

GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, SHARJAH

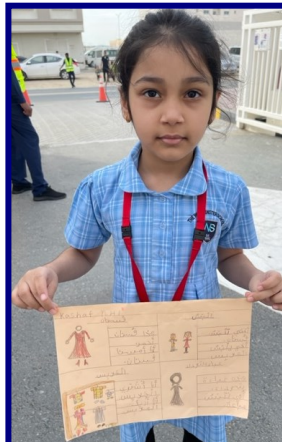


Newsletter Issue #28
27th April, 2023



Message from the Principal/CEO Ms. Valerie Thompson

Dear WSS Parents,
Many thanks to all parents who have supported so well by ensuring that your children are coming to school in perfect uniform, with school ID card & by latest 7:20am. Great job! Much appreciated!



Dates for Your Diary

Date	Details
24/4/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New school timings (7:20am-12:25/2:20pm) start from the first school day after Eid.
Tuesday 2/5/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deadline to pay the re-enrollment fee. 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.
29/6/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Official last day of the academic year (TBC by SPEA)
Thurs. 29th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deadline to apply on the system for a TC (Transfer Certificate), if leaving WSS. Deadline to apply for any certificate attestation arranged through the GRE Ms. Abir. After this date, we would be unable to guarantee completion of your documents before August 24th due to staff Annual Leave
July 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FYI, The WSS Threads Sixth Form (Y12-13) uniform will be available for distribution at Threads retail stores from July 2023. Actual date TBC by mid June 2023. The sale of existing old Sixth Form (Y12-13) uniform will be discontinued from the retail stores by end April 2023.
Monday 28/8/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New student's first day of the new academic year, subject to full T1 fees being cleared.
Tuesday 29/8/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Returning students to rejoin from Tuesday 29/8/23, subject to full T1 fees having been cleared. There are no Payment Plans for Term 1, so please Budget accordingly. Students will only be admitted for the new academic year once T1 fees have been cleared in full. Thank you.

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

مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر الشارقة

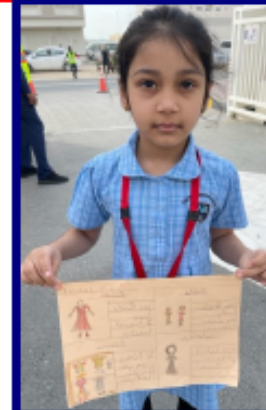


النشرة الإخبارية رقم # 28
27 أبريل 2023



رسالة من المديرية / الرئيس التنفيذي السيدة فاطمة تومسون
أولياء أمور مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر الشارقة الأعزاء،

شكرًا جزيلًا لجميع أولياء الأمور الذين قدموا دعمًا جيدًا من خلال
التأكد من أن أطفالك يتون إلى المدرسة بالزي الرسمي المثالي،
وبطاقة الهوية المدرسية وفي موعد أقصاه الساعة 7:20 صباحًا.
عمل عظيم! مقرر جدًا



المواعيد

التاريخ	التفاصيل
24/4/23	تبدأ مواعيد المدرسة الجديدة (7:20 صباحًا - 12:25/2:20 مساءً) من أول يوم دراسي بعد العيد.
الثلثاء 2/5/23	الموعد النهائي لدفع رسوم إعادة التسجيل. 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.
29/6/23	آخر يوم رسمي في العام الدراسي (TBC by SPEA)
الخميس 29 يونيو	الموعد النهائي للتقدم إلى النظام للحصول على TC (شهادة النقل)، في حالة مغادرة WSS. • الموعد النهائي لتقديم طلب للحصول على أي شهادة يتم ترتيبها من خلال GRE السيدة غير. • بعد هذا التاريخ، لن تتمكن من ضمان استكمال المستندات الخاصة بك قبل 24 أغسطس بسبب الإجازة السنوية للموظفين
يوليو 2023	لمعلوماتك، سيكون الزي الرسمي لـ WSS من النموذج السادس (Y12-13) متاحًا للتوزيع في متاجر خيوط البيع بالتجزئة اعتبارًا من يوليو 2023. التاريخ الفعلي TBC بحلول منتصف يونيو 2023. • سيتم إيقاف بيع الزي الرسمي الحالي من الطراز السادس (Y12-13) متاجر البيع بالتجزئة بحلول نهاية أبريل 2023.
الاثنين 28/8/23	اليوم الأول للطلاب الجديد في العام الدراسي الجديد، يخضع لسداد رسوم T1 كاملة.
الثلثاء 29/8/23	• عودة الطلاب للالتحاق ابتداء من يوم الثلاثاء الموافق 29/8/23 بشرط تصفية رسوم T1 كاملة. • لا توجد خطط دفع للفترة 1، لذا يرجى وضع الميزانية وفقًا لذلك. سيتم قبول الطلاب للعام الدراسي الجديد فقط بمجرد سداد رسوم T1 بالكامل. شكرًا لك.

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

Thank you to the APs Secondary for this new 'Have your Say' initiative; Students, Parents & Staff are invited to scan the QR code displayed in classrooms & offices to share feedback & suggestions for improvement.



Whole School News

Newsletter Contents	
Page	Includes:
1, 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dates for Your Diary • Message from the Principal; general notices
3	Contents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contents Table
4	Whole School News <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding policy on other people's children, VIP Guests visit WSS & Parent Handbook QR Code
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspection Action Report Actions Meeting, 18/4/23
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharjah Government's Social Worker Conference, 26/4/23 & Sixth Form (Y12-13) Uniform Policy for Sept. '23
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GEMS Creative Cluster Event, 27/4/23
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The WSS Ramadan 'Bridge of Empathy' Charity Drive
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arabist Training
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPEA SIA Beacon Schools Meeting, 17/4/23
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSS' first Islamic Ramadan Magazine
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSS Iftar, 13/4/23
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spotlight on Success; Leyana David
14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment & Recycling Superstar Champions
15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storyboard Top Tips;; 1) The Benefits of Reading Aloud ,& 2) Positive Parent Partners
16-18	Junior Section Superstar Champions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literacy Week & ME Project Winners!
19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take Home Teddy & Class Champions
20	Junior Section News <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moral Education Project Exhibition
21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eid Celebration Day, 27/4/23
22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Voice; Ramadan
24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning Fun in FS2!
25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning Fun in Y1!
26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning Fun in Y2!
27	Primary Section Superstar Champions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcoming Ramadan
28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sporting Superstar Champion!
29	Primary Section News <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Islamic Ramadan Assembly
30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project-based Learning
32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scintillating Science!
33	Secondary Section News <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPAG Royale—coming soon!
34	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y11 Options Event, 17/4/23
35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSS English Test Examinations
36	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yallaschools Cyber-security Ambassadors Event
37-38	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maths Mania Week!

Whole School News; Safeguarding—Other People's Children!

Other Peoples' Children

- It is strictly forbidden for any parent to speak directly to, or touch, other peoples' children, except with their parent's permission.
- In case you have an issue with another WSS student, please bring your concern to the school PRE/Management for their follow-up & support.

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



VIP Guests at WSS, 26/4/23!



Shenya (FS2H1) treated our VIP guests Dr. Saima Rana (GEMS Education CEO) & Ms. Ranju Anand (Senior Vice President Schools) to an amazing vocal rendition of 'The Sun Will Come Out Tomorrow' from the musical 'Annie'. We were very impressed with her lovely voice & confidence. We also had an impressively long & perfectly delivered poetry recitation from Zainab (Y6GD). Thanks too, to our super Secondary Head Boy & Head Girl for specially coming into school to meet our guests & to host them around school. We really appreciate your support.



Whole School News; SPR Inspection Report Action Meeting, 18/4/23!



The WSS LAB (Local Advisory Body), PPP (Positive Parent Partners), SLT (Senior Leadership team) and Student Leaders worked together to review our SPR Inspection Report Recommendations for 'next step' school development. The team contributed initiatives for inclusion in the School Development Plan. Many thanks to all involved—it was a very productive meeting.




Whole School News; Government of Sharjah Social Service Conference, 26/4/23!!


















































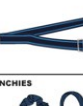
















WSS Head of Inclusion Ms. Rema & Guidance Counselor (GC) Ms. Gincy attended Sharjah Government's Social Service Conference on the theme 'Innovation in Social Work' at the Al Ja-waher Hall on 26/5/23.

Uniform, From 28/8/23

Please note that we are introducing a smart **new uniform for Sixth Formers** from September 2023. However, Sixth Form (Y12-13) may continue to wear their old Secondary uniform if parents wish.



GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL - SHARJAH

CORE UNIFORM		FS1 - Y2	
BOYS	 SS SHIRT  LS SHIRT  BLACK SOCKS  PLAIN NAVY TROUSER	GIRLS	 SHORT SLEEVE DRESS  BLACK TIGHTS(2), LEGGINGS(2) & SOCKS(3)
CORE UNIFORM		Y3 - Y6	
BOYS	 SS SHIRT  LS SHIRT  TIES  BELT  NAVY PINSTRIPE TROUSER	GIRLS	 SS BLOUSE  LS BLOUSE  NECK SCARFS  NAVY PINSTRIPE LONG LENGTH & KNEE SKIRT  NAVY PINSTRIPE TROUSER
CORE UNIFORM		Y7 - Y11	
BOYS	 SS SHIRT  LS SHIRT  TIES  BELT  NAVY PINSTRIPE TROUSER	GIRLS	 SS BLOUSE  LS BLOUSE  NECK SCARFS  NAVY PINSTRIPE LONG LENGTH & KNEE SKIRT  NAVY PINSTRIPE TROUSER
SIXTH FORM UNIFORM		Y12 - Y13	
BOYS	 NAVY PIPING  WHITE SS SHIRT  WHITE FS SHIRT  NAVY PINSTRIPE TROUSER  NAVY PINSTRIPE BOYS BLAZER	GIRLS	 NAVY PIPING  WHITE SS BLOUSE  WHITE FS BLOUSE  NAVY PINSTRIPE TROUSER  NAVY PINSTRIPE LONG LENGTH  GIRLS BLAZER
PE UNIFORM - UNISEX		ALL YEARS	
UNISEX	 SEAMLESS PE  NAVY TRACK PANT  HOUSE COLOURS  GREEN / NAVY  BLUE / NAVY  RED / NAVY	UNISEX	 NAVY PULLOVER
WINTERWEAR		ALL YEARS	
UNISEX	 NAVY PULLOVER	UNISEX	 NAVY PULLOVER
ADDITIONAL ITEMS		ALL YEARS	
HEAD SCARF	 HEAD SCARF  BELT WITH LOGO  BLACK & WHITE SOCKS(2)	HAIR BAND & SCRUNCHIES	 HAIR BAND & SCRUNCHIES  TIGHTS(1)  LEGGINGS(2)
SHOES		REGULAR BAGS	
FS1 - FS2	 SHOES  REGULAR BAGS  A-LINE BAG	Y1 - Y13	 SHOES  REGULAR BAGS  A-LINE BAG
SHOES		REGULAR BAGS	
FS1 - FS2	 SHOES  REGULAR BAGS  A-LINE BAG	Y1 - Y13	 SHOES  REGULAR BAGS  A-LINE BAG

HOUSE, SHIRTS & BLAZER (Y12 - Y13) AVAILABLE BY JULY 2023

www.threadsme.com
threads
Dressing up the Future World Leaders
800-THREADS(8473237)

Whole School News; GEMS Creative Cluster Event at WSD, 27/4/23!



WSS is part of MSVP Ms. Ranju's Cluster of schools. On 27/4/23, WSD hosted a Creative competition, which included a range of visual & performing arts categories.

WSS had 3 participating students, Shenya (FS2H1) who sang a super cute song & was the star of the show, Meerab Naeem (Y10GS) who contributed a beautiful painting, & Zainab Manasawala (Y6GD) who recited a wonderfully confident poem about preserving the environment. We are very proud of their talented contribution!

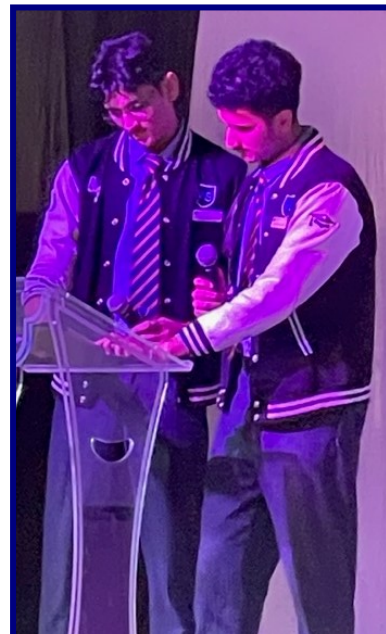
Thank you to Ms. Christine & Ms. Vandana for accompanying & to our sister school WSD for hosting this Cluster event.



Whole School News; Ramadan Bridge of Empathy Charity Drive, 18/4/23!



A huge thank you to all parents, students & staff who so positively engaged with the WSS Islamic Team's 'Bridge of Empathy' Charity Drive. Donated items were distributed to our appreciative Support Staff & Drivers by our proactive Student Islamic Council. Many thanks to Ms. Mukhsana & her Team for organizing such a caring event.



Whole School News; Arabist Training!



At WSS we are always looking out for new, innovative or more effective ways to improve our students' learning. Here some of our MOE subject team is undergoing training on a new platform for non-Arabic speaking students, with Mr. Bara Hakim, the platform coach.

Whole School News

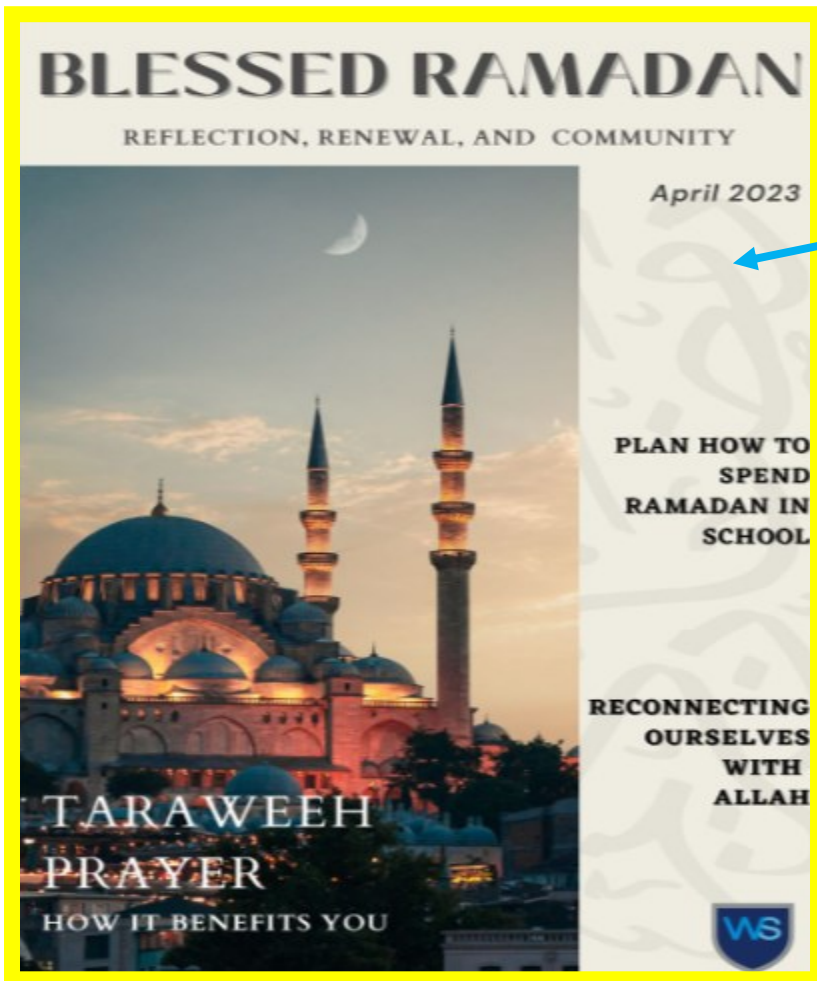


WSS hosted SPEA School Improvement Advisor Ms. Lynn's Beacon Schools group meeting on 17/4/23. 13 school Principals or their representatives attended to discuss innovative coaching & school support initiatives to support ongoing school development across the Emirate of Sharjah.



WSS's green-fingered Environmental Club leaders sharing home-grown produce from the school garden. Well done to students & teachers for their fruitful initiative.

Whole School News



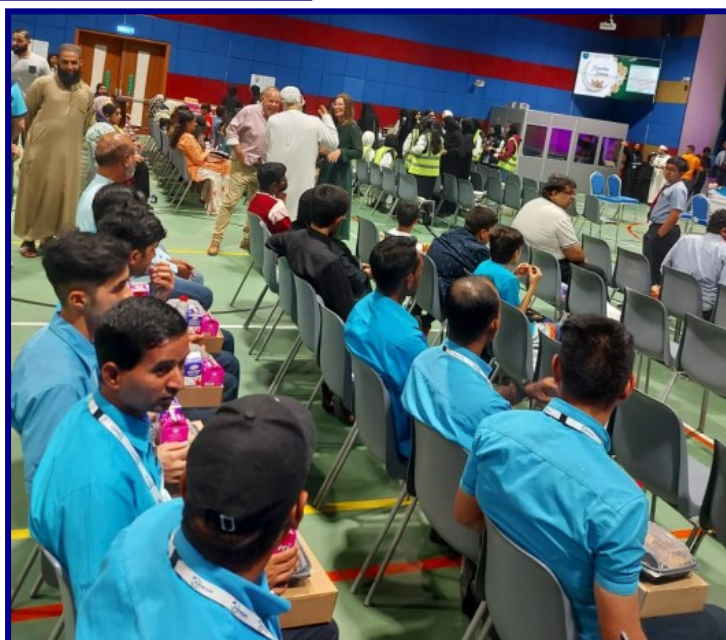
Check out our beautifully produced & professionally presented first ever Ramadan Magazine, created by our talented Islamic Team of Ms. Mukhsana, Teachers & Islamic Student Council.

<https://www.flipsnack.com/gemswss/ramadan-magazine.html>

SLT attended a GEMS Iftar event on 13/4/23, along with our GEMS Founder & Chairman Mr. Sunny Varkey, GEMS Chief Education Officer Dr. Saima Rana & our School Cluster Senior Vice President Ms. Ranju.



Whole School News; WSS Iftar, 13/4/23!



We thank our students & parents for their kind & generous contributions towards the WSS Iftar event on 13/4/23. It was a very special event & enjoyed by all!

WSS Superstar Champions; Spotlight on Success!

We love to celebrate success, commitment & hard work at WSS. Congratulations to Leyana David, sister Dayana & her supportive family for her exceptional achievement for her age—we are very proud of her!

1. Leyana has achieved Grade 8, the highest grade, at the age of 10, in Electronic Keyboard from Trinity College London (in February, 2023). As per Google, this makes her the youngest one in the world to reach this high standard. She traveled to London and received special appreciation directly from Trinity College (Image 1) as well as from Dubai Trinity College (Image 3). She is now in the application process of documenting her achievement in multiple National and International Record platforms.

2. Leyana can also play the keyboard blindfolded while answering mathematical problems.

3. Leyana secured the second runner-up position at the UCMAS State level (Kerala) Abacus competition. Currently, she is at the 5th level of Abacus.

4. In Karate, Leyana has earned the final Brown Belt and is waiting for the Black Belt assessment by May, 2023.

5. Leyana and her sister, Dayana David, were invited to perform Music on the Keyboard, Keytar, Guitar and Violin in the Club FM 99.6 Carnival 2023 in March, 2023, at Souk Al Marfa, Dubai islands. They received an Appreciation Certificate from the famous Magician Mr. Gopinath Muthukad (Image 4).

Leyana's achievement was aired over the MediaOne TV channel on 19th March, 2023. Following is the link for this: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nscmWeuravI>

7. Her achievement was documented in 3 newspapers as found at the following links & available in regular hardcopy format too:

Madhyamam on 26th March 2023 – <https://www.madhyamam.com/lifestyle/woman/little-tacher-levana-1143280>

Mathrubhumi on 25th March 2023- <https://newspaper.mathrubhumi.com/pravasi/gulf/pravasi-1.8420693>

Malayala Manorama on 15th April 2023- <https://www.manoramaonline.com/global-malayali/gulf/2023/04/15/chat-with-music-teacher-david-raja-and-family.html>

8. Leyana is also a Grade 3 holder in Violin with Distinction at the age of 8 years.

Check out Leyana's and sister Dayana's YouTube channel https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6LSipwrhCv_0A-4CT6TA6Q



Environment & Recycling Superstar Champions!



شهادة مشاركة Certificate of Participation

Environment and Protected Areas Authority – Sharjah

Is pleased to make sincere Thanks and Deep Appreciation

To / **GEMS Westminster School Sharjah**

On your Great Efforts in Sustainable Trees Initiative

8th cycle 2023



Hana Saif Al - Suwaidi

هيئة البيئة والمحميات الطبيعية



شهادة مشاركة Certificate of Participation

Environment and Protected Areas Authority – Sharjah

Is pleased to make sincere Thanks and Deep Appreciation

To / **Laneetha Shajahan**

GEMS Westminster School Sharjah

On your Great Efforts in Sustainable Trees Initiative

8th cycle 2023

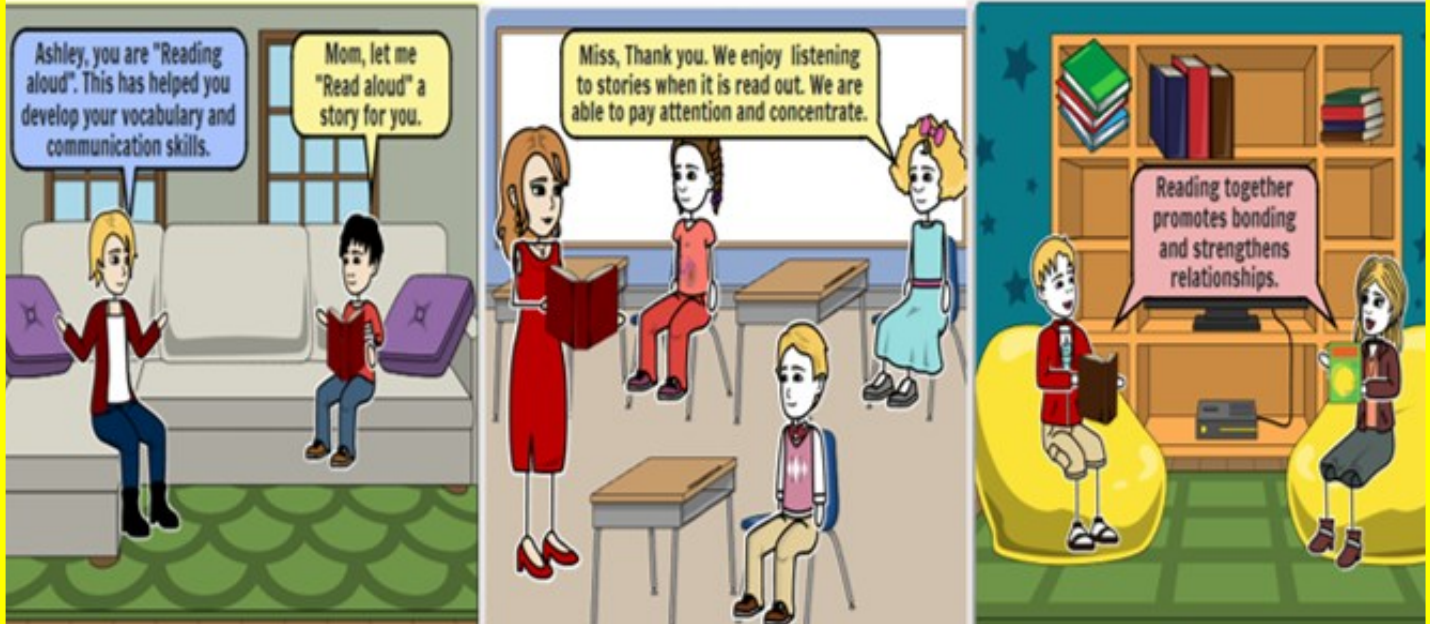


Hana Saif Al - Suwaidi

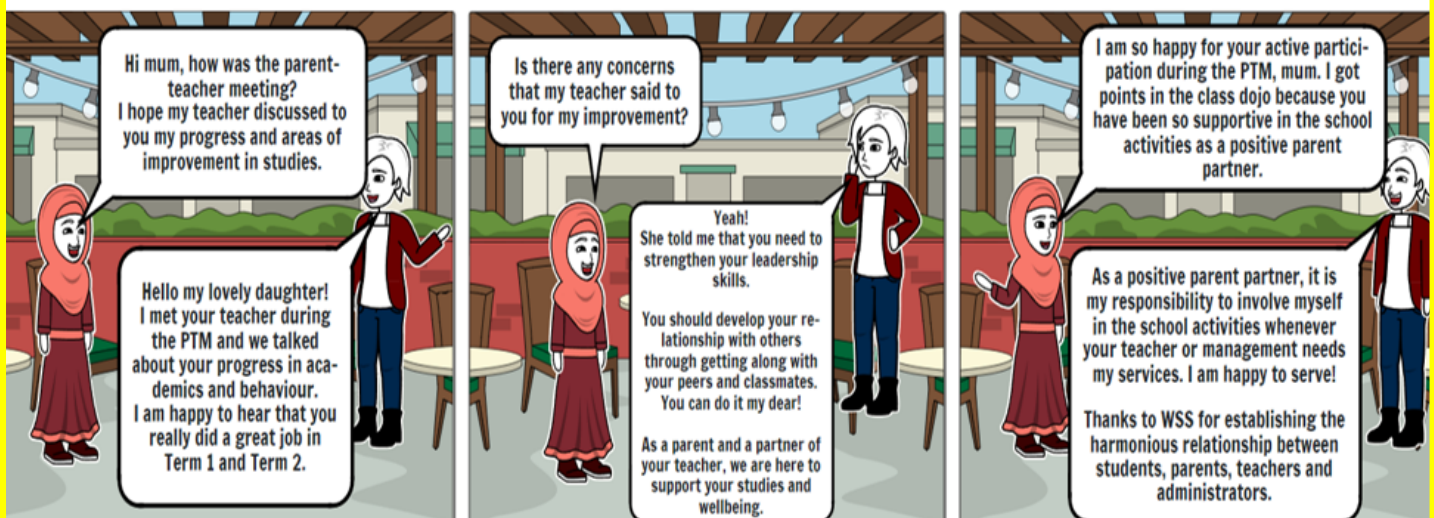
هيئة البيئة والمحميات الطبيعية

Whole School News; Storyboard Top Tips!

BENEFITS OF READING ALOUD



THE WSS POSITIVE PARENT PARTNER STORYBOARD



WSS Junior Section Superstar Champions; Literacy Week Winners!



Extreme Reading Winners, Ms. Sadiqa & Ms. Aisha



WSS Junior Section Superstar Champions!



WSS Junior Section Superstar Champions!



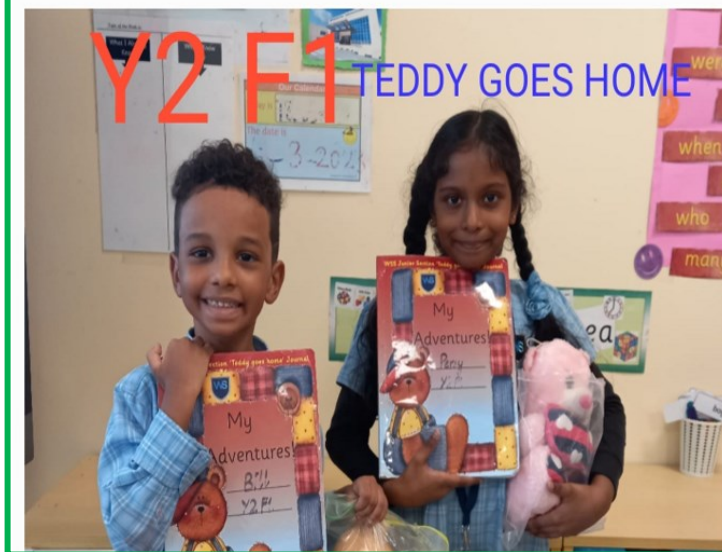
Happy to receive stickers from Ms. Shamail for filling our marble j



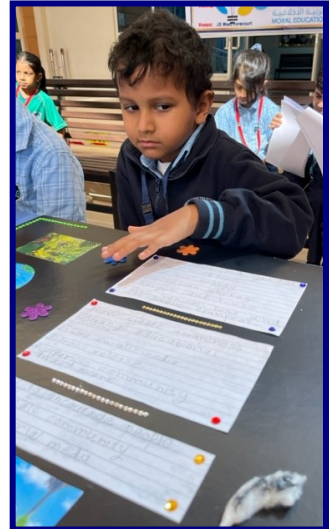
WSS Junior Section Superstar Champions!



With Ms.Sidra and Ms.Aqueen

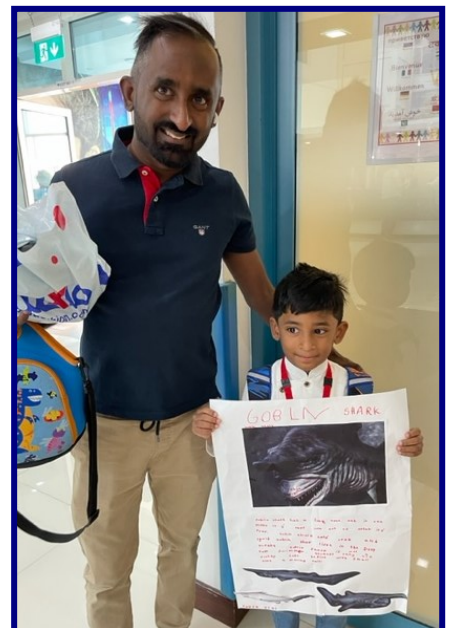
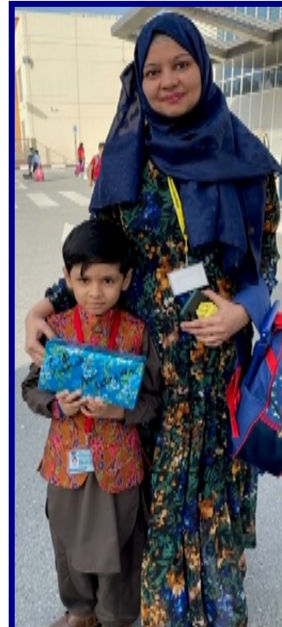


Junior Section News; Y2 Moral Education Projects Exhibition, 18/4/23!

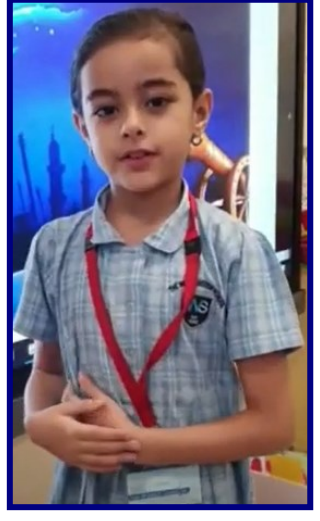
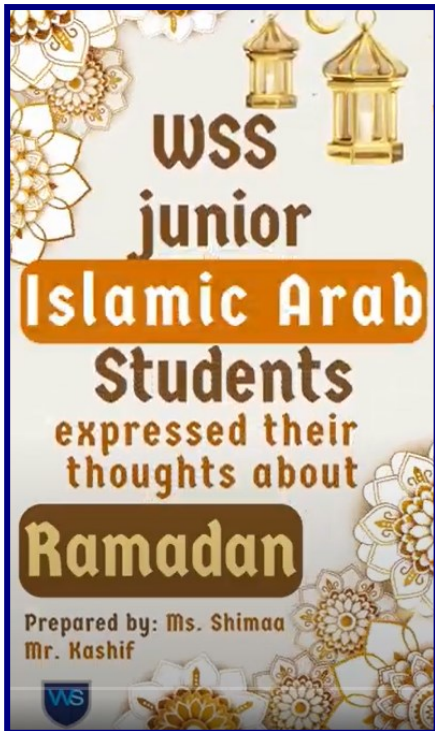


Projects were 1) How I apply Ramadan Values at home, & 2) Pollution Solution Projects. Students spoke very confidently to Ms. Valerie, Dr. Lisa, other SLT & our special GEMS guests SVP Ms. Ranju & HR BP Ms. Zarah, who were very impressed with the children's knowledgeable explanations & beautiful projects!

Junior Section News; Eid Celebration Day, 27/4/23!



Junior Section News; Student Voice—Ramadan!



Junior Section News



مدرسة جيمس وستمينستر الشارقة
GEMS Westminster School
SHARJAH

GEMS
EDUCATION

We are very excited to invite you to your child's End of Key Stage1 Graduation Ceremony. Our little stars have worked very hard throughout this year and it is now time to celebrate their accomplishments and success. Details are as follows:

Congratulations!

2023
Batch

Event: Y2 Graduation Day
Date: 1st May, 2023
Time: 12:00 pm - 02:00 pm
Venue: WSS Auditorium
Costume: School uniform/
Graduation dress

Looking forward for your active participation to make the day special for your child. Thank you.

Junior Section News; Learning Fun in FS2!



FS2F1 with Ms. Himaya



Learning through play



Using our creative ideas

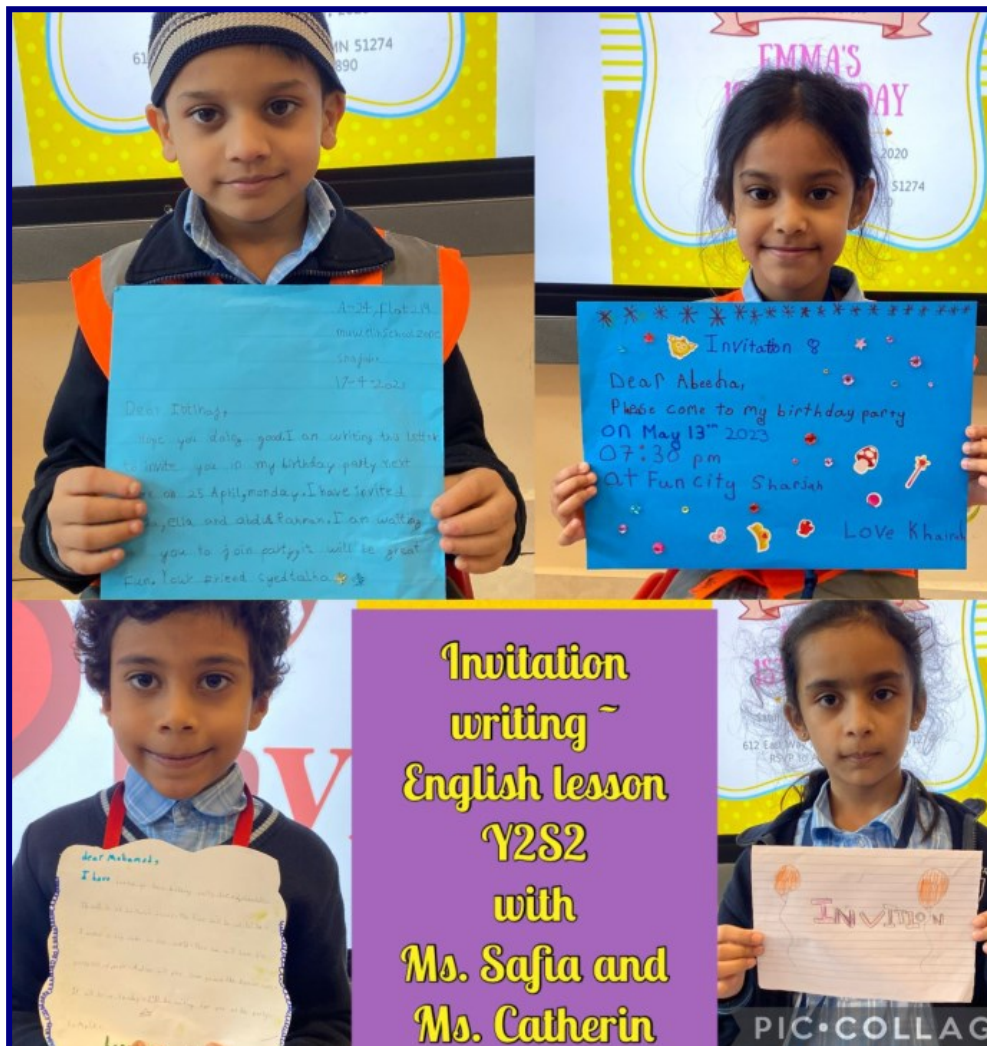
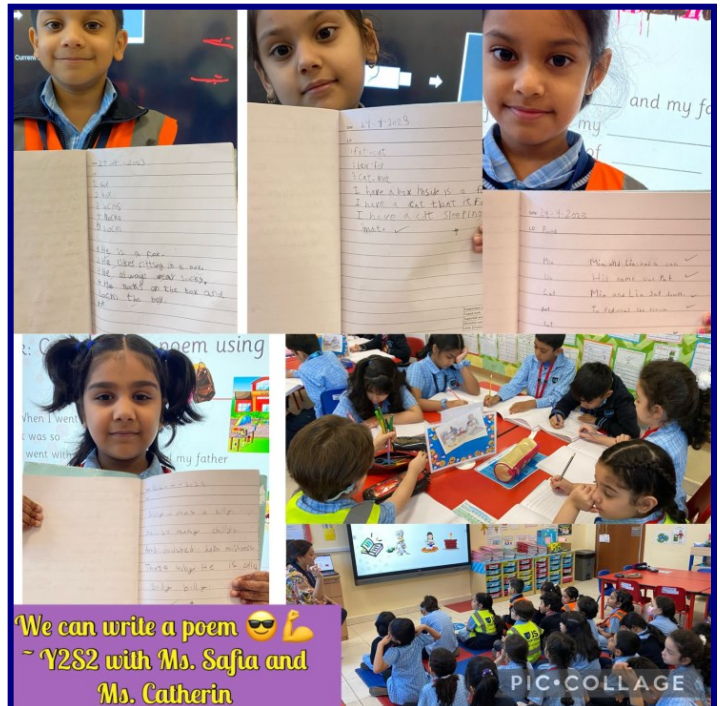
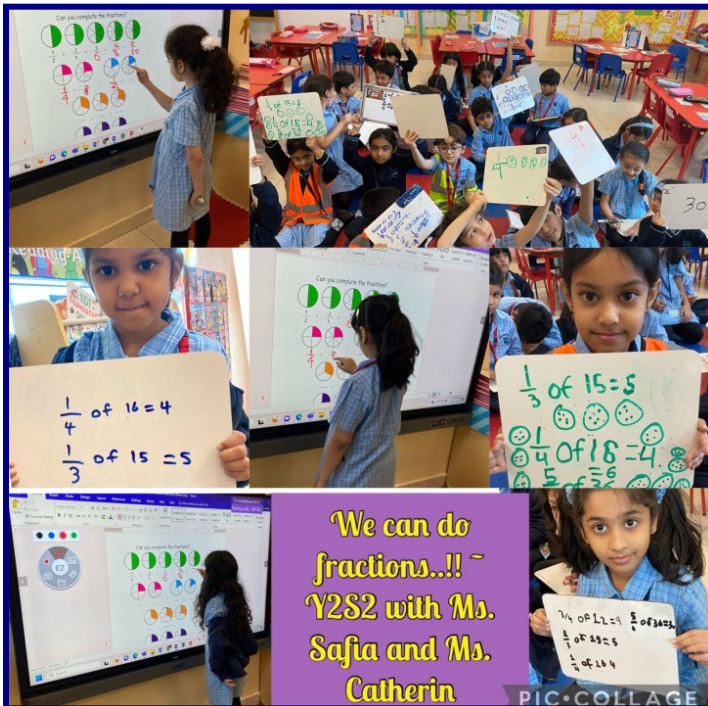


Learning about farm animals

Junior Section News; Learning Fun in Y1!



Junior Section News; Learning Fun in Y2!



WSS Primary Section Superstar Champions; Welcoming Ramadan!



Certificates were awarded by Ms. Sana Shabbir for students who best welcomed the holy month of Ramadan



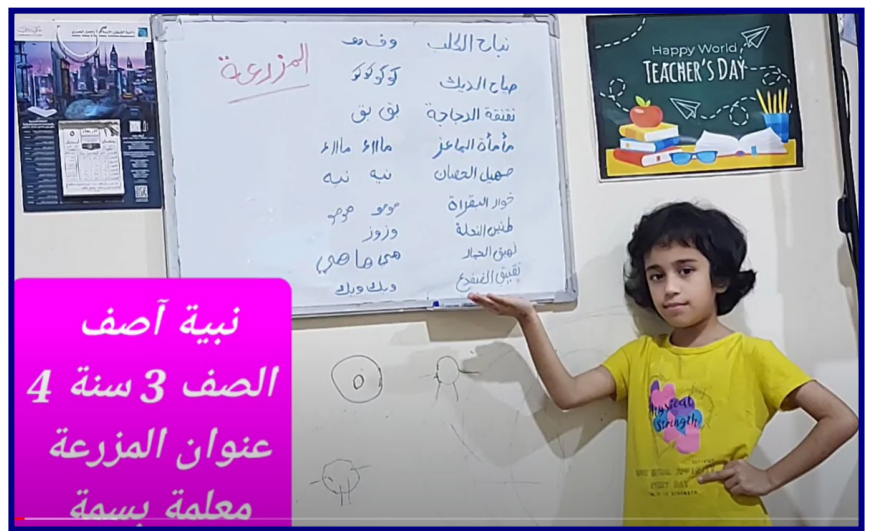
WSS Primary Section Sporting Superstar Champions!



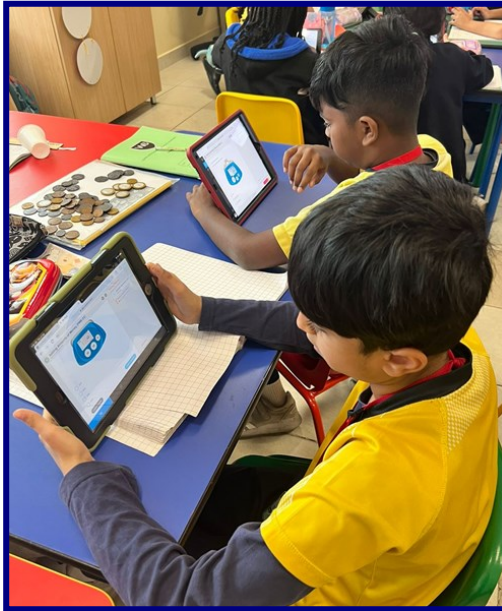
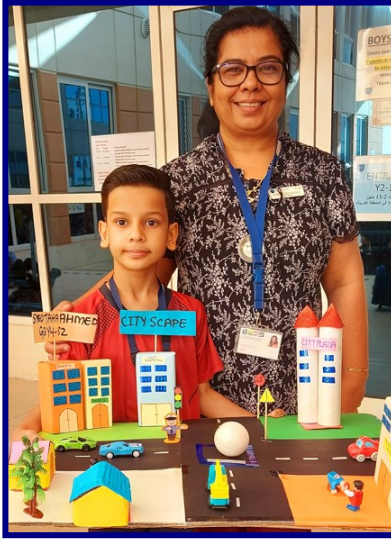
Primary Section News; Y5 & Y6 Islamic Ramadan Assembly, 18/4/23!



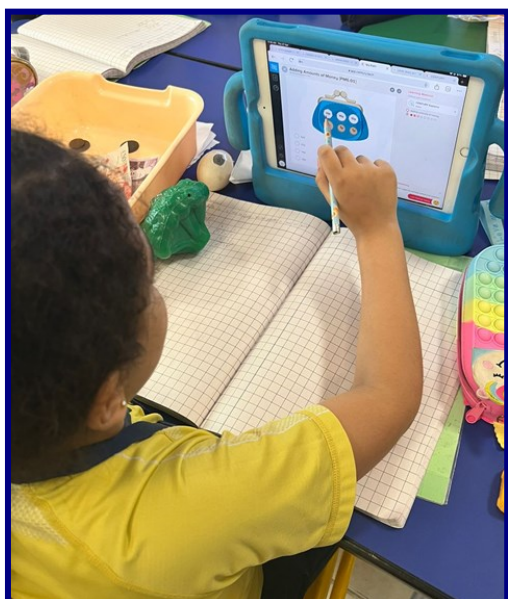
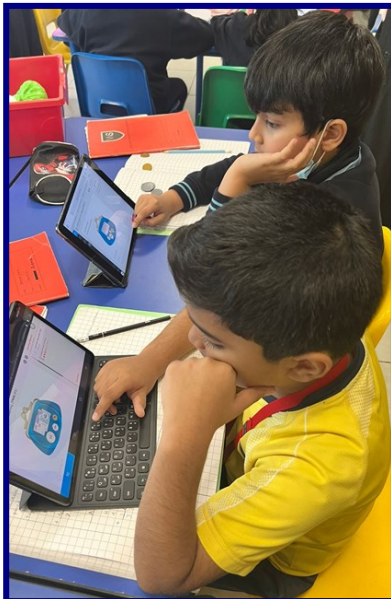
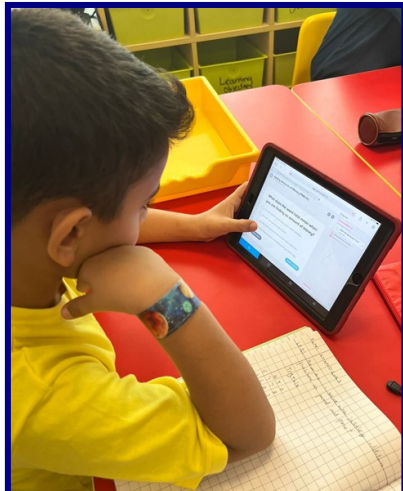
Primary Section News



Primary Section News



Amazing Maths with Y3F1, who were problem-solving using addition of pounds & pence!



Primary Section News; Scintillating Science!

Y3D2 Students investigating on fossil formation.

with Ms. Lissy



ENGLISH

Linguistic Talent Week 2023

Coming soon!!

Secondary Department of English



Spelling **P**unctuation **a**nd **G**rammar
Online competition with your own device.

Spelling Test with preapproved list uploaded by your teacher.



Read a passage from home. All you need is a Microsoft Teams account. Oh Wait! You already have one 😊

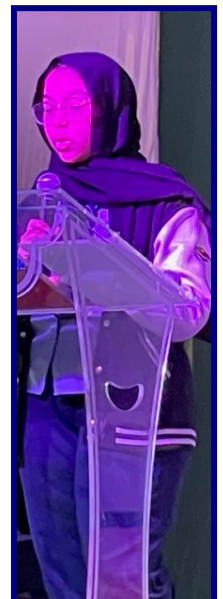
Show power of your speech and persuasive skills with preapproved topics



مدرسة جيمس وستمينستر الشارقة
GEMS Westminster School
SHARJAH

Speak to your English Teacher Today!

Secondary Section News; Y11 Options Event, 17/4/23!



Secondary Section News; IGCSE Cambridge Board Accreditation, 2023!



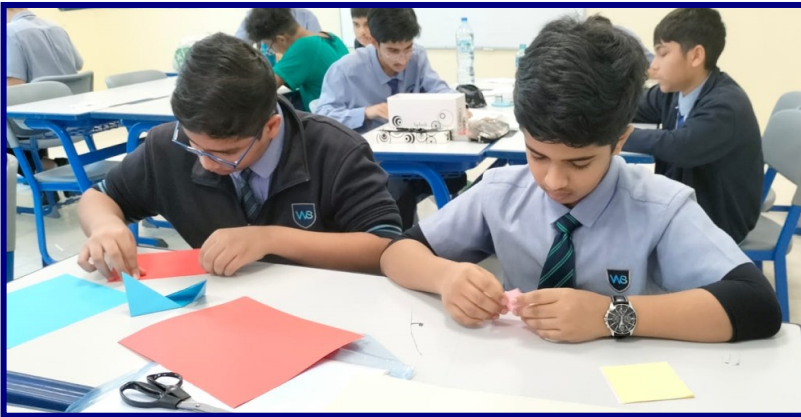
WSS English Department achieved a historic first for WSS over the weekend, by administering our first ever CIE Practical Speaking tests with our own school examiners (rather than Board staff). The last formal speaking tests were administered prior to COVID by British Council Board examiners. However, we have now trained six of our own WSS examiners. Well done to the English team—we are proud of this significant development!

Secondary Section News; Cyber-security Ambassadors!

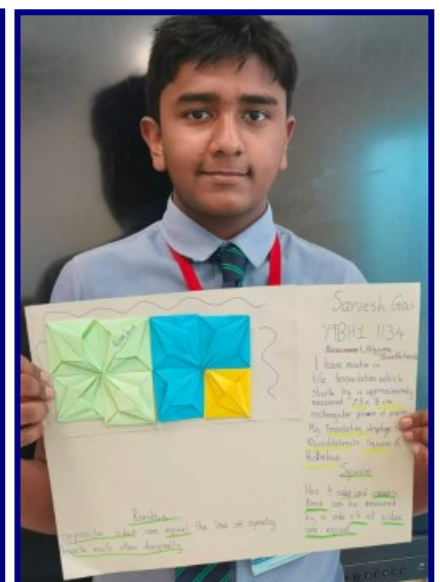
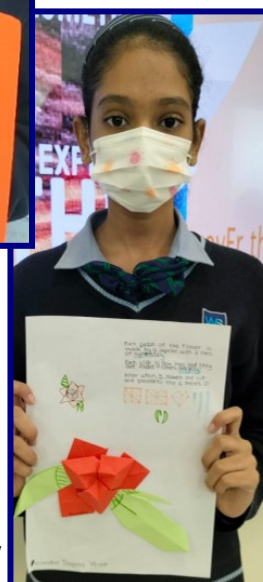
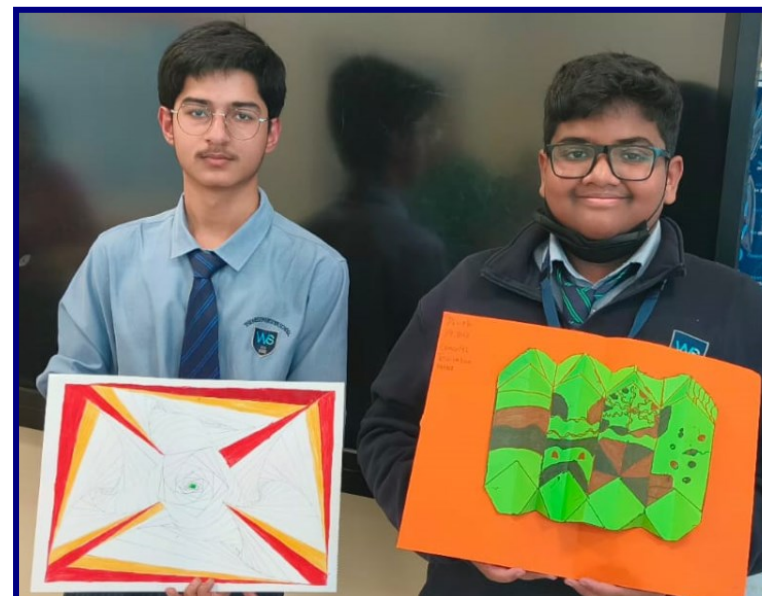
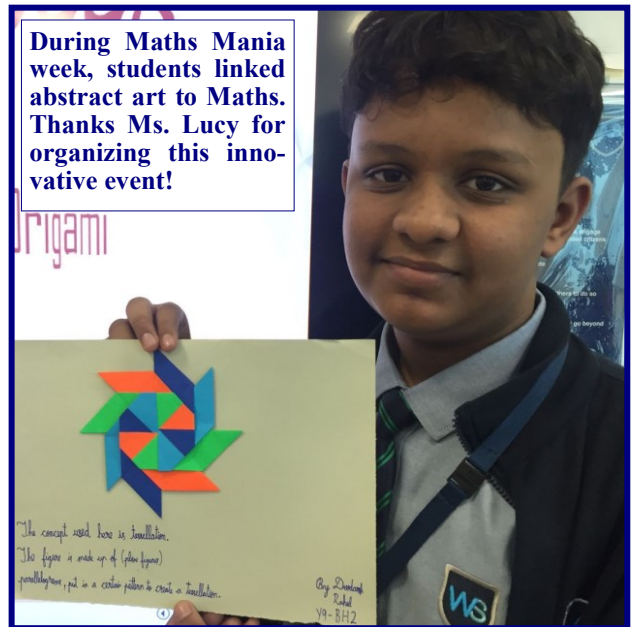


Ten Y12 students, along with 2 Teachers, Ms. Sony and Mr. Pratik, attended an exclusive 2-hour, comprehensive session on Cybersecurity at ESET Middle East Headquarters in Dubai Internet City, Dubai on 13/4/23. The programme was organized by Yallaschools UAE. Thank you to Yallaschools for hosting this important Safeguarding event.

Secondary Section News; Maths Mania Week!



During Maths Mania week, students linked abstract art to Maths. Thanks Ms. Lucy for organizing this innovative event!

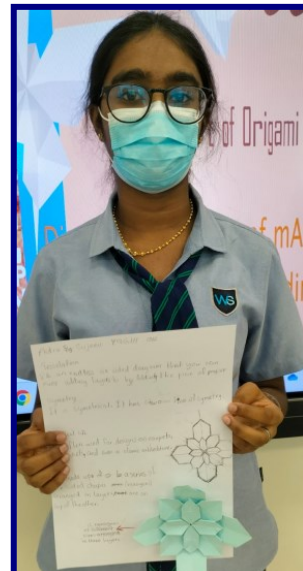
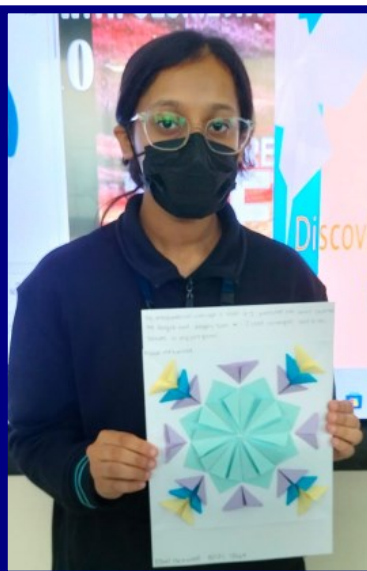


Secondary Section News; Maths Mania Week!

MATHS ACTIVITY

ABSTRACT ART WITH GEOMETRY
ART OF ORIGAMI
DISCOVER THE BEAUTY OF MATHEMATICS
THROUGH PAPER FOLDING

With Ms. Lucy Chester



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