

GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, SHARJAH



Newsletter Issue #36
9th June, 2022



Message from the Principal/CEO Ms. Valerie Thompson

Dear WSS Parents,

Keeping Your Children Safe: COVID-19

For all our children's safety, do please keep sick children at home. Never send children to school if they have any COVID symptom. If they are unwell with COVID symptoms, please take a PCR test before return to school. There is a rise of COVID cases in the community, so we are being extra careful—please send your children to school with a mask (& a spare in their bag) & remind them to wear it in school. For missed exams with a Medical Certificate/COVID reason, Term 3 Report grades will be assigned based on Continuous Assessment.

Dates for Your Diary

Date	Details
Mon. 13th June to Thurs. 23rd June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exam day timings from Monday 13/6/22 will be 7:30am-12:15pm Last exam day Thurs. 23/6/22
Thurs. 30th June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last official 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. There is no fee rise again this year. However, as per updated Authority Circular #25 received on 30/5/22, please note that students must join within the first week of the new academic year, or lose their booked seat to the Waiting List. If you pay full T1 fees this will also hold your child's seat. Moving forwards for new enrollments & new re-enrollments, the Re-enrollment Fee/Seat Booking Fee for next time may be adjusted up to



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

مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر الشارقة



النشرة الإخبارية رقم 36
9 يونيو 2022



رسالة من
المديرة / الرئيس التنفيذي
السيدة فاليري توميسون

أولياء أمور مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر
الشارقة الأعزاء،

الحفاظ على سلامة أطفالك ؛ كوفيد-19

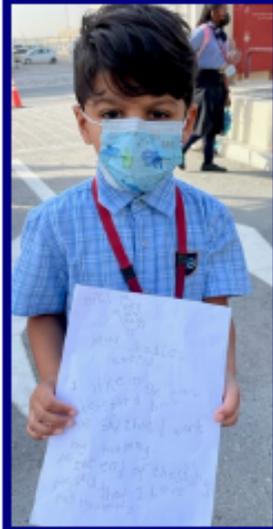
من أجل سلامة جميع أطفالنا ، يرجى إبقاء
الأطفال المرضى في المنزل. لا ترسل
الأطفال إلى المدرسة أبداً إذا كان لديهم أي
من أعراض COVID-19 .

إذا كانوا على ما يرام مع أعراض COVID-19، يرجى إجراء اختبار PCR
قبل العودة إلى المدرسة. هناك ارتفاع في حالات الإصابة بفيروس
كورونا في المجتمع ، لذلك نحن حريصون للغاية - **يرجى إرسال أطفالك
إلى المدرسة بتقناع** (وتقناع احتياطي في حقبتهم) وتذكيرهم بارتدائه في
المدرسة. بالنسبة للاختبارات الفاشلة بشهادة طبية / سبب COVID-19،
سيتم تعيين درجات تقرير الترمم الثالث بناءً على التقييم المستمر.



المواعيد

التفاصيل	التاريخ
مواعيد يوم الامتحان من الاثنين 13/6/22 ستون 7:30 صباحاً - 12:15 مساءً	الاثنين. من 13 يونيو إلى الخميس. 23 يونيو
يوم الامتحان الأخير الخميس. 23/6/22	اليوم الأخير
آخر يوم رسمي في العام الدراسي للطلاب.	الخميس. 30 يونيو 2022
اليوم الأول من العام الدراسي الجديد 2022-2023.	الاثنين. 29 أغسطس
يجب تسوية رسوم T1 بالكامل قبل انضمام أي طالب. يرجى وضع الميزانية وفقاً لذلك حيث لا توجد خطط دفع T1 ليس هناك زيادة في الرسوم مرة أخرى هذا العام. ومع ذلك ، وفقاً لتعميم الهيئة المحدث رقم 25 الذي تم استلامه في 30/5/22 ، يرجى ملاحظة أنه يجب على الطلاب الانضمام في غضون الأسبوع الأول من العام الدراسي الجديد ، أو فقدان مقعدهم المحجوز في قائمة الانتظار. إذا دفعت رسوم T1 كاملة ، فسيحفظ هذا أيضاً مقعد طفلك. المضي قدماً للتسجيلات الجديدة وعمليات إعادة التسجيل الجديدة ، قد يتم تعديل رسوم إعادة التسجيل / رسوم حجز المقعد في المرة القادمة حتى 1,000 درهم	



اللُّغَةُ الْعَرَبِيَّةُ
أنا ❤️ العربية
Arabic Language



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

Whole School News; Possible School Fee Discount With FAB Credit Card!



GEMS Co-branded Credit Card

Especially for GEMS Families!

Advance Tuition Fee Discount Scheme on GEMS Credit Card 2022-2023

(Applicable from 10th July, 2022)

FEE CYCLE	PAYMENT DUE DATE	PAYMENT PERIOD	FIXED RATE %	NO. OF MONTHS FEES IN ADVANCE
Term 1	On or before 25th August 2022	Full year fees	4.25%	10 months
	On or before 25th August 2022	1st and 2nd term fees	3.00%	7 months
	On or before 25th August 2022	1st term fees	1.50%	4 months
Term 2	On or before 15th December 2022	2nd and 3rd term fees	2.50%	6 months
	On or before 15th December 2022	2nd term fees	1.25%	3 months
Term 3	On or before 15th March 2023	3rd term fees	1.25%	3 months

For any clarifications on tuition fee discount offered, please contact GEMS School cashier

Terms & Conditions:

- Discount scheme is based on fixed rate percentage on tuition fee paid in advance according to the above calendar of fee cycle using the GEMS FAB Titanium Credit card only.
- The discount is applicable only if a minimum of one term Tuition Fee is paid in advance and can avail for a maximum of one Academic year
- Any outstanding fees must be paid in full before being eligible for the fee discount
- The discount is based on the current fee structure. Should any revision to the fee structure be approved by the regulatory authority at a later date, the difference shall be payable by the cardholder.
- In case of any refunds, the official refund policy will be applied and the discount already granted will be adjusted accordingly. □ The discount is applied on the net Tuition Fee after concession/reduction/advance payment, if any.

TO APPLY

CARD AND QUERIES PLEASE CONTACT

FATIMA 055-9794137 // aziz.fatima@bankfab.com

Whole School News; Parent Survey FAQs!

1. Why do you not have Native English speaking Teachers?

WSS is an international school, delivering the English National Curriculum for England (British Curriculum). Our fees, class size & staffing come with international Teachers. GEMS does have schools with native English speaking Teachers, but at a higher price point.

2. What do you do to train Teachers further?

Our Teachers are trained when they join WSS as per Authority requirements. However, we are committed to 'Lifelong learning'. We provide an intensive programme of CPD for them to continually upskill & support their professional development. The quality & breadth of our training programme was commended in our recent SPEA Review.

3. Why are there not more events & activities?

COVID protocols have really limited the provision of events, sports & activities. We are looking forward to getting back to normal with Section & group events & activities in the new academic year.

4. Why do you not use the books more?

The English National Curriculum aims to broaden students' skills, knowledge and understanding beyond one single curriculum book. Modern education includes research, use of IT resources & personalised activities to meet individual needs. The books are only one resource, but are really useful for guiding on & revision of key concepts.

5. How do you manage behaviour issues?

We have a clear & stepped approach to behaviour management. The Code of Conduct is based on mutual respect & is supported by the Fab. 5 (1) We do our best, 2) We respect each other, 3) we listen to learn, 4) we are safe & sensible, 5) We work together). Guiding children's long-term character development is challenging, so we request teamwork from home to support safe behaviour in school. Our policies are outlined in the Parent Handbook FYI.

6. Why are you still using IT resources?

We know that too much screen time is not healthy & can even be addictive for children. However, controlled use for educational purposes is a positive part of our learning programme. The Inspection Framework expects students to use IT resources as part of their learning programme, & we have taken the best resources applied during online learning & brought them into the classroom. For example, IT is a perfect platform for mid-lesson plenaries to check for learning so the Teacher can modify lesson activities according to students' needs.

7. Why can't we have more F2F Teacher Meetings?

Parents are welcome to meet the Teachers F2F as required. Just email the PRE or Teacher, & we will arrange a meeting time.

8. Why is the school day longer?

When Authorities brought in the 4-day week, we lost 20% of our learning time. The English National Curriculum is of a high standard, designed to require a certain number of hours & to be a pathway to Board exams. To ensure that our children were not disadvantaged & missing out on critical learning, we had to extend the school day.

9. Why do you have Homework/Home learning?

Students learn best when they practice skills & apply knowledge. Investing extra time at home to reinforce school learning makes learning stronger. Home learning activities give them this opportunity. To reduce stress, students have a full week to complete assigned tasks (not just the weekend).

10. Why are washrooms not as clean after 1pm?

We do have a cleaning rota for Support Staff who are assigned to keep cleaning the washrooms throughout the day. The Foreman follows-up with them & we are working on this. However, some Support Staff also have Cover duty on the Junior buses, so there is less cleaning after 1pm. Our students can also help keep their environment neat & clean.

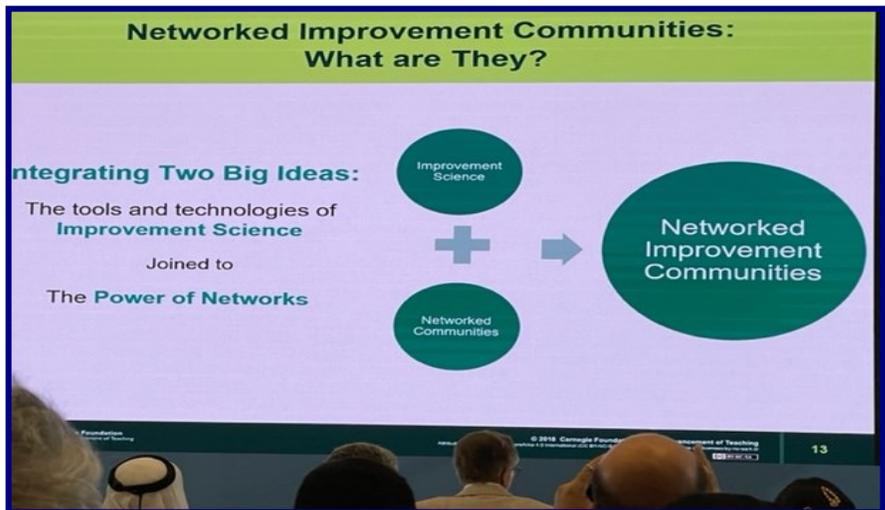
The most important gifts you can give your child are a **quality education** and the **values** that will guide them through life

Sunny Varkey

Whole School News



The Principal Ms. Valerie attended a Sharjah Education Academy Forum on Saturday 4/6/22. The Agenda focused around the launch of an online Teacher training platform inaugurated by HH Sheikh Qasimi & school improvement. Key note speakers included leaders of the Carnegie Foundation (USA).



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



Whole School News



Congratulations to all our British families on the Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee, celebrated over the weekend 3-6/6/22. This is the Queen's historic 70th anniversary of her accession to the throne, the longest-serving monarch in UK history. Here is Mr. Andrew's 'princess' celebrating!

COVID symptoms

- Fever
- Dry Cough
- Tiredness
- Body Pain
- Nasal Congestion / Runny Nose
- Headache
- Conjunctivitis
- Sore Throat
- Diarrhea
- New loss of taste and smell
- Rash on skin
- Discoloration of fingers and toes



EDUCATION

We see **genius** in every child

**JOIN THE GEMS
E-WASTE CAMPAIGN
RECYCLE
YOUR E-WASTE**



Whole School News; Top Tips for Growing Character!

CONFIDENCE

Hi dad, how's your day at school?

Hello dad! I am so happy today because my teacher praised me for the confidence that I had shown in the class during the flip learning in the lesson.

Wow! I am so glad that you are confident in everything you do. Keep up the good work.

How can self confidence drives success as a student like you?

Self-confidence has been defined as a feeling of trust in one's abilities, qualities, and judgment and the belief or confidence in oneself that one knows what to do, how to do it, and can handle challenges as they arise.

As a student, I lead my classmates to discuss the lesson and answer the questions to clear their doubts. I am happy to help them.

You are right! People who lack confidence often struggle with emotions like fear, depression, and anxiety, which are associated with negative health effects.

So what does it mean to be confident?

These are the examples of having a confident behaviour:

1. Doing what you believe to be right, even if others mock or criticise you for it.
2. Being willing to take risks and go the extra mile to achieve better things.
3. Admitting your mistakes, and learning from them.
4. Accepting compliments graciously. "Thanks, I really worked hard on that" . I'm pleased you recognise my efforts."

ACT OF KINDNESS

That's true Ms. Rodricks. Fatima was extremely kind to me. She used to drop me to the OT area, and carry my bag. Fatima helped me complete my lessons.

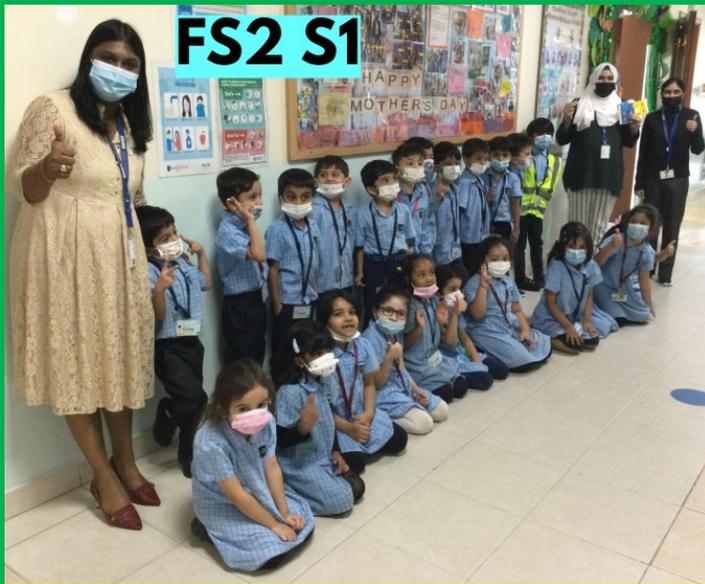
Fatima, I came to know that Samiha had injured her arm and you have been taking care of her very well.

Thank you Fatima.

I felt happy to help my friend when she was in need. It gave me immense joy.

I feel proud of my students. it is always a joy to be kind to others. Great job!! Fatima . You have demonstrated a fine example of Wellbeing!!

WSS Superstar Champions!



We are getting stickers from Ms Raghi and Ms Shamail to fill up marble jar



Dear Ma'am,

It was a beautiful journey with you. Alhamdulillah Fawaz gained enough confidence under your kindness. He has overcome his reluctance and able to read and choose answers independently. Surprisingly he knows everything whatever have been taught in the class, this all credit goes to your efforts and indulgence in students.

Cordially thankful to you & WSS.

I would like to send many thanks to the virtuous teacher, Ms Anjukrishna, she is really an awesome teacher, as you know year 3 students was in year 1 and year 2 online, when they back to school this was a challenge for the teachers and Ms. Anjukrishna won in the challenge and she made great progress with my son, she is giving all the support.

Thank you Ms. Anjukrishna 🙏

You are lucky to have her in your team.

Warm regards,

Rina

I would like to send many, many thanks to the virtuous teachers, Ms Safia and Miss Amreen. At first, my daughter was in KG1 with Ms Safia and I chose for her distance learning. Unfortunately, she attended online alone at home. I did not have enough time to review lessons with her, because I was outside the house for a long time due to my work conditions. I also have two other sons in larger classes, but she was Ms Safia follows up with me on a daily basis and sends emails with resources to help me deliver my daughter to the required level. Fortunately, Miss Safia moved with her to KG2 and with her Ms Amreen as assistant teacher, and my daughter attended school, and thank God, her level was completely different, as they provided her with all the help and support and Ms Amreen she treated her with love as if she was her daughter and Ms Safia as well, and they were with her, step by step, until she reached this progress. So I have to thank them.

You are lucky to have these members on your team.

Warm regards,

Rina



Mohammed Uddin and Abdullah Osman (Y8 7BS2) worked diligently in Science and showed good leadership and engagement by explaining key concepts and supporting class discussions for greater understanding. Thanks to Ms. Keerthi for preparing materials for an enriching class discussion.

WSS Environmental Recycling Superstar Champions Competition!

WSS will be participating in a GEMS-wide e-waste collection drive as part of our Environmental Awareness programme.

- We will receive a flat-pack e-waste Fixerman bin made from recycled cardboard for students, parents & staff to deposit old/unused e-waste (such as Mobile phones, tablets, laptops and smartwatches)
- The Fixerman van will collect the donated devices every week from each school. All discarded devices will be safely destroyed and disposed of through Dubai Municipality-registered recycling company E-Scrappy (devices will not be repurposed or sold). Fixerman will weigh each collection box to measure how much has been collected from each school.

What devices can be collected? Mobile phones, tablets, laptops and smartwatches.

Please note that chargers, batteries and leads cannot be collected for disposal.

All files should be deleted from the device and data will be erased by E-Scrappy before recycling. Thank you.



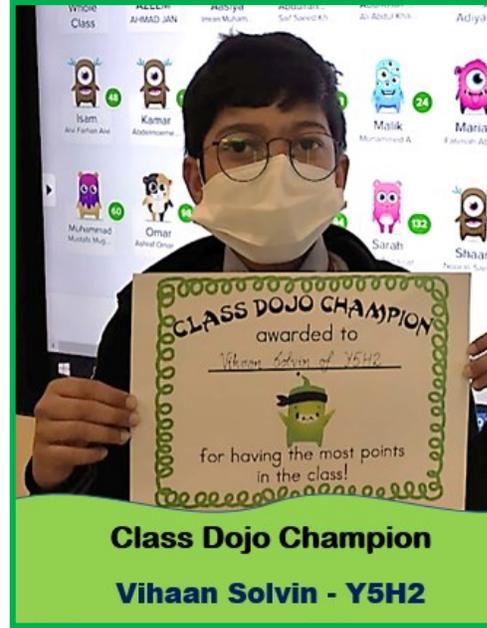
I would like to send many thanks to the virtuou teacher, Ms Anju Kumar, she is really an awesome teacher, she has a special smile to give all the students a positive energy. Now my son said my favorite subject is Math and Science because I love my teacher, she gives all the support.

Thank you Ms. Anju 🍌

You are lucky to have her in your team.

Warm regards,
Rina

WSS Environmental Recycling Superstar Champions!



السلام عليكم ورحمة الله الأستاذة / هند مندور - مُعلمة اللغة العربية

بعد التحية الطيبة !!!

فنحن والِدَي الطالب عمر هيثم نرسل إليك بهذه الرسالة لكي نعبر لك عن جزيل شكرنا وامتناننا لما بذلت من جهد ودعم علمي ومعنوي لابنتنا الطالب عمر وذلك لارتقاء بمستواه التعليمي في مادة اللغة العربية خلال العام الدراسي المنصرم ، فلقد كنت دائماً نتمتع المُعلم الناصح الأمين والمعين على الصعوبات التي ربما واجهها عمر خلال العام. ولقد كللت أيضاً ذلك الجهد بهديّ جميلٍ قد فرح بها عمر للغاية كما فرحنا نحن بها كذلك فقد ارتفعت بها معنويات عمر جداً وأحس بأنه محل تقدير وأن جهده قد أتى ثماره.

نشكرك جزيل الشكر ونسأل الله سبحانه وتعالى أن يجعل كل ذلك في ميزان حسناتك فليس لدينا ما يكافئ إحسانك.

May the peace and mercy of God be upon you, Mrs. Hind Mandour - Arabic language teacher

!!! After the kind regards

We, the parents of the student Omar Haitham, send you this message in order to express to you our great thanks and gratitude for the effort and scientific and moral support for our son, the student Omar, in order to raise his educational level in the Arabic language during the past school year. Which Omar may have encountered during the year. She also crowned that effort with a beautiful gift that Omar was very happy with, just as we .rejoiced in it

.We thank you very much, and we ask God Almighty to make all of this in the balance of your good deeds, as we have nothing to equal your kindness

WSS Superstar Champions!

Maths Department Awards Ceremony on 7/6/22.



Congratulations to Superstar Sportsman Malik Ayman (Y3F1) who won 3rd prize in the Hamdan Swimming Competition! We love your grit & perseverance!



Congratulations to superstar swimming champion Nabil Ehab (Y3F2) photo for his success in the swimming competition at Hamdan sports complex on 5/6/22. We love his commitment to sporting success & a healthy lifestyle!



WSS Superstar Champions!



Omar Imad of Y5F2 received a Vice Principal's certificate for his neighbourliness and community spirit



Sarah and Mohammad Qasim of Y5F2 received their certificate for being the highest pointer of the positive behaviour in the Class dojo.



Gamiru, Y3D2 secured second position in 300m race in the UAE Inter school Athletics Competition.

Hearty Congratulations dear!

Another achievement from Gamiru, Received Merit from National Abacus Competition held on May 2022.

WSS Superstar Champions!

Dear miss shamail,

It,s been my 3 years journey with the school and always given 10 ratings because i have been geting help support more then i can imagine alhumdulillah.Choosing gems west minister school is great decision for my kids future. The school atmosphere,moral values of staff and teachers and all the senior management mashallah is beyond my imagination for there hard work and cooperation.The power of presenting high education to our childrens. I can,t say my kids are lucky for getting a remarkable teachers and staff.Now i know every staff member of school is a Gem.So in every class they will be having a remarkable teacher inshallah with out any doubt.

Thanks again for everything.

Mother of irha imran

Mother of zirwa imran

I would like to send many thanks to the virtuou teacher,Ms Shabana , She is really works from her heart and gives the students a lot of her time and effort and treats them with love.

Lucky to have her in your team

Warm regards,

Rina



WSS Superstar Chess Champions!



WSS Superstar Chess Champions!



WSS Superstar Classcraft Champions!



WSS Superstar Classcraft Champions!



Ms. Susan

WSS Superstar Mathematics Champions!

MENTAL MATHS RACE & RUBIK'S CUBE COMPETITION



WSS Superstar Mathematics Champions!

MENTAL MATHS RACE & RUBIK'S CUBE COMPETITION



Junior Section News



Y2H2 MATH session with Ms. Jinitra



PRESENTED BY NABIA
MUSIC TEACHER
MR DINESH
GEMS WESTMINSTER
SCHOOL

ROAR
KATY PERRY

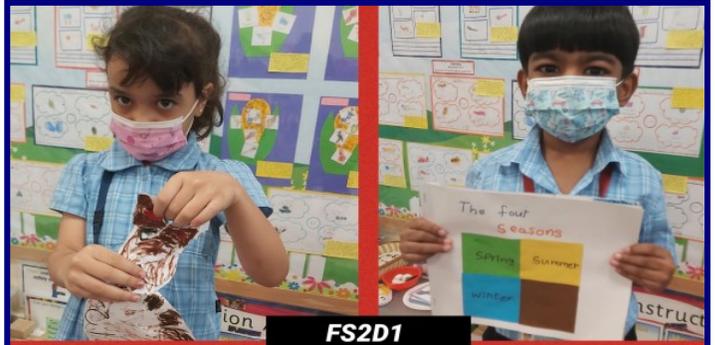


Junior Section News



With Ms. Nikhat

FS2D1 busy creating their own owls using different materials

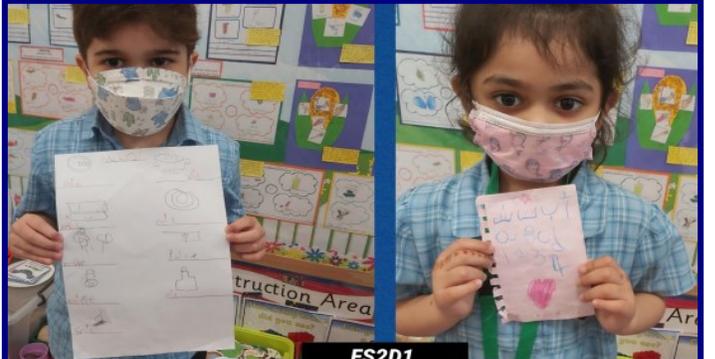


FS2D1 Home learning



PIC-COLLAGE

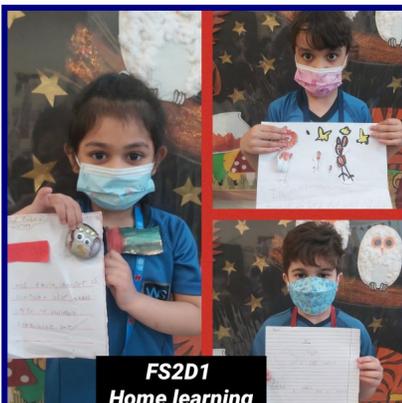
FS2D1 busy with painting activities



FS2D1 Home learning



FS2D1 busy creating owl's nest



FS2D1 Home learning



Happy Birthday!

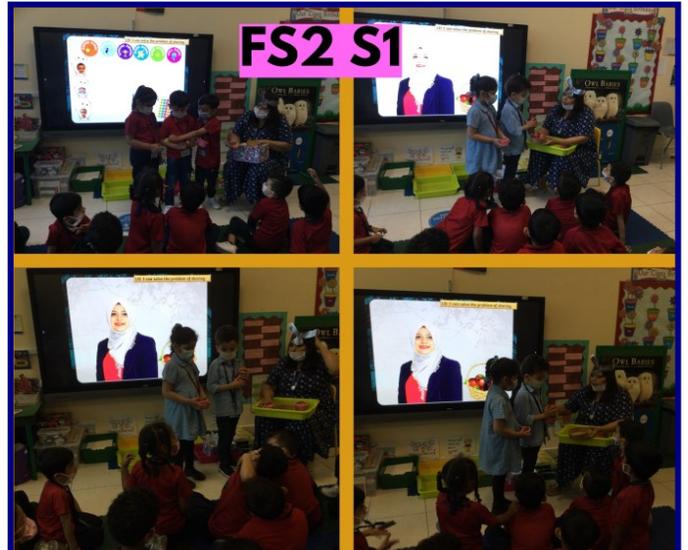
Junior Section News



Garden games are fun



Learning arabic is fun



We are learning to share fairly



With Ms. Neha & Ms. Sonia M.

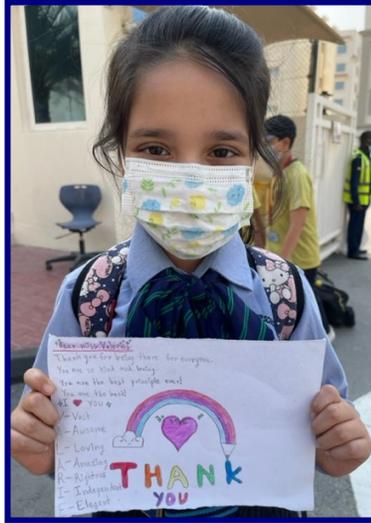
Primary Section News; Y5 Trip!



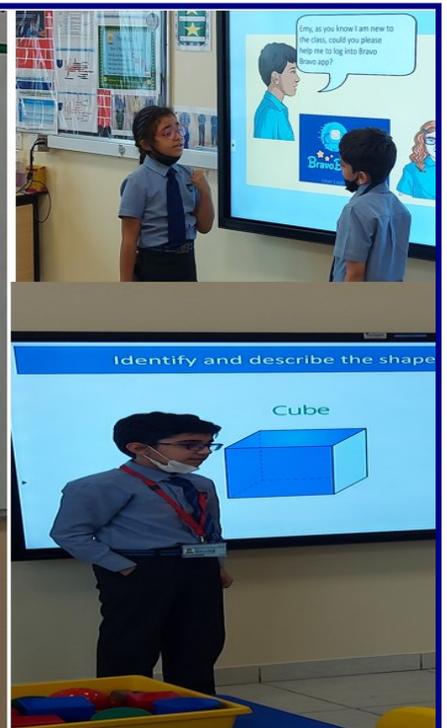
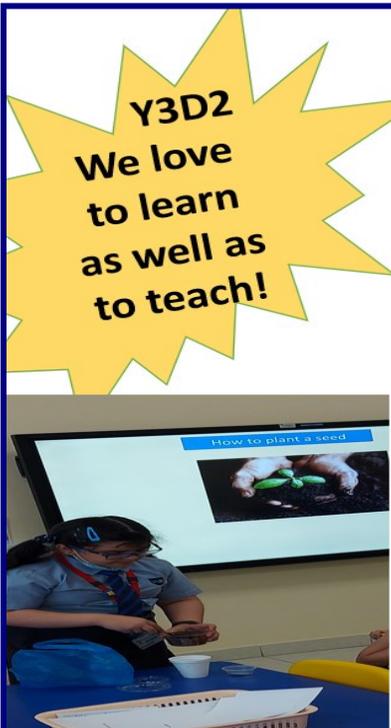
Trip to Wasit Wetland – Y5 H1



Primary Section News



Beautiful art work by Ola Mohamed Elamin, (Y5H1)



Primary Section News; Y5 Trip, & Secondary Y7 Role-Play!

Y5F2 students were on their field trip at Wasit Wetland Center in Sharjah on 5th of June 2022.



Y7GS1 & H! learning through role-play with Ms. Hend.

