

# GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, SHARJAH



Newsletter Issue #20  
2nd February, 2023



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

Dear WSS Parents,

### SPEA Performance Review Visit (SPR)

SPEA Review Inspectors will be visiting school all next week, reviewing our students' progress, achievement, learning & behaviour. Please support by ensuring that your children **arrive to school on time (by latest 7:30am) wearing perfect school uniform.** We are looking forward to our students' showing off their talents & skills, and achieving their very best!

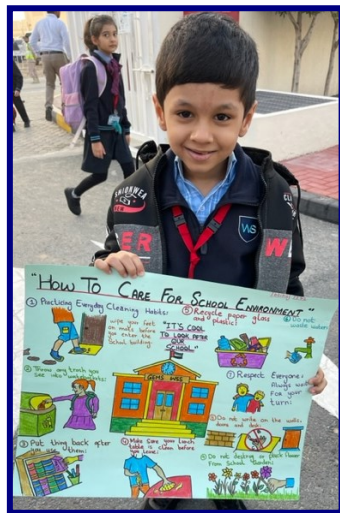
Just to clarify, following a reported misunderstanding, please note that SPEA has *not* informed us of any link between schools receiving a high inspection grading & any increase in school fees, so we request 100% teamwork as we strive for a positive judgement. It is time for WSS to shine!

### Early Exit

We understand that there may be an occasional emergency or medical appointment that requires your child taking Early Exit. However, this leads to lost learning time, so please try to avoid this as much as possible. If you do need an Early Exit, do please **report to Reception at least one hour before the end of the school day** (so that we have Support Staff available to collect your child from class). Please note that to minimize lesson disruption (which loses learning time for the full class) we will collect **children at lesson changeover times**, not mid-lesson. The Timetable is attached on p4 FYI. Thank you for your support.

## Dates for Your Diary

Date	Details
Friday 17th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-enrollment for September 2023 opens.</li> <li>Re-enrollment for Sept. 2023 may only be completed once <b>full T2 fees have been cleared.</b></li> <li><b>Deadline to click re-enroll online with intentions is Friday 17th February</b> (re-enrollment fee payment not required until 2/5/23)</li> </ul>
Mon. 10th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Deadline to pay the re-enrollment fee is Tuesday 2nd May</b> (please ignore any other communicated dates, &amp; apologies for any confusion)</li> <li><b>Un-booked &amp; unpaid seats beyond the given deadline would be given to the Waiting List. Seats are limited, so to avoid stress &amp; disappointment, do please complete re-enrollment &amp; re-enrollment payment by the given deadlines.</b></li> </ul>
Wed. 15th & Thurs. 16th Feb.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mid-Term Break (2 days)</li> </ul>
27/3/23 to 6/4/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spring Break (2 weeks)</li> <li>Term 3 starts on Monday 10/4/23. T3 fees due, thank you.</li> </ul>
17/4/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>T3 Mid-Term Break (1 day)</li> </ul>
Tuesday 2/5/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Deadline to pay the re-enrollment fee is Tuesday 2nd May</b></li> </ul>
29/6/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Official last day of the academic year. (TBC by SPEA)</li> </ul>



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

# مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر الشارقة



النشرة الإخبارية رقم # 20  
2 فبراير 2023



رسالة من  
المديرة / الرئيس التنفيذي  
السيدة كاليري توميسون

أولياء أمور مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر  
الشارقة الأعزاء،

## زيارة مراجعة أداء (SPEA) (SPR)

سيقوم مفتشو مراجعة SPEA بزيارة  
المدرسة طوال الأسبوع المقبل، لمراجعة  
تقدم طلابنا وإتجازهم وتعلمهم وسلوكهم.

يرجى تقديم الدعم من خلال ضمان وصول أطفالك إلى المدرسة في  
الوقت المحدد (في الساعة 7:30 صباحاً على الأقل) وهم يرتدون  
الزي المدرسي المثالي. نحن نتطلع إلى أن يتباهي طلابنا بأفضل ما  
لديهم وأن يحصلوا على الأقل على حكم "جيد جداً"، كما  
يستحقون!

فقط للتوضيح، بعد الإبلاغ عن سوء فهم، يرجى ملاحظة أن  
SPEA لم تخبرنا بأي ارتباط بين حصول المدرسة على درجات  
تفتيش عالية وأي زيادة في الرسوم المدرسية، لذلك نطلب عمل  
جماعي بنسبة 100% لأننا نسعى جاهدين للحصول على حكم  
عالي. حان الوقت لكي تتألق WSS

## الخروج المبكر

نحن نتفهم أنه قد يكون هناك من حين لآخر موعد طوارئ أو  
موعد طبي يتطلب خروج طفلك مبكراً. ومع ذلك، فإن هذا يؤدي  
إلى ضياع وقت التعلم، لذا يرجى محاولة تجنب ذلك قدر الإمكان.  
إذا كنت بحاجة إلى تصريح خروج مبكر، فترجاء إبلاغ مكتب  
الاستقبال قبل ساعة واحدة على الأقل من نهاية اليوم الدراسي،  
حتى يتوفر لدينا فريق دعم لإحضار طفلك من الفصل. يرجى  
ملاحظة أنه لتقليل اضطراب الدرس (الذي يفقد وقت التعلم للمصف  
الكامل) ستقوم بإحضار الأطفال في أوقات تغيير الدرس، وليس  
في منتصف الدرس. الجدول الزمني مرفق في 4معلوماتك.



## المواعيد

التاريخ	التفاصيل
الجمعة 17 فبراير	فتح باب التسجيل في سبتمبر 2023. قد يتم الانتهاء من إعادة التسجيل في سبتمبر 2023 بمجرد سداد رسوم T2 بالكامل. • الموعد النهائي للتفرغ على إعادة التسجيل عبر الإنترنت بنية النية هو يوم الجمعة 17 فبراير (دفع رسوم إعادة التسجيل غير مطلوب حتى 2/5/23)
الثلاثاء، 2 مايو	• الموعد النهائي لدفع رسوم إعادة التسجيل هو يوم الثلاثاء، 2 مايو (يرجى تجاهل أي تواريخ رسائل أخرى من إنشاء النظام، والاعتذار عن أي ليس) • سيتم منح المقاعد غير المحجوزة وغير المدفوعة بعد الموعد النهائي المحدد لقائمة الانتظار المقاعد محدودة، لذا لتجنب التوتر وخيبة الأمل، يرجى إكمال مدفوعات إعادة التسجيل وإعادة التسجيل
الأربعاء، 15 والخميس، 16 فبراير	استراحة منتصف المدة (يومان)
27/3/23 إلى 6/4/23	عطلة الربيع (أسبوعان) يبدأ الفصل الثالث يوم الاثنين الموافق 10/4/23. رسوم T3 المستحقة، شكرًا لك. • الموعد النهائي لدفع رسوم إعادة التسجيل لحجز المقاعد في سبتمبر 2023. بعد هذا الموعد النهائي، سيتم منح المقاعد غير المدفوعة
17/4/23	استراحة منتصف المدة (يوم واحد)
29/6/23	آخر يوم رسمي في العام الدراسي

رؤيتنا؛ "التميز من خلال العمل الجماعي؛ نجاح للجميع"

The most important gifts you can give your child are a **quality education** and the **values** that will guide them through life

Sunny Varkey

## Whole School News

### Newsletter Contents

Page	Item	Includes:
1, 2	Dates for Your Diary & general notices	•
4 5 6 7	Whole School News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SPEA Parent Survey (re. the 4-day Week) &amp; the school Timetable</li> <li>• WSS Inter-School Quran Competition, 26/1/23 &amp; Staff CPD</li> <li>• Staff of T1 Award Display</li> <li>• Community Helpers; Amiri Guard Traffic Police</li> <li>• Storyboard Top Tips; 'Knowing your specific targets' &amp; 'Wellbeing'</li> </ul>
8	Whole School Environmental Recycling Superstar Champions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WSS Recycling</li> <li>• Afforestation Event</li> </ul>
9	Whole school Birthdays for the week	•
10-11	Junior Section Superstar Champions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Class Champions</li> <li>• Community Service Champions</li> <li>• Sheikh Zayed drawing competition Winner</li> </ul>
12-16 18-20 21-22	Junior Section News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Superhero Dads' Day, 31/1/23</li> <li>• Fun Learning in Y1</li> <li>• New Learning in Y2</li> </ul>
23	Primary Section News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Al Mantar Reserve Afforestation Campaign</li> </ul>
25	Secondary Section Superstar Champions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Champions; The UAE's Year of Sustainability</li> </ul>
26 27 28 29-31 32-33 34 35 36 37 38 39	Secondary Section News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waste Management Superstars!</li> <li>• Assembly Time with Y8GS; 'Self-Care'</li> <li>• Assembly Time with Y8BH1; 'Respect'</li> <li>• BLOOMS Race!</li> <li>• GWA MUN Event, 27/1/23</li> <li>• TWS MUN Event, 28/1/23</li> <li>• KS3 Wellbeing Initiative; 'Morning Vibes'</li> <li>• WSS Career Fair</li> <li>• EMSAT Guidance Session</li> <li>• KS3 Practical Science Activities</li> <li>• Profit &amp; Loss Pizza Project</li> </ul>

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

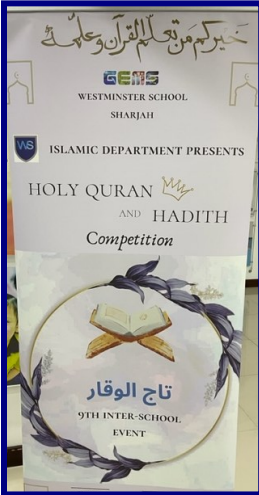






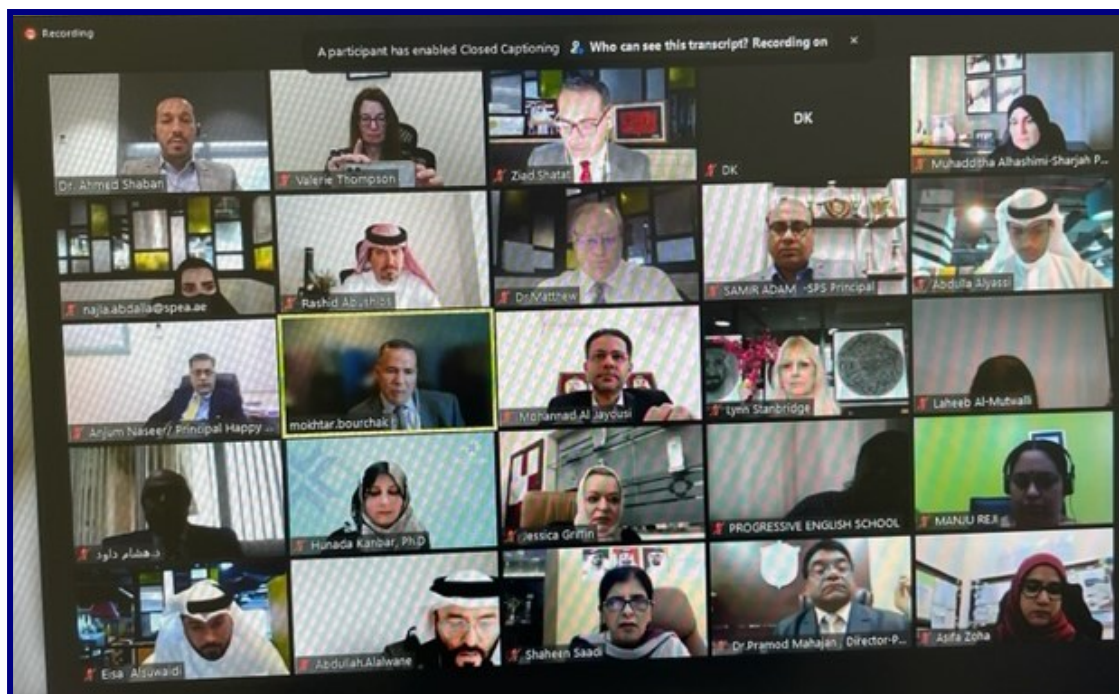
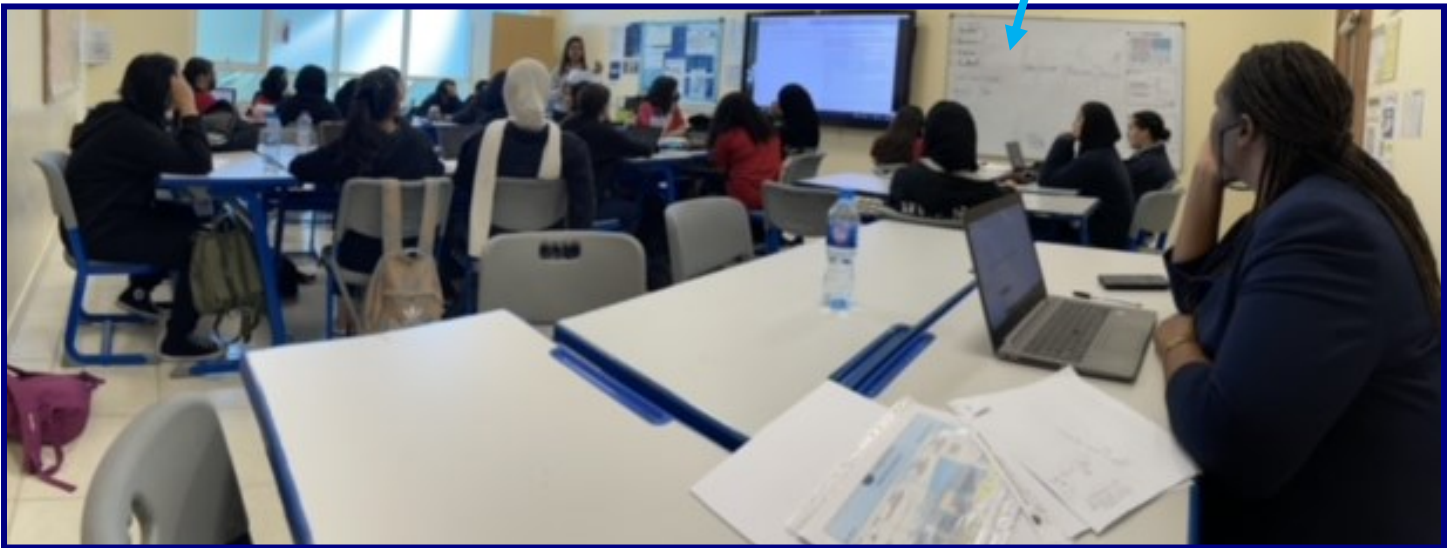


## Whole School News!



Beautiful displays from our very successful Inter-School Quran competition, held on 26/1/23.

Our Teaching & Learning Coach Dr. Lisa & Principal Ms. Valerie visiting classes for joint Lesson Observations as part of our cycle of professional development for Teachers



The Principal Ms. Valerie attended the ZOOM SPEA Strategy Meeting on 2/2/23 along with other Sharjah Principals. SPEA shared 'next steps', such as a new Authority Wellbeing Framework. WSS has already introduced the Oxford International Wellbeing Curriculum & will align this with the new framework once published.



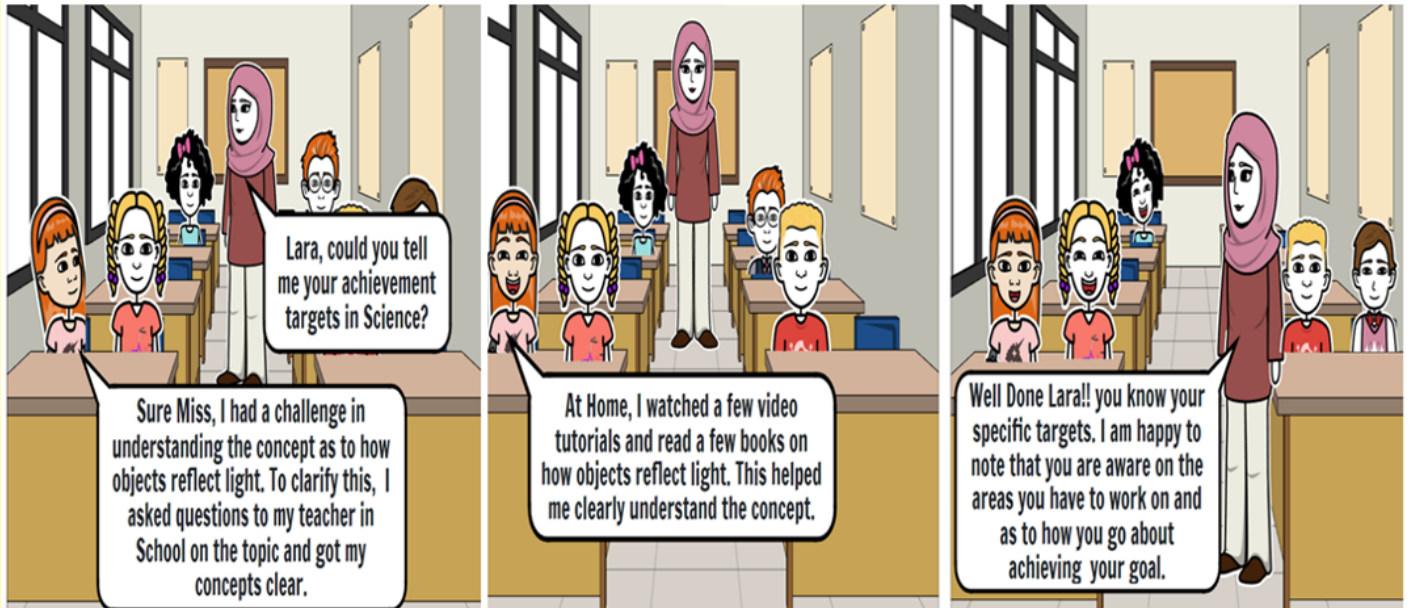
## WSS Superstar Champions!



Thank you to our amazing Amiri Guard, who help us outside school daily at morning drop-off & afternoon pick-up to help support road safety for our community. This is a perfect example for our children of community service in practice!

# Whole School News; Storyboard Top Tips!

## Knowing your specific targets



## Wellbeing



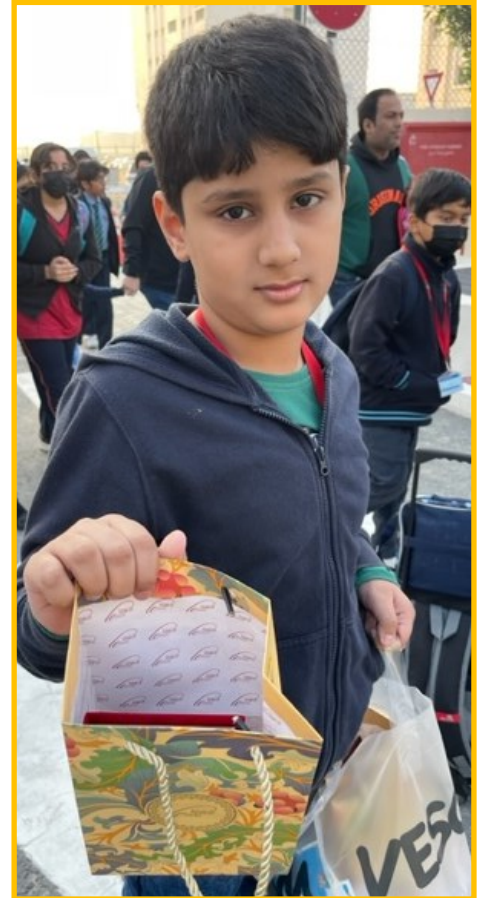


# WSS Environmental Superstar Champions!



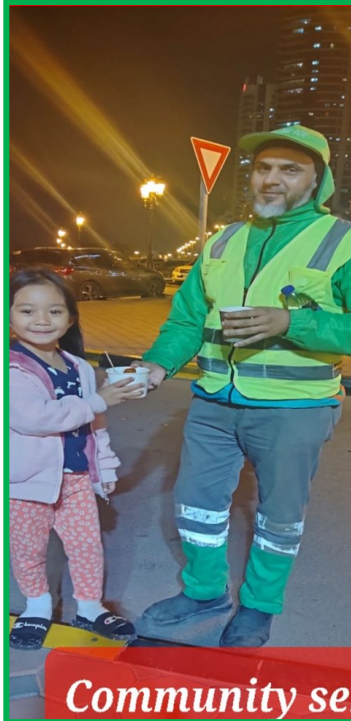


# Whole School News; Happy Birthdays!





# WSS Junior Section Superstar Champions!





*WSS Junior Section Community Service Superstar Champions!*





# Junior Section News; Superhero Dad's Day, 31/1/23!



Thank you to our parents who supported with superhero dress-up & attended our Superhero Dad's Day on 31/1/23. Our children have been learning about community helpers & everyday superheroes, like their Dads! Our children were very happy to share their day with their special Dad.



Lunch with daddy 😊



Y1S1 with Ms Mariam Rizwan



My dad is my hero ❤️



Super dads in the class

Y1S1 with Ms Mariam Rizwan





*Junior Section News; Superhero Dad's Day, 31/1/23!*



Super Dad day Y2D2 Ms.Jinitra & Ms.Kavitha



# *Junior Section News; Superhero Dad's Day, 31/1/23!*

Super Dad Day Y2 H2 with Ms. Sabiha and Ms. Priya





*Junior Section News; Superhero Dad's Day, 31/1/23!*





*Junior Section News; Superhero Dad's Day, 31/1/23!*





# Junior Section News



Thank you Haniyah for your super confident & cute Arabic video.

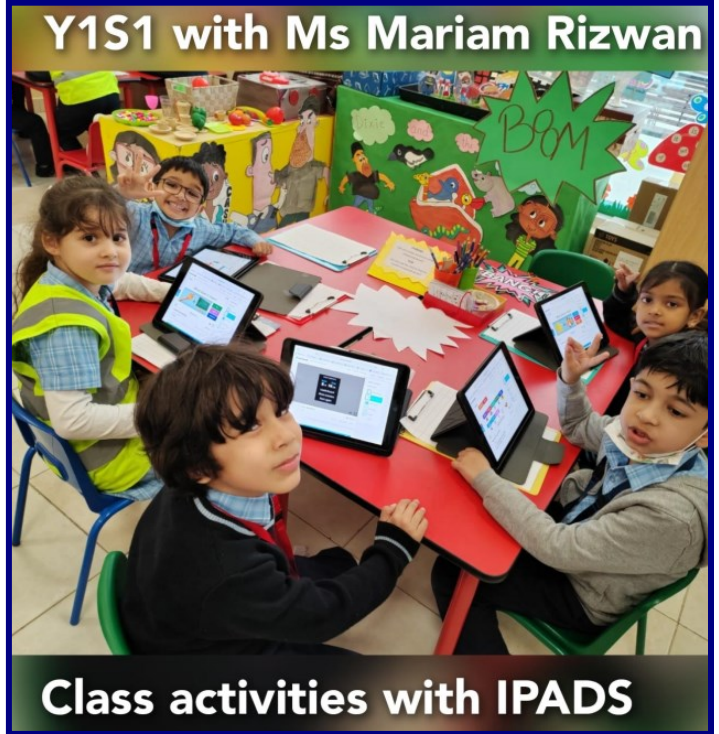




# Junior Section News; Fun Learning in Y1!



Y1S1 with Ms Mariam



Class activities with IPADS





# Junior Section News; Fun Learning in Y1!

Enjoying class activity



Congratulations



Learning about compound words



Enjoying class activity



Learning about compound words



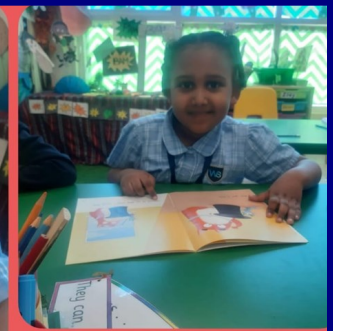
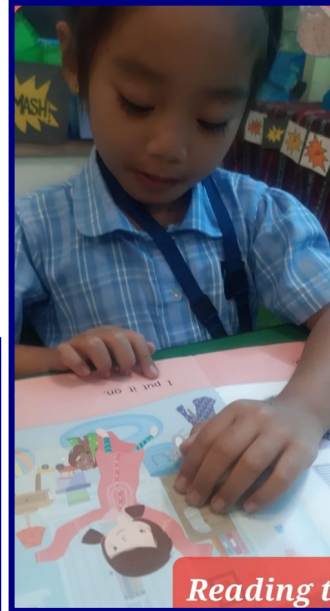
Well done!



# Year 1 D2



# Junior Section News; Fun Learning in Y1!



Reading time!



Warm up time



Well done 🙌

Y1H1 with Ms. Uzma

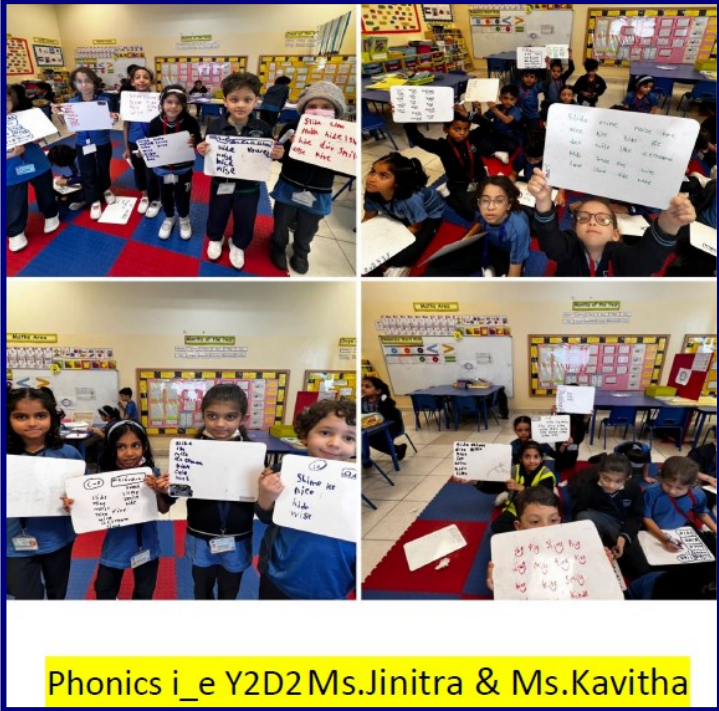


Experiment: Float and Sink

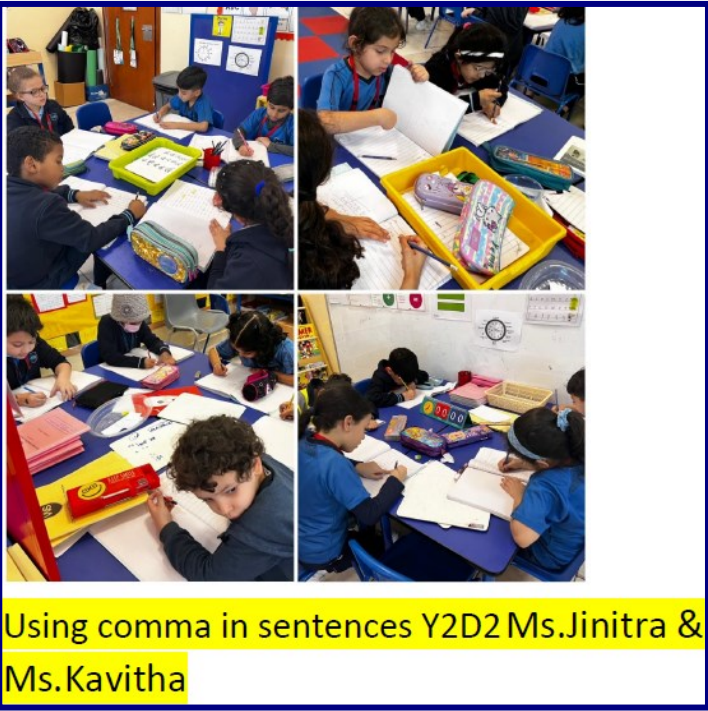




# Junior Section News; New Learning in Y2!



Phonics i\_e Y2D2 Ms.Jinitra & Ms.Kavitha



Using comma in sentences Y2D2 Ms.Jinitra & Ms.Kavitha



IDENTIFYING QUARTER TO AND QUARTER PAST - Y2F2 WITH MS. RAQUEL AND MS. CATHERIN



01-23 Riddle Time!  
fire prize  
five kite  
time

'i-e' DIGRAPH Y2F2 WITH MS. RAQUEL AND MS. CATHERIN



## *Primary Section News; Al Mantar Reserve Afforestation Campaign!*

Al Mantar Reserve Afforestation Campaign was organized at Al Bataeh by Sharjah Education Council. WSS student reps from Primary section participated in the programme this week. Thanks to parents for their support & to the teachers who went along to support this important initiative .

The WSS Primary student council and selected students participated in the afforestation campaign organised by the Environment and Protected Areas Authority Sharjah on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023 that aims at preserving the environment of wild areas and maintaining biodiversity.

with Mr. Arvie, Mr. Jaseer, and Ms. Sarada





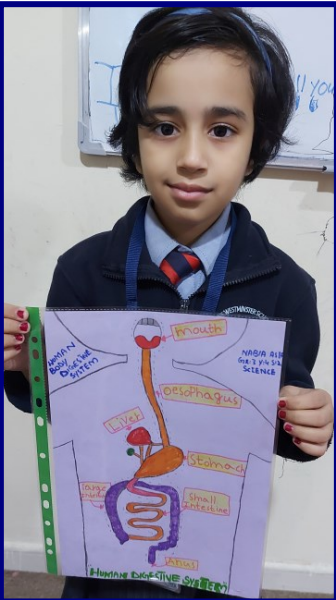
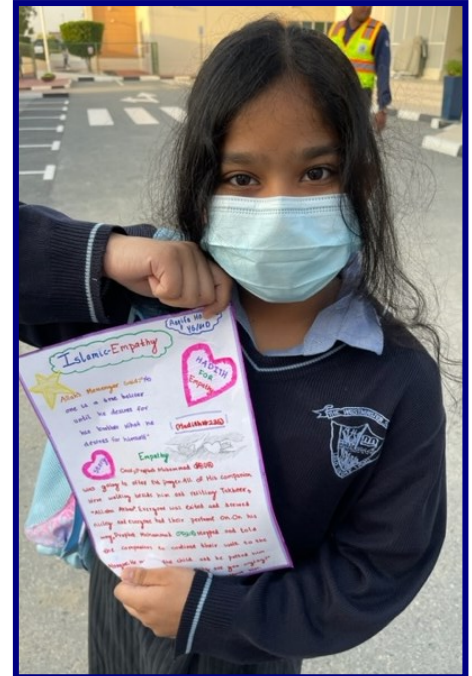
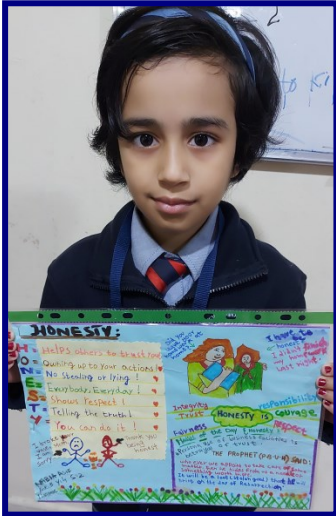
## *Primary Section News; Al Mantar Reserve Afforestation Campaign!*

Al Mantar Reserve Afforestation Campaign was organized at Al Bataeh by Sharjah Education Council. WSS student reps from Primary section participated in the programme this week. Thanks to parents for their support & to the teachers who went along to support this important initiative .





# Primary Section News



Thank you Nabia for your thought-provoking video on 'Truthfulness'. We love to see important Islamic character values applied to your real life, & how these same values are shared across our other community religions too!



*WSS Secondary Section Superstar Champions!*



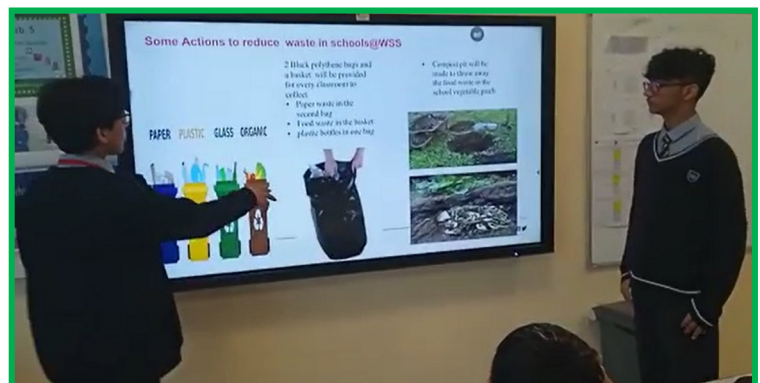


# WSS Environmental Waste Management Superstar Champions!

## The UAE's Year of Sustainability!

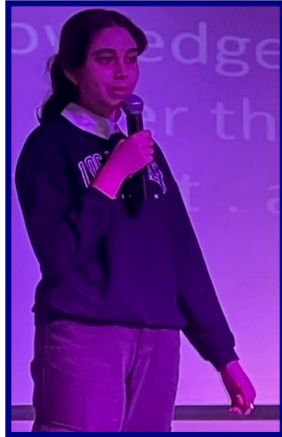


As a part of our Eco Club Programme, WSS KS3 students conducted an awareness session on Waste management. Thank you Ms. Laneetha & her team of active echo warriors!

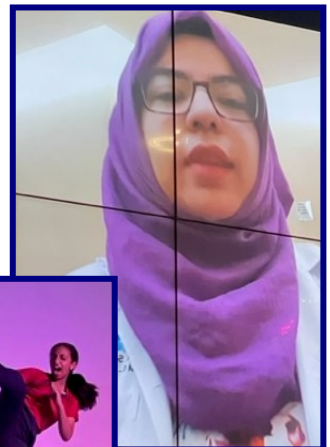




# Secondary Section News; Assembly Time With Y8GS!



The important theme was 'Self Care'. We reflected on our own responsibility for making smart choices to care for our health, sleep & diet.





# Secondary Section News; Assembly Time With Y8BH1!



The important theme was 'Respect. Respect is a pillar of character development & essential for a supportive learning environment'





SEASON-2

# BLOOMS Race

## THE CREW OF GAME

Joel Samson  
Yr 12-BD



Adhith suvendran  
Yr 12-BD

Azeem Ahamed  
Yr 12-BD



Ahamed Siddique  
Yr 12-BD



Mohammed  
Hisham  
Yr 12-BD



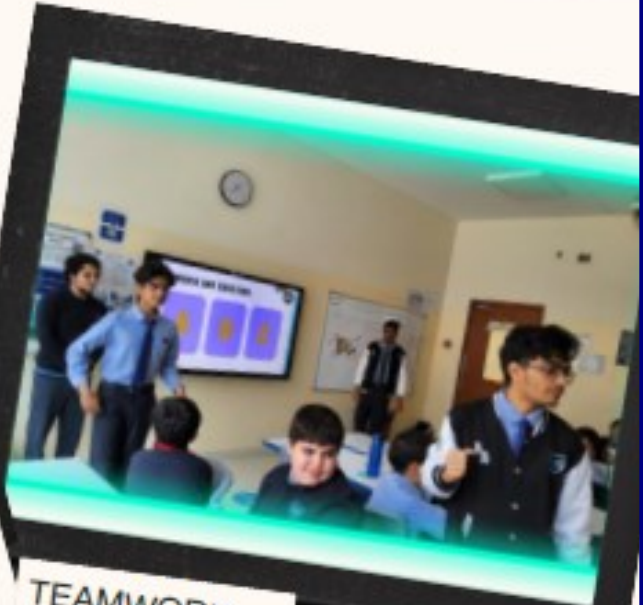


*Secondary Section News; BLOOMS Race!*

**LET THE FUN BEGIN!**



**THE STUDENTS ENJOY THE RACE  
TO BE TITLED WINNERS !!**



**TEAMWORK  
CAN ACHIEVE  
ANYTHING**



**"When 'I' is replaced with  
'We', even the illness  
becomes wellness."**



**TEAMS GO FULL  
STEAM AHEAD FOR  
VICTORY!!!**



# WE HAVE THE WINNERS!!



YR - 7BH1



23/JAN/2023

- ALI HANY - 23156
- SAKEBUL ALAM SAKHIB-16435
- MUHAMMED AZHAAN KHAN - 5746
- GLEEVE MIRANDA -12061
- KHADIR ALI SAGAR - 6039



25/JAN/2023



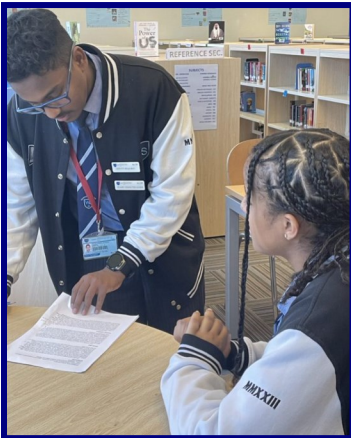
YR - 7BF1



- BILAL MOHAMMED BIJIN
- MAHMOUD AHMED MAHMOUD
- AMMAR AHMED MOHAMED
- ABDUL HAADI BINYAMIN
- ABDELRAHMAN AHMED
- AVANTIK SANTHOSH KUMAR



# Secondary Section News; GWA MUN Event, 27/1/23!





# Secondary Section News; GWA MUN Event, 27/1/23!





## Secondary Section News; TWS MUN Event, 28/1/23!

Attending TWS Mun 2023 was a great opportunity To meet all countries in one place. I represent The Delegate of France in UNESCO and it was an amazing experience during The weekend 3 days of acknowledge and fun.

- The first day and The opening ceremony then dispersal in committee room we introduce our self as a delegate and we have fun playing a game.
- The second day we read opening speech with confidence and discuss problems and solution from each countries.
- Third day was closing ceremony I was given a certificate and

and I was The second place in The position paper fo UNESCO I was proud and very happy. it was The best experience ever. even it was in a holi day. hope will do it next year.

Seven schools participated in the TWS MUN (MODEL United Nations) event held there on 28/1/23.





# Secondary Section News; KS3 Wellbeing Initiative; Morning Vibes!



'Morning Vibes' is a pilot programme in KS3 where students are given options to select & express their greetings. The aim is to start the day with a positive mindset!





## Secondary Section News; WSS Career Fair!

### In-House Career Fair

The Westminster School's career fair in Sharjah was a well-organized and informative event. The presence of various universities and agencies allowed my classmates and I to gain exposure to a wide range of educational and professional opportunities. The counselor did an excellent job in introducing attendees to the participating institutions and highlighting valuable discounts available through the ESSAD card, such as a 40% discount at GBS University. Overall, the event was a great experience, with each university and agency providing detailed information about their offerings.

Eva-Yr12GF



The career fair allowed me to talk with reps of the University of Guelph, and I got to learn about the programs that I was particularly interested in, which is B.Com. I also learned that the student life and experience at Guelph is exactly what I was looking for in a University. I'm pretty glad that I got the opportunity to meet UoGuelph and many other universities so that I can explore my options domestically and abroad.

Natiella-Yr13D



I recently attended the Career Fair at Westminster School of Sharjah and it was a truly informative and beneficial experience. With multiple universities and agencies in attendance, I had the opportunity to learn about a wide range of career options. The counselor was helpful, as she suggested me to various universities and provided insightful information on their offerings.

Being an Emirati, I was very pleased to learn about the discounts the ESSAD card provides for universities as well as the free tuition at many universities, especially Zayed University. All the representatives were knowledgeable and provided a thorough explanation of their institutions, making it easy to make informed decisions about my future.

I would highly recommend this career fair to anyone looking to explore their options and take the next step in their career journey.

Mariam Rashid-Yr11GD



### In-House Career Fair



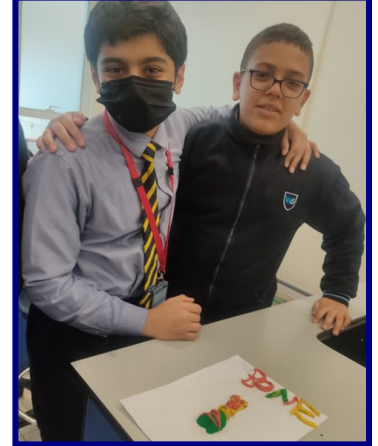
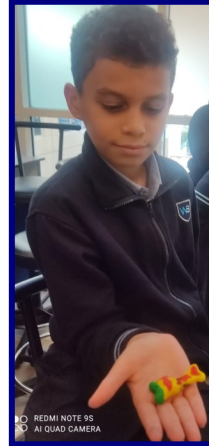
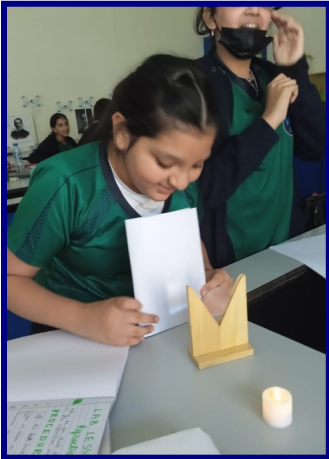
# STUDENTS ATTENDING EMSAT TRAINING AND GUIDANCE



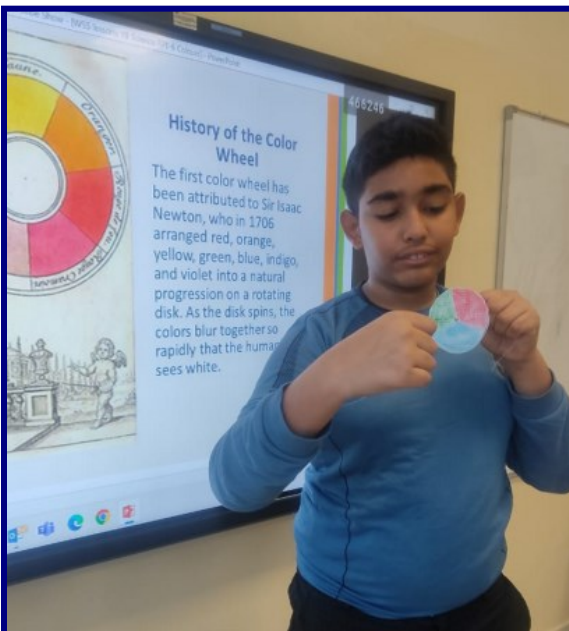
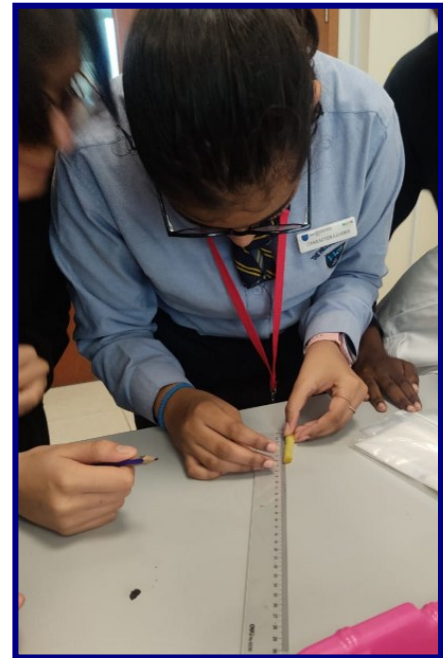
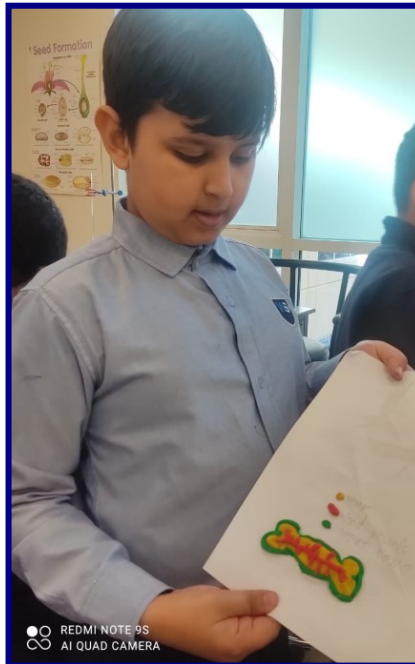
Led by Zayed University exclusively for GEMS Students



# Secondary Section News; KS3 Practical Science Activities!

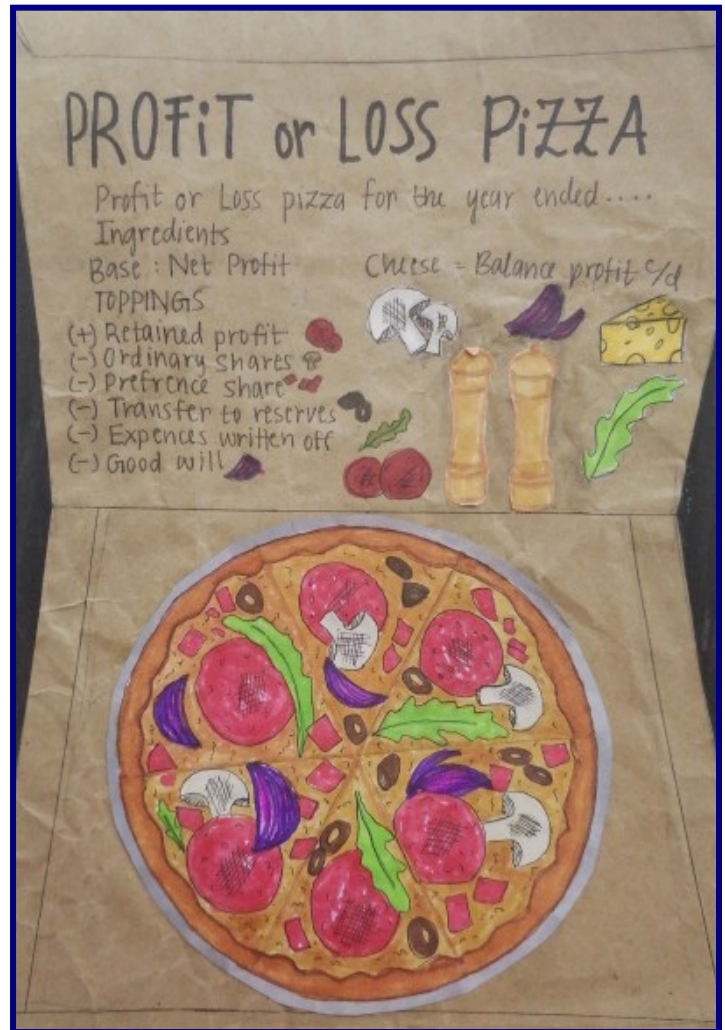
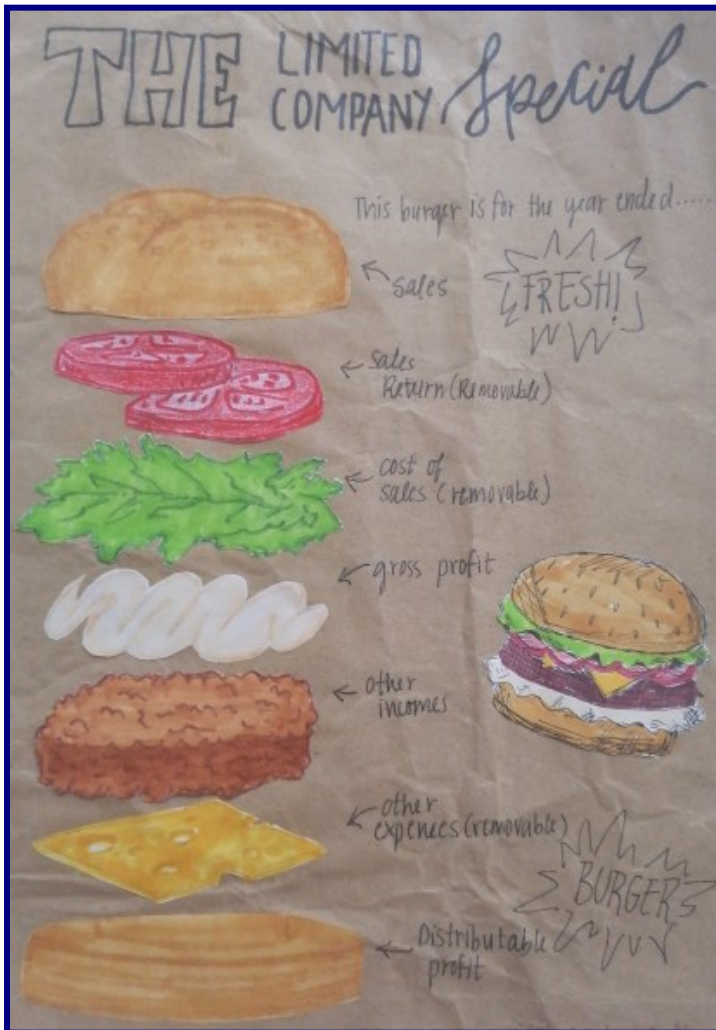


**Practical, hand's-on activities in KS3 Science Lessons.**  
**LFQ : How can you illustrate on the working of lenses?**  
**LFQ: How can you analyze the structure of bone through model-making?**





## Secondary Section News



A project created by Fathima Zahra Liyakath (Y11GD) using a verbal tool suitable to connect the terms & calculations applicable for preparing accounts for a Limited Liability company. This was a challenging topic where students were required to improve through solving questions with the help of this tool.