GEMS WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, SHARJAH









Newsletter Issue #9 16th October, 2025



Message from the Principal/CEO Ms. Valerie Thompson

Dear WSS Parents.

Admission into FS

Please note that places in FS are limited & competition fierce. Although siblings have priority admission, all children have to pass the same admission assessment process. FS children who have attended

Nursery have a much higher chance of admission since they will be more confident, skilled & 'school-ready'. If you want to admit your FS child into WSS, Nursery attendance will give your child a definite advantage.

pates for Your Diary

Date	Details
From 6/10/25	• Online registration system open for enrollment for September 2026. First come-first-served for assessment starting from January, 2026.
Monday 3/11/25	• UAE Flag Day (TBC). Students may come dressed in UAE national dress or flag colours (optional).
Thursday 27/11/24	• WSS celebrates UAE National Day (TBC). Students may come dressed in UAE national dress or flag colours & bring traditional food to share with friends (optional).
Thursday 4th Decem- ber	• Last day of T1 (compulsory T1 exams will run until 4/12/25, from approximately 2 weeks prior)













مدرسة جيمس ويستمينستر الشارقة

النشرة الإخبارية رقم # 9 16 أكتوبر 2025













المواعيد

التفاصيل	التاريخ
 نظام التسجيل الإلكتروني مفتوح للتسجيل لشهر سبتمبر 2026. سيتم تطبيق مبدأ أسبقية الحضور للتقييم اعتبازًا من يناير 2026. 	من 6/10/25
 يوم العلم الإماراتي (سيتم تحديده لاحقًا). يُسمح للطلاب بالحضور مرتدين الزي الوطني لدولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة أو أنوان العلم (اختياري). 	الاثنين 3/11/25
 تحتفل مدرسة وابل كورنيل الثانوية باليوم الوطني لدولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة (سيتم تحديده لاحقا). يُسمح للطلاب بالجضور مرتدين الزي الوطني لدولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة 	الخميس 27/11/24

أَو الوانُّ العُلمُ، والحضَّارُ مأكولات تَقليدية لمُشَّاركتها مع أصدقاتهم (اختياري).

أخر يوم من امتحانات T1 (ستستمر امتحانات T1 الإلزامية حتى 4/12/25، من حوالي اسبوعين قبل ذلك)

رسالة من المديرة / الرئيس النتفيذي السيدة فاليري تومبسون

أولياء أمور مدرسة الشارقة الأعزاء،



يرجى ملاحظة أن الأماكن في FS محدودة والمنافسة شرسة. على الرغم من أن الأشقاء لديهم الأولوية في القبول، إلا أنه يتعين على جميع الأطفال اجتياز نفس عملية تقييم القبول. إن أطفال المرحلة الابتدائية الذين التحقوا

بالحضانة لديهم فرصة أكبر بكثير للقبول لأتهم سيكونون أكثر ثقة ومهارة و "جاهزين للمدرسة". إذا كنت ترغب في قبول طفلك في FSفي WSS، فإن حضور الحضائة سيعطّي طفلك ميزة أكيدة.













رؤيتنا؛ "التميز من خلال العمل الجماعى؛ النجاح 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



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



Contents Parent Handbook Access QR Code

Newsletter Contents		
Page Includes:		
1, 2	Dates for Your Diary	
	Message from the Principal; Date for Your Diary, general notices	
	Contents	
3	Contents Table	
	QR Code to Access our online Parent Handbook	
	Whole School News	
4	• PINKTOBER, 13/10/25	
5-6	 Be a GEM; Demonstrating Values, Kindness & Character—Visit to an Old Peoples' Home, 15/10/25 	
7	 Meet our Friends of WSS (FOW) Team 	
8	This Week's ECA Report	
9	 'You SaidWe Did" & This Week's Leadership GEMStone (Fluorite—Leading with Diversity) 	
10-13	• Family First; Letter-Writing Activity Certificates & Recipe-Sharing Activity	
14	• Staff CPD	
15	WSS Superstar Champions & Happy Birthdays	
16	• Storyboard Top Tips, 1) T1 Assessment Preparation, 2) Fostering	
	Emotional Wellness	
	Junior Section News	
17-18	Junior Section Be a GEM Superstar Champions	
18	Y1F Learning Activities	
19	 Assembly Time With Y1D2 (Unity is Strength—Fluorite Leader- ship GEMStone Diversity) 	
20	• Assembly Time With FS2D2 (Be a GEM—Be Present)	
21	 Assembly Time With Y2D1 (Unity is Strength—Fluorite Leader- ship GEMStone Diversity) 	
22	Learning Activities (General)	
23	ECA Little Stitchers Report & Y2D1 Learning Activities	
24-26	FS Learning Activities	
27-29	Y1 Learning Activities	
30-35	Y2 Learning Activities	
	Primary Section News	
36	Primary Section Sporting Superstar Champions	
37-38	• 'Be a GEM' with Ms. Majedah & Ms. Dalal & Y6 Radio Station	
39-41	 Y3 Learning Activities & Y4 Learning Activities 	
42-49	Y5 Learning Activities	
50-55	Y6 Learning Activities	
	Secondary Section News	
56-60 & 62	Secondary Section Superstar Champions (KS3 Be a GEM Champions, KS4 GEM of the Month, KS4 BLOOKET Champions, From Texture of the Westley & Act Constitutes.	
61	Form Tutor of the Week) & Art Creativity • Assembly Time with Y9BF (& a KS3 Anti-Drugs & Alcohol	
62	Awareness Session with the Guidance Counselor, 14/10/25)	
62 63-64	• Introducing 'Read Like a GEM' to KS3, 14/10/25	
65	• KS3 PINKTOBER Yoga with the Principal, 13/10/25	
66-67	KS3 Relationships Matter Seignes Club	
68-69	• Science Club	
70	• Commerce Club Competition, 14/10/25	
70	KS5 Escape Room	

Whole School News; PINKTOBER, 13/10/25!





Students & staff dressed in pink on 13/10/25 to mark PINKTOBER. This is to raise awareness of breast cancer & taking care of our health. Thank you to all the parents who found pink dress for their children.







Whole School News; Being a GEM - Demonstrating Values, Kindness & Character! Visit to an Old People's Home, 15/10/25





A group of community-minded students & parents, accompanied by Ms. Doaa Romih, visited an Old Peoples' Home as part of our Community Service Programme. Many thanks to Ms. Doaa Romih for organizing this & huge thanks to the students & parents for arranging their kind gifts & support. Students entertained the old people & did activities with them.







WSS was warmly welcomed. The residents recognized our students from the previous visit, and everyone greeted them with great enthusiasm. The students began by meeting the elderly, and then we led the planned activities and competitions, which had been wonderfully prepared by one of the parents. There was heartfelt interaction between our students and the elderly. Sixth Form students presented an outstanding and impressive performance that was highly appreciated by everyone. Students also joined the elderly men in playing dominoes and chess, creating a joyful and friendly atmosphere. It was truly a wonderful and enriching experience.

Whole School News; Being a GEM - Demonstrating Values, Kindness & Character! Visit to an Old People's Home, 15/10/25















Whole School News; Meet Our Friends of WSS (FOW) Team!



Thank you to our enthusiastic & dynamic FOW team for their engagement with school to support our students learning journey & school development. Here they are attending a FOW meeting on 15/10/25 with the PRE Ms. Aiysha to discuss future action plans, Class WHATSAPP Reps & next steps. Thank you dear FOW for attending & sharing your time & ideas.

Whole School News; This Week's ECA Report!











Whole School News; "You Said... We Did..."



Whole School News; This Week's Leadership GEMStone! Leading with Diversity (Fluorite)

OCTOBER – WEEK 43 **LEADING WITH DIVERSITY**

(FLOURITE

Celebrates unique perspectives and fosters inclusivity.

GG Leadership means helping others step up and lead too. 575

MESSAGE: Leading with diversity means helping everyone feel included and valued. When you encourage your friends to lead, you show that their ideas matter. Giving others a chance to lead helps the whole team grow and succeed together.

REFLECT: How can I help my friends feel confident about leading? What can I do to show everyone their ideas are important?



Whole School News; Family First! Awarding Letter-Writing Activity Certificates



Honoring Students for Writing Letters to Their Families

Junior Section





Primary Section









Secondary Section









Whole School News; Family First! October's Favourite Recipe-Sharing Activity!





Share your family favourite recipes for everyone to enjoy!

Let's celebrate the rich diversity of our community through food.



Please ensure all recipes are submitted by October 24, 2025

Better still, why not post a video of yourself making the dish and tag your school along with #GEMSFamilyFirst





Whole School News; Family First! October's Favourite Recipe-Sharing Activity!



THIS RECIPE HAS BEEN SHARED BY

RECIPE

EQUIPMENT NEEDED STEP-BY-STEP METHOD

INGREDIENTS

DIRECTIONS

student's name:

Class:

ID:

WSS



Whole School News; Family First! October's Favourite Recipe-Sharing Activity!





E/S

October Contest | Favorite Family Recipe

We are excited to invite all families to participate in our October Contest!

- * Share your favorite recipe a family dish, a special meal, or any food you love.
- Submission options:
- A written recipe card
- A self-designed format
- A short video of cooking or eating

Extended Version (for the school magazine):

October Contest: Our Favorite Recipe!

In celebration of family traditions and the joy of sharing meals, we are delighted to announce our October Contest:

"Our Favorite Recipe"

We invite all families to share their favorite recipe — whether it's a traditional family dish, a beloved comfort food, or a simple meal that brings everyone together.

How to participate:

- Submit a written recipe card
- 2- Create your own unique design
- 3- Send us a short video of cooking or enjoying the meal
- * We look forward to your delicious and creative entries, which will be featured in our school magazine to celebrate the wonderful flavors of our co

Whole School News; Staff CPD!



Thank you to our dedicated staff who attended an important First Aid course in school on Friday 10/10/25, led by external trainers.



WSS is twinning with sister school GCS on the Health-Promoting Schools initiative, an authority accreditation process aimed at promoting healthy lifestyles. The WSS Wellbeing team had our first introductory mentoring meeting on 13/10/25.



WSS Superstar Champions!



CONGRATULATIONS MS. SANA ANSARI!

We are delighted to share that Ms. Sana Ansari has published her research paper titled "A Study on Accounting Software Used by Accountants in Various Organizations" in the Nepalese Journal of Management Science and Research (NJMSR, Volume VIII, Issue 1) - a double-blind peer reviewed and indexed journal having open access with International License CC BY-NC-ND 4.0 on May 5, 2025.

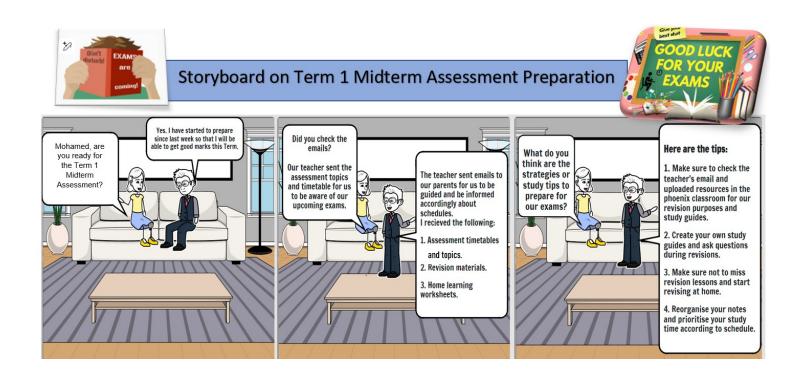
Her research highlights the importance of accounting software in enhancing financial reporting accuracy and efficiency, offering valuable insights into the evolving role of technology in modern accounting practices.

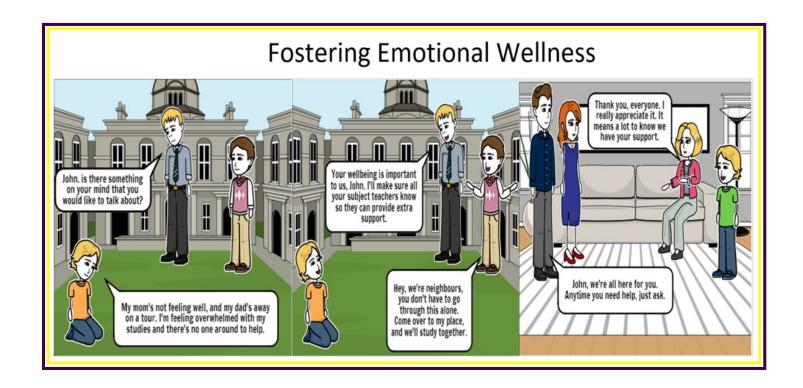
Congratulations to Ms. Sana on this remarkable academic achievement!

Happy Birthdays!



Whole School News; Storyboard Top Tips!





WSS Junior Section Be a GEM Superstar Champions!





WSS Junior Section Be a GEM Superstar Champions!



Junior Section News; Y1F Learning Activities!



Junior Section News; Assembly Time with Y1D2, 16/10/25 Unity is Strength—Leadership GEMStone Fluorite (Diversity)



















Junior Section News; Assembly Time with FS2D2, 16/10/25 Be a GEM—Be Present (Be Here, Be On Time, Be in Uniform)













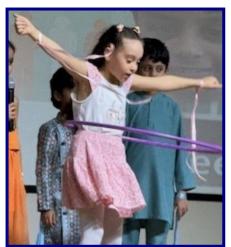




Junior Section News; Assembly Time with Y2D1, 16/10/25 Unity is Strength—Leadership GEMStone Fluorite (Diversity)















Junior Section News





Ms. Valerie enjoyed her lesson drop-in with Ms. Aaliya (Art) & Y2D2). We learnt about landscape drawing in the style of artist Etel Adnan.











Thank you to all the dear parents for supporting with costumes, attending events & helping your children learn their lines! We enjoyed 3 fabulous Junior Assemblies this week!





Junior Section News; Little Stitchers ECA Club Report!

Junior Section News; Y2D1 Learning Activities!



Junior Section News; FS1H1 Learning Activities!



Junior Section News; FS2D2 Learning Activities!





Junior Section News; FS2H2 Learning Activities!























Junior Section News; Y1D Learning Activities!





Junior Section News; Y1H Learning Activities!





Junior Section News; Y1S Learning Activities!





Junior Section News; Y2D2 Learning Activities!

MS FARAH & MS TAHIRA Y2D2





















Junior Section News; Y2F Learning Activities!



Junior Section News; Y2H1 Learning Activities!



Junior Section News; Y2H2 Learning Activities!

Junior Section: Y2 H2

Ms. Jinitra and Ms. Aaditya



















Junior Section News; Y2S1 Learning Activities!





Junior Section News; Y2S2 Learning Activities!

Y2S2-Class activities with Ms. Sabiha and Ms. Benil









Y2S2-Class activities with Ms. Sabiha and Ms. Benil





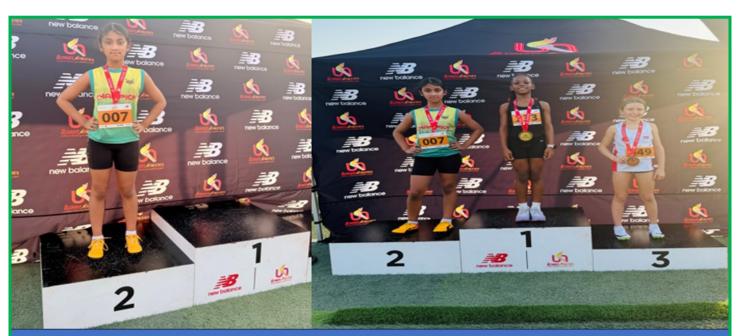








WSS Primary Section Sporting Superstar Champions!



Speed and determination! Congratulations to Ranaya from Y5D1 for proudly securing 2nd place in the 80m race at the Ultimate Race Night!

Dear Ms. Shaheen & WSS Team,

I want to extend my warmest congratulations to you and your students for delivering such a meaningful and well executed assembly on Respect. The entire program carried a beautiful message, and the way it was presented reflected careful preparation, thoughtful guidance, and a genuine commitment to instilling values in the children.

The skit, in particular, was powerful in its simplicity. Every child on stage had a role that mattered, and it showed in the way they carried themselves. Their confidence, coordination, and clarity were a reflection of your efforts behind the scenes.

I was especially proud to see Simal narrating with such composure and grace. It meant a lot to me to witness her being part of something so well structured and purposeful.

I truly admire how the school nurtures these moments to shape not just students' academic learning but their character as well. The environment you create clearly encourages them to be respectful, expressive, and responsible young individuals.

A special note of appreciation to Ms. Sonia for the way she maintained discipline throughout the program. Her calm and attentive presence ensured everything ran smoothly and the children shone on stage.

Please know that your dedication does not go unnoticed. As a parent, it's reassuring and deeply appreciated to see such thoughtful guidance and genuine care for the students.

This kind of excellence doesn't happen by chance. It reflects a culture of dedication, thoughtful leadership, and a team that truly believes in making a difference. I feel grateful and reassured knowing that Simal is part of such a school.

Warm regards,

Zaima Nadeem

Simal's Mother



Congratulations to Makkah from Y5D1. She won medals in a swimming competition at the Emirates University Sport Complex in Al Ain city.

Primary Section News; 'Be a GEM' with Ms. Majedah!

A thoughtful initiative by **student Sila Ghanem**, under the supervision of **teacher Amal**. She brought apples to promote healthy eating habits among her classmates and teachers. Y3D1

Primary activities Arabic spe.









During this week, with the guidance of **Ms. Majedah**, students from **Y5S2&H1**, **Y6BS&D**, **and Y6GD&H** engaged actively in implementing the "Turn and Talk" strategy. This approach is designed to foster communication, active listening, and critical thinking among students.







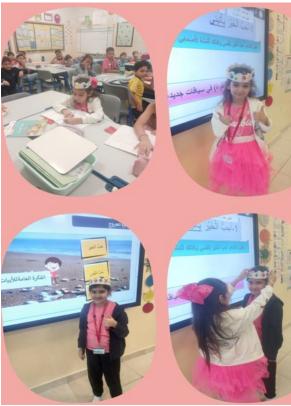






Primary Section News; 'Be a GEM' with Y4 & Ms. Dalal!





The King/ Queen of the Class Strategy with Y4 & Ms. Dalal; at the end of the lesson, a student is selected based as per specific criteria to receive and wear the crown throughout the following day. At the end of the next day's lesson, a new student is chosen, and their classmate presents the crown to them to wear the next day, and so on... This successful strategy has created an interactive and calm classroom environment.



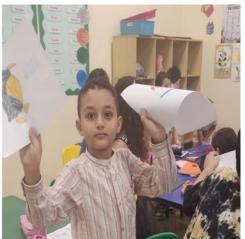
Celebrating Student Wellbeing Y3



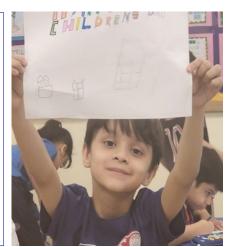








Y3 students enjoyed physical activity time on the field to stretch out muscles & oxygenate the brain!



Primary Section News; Y3 Wellbeing Activities, 16/10/25!





Mr. Dimple

Mr. Dimple

Mr. Dimple

Mr. Dimple

Mr. Dimple

Mr. Dimple

Makes each day feel just right

with Laughter warmth and clever mind

A true soul you will never find

tle is strong and fast, with steady gra

A friendly smile lights up his force

tle's honest, calm and always lave

And brings out joy in all he'll do

So here's to him, both strong and kind,

So cheeful, calm and simple

We all just love MR Dimple!



























Pink Day is a joyful celebration that promotes kindness, compassion, and unity. this special day everyone comes together dressed in shades of pink to show love, and respect for one another. It's reminder to spread positivity, against bullying, and create a community everyone where feels valued included. Let's paint the day pink with smiles, friendship, and good vibes!









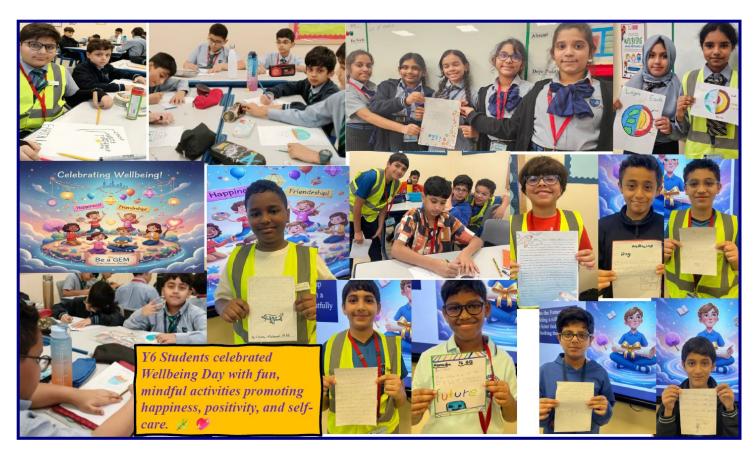




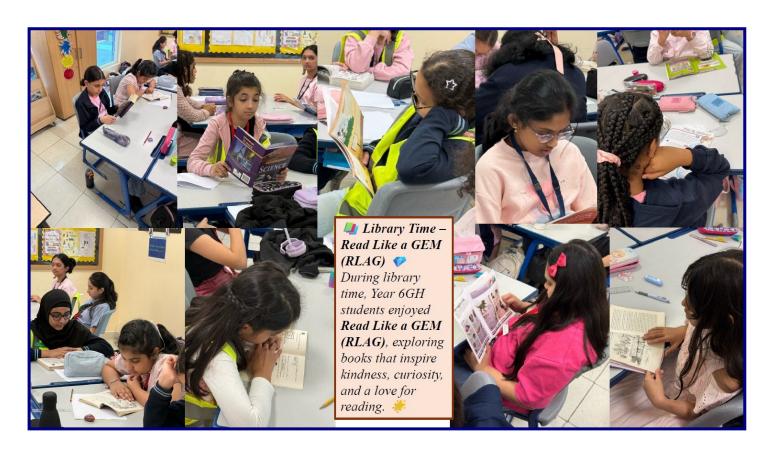
Y6 Students celebrated Breast Cancer Awareness Day by wearing shades of pink, symbolizing hope, strength, and support. Our students united to show compassion and raise awareness for the power of courage and early care. . Their vibrant display of solidarity is a beautiful reminder that small actions can make a big difference.

























WSS Secondary Section KS3 Family First Superstar Champions!



Be a GEM with Family First – Where Recipes Meet Relationships

Celebrating our wonderful parent winners who beautifully showcased the spirit of family, love, and togetherness!

- •Ms. Mehreen Tabassum, parent of Syed Mohammad Murtada (Y7BH)
- •Ms. Fatema Zohara, parent of Isa Shaneid Moideen (Y7BD)
- •Mr. Mudassar Habib, parent of Musa Khan (Y7BF)
- Ms. Zafriya, parent of Hamdan Azwar Rahman (Y7BF)
- Ms. Hania Irfan & Ms. Hooria Irfan, parents of Mohamed Ali Irfan Zulgurnain (Y7BD)

A special round of applause to their little stars who proudly received the certificates on behalf of their parents!

Secondary Section News; Learning Activities (General)!





Some may feel that Art is a 'lesser' subject. However learning to really 'see' & to look at things in new ways is critical to future success! When creativity underpins how we approach important tasks, such a problem-solving, action planning, leadership & successfully fulfilling responsibilities, we are able to apply innovative solutions. Thank you Nabia for sharing examples of your creative

WSS Secondary Section KS3 Superstar Champions!





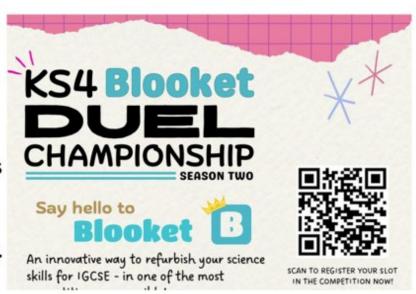


WSS Secondary Section KS4 GEM of the Month Superstars!



KS4 BLOOKET CHAMPIONSHIP--SEASON 2

Fast paced
questions, a race
against time and
the test of your
knowledge, awaits
you in the
engaging activity
exclusively for KS4







WINNERS OF FIRST ROUND

- · 1st competition: 8th Oct
- · 2nd competition: 15th Oct
- · 3rd competition: 22nd Oct

WINNERS OF SECOND ROUND

Secondary Section News; Assembly Time with Y9BF, 14/10/25!







Thank you to Guidance Counselor Ms. Anisha for delivering the Authority-required awareness session on Drug & Alcohol Abuse prevention.

Strength and growth come only through continuous effort and struggle.

Ms. Anisha led an insightful session for KS3 students on Drug Awareness, empowering students to make wise choices and say no to harmful substances. The session inspired students to value their well-being, stay informed, and embrace a drug-free lifestyle for a brighter future



WSS Secondary Section Be a GEM Superstar Champions!



"Great tutors don't just teach — they shape confidence, build character, and spark potential in every child."

Secondary Section News; Introducing Read Like a GEM to KS3, 14/10/25!





Secondary Section News, PINKTOBER KS3 Yoga with the Principal, 13/10/25!



















Secondary Section News, PINKTOBER KS3 Yoga with the Principal, 13/10/25!





Secondary Section News; KS3—Be a GEM, Relationships Matter!

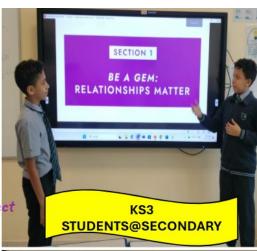
Be a GEM - Relationship Matters







Strong relationships sparkle with kindness, empathy, and respect. Let's all be a GEM – Genuine, Empathetic, and Mindful – in the way we connect with others.













BE A GEM KS3 ACTION

In the classroom, students engaged in a thoughtful and meaningful reflection on the Be a Gem expectations and the importance of fostering cultural excellence.



Secondary Section News; Science Club!



Secondary Section News; Science Club!



Secondary Section News; Commerce Club Competition, 14/10/25!



Student teams of 3 presented a business proposal to judges, covering finance, crisis solution, marketing & more. The innovative proposals included 'Campus Bites', 'Lush Latte', 'Mind Bridge', 'Gradr Fitness', 'Pitstop 16' (great puns used!) amongst others. Students spoke confidently to sell their business idea to the panel of judges.













The Commerce Club hosted its first large-scale event, *The Executive Dilemma*, where participants showcased their business acumen by tackling real-world corporate crises and developing strategic solutions for judges to evaluate.

The event was both engaging and educational, offering students a platform to demonstrate their understanding of commerce while enhancing their problem-solving and decisionmaking skills.

Organized by the Commerce Club Team and Club Coordinator Ms Sana



Secondary Section News; KS5 Escape Room!

