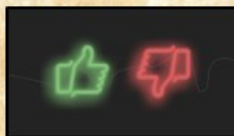
Technology has also taken a toll on the physical development of people, of all ages. Eye sight has weakened. Statistics show that 73.8% of under 20s are needing external eye sight support. Out of which 31.3% are even opting in for advance technology treatments such as laser support for vision support.

The activeness of people has reduced as screen time has increased. Back pain concerns are of outrageous numbers and of theoretically handwriting skills have weakened terribly. It can be distracting to students, also the sources of education can be unreliable too.

6

Medically it states that people have developed more depression conditions and emotional trauma is also of uncountable figures as people are no longer resorting to writing to express feelings and situation.

Technology development has also taken over the social engagements of people. Due to the easy access of communication people have less time to physically. This has made people very lonely. Statistics show that the old age pensioners are suffering more sicknesses as they are very isolated and not as involved and interactive as before.



The overuse of technology may have a more significant impact on developing children and teenagers.

7

There is increasing number of dyslexia & autism over the last decades too. Treatments required in aid to these conditions are skilled not technological.



Finally let's discuss what impact life has had in 2020 and what we are to anticipate in our coming future.

2020 for the entire mankind has taken its own revolution. Previously in this article I've discussed how the past era differed from the present, now I'm aiming at what is predicted for our tomorrow.

There is a pattern. A chain link. Although the negative impacts of

technology on a human body and mind has been evident, with the current pandemic crisis, it's also this revolution that has progressed and been of high support.

Had we not been in this technological era work life would have collapsed. Healthcare would have dropped and education would have come to a standstill.

The world has become much smaller hypothetically and at the same time families have been benefiting mental ease through this social media development and keeping people connected.

I had recently attended a workshop online for students, "let's move into tomorrow" it was very inspirational aimed at students like myself who have not lived in the past, who haven't yet seen the future & struggling which the new norm of today. The one part of this workshop that stayed

with me and probably will be my vision for the near future was

### "YOU CAN'T PREDICT THE FUTURE BUT YOU CAN PREPARE FOR IT"

And

### "LIFE CAN ONLY BE UNDERSTOOD BACKWARDS BUT IT MUST BE LIVED FORWARDS"

Now all I wanted to appreciate from the people who shared such depth in those inspirational quotes of wisdom was take the talents of the past era, grasp the beauty of the present live and merge them to the betterment and work towards a productive future.

Let 2020 educate us a lot differently. We are a generation who have lived through a mutiny that many previously have never lived, or where many have lost

8

## Secondary Section News

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GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL

10

around to share their experiences.

So, let's take our today and spread awareness to make our tomorrow POWERFUL AND PRODUCTIVE.

Let's not take life nature and our human development physically and materialistically for granted.

Let's revive the talents of reading.

Let's allow our bodies to explore the vision of writing.

Let's build up our imaginations through art.

Let the mankind enjoy both world in one.

Let's turn our "new normal" a balance between the past and the present and build a brighter future.

**9**

**"THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU DO TODAY"**  
*(Mahatma Gandhi)*

**"EDUCATION IS LIKE A LANTERN WHICH LIGHTS YOUR WAY IN A DARK ALLEY"**  
*(HH Sheikh Zayed)*

**"A WINNER IS A DREAMER WHO NEVER GIVES UP"**  
*(Nelson Mandela)*

**"SPEAK A NEW LANGUAGE SO THAT THE WORLD WILL BE A NEW WORLD"**  
*(Rumi)*

**"A PERSON WHO WONT READ HAS NO ADVANTAGE OVER ONE WHO CANT READ"**  
*(Mark Twain)*

### G12 Graduation, Monday 6/7/20

Our first ever Virtual G2 Graduation ceremony was held on 6/7/20. Although it lacked the glitz & glamour of a large venue, it lacked none of the heartfelt emotions, celebration & forward-looking vision of a face-to-face Graduation. SLT, parents & Student Leaders shared their blessings, success strategies & congratulations with our Class of 2020 in a modern, IT-savvy format. We will miss you! Please check out the photos on the next page.

Special thanks to the following Graduation Committee Student Leaders for their amazing contribution to a successful event:

- Technical Lead - [Aaliyan Jamal, Isra Iqbal](#)
- Videography - [Bakhtawar Asad, Ahmed Sherif, Aaliyan Jamal](#)
- PPT compilation - [Areesha Shah, Isra Iqbal, Aaliyan Jamal](#)
- Communications - [Shamrina Yasmeen, Joshua Ainsley](#)
- Designing - [Anum Shakeel, Isra Iqbal](#)
- Assistance - [Alaa Jihad, Juliana Soriano, Mohamed Zaid, Zavvan Ahmad](#)

*Secondary Section News; G12 Graduation Ceremony, 6/7/20*

