



Newsletter Issue #8, 8th October 2026



Message from the Principal / CEO Ms. Valerie Thompson

Dear WSS Parents,



Subject: Protecting Our Students' Privacy

The safety, privacy and wellbeing of every child in our school community remain our highest priority.

In line with UAE privacy requirements and recent guidance being reinforced across private schools, we kindly ask parents and visitors to **refrain from taking photographs or videos on school premises where other students or staff may be captured without their consent.**

This includes classrooms, corridors, playgrounds, assemblies and drop-off and pick-up areas. We also ask that photographs or videos containing other students are **not shared through social media, WhatsApp groups or other digital platforms without appropriate consent.**

We know that capturing your child's special moments is important, but please **only click pictures & share on SM of your own children.**

Thank you for helping us keep our school community safe, respectful and protective of every child's privacy.

Dates for Your Diary

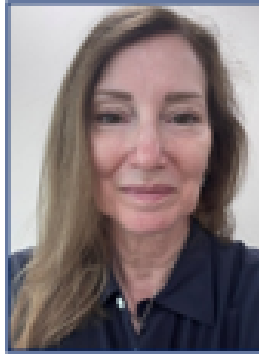
Date	Details
Opened Wednesday 7/10/26	Registration system open for new joiners for September 2027. If you want new seats, please Register early as we have limited places.
Monday 14/12/26 to Sunday 3/1/27	• Winter Break for students & Teachers. • Students return on Monday 4/1/27 • 8:30am-1:30pm; Cashier open Saturday 2/1/26 for T2 Fee payment. Thanks
February 2027	Online Re-enrollment for September 2027 opens for existing students



رسالة من المديرية / الرئيسة التنفيذية السيدة فاليري تومسون

الأعضاء، WSS أولياء الأمور طاب

الموضوع: حماية خصوصية طلابنا



تتقل سعادة كل طفل في مجتمعنا المدرسي وخصوصيته ورفاهيته على رأس أولوياتنا

تماشياً مع متطلبات الخصوصية في دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة والتوجيهات الأخيرة التي يجري التأكيد على تطبيقها في المدارس الخاصة، نرجو من أولياء الأمور والزوار الامتناع عن التقاط الصور أو مقاطع الفيديو داخل حرم المدرسة، حيث قد تظهر فيها صور طلاب آخرين أو موظفين دون الحصول على الموافقة.

يشمل ذلك الحصول الدراسي، والمرات، وملابس الأطفال، وأماكن التجمعات، ومناطق إزال الطلاب كما نرجو عدم مشاركة الصور أو مقاطع الفيديو التي تظهر فيها صور طلاب آخرين عبر وسائل التواصل الاجتماعي، أو مجموعات "واتساب"، أو غيرها من المنصات الرقمية، دون الحصول على الموافقة اللازمة.

نحن ندرك أهمية توثيق اللحظات المميزة لطفلك، ولكن نرجو منك الاكتفاء بالتقاط صور لأطفالك ومشاركتها على وسائل التواصل الاجتماعي.

نشكركم على مساعدتنا في الحفاظ على مجتمع مدرسي آمن وقائم على الاحترام، ويصون خصوصية كل طفل.

مواعيد هامة

التاريخ	التفاصيل
افتتح يوم الأربعاء 7/10/26	. التسجيل متاح لشهر سبتمبر 2027 (إذا كنت ترغب في الحصول على مقاعد جديدة، يرجى التسجيل مبكراً نظراً لمحدودية الأماكن).
من الاثنين 14/12/26 إلى الأحد 27/1/3	. عطلة الهداء للطلاب والمعلمين - يعود الطلاب يوم الاثنين 27/1/4 من 8:30 صباحاً حتى 1:30 ظهراً، سيكون مكتب المحاسبة مفتوحاً يوم السبت الموافق 2026/2/1 لسداد رسوم الفصل الدراسي الثاني شكراً لكم .
فبراير 2027	باب إعادة التسجيل للعام الدراسي 2027-2028 مفتوح للطلاب الحاليين.



Parent Handbook

Find our updated Parent Handbook using the QR code alongside. Check out our school policies and procedures to stay familiar and comfortable with our systems.

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WSS News –Important Notices

Student Safeguarding – Use of the Reception Washrooms	- Please note that the Reception washrooms are for adult use only. This means that unvetted, external adults access these washrooms & there is no inside supervision. - If your child needs to use the Reception washroom, do please accompany your child to ensure their safeguarding. Children should not use unsupervised washrooms alone.
Reception Area	- Parents, well-behaved children & visitors are welcome in our Reception area. - However, please note that it is a working space. Excessive noise, crowds & disruptive children mean that the Admin. team is unable to serve other guests or complete their work, which is unacceptable. - Children failing to follow appropriate BAG behaviour expectations will receive disciplinary letters. - Parents, if you are waiting in Reception with children, please ensure that they sit quietly & behave respectfully. Thank you.
Trip Payment	- Parents, please strictly adhere to payment deadlines & process for trips & activities. It will no longer be possible to pay at the Cashier's counter. - For auditing reasons, all payments must be online, unless otherwise informed. - Late payments over the Cashier counter will not be able to be processed.

Parent Voice

WS

You Said,

FOW raised concerns that accessing ActiveHub has been confusing and challenging, particularly with account registration, linking existing accounts, and activating access codes.



We Did,

We listened, coordinated with Pearson, supported students individually, and created clearer guidance to make the activation process easier.

WSS News – What's Been Happening at WSS This Week?



KS3 Transition Assembly

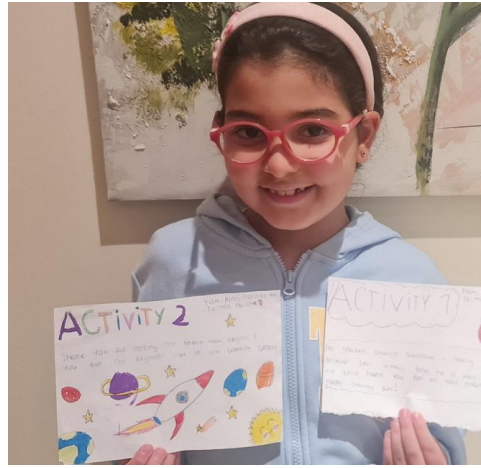


Celebrating International Teachers' Day, 5/10/26





Breast Cancer Awareness Month



Home Learning



Celebrating BAG Success!
Congratulations Reshin (Y1H1)!



STEAM Projects



Y3 Family First Breakfast



Healthy Lifestyle Ambassador



Pinktober has come to WSS; Raising Awareness of Breast Cancer, 8/10/26



The dynamic 'Friends of WSS' team met on 7/10/26 to welcome new members & plan T1-T2 **FOW** activities & interventions aimed at supporting school development & provision for our students. Thank you to the PRE Ms. Aiysha Khan for leading FOW.



One of our proactive & supportive FOW members supporting SLT with the morning drop-off routine. Thank you!



Ms. Lisa Crausby OBE VIP Visit to WSS, 1/10/26





Ms. Lisa was looking at the application of GEMS TLAG Playbook (Teach Like a GEM). She was interested to see student engagement, challenge & learning.

WSS Superstar TLAG Champions!

Everybody Writes

This encourages all students to write down their thoughts before discussing them.



Teacher: Ms. Jinitra

I Do

Effective explanation and modelling.
Demonstrate the skill while thinking aloud and naming the steps. Model your thinking and not just the procedure.



Teacher: Ms. Nijila

Show Call

A type of cold call that involves using a student's written responses to display to the class to model quality work or share a common error.



Teacher: Ms. Millicent

Critical thinking & Problem Solving

To launch today's learning through a short, engaging problem, dilemma, mystery or challenge that makes students think before the teacher teaches.

Students should be encouraged to explore, predict, interpret, make decisions, justify ideas and challenge assumptions. The task should create curiosity and a genuine reason to learn what comes next.



Teacher: Mr. Joel



Ms. Safia



Mr. Arvie



Ms. Jinitra

We Do; Guided practice

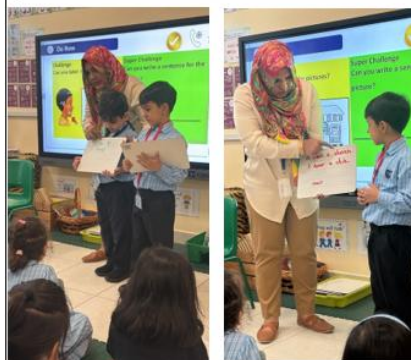
The teacher works together with students using another example. As the teacher does this, he/she asks questions, probe thinking, provide prompts, and give feedback



Mr. Arvie using a small mat as part of a prop for mystery in a folktale.

Show Call

A type of cold call that involves using a student's written responses to display to the class to model quality work or share a common error.



Ms. Eman and Ms. Israa's use of Images with matching words for their junior classes.

Affirmative Checking

A live marking technique where teachers intentionally circulate the room, giving immediate feedback and real-time support to ensure understanding before moving on to the next stage.



Teacher: Ms. Roshni

We Do

Guided practice: The teacher works together with students using another example. As the teacher does this, he/she asks questions, probe thinking, provide prompts, and give feedback.



Teacher: Mariam
TA: Nadia



Teacher: Mariam
TA: Nadia

Critical Thinking and Problem Solving

To launch **today's learning** through a short, engaging problem, dilemma, mystery or challenge that makes students think before the teacher teaches.

Students should be encouraged to explore, predict, interpret, make decisions, justify ideas and challenge assumptions. The task should create curiosity and a genuine reason to learn what comes next.



Teacher: Ms. Loannie



Teacher: Ms. Nikhat
TA: Ms. Afroz



Teacher: Mr. Arvie

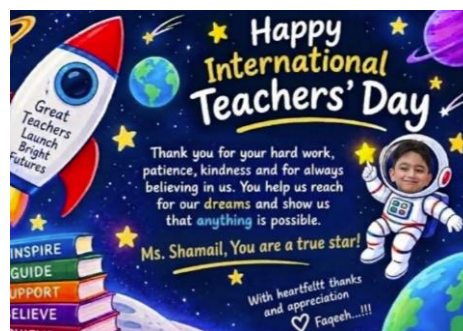
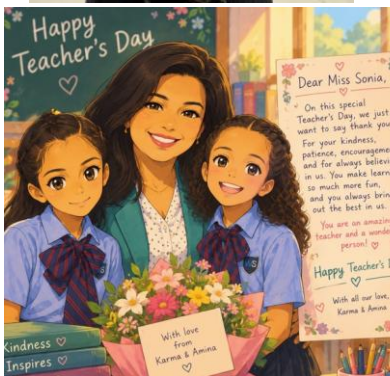
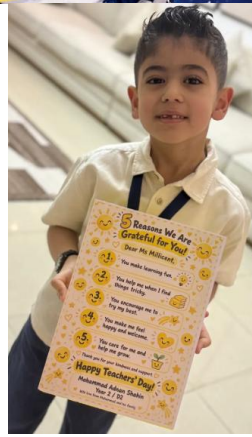
Celebrating International Teachers' Day, 5/10/26





Huge thanks to all our amazing students & parents for the many kind messages, treats & creative artwork sharing appreciation messages & encouraging feedback for International Teachers' Day on Monday 5/10/26. Your warmth & love made us feel very special.









0:00 Mission Log WSS 4H1 level primary calling space command.

0:05 Ms. Abeer is the best flight commander.

0:08 Whether we are launching two galaxies over, navigating tricky maps or exploring science, she makes sure every astronaut in the spaceship reaches to the personal moon.

Mission Log WSS 4H1 level



Teacher's Day

Great teachers leave
footprints on our hearts
and shape our futures.
Happy Teacher's Day!

Dear Ms. Valerie Thompson,
Happy International Teachers' Day and World Space Week!
I would like to thank you for being the outstanding "Mission Control Commander" of our school. Your galactic superpower is inspiring all of us to reach for the stars and dream big every single day. Thank you for keeping our school shining so brightly with a permanent glow!
Best regards, 🌟

Happy Teacher's Day! 🌟

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank you for all your hard work, patience, and dedication. Your kindness, encouragement, and support mean so much, and I truly appreciate everything you do for the students.

Thank you for making a positive difference in their lives and for always giving your best. We are very grateful to have such a wonderful teacher.

Wishing you a very happy Teacher's Day filled with appreciation and happiness. You truly deserve it! 🌟

Warmest regards,

Omar Ismail / Y9-BH

Omar's Mom

Dear Mr. Mendoza,

Hope you're doing well. I wanted to share this picture of Jamal Ward holding the poster he made for the Teachers' Day celebration. He was very excited to prepare it, and I wasn't sure whether he had already shown it to you.

Thank you for everything you have done and continue to do for our children. Your support, guidance, and kindness truly make a difference. Jamal Ward is genuinely happy, excited, and proud to have you as his teacher. He loves and respects you deeply, and we truly appreciate the care you show him every day.

Warm regards,
Lubna

On the occasion of Teachers' Day, I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to you for your dedication, patience, and the tremendous effort you put into nurturing and guiding our children every day. Teachers play an invaluable role in shaping young minds, inspiring curiosity, and helping children build the confidence and skills they need for a bright future.

Thank you for making learning such a wonderful, meaningful, and enriching experience for the students. Your hard work, commitment, and care are truly appreciated by both the children and their families.

As part of today's celebration, I would also like to share a few pictures of Anaba with the card he prepared for Teachers' Day. She was very excited to participate and express his appreciation for his teachers.

Wishing you a very Happy Teachers' Day.

Kind regards,
Waleed Khalid

Dear Teacher,

Happy Teachers' Day!

Thank you for your kindness, patience, and dedication. We truly appreciate the care and encouragement you give our children, helping them learn, grow, and believe in themselves.

My children are fortunate to be part of a school with such a wonderful team of teachers and school leaders. Thank you all for creating a caring and supportive environment where they feel valued and encouraged.

I'm also happy to share photos and videos of Kinda and Mohammad celebrating Teachers' Day and expressing their appreciation for their wonderful teachers.

Wishing you a lovely day filled with joy and appreciation!

Warm regards,

Family First!



Y3S2 - Celebrating the special bond of family through meaningful moments, shared experiences, and appreciating the love and support that makes every family unique.



Building connections,
sharing smiles, and
creating memories at
our first Year 4S1
Family Breakfast.



FLOURITE



FAMILY FIRST

OCTOBER Family Cooking Competition



Who?	Submission Deadline	Prize?
Students and their families	29th October 2026	Winners will have live cooking session (TBC)
Cook together as a family and share your Favorite family recipe with us. Your entry can be a video, written piece or your prepared dish. Tell us the story or tradition behind your recipe.		

**LET'S CELEBRATE OUR FOOD,
OUR STORIES AND THE FAMILY
TRADITIONS THAT BRING US TOGETHER**

 **SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY TO**
majedahahmed.q_wss@gemsedu.com

Winners & Participants in the WSR Quran Recitation Competition, 8/10/26!

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN HOLY QUR'AN MEMORISATION AND RECITATION



We are delighted to celebrate the achievements of our six students who represented GEMS Westminster School at the Holy Qur'an Memorisation and Recitation Competition at GEMS Westminster School – Ras Al Khaimah, with participants from 18 schools. Our students worked exceptionally hard and prepared with dedication since June. All six students delivered excellent recitations and were awarded Competition Champion medals for their outstanding performance.

Our participating students were:

- Ahmed Mahmoud Mohamed – Year 4H2
- Maryam Ismail – Year 2F
- Muhammad Aaban Mumtaz – Year 5F1
- Hareem Khan – Year 5H2
- Anas Rashad Kamal Gomaa Mohamed – Year 9BD
- Anwa Mohamed – Year 8GS

Masha Allah! Special congratulations to Anas Rashad, who proudly won two trophies—one for Holy Qur'an Memorisation and another for Best Reciter.

May Allah ﷻ bless all our students and increase them in their love, memorisation and understanding of the Holy Qur'an. Ameen.



Leadership GEMStone of the Week!

OCTOBER – WEEK 41 LEADING WITH DIVERSITY



FLOURITE

Celebrates unique perspectives and fosters inclusivity.

“New ideas come from listening to different perspectives.”

MESSAGE: Creativity grows when everyone shares their unique ideas. By encouraging everyone to contribute, you open the door to great solutions.

REFLECT: How can I make sure others feel confident to share their ideas? How can I show that all opinions matter?

LEADING WITH DIVERSITY



FLOURITE

Celebrates unique perspectives and fosters inclusivity.

GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL SHARJAH PRESENTS:

A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF RESPECT: REFLECTIONS ON A QUOTE

CONTINUING OUR REFLECTION ON REFLECTION.

The illustration shows a group of diverse students sitting around a table, reflecting on the quote. Speech bubbles contain their reflections:

- I can show kindness as a gemstone value.
- Reflection makes me a classmate..
- Thinking deeply helps me learn.
- our teacher leads us in reflection.
- I will treat all my friends fairly.
- Values create a positive, cooperative environment.
- Deep listening connects us to each other.
- Making space for everyone creates true peace.
- Values shape how we interact with the world.

OUR GEMSTONE VALUE OF THE WEEK

"Leadership means making sure every voice is heard and valued."

GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL SHARJAH: PRACTICING OUR GEMSTONE VALUES EVERY DAY

GEMSTONE VALUE: LEADERSHIP

OUR DAILY VALUES GUIDE

WSS Sharjah Campus

GEMS Youth Parliament session at SRI on 7th October 2026



WSS Students engaged in thought-provoking Youth Parliament discussions on critical thinking, AI, and student voice, sharing ideas and recommendations on key global issues. These discussions culminated in student-led presentations that highlighted their perspectives and proposed solutions.

The event provided students with an opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions on key social and civic issues, helping them develop leadership, communication, and critical thinking skills. A total of five WSS students attended from both Primary and Secondary. They participated actively in the discussions, representing the school confidently and contributing their perspectives during the session.

Sustainability and Environmental Superstar Champions!

Bring in your empty plastic water bottles for recycling!



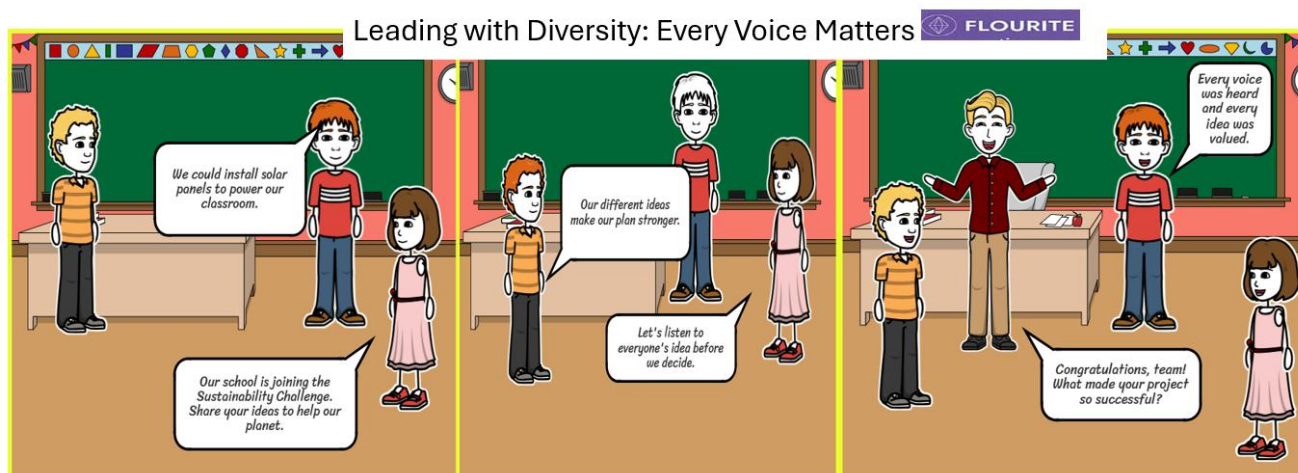
It seems sustainability and recycling are becoming serious business in our house! 🌱 The kids are learning that before we throw something away, we should first ask: "Can this become a recycling?"

I really appreciate the school's focus on sustainability and recycling. These are becoming increasingly important lessons for our children and it is wonderful to see them learning to care for the environment in a creative and enjoyable way.

Have a lovely day!

Regards,
Ayla Moaz's parent

WSS Top Tips!



Teachers' Continuing Professional Development (CPD)



Our dedicated Head of Inclusion Ms. Rema & Guidance Counselor Ms. Gincy attended important CPD, the 15th Social Service Forum 'Dignified Life & Sustainable Contribution' on 1/10/26.



Ms. Sameena attended the GEMS Subject Excellence Conference, led by Ms Tracey and Dr Funke. The event celebrated a shared commitment to professional growth, collaboration and excellence in teaching and learning.



Ms. Safia attended a CPD session at GEMS sister school WSG on 6/10/26. The theme related to their 'Forest School' with the aim to promote the effective development & use of the natural world & environmental resources.



Thank you to WSS Dr. Osama for delivering a 'Steps to Outstanding ITQAN' CPD session for MOE HODs of Ms. Lynn's SPEA British Schools Cluster on 7/10/26. The session was well-attended & appreciated.

Happy Birthdays!





Happy Birthdays!



Junior Section

Junior Section Superstars



Huge thanks
to our Junior
Section Parent
RLAG
Ambassadors

Dear Miss Sabiha!

I can't stop myself to genuinely praise you. I had a truly lovely experience meeting you and was genuinely impressed by your in depth understanding of child psychology. Your understanding of child's behaviour and developmental needs in such a short period of time reflects your dedication and passion for teaching. You are more than a teacher ❤️

It takes alot to satisfy me truly but such dedication and commitment deserve recognition. Thank you for having such a wonderful teacher as part of Safwan's learning journey.

Hope you have a wonderful weekend and get some well deserved rest after such a tiring day!

I hope my love for gems will continue to grow with every passing year 💎

Thank and warm regards,

Safwan's mother!

Dear Ms. Sadiqa,

I would like to sincerely thank you for the wonderful Parents Meeting and for all your great efforts with my son throughout this term.

Thank you for your patience, your clear explanations, and the way you care for every child in the class. I can see an improvement in my son - in his reading, and his behavior at home. This is all because of your hard work and dedication.

We are truly blessed to have a teacher like you. Your kindness and encouragement mean so much to us.

Thank you once again, Ms. Sadiqa, for everything you do.

Dear Miss Shamail and Miss Raghi,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation for the wonderful Investiture Ceremony organized by the school.

The entire event was beautifully executed, and it was clear how much hard work, planning, and dedication went into making it a success. As a parent, I was incredibly impressed by the beautiful arrangements and the exceptional warmth shown to all the families in attendance. The generous refreshments provided were also a very thoughtful and much-appreciated touch.

The kindness extended to the parents throughout the day truly stood out. Seeing the discipline, enthusiasm, and leadership of the students made me feel immensely proud to be a part of the Gems west minister school community. Thank you to you, the management, and the hardworking staff for your continuous efforts to create such positive and memorable experiences for our children and their families.

Warm regards,

Mother of Muhammad umer.

Kiran riaz.

Junior Section News



Learning about Money; Applying Currency skills to real life



Parts of a Plant



FS Learning Activities





FS2 H2



Fun at free play centre



Enjoying our activities



PE lesson having so much fun



Happiness day



Reading adventure time



World Smile day & Teacher's day



Marble jar sticker



Phonics fun! Children enjoyed a letter 'i' maze activity while learning and recognising the sound of "i"



"All About me"



Year 1 Learning Activities

Y1 D1 Ms. Beena and Ms. Benil



Y1 D2 Ms. Aneeza and Ms. Maryam



Y1 H1 Ms. Mariam and Ms. Nadiya



Y1 H2 Ms. Kishwar and Ms. Jameela



Y1 S1 Ms. Rajina and Ms. Vidhya



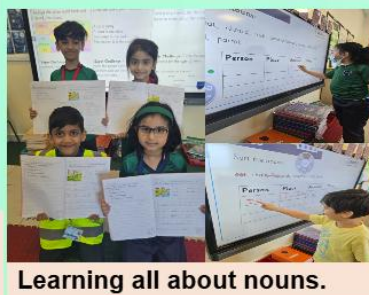
Year 2 Learning Activities



MS. Mangala and Ms. Mariam Y2F



Y2 H2 Ms. Sarah and Ms. Shaikah



Fun trip to Sharjah Desert park

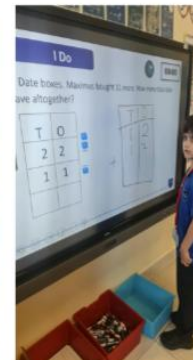


Celebrating World Smile day



Y2D1 with Ms.Symona & Ms.Aysha





Primary Section

Primary Section Superstars



Congratulations to our Y4
BAG Awardees of the week.

Congratulations to our Y4 **RLAG**
Awardees of the week.



Congratulations to our Y4 **Class
Champion** Awardees of the week.

Congratulations to our Y4
Century Tech. Champion
Awardees of the week.



Certificate of Achievement and Recognition

Presented by the **Administration of UC Math Academy** in recognition of a student who has demonstrated **great effort, determination, and achievement in Mathematics**.

Your dedication and enthusiasm for learning are truly commendable. **Keep learning, keep growing, and keep shining!**



Congratulations to Moh'd Aaban (Y5F1) for winning this medal in the WSR Inter-School Quran Recitation Competition on 8/10/26. Wow!

Primary Section News



Maths Superstar Projects

Interesting STEAM Projects about renewable solar energy



Creative & Interesting STEAM Sustainability Projects



RLAG Build your library!



RLAG Champions Inaaya (Y6GF) & Laiba (Y5H2); Build your Own Library!



Assembly Time with Y6BD, 7/10/26, Theme 'Diversity, Harmony & Unity'





Y6BD put on a confident Assembly on the 'Be a GEM' theme. We learnt that respecting & valuing diversity on our team helps us to listen to everyone & benefit from a range of ideas & skills.

Assembly Time with Y4H1, 7/10/26, Theme 'Sparkle Like a GEM'; Respect, Effort & Inclusion





Y4H1's Assembly on 7/10/26 was very creative & entertaining. The theme 'Sparkle like a GEM; Respect, Effort & Inclusion' was told through an imaginative story. The characters had to earn a GEMStone for applying the values of

respect, effort & inclusion. The audience was able to understand the meaning & relate to the meaningful examples. Well done Y4H1 & huge thanks to the teacher & parents for your hard work!



Year 3 Learning Activities

Y3D1- STEAM LESSON



Seed to Plant: A hands-on STEAM investigation helped students discover the stages of seed germination.

Y3H1

A special morning filled with togetherness, laughter, and meaningful moments as students enjoyed a lovely breakfast with their families.



Y3H2 Celebratory- "Our family-first breakfast was all about togetherness, laughter, and good vibes. Grateful for mornings like this! Thank you, parents, for creating such wonderful moments !





From Seed to Sprout: Learn through observation and exploration, students of Y3S2 discovered the fascinating process of germination.



Reading GEM - Rejana: A true book lover who could happily spend all day immersed in wonderful stories and new adventures! 🌟📖

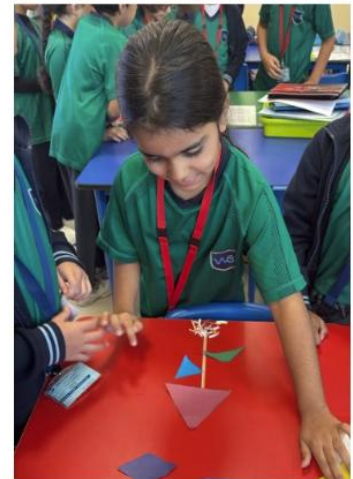
Beyond 100 with Y3

BEYOND 100

Week 4- Year 3



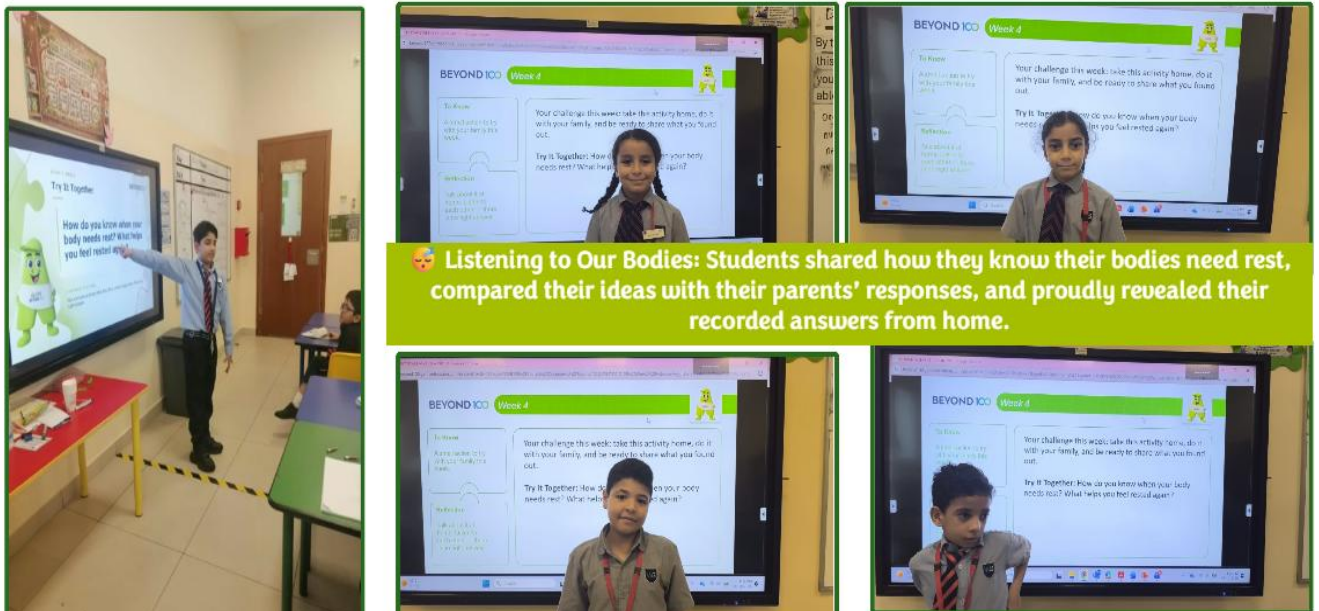
Balancing even if it's Tricky



◆ **Tangram Challenge:** Students used their creativity and problem-solving skills to rearrange tangram pieces and create exciting new shapes and designs.



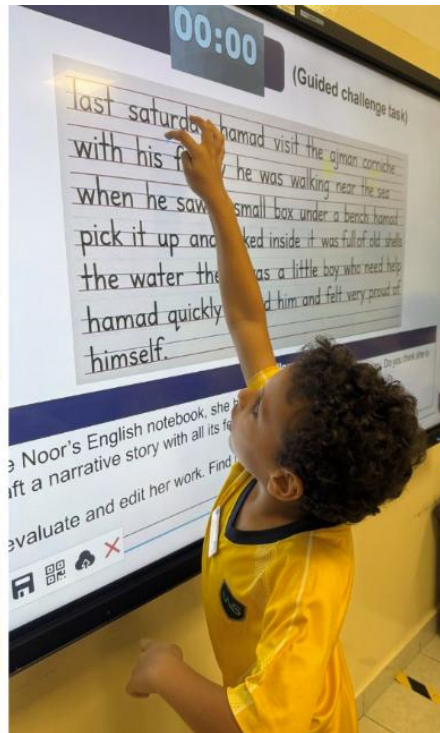
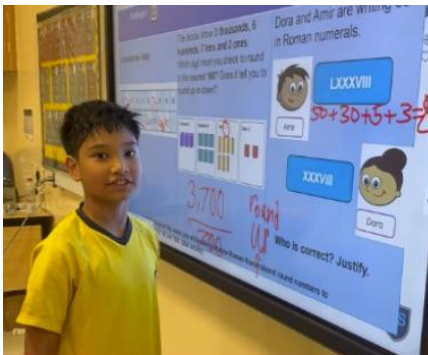
💛 **An Act of Kindness:** Students spread kindness by complimenting their classmates, bringing instant smiles to their faces and creating a warm, positive classroom atmosphere.



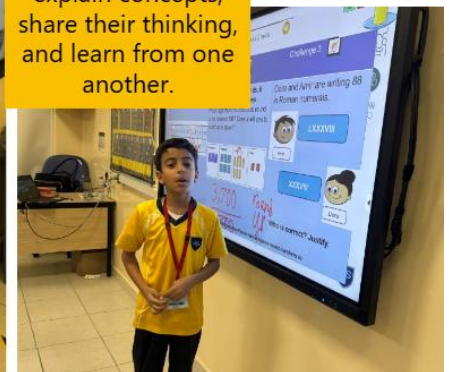
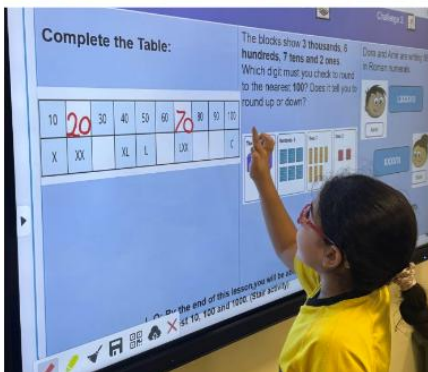
👂 **Listening to Our Bodies:** Students shared how they know their bodies need rest, compared their ideas with their parents' responses, and proudly revealed their recorded answers from home.

Year 4 Learning Activities

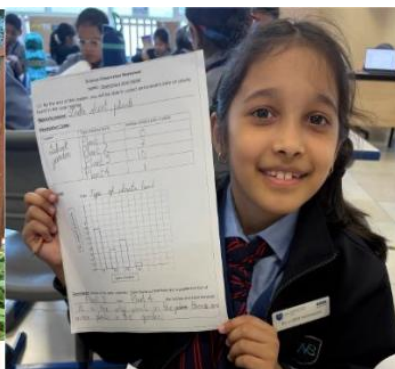
Y4 D2 is dropping everything and diving into the unending world of books, where every page sparks imagination, every story inspires creativity, and every read takes us on a new adventure!



Active learning in Year 4-F1!
Students enthusiastically explain concepts, share their thinking, and learn from one another.



Y4S1- Creating awareness through creativity! Students showcase their ideas on recycling and sustainable living during Recycle Week.



Y4S1-Young scientists in action! Investigating local plant life and presenting data to better understand our natural environment.





Learning Beyond the Classroom! Our dedicated students from Y4-F1 continue to show their love for learning by completing their activities even at home. Keep up the amazing effort! 🌞 🍌 🏠 📖



Year 5 Learning Activities Beyond 100 with Y5

BEYOND 100 Week 4- Year 5

To Know:
Group movement builds awareness.

Reflection:
What helped you move with your partner?

Habit: Practise synced motion.

Micro-Habit: "In pairs, one leads a movement while the other mirrors it. Be creative!, create your own movement mix. Swap roles."

Some movement options:
Reach up → bend knees → stand tall.
Twist upper body left and right.
Step and reach in the same direction.

Our Year 5 students went **Beyond 100** with an energetic...



BEYOND 100 Week 4 - Year 5

To Know:
Heart rest:
connection brings
safety.

Reflection:
Did sharing help your
heart to feel lighter?

Habit: Talk about how you feel.

Micro-Habit:
Circle Share: "Sit together in a circle.
When it is your turn, share one feeling you are having today.
You can use a word like happy, worried, excited, calm, or tired.
You may also say why you feel that way, or you can just name
the feeling."



Our Year 5 students took part in a meaningful **"Talk About How You Feel"** activity, sharing their emotions and listening to others with kindness and respect. This helped create a supportive classroom where every feeling is valued and every voice is heard.

Innovations Hunt



Our Year 5 students took part in an exciting **Innovation Hunt**, where they explored ideas, solved challenges, and thought creatively to develop innovative solutions. The activity encouraged **curiosity, teamwork, problem-solving, and out-of-the-box thinking** while making learning fun and meaningful!



STEAM Lesson

- Our Year 5 students explored the **life cycles of insects, mammals, and plants** through a fun, hands-on STEAM activity. Using playdough, they created and sequenced each stage, bringing their science learning to life!



STEAM Lesson

In our STEAM lesson, students used **playdough to create life cycles** of insects, mammals, and plants. This creative activity helped them understand how living things **grow, change, and develop**.

STEAM Lesson



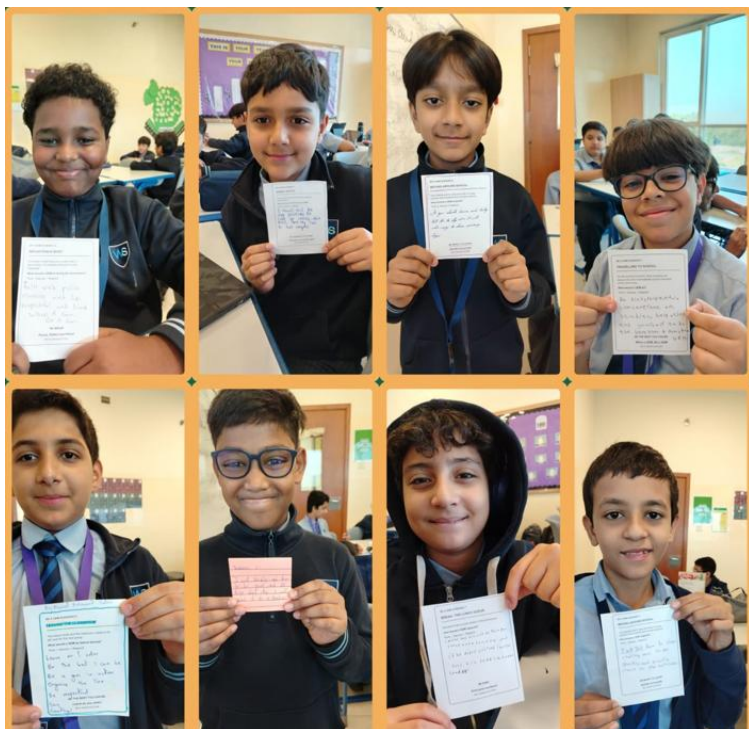
Our students became young scientists and creators as they used **playdough** to **model the life cycles** of insects, mammals, and plants. A fun way to learn science through creativity and hands-on exploration!

Secondary Section

Secondary Section Superstars



WSS Y13 Students won third place in the SES Inter-School Hackathon Competition.



Be a GEM

Culture of Excellence

Led by our senior student leaders, Be a GEM sessions explored everyday moments — travelling to school, moving around the corridors, the lunch queue and leaving the classroom.

When a GEM, be a GEM!



GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL · SHARJAH



Ms Jabeen
KS3 Teacher
Form Teacher · Y7-BS

STAFF SPOTLIGHT · PARENT APPRECIATION

A Note of Thanks

The positive and kind words received from our parents truly reflect the strong partnership between home and school. Such encouraging feedback motivates us to continue nurturing a supportive, engaging, and enriching learning environment for our students.

✉ Email received after the Year 7 Parent-Teacher Meeting

Dear Ms Jabeen,

Thank you so much for today's welcoming PTM. It was very nice meeting you. You delivered very comfortable and understandable communication throughout the session and gave me very productive feedback about my child.

I hope we will continue working together to bring out the best in each child. Your feedback about my child's performance, behaviour and other related attributes will always be welcomed.

— Parent, Y7-BS

POSITIVE PARENT FEEDBACK

After greeting,

Wishing you a wonderful and happy Teacher's Day—you are truly the best teacher. I feel so fortunate that you have taught both Justin and Amy. Amy absolutely adores you; she loves English and enjoys studying the subject because you are her teacher. Thank you for your love and care for my daughter—especially considering that Amy doesn't easily bond with or warm up to people. If you have any comments regarding Amy or her progress, please send me an email, as I recently underwent surgery and was unable to attend the meeting.

Ms. Ambika
Form Tutor, Year 9 BH



Secondary Section News



Fantastic project of the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi



Pinktober comes to WSS, 8/10/26!



Thank you to our students for keeping our hallways calm and orderly



JUNE 2026 RESULT TOPPER



STUDENT NAME

Alishbah Habib
YEAR 12

GRADES - AS LEVEL

SUBJECT	GRADE
CHEMISTRY	A
PHYSICS	A
MATHEMATICS	A

STUDENT FEEDBACK

Alhamdulillah. Through sheer effort, hard work and persevering even when studying became difficult, I was able to achieve my target grades. I intend to keep up my academic performance for my final year, and continue to make my parents proud, In Sha Allah.

HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS TO ALISHBAH HABIB!

PANTHERA FIRMA



WSS students proudly represented the school at the Panthera Firma competition, hosted at New Millennium School. Abdul Raffay and Qazi Hamza Ali Siddiqui received the Visionary Award, while Francis and Abdul Raffay secured 3rd place in ADMAD. Omar, Haroon, Yaseen, and Waleed achieved 1st place in Marketshetra. We are proud of our students for their outstanding teamwork and achievements!





Scholastic invites our students to

THE HUNGER GAMES BOOK COVER DESIGN CONTEST

To celebrate the release of the new Hunger Games film, reimagine the cover of *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins in your own creative way – with the chance to have your work shared with readers around the world!

HOW IT WORKS

Design your own original book cover by hand, using drawing, painting, sketching, or collage.

GUIDELINES

- ✓ Include the book title and author's name on your design.
- ✓ Be creative and original!
- ✓ One entry per student.
- ✓ All artwork must be your own work.

Hunger Games Book Cover Design
Contest - Scholastic



Scan the QR
Code to upload
your work

SUBMISSION DEADLINE
**23RD
OCTOBER
2026**



KS3 Islamic Assembly, 5/10/26 & 6/10/26;

Leading with Diversity

Islamic Assembly

LEADING WITH DIVERSITY

Celebrating Diversity, Unity & Togetherness!

Our students proudly celebrated “Leading with Diversity – Islam” on 5th and 6th October 2026, organized by the Islamic Education Department and presented by the Islamic Student Council.

Inspired by Surah Al-Hujurat (49:13), the assembly highlighted Islamic values of unity, equality, mutual respect and cultural diversity.

Students brought these values to life through Qur'an recitations, Hadith, bilingual speeches, a vibrant multicultural ramp walk, an engaging skit and interactive activities.



DIVERSITY

THE ISLAMIC PERSPECTIVE

Through an engaging Islamic assembly, students explored how diversity is a blessing from Allah, inspiring them to embrace differences with respect, empathy, and unity while strengthening the inclusive values celebrated across GEMS.



Different Cultures, Different languages. One beautiful community



KS3 Girls Pinktober Day, 8/10/26



World Space Week with the Science Team

Dr. Alavikunhu Panthakkan

Senior Member, IEEE | Associate Professor, University of Dubai

Research Scientist in Artificial Intelligence

Research Supervisor, Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC) Laboratory

140+ peer-reviewed publications · Gold Medalist



Artificial Intelligence

Space Technology

Generative AI

Quantum Technologies

VENUE

School Auditorium

DATE

7 October 2026
Wednesday

TIME

12:00 – 1:00 PM

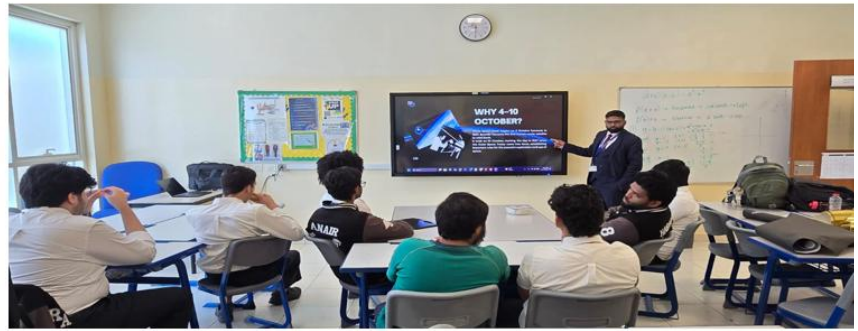


**Thank you Dr. Alavikunhu
Panthakkan**

Active research scientist in Artificial
Intelligence at University of Dubai



KS5 Boys Space Week Programme – Classroom Video Presentation



In view of 'World Space Week', KS5 students explored the UAE's remarkable achievements in space exploration through an engaging classroom video presentation. The activity inspired students to appreciate the nation's vision, innovation and growing contribution to space science.



As part of **Space Week 2026**, the **Science Department** hosted an inspiring and engaging interactive session for our **KS5 students** with **Dr. Alavikunhu Panthakkan, Senior Member, IEEE, Associate Professor at the University of Dubai, and Research Supervisor at the Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC) Laboratory.**



The session explored the exciting connections between **Physics, Artificial Intelligence and Space Technology**, inspiring students to think beyond the classroom and explore future pathways in science and innovation.



As part of **Space Week**, our **KS5 students introduced the Stellarium app to KS3 students**, creating an engaging and interactive journey through the night sky. Students explored **constellations, planets and celestial objects**, while learning how to locate and track them using digital tools.

The session broadened students' understanding of **space exploration** and inspired them to look beyond the classroom and discover the wonders of our universe.



KS5 students took part in an engaging debate, exploring thought-provoking ideas about the future of space exploration, technology and humanity beyond Earth. The activity encouraged students to **think critically, communicate confidently and consider different perspectives**.

Our **KS4 students put their space knowledge to the test through an exciting Space Quiz**, challenging their understanding of planets, stars, space exploration and the wider universe.





KS4 Girls: Keep Right, Keep Moving! Corridor Routine



A simple corridor routine to help keep our school pathways safe, smooth and clear. KS4 girls are encouraged to keep to the right, walk in single file where needed, and keep the middle of the corridor clear so everyone can move comfortably and safely between lessons.



Led by Students, Lived by All

Four break-time sessions, one big idea: our Year 10 and 11 boys stood at the front of their form rooms and led every one of them themselves.

01 LEADERSHIP GEMSTONE

Leading with Diversity

Class leaders chaired a whole-class discussion on what diversity looks like in our form. Sentence starters made sure every voice was heard, and the best ideas went up on the board.



Every voice heard



Y10 BF leads the talk

02 BAG · BEHAVIOUR ROUTINE 02

Another Day to Sparkle

Seven minutes on arriving at school: what a calm, prepared, positive arrival looks like, why first impressions set the tone, and one habit each boy commits to every morning.

Why it matters

Expectations

Rehearse it

Recap & commit



Lights, sparkle, action



Session at a glance



First impressions count



Smiles all round

03 LIFE SKILLS · CORRIDOR ROUTINE

Keep Right, Keep Moving

Jammed doorways, dropped books, lesson minutes lost — sound familiar? Our boys introduced a new routine for every corridor and every transition, built with students, not just for them.



A new routine



Spotting the pinch-points

04 BEYOND100 · THINK

Spot the Hidden Pattern

Your brain takes shortcuts. The boys compared fast and slow thinking, then cracked a pattern puzzle — solo first, then in pairs, devices away — proving that slowing down beats rushing.



Fast vs slow thinking



Solo first, then pair

Proud of every KS4 boy who stepped up to lead.

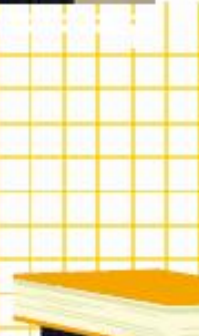
LEAD · SPARKLE · MOVE · THINK

KS4

WORLD TEACHERS' DAY

Happy World Teachers' Day!

A huge thank you to all our incredible Key Stage 4 teachers for their endlessly hard work, patience, and dedication. To show our gratitude, KS4 students came together this week to deliver some thoughtful gifts and treats to show our staff just how much they mean to us.



KS4 PINKTOBER*



KS4 students coming together in spirit of breast cancer awareness!



Dressed up in all pink to spread awareness



Spreading awareness!

KS5 Leadership & Learning Activities

Student Wellbeing; Sixth Form 'Own Your Spark!' Self-Confidence Session, 6/10/26

KS5 BOYS- Self-Confidence Workshop

[Focusing on Positive Thinking, Effective Communication & Personal Development]



Our students recently participated in an interactive workshop on Self-Confidence led by Akarsh Ajit Y 13 Psychology Club. The session encouraged students to recognize their strengths and approach academic and personal challenges with greater confidence.



This was an interesting, engaging session which included self-reflection, sharing compliments with others & thoughts about how we align internal self-belief with presenting an externally visible self-confidence.

The Principal talked about 'Imposter Syndrome', the little internal voice that tell you that you are not worthy for a role or opportunity. **IGNORE THAT VOICE!!**





A COMMERCE CLUB INITIATIVE
PSYCHOLOGY WORKSHOP

OWN YOUR SPARK

Building Confidence from Inside Out

Led by our Year 13 psychology students, this workshop welcomed curious minds and sent them home more confident, trading self-doubt for self-belief through honest reflection, bold practice, and a community that cheered every breakthrough.

CONFIDENCE, IGNITED.



GROW BOLDER · SPEAK LOUDER · SHINE BRIGHTER

KS5 CIS Wellbeing Conference



STUDENT FEEDBACK!

THE CIS WELLBEING CONFERENCE GAVE ME A REALLY GOOD TIME, ESPECIALLY THE WORKSHOPS, THEY WERE ENGAGING AND PROVIDED ME WITH AN INSIGHT TO THE WORLD WITH A NEW PERSPECTIVE.
- EASRAH ALI

THE PSYCHOLOGY TRIP WAS A REALLY ENJOYABLE AND INSIGHTFUL EXPERIENCE. A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO MS. SHIRAZ FOR HOSTING AND ORGANISING SUCH A WONDERFUL SESSION. THE SPEECHES WERE ENGAGING AND THE WORKSHOPS GAVE US A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ABOUT PSYCHOLOGY IN A MORE INTERACTIVE AND PRACTICAL WAY. OVERALL, IT WAS A GREAT EXPERIENCE THAT MADE LEARNING PSYCHOLOGY FEEL EVEN MORE INTERESTING AND MEANINGFUL. - SARINESH GOVI

THE WORKSHOPS WERE PARTICULARLY INTERESTING AS THEY WERE ALL VERY HANDS ON AND INTERACTIVE WITH SEVERAL Q AND A SESSIONS AND CASE STUDY ACTIVITIES. ALTHOUGH WE WERE AWARE OF MOST OF THE INFORMATION THAT WAS BEING SHARED, THE WAY THEY PRESENTED THE INFORMATION HELPED US STAY INTERESTED THROUGHOUT THE EVENT. - UMMA ZAHAB

Y13 PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS

CIS WELLBEING CONFERENCE

Exploring wellbeing, psychological perspectives and mental health at Cambridge international school Dubai

24 SEPTEMBER 2026



Stay Connected

Visit our website for the latest news, events, and announcements.

Website: www.gemswss.com
Email: info.wss@gemsedu.com
Phone: +971 6 XXX XXXX

Excellence Through Teamwork; Success For All