

GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, SHARJAH



Newsletter Issue #24
9th March, 2023



Message from the Principal/CEO Ms. Valerie Thompson

Dear WSS Parents,

Ramadan Arrangements

Please note that the Canteen has to be closed during Ramadan. Please **send snack & usual water bottle from home** for your non-

fasting children. Separate eating rooms will be provided if required.

Safeguarding; Wearing the WSS ID Card

Your children need to wear their **WSS ID card to school daily**. This is required for safeguarding, identification & emergency contacts in case of any accident. The ID card is part of our required uniform & it is a disciplinary issue not to wear it. If your child needs a new ID card, please contact the BBT office (cost of a replacement is AED25/-). Thank you.



Dates for Your Diary

Date	Details
Tues. 2nd May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deadline to pay the re-enrollment fee is Tuesday 2nd May Un-booked & unpaid seats beyond the given deadline would be given to the Waiting List. Seats are limited, so to avoid stress & disappointment, do please complete re-enrollment & re-enrollment payment by the given deadlines.
Thurs. 16th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30am-1pm; School moves onto Exam timings for all students.
Tues. 21st or Wed. 22nd March (TBC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible start of Ramadan. 8am-1pm; School moves to Ramadan timings for all students No Babysitting after 1pm. Parents of OT students, please collect them on time. Thanks.
Monday 20th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day & Mothers' Day Celebrations. Students may bring traditional food to share & wear traditional dress (optional).
27/3/23 to 6/4/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spring Break (2 weeks) Term 3 starts on Monday 10/4/23. T3 fees due, thank you.
10/4/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School moves to the new day timings (7:20am-12:25/2:20pm)
19/4/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> T3 Mid-Term Break (1 day added on to Eid break. TBC)
Tuesday 2/5/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deadline to pay the re-enrollment fee
29/6/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Official last day of the academic year. (TBC by SPEA)



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

مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر الشارقة



النشرة الإخبارية رقم # 24
9 مارس 2023



رسالة من
المديرة / الرئيس التنفيذي
السيدة فائزة توميسون

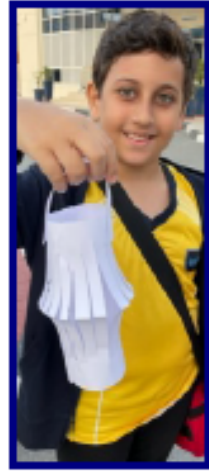
أولياء أمور مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر
الشارقة الأعزاء،

ترتيبات رمضان

يرجى ملاحظة أنه يجب إغلاق الكافتين
خلال شهر رمضان. يرجى إرسال وجبة خفيفة وزجاجة ماء
عادية من المنزل لأطفالك غير الصائمين. سيتم توفير غرف طعام
منفصلة إذا لزم الأمر.

حماية: ((ارتداء بطاقة هوية WSS)).

يحتاج أطفالك إلى ارتداء بطاقة تعريف WSS الخاصة بهم إلى
المدرسة يوميًا. هذا مطلوب للحماية والتعرف على جهات الاتصال
في حالات الطوارئ في حالة وقوع أي حادث. بطاقة الهوية جزء
من الزي المطلوب وهي مسألة تكسيبية عدم ارتدائها. إذا كان طفلك
بحاجة إلى بطاقة هوية جديدة ، فيرجى الاتصال بمكتب (BBT
تسلفه الاستبدال 25 درهمًا إسرائيليًا). شكرًا لك



المواعيد

التاريخ	التفاصيل
يوم الثلاثاء. 2 مايو	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> الموعد النهائي لدفع رسوم إعادة التسجيل هو الثلاثاء 2 مايو (يرجى تجاهل أي تواريخ أخرى تم الإبلاغ عنها ، 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 في المواعيد النهائية المحددة.
الخميس. 16 مارس	7:30 صباحًا - 1 مساءً : تنتقل المدرسة إلى مواعيد الاختبارات لجميع الطلاب.
الثلاثاء. 21 أو الأربعاء. 22 مارس (تحدد لاحقًا)	يمكن بداية شهر رمضان. 8 صباحًا - 1 مساءً (يحدد لاحقًا) : تنتقل المدرسة إلى أوقات رمضان لجميع الطلاب. متزوج خدمة مجالسة الأطفال بعد الساعة الواحدة مساءً. آباء طلاب OT، يرجى جمعهم في الوقت المحدد. شكرًا.
الاثنين 20 مارس	احتفالات اليوم العلمي وعيد الأم. يمكن للطلاب إحضار الطعام التقليدي للمشاركة وارتداء الملابس التقليدية (اختياري).
27/3/23 إلى 6/4/23	عطلة الربيع (أسبوعان) يبدأ الفصل الثالث يوم الاثنين الموافق 10/4/23. رسوم TS المستحقة
19/4/23	استراحة منتصف الفصل الدراسي (يوم واحد يضاف إلى عطلة العيد. يحدد لاحقًا)
الثلاثاء 2/5/23	الموعد النهائي لدفع رسوم إعادة التسجيل هو الثلاثاء 2 مايو
29/6/23	آخر يوم رسمي في العام الدراسي (يحدد لاحقًا بواسطة SPEA)

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	
3 3	Whole School News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contents • Parent Handbook QR Code link • New School-Day Timings • Haq Al Laila & Cultural Day • Ramadan Charity Drive, 10/4/23 • Innovation Times • Staff CPD • Storyboard Top Tips—Bus Code of Conduct
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12	Whole School Environmental Recycling Superstar Champions	
13-14	Junior Section Superstar Champions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class Champions, Wellbeing Champions & Take Home Teddy Winners
15-16	Junior Section News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Junior Learning Activities
17-18		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 2 Learning Activities
19-23 24-25	Primary Section News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports Days • Primary Learning Activities
26-27	Secondary Section Superstar Champions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sheikha Fatima Award Winner • School, World & UAE Cambridge Board Exam Toppers • Sporting Champions
28	Secondary Section News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ramadan Presentations by guest speakers

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



New school-day timings wef. Term 3, 10/4/23

Tmetable 2023/24			
Reg	7:20	7:30	7:28am National Anthem
1	7:30	8:15	
2	8:15	9:00	
3	9:00	9:45	
Break	9:45	10:10	
4	10:10	10:55	
5	10:55	11:40	
6	11:40	12:25	FS1 - Y1 exit
Break	12:25	12:50	
7	12:50	13:35	
8	13:35	14:20	Buses leave by 2:30pm

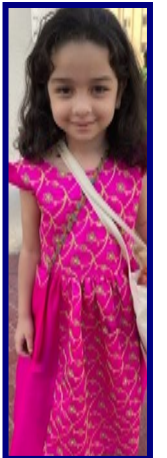
Whole School News; Haq Al Laila, 6/3/23!

WSS celebrated Haq Al Laila this week with much enthusiasm!

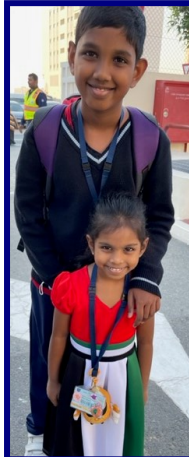
Thank you to all our parents who helped dress up their children so beautifully & shared sweet treats to mark this special Emirati celebration.



Whole School News; Haq Al Laila & Cultural Day, 7/3/23!



Whole School News; Haq Al Laila & Cultural Day, 7/3/23!



Dear All,,
I would like to thank you for your interest in our occasions and for sharing our customs and joy with us. This means a lot to us, strengthens the relationship between us, makes us feel as if we are in the homes of our relatives, and brings peace and joy to the hearts of our children.
All thanks and appreciation to all of you, and we hope that we will always and forever celebrate the occasions with us. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this event, especially Mrs. Doaa, because she always cares and surprises us with everything that is special.
Al Suwaidi Family



Whole School News; Haq Al Laila & Cultural Day, 7/3/23!



Whole School News; Ramadan Charity Drive, 10/4/23



مدرسة جيمس ويستمنستر الشارقة
GEMS Westminister School
SHARJAH

Dear Parents,

Subject: 'WSS Acts of Kindness' Ramadan, Bridge of Empathy

Ramadan Kareem from GEMS Westminister School, Sharjah.

The month of Ramadan is a time for fasting, generosity, sacrifice, and sharing. It is a blessed month that nurtures the seeds of good deeds for character-building.

At WSS Sharjah, we are delighted to celebrate this opportunity with community spirit and integrity. During this blessed month of Ramadan, the WSS community has organized 'acts of kindness' activities throughout the month. Let us all come together and contribute wholeheartedly to this blessed initiative. The theme of our optional charity drive is "**Give a little, change a lot.**" This initiative will bring joy and happiness to less well-off members of the wider community as well as giving to charitable organization Bayt ul Khair that is providing aid to the people affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.

We welcome contributions from Monday, 10th April 2023 to Thursday 13th April 2023.

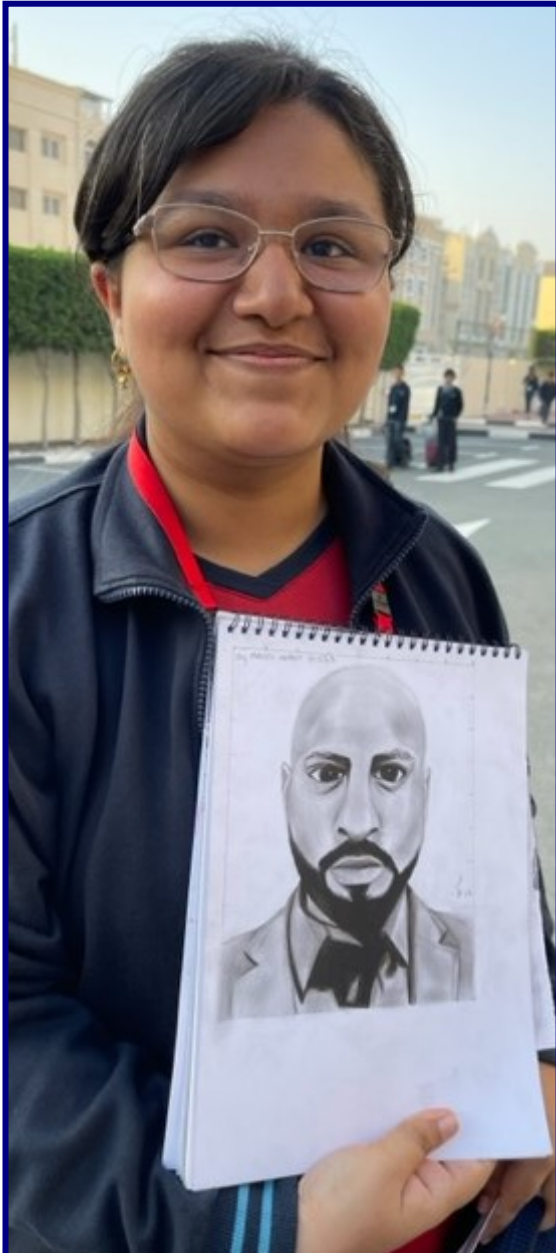
Year Group	Suggested Items	Recommended Quantity
FS1	Biscuits & Jam	2 packets
FS2	Towels	2 pieces
Y2	Socks (Adult & children)	2 pairs
Y3	Blanket	1 piece
Y4	Pulses	1 Kg packet
Y5	Sugar	2 Kg packet
Y6	Wheat flour	2 Kg packet
Y7	Milk powder	2 Kg packet
Y8	Tea leaves/Tea bags	1 Kg packet
Y9	Noodles/oats/pasta	2 packets
Y10	Dates	1 kg packet
Y11	Detergent powder & soap	2 packets
Y12	Oil	1.5 liters
Y13	Rice	2 Kg packet
Staff	They can bring any of the above-mentioned items.	

If you wish to contribute, please submit the above-mentioned items in a sealed bag, along with a handmade Eid Card with your name and class mentioned on **Monday 10th to Thursday 13th April 2023.**

May Allah (SWT) bless us with the chance to strive to our fullest potential during this Ramadan. In sha Allah. Thank you.

Regards,
Islamic Education Department

Whole School News; Innovation Times!



WSS INNOVATION MAGAZINE ISSUE#10

ISSUE#10
Innovation
TIMES MAGAZINE
MARCH 2023

Learn to cook with Recipe from TOP RANKER in UAE
Find out the HIDDEN TREASURE of WSS
Racing to bloom in Bloom's Race
DEWA Championship 2023
SCOPE 2022
and much more...

It is with great pleasure that we announce the 10th special edition of our magazine. We are excited to have reached this significant milestone and want to thank our loyal readers for their unwavering support

ISSUE#10 CLICK HERE TO READ

Recommended reading; catch the latest 'Innovation Times' a student-led innovation showpiece, full of current news & student articles. Well done to Ms. Manju Solvin's student Innovation Team!

<https://www.flipsnack.com/gemswss/innovation-magazine-issue-10.html>

Whole School News



The Principal Ms. Valerie attended a Leadership Conference on Saturday 4/3/23 at WSO, in Dubai.. There was an inspirational keynote presentation by the CEO of 8 Billion Ideas Mr. David Harkin. He talked about the impact that emotional resilience & sharing positive energy have on team effectiveness. There was also a fascinating panel discussion with local entrepreneurs, talking about how to prepare our students for their future employment. Keynote speaker Ms. Gill Kelly spoke about the importance of wellbeing.



Staff Raffle Prize winner for outstanding contribution to WSS



The Principal Ms. Valerie also attended a GEMS Principal Leaders Conference on Thursday 9/3/23. This was also attended by the Chairman Mr. Sunny Varkey, Mr. Dino Varkey & Mr. Jay Varkey.

Whole School News; Storyboard Top Tips!

Bus Rules

WSS School Bus Code of Conduct Policy

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. We are not allowed to touch anybody while we are inside the bus. Instead, behave properly in accordance with the policy to avoid any issues.

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.

NABIA ASIF
GR 3 Y4 S2
TEACHER SIR KASHIF
TOPIC RAMADAN

رمضان كريم

Ramadan Kareem

WSS Environmental Recycling Superstar Champions!



WSS Junior Section Superstar Champions!



Dear Ms Uzma and Ms Benil,

I am writing you to express my heartfelt congratulations on the success of today's event.

I must say that the whole event was well organized and everything went smoothly.

The activities and the performances by the students were exciting and kept us entertained till the very end. The enthusiasm of the students and teachers was impressive.

I would like to thank all the teachers that were part of this successful event. Surely the encouragement, motivation and positive attitude of the teachers and the whole team played a greater role in making the event successful and lively.

Last but not least I would like to congratulate the whole team of Arabian horses (Green house) for giving their best performance.

I am sure the memories of this day will remain with us and our kids for a very long time.

Once again, thanks alot for making sports day memorable and fun for all the kids and parents alike.

Thanks and regards
Ayesha farrukh
Mother Of Yusha Farrukh
Y1 H1

Dear teachers

Greetings ! I am mom of Abdullah Amir FS1 H the youngest class of the school 😊 I am writing this mail to appreciate everyone involved in my kids sports day specially Ms Shamail, Ms Ragi, Ms Kishwar and Ms Krishna, the day was throughly enjoyed by me and my husband. I specially loved the spring themed sports day, the whole ambience were very well thought out and executed along with teachers in colorful tees and wonderful details done by teachers for kids to wear n hold and smart little activities to be carried out by our kids. Each and every person behind this is marvelous, keep on shinning, it was indeed a job well done, all of you deserve the best, thank you for your efforts.

Regards
Fakhra Amir
(Happy & Proud Mom)

WSS Junior Section Superstar Champions!

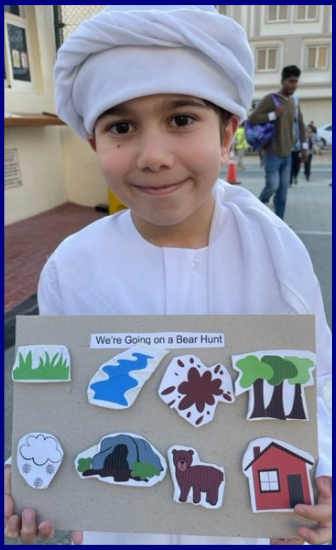
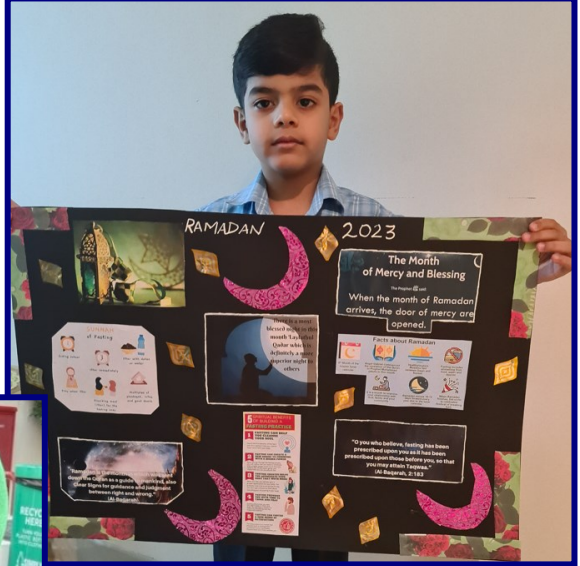


Y2H2 with Tr- Sabiha, AT -Priya

Junior Section News



ASP with Ms. Asma Sarwar reading and writing skills. Y2F1 Bareera Naeem



Junior Section News



Dear teachers,

We don't have much words to appreciate all your efforts you put on todays for class assembly 🍪🍪🍪 Masha Allah all the students were marvelous huge round of applause to everyone's 🌟🌟🌟.

Regards,
Laiba's mother



Y2D2 – Reading competition (Ms.Jinitra and Ms.Kavitha)



Junior Section News; Learning Activities in Y2!

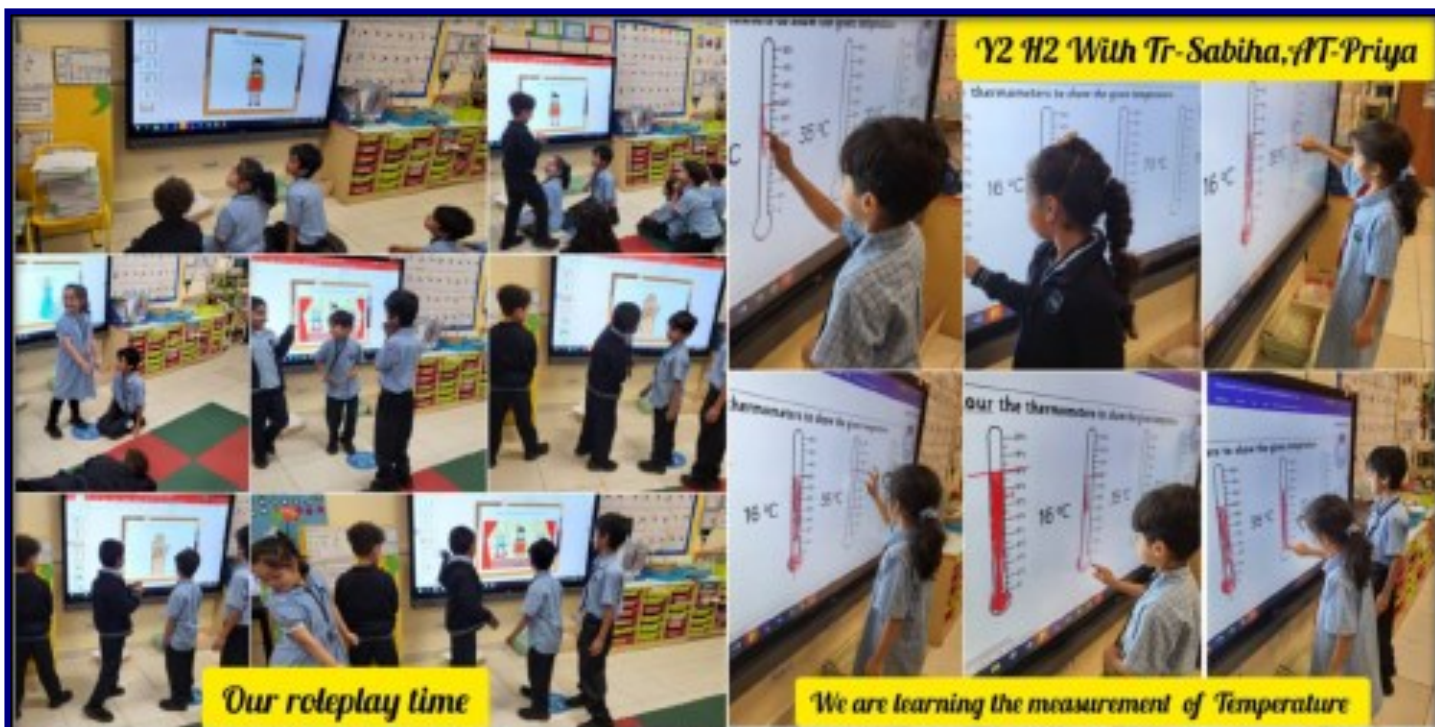


Learning suitable habitat



Celebrating Hag Al Laila

Y2D2 with Ms. Kavitha

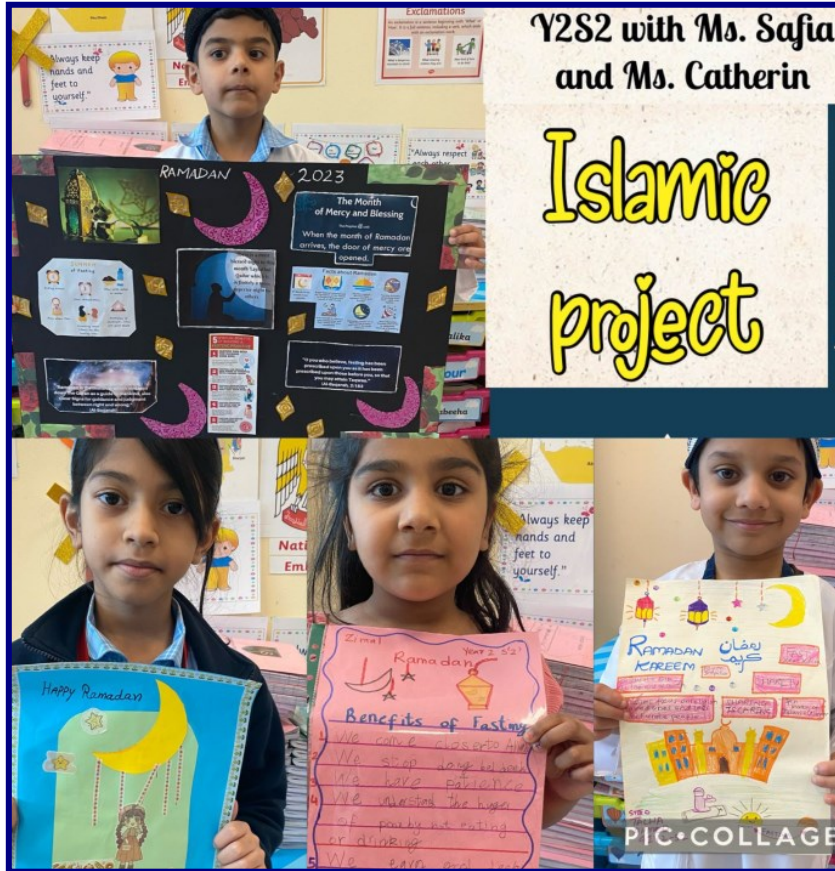


Y2 H2 With Tr- Sabiha, PT- Priya

Our roleplay time

We are learning the measurement of Temperature

Junior Section News; Learning Activities in Y2!



Primary Section News; Sports Day, 8/3/23!

Year 5 & Year 6
SPORTS DAY
PLEASE JOIN US
8
MARCH
2023
WSS ASTROTURF
8:15 AM - 12:00 PM



Primary Section News; Sports Day, 8/3/23!



Primary Section News; Sports Day, 9/3/23!



WS GEMS Westminster School SHARAH

Y3 SPORTS DAY INVITATION

DATE: 9.3.2023
TIME: 8:15AM -11:30AM
VENUE: ASTROTURF



Join us for
YEAR 4 SPORTS DAY

The WSS family invites you to the annual sports day!

When: Thursday 9th March 2023
Where: WSS Astroturf
Time: 8:15 AM to 12PM



Primary Section News; Sports Day, 9/3/23!



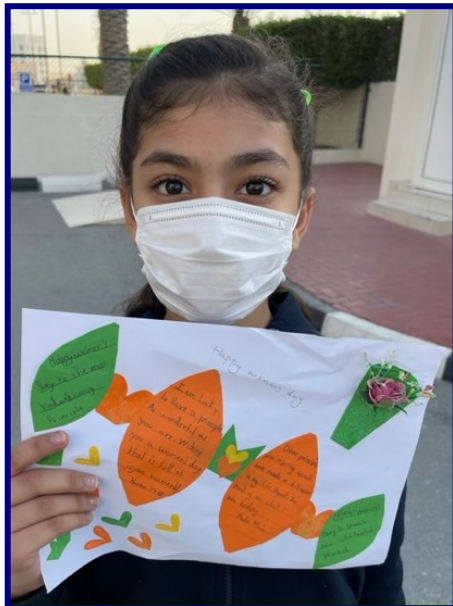
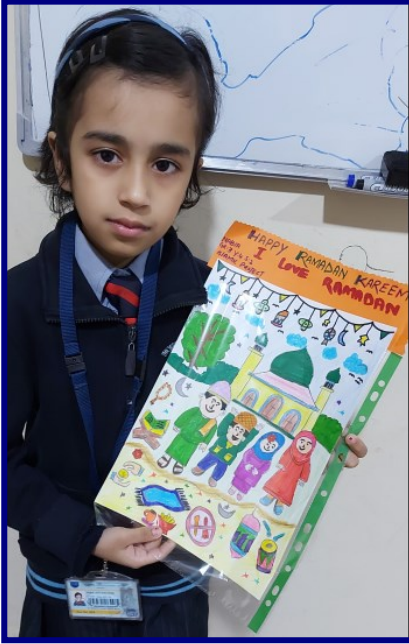
Primary Section News; Sports Day, 9/3/23!



Sports day Y3F2



Primary Section News



The Old Oak Tee

By Eshal Najji – Year 6GH

In the wild heart
Of a mystical forest
There stood an Old Oak Tree
Its open wide branches
Were dotted with smooth leaves
With each one of them
Holding a precious life
The powerful winds
Blew east and west
Some of the jewels were buried
In the deep sand
While others were burnt in the waters
That stretched to no end
Once they fell from their branch
They were long forgotten
The years came by and went
But the Tree stood tall and still
The other plants gazed in awe
As the Oak grew and grew
Its long thick roots
Had touched the core of the Earth
But the others had an unanswered question
As to how the Tree remained attached
And that one answer
Could change the future of the forest
One leaf alone no matter how strong
Cannot defeat
The mighty storms
But the whole world together
Is as strong as the Old Oak Tree

Y4 F1 Trip to the Dolphinarium



**Congratulations to Allstars
Champion Malik (Y6BF)!**

WSS Secondary Section Superstar Champions!



The Sheikha Fatima Scholarship Award and Exam Board Topper Award ceremony for our GEMS cluster of schools was held at WSD on 9/3/23. The SFA was presented by COO Mr. Zafar & SVP Ms. Ranju. Humayra Alam achieved 3 Cambridge Topper Awards plus the Sheikha Fatima Award. Congratulations to all our academic superstars & proud parents!



WSS Secondary Section, Exam Board School Topper Superstars!



GEMS Sheikha Fatima Award Winners for 2022-2023!



WSS Secondary Section, Sporting Superstar Champions!

ESSA YOUSUF
PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLER

UAE LEAUGE

CLUB : AL DHAID FC

POSITION : WINGER

YEAR 8 BD



مدرسة جيمس وستمينستر الشارقة
GEMS Westminster School
SHARJAH



EYAD MOHAMED
PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLER

UAE LEAUGE

CLUB : SHARJAH FC

POSITION : STRIKER

YEAR 8 BD



مدرسة جيمس وستمينستر الشارقة
GEMS Westminster School
SHARJAH



MOHAMMED ZAIN
PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLER

UAE LEAUGE

CLUB : SHABAB AL AHLI

POSITION : STRIKER

YEAR 8 BS



مدرسة جيمس وستمينستر الشارقة
GEMS Westminster School
SHARJAH



Secondary Section News; Ramadan Presentations, 6/3/23!



Special guests from the Al Amar Islamic Foundation visited WSS on 6/3/23 to present a video & discussion about Ramadan & how we apply the values of Ramadan to our daily lives (through Ramadan & beyond).

The guest speakers appreciated our students respectful behaviour & thoughtful questions.

