مدرسة جيمس وستمينستر الشارقة
GEMS Westminster School
SHARJAH

The GEMS Westminster Weekly

Newsletter Issue #13, 12/11/26

VARKEY FOUNDATION
Changing lives through education

common sense SCHOOL 2019-2021

FAMILY FIRST
A MOVEMENT OF LOVE AND CARE

GEMS EDUCATION

Message from the Principal / CEO
Ms. Valerie Thompson



Dear WSS Parents,

As you know, authority rules around privacy & posting photos on Social Media have become a lot stricter. Visitors/parents in school are no longer allowed to take photos or videos at all in school to protect community privacy & safeguarding. While we understand the frustration of not being allowed to photograph our own children participating in school activities/events, we must comply with authority rules. We will be sending home a very quick parent survey for you to approve or decline the use of your own picture in school Social Media. Kindly complete the quick yes/no survey so that we can protect your privacy too. Thank you.

Dates for Your Diary

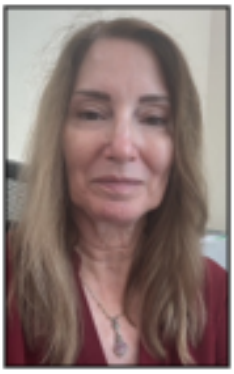
Date	Details
Tuesday 24/11/26 until Thursday 10/12/26	• **T1 Exam weeks. Whole school timings 6:45am-12:30pm** • **Exact schedule will be shared later by Form Tutors** • **Thursday 26/11/26; National Day Celebrations. Students may come dressed in UAE flag colours (white, green, black & red) & bring healthy, traditional food to share (*optional*)**
Monday 14/12/26 to Sunday 3/1/27	• **Winter Break for students & Teachers.** • **Students return on Monday 4/1/27. 6:45am-1:30pm Timings continue** • **Saturday 2/1/26, 8:30am-1:30pm; Cashier open for T2 Fee payment. Thank you.**
February 2027	• **Online Re-enrollment for September 2027 opens for *existing* students subject to no pending fees & no WLs**

نشرة جيمس وستمنستر الأسبوعية

النشرة الإخبارية، العدد 13، 12 نوفمبر 2026

رسالة من المديرة / الرئيسة التنفيذية
السيدة فاليري تومسون

الأعزاء، WSS أولياء أمور طلاب



كما تعلمون، أصبحت اللوائح والتعليمات الصادرة عن الجهات المختصة بشأن الخصوصية ونشر الصور على وسائل التواصل الاجتماعي أكثر صرامة. وبهدف حماية خصوصية جميع أفراد مجتمعنا المدرسي وضمان سلامتهم، لم يعد مسموحاً للزوار أو أولياء الأمور بالتقاط الصور أو تسجيل مقاطع الفيديو داخل المدرسة.

ونحن نتفهم أن عدم السماح لأولياء الأمور بتصوير أبنائهم أثناء مشاركتهم في الأنشطة والفعاليات المدرسية قد يكون أمراً محبطاً، إلا أنه يتعين علينا الالتزام بالتعليمات واللوائح المعتمدة من الجهات المختصة.

وسنرسل إليكم استبياناً قصيراً لأخذ موافقتكم أو عدم موافقتكم على استخدام صوركم الشخصية ضمن منشورات المدرسة على وسائل التواصل الاجتماعي.

نرجو منكم التكرم باستكمال الاستبيان باختيار «نعم» أو «لا»، حتى نتمكن من احترام خصوصيتكم وحمايتها.

شكراً لتعاونكم ودعمكم المستمر.

مواعيد هامة	
التاريخ	**التفاصيل**
من الاثنين 24/11/26 حتى الخميس 10/12/26	مواعيد الدوام المدرسي لجميع المراحل: من الساعة 6:45 صباحاً وحتى 12:30 ظهراً. (T1) أسابيع اختبارات الفصل الدراسي الأول سيتم مشاركة الجدول الزمني الدقيق لاحقاً يمكن للطلاب الحضور بملابس تحمل الوان علم دولة الإمارات، الخميس 26/11/26؛ احتفالات اليوم الوطني وإحضار اطعمة طلابية صحية للمشاركة بها.
من الاثنين 14/12/26 إلى الأحد 27/1/3	عطلة الشتاء للطلاب والمعلمين . يعود الطلاب يوم الاثنين 27/1/4 . من 8:30 صباحاً حتى 1:30 ظهراً؛ سيكون مكتب المحاسبة مفتوحاً يوم السبت الموافق 2026/2/1 لسداد رسوم الفصل الدراسي الثاني شكراً لكم .

مواعيد هامة	
التاريخ	التفاصيل
يناير 2027	باب إعادة التسجيل للعام الدراسي 2027-2028 مفتوح للطلاب الحاليين. لا توجد رسوم معلقة أو مخالفات مخترية

Parent Handbook

Find our updated Parent Handbook using the QR code alongside. Check out our school policies and procedures to stay familiar and comfortable with our systems.

Contents

Page	Details
1	Principal's message, Diary Dates & the Parent Handbook QR code
4	WSS News – **Important Notice (As per the Authorities, a Photography Ban in School)**
5	**WSS Superstar Champions (OOB MUN Champions, GMU MAZE, Swimming Championship Wins)**
8	Parent Voice
8	Last Week – The 5th WSS Northern Emirates Football Tournament, 2nd to 5th November 2026
11	What's Been Happening at WSS This Week? (Islamic Projects, Electricity, Social Studies Projects, Celebrating Diwali, Scientific Inventors, WSS Youth Parliament Reps)
13	Leadership GEMStone of the Week (Leading with Diversity) (Appreciation for our 'Generation Shapers')
15	**Environmental & Sustainability Superstar Champions (Recycling Champions, 'What Does Sustainability Mean to you?')**
17	Teachers' Continuing Professional Development (CPD)
17	**Happy Birthdays**
Junior Section	
18	Junior Section Superstars
19	Junior Section News
20	Assembly Time with Y2S1, 12/11/26. Theme 'Unity'
21	FS Learning Activities
24	Y1 Learning Activities
27	Y2 Learning Activities
Primary Section	
30	Primary Section Superstar Champions (BAG Superstar Champions)
32	Primary Section News (Projects, ECA Report Week 6, Science Day, Y3 Sports Day)

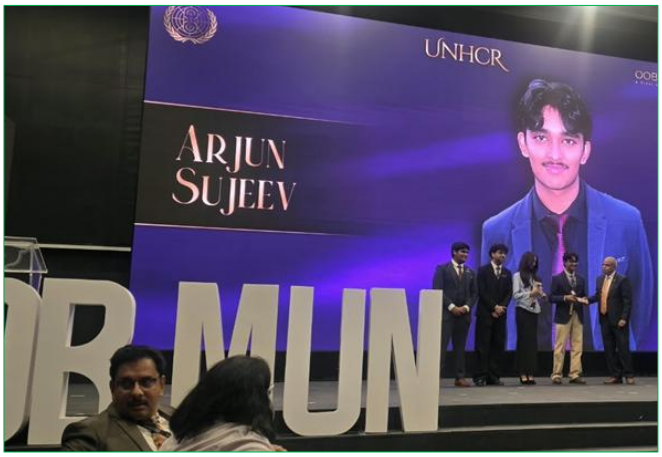
Contents

Page	Details
35	Catch Up Eith Last Week's Islamic Heritage Exhibition
41	Assembly Time with Y5S1, 11/11/26. Theme 'Healthy Minds Online'
42	Assembly Time with Y3F1, 11/11/26. Theme 'Gratitude'
43	Y3 Learning Activities (Sports Day , 12/11/26)
47	Y4 Learning Activities (Science Day)
50	Y5 Learning Activities
52	Y6 Learning Activities
Secondary Section	
59	Secondary Section Superstar Champions
59	Secondary Section News (World Science Day, Innovation Leaders, Arabic Leaders Programme)
63	Assembly Time with KS3, 9/11/26. Theme 'Healthy Eating Presentation – Eating a Nutritious Diet Improves Brain Function'
64	Assembly Time with Y8BF, 10/11/26. Theme 'Small Actions, Big Impact!' And 'Healthy Eating Presentation – Eating a Nutritious Diet Improves Brain Function'
65	KS3 Learning Activities & Character
66	KS4 Leadership & Learning (Anti-Bullying Week, BAG Representatives, 'Dress the Part', 'Tune In' Health Videos, 'Speak Up! Anti-Bullying)
71	KS5 Leadership & Learning (Report on OOB MUN, Leading with Gratitude, Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies)

WSS News; Important Notice



WSS Superstar Champions!





WSS students won awards for Best School Delegate, Best Committee & Best Research Paper at the OOB MUN which took place last weekend. Congratulations to our superstars!









GMU MASE 2026
Organized by Gulf Medical University, Ajman

WSS Students excelled in the GMU MASE competition, winning Best Business Idea (& a cash prize) (Raima Nishad & Arjun Sujeev) & 2nd Place (& a cash prize) in the Poster Competition (Arjun Sujeev, Qazi Hamza & Muhd Butt)

These achievements are a testament to our students' creativity, perseverance, and commitment to excellence. We congratulate all the winners for bringing laurels to the school. We also extend our appreciation to all participating students whose enthusiasm and hard work contributed to the success of these events. A special note of gratitude to our coordinators, mentors, and accompanying staff: Your dedication, encouragement, and mentorship played a significant role in these accomplishments.

- **Mr. Manu Mangatt Mohanan** for successfully coordinating the Astronexus Competition.
- **Ms. Nishitha Rajesh** for accompanying and supporting the students during the Astronexus Competition.
- **Mr. Nadeem Azhar** for coordinating GMU MASE 2026 for boys.
- **Ms. Roshni Vijayakumar** and **Ms. Remya Lloyd** for coordinating GMU MASE 2026 for girls.
- **Ms. Naseema** and **Ms. Asha** for accompanying and supporting the students during GMU MASE 2026.
- **Ms. Sana** and **Ms. Rebecca** for their support in the award-winning business idea.





🌟 **Astronexus Competition 2026**
Hosted by New GEMS Millennium School, Al Khail

🏆 **1st Prize - HelioScale (Grades 11-12)**
- **Celino Meedum Jayasinghe** (Year 13 BF)
- **Evan Shibu Cheriyekkara** (Year 13 BF)
- **Hamad Ansar Ansar Aboobaker Kunju** (Year 13 BH)

🥉 **3rd Prize - LaunchX (Grades 9-10) | Team LX-13 (WSS Team)**
- **Ihan Shameer Andikkadan Kuzhy** (Year 11 BH)
- **Mohammad Khizar Farrukh Ur Rehman** (Year 11 BH)
- **Aayan Farooq Umer Farooq** (Year 11 BD)

- **Mr. Franklin**, **Ms. Seema** and **Ms. Swarupa** for their continuous encouragement and support throughout these initiatives









Congratulations to swimming superstar **Gleeve** for his recent swimming achievements at the Al Wasl Development Championship, held on Sunday, 8 November 2026, at Al Wasl Sports Club, Dubai.

Gleeve has been actively participating in competitive swimming and has earned medals in previous competitions. His participation in the Al Wasl Development Championship represents his most recent achievement, where he delivered an excellent performance and earned four medals from five events: one Silver and three Bronze.

Parent Voice



Last Week – The 5th WSS Northern Emirates Football Tournament, 2nd to 5th November 2026




















WSS
WSS
WSS
WSS


WSS
WSS
WSS


WSS
WSS
WSS
WSS

WSS News – What's Been Happening at WSS This Week?







Social Studies UAE Projects (Traditional Versus Modern)







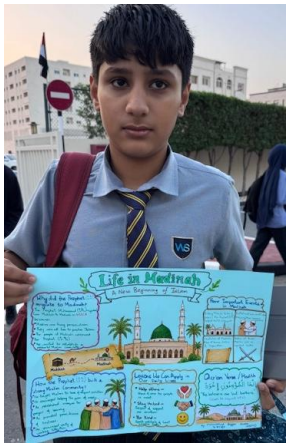
Wishing all our staff & families who celebrate it, a very happy, blessed Diwali

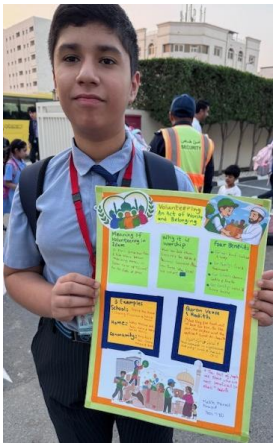






Learning About Electricity







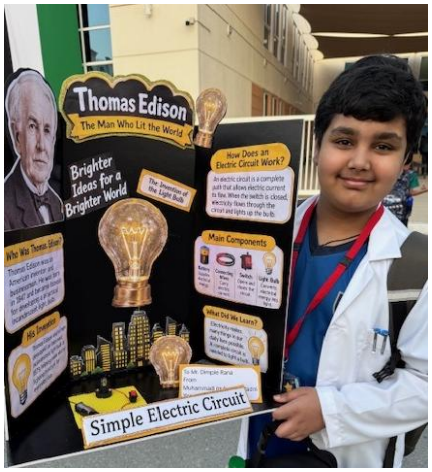
Islamic Projects







Our enthusiastic GEMS Youth Parliament Reps told the Principal that they are enjoying being the voice of WSS in discussions & networking with students from other schools.



Projects on C19 & C20 Scientific Inventors



Using Technology to Share Learning!



Islamic Studies Projects



Leadership GEMStone of the Week!

NOVEMBER – WEEK 46

LEADING WITH GRATITUDE

CITRINE

Promotes recognising and appreciating contributions.

> Gratitude turns small actions into meaningful connections.

MESSAGE: Gratitude is about more than saying thank you—it's about noticing and appreciating what others bring to the team. When you recognise someone's efforts, no matter how small, it makes them feel valued and important. This helps create a group where everyone feels connected and motivated to do their best.

REFLECT: How can I show others I value their contributions? What simple ways can I make gratitude part of my daily interactions with my friends and team











Thank You

FOR YOUR SUPPORT

To Our Generation Shapers, With Gratitude

Following the vision of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the title "Generation Shapers" recognises the invaluable role mothers play in shaping future generations, nurturing values, and building stronger families and communities.

At Family First, we would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our Generation Shapers for the love, dedication, and countless sacrifices they make every day. Thank you for standing beside your children, guiding them through life's challenges, celebrating their achievements, and being a constant source of strength and support.

Your influence reaches far beyond the home. Through your patience, encouragement, and care, you help shape the individuals and future leaders of tomorrow.

Thank you for being the foundation your children can lean on and the guiding light that helps them grow. Your efforts may not always be seen, but their impact lasts a lifetime.

With heartfelt appreciation,
WSS Family First Ambassadors















Sustainability and Environmental Superstar Champions!

Bring in your empty plastic water bottles for recycling!





"What does Sustainability mean to you"

Umma Zainab Y13GF

For me, sustainability means acting on the things we learn instead of just talking about them. I didn't think about it much until my science teacher explained how much food waste and plastic our own school creates every single day. It made me realize that sustainability isn't just a topic in a textbook, it's a mindset. I try to educate myself and my friends, making sure we actually recycle correctly, and realizing that even if a change feels small, it adds up when everyone does it. It's about taking the lessons out of the classroom and using them to take care of the world around us

Eashal Ali Y13GS

I think sustainability means living in a way that doesn't trash the planet for the next generation. It's basically finding a balance where we can use what we need right now without destroying ecosystems or running out of resources for the future. that looks like supporting local businesses, trying to eat less meat, and reusing what I already have instead of always wanting the newest thing. It's also about realizing that big companies need to be held accountable too, because individual actions matter, but we need a bigger cultural shift if we're actually going to protect the environment.

Huda Ghani Y13GH

To me, sustainability just means not wasting stuff and thinking about the future. It's super easy to just buy things, use them once, and throw them away without thinking about where they actually end up. For me and my friends, it's about making smaller, everyday changes like bringing a reusable water bottle to school, buying clothes from second hand stores instead of fast fashion sites, and actually turning off lights when we leave a room. It doesn't mean you have to be completely perfect, but just being aware that the choices we make right now are going to affect the planet we inherit when we're older



Ms Ghousia

Sustainability is innovating today to protect resources, empower communities and secure a better tomorrow.

Teachers' Continuing Professional Development (CPD)





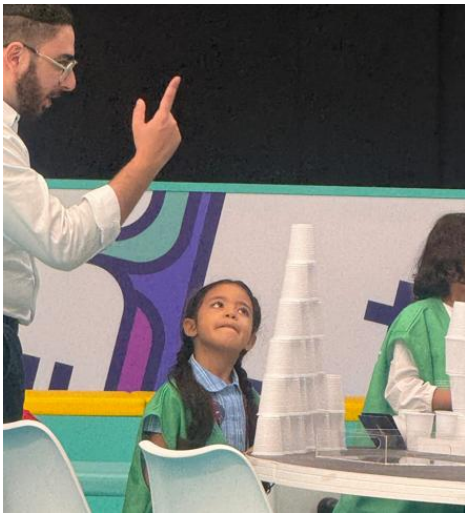
VP Mr. Shujahat & PRE Ms. Aiysha Khan attended GEMS 'Communicating Effectively Through Social Media' CPD on 5/11/26

Happy Birthdays!



Junior Section News

Junior Section Superstars


Well-done to Kayan who proudly representing WSS at the NSTI Festival 2026 in Al Ain! She did wonderfully well & thanks to the great support and practice she received from school. She had a wonderful time and is enjoying this opportunity.







Junior Section Superstar Champions of the Week

Y2 BAG Superstar Champions of the Week!





Y2 Wellbeing Superstar Champions of the Week!

Dear Miss Mariam,

Thank you so much for your continuous support, encouragement and guidance. We are so proud and happy to see Reshin achieve 100 Be a GEM reward points! It means a lot to us to see his efforts being recognised.

Thank you for making him feel encouraged and proud of his little achievements. ❤️

Warm regards,
Rasara

Thank you, Miss Karen and Miss Monika, for organizing such a wonderful parental engagement session with the FS2 H2 . It was truly fruitful and enjoyable!

All the activities were really nice, interactive, and engaging. We especially enjoyed participating in the activities with our children. It was a wonderful experience that helped us understand how our kids learn, explore, and develop through different activities.

We had a great time and look forward to more such sessions! 😊

Junior Section News



Saif's project is about the inspiring story of Prophet Musa (PBUH). He shared, "*Through this project, I learned about his courage, patience, and trust in Allah. I am proud to share this beautiful story!*"



RLAG Champ!

Assembly Time with Y2S1, 12/11/26
Theme 'Unity'







We learnt that one tiny bee can do so little, but together with the hive can create so much honey & do so much!







Celebrating the unity of the 7 UAE Emirates



Reinforcing the importance of unity in our class



FS Learning Activities






FS2 D2


FS2 H1 MS Sharon & MS Fozia



FS2H2 MS. Karen & MS. Monika

















Let's blend and read cvc words





Year 1 Learning Activities



Y1 D2 Ms. Aneeza and Ms. Maryam






Y1 H1 Ms. Mariam and Ms. Nadiya








Y1 H2 Ms. Kishwar and Ms. Jameela





A day full of adventure, entertainment, and unforgettable moments!







Y1 S1 Ms. Rajina and Ms. Vidhya



Learning about money



Islamic session

Fun-filled trip....





Year 2 Learning Activities









Ms. Millicent and Ms. Tahira in Y2D2.











Ms. Mangala and Ms. Mariam Y2F



Assembly on Gratitude







Y2 H2 Ms. Sarah and Ms. Shaikah



Primary Section News

Primary Section Superstars





Y5 BAG Superstar Champions





Y5 RLAG Reading Superstar Champions



Congratulations, Kinda and Yousef, on your achievements! Keep shining!

Dear Ms. Summara,

Greetings! I hope this email finds you well.

I am writing to say a heartfelt thank you for arranging such a wonderful Islamic Exhibition and for giving my son, Muhammad Mubashir Madni, a chance to participate in it. It was because of you that he was selected to participate and show his talent. The way you guided him is truly amazing.

It was a really informative exhibition through which students learned about Islamic scholars and their inventions. I am truly thankful to you for giving Mubashir this opportunity.

I would also like to thank the entire Islamic Department for organising such a wonderful exhibition, in which both students and parents got a chance to participate, and where everyone explained each Islamic scholar's invention so beautifully. Students gained a lot of knowledge about Islamic scholars through this.

Thank you, dear Ms., you have really brought a lot of confidence in my son. You always teach him so nicely that, Alhamdulillah, I can see a great change in him. My son always says that you are his favourite teacher and he loves to attend your lectures so happily.

Thank you to the Islamic Department for organising such a wonderful exhibition. I must say, this type of exhibition should be organised in school so that students get the chance to participate and show their talent.

I would also like to thank Ms. Khatma for organising such a wonderful Islamic Exhibition.

I would love to thank Ms. Sonia and Ms. Valerie for giving such wonderful and talented teachers to my son. I can see a huge improvement in my son, Muhammad Mubashir, both in his studies and in his behaviour. He loves going to school and enjoys all his lectures. He says his teachers are so amazing and the way they teach is so amazing.

I am so happy and blessed that my son is a part of WSS, where he gets a perfect education in a very comfortable environment, and where teachers teach so nicely.

Thank you to all dear teachers, Primary Head Ms. Sonia, and Principal Ms. Valerie, for providing such an amazing team and a comfortable environment to my son, Muhammad Mubashir Madni, Year 6 BD.

Regards,
Mahrukh Madni

I would like to thank you for providing my son, Muhammad Mubashir Madni, with such amazing teachers. I can see a great improvement in his studies and behaviour.

He is in Year 6 BD and is under the guidance of Mr. Dimple. I must say, the way Mr. Dimple teaches Math and Science, I can see a great improvement in his learning and concepts. Whenever I teach my son, he knows everything related to the topic in detail. When I asked him, he said his Sir, Mr. Dimple, explains each and every topic in a very specific, easy, and detailed way so that everything becomes clear during class.

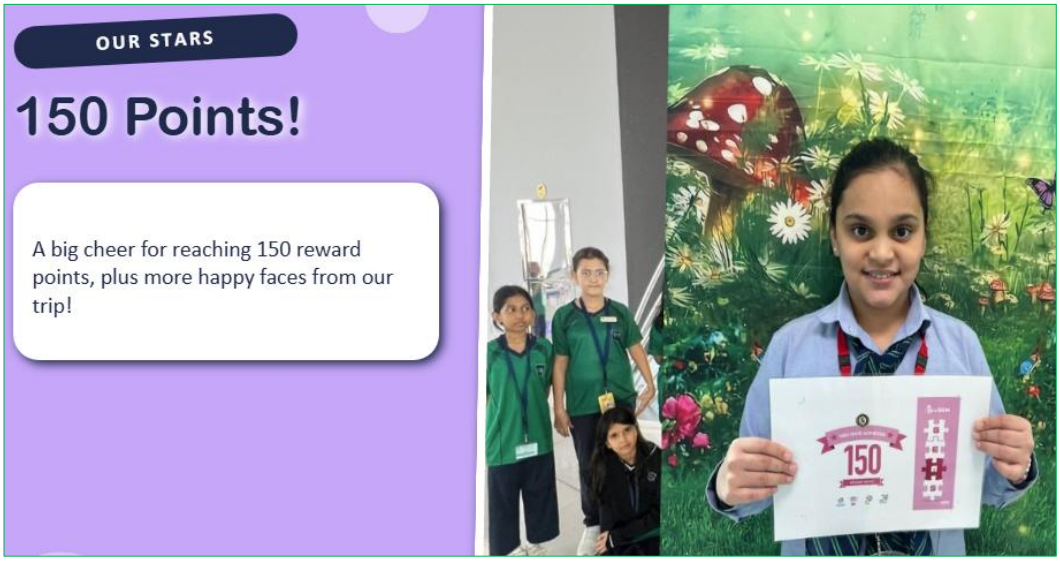
Thank you, Mr. Dimple, for teaching my son in such an amazing way. My son always says that no one explains Math and Science in such an easy and amazing way as his Sir, Mr. Dimple, does. Now my son's favourite subjects are Math and Science. Thank you, Sir, for bringing a lot of change in Mubashir, building his confidence, and making him love coming to school and enjoying his studies in such an amazing way.

Thank you, Ms. Valerie, for providing such wonderful and talented teachers to my son.

I am so happy and satisfied that my son is a part of WSS, where he studies under amazing teachers.

Regards,
Mahrukh Madni





Primary Section News



Learning how to draw a turtle



Yaseen's Islamic Studies Project



RLAG Champ!



Y3F1 exploring, investigating and discovering the wonders of science on World Science Day



Y3 Sports Day, 12/11/26

PRIMARY ECA 2026 TERM 1 - WEEK 6







Students enjoyed an exciting ECA session, developing sports skills through basketball, badminton and footbal exploring creativity through sunflower making in art, and practicing repeated movements with Sphero in robotics.







Catch up With Last Week's Islamic Heritage Festival!



Islamic Heritage Festival Primary

Our Year 5 and 6 students proudly celebrated the Islamic Heritage Festival, exploring the remarkable inventions and contributions of Muslim scholars during the Golden Age. Through creative models, displays and presentations, students showcased the achievements of scholars who shaped science, mathematics, medicine and geography. The festival celebrated Islamic civilisation, inspired curiosity and highlighted the lasting impact of Muslim scholars on the world.














AL-ZAHRAWI
DAISO
IBN AL-HAYTHAM
THE SCIENCE OF LIGHT
ساعة الجزري المائية


Mini
Irrigation
System
River
Ibn al-Haytham
The Father of Optics
AL-JAZARI
WATER MACHINE


LIGHT INVESTIGATION STATION
Ibn al Haytham Optics & Reflection
REFLECTION
SHURAIM BILAL
YEAR-6/RS
Ibn al-Haytham
The Camera Obscura
The Science of Light and Vision
Light and Vision



Dear Miss Sumera,
Hope you are doing well.
I am writing to congratulate you and your team for putting up such a nice and well organized exhibition.
This is the first time my child exhibits her project at the Islamic Cultural Exhibition and it was my first time to attend it too.
I was so impressed by the creativity and detailing's the kids have put into their craft.
Also being a parent, I got to know about the rich history regarding the Muslim Scientists and Scholars.
I would also like to appreciate the fact that the kids not just made the project, they do their research into presenting it and they were really confident that boosted their public speaking skills as well.
I highly encouraged such events to be held in the school that brings out the creativity in the child as well as it is very informative.
Thanks and Regards,
Nida Eqbal

Assembly Time with Y5S1, 11/11/26
Theme 'Healthy Minds Online'















LOG OFF-LOOK UP-LIVE LIFE!



Assembly Time with Y3F1, 11/11/26
Theme ‘Gratitude’















Year 3 Learning Activities

Y3 Sports Day, 12/11/26



















Students shared how excited they were to participate, the teamwork & promised to take part with Sportsmanship & integrity!







Young Minds, Big Ideas!
Small hands of **Y3S2** working towards saving our dugongs!

Learning Together, Growing Together! **Peer learning** makes progress fun!



Little champions, big dreams, and endless energy!
Year 3 celebrated teamwork, determination and the joy of sports!



Lily Ibrahim Abdallah bagged 2nd position in Swimming.







Today, we pause, reflect and say thank you! 🌸 Gratitude makes every day brighter.



Science in action at OLA! 🔬✨ Exploring, experimenting and discovering the wonders of science through hands-on learning. Every experiment sparks curiosity and turns questions into discoveries!











Year 4 Learning Activities





Y4D2-Think like a scientist, dream like an inventor!

Y4S2 Celebrates International Science Day! : Our young scientists explored electricity by building simple circuits and developed their observation and reasoning skills by constructing classification keys.



From classifying living things to lighting up simple circuits, Y4H1 embraced the spirit of inquiry as young scientists on International Science Day!

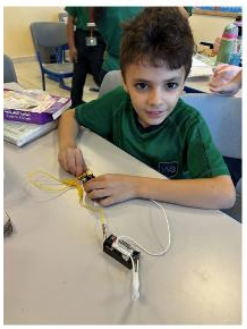
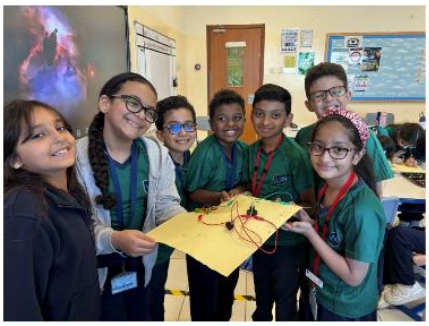


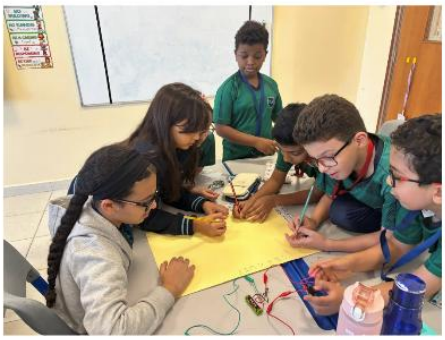
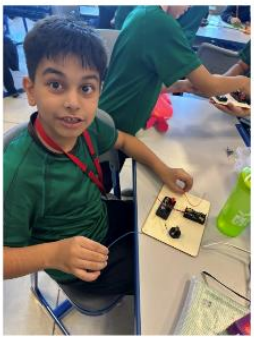




4F2 students celebrated Science Day through hands-on learning by building simple circuits using wires and bulbs and creating classification keys based on observable features. The activities developed their scientific inquiry, observation, and problem-solving skills in a fun and engaging way.

Y4H2 students celebrated Science Day through engaging, hands-on activities. They explored simple electrical circuits by connecting wires and bulbs and developed classification keys using observable features. These activities encouraged scientific inquiry, sharpened observation skills, and strengthened their problem-solving abilities through practical, enjoyable learning experiences.

Year 5 Learning Activities




Science Meets Fashion in Y5! 👗♻️

Our Year 5 students combined creativity and science by designing and creating fashionable outfits using recycled materials. They explored how everyday items can be reused in imaginative ways, showing that fashion can be both stylish and sustainable!






Y5 SST Quiz – Preliminary Round! 🏆

Our Year 5 students put their knowledge and quick-thinking skills to the test as they competed in the SST Quiz Preliminary Round. They demonstrated teamwork, confidence, and enthusiasm while answering questions and showcasing what they have learned. Well done, Y5! 🌟








Y5S1 Raises Awareness About Internet Safety! 💻🔒

Our Year 5S1 students led an informative assembly to remind everyone about the importance of staying safe online. They shared helpful tips on protecting personal information, making responsible choices, and being kind and respectful on the internet. Welldone, Y5S1, for spreading this important message! 🌟









Year Six Learning Activities





SCIENCE DAY

Y6 GD Scientists

We showed off famous inventions with fun demos and explained how they help us every day!

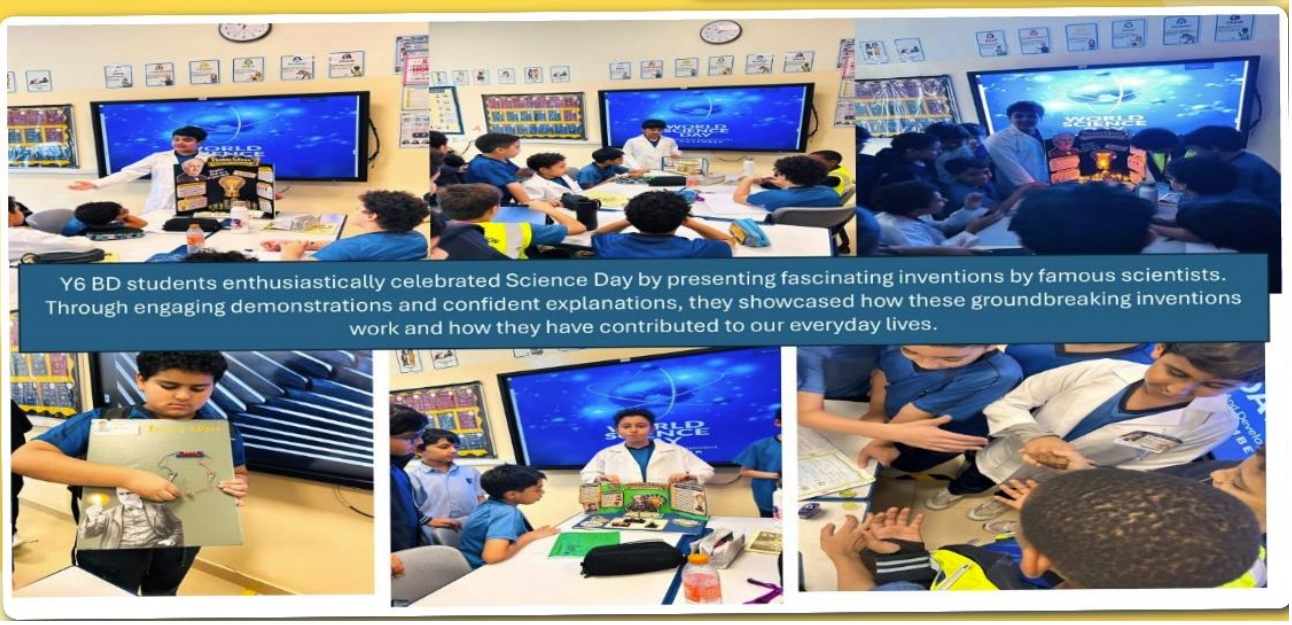


Y6 GD students celebrated Science Day by showcasing famous scientific inventions through engaging demonstrations and explaining their impact on everyday life.

SCIENCE DAY

Y6 BD Scientists

In lab coats, we presented amazing inventions like Edison's light bulb and showed how they work!



Y6 BD students enthusiastically celebrated Science Day by presenting fascinating inventions by famous scientists. Through engaging demonstrations and confident explanations, they showcased how these groundbreaking inventions work and how they have contributed to our everyday lives.

SCIENCE DAY

Y6 BH Scientists

We became famous scientists for the day, from Isaac Newton to Thomas Edison, and shared their discoveries!



SCIENCE DAY

Y6 BS Scientists

Paper planes, posters and even a working cup telephone: we saw science in action!



SCIENCE DAY

Y6 GS Scientists

We put on our lab coats and confidently presented our research, posters and models!










Y6GS




SCIENCE DAY

Y6 GH Scientists

Posters, models and live experiments brought great discoveries to life for the whole class!














Y6GH

FAMILIES

Y6 GD & Families

For Media & Information Literacy Week, we solved UAE-themed challenges with our parents!



YEAR 6 PARENT ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY-Global Media & Information Literacy Week

Learning Together, Thinking Critically, Solving Challenges!

Year 6 GD students and parents enjoyed an engaging morning of teamwork, problem-solving, and critical thinking. Through interactive UAE-themed challenges, participants strengthened their maths, geography, and media literacy skills while learning the importance of checking information carefully and working collaboratively.

FAMILIES

Y6 BH & Families

Smart Shopper and UAE map maths: we worked as a team with our families, thinking critically!



YEAR 6 BH PARENT ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY-
Global Media & Information Literacy Week

Learning Together, Thinking Critically, Solving Challenges!

FAMILIES

Shopping Challenge

At our class souq, we compared prices, hunted for the best deals and added up our totals!



LEARNING

Learning Together

Helping each other and sharing great ideas during group work in class.



Sixth Form Mentorship

Leading with Diversity

Year 6 and year 5



Our Senior Sixth Form students guided our Primary students in understanding and promoting the Islamic value of Diversity, encouraging them to respect differences, appreciate one another, and embrace unity through Islamic values.

















Secondary Section News

Secondary Section Superstars



The proud moment of sharing the certificate received for the First place at GMU.

Secondary Section News



World Science Day

Celebrating Innovation and Discovery

THEME Science for Peace and Development

NOVEMBER **10** 2026

Organised by the Science Club, our World Science Day celebrations brought together a series of engaging activities that promoted scientific curiosity, innovation and awareness, giving students the chance to explore science beyond the classroom.

Mechatronics Workshop

ENGINEERING CLUB

One of the highlights of the day was a Mechatronics Workshop facilitated by IG Institute. Students took on the Autonomous Parking Challenge, programming a LEGO® Education SPIKE™ Prime robot to park itself, just like a self-parking car. Working hands-on in teams, they explored coding, sensors and programming logic, measured out their parking tracks and applied real Physics along the way, such as using a wheel's circumference to calculate the distance travelled. Participants were presented with certificates at the end of the workshop.








Glycosphere

HEALTH SCIENCE

In the auditorium, students presented Glycosphere, an initiative dedicated to raising awareness about diabetes and the importance of health education. Student presenters explained what diabetes is and how it affects the body, and engaged their peers through interactive activities that made the learning memorable.





Our Young Scientists

STUDENT SHOWCASE

A special display board showcased renowned scientists from around the world alongside the creative projects and work produced by our students. Students researched inspiring scientists, from great discoveries of the past to the science of the UAE today, and shared their findings through colourful posters.







> *"The activities encouraged students to explore science beyond the classroom and to appreciate its impact on everyday life.*

STUDENT COUNCIL · INNOVATION LEADERS · EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

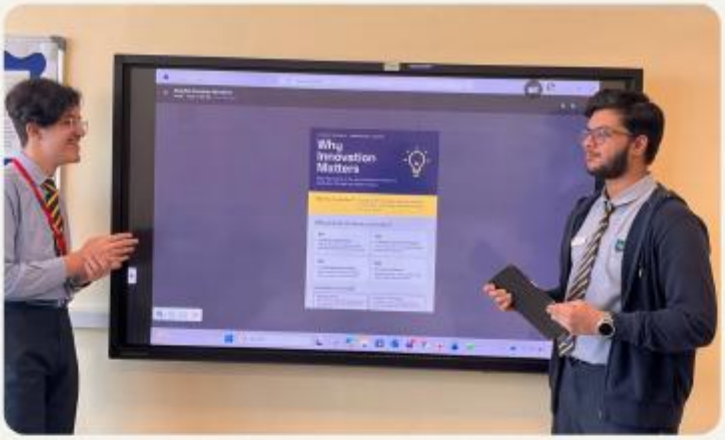
Why Innovation Matters

Our Innovation Leaders took their message from poster to classroom, showing fellow students why new ideas matter for their learning and their future.

About the event

The Innovation Leaders designed a poster on why innovation matters, then presented it in classes, explaining what innovation is, why every student should innovate, and how the UAE is leading the way.

Ideas in action



Innovation Leaders presenting their poster on the classroom screen



Sharing the message with a class



What students learned

01 It solves real problems

02 It prepares you for the future

03 It makes learning exciting

04 It builds confidence

Inspired by the UAE

From the Hope Probe reaching Mars to the Museum of the Future in Dubai, big dreams can come true.

PEER MENTORING INITIATIVE

Arabic Leader Program

Bayan Team Support Sessions

Supporting first-level students in Arabic through peer mentoring led by academically outstanding students under the supervision of Arabic teachers.



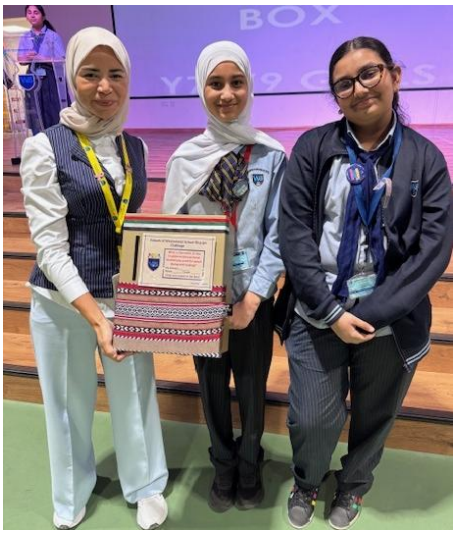


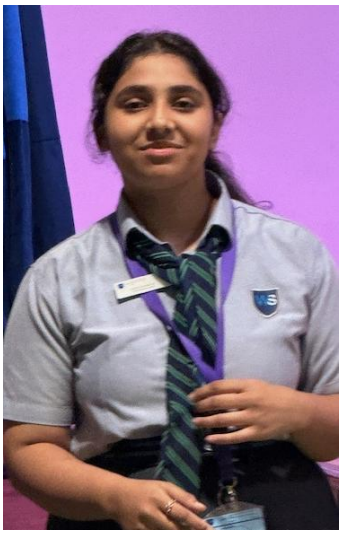


Program Impact: Student mentoring, Arabic language practice, collaborative learning, and confidence building.

Assembly Time with KS3, 9/11/26
Theme 'Healthy Eating Presentation – Eating a Nutritious Diet Improves Brain Function'



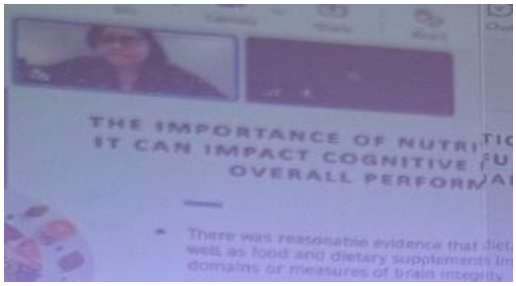








Big thank you to Ms. Mariam, our dynamic FOW member, for attending the KS3 Girls' Assembly to give away the Heritage Heroes Box prizes for the week. Last week's heritage question related to the traditional boat used in pearl diving.

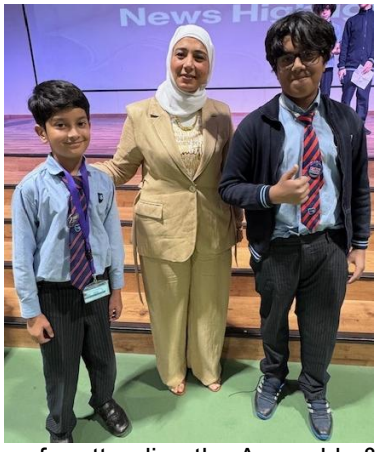


Ms. Arooj (Slices Catering Company) gave an online presentation at both Girls & Boys Assemblies about the importance of ensuring a healthy, nutritious diet in maintaining a healthy BMI & brain function.

Assembly Time with Y8BF, 10/11/26
Theme 'Small Actions, Big Impact!'
And 'Healthy Eating Presentation – Eating a Nutritious Diet Improves Brain Function'







Thank you Ms. Rania, FOW member, for attending the Assembly & for awarding the Heritage Heroes Box prizes for the week.





The boys presented skits demonstrating examples of how small, simple, thoughtful acts of kindness can show off our good character & brighten someone's day.

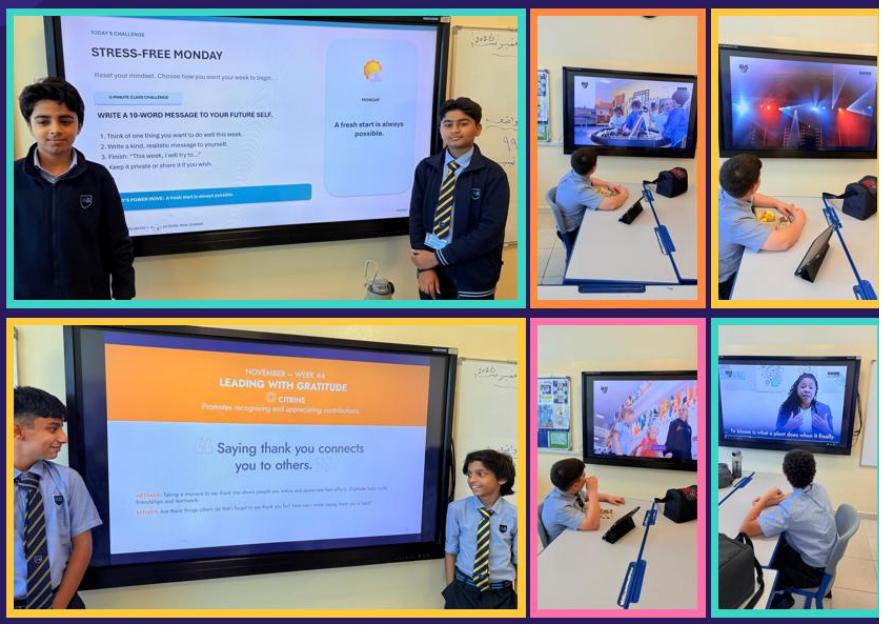
KS3 Learning Activities

Y9 Boys
Fresh Starts, Grateful Hearts & Curious Minds

From a Stress-Free Monday reset to heart-warming GEMS of the UAE stories, our students spent the week saying thank you, dreaming big and never stopping learning.

Wellbeing | Gratitude | Always Learning

"A fresh start is always possible."



Year 9 Girls – Leadership Gemstone Quotes

Quote of the week: Gratitude helps people feel seen and valued.









Our Year 9 girls embrace the value of gratitude, recognising the contributions of others and fostering a culture of appreciation and respect.

Health and Hygiene Session

Our students participated in a health and hygiene awareness programme, with an exercise warm-up session by Ms. Asha and Ms. Bismi, followed by an informative video session by Ms. Arooj, promoting healthy habits and well-being.





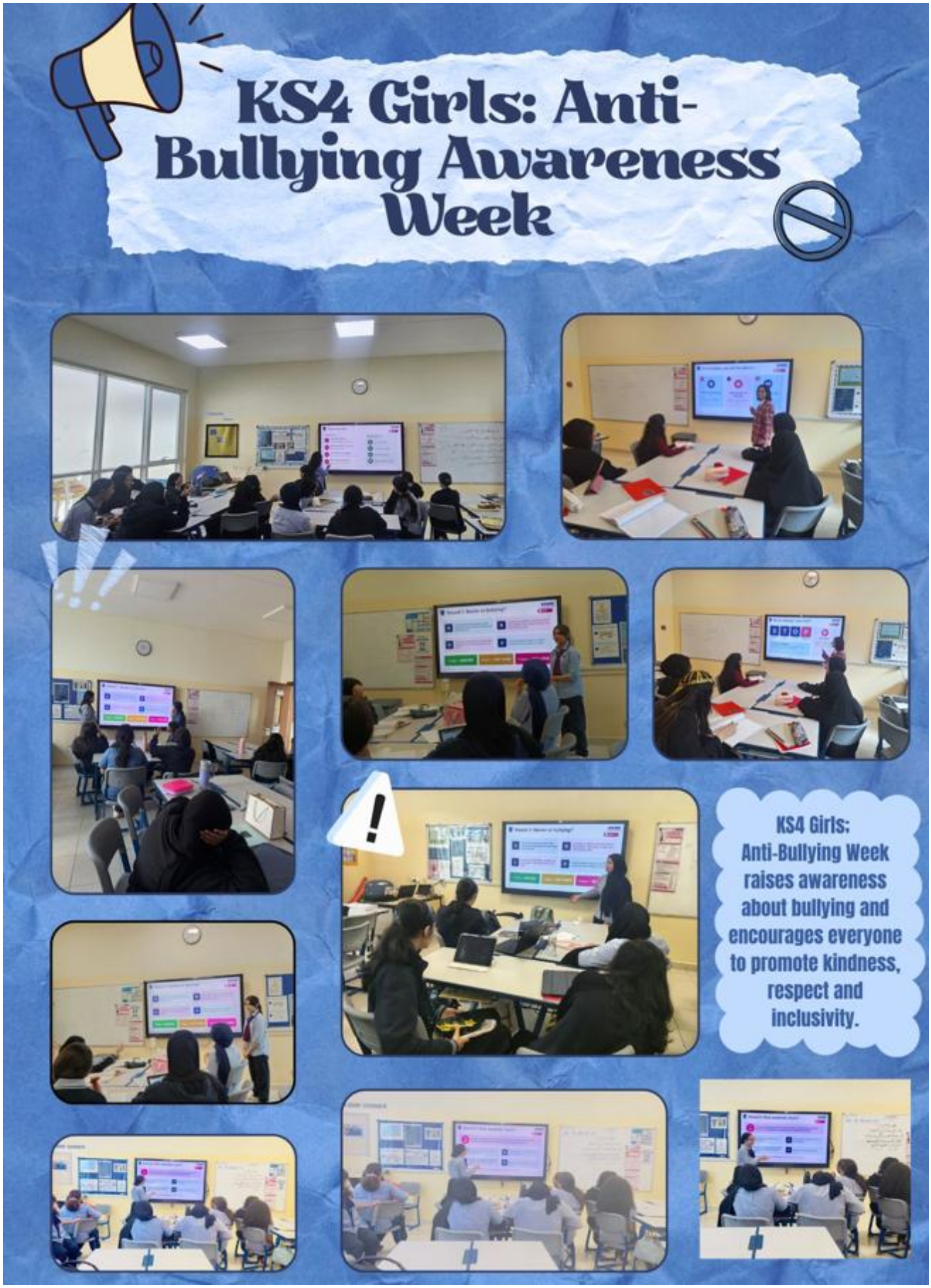








KS4 Learning Activities



KS4 BOYS DRESS THE PART.

Ten minutes of break time, taught by the boys themselves.

SESSION
KS4 Life Skills

WHEN
Break time

LENGTH
10 minutes

LED BY
Our own students

THE OPENER Every form room

OWN THE ROOM

On Monday, form rooms across Year 10 and Year 11 heard the same opening line, each time from one of their own: dress the part, own the room. No assembly, no lecture. Just a classmate, a screen and a straight message about showing up properly.











01 First impressions

WHY IT MATTERS



First impressions form in seconds. Before you say a word, your uniform has already spoken for you.

THE WSS FIT CHECK Every morning

FOUR THINGS, NO EXCUSES

- Shirt tucked in, ironed, and top button done up under the tie.
- Tie centred and tightened neatly to the collar. Not loose, not crooked.
- Shoes clean and polished: black leather on regular days, white on PE days.
- ID card or lanyard visible at all times.

A sharp uniform builds a sharp mindset.









02 Piece by piece

LIKE A PRO

Shirt, tie, belt, navy pinstriped trousers, and the right shoes for the day. Everyone owns the same uniform. The session was about the part that is up to you: how you wear it.

03 Hands on

MASTER THE TIE

The four-in-hand, the easiest knot to learn, in five steps. Then a quicker three-step method to compare. A skill for interviews and everything after.







SHIRT IN · TIE UP · SHOES SHINED · ID ON

KS4 BOYS · LIFE SKILLS · WSS

KS4 Be A GEM REPRESENTATIVES



Celebrating *Commitment*, *Leadership*, and *Positive Charge*!





The *Goodwill guide* badge for consistent efforts, leadership & dedication





Turning every-day routines into lasting leaderships

Keep *leading*, *learning*, *inspiring*, and making a *difference*





Our KS4 representatives *proudly* awarded in recognition of implementing the BE A GEM (BAG) routines across classes!



KS4 BOYS TUNE IN.

Five short health videos, one KS4 boys team, and a lot of honest talk once the screen went dark.

This week our Year 10 and Year 11 boys swapped the usual lesson starter for something different: short, narrated health videos on the classroom screen, followed by real discussion around the table.

Smoking, diabetes, personal hygiene, healthy eating and family health. None of it is new information, which is exactly why it is so easy to tune out. So we tuned in instead, and the boys did the thinking.

EP 01 Y10 · runtime 3:06

SMOKE SCREEN

Bad breath and stained teeth are only the start. From damaged lungs to second-hand smoke, and then the chapter that mattered most: how to say no, and mean it.

01 · Short-term 02 · Long-term
03 · Second-hand 04 · Saying no



EP 02 Y11

SUGAR, DECODED



Type 1 vs Type 2, and why one of them has nothing to do with eating too much sugar.

EP 03 Y10 · 2:35

CLEAN CUT



Short nails, clean hands: small habits nobody notices, until somebody skips them.

EP 04 Y10 · 2:08

FUEL UP



Fruit, veg, protein, water. Simple, and that is exactly why it is so easy to ignore.

EP 05 KS4

HOME TEAM



Why your family matters. Healthy habits start at home: small habits there add up to big changes.

POST-CREDITS Screens off

AFTER THE CREDITS



The videos were short. The conversations that followed were not.

KS4 BOYS SPEAK UP.

Eight minutes a day, and a vote on where the line is.

For Wellbeing Week, our Year 10 and Year 11 forms spent two break-time sessions on one awkward question: when does a joke stop being a joke?

Tuesday was about knowing what bullying is and who to tell. Wednesday put it to the vote.

DAY 1 Tue 3 Nov · 8 min

SPEAK UP, STAND UP

An awareness session with three aims: say what bullying is, spot banter versus bullying with a quick three-question test, and know how to get help and who to tell at WSS.





BE KIND · BE BRAVE · SPEAK UP



DAY 2 Wed 4 Nov · Upstander Challenge

BANTER OR BULLYING? YOU DECIDE

Pairs read a scenario on screen, talked it over for twenty seconds, then voted with their fingers on "3, 2, 1, show!" No real names, low voices, and every answer respected. Round two asked the harder question: what would a safe upstander actually do?

1 1 FINGER Banter	2 2 FINGERS Not sure	3 3 FINGERS Bullying











THE 8-MINUTE PLAN

1 min	How it works
2.5 min	Banter or bullying?
2.5 min	Upstander move
1.5 min	My pledge

ALSO ON SCREEN Y11

SPACE AND LIGHT





A short film with a simple ask: stay curious about what each person needs, and make room for them.

SAME WEEK Be a GEM · Routine 05

LEAVE AS YOU ENTER





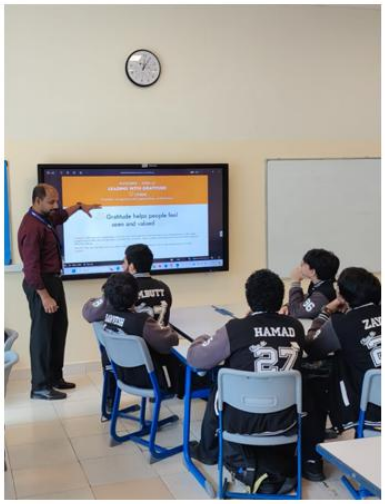
A seven-minute micro-session led by a Be A Gem Leader: pack up and tidy, wait to be dismissed, leave as you enter.

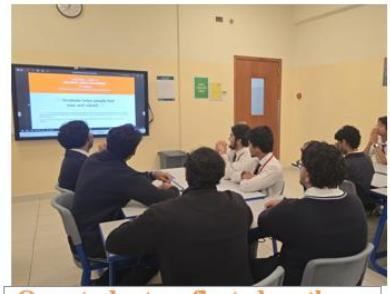
KS5 Leadership & Learning Activities



Leading with gratitude! ❤️

Celebrating our Leadership Gemstones focus on **Citrine**, the gem that promotes recognising and appreciating contributions-KS5 Boys





Our students reflected on the message "Gratitude helps people feel seen and valued" and discussed how a simple thank you makes friends and teammates feel included and motivated.



Thank you to everyone who made gratitude part of their day! Small words of appreciation build a kinder, more supportive school community. ✨

Healthy minds, healthy bodies! 🩺

Celebrating the Health Education Video series created by our school medical team to help every student make informed, healthy choices-KS5 Boys





Short videos on personal hygiene, handwashing, first aid, immunity and the effects of smoking were shared during assembly and registration, sparking lively class discussions.



A heartfelt thank you to our medical team for supporting the wellbeing of our school community! Small, healthy habits today build a stronger tomorrow. 💙

Stay Connected

Visit our website for the latest news, events, and announcements.

Website: www.gemswss.com
Email: info.wss@gemsedu.com
Phone: +971 6 5426323

Excellence Through Teamwork; Success For All