

GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, SHARJAH



Newsletter Issue #29
14th April, 2022



Message from the
Principal/CEO
Ms. Valerie Thompson

Dear WSS Parents,

WSS Ramadan Timings

Ramadan Kareem! We understand how important & special the holy month of Ramadan is to many of our families & hope that the month is going well for you & your children. Thank you for engaging in the survey on school Ramadan timings. This year was particularly challenging to balance the loss of learning time due to the 4-day week, the need to prepare for forthcoming international exams, wellbeing & also to try to avoid the heavy traffic!

Following parent feedback, SLT met again on 12/4/22 to see if it was possible to review our timings. However, based on reports from BBT & other schools in the area, starting later/leaving earlier would mean much heavier traffic around school, causing further delays in buses arriving or reaching home. Therefore timings will remain as is, one hour shorter than usual. We thank parents for their understanding & support.

However, we have revised internal lesson timings to create a slighter longer mid-day wellbeing Break to allow better resting & chance for refreshment during the day.

Dates for Your Diary

Date	Details
Monday 11th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per SPEA Circular 14/3/22, all students must return to F2F classes unless the absence is due to COVID (no online DL) We will be on Ramadan timings (7:15am—1pm). Ramadan Kareem!
Sat. 16th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online TEAMS PTM, 8am-1pm. Exact timings to be shared by the Teacher
Mon. 2nd- Wed. 4th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Probable Eid Al Fitr. School closed as per SPEA confirmation (TBC). School resumes as per normal timings from Thurs. 5th May (TBC)
Thurs. 30th June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last day of the academic year for students
Mon. 29th August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First day of new Academic Year 2022-2023 T1 Fees need to be cleared in full before any student joins. Please budget accordingly as there are no T1 Payment Plans.



Happy Birthday!



Ramadan Kareem!



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

مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر الشارقة



النشرة الإخبارية رقم 29
14 أبريل 2022



رسالة من
المديرة / الرئيس التنفيذي
السيدة ظهيري توميسون

أولياء أمور مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر
الأغزاء، الشارقة

توقيت رمضان

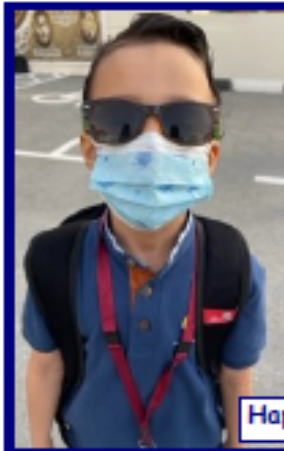
رمضان كريم! نحن نقفهم مدى
أهمية وخصوصية شهر رمضان
المبارك للعديد من عائلاتنا ونأمل أن يسير هذا الشهر على ما
يرام لك ولأطفالك. شكرًا لك على المشاركة في استطلاع
الرأي حول مواقيت المدرسة في رمضان. كان هذا العام
تحديًا بشكل خاص لتحقيق التوازن بين ضياع وقت التعلم
بسبب 4 أيام في الأسبوع، والحاجة إلى الاستعداد
للامتحانات الدولية القادمة، والرفاهية أيضًا لمحاولة تجنب
الازدحام المروري

بعد استطلاع التغذية الراجعة للآباء، اجتمعت SLT مرة
أخرى في 12/4/22 لمعرفة ما إذا كان من الممكن مراجعة
توقيتاتنا. ومع ذلك، استنادًا إلى التقارير الواردة من BBT
والمدارس الأخرى في المنطقة، فإن البدء متأخرًا / المغادرة
مبكرًا يعني ازدحام المرور حول المدرسة، مما يتسبب في
مزيد من التأخير في وصول الحافلات أو الوصول إلى المنزل.
لذلك ستبقى المواقيت كما هي، أقل بساعة واحدة من
المعتاد. نشكر الآباء على تفهمهم ودعمهم.

ومع ذلك، قمنا بمراجعة توقيت الدروس الداخلية لإنشاء
استراحة رفاهية أطول في منتصف اليوم لإتاحة فرصة أفضل
للراحة والانتعاش خلال اليوم

المواعيد

التفاصيل	التاريخ
وفقًا لمنشور SPEA 14/3/22، يجب على جميع الطلاب العودة إلى فصول F2F (التعليم الوجاهي) ما لم يكن الغياب بسبب COVID لا يوجد (تعليم عن بعد) عبر الإنترنت. مستكون في أوقات رمضان (7:15 صباحًا - 1 مساءً). رمضان كريم!	الاثنين 11 أبريل
اجتماع أولياء الأمور (PTM) ، 8 صباحًا - 1 مساءً، يتم مشاركة المواعيد المحددة بواسطة المدرس.	السبت 16 أبريل
عيد الفطر. تم إغلاق المدرسة وفقًا لتأكيد (SPEA (TBC). مستأنف المدرسة حسب المواعيد العادية من الخميس، الخامس من مايو (يحدد لاحقًا)	الاثنين 2 الأربعاء 4 مايو
• آخر يوم في العام الدراسي للطلاب	الخميس 30 يونيو 2022
يجب تسوية رسوم اليوم الأول من العام الدراسي الجديد 2022- 2023 بالكامل قبل انضمام أي طالب. يرجى وضع الميزانية وفقًا لذلك حيث لا توجد خطط دفع T1.	الاثنين 29 أغسطس



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

WSS Community Celebrates Ramadan. Ramadan Kareem!



مدرسة جيمس وستمينستر الشارقة
GEMS Westminster School
SHARJAH



The Ramadan gems of Kindness & Respect 30 Day challenge

Dear WSS Families,

Assalamu Alaykum,

During the Holy Month of Ramadan, we are encouraging all our students to acknowledge the moments we spend with our loved ones through our #WSS gems of Kindness and Respect. The aim of this 30 days challenge is to persuade parents and students to participate together during this special month, and gather in the acts of kindness.

The Holy Quran had been revealed during the month of Ramadan. This challenge reflects upon the important values prioritized in the Quran such as kindness, empathy, helpfulness and respect. we invite ALL WSS students, parents and all WSS staff to perform a Ramadan gem of Kindness

The challenge is to complete 30 acts of kindness to coincide with the 30 days of Ramadan:

Perform an

act of

KINDNESS

this Ramadan

Perform an act of kindness The Holy Quran had been revealed during the month of Ramadan. This challenge reflects upon the important values prioritized in the Quran such as kindness, empathy, helpfulness.

Send your Ramadan gems of kindness to Ramadan_wss@gemsedu.com

Whole School News; Ramadan Gems of Kindness!

WSS Ramadan Acts Of Kindness

1	Decorate your house to welcome Ramadan and send to aiysha.k.wss@Gemsedu.com	2	Help your mother with house chores and send to aiysha.k.wss@Gemsedu.com	3	Thank our doctors, care workers and WSS Heads or teachers by making them a card and sending to aiysha.k.wss@Gemsedu.com	4	Smile at everyone you see today	5	Write a letter to someone important to you and thank them	6	Clean your room without being asked	7	Write a kind note to your teacher and send it by email
8	Help make iftar and Suhoor and send a picture to aiysha.k.wss@Gemsedu.com	9	Spend all day saying kind things to and about people	10	Pick up the trash	11	Give a family member a hug	12	Tell someone why you appreciate	13	Teach someone something new	14	Tell someone you love them for the sake of Allah
15	Compliment 5 people today	16	Use only positive words	17	Wash the dishes after a family meal	18	Thanks someone who's made a difference in your life	19	Call your grandparents/family member only to talk to them	20	Set a table for iftaar and tidy up after	21	Write a dua card for Laylatul-Qadr and send to aiysha.k.wss@Gemsedu.com
22	Share your food today	23	Give food to birds or other animals	24	Plant something	25	Water any plant	26	Make dua and prayer card for your parents and send to aiysha.k.wss@Gemsedu.com	27	Help your friend with a problem	28	Return a shopping trolley
29	Wish people a good day	30	Make an eid card and send it to aiysha.k.wss@Gemsedu.com										

Here are some ideas for gems of kindness—but you can replace these with other ideas that suit your family!

Parents and students can share their Ramadan gems of Kindness at aiysha.k.wss@gemsedu.com

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

Education is a shared commitment between dedicated teachers, motivated students and enthusiastic parents with high expectations. **Team work**

TEAM WORK



Congratulations to VP Mr. Andrew Wilson who has been appointed as Principal of a new school in Dubai for next academic year. He will be leaving WSS in July 2022 to start a grand new leadership adventure! We thank him for his 9 years of dedicated service to WSS development & wish him every success in this new phase of his professional journey.



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



WSS
GEMS
EDUCATION

Positive Reviews

ABAY dreamz
2 reviews • 0 photos
★★★★★ 1 hour ago
Offering value added teaching and learning experience.

WSS Recycling Superstar Champions!



Simply Bottles Plastic Water Bottle Recycling Competition

As I am sure you are aware through our weekly Newsletter celebrations of Recycling Superstars, WSS has been participating in the 'Simply Bottles' recycling campaign by collecting used water bottles, a competition sponsored by 'Mai Dubai'. Together, participating schools across the Emirates collected a staggering approx. 6,000KG (450,000 bottles) for recycling. We are proud to share that WSS was one of the first 5 Schools to collect 5,000 plastic bottles, & will receive the prize of 50 liters of Mai Dubai water for the school. Congratulations to all our dedicated environmental superstars!



Congratulations & well done to super committed environmentalist Support Staff Ms. SITHY RIZANA YOOSUF & Ms. SOFIA NALUNKUMA who collected more than 2,000 bottles for our recycling drive!

WSS Superstar Champions!

Y5H2 -Digital Citizenship Award Winners



Aditya Adiyani



Sandeep Kumar



Mohammad Mustafa

*Her Highness Sheikha Fatima
Bint Mubarak Award for Excellence 2020-2021*



Nourhan Tamer Samir Ahmed Ismail Arafa
GEMS Westminster School, Sharjah



We see genius
in every child



Congratulations to our dedicated & hard-working Head of Inclusion Ms. Rema. Ms. Rema is the first 'Social Worker' in a Private School in Sharjah to be awarded the new License. Thank you to Mr. Ali, member the Sharjah Government Social Service Dept, who came to WSS to award her the Certificate & License.



Due to COVID, last year's Sheikha Fatima Scholarship Award Ceremony had to be cancelled, but we are celebrating Nourhan Tamer along with this year's winner Zuha Raees at a ceremony at WSD, on 26/4/22! Congratulations to our superstar ladies!

WSS Superstar Champions!



Ms. Divya, one of our Superstar Teachers who was awarded a special certificate & prize for her outstanding teaching & support of student success at our Staff Award Meeting at the end of T2. Most of her exam students achieved A* in the June '21 exam series, demonstrating amazing value-add!



Sedra Amro Hassan (Y3F1) won 2 golden medals & and a trophy in the All Stars Swimming Competition, as the best swimmer in the 8 year old category. Congratulations Sedra—we love your hard work, perseverance & commitment to success!

WSS Superstar Champions!



Just some of our Home Learning (HL) Superstars of FS2D1 with Ms. Nikhat & Ms. Afroz. Thanks to all parents for your tremendous ongoing support of your children's learning journey!



Convenient water dispensers are now installed in both girls' West Lobby & boys' East Lobby, to buy water incase someone does not have a refillable water bottle with them to use at the corridor water coolers.

WSS Community Celebrates Ramadan. Ramadan Kareem!



Syed Taha Ahmed Y3-S2
Syed Talha Ahmed Y1-H3



Nabia And Ramadan
Grade:2 S:2 Y:3

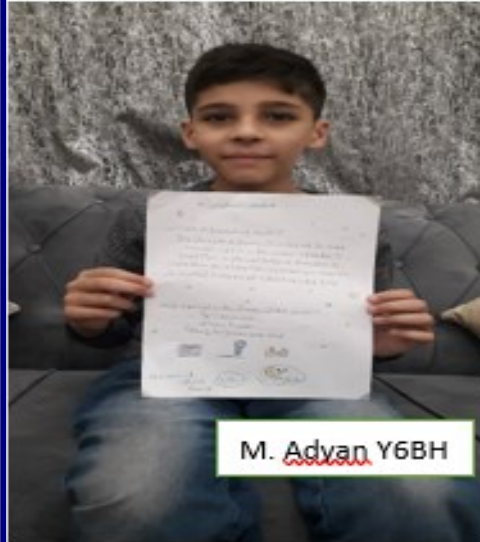


WSS Community Celebrates Ramadan. Ramadan Kareem!

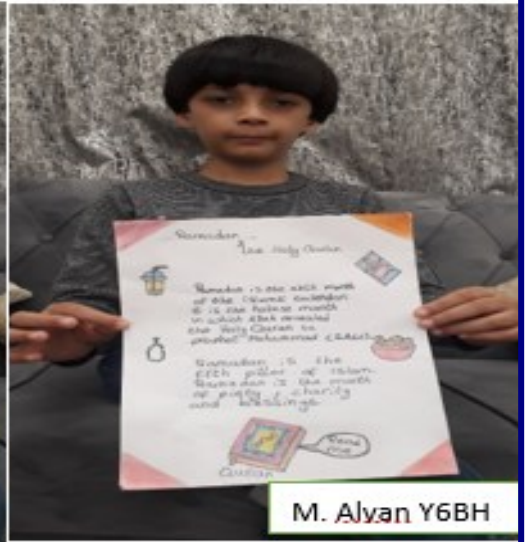
Ramadan challenges, 2022; Activities and Posters



M. Adyan Y6BH



M. Alyan Y6BH

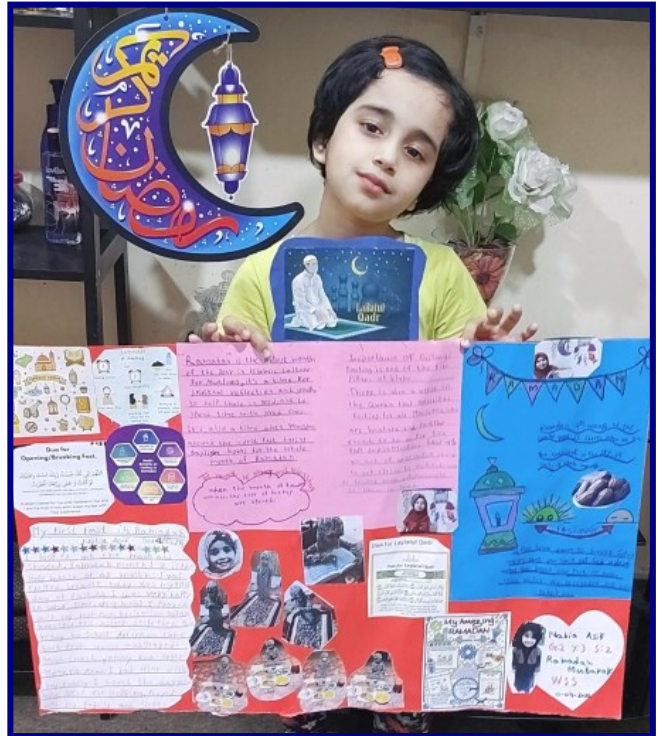
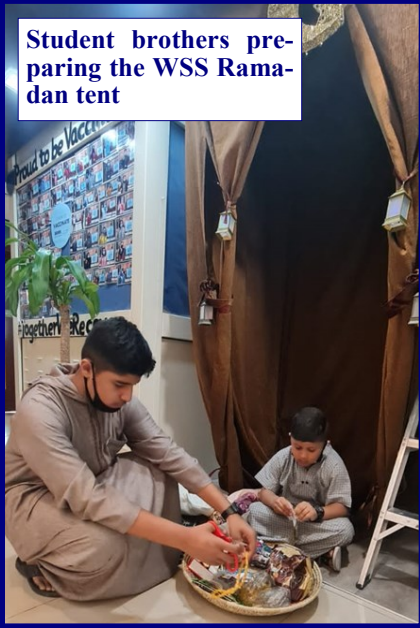


Busy in making Thank you card



Khadija Ahmed (Y8GD)

WSS Community Celebrates Ramadan. Ramadan Kareem!



Ramadan (How to Manage your Time and Studies in Ramadan)

Ramadan is the ninth month on the Islamic calendar, which marks important holidays and events for Muslims (people who practice Islam).

Mum and Dad, what is Ramadan?
Can you explain the holy month of Ramadan to me?

During Ramadan people fast, or refrain from eating and drinking, while it's light outside. Once the sun sets, families meet for big meals that may include stew, rice, dates, lentils, and more. People also have a morning meal before the sun rises.

Ramadan is a time to focus on our faith and also perform generous acts.

People raise money and donate supplies to help others in need. And many fast to remind themselves about those in the world who don't have enough to eat.

Aside from fasting and praying, what else can we do to observe Ramadan?

I am a student and I attend classes. Shall I also fast and follow the prayer timings?

Yes...Meriam, you need to master your self-discipline this holy month. As a student, follow these tips to make the most of your time and be productive during Ramadan. #SPEA wishes us a holy Ramadan through twitter. #RamadanMubarak

How to manage your time and studies in Ramadan?

1. Plan ahead and begin each day with a well-balanced **Sahur**.
2. Set realistic study goals considering your energy levels.
3. Prepare your things at home ahead then focus and concentrate during the lesson in the classroom.
4. Avoid multitasking and focus on one task at a time to save energy.
5. Get ample rest and sleep.

Whole School News

Dear School Principals,

Sharjah Private Education Authority is pleased to extend its warmest greetings to you.

We seek your cooperation with the Child Safety

Department by publishing the child behavioral booklet to all students to benefit from it during the holy month of Ramadan.

Students can also share the included activities in the booklet with child safety through the **ChildSafetyUAE** Instagram page.

السادة/ مديري المدارس الخاصة المحترمين

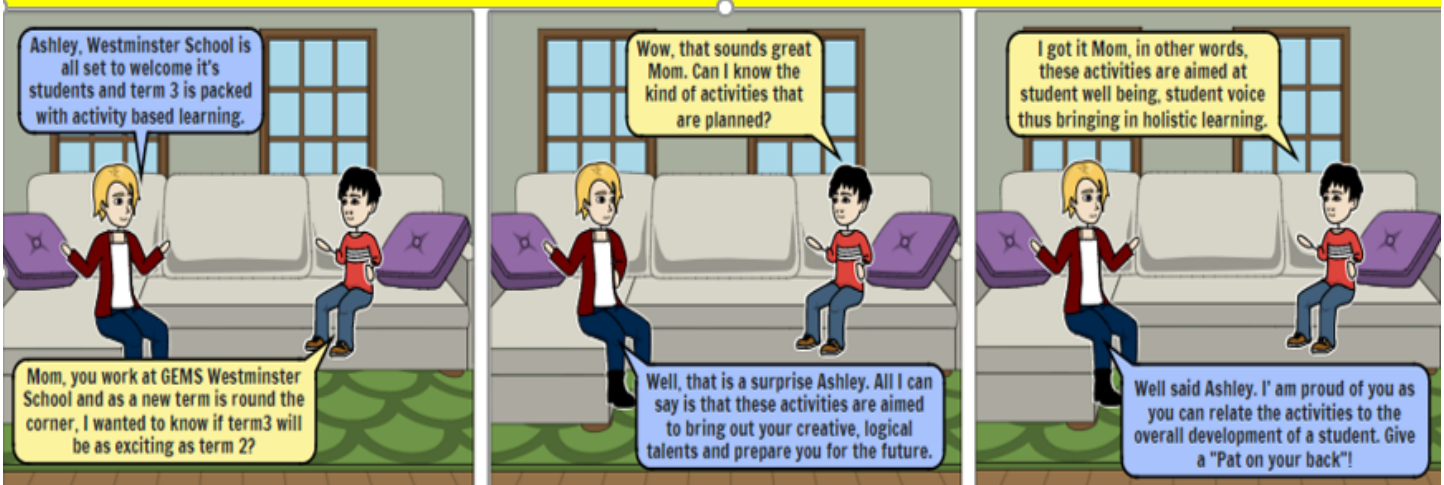
يطيب لهيئة الشارقة للتعليم الخاص أن تهديكم أطيب التحيات وصادق الأمنيات...

بالإشارة إلى الموضوع أعلاه ، نتطلع منكم التعاون مع إدارة سلامة الطفل من خلال نشر كتيب سلوكيات الطفل على جميع الطلبة للاستفادة منه خلال شهر رمضان المبارك ، كما يمكن للطلبة مشاركة الأنشطة الموجودة في الكتيب مع سلامة الطفل

عبر صفحة الإنستغرام **ChildSafetyUAE**

وتفضلوا بقبول فائق التقدير والاحترام...

COMMENCEMENT OF A NEW TERM



Whole School News; GEMS Rewards!



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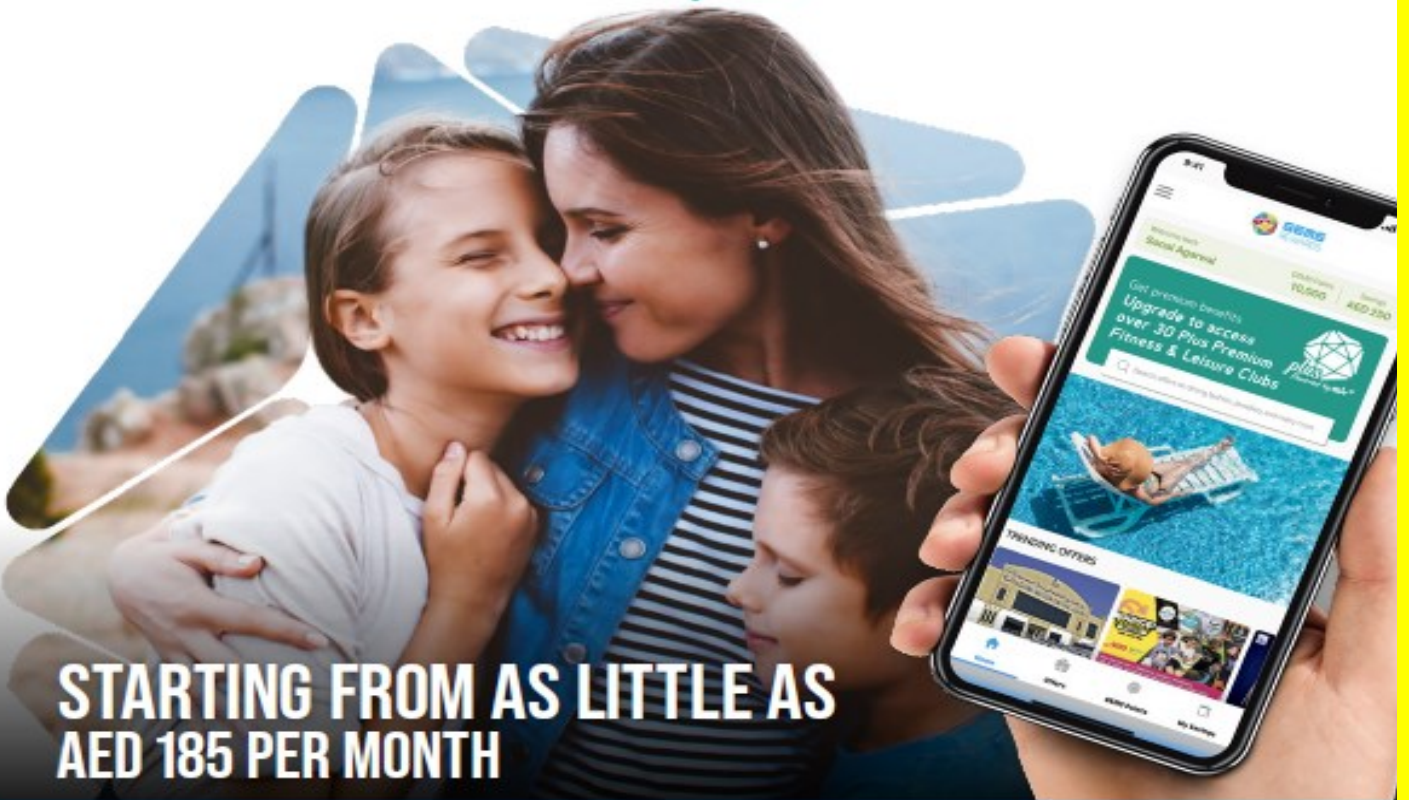
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You also get free access for up to two children aged 15 and below with a family membership.

GEMS Rewards Plus is powered by Advantage Plus, the region's most accessible Lifestyle membership programme.



Dubai Polo & Equestrian Club



Atlantis, The Palm



JA Beach Hotel

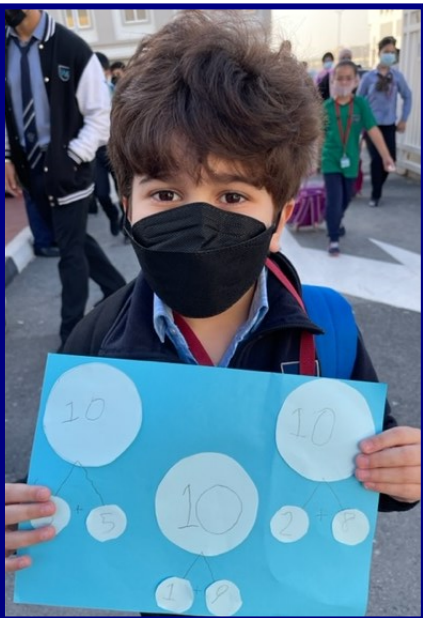
And more!

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Junior Section News



Junior Section News

FS2S2 with Ms. Maria



Learning About Doubling Concept.



Gone shopping! Y2D2 learnt all about money through real-life practical activities with Ms. Tahira. Love the cross-curricular links to Ramadan!

Junior Section News

YEAR 2/F1 Exploring about money and sources of food



exploring the sources of food



exploring the sources of food



classifying the sources of food

With MS. Raquel
and MS. Hajina

Junior Section News



Y2D2 learnt about using commas in their writing in Literacy lessons with Ms. Tahira



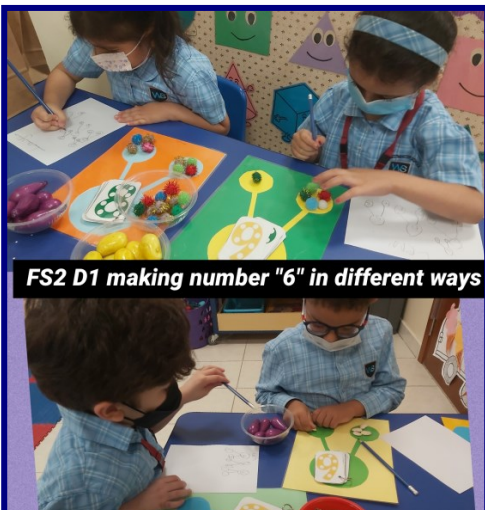
FS2 D1 preparing healthy iftar plate



FS2 D1 at the playdough station



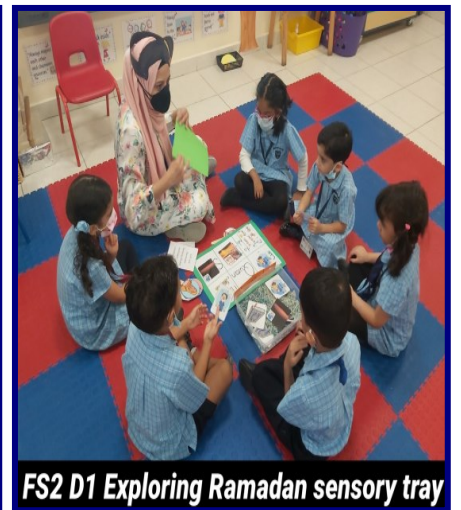
FS2 D1 busy with Ramadan crafts



FS2 D1 making number "6" in different ways



FS2 D1 sequencing story cards



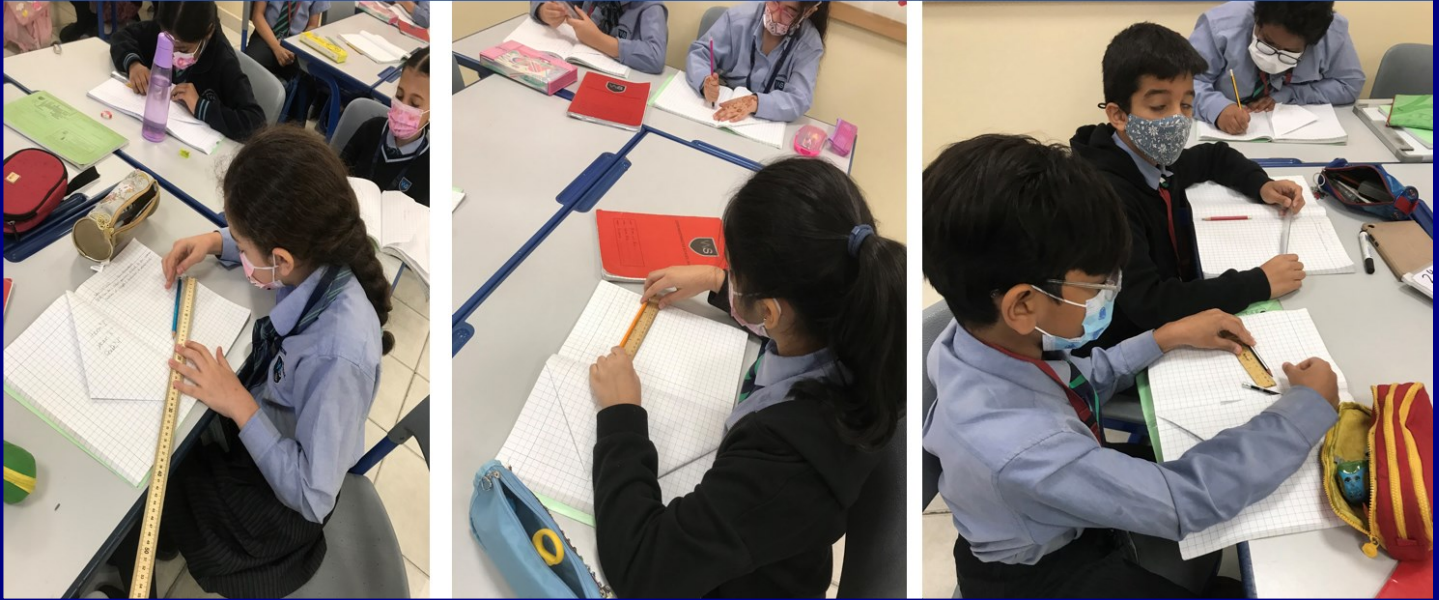
FS2 D1 Exploring Ramadan sensory tray

FS2D1 learning in multiple ways with Ms. Nikhat & Ms. Afroz, through all their senses & with cross-curricular links!

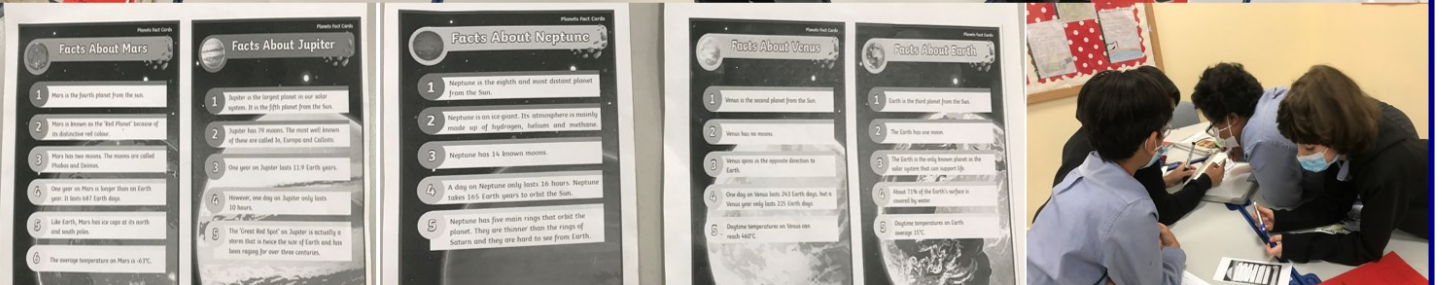
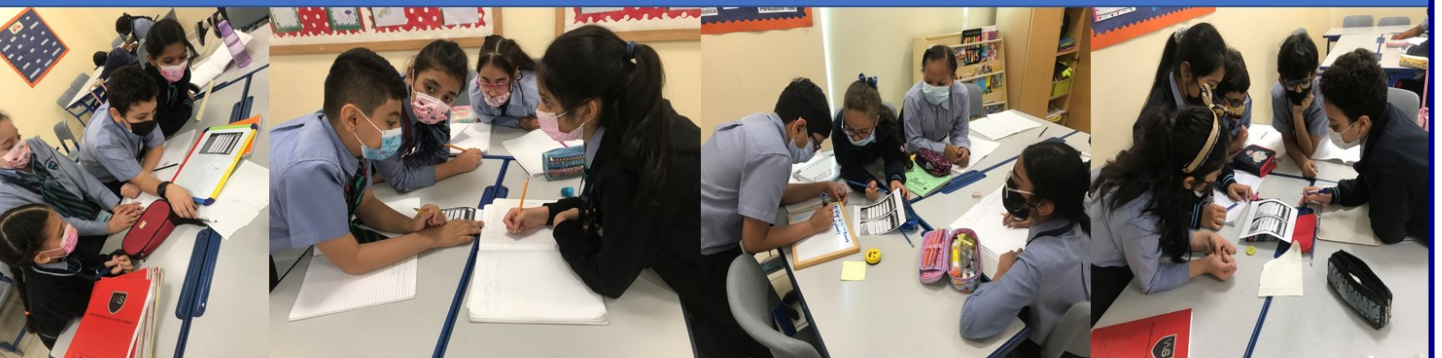
Primary Section News

Math Lesson – Y5H1

LFQ: How do I solve questions related to the conversion of length (centimetre to millimetres) ?



LFQ: How do I explore the movement of the Earth and other planets relative to the Sun in the Solar System ?
(Group Activity with the Planets Facts Card – Y5H1)



Collaborative learning with Ms. Anju

Primary Section News



[Fantastic Arabic Islamic projects & activities by Y5 with Mr. Ahmed





RAMADAN KAREEM

Ramadan Art work by Y4 with Ms. Surbhi

Preparing Students for the future!

MEET YOUR GCSEPOD STUDENT AMBASSADORS

KS4: From Year10-11 students, the below names have been selected as Ambassadors to use the unlimited resources from GCSEPOD. They can have access to it from 13th April to 10th May. They have been selected because they have done the active learning in GCSEPOD. The students will receive a certificate and a guide about using the resources in their email which is registered with school.

AHMED YASSINE HADRY - Y11BH1

THIERSON SAMBAJON LLAVE - Y10BD1

OMAR AL DEEB - Y10BS1

MAANYA SHRIVASTAVA - Y11GS1

MARYAM KASHIF SHERIF - Y10GD1

IBRAHIM JEHAZIEB - Y11BH1

OMAR RAHMOU - Y11BF1

Dear KS4 students: You can be the next Ambassador, if you are actively using the GCSEPOD for learning and completing the tasks assigned by your subjects teachers. If you are doing it, you can nominate yourself by writing at: ayesha.a4_wss@gemsedu.com

Secondary Section News



Secondary Section Student Leaders working on the WSS Mission Statement refresh, on 12/4/22 with the Principal. They discussed what they wanted the school to be moving forwards. They shared very insightful ideas.