

GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, SHARJAH



Newsletter Issue #20
29th January, 2026



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

Dear WSS Parents,

**WSS Family First Carnival,
Saturday 31/1/26, 10am-
2pm**

We are very much looking forward to welcoming our dear WSS families to the Family First Carnival this

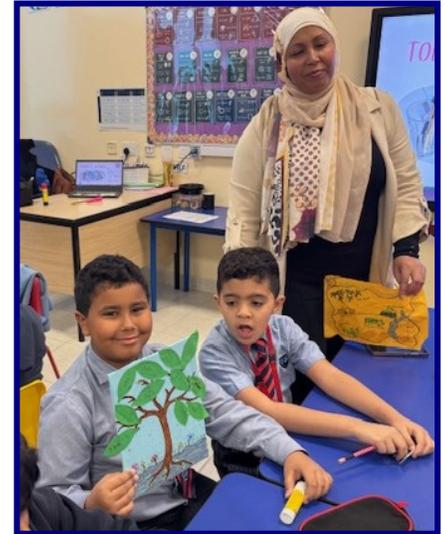
Saturday 31/1/26, 10am-2pm. Please note:

- Do please wear your parent/student IDs for admission.
- Entrance fee AED5/- pp (free under 3) including 2 free games tickets (Ts&Cs)
- School gate will open at 10am & the last admission will be at 1:30pm
- Food sales will be by voucher, available at Gate 1 (main gate) (you can buy these with cash or card).
- Parents are responsible for their children's safety & behaviour during the Carnival.
- Students below Year 7 must be accompanied by their parent/guardian.
- Washrooms located in East corridor only WSS carpark will not be open for guests for safety reasons.
- Of course no smoking/Vape on WSS premises.
- Let's have some fun!!

Dates for Your Diary

Date	Details
Monday 26/1/26 to Friday 13/2/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GEMS Parent Survey. Kindly complete to have your voice! Your positive, constructive teamwork is much appreciated.
Saturday 31/1/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am-2pm; WSS Family First Carnival
Monday 16/2/26 to Sunday 5/4/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Re-enrolment facility for seats for Sept. 26-27 will open, subject to no pending T2 fees or behaviour blocks/'On Probation'. • We are unable to hold un-booked/unpaid seats beyond 5/4/26, which would then have to be given to the Waiting List. To avoid inconvenience & upset, do please re-enroll/pay within the deadline. Thank you.
Monday 16/3/26 to Sunday 22/3/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring Break • T3 Fees due by latest Monday 23/3/26. Thank you.

- There will be a raffle draw at 1pm, with 5 prizes of 22k gold coins, generously sponsored by a WSS parent, SAM's Store. Thank you SAMS Store!



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

مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر الشارقة



النشرة الإخبارية رقم 20
29 يناير 2026



رسالة من المديرية / الرئيس التنفيذي
السيدة فاليري تومسون

أولياء أمور مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر
الشارقة الأعزاء،

كرنفال عائلة WSS أولاً، السبت
31/1/2026، من الساعة 10 صباحاً حتى
2 ظهراً

نتطلع بشوق كبير إلى الترحيب بعائلات
WSS العزيزة في كرنفال العائلة أولاً يوم
السبت الموافق 31/1/2026، من الساعة
10 صباحاً حتى 2 ظهراً. يرجى الملاحظة:

- يرجى ارتداء بطاقات هوية الوالدين/الطلاب للدخول.
- رسوم الدخول 5 درهم إماراتي للشخص الواحد (مجاناً للأطفال دون سن 3 سنوات) وتشمل تذكري ألعاب مجانيين (تطبق الشروط والأحكام).
- ستفتح بوابة المدرسة في تمام الساعة العاشرة صباحاً، وسيكون آخر موعد للدخول في تمام الساعة الواحدة والنصف ظهراً.
- ستكون مبيعات المواد الغذائية عن طريق القسائم، المتوفرة عند البوابة 1 (البوابة الرئيسية) (يمكنك شراء هذه القسائم نقداً أو ببطاقة).
- يتحمل الآباء مسؤولية سلامة أطفالهم وسلوكهم خلال الكرنفال.
- يجب أن يكون الطلاب الذين تقل أعمارهم عن 7 سنوات برفقة أحد الوالدين/الوصي.
- دورات المياه موجودة في الممر الشرقي فقط (إن يكون مكتب الاستقبال مفتوحاً، باستثناء دفع الرسوم، من الساعة 8 صباحاً حتى 1 ظهراً).
- لن يكون موقف سيارات WSS مفتوحاً للضيوف لأسباب تتعلق بالسلامة.

المواعيد

التاريخ	التفاصيل
من الاثنين 26/1/26 إلى الجمعة 13/2/26	• استبيان أولياء أمور طلاب مدارس جيمس. يرجى تعبئته لإبداء رأيك! نَقَدِّر كثيراً تعاونكم الإيجابي والبناء ك فريق عمل.
السبت 31/1/2026	• من الساعة 10 صباحاً حتى 2 ظهراً: كرنفال عائلة WSS أولاً
من الاثنين 16/2/26 إلى الأحد 5/4/26	• سيتم فتح مرفق إعادة التسجيل للمقاعد للفترة من 26 إلى 27 سيتمير، بشرط عدم وجود رسوم T2 معلقة أو عقوبات سلوكية / "تحت المراقبة". • لا يمكننا الاحتفاظ بالمقاعد غير المحجوزة/غير المدفوعة بعد تاريخ 5/4/26، والتي سيتم منحها بعد ذلك لقائمة الانتظار. لتجنب أي إزعاج أو استياء، يرجى إعادة التسجيل/الدفع قبل الموعد النهائي. شكرًا لكم.
من الاثنين 16/3/26 إلى الأحد 22/3/26	• عطلة الربيع • رسوم T3 مستحقة الدفع في موعد أقصاه يوم الاثنين 23/3/2026. شكرًا لكم.

- بالطبع ممنوع التدخين/استخدام السجائر الإلكترونية في مباني WSS. هيا بنا نستمع!



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

Contents

Parent Handbook Access QR


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

Sunny Varkey



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



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Whole School News; Ace Your Parent Survey!



مدرسة جيمس وستمنستر الشارقة
GEMS Westminister School
SHARJAH

Dear Parents,

Subject: Have Your Voice; GEMS Parent Survey

WSS are committed to engaging with our parents to achieve our vision, 'Excellence Through Teamwork; Success for All'. We aim to meet the individual learning needs of your child, so value your balanced, feedback on what is working well, and what can be improved further. In order to gain further parent feedback, GEMS will soon email a Parent Survey link to the Primary Contact. We would highly appreciate you taking some of your valuable time to complete this, sharing your supportive feedback on matters within the school's control (please avoid areas such as fees, traffic & buses that are outside school control. Thank you).

في WSS ، نحن ملتزمون بالتواصل مع أولياء الأمور لتحقيق رؤيتنا، "التميز من خلال العمل الجماعي؛ النجاح للجميع". نحن نهدف إلى تقديم أفضل تجربة تعليمية ونتائج ممكنة لطفلك، لذا نقدر ملاحظتك المتوازنة والمنتظمة حول ما يعمل بشكل جيد، وما الذي يمكن تحسينه أكثر. " من أجل الحصول على المزيد من ملاحظات الوالدين، ستصدر GEMS قريباً رابط استطلاع رأي أولياء إلى بريدك الإلكتروني المسجل. نحن نقدر تقديراً عالياً أنك استغرقت بعض الوقت الثمين لإكمال هذا لمشاركة أفكارك القيمة.

FYI, please note:

Score	What this means	Some examples for scoring
10	Promoter – Top Score! Parent is a Promoter & would highly recommend WSS to family & friends أعلى نتيجة! الآباء هم المروجون ويوصون WSS للعائلة والأصدقاء بشدة.	Very happy & satisfied with school & management in all areas that are within school's control. Any queries/issues have been responded to promptly & solved. Child is making very good progress & is very happy with Teacher & to attend lessons. Parent feels that school is fully committed to improvement & high standards. سعيد جداً وراضي عن المدرسة والإدارة في جميع المجالات التي تقع تحت سيطرة المدرسة. تم الرد على أي استفسارات / مشكلات على الفور وحلها. يحرز الطفل تقدماً جيداً للغاية وهو سعيد جداً بالمعلم وحضور الدروس. يشعر ولي الأمر أن المدرسة ملتزمة تماماً بالتحسين والمعايير العالية.
9	Promoter - Good score! Parent is a Promoter. Parent would recommend WSS to family & friends نتيجة جيدة! الآباء هم المروجون ويوصون WSS للعائلة والأصدقاء بشدة.	Generally happy & satisfied with school & management in most areas that are within school's control. Any queries/issues have been responded to & solved where possible. Child is making good progress & is happy with Teacher & to attend lessons. Parent feels that school is generally committed to improvement & high standards. بشكل عام سعيد وراضي عن المدرسة والإدارة في معظم المناطق التي تقع تحت سيطرة المدرسة. تم الرد على أي استفسارات / مشكلات وحلها حيثما أمكن ذلك. الطفل يحرز تقدماً جيداً ويسعد بالمدرس وحضور الدروس. يشعر ولي الأمر أن المدرسة ملتزمة عموماً بالتحسين والمعايير العالية.

Whole School News; Ace Your Parent Survey!

7-8	<p>Passive - Average score. Parent is 'Passive' متوسط درجة. الوالد "غير فعال"</p>	<p>Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied. Child's generally likes school & learning, but individual needs are only partially met for reasons within the school's control. Parent unsure whether they wish to continue at WSS due to aspects of the learning environment that are within the school's control.</p> <p>لا راض ولا غير راض. يحب الطفل عموماً المدرسة والتعلم، ولكن يتم تلبية الاحتياجات الفردية جزئياً فقط لأسباب تخضع لسيطرة المدرسة. الوالد غير متأكد مما إذا كانوا يرغبون في الاستمرار في WSS بسبب جوانب بيئة التعلم التي تقع تحت سيطرة المدرسة.</p>
0-6	<p>Detractor - Low score. Parent is a 'Detractor' Parent would not recommend WSS to family/friends. درجة منخفضة. الوالد هو "منتقد" لن يوصي الوالدان بـ WSS للعائلة / الأصدقاء.</p>	<p>Parent/child not comfortable with the WSS learning environment/management/Teachers for reasons within the school's control. School does not respond to queries/issues or solve them where possible. Parent feels that school is not fully committed to improvement & high standards.</p> <p>الوالد / الطفل غير مرتاح لبيئة التعلم / الإدارة / المعلمين الخاصة بـ WSS لأسباب تحت سيطرة المدرسة. لا تستجيب المدرسة للاستفسارات / المشكلات أو تحلها حيثما أمكن ذلك. يشعر ولي الأمر أن المدرسة ليست ملتزمة تماماً بالتحسين والمعايير العالية.</p>

We look forward to your feedback to support achievement of our vision, *'Excellence Through Teamwork; Success for All!'*

Thank you, dear parents.

Regards,

Ms. Valerie Thompson
WSS Principal/CEO

نتطلع إلى تلقي ملاحظاتك لدعم تحقيق رؤيتنا، "التميز من خلال العمل الجماعي؛ النجاح للجميع!

شكراً لك الأباء الأعزاء.

مع تحياتي،

السيدة فاليري طومسون
مدير / WSS الرئيس التنفيذي

Whole School News; SPEA's Community Hub Schools Initiative—Enhancing IT & AI Literacy!



SPEA is promoting community links with external providers to broaden educational provision for our students & opportunities for development. As part of SPEA's 'Community Hub Schools' initiative, WSS welcomed Mr. Justin EOM, Ms. Gabrielle & Ms. Subin, leaders of AI education for government schools in Korea. We are looking into extending our Computer & AI curriculum to ensure that our students & teachers are up-to-date with critical IT skills.



The MOE Team continued their CPD programme with Dr. Osama & Mr. Gaber on 29/1/26 for an in-depth session on TLAG (Teach Like a GEM)

Whole School News; This Week's Leadership GEMStone!

FEBRUARY – WEEK 5

LEADING WITH COMPASSION



EMERALD

Inspires kindness, understanding and care toward others.

“ See the person, not just
the problem. ”

MESSAGE: Behind every challenge is a person with their own story, struggles and strengths. When you focus on understanding the person rather than just fixing the problem, you build trust, empathy and stronger relationships. This mindset creates a positive and collaborative environment where everyone feels valued and respected. Great leaders don't just solve problems—they connect with people, empowering them to overcome challenges together.

REFLECT: How can I better understand the people I'm leading or working with? What steps can I take to show empathy and create a team where everyone feels heard and appreciated?



WSS Superstar Sports Champions!



WSS participated in the BIPS Sports Fest Season 1 held at Brilliant Schol, Sharjah on 29/1/26. The WSS team of 8 students showcased their elite skills & determination, returning to WSS victorious with multiple medals & the enormous first Place trophy for being overall winners!

Congratulations team WSS!



Environment & Sustainability Superstar Champions!



Our three sustainability superstars Syed Shazil (Y13B), Laiba Jami (Y4H2) & Lamia Jami (FS2D2) germinated a second Avocado plant & brought it into school to plant in the school garden. We love your super-green skills!

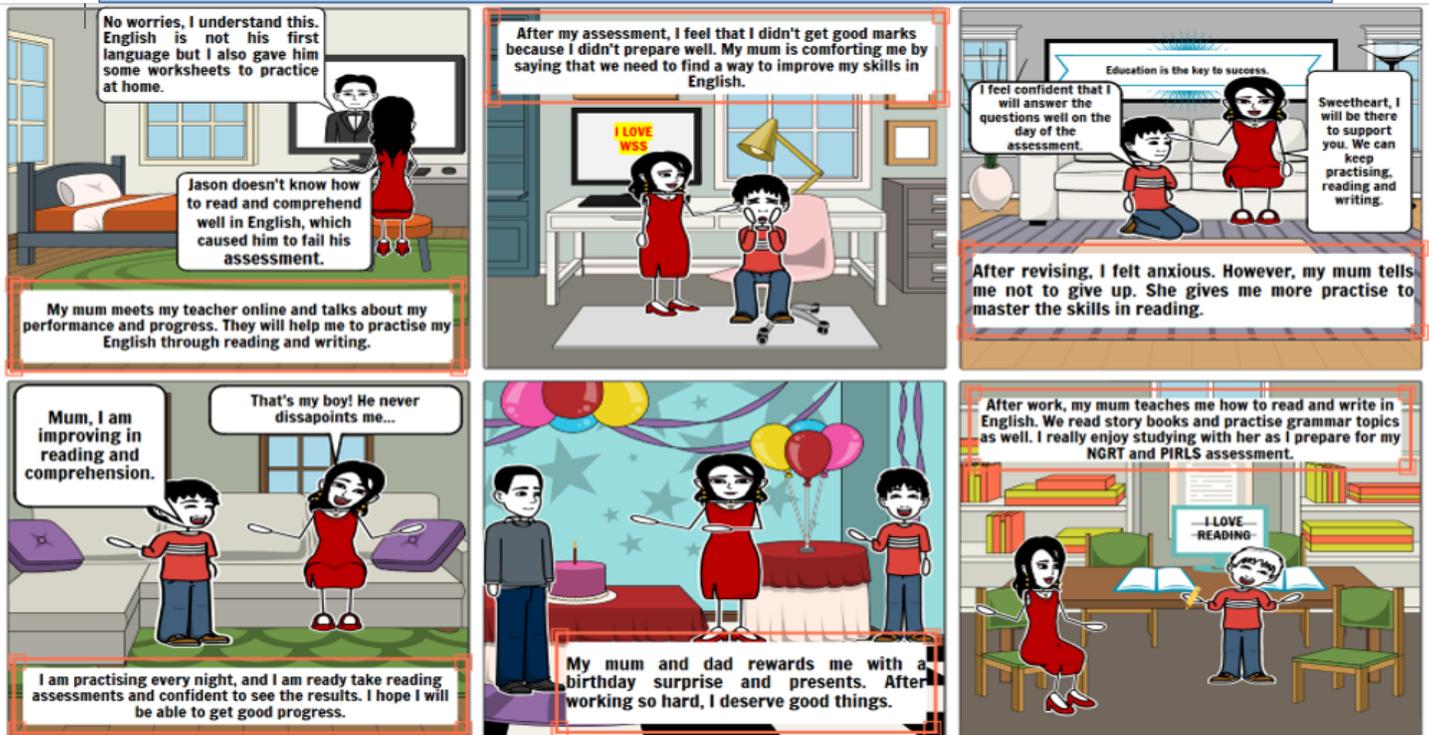
In the bottom picture, you can see the original avocado seedling (bottom right) that was planted last Term & is flourishing so far.

Whole School News; Storyboard Top Tips!

A Journey to a Happy Mind



REWARDS FOR HARDWORK IN DEVELOPING NECESSARY SKILLS IN READING



Happy Birthdays!



Happy Birthday! Thank you so much for bringing healthy fruit snacks to share with your friends. Your thoughtful gesture not only helps to keep your friends healthy, but also supports our 'Healthy Lifestyle' Policy.



WSS Junior Section Superstar Champions!

Dear Ms. Mariam,

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to you together with Ms Nadia for the amazing Sports Day. Your dedication, energy, and care were so evident throughout the day, and it truly made the event special for the children and for us as parents.

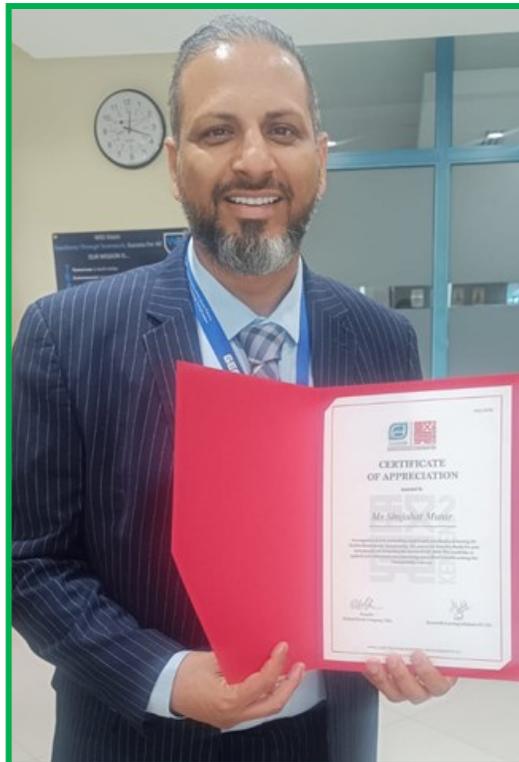
Watching our little ones shine with confidence, enthusiasm, and joy was incredibly heartwarming. It was clear how much effort and thought went into preparing them, and the results were simply wonderful.

I would also like to express our gratitude to the entire school management and staff for the outstanding organization of the day. Everything ran so smoothly, creating a fun, safe, and joyful atmosphere that we all genuinely enjoyed.

Thank you once again for creating such beautiful memories for our children and for us. It was truly a day to remember.

Regards,

Sana



Ms. Raghi was one of the educational team who received an appreciation certificate from KekKen 2025.

*Junior Section News; Assembly Time with Y1H1, 29/1/26
Diversity!*



Y1 put on an amazing Assembly with the theme of 'Diversity'. We learnt that we all have individual differences, but share the same need for respect and kindness.

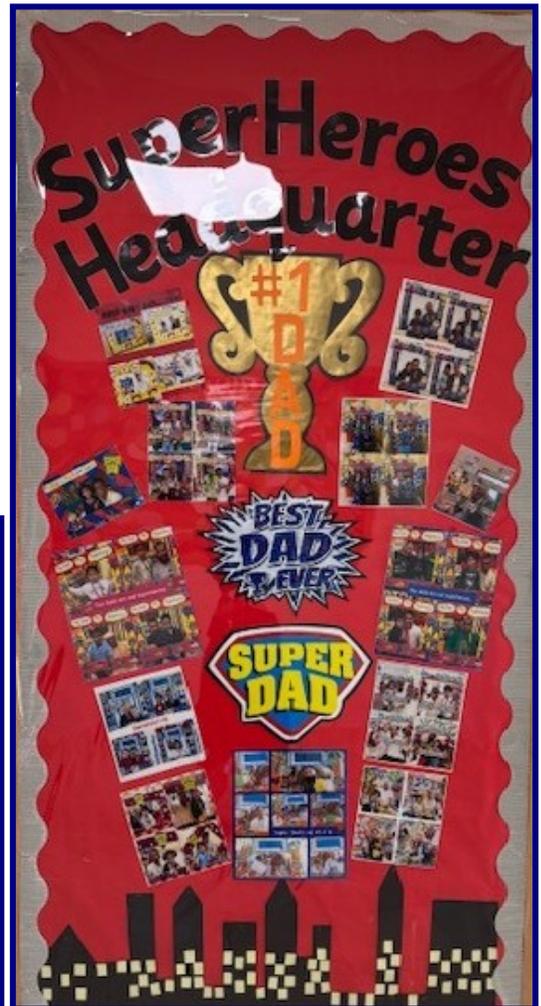


*Junior Section News; Assembly Time with FS2H1, 29/1/26
Being a Positive Ambassador!*



FS2H1's super cute Assembly was on the theme 'Be a Good Ambassador'. We learnt that our good behaviour represents our family & our school well—especially of school when we are wearing our WSS uniform. We learn that showing respect to others & our environment is a great way to be a positive Ambassador!

Junior Section News; Superhero Day, 28/1/26!



Junior Section News; FS2 Learning Activities!

Children in FS2 explored the possibility of inviting a snowman to the UAE summertime, demonstrating collaborative reasoning and problem-solving with Ms. Nikhat and Ms. Afroz



Junior Section News; FS2 Learning Activities!



The FS2 children were highly engaged in various child-initiated learning opportunities. Some children challenged themselves by building structures taller than their houses, while others practiced social skills by role-playing a birthday party and serving healthy treats. A group of children supported 'Kubo' the robot in finding his way home by enacting a story, while another group explored Numicon, representing numbers in different ways and counting them all together.

Junior Section News; Y1F Learning Activities!



Y1F with Ms. Fauzia and Ms. Foun...



Junior Section News; Y1D Learning Activities!

Y1 D1 with Ms. Beena and Ms. Rahna



Y1 D2 WITH MS. ANEEZA AND MS. GURPREET



Junior Section News; Y1H Learning Activities!

Y1 H1 with Ms. Mariam and Ms. Nadiya



Well done!



Sports Day!

Well done!



Well done!



Y1 H2 with Ms. Kishwar and Ms. Maryam



Read like a Gem



Junior Section News; Y1S Learning Activities!

Y1 S1 with Ms. Rajina and Ms. Mani



Y1 S2 with Ms. Sadiqa and Ms. Asma



Junior Section News; Y2 Learning Activities!

MS MILLICENT & MS TAHIRA Y2D2



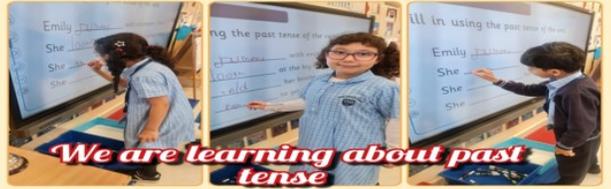
Flipped lesson in Y2 D2



We are learning about Habitats



We are learning about Clock



Art lesson in Y2 D2

Y2F with Ms. Mangala & Ms. Fiza



Turn and Talk Time



English Lesson



Junior Section News; Y2D1 Learning Activities!



Reading champions

Spell check champs!

Home learning!

Turn and talk with Ms. Val



Arabic spell check champs

Projects display!

Learning position!

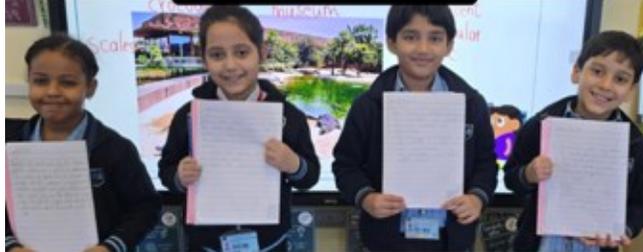
New group leaders!

Y2D1 with Ms. Uzma and Ms. Askia

Junior Section News; Y2H1 Learning Activities!



English Lesson



ENGLISH LESSON.



Math OIA



We're learning to say the time.



Y2H1 with Ms Sarah and Ms Ashika

Art lesson

Junior Section News; Y2H2 Learning Activities!

Junior Section: Y2 H2 Ms. Jinitra and Ms. Jameela

Hurray.... We Got Teddy this Time.....



Winter Reading Challenge- Champions...



We filled our marble jar.....



Congratulations You are the super stars.....

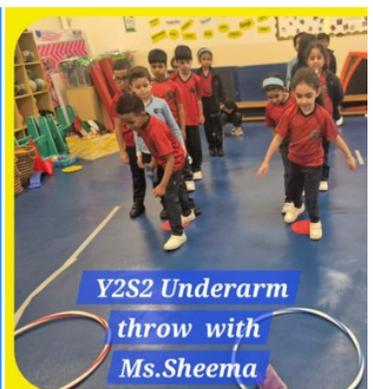


Junior Section News; Y2S2 Learning Activities!

Y2S2-Class activities with Ms. Sabiha and Ms. Benil

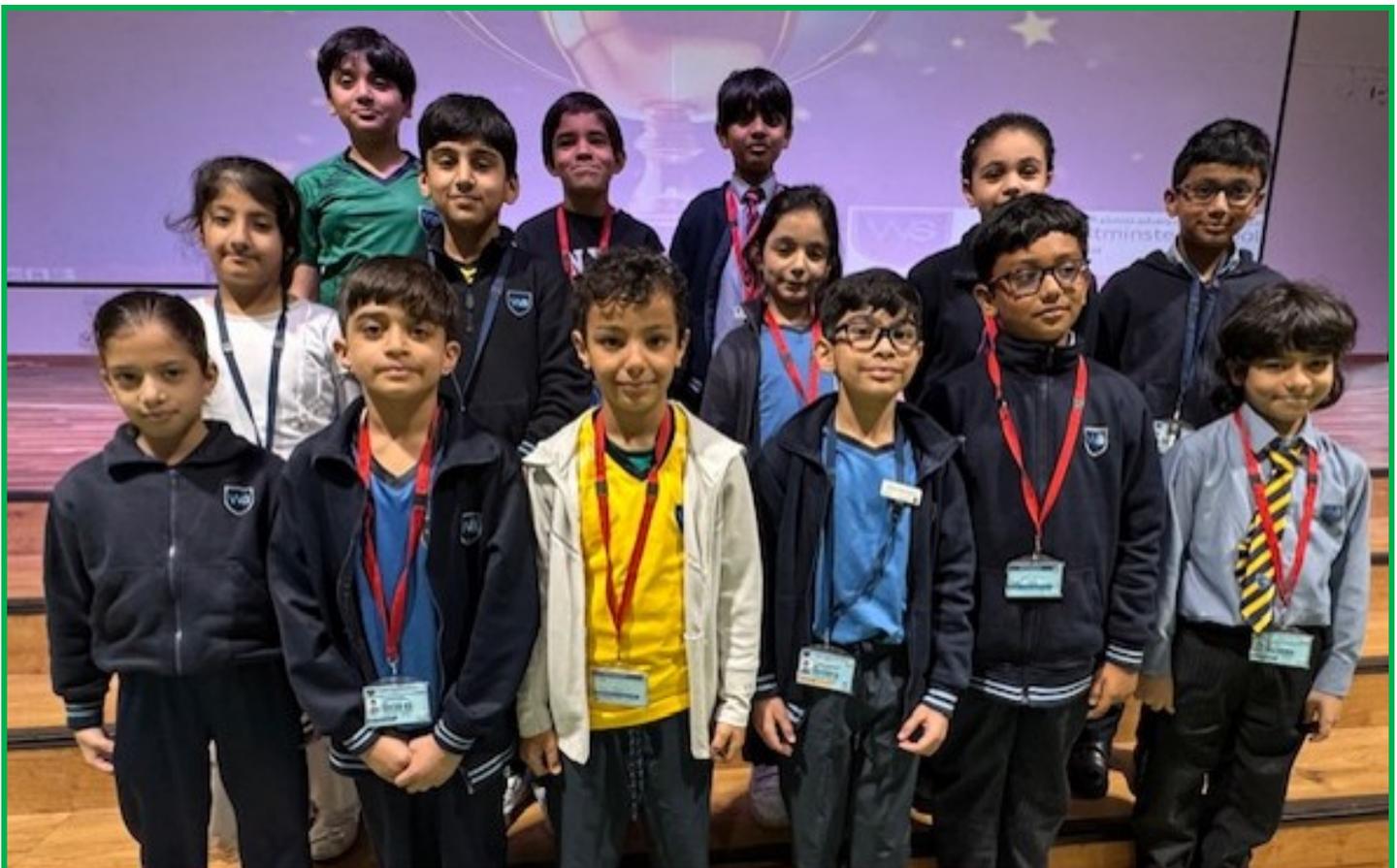


Y2S2-Class activities with Ms. Sabiha and Ms. Benil



WSS Primary Section Superstar Champions!

Y4 BAG Champions

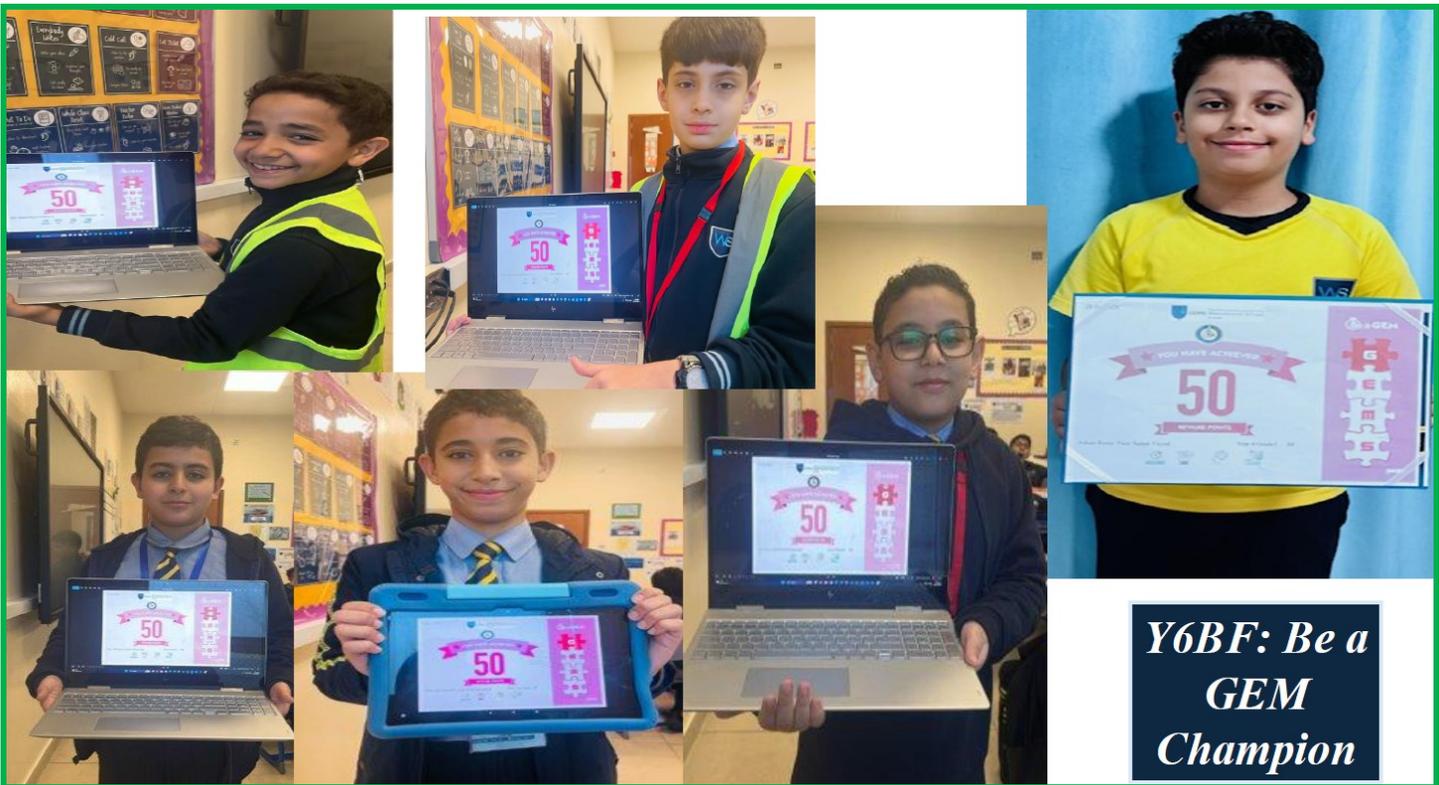


WSS Primary Section Islamic Superstar Champions!

**PRIMARY
ISLAMIC
WINNERS
FOR THE
ISRA AND
MI'RAJ
PROJECT**



WSS Primary Section BAG Superstar Champions!



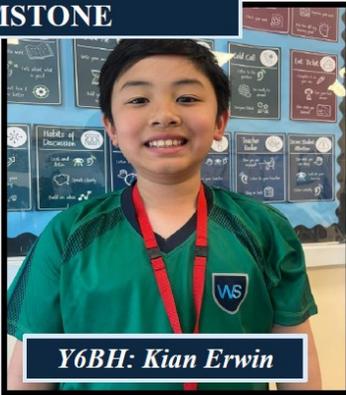
Leadership GEMStones & RLAG Superstar Champions!



Y6BD: Karas Mina



Y6BF: Adam Ramy



Y6BH: Kian Erwin



Y6BS: Hadi



Y6GD: Salma Omar



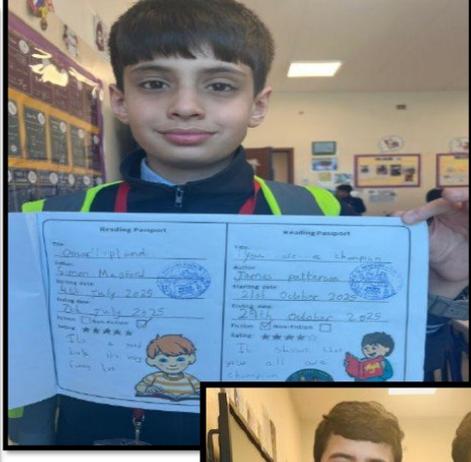
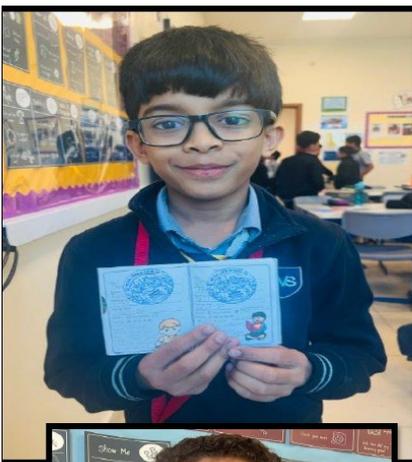
Y6GF: Jolly Mae



Y6GH: Nia Elaine Jogesh



Y6GS: Kira

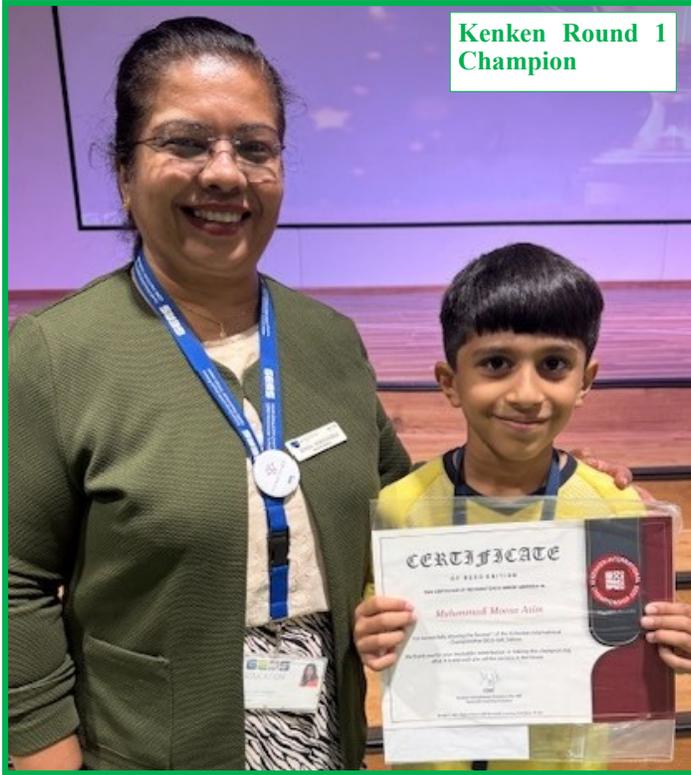


Reading Passport RLAG: Y6BD



Reading Passports RLAG: Y6BF

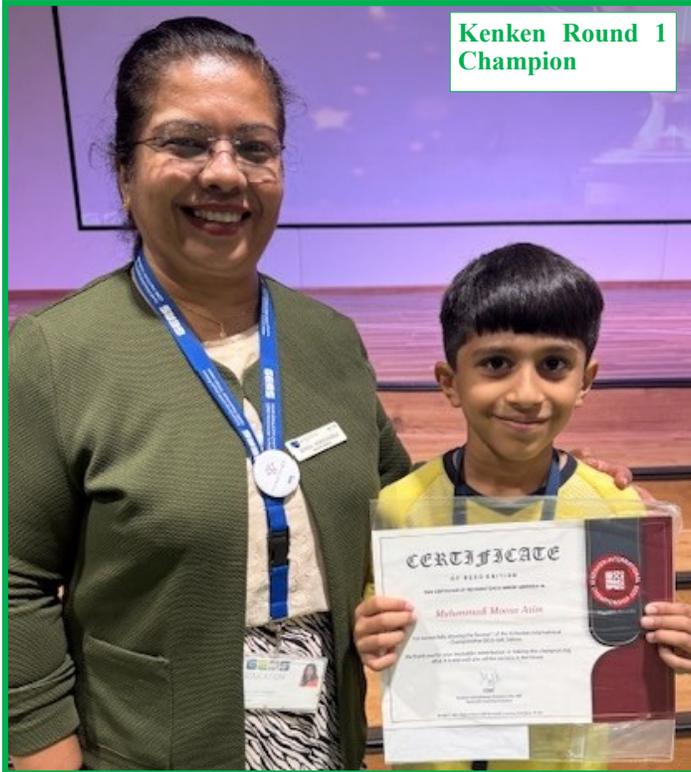
WSS Primary Section Superstar Champions!



*Primary Section News; Y3 Radio Club -Appreciating Teachers
as Part of the International Day of Education, 29/1/26!*



WSS Primary Section Superstar Champions!



Aadhvik from Y5D1 secured 3rd place
(2nd Runner-Up) in the tennis competition
organised by PBI Academy on 25th
January.

*Primary Section News'; Assembly Time with Y4H2, 28/1/26
Read Like a GEM (RLAG) - 'A Reader Today, A Leader
Tomorrow'!*



We learnt how important reading is to every area of life, study & work



*Primary Section News'; Assembly Time with Y6GS, 28/1/26
Cyber Safety!*



We learnt that we should not take mean messages to heart, but remain strong, confident & positive about ourselves. We do not post mean messages as words can hurt others.



Primary Section News; Y3 Parental Engagement Creative Activity, 29/1/26!



Huge thanks to our enthusiastic & creative Y3 parents who joined us for the Parental Engagement Creative Activity on 29/1/26. Your children loved having you in class!



Primary Y3 News; Family First—Parent Engagement Creative Activity, 29/1/26!



Y3H1 & H2 Parental Engagement Activity

The activity was a read-aloud session, and the children thoroughly enjoyed it. The parent participated enthusiastically, dressing up as Red Riding Hood, and cheered the students, making the session more engaging and fun.



STEAM LESSON

Parental Engagement

Sara and her dad won in a horse-riding competition

Zaineldin WON the swimming competition

*Primary Y3 News; Family First—Parent Engagement
STEAM & Creative Activity, 29/1/26!*



y3S1 - Steam and parental
engagement



Primary Y3 News; Family First—Parent Engagement STEAM & Creative Activity, 29/1/26!



Y3F2 chefs in action! Smiles, teamwork, and tasty treats! Students enjoyed a fun-filled fireless cooking session with parents during Parental Engagement Week.



Hands-on learning: Y3F2 students creating a healthy plate in our STEAM lesson

Primary Section News; Y3 Radio Club -Appreciating Teachers as Part of the International Day of Education, 29/1/26!



Primary Section News; Week 4 ECA Report!



Primary Section News; Y4 Learning Activities!

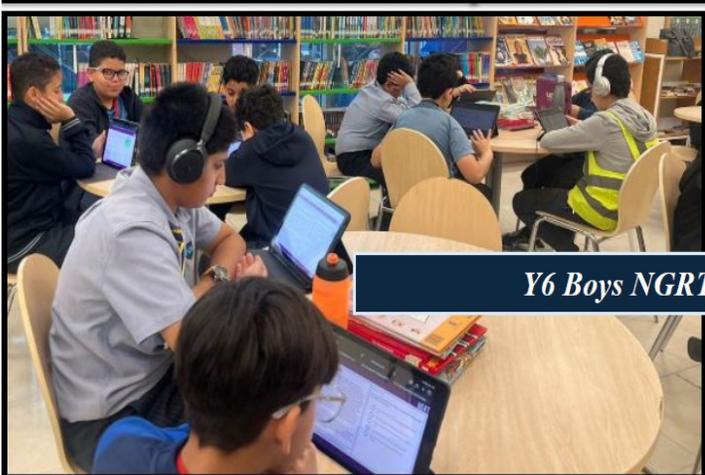
Year 4 Music – H1 : This week in Music with Mr. Benjamin, our Year 4 students explored *ostinato* by playing repeated rhythms on bucket drums to “**Waka, Waka.**” The children listened carefully, worked together, and kept a steady beat as a team. Well done for your focus, teamwork, and fantastic rhythm skills!



Primary Section News; Y5 Learning Activities!



Primary Section News; Y6 Learning Activities!



Y6 Boys NGRT Test



Primary Section News; Y6BD Learning Activities!



Y6BD: Maths Activity



Year 6 BD students investigated how the distance between an opaque object and a light source affects the size of shadows. Using careful observation and fair testing, they recorded results and drew conclusions, developing key Working Scientifically skills.

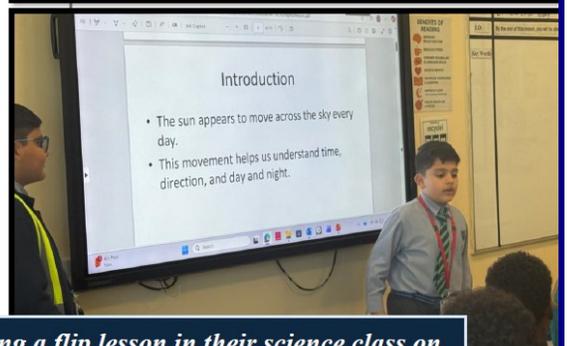
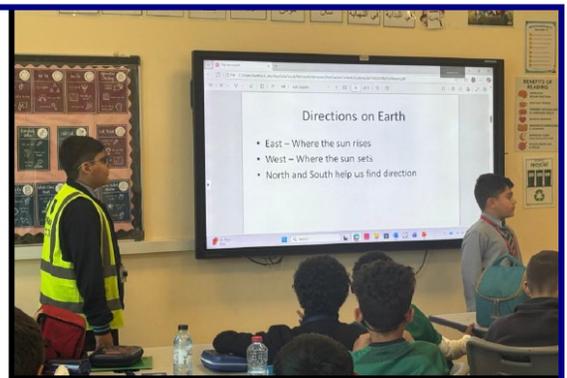
Primary Section News; Y6 Learning Activities!



Y6BF & Y6GS: Investigation on Light



Year 6 BH students investigated how the distance between an opaque object and a light source affects the size of shadows. Using careful observation and fair testing, they recorded results and drew conclusions, developing key Working Scientifically skills.



Kabeer and Hamdan of Y6BH conducting a flip lesson in their science class on how the position of the sun changes throughout the day and its affect on the shadows formed.

Primary Section News; Y6 Learning Activities!



Year 6GH students investigated how the distance between an opaque object and a light source affects the size of shadows. Using careful observation and fair testing, they recorded results and drew conclusions, developing key Working Scientifically skills.



Y6BD: Fire Drill



Y6BF: Fire Drill



Y6 Girls: Fire Drill



Y6 Boys: Fire Drill



*WSS Secondary Section Football Superstar Champions—
WSS Sixth Form-GCS Friendly Match, 27/1/26!*



*Congratulations to our Sixth Form sporting superstars
WSS beat GCS 4-0!*



Secondary Section News; WSS 3rd MUN, Friday 23/1/26 to Sunday 25/1/26. 'The Midnight Hour!'



Our esteemed guest Ms. Sajeda Shawa, UN Humanitarian Chief for UAE. She gave an incredibly powerful speech about the need for each one of us to take empathetic action. Ms. Shawa was very complimentary about the MUN students leadership of their event.



Our esteemed guest Ms. Lynn Stanbridge, our SPEA School Inspector Advisor, addressed the gathering about the importance of developing life skills & leadership through such events as MUN.



Secondary Section News; WSS 3rd MUN, Friday 23/1/26 to Sunday 25/1/26. 'The Midnight Hour!'



Thank you to significant MUN sponsors MYX, CSI Middle East LLC & Uniplus, without whose support the event would have not been possible.



Secondary Section News; WSS 3rd MUN, Friday 23/1/26 to Sunday 25/1/26. 'The Midnight Hour!'



Secondary Section News; WSS 3rd MUN, Friday 23/1/26 to Sunday 25/1/26. 'The Midnight Hour!'



GEAMS WESTMINSTER SHARJAH
MODEL UNITED NATIONS

WSSMUN '26

**The Midnight Hour:
Humanity's Defining Moment**

CSI MIDDLE EAST LLC
YOUR MACHINERY PARTNER

MYX

Uniplus
UNIVERSITY ADMISSION EXPERTS



Secondary Section News; WSS 3rd MUN, Friday 23/1/26 to Sunday 25/1/26. 'The Midnight Hour!'



Secondary Section News; WSS 3rd MUN, Friday 23/1/26 to Sunday 25/1/26. 'The Midnight Hour!'



Thank you to our WSS Alumni supporters, who returned to support WSS MUN 2026!



Secondary Section News; WSS 3rd MUN, Friday 23/1/26
Facebook Post by Ms. Sajeda



Sajeda Shawa  • 3rd+

Head of UN OCHA in UAE | Humanitarian by profession and cho...

1d • Edited • 

+ Follow ...

When was the last time you did something for the first time?

Last weekend, I did.

For the first time in my life, I supported a Model United Nations at a high school — and I didn't expect it to move me the way it did.

As a **#mother**, humanitarian, and a UN professional, I have always believed in supporting **#young** people. But there is a quiet truth many of us learn as parents: our children don't always listen to us. They listen to the world. To strangers. To role models they choose. Accepting that requires humility — and letting go of ego.

I accepted the invitation to support the Model UN at GEMS Westminster School, Sharjah, not because of my role or title, but because of the young people behind it.

They were 17 years old.

They reached out to me on LinkedIn.

Then again.

And again.

And again.

They followed up with emails. They pitched their idea with confidence. They showed up prepared, organized, and deeply committed. This conference was built by students — fully planned, fully owned, fully believed in.

I tested them.

I asked for official emails, agendas, run-of-show details, team structures.

I asked the hard questions.

Secondary Section News; WSS 3rd MUN, Friday 23/1/26
Facebook Post by Ms. Sajeda

They answered every one of them — with seriousness far beyond their years.

Even after I said yes, they didn't stop checking in.

"Are you coming?"

"Are you really coming?"

Almost every day.

Driving from Dubai to Sharjah on a Friday afternoon, stuck in weekend traffic - and for anyone who lives in UAE , trust me it's TRAFFIC! , I arrived tired. But the moment I walked in and saw the light in their eyes, I knew: this was exactly where I was meant to be.

Because what they were asking for wasn't a speech.

It wasn't a favor.

It was belief.

- ✦ Belief that their voices mattered.
- ✦ Belief that they were worth showing up for.
- ✦ Belief that someone from "the outside world" saw them.

They reminded me of something we all need to remember:

When young people care this deeply, we owe them our presence.

When they lead with sincerity, we follow with trust.

And sometimes, the most powerful leadership lessons come from those who are just beginning.

Thanks for inviting me to be a beginning of a new hope [#welcome](#) to the responsibility " the future is safe in your hands "... said the voice in my head as a

*Secondary Section News; WSS 3rd MUN, Friday 23/1/26
Facebook Post by Ms. Sajeda*

woman, mother, wife, humanitarian, mentor and friend 🙏 GEMS Westminster School, Sharjah Nandini Harish Kailas Nath K



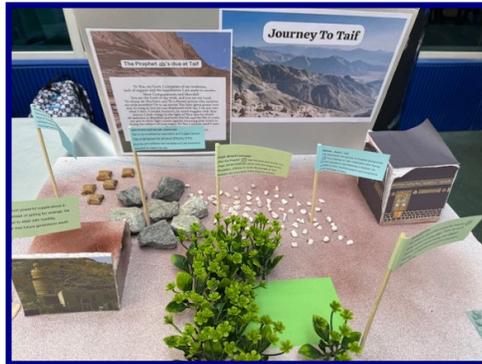
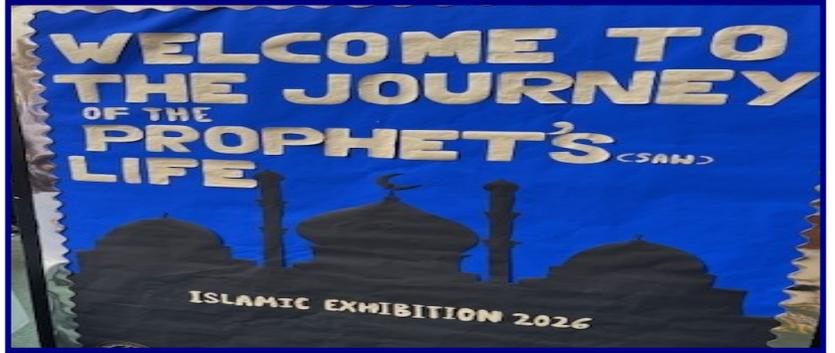
Secondary Section News; WSS 3rd MUN, Friday 23/1/26 to Sunday 25/1/26. 'The Midnight Hour!'



The WSS 3rd MUN 2026 was even bigger & better than last year! Over 500 students participated in what was a fantastic, creative & well-organized 'event of the year'! Huge thanks & congratulations to all students & staff involved, particularly Ms. Nirmal for her resilience & passionate leadership & the effective, hard-working student leaders committee. SLT were highly impressed & very proud of the way that all your hours of extra effort really paid off.



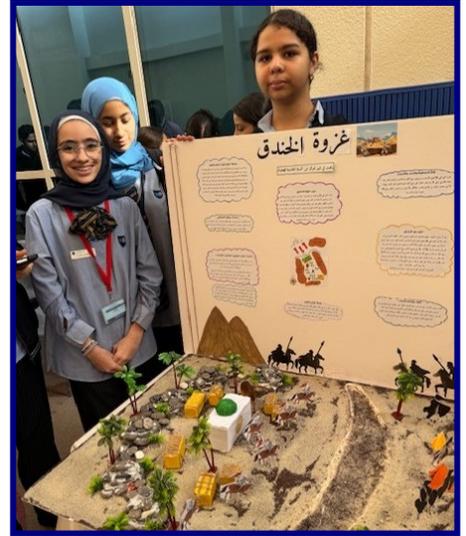
Secondary Section News' Noor Ul Hayat Exhibition, 29/1/26!



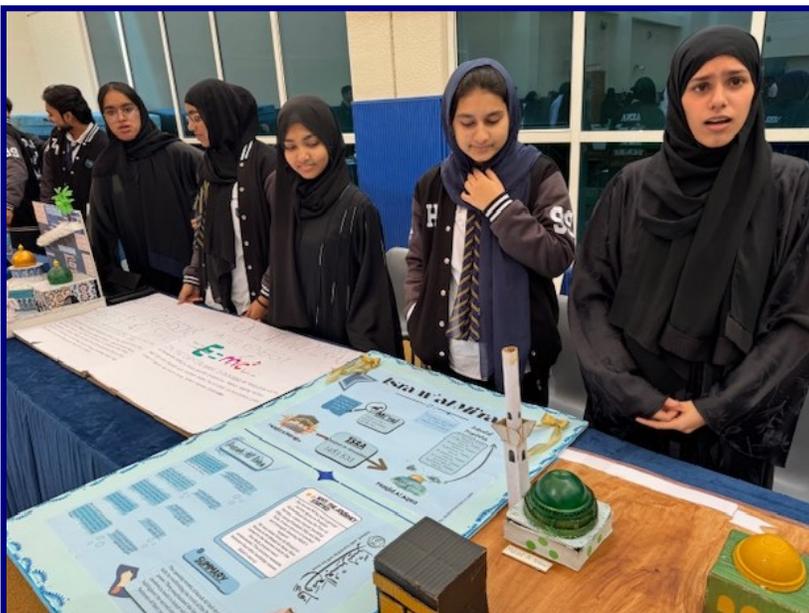
The Principal & other guests were impressed by the passion, knowledge & sincerity of the students presenting their amazing projects at the Noor Ul Hayat Exhibition on 29/1/26. Students were able to apply Islamic principles to their everyday life & shared personal examples relating to Islam in practice.



Secondary Section News' Noor Ul Hayat Exhibition, 29/1/26!



Secondary Section News' Noor Ul Hayat Exhibition, 29/1/26!



Secondary Section News' Noor Ul Hayat Exhibition, 29/1/26!



Secondary Section News' Noor Ul Hayat Exhibition, 29/1/26!



Secondary News; Family First KS3 Terrarium Activity, 27/1/26!



Secondary News; Family First KS3 Terrarium Activity, 27/1/26!

KS3 students and parents came together to nurture creativity, responsibility, and a love for nature through our terrarium activity."



Building green skills and stronger bonds through a shared terrarium experience



Secondary News; Family First KS3 Terrarium Activity, 27/1/26!



Chami Moksana-Y7GF



Lana Elsiyad-Y7GH



Amhani Muhammad-Y7D

Building mini worlds with maximum impact. Where KS3 Learning blooms



Secondary News; Family First KS3 Terrarium Activity, 27/1/26!

Our heartfelt thanks to our beloved judges, Ms. Raagi, Ms. Shamail, and Ms. Emelia. Your time, encouragement, and thoughtful feedback made this event truly special.



Secondary News; Family First KS3 Terrarium Activity, 27/1/26!

Thank you, dear parent for your valuable support and time in helping Bipesh create the terrarium. Your involvement made the activity truly meaningful



Secondary News; Family First Parenting Tips!

As a parent, one effective strategy is establishing a structured daily study routine. Having a fixed time for studying helps build discipline and consistency. Preparing a suitable environment for my ward makes it possible for him to focus more on his academic work



Mother of Sarvesh Govi

Encourage open communication at home by using positive reinforcement and emotional validation. I acknowledge my child's feelings without immediately correcting or dismissing them, which reduces fear of judgment. This psychologically builds trust and safety, making my child more willing to communicate honestly and openly.

My biggest challenge is to understand how my Sons and Daughter feel and often times I fail to empathize with them, Now I practice listening to them completely and then have a good understanding before I answer, this has helped me get closer and more relatable with my children

Secondary Section News; Read Like a GEM (RLAG) Report!

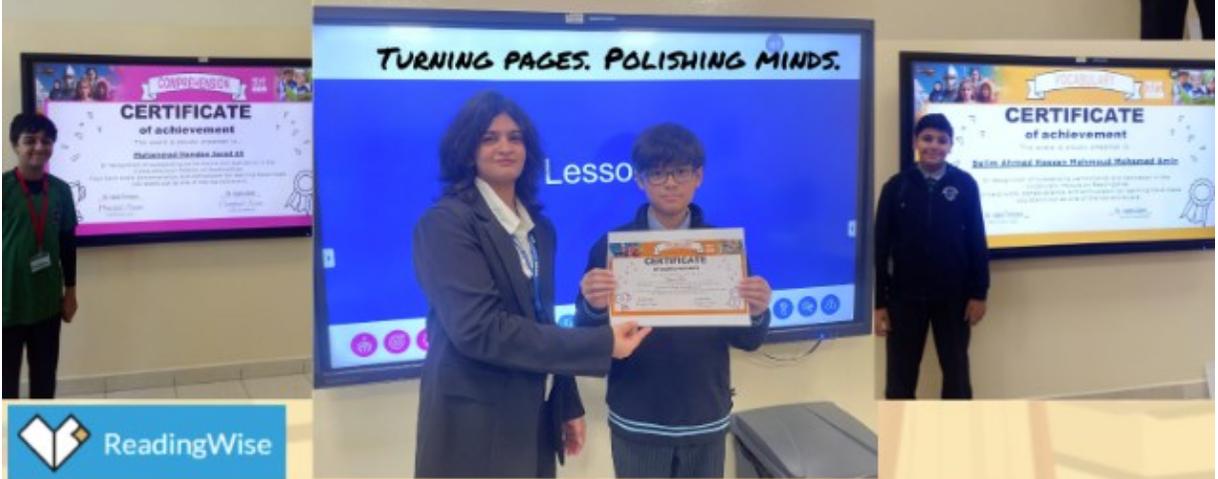


READING GEMS OF THE MONTH



ReadingWise

PROOF THAT READING SPARKLES



HARD WORK, GREAT BOOKS, REAL RESULTS

Secondary Section News; Read Like a GEM (RLAG) Report!



READING GEMS OF THE MONTH



PROOF THAT READING SPARKLES ✨

Learning + Effort = Rewards! Our students proudly earned recognition through their commitment to ReadingWise.



They did it — and you can too! Let's see who will shine as our next ReadingWise awardees! The next set of awardees could be YOU—keep learning, keep growing, and keep completing those modules!

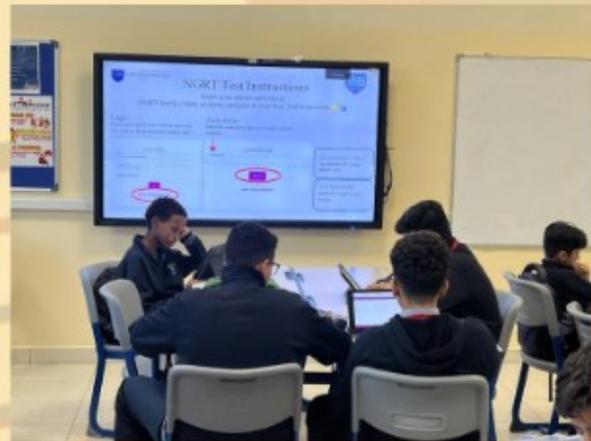
Secondary Section News; Read Like a GEM (RLAG) Report!



FROM PAGE ONE TO PROGRESS – RLAG – NGRT IN ACTION 📖💎

With consistent effort and guided support through RLAG, students are making meaningful progress and flourishing as readers.

LIVING THE READ LIKE A GEM MINDSET



SMALL HABITS. BIG IMPACT.



WHERE EFFORT MEETS EXCELLENCE: RLAG

Secondary Section News; Read Like a GEM (RLAG) Report!



**READ
LIKE A
GEM**

FROM PAGE ONE TO PROGRESS – RLAG NGRT IN ACTION



**EXPLORING TEXTS,
SHARING IDEAS, AND
BUILDING A STRONG
FOUNDATION IN
READING.**

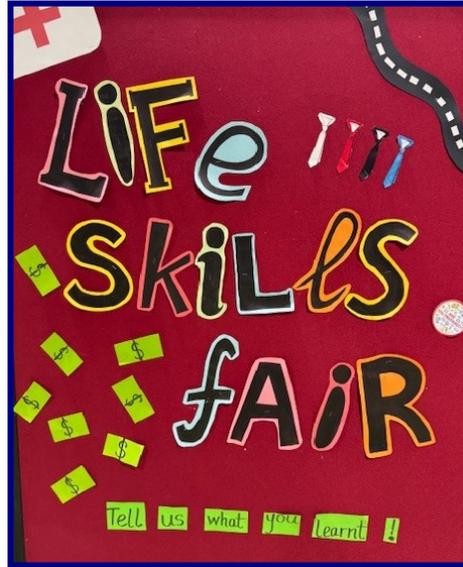
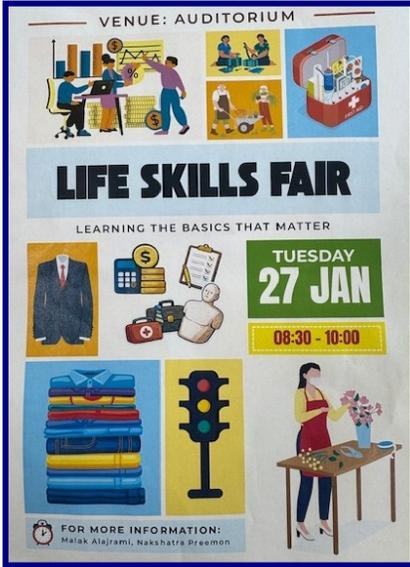


**MOMENTS LIKE THESE
SHOW THE POWER OF
DEDICATION,
RESILIENCE, AND A
LOVE FOR LEARNING.**

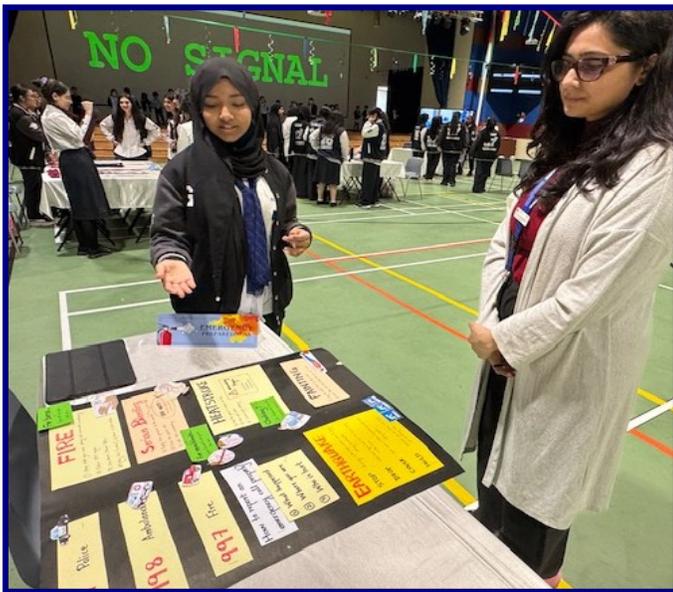


LET'S KEEP THE PAGES TURNING AND THE PROGRESS GROWING. CONTINUE READING, KEEP PRACTISING, AND STRIVE TO EXCEL EVERY DAY.

Secondary Section News; KS5 Life Skills Fair, 27/1/26!



KS5 girls presented well-prepared & very practical life skill topics, engaging with peers & teachers confidently.



Secondary Section News; KS5 Life Skills Fair, 27/1/26!

KS5 Girls: Life skills they don't teach in textbooks.



KS5 Girls led a hands-on life skills workshop focused on real-world thinking beyond grades. Special mention to Deputy Head of Sixth Form, Malak Ajrami, and Deputy Head Girl, Nakshtra Premon, for organising it brilliantly.

Secondary Section News; Health-Promoting School Report!

Secondary Section Health-Promoting School Report January 2026

As part of our Health Promoting School accreditation journey, students across the Secondary Section are taking a more active role in promoting mental wellbeing awareness, positive behaviour and strong family values.

Stress Reset for Exam Success – KS4

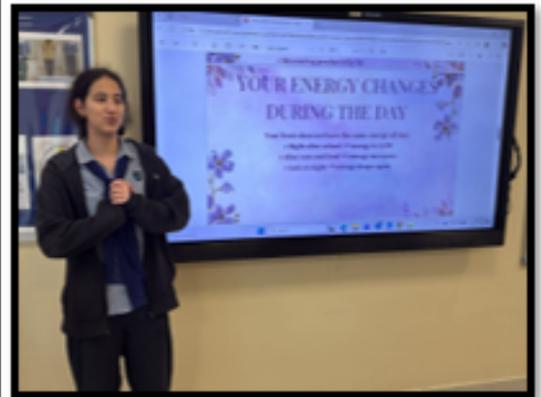
Our KS4 students planned and led a wellbeing session titled ‘Stress Reset for Exam Success.’ The session supported students to recognize exam stress and apply practical strategies to improve their coping mechanism, such as breathing techniques, positive self-talk and effective time management.

“This session helped us feel more confident and less overwhelmed before exams. We are learning that managing stress is just as important as studying.”

2026 – The Year of Family: Conduct & Character – KS5

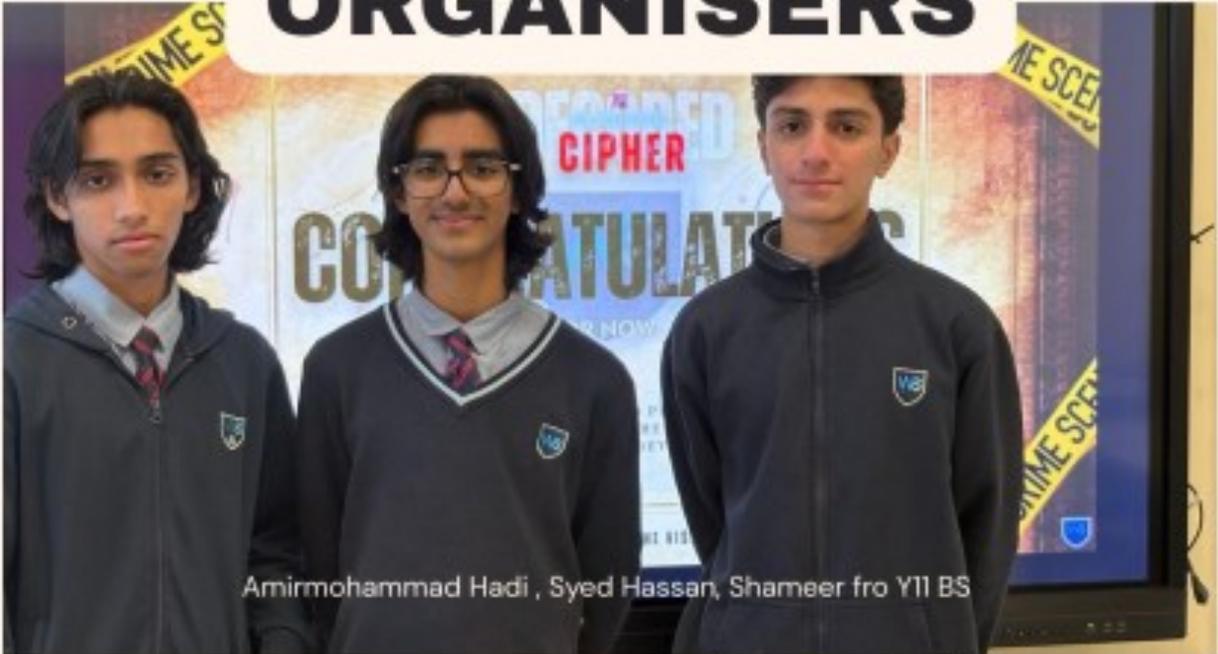
In line with the national theme ‘2026: The Year of Family,’ our KS5 boys and girls prepared student-led activities focusing on conduct, character and values. These sessions explored respect, responsibility and how family values shape behavior at school and beyond.

“Good character starts at home but shows in how we act every day.” Together, we are building healthier minds, strong values, and responsible future leaders.



KS4 ACADEMIC CIPHER 26

ORGANISERS



WINNERS



GEMS BE A GEM ROUTINE



KS4 students practicing BAG routine after maths lesson under the guidance of Ms Lucy



Secondary Section News; Aqua Launch Workshop by the Engineering & Tech Club!

AQUA LAUNCH WORKSHOP

ENGINEERING X TECH CLUB

IN COLLABORATION WITH:
LAB OF THE FUTURE



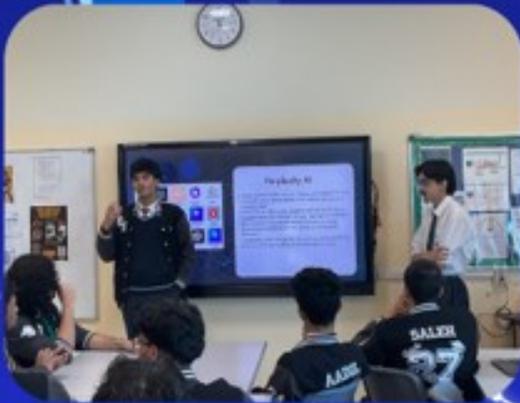
THE ENGINEERING & TECH CLUB CONDUCTED AN INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOP FOR THE AQUA LAUNCH COMPETITION, WHERE PARTICIPANTS WERE BRIEFED ON THE COMPETITION FORMAT, RULES,

Parent Engagement Session-KS5 Boys

Presentation on **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

How do we use AI?

Use AI as a learning aid, not a shortcut. Ask it to explain concepts, brainstorm ideas, or check understanding, but do your own thinking and writing. Always verify information, avoid plagiarism, follow school rules, and use AI responsibly and honestly.



Firas Irfan



Qazi Hamza



Ms. Jayashree



KS5 Cyberbullying Awareness Session!

Standing Strong Online: Cyberbullying Awareness Session



A powerful, interactive and student-led session on cyberbullying was delivered by Head Girl Mridini Sur, alongside Deputy Head of Sixth Form Malak Ajrami, raising awareness, encouraging responsible online behaviour, and empowering students to speak up and stay safe.

EXOSKELETON WORKSHOP



A WORKSHOP LED BY OUR PRESIDENTS SHOWCASED A WORKING EXOSKELETON PROTOTYPE THAT WON THE BCC BY CURTIN UNIVERSITY. STUDENTS WERE INTRODUCED TO PNEUMATIC ARTIFICIAL MUSCLES AND THE ELECTRONICS CONTROLLING AIRFLOW, AND LEARNED HOW EXOSKELETONS CAN SUPPORT CONSTRUCTION WORKERS AND SIMILAR PROFESSIONS. ✦

12 JANUARY 2026



🔍 EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- LIVE DEMO OF A BCC-WINNING EXOSKELETON
- INTRODUCTION TO PNEUMATIC MUSCLES AND CONTROL SYSTEMS
- REAL-WORLD USES IN CONSTRUCTION AND INDUSTRY

KS5 News; Year of Family Session!



KS5 BOYS

Year of Family 2026

Celebrating the strength of families by nurturing love, respect, and togetherness. Together, we build a supportive community where every family thrives.



ARDUIN WORKSHOP



DAY 1



A WORKSHOP LED BY OUR TEAM INTRODUCED STUDENTS TO THE FUNDAMENTALS OF ARDUINO ROBOTICS THROUGH LIVE, HANDS-ON DEMONSTRATIONS. PARTICIPANTS LEARNED HOW TO BUILD AND CONTROL LED CIRCUITS USING RESISTORS, AND EXPLORED HOW DIFFERENT ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS WORK TOGETHER INSIDE A ROBOTIC SYSTEM. THE SESSION PROVIDED A PRACTICAL FOUNDATION FOR UNDERSTANDING MICROCONTROLLERS, BASIC CODING, AND THE CORE PRINCIPLES BEHIND MODERN AUTOMATION.



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

PARTICIPANTS LEARNED HOW TO PROGRAM LEDS USING ARDUINO, INCLUDING:

- WRITING BASIC LED BLINK CODE
- USING DIGITAL PINS FOR LED CONTROL
- UNDERSTANDING RESISTOR USE FOR SAFE CURRENT FLOW
- BUILDING SIMPLE CIRCUITS ON A BREADBOARD

15/01/26

KS5 News; International Day of Education!

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION DAY - On International Education Day, **KS5 boys** celebrated the power of education in shaping minds, creating opportunities, and building a better future for all.

Education is not just about learning skills or gaining knowledge. It defines how we live, give and receive respect, communicate with understanding, and grow into responsible, mindful individuals in an interconnected world.

- Mr. Franklin

Education teaches us how to be happy without compromising the happiness of others. It shapes our values, encourages empathy, and helps us coexist peacefully, showing us that true success and fulfillment come from uplifting and being aware of others while growing ourselves.

- Ms. Deepthi

Happy Education Day!

Education is the process through which knowledge and skills are passed on in an organized way. It provides structure, sets standards, and prepares individuals to meet expectations in society. Through learning, information is preserved, evaluated, and applied to real situations. Overall, education exists to maintain progress and ensure continuity across generations.

-Hamad Ansar Y12BH

Education is enlightenment, the light through which we understand society and the world around us. It helps us question, reflect, and grow, allowing us to see beyond ignorance, challenge injustice, and build a more informed, thoughtful, and compassionate global community.

- Mr. Niladri

Education gives us the skills needed to progress. Not just academically, but in life. It equips us to adapt, innovate, and overcome challenges, helping us move forward with confidence while shaping a future built on growth, opportunity, and purpose.

- Alnan Ahmed Y11 BF

KS5 News; Healthy Living Session!



Happy Birthday Bhimesh – Y13BF



KS5 Boys-Healthy Living Session
Making smart daily choices that keep your body strong, your mind active, and your future bright.



Secondary Section News; Islamic Projects!



Mr. Shujahat visited classes for 'drop-ins'. He shared this picture of Ms. Roopa's "Superb lesson".