

GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, SHARJAH



Newsletter Issue #24
24th February, 2022



Message from the Principal/CEO Ms. Valerie Thompson

Dear WSS Parents,

Health, Safety & Success; Student IDs & Punctuality

Please ensure that your child wears their WSS ID to school daily. This is a requirement for Health & Safety & is a disciplinary matter. Please ensure that your child arrives in school daily by 7:30am. Our learning programme starts from 7:30am, so late students miss out!

School Uniform & WSS ID Card

School uniform builds community spirit, a sense of belonging & equality. It also teaches self-discipline & a respect for high standards of professional dress, which are important for future success! The school ID card is required for Safety & Security, & must also be worn daily. If your child still needs to organise uniform & ID card, please do this at the earliest to avoid your child losing Behaviour Points. Thanks.

Dates for Your Diary

Date	Details
Thurs. 17th Feb.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mid-Term Break for students (Training Day for Teachers)
Monday 28th Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The online re-enrollment facility will open if you wish your child's seat to be held for September 2022. In order to complete re-enrollment, T2 fees must be cleared in full, & a non-refundable re-enrollment fee (offset against T1 fees) needs to be paid by 10/4/22, under the re-enrollment heading in your account.
Mon. 28th March to Sun. 10th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School closed for Spring Break All Leave dates are subject to SPEA change. The re-enrollment deadline is Sunday 10th April 2022. After this date we will assume you do not want seats for September & have to give un-booked seats to the Waiting List.
28th Feb. to 10th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class & Portrait photographs by Lensman. Please ensure that your child comes to school with extra smart uniform on these days. Thanks.



Recycling Superstars!



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

مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر الشارقة



النشرة الإخبارية رقم 24
24 فبراير 2022



رسالة من
المديرة / الرئيس التنفيذي
السيدة فاليري توميسون

أولياء أمور مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر
الشارقة الأعزاء،

الصحة والسلامة والنجاح؛ بطاقات هوية
الطلاب والأقتران بالمواعيد

يرجى التأكد من أن طفلك يرتدي بطاقة
هوية WSS الخاص به إلى المدرسة
يومياً.

هذا مطلب للصحة والسلامة ومسألة تأديبية.

يرجى التأكد من وصول طفلك إلى المدرسة يومياً بحلول الساعة 7:30 صباحاً. يبدأ برنامج التعلم لدينا من الساعة 7:30 صباحاً، لذلك يقف الطلاب المتأخرون (دروسهم)

الذي المدرسي وبطاقة هوية WSS

الذي المدرسي يبنى روح المجتمع والشعور بالانتماء والمساواة. يُعَلِّم الذي الرسمي أيضاً الانضباط الذاتي واحترام المعايير العالية للذي الاحترافي، وهما أمران مهمان للنجاح في المستقبل! بطاقة هوية المدرسة مطلوبة للسلامة والأمن، ويجب أيضاً ارتداؤها يومياً. نشكر جميع أولياء الأمور الذين حرصوا على أن يحضر أطفالهم إلى المدرسة يزي رسمي وكبي وبطاقة هوية. إذا كان طفلك لا يزال بحاجة إلى تنظيم الذي الرسمي وبطاقة الهوية، فالرجاء القيام بذلك في أقرب وقت ممكن لتجنب فقدان طفلك لنقاط السلوك. شكراً.

المواعيد

التفاصيل	التاريخ
إجازة منتصف الترم للطلاب فقط (يوم تدريب للمعلمين)	الخميس. 17 فبراير.
سيتم فتح مرفق إعادة التسجيل عبر الإنترنت إذا كنت ترغب في حجز مقعد طفلك في سبتمبر 2022.	الاثنين 28 فبراير
• لإكمال إعادة التسجيل، يجب تسوية رسوم T2 (الترم الثاني) بالكامل، ويجب دفع رسوم إعادة التسجيل غير القابلة للاسترداد (تعويضاً مقابل رسوم) الترم الأول (T1) في موعد أقصاه 10/4/22، تحت عنوان إعادة التسجيل في الحساب الخاص بك.	
المدرسة مغلقة في عطلة الربيع متخضع جميع تواريخ الإجازة لتغيير. SPEA.	الاثنين. 28 مارس إلى الأحد. 10 أبريل
• الموعد النهائي لإعادة التسجيل هو الأحد 10 أبريل 2022. بعد هذا التاريخ سنفرض أنك لا تريد مقاعد لشهر سبتمبر وعلينا منح مقاعد غير محجوزة لقائمة الانتظار. (الوضع على قائمة الانتظار)	
الفصول وصور شخصية بواسطة Lensman.	28 فبراير إلى 10 مارس
يرجى التأكد من أن طفلك يأتي إلى المدرسة يزي رسمي إضافي أنيق في هذه الأيام. شكراً.	



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

Primary-Secondary News; Extreme Reading Competition!

Preparing students
for the future!

مدرسة جيمس وستمينستر للتجارة
Westminster School
RIAH



WORLD
BOOK DAY



the Extreme Reading PHOTO COMPETITION

ARE YOU AN EXTREME READER?



Books don't need electricity! We can read them anywhere and everywhere!

We are inviting all Primary and Secondary students to take the
WSS Library Extreme Reading Challenge

Think about different, exciting, fun and **SAFE** places you can enjoy a book.
Be sure not to do anything too dangerous!

Ask someone to take a photograph of you reading your book in your
'extreme' place.

Then e-mail the photograph not later than 6th March 2022 to:

Primary- rapunzel.r.wss@gemsedu.com

Secondary- siji.b.wss@gemsedu.com

All the pics which are sent will be used on display in school.

There will be a certificate for the most 'extreme' reader in each year group.
The good news is – you can enter as many times as you like!

FAKE NEWS: How Can my Child Learn to Avoid it?

The internet is source of authentic as well as fake news. Especially social media platforms like Twitter, Instagram or WhatsApp. Helping kids and teens understand the news and how to separate fact from fiction is an important job for parents and educators. Here's some tips parents can offer kids and teens who consume the news:

- **Remember, breaking news is often erroneous:** In the rush to cover stories, reporters make mistakes, officials don't always have correct information, and tidbits that sound plausible often get passed around before anyone has checked for accuracy. So **check multiple platform before sharing any News**. Because the person who read the first version may not be able to get the corrected version later.
- **Use social media wisely:** Like a game of telephone where the accuracy of a statement fades each time it's repeated, truth on social media can break down quickly. We all often receive news of lost child OR celebrity demise which later turns out fake. Social Media is good for sharing personal news in limited circle. For example: "Mr. Ali and Ms. Sara are blessed with a baby girl."
- **Stick with credible news sources:** News sources that claim to have all the answers or jump to conclusions about why something happened are just adding to the fray. So check with some credible news sources like **Khaleej Times, Gulf News** or **The National** before sharing the story.
- **Keep it age-appropriate:** Younger teens and kids aren't always ready to digest big, tragic news -especially if the news is about kids, such as school shootings or abuse scandals. The constant repetition of information can be overwhelming and confusing for younger kids. So give them the sources which are appropriate for them for example: TimeForKids.com OR TimeOutDubai.com



مدرسة جيمس وستمينستر الشارقة
GEMS Westminster School
SHARJAH



#DigitalResilience #LearnWithWSS

Whole School News; Thoughts for the Week!

Bus Code of Conduct

Good morning sir! Today I have heard that someone got an incident report on the bus. I am scared to get one.

Good morning students! How are you today? Let's talk about safety rules on the bus.

Dangerous behaviour is not acceptable due to safety considerations.

Safety on the bus is essential.

General Bus safety rules are:
 1. Stay seated safely.
 2. Follow directions given by WSS staff.
 3. Be quiet.
 4. Students must be met at the drop off point by a designated adult with an ID card.
 5. Bring ID card each day.

Code of conduct on the bus is very important. We must be safe and sensible at all times.

Our three bus rules are:
 1. Sit safely.
 2. Quiet please!
 3. Manners

Being safe and sensible behaviour on the bus means:

- I behave sensibly so as not to distract the driver.
- I stay sat down in our place with our seat belt on while the bus is moving.
- I never throw items inside, or out of the bus.
- I talk quietly, using polite, respectful language to all.
- I am kind to others - no bullying or fighting.
- My litter goes in the bin, or stays in my bag.
- I take care of the bus so there is no damage to the bus.
- I am sensitive to others' needs for space and quiet.
- I am punctual, so the bus arrives at school, & leaves school, on time.
- I bring my bus ID card daily.
- For health, safety and hygiene reasons, eating on the bus is not permitted.

IMPORTANCE OF "E-SAFETY"

Hello Students, Eric is our "E Safety Champion" and the "Student Counsellor". He shall let us know the importance of 'E Safety'.

Good Morning Everyone! Since we are all using Technology extensively for our learning, I shall take you through the importance of 'E Safety'.

Eric, we are eager to know about "E Safety" and it's importance.

Internet safety or E Safety is the aspect of being safe on the internet. It is our collective responsibility to do so.

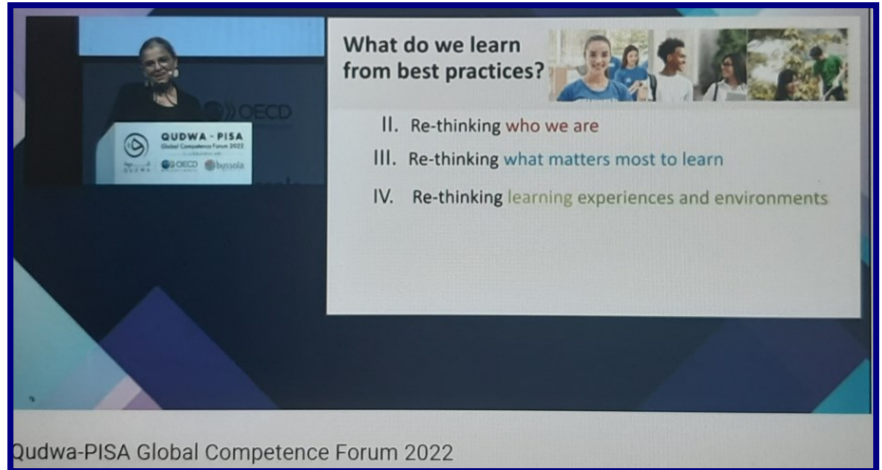
Thank you for sharing these Eric as a start. We shall discuss further in our next session.

To start with, here are a few basic pointers:
 a) Never share your username and password with anyone.
 b) Never disclose your personal information online.
 c) Never accept online invites or share meetings with unknown persons.

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



Lifelong learning; Mr. Franklin, Ms. Sreeja and Ms. Sherin attended the online session from Al Qudwa on Global Competency Framework on Saturday 19/2/22. It was a highly energizing session wherein experts from all over the world shared their experience on how to bring Global Competency to students.



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

Mr. Ali from the Government Social Services Department met our Head of Inclusion Ms. Rema this week for an inspected on SEND provision & safeguarding. His feedback about WSS provision was very positive.

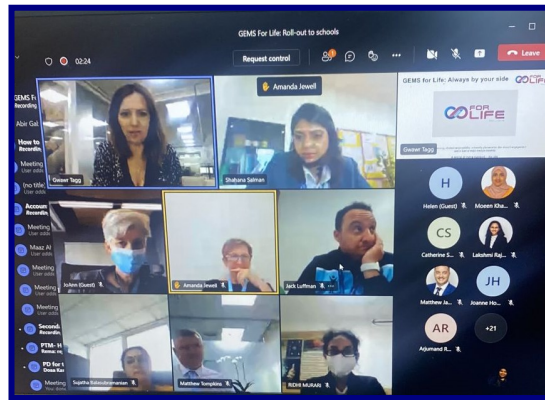
Huge congratulations to our Head of Inclusion Ms. Rema, who has passed the prestigious Sharjah Social Service Dept. Professional License exams on the first attempt!



Whole School News!



Lifelong learning; the Principal, Vice Principal, MSO & Head of Inclusion attended training session on Crisis Management, at TWS, Dubai this week.



Guidance & Career Counselor Ms. Rejina attended a GEMS session on the new initiative 'GEMS For Life'. GEMS Chairman Mr. Sunny Varkey's vision is for GEMS to support students well beyond school & into their career! More details will follow shortly.

We had a Lockdown Drill on 23/2/22 as part of our Health & Safety Programme. Hazel was able to confidently tell Ms. Valerie all about it!



We would like to thank Ms. Rana, SPEA Schools Improvement Advisor, Arabic for spending a full day at WSS on 24/2/22, despite her busy schedule. She was wonderfully supportive & shared encouraging & enthusiastic feedback, as well as 'EBI' tips to raise standards of Arabic at WSS & to help us prepare for the forthcoming SPEA Inspections scheduled for May-June.

Ms. Rana was very impressed with our Arabic Student Leaders Nourhan & Amir, & had some great ideas for them to engage with SPEA initiatives in the future. She praised the Arabic team for their passion & hard work, & enjoyed spending time with our super students.

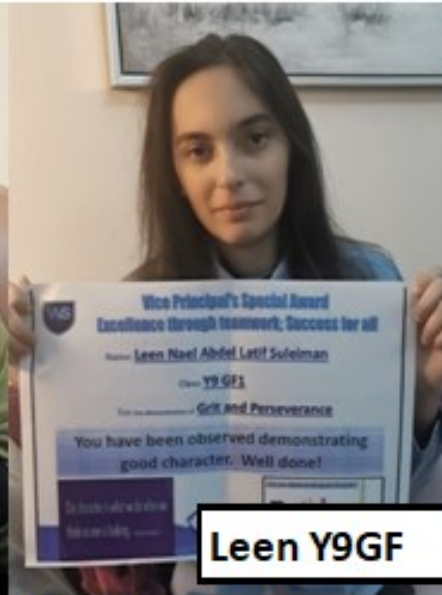
Ms. Rana also appreciated the contribution of Mr. Osama & Arabic Learning Coach Mr. Alaa, who are part of special SPEA Ara-

WSS Superstar Champions!

Character Award #StudentWellBeing



Arooj Y9GS



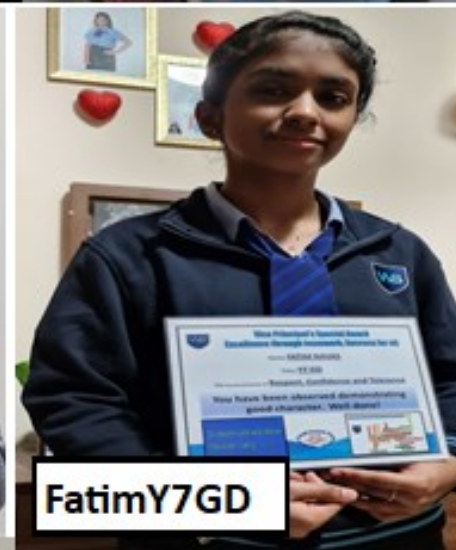
Leen Y9GF



Fatima Y9GD



Tasnim Y8GD



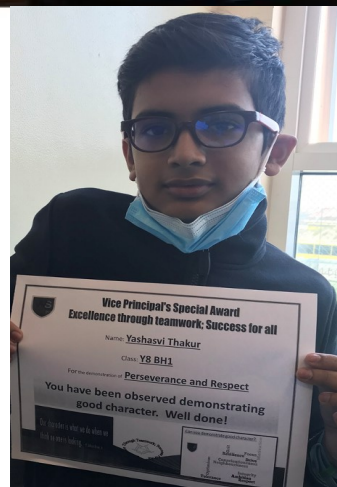
Fatim Y7GD



Huzaifa Y9BF



Amir Y9GH

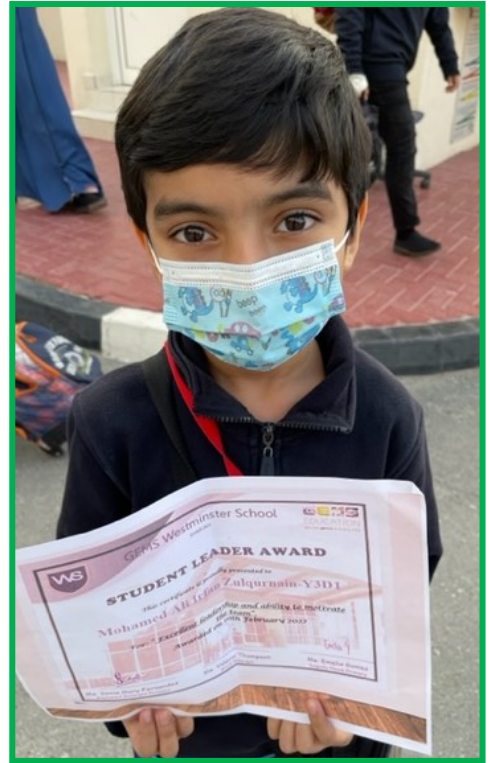


Yashavi Thakur



Mohamed Ali Irfan Zakiyunnabi Y3D1

WSS Superstar Champions!



WSS Superstar Champions!



Head of Inclusion Ms. Rema achieved Level 3 Safeguarding Leader Training. If anyone has any safeguarding concerns, please report them immediately to Ms. Rema or The Principal, our WSS Designated Safeguarding Leaders (DSL).



Yayyy! we filled our Marble jar FS2 S2.



Star student Zahara Tamim (Y1 D1) for writing challenge where she worked at using verbs to create sentences in Arabic. Thanks Ms. Eman for providing opportunities for the students to improve their writing and speaking skills.




Star Student Reem Ahmed (YS2) for writing task independently using key words to develop sentences Thank you Ms Israa for creating this opportunity for students to enhance reading and writing skills.

WSS Superstar Champions; STEAM Game Escape Room!

THE WSS ESCAPE ROOM

Congratulations! You've been chosen to experience the EXPO 2020 in a special WSS way. A bus has taken you to the WSS Registration Station. You've been given a ticket and have been transported to the WSS Escape Room.

Oh No!



EXPO 2020 إكسبو 2020
دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة
DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES



ABOUT

TIPS

CREDITS

About the Story

You are to complete a series of challenges to get your WSS Expo Token that lets you out of the room and gives you access to the different pavilions. Unfortunately, if you fail to pass these challenges, you will be escorted back to school by the 2pm bus.

P.S. Until your bus arrives, you will have to teach class online! So make sure you successfully complete the challenges given.

CHALLENGE #1

CHALLENGE #2

CHALLENGE #3

CHALLENGE #4

CHALLENGE #5




Congrats!

You made it out of The WSS Expo Escape Room

Ms. Sony

You have successfully solved all of the riddles and escaped!

Ms. Valerie Thompson
Principal Of WSS Sharjah

31/01/2022
Date



Special Thanks To:

Duaa Fathima Khan
Year 12GF



Ayesha Shahid
Year 12GH



Aisha Solanki
Year 12GF



Joanne Mathews
Year 13GH



and Ms. Manju Solvin

Some of the teacher certificates for the STEAM GAME made by 6th Former students, based on the theme EXPO 2021. Congratulations all escapeses!




Congrats!

You made it out of The WSS Expo Escape Room

Ms. Sherin

You have successfully solved all of the riddles and escaped!

Ms. Valerie Thompson
Principal Of WSS Sharjah

31/01/2022
Date






Congrats!

You made it out of The WSS Expo Escape Room

Ms. Sunumol

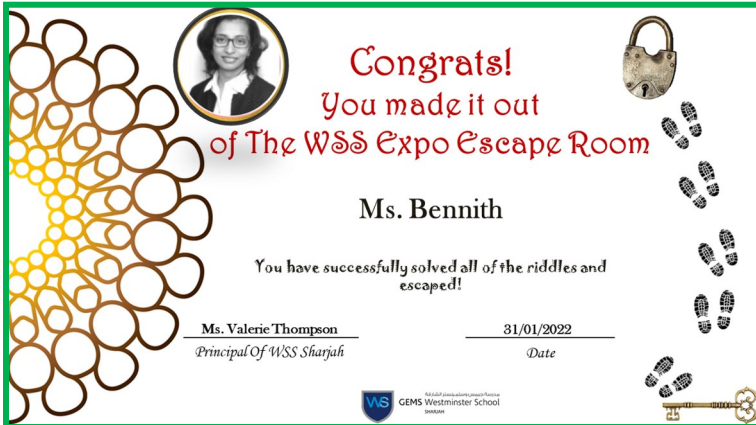
You have successfully solved all of the riddles and escaped!

Ms. Valerie Thompson
Principal Of WSS Sharjah

31/01/2022
Date



WSS Superstar Champions; STEAM Game Escape Room!




Congrats!
You made it out
of The WSS Expo Escape Room

Ms. Bennith

You have successfully solved all of the riddles and escaped!

Ms. Valerie Thompson
Principal Of WSS Sharjah

31/01/2022
Date




Congrats!
You made it out
of The WSS Expo Escape Room

Ms. Rahnas

You have successfully solved all of the riddles and escaped!

Ms. Valerie Thompson
Principal Of WSS Sharjah

31/01/2022
Date




Congrats!
You made it out
of The WSS Expo Escape Room

Ms. Roshni

You have successfully solved all of the riddles and escaped!

Ms. Valerie Thompson
Principal Of WSS Sharjah

31/01/2022
Date




Congrats!
You made it out
of The WSS Expo Escape Room

Ms. Sreedevi

You have successfully solved all of the riddles and escaped!

Ms. Valerie Thompson
Principal Of WSS Sharjah

31/01/2022
Date



Some of the student and teacher certificates for the STEAM GAME made by 6th Former students, based on the theme EX-PO 2021. Congratulations all escapees!



Congrats!
You made it out
of The WSS Expo Escape Room

Badr Abdelmoemen
Y8 BH2

You have successfully solved all of the riddles and escaped!

Ms. Valerie Thompson
Principal Of WSS Sharjah

31/01/2022
Date





Congrats!
You made it out
of The WSS Expo Escape Room

Hesham Fadi
Y8 BH2

You have successfully solved all of the riddles and escaped!

Ms. Valerie Thompson
Principal Of WSS Sharjah

31/01/2022
Date





Congrats!
You made it out
of The WSS Expo Escape Room

Muskaan Muhammad
Y8 GF1

You have successfully solved all of the riddles and escaped!

Ms. Valerie Thompson
Principal Of WSS Sharjah

31/01/2022
Date





Congrats!
You made it out
of The WSS Expo Escape Room

Omar Mohammed
Y8 BH2

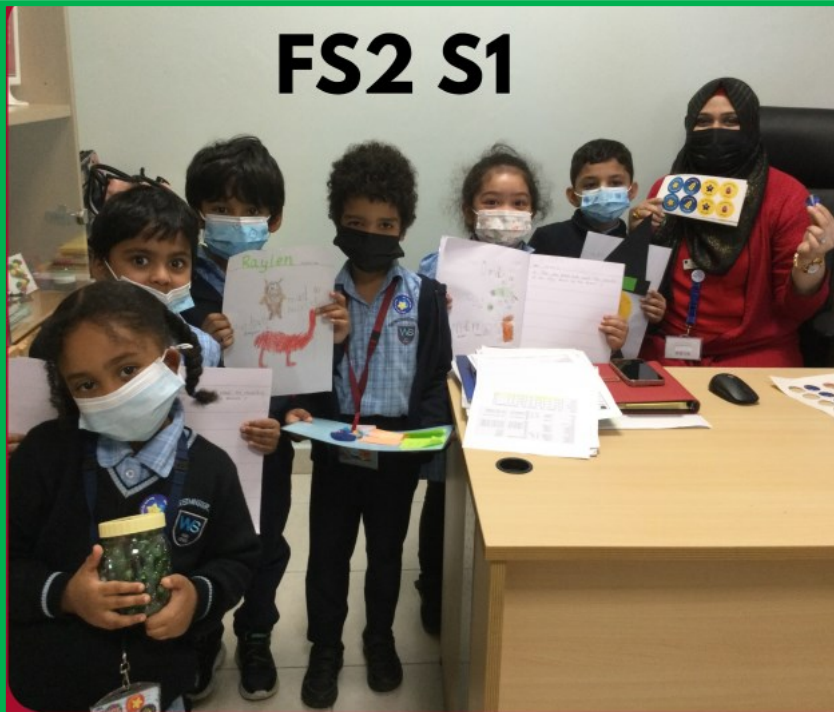
You have successfully solved all of the riddles and escaped!

Ms. Valerie Thompson
Principal Of WSS Sharjah

31/01/2022
Date




WSS Superstar Champions!



We are getting stickers from Ms Shamail for our work.



Star Students from Y2 F1-Viaan Krishna, Adrian Sibin and Eyad Mohamed showed confidence in their writing challenge that was set for them by their teachers Ms. Raquel & Ms. Hajina. They produced informative, well structured pieces of writing during the time given, well done everyone!



Star Student Maheen Azhar (Y6GD1) worked hard and showed perseverance to produce a persuasive piece using appropriate pronouns. This was a challenge set for the class by Ms. Vandana who challenged her class to improve their writing skills. Well done Ms. Vandana and Maheen!

Dear Miss kishwar&Miss Maria

Greetings of the day

I want to express my sincere gratitude for all the efforts you have taken for my kid's development. We are so happy that Nihaan improved a lot in reading,writing,maths etc .He enjoyed every class of yours and used to look forward to go to school every day.

I really appreciate the way in which you helped him to read with Active learning.Now he is very much interested in reading and trying to write the words .He is so good in maths too. I am so happy to see all the photos and videos you are sharing through the insta page which make kids much motivated and make parents too much happy.

I am so surprised to see that how enthusiastic my kid became!!

I feel so blessed to have a teacher like you for my child. I am a witness on how dedicated you are in teaching your students and I feel relieved that you are the one who will be nurturing my kid's future.Thank you and keep up the good work.

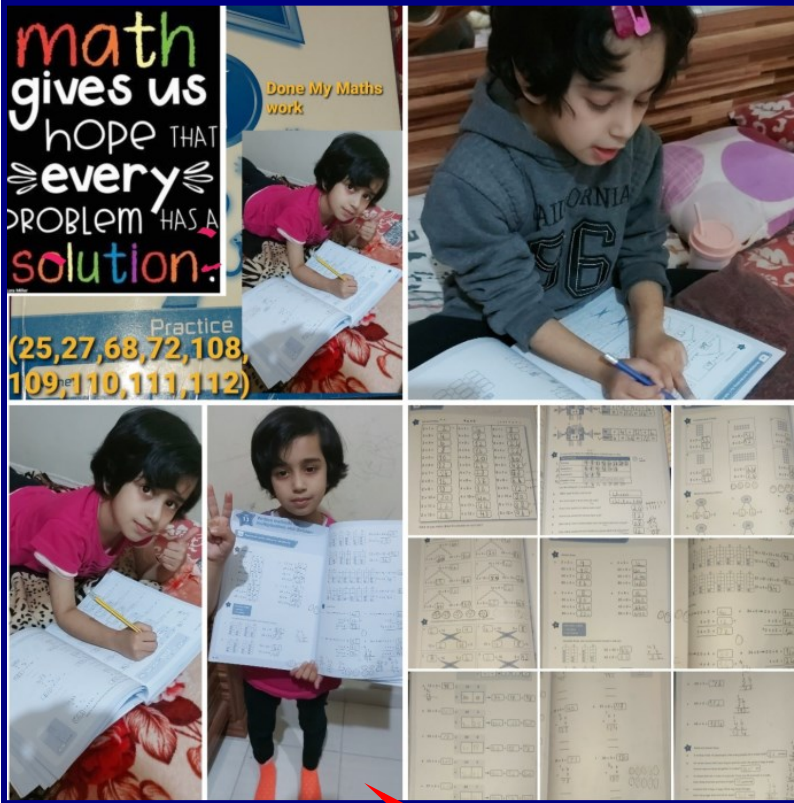
Sincerely yours

Nayan
Nihaan's Mom

--
Thanks & Regards

Vipin Nelson

Junior Section News



With Ms. Kishwar



Applying e-safety values to everyday life!

Junior Section News



Y1 H2 - Pretend Play
Using money to buy and sell things



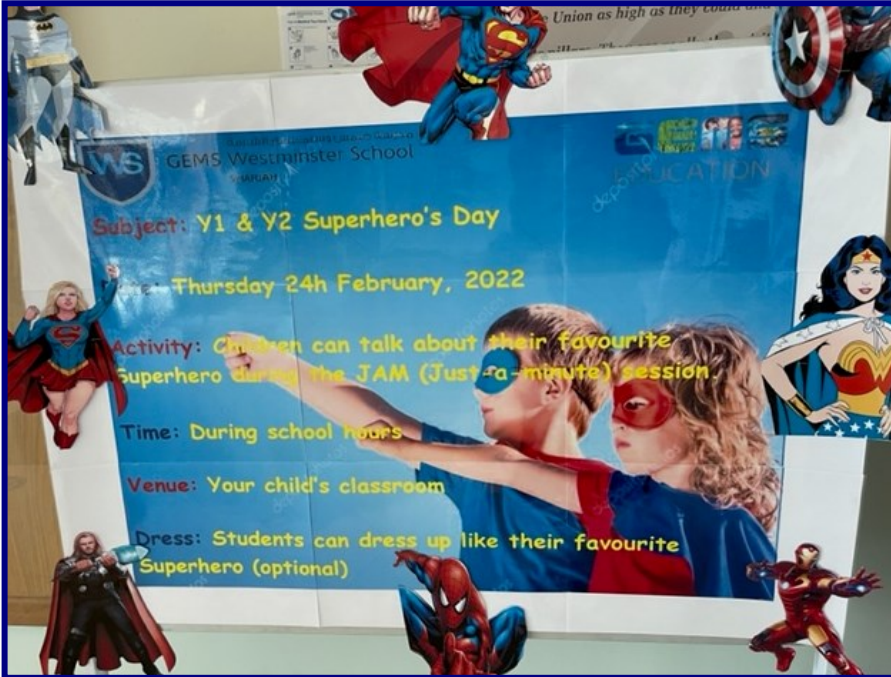
With Ms. Kishwar



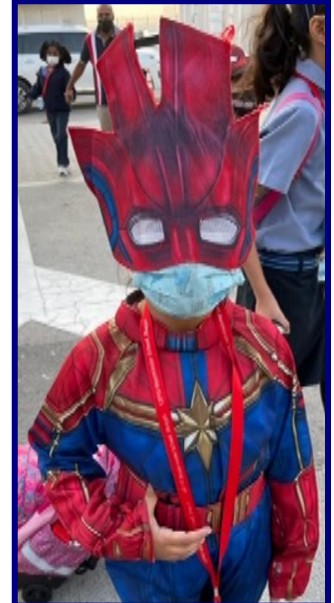
Busy in OLA activities FS2 S2.



Junior Section News; Superhero Day, 24/2/22!



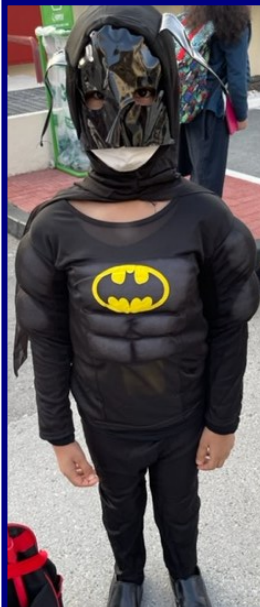
Junior Section News; Superhero Day, 24/2/22!



A superhero in everyday life!



Junior Section News; Superhero Day, 24/2/22!



Junior Section News; Superhero Day, 24/2/22!



Junior Section News; Superhero Day, 24/2/22!



Superheroes in Y2S2 with Ms. Rashini



Junior Section News



HAPPY BIRTHDAY MAHAM AND HOORAB



With Ms. Aqueen

HOORAYYY!!! Our marble jar is full.



Y2H2 OLA MATH SESSION WITH MS. JINITRA.



Junior Section News; Learning in FS2!

With Ms. Sonia M.

FS2 S1



We can write the story of room on the broom



FS2 S1



We are creating our own witch

FS2 S1



Learning one less through play



FS2 S1

We are choosing healthy choice for the witch in the roleplay area



Arabic activities

Junior Section News; Learning in FS2!

At the play dough station



Finding one less than a given number



Experimenting objects which dissolve and do not dissolve



Helping Witch to create her new hat



Recording observation in their planting booklet

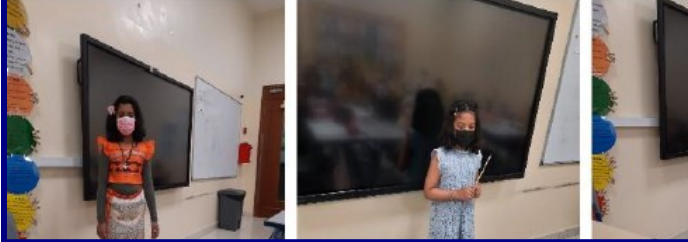
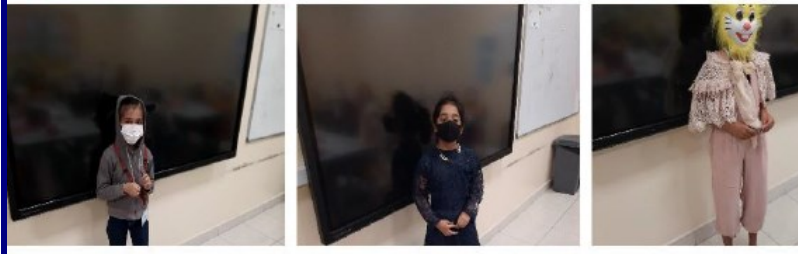


Busy drawing favorite part of the story



Primary Section News

Literacy Dress-up Day with Y4F1 & Ms. Sonia Ms. Deepthi V.



Primary Section News



Y5D2 Science investigation lesson – investigating that irreversible changes produce new materials.

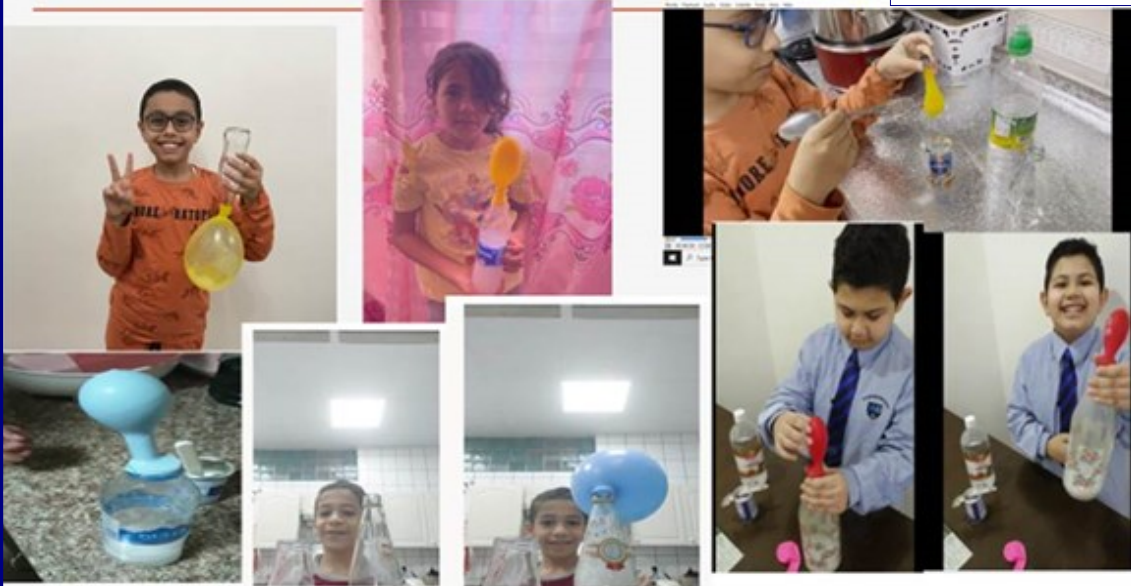


Y5D2 with Ms. Deepthy L.



SCIENCE EXPERIMENT: Y4D1

With Ms. Susweta



Primary Section News

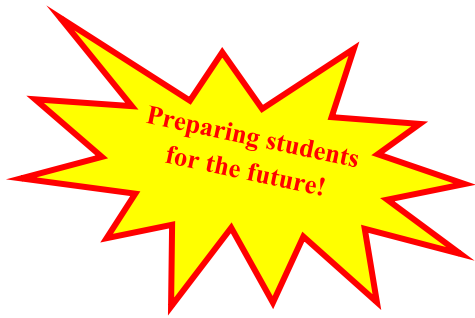
Y3F1 LEARNING ACTIVITIES



With Ms. Anshy



Student Leaders



Primary Section News



Tauhidul & Sama (Y5S2) with their recycled pencil holders.



Y5 D1 with their Think Pair Share activity in their English lesson.



Madiha (Y5 S2) with her Islamic project.

Primary Section News



With Ms. Lincy

Y5 S2 students wrote play scripts as a part of their English lesson and presented it in the class.



Secondary Section News; EXPO 2020 Trip!



Secondary Section News; EXPO 2020 Trip!



BRINGING EXPO 2020 TO WSS

ENTREPRENEUR'S

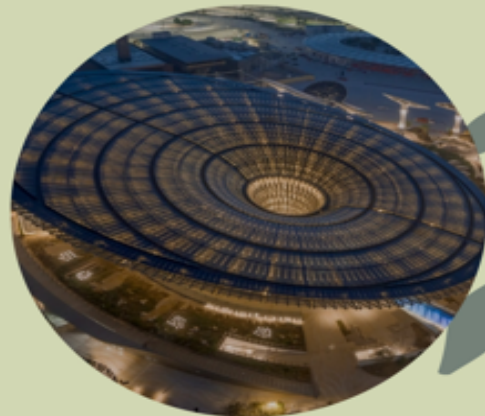
EXHIBITION

HOSTED BY THE BUSINESS CLUB

Join us at the very first entrepreneur's exhibition where you can showcase your talent in creativity and innovation with new products/apps that you can present by utilising any one of the themes of expo 2020 in the activity of your choice!

1. Sustainability

The future of Earth hangs in the balance, will you be an agent of change and help speed up the pace of protecting and preserving the only world we've got? Use this theme to reflect on which area of school life can benefit from your ideas!



CONTACT US:

CHANDANIK_WSS@GEMSEDU.COM

28.02.22

2. Mobility

Explore horizons that drive human progress, as mobility continues to transform the way we live, break down the divide between the physical and digital worlds to build a harmonious, global society where information and goods can be exchanged faster than ever before with your ideas!



SUBMISSION DEADLINE
27.02.2022

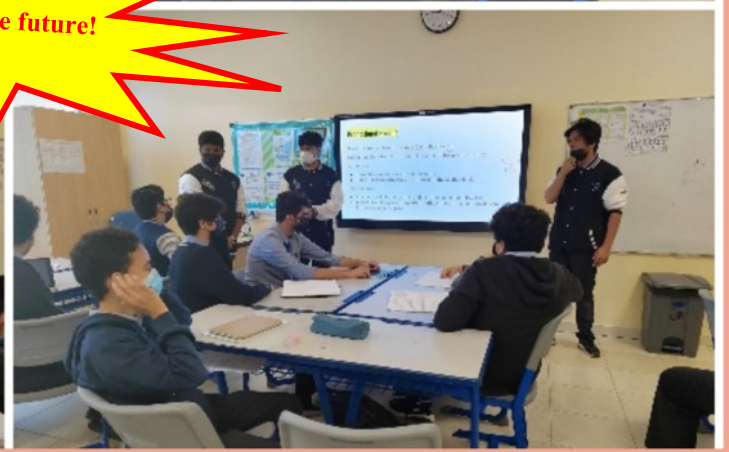
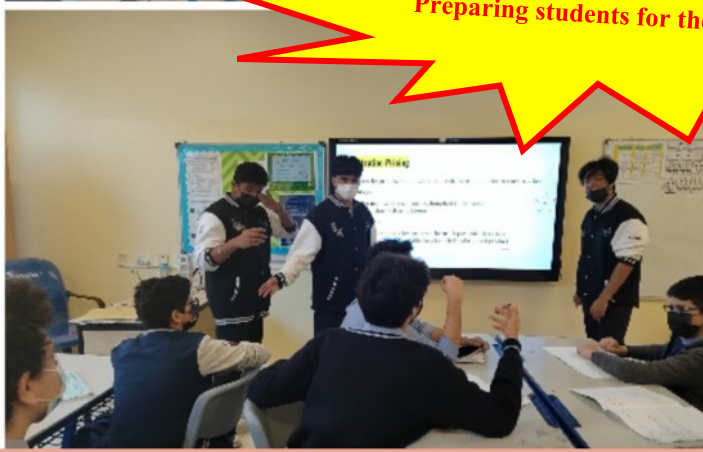
PRO TIP: FOR EXTRA POINTS/HOURS, CONDUCT A MARKET RESEARCH AMONG THE STUDENTS AND EVALUATE HOW WELL YOUR PRODUCT WILL DO IN THE MARKET.

Business Club

Y10 Students mentoring session by AS Boys Jonathan, Arham and Saif



Preparing students for the future!



Creative & innovative projects for the STEAM Fair— recycling plastic to make a face shield.

