

## December Issue

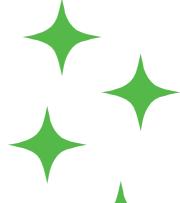
# The GEM

What's In This Month's Issue!



- AP Excellence @ GSIS
- World Computer Literacy Day
- Sports Day
- World Arabic Language Day
- Academic Achievement Ceremonies Term One (Promoting Academic Excellence at GSIS)
- United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
- Family First Step Challenge
- Top Attendance for December 2023
- GSIS Mascot! Guess his name
- GSIS Student Profile CARE
- The Great GSIS Debate
- Elementary School Spelling Bee
- Student-Parents-Teacher Conferences
- Science Activities
- The Importance of Music at GSIS
- A Sneak Peek: Choir and Drama rehearsals for the end of Term 3 production
- Melody Mondays
- Kindness and Environment Ambassadors
- Middle and High School Achievement Board
- Messages from GSIS Divisional Principals











### ACADEMIC DIRECTOR'S CORNER

#### Reasons to be Jubilant!

As I complete nearly six months of service to the GEMS Saudi International Schools (GSIS) Community, there is no better time to reflect on the powerhouse of milestones achieved within the Academic HUB. Unfortunately, there is only a finite amount of space for my article, and the month of December 2023 has provided GSIS with so many reasons to be jubilant about the Academic HUB, so to reflect on the past six months would do a disservice to our achievements of the past month.

December 2023 saw members of faculty trying out their newly minted Unit and Lesson Planners and saw the launch of an enhanced Formal Observation Lesson structure, where teachers are meant to be engaging with the inquiry cycle and whereby students are also engaging with meaningful dialogues around inquiring into various content across a range of contexts.

The Arabic Language Department celebrated World Arabic Language Day, where various events were held to celebrate their Mother Tongue or Home Language amongst roughly 78.0% of our student body. This day was not only a celebration of the Arabic Language but also encapsulated the plethora of cultures that speak it across the Globe.

While on the subject of language, GSIS Grades 7-11 students participated in the School's first-ever Lincoln-Douglass debate structure, which was sensational. Students have already challenged each other for a sequel and are seeking to wage academic war to get one up on the other. We look forward to seeing the sequel to the debate, and may the orator prevail.

As we stay steady on the language pathway, December 2023 saw students in Grades 1-6 embark upon the Great Spelling Bee and saw two two-way "spell-offs", where students had to navigate the spelling of several tricky words to emerge the victor.

December 2023 also saw GSIS establish academic achievement criteria to acknowledge and reward students in grades 1-12. The Grade 9-11 students visited the inaugural Academic Achievement Ceremonies, and those students in lower grades will be honored during the morning assemblies with certificates signed, sealed and awarded.

With the awarding of Academic Achievement Awards, the School is also embarking upon a robust Student Support Program to support those students who need that additional push with their academics and also for those who may not need it but think that they will benefit from the extra reinforcement, please watch for PowerSchool announcements for further information.

For all of the above highlights, GSIS continues to be on an upward trajectory in pursuing academic excellence. We maintain our focus for the sake of our students as we see 'Genius in Every Child', and we will tap into that talent one child at a time.

Yours in academic excellence,

Dr. Alleyne





#### AP Excellence at 4515



The "AP Excellence@GSIS" column was created to highlight students' achievement on the College Board Advanced Placement Courses (AP) at GSIS!

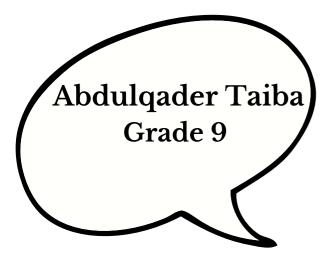
Fifty-four GSIS students are currently enrolled and undertaking the AP academic challenge. Advanced Placement (AP) Courses tackle first-year university content and move at an unprecedented pace, especially for High School students. The workload is heavy and the pressure steady, but for GSIS students who are poised, mature and possessing a growth mindset will not allow the course to defeat them, rather, they will rise to the occasion. The "AP Excellence@GSIS" column showcases AP students excelling in their courses. The December 2023 Newsletter will feature students on the AP English Language and Composition course.

Dr. Alleyne, GSIS' Academic Director, had the pleasure of interviewing three stellar students on the course: Grade 9 students Leena Faraj and Abdulqader Taiba.





#### AP Excellence







Q: Abdulqader, tell me a little bit about the AP English Language and Composition course and why you selected it. And, what do you like most about the course?

A: Abdulqader: I have always enjoyed English and want to do something related to the English language for my career, possibly law or a writer. What I like most about the course is the consistency; we always do work in class and outside of class, and Mrs. Allison, our teacher, is always helping us whenever we need help. honestly, the interactivity of the class is always at a good level as we discuss and debate topics in class.

Q: So, what are you studying right now?

A: Abdulqader: We just finished discussing writing a two-page narrative essay.

Q: What is the most challenging about the English Language and Composition course?

A: Abdulqader: It's hard to keep up with the due dates for the essays, but I manage to balance my time and submit tasks with my original thinking.

Q: What is the last book that you read?

A: Abdulqader: I like reading fiction, and I think that increases my vocabulary a lot, and it helps with my writing style. I read about five to seven books per month.

Q: Have you had any examinations yet and if yes, how have you done?

A: Abdulqader: Yes, we have had several examinations and I have done well on all.

Q: What advice would you give to a student contemplating taking an AP English Language and Composition course next year?

A: Abdulqader: AP English Language and Composition is most definitely worth it; you're not going to lose anything. It can only benefit you and you're gonna enjoy it. If you go into something that you like you're going to enjoy!

Q: Are you thinking of taking any AP courses next academic year and if so, what exactly?

A: Yes, I would like to take AP Physics or AP Biology, something Scientific.

#### AP Excellence

#### Q: Leena: can you tell me a little bit about what inspired you to take AP English Language and Composition? Can you also address what inspired you to take the course?

A: Leena: I love and have always loved English and saw the AP English Language and Composition Course as the perfect opportunity to challenge myself. The course is very analytical and requires you to have a broad set of skills and knowledge when it comes to analyzing texts. Right now, we are working on structuring our own arguments and writing essays in different formats. For example, the focus is on narratives. Narratives could be a powerful tool in persuading our audience.

#### Q: Do you see the course as an extra workload on you?

A: Leena: I do not even think of the course as placing an additional burden or workload on me, but it depends on the length of the assignment in class as to whether it places additional demands on my time. We also get assignments online and usually get them done during class. It is more motivating than working at home, so I tend to get a lot of work done at school, and this enables me to relax while at home.

#### Q: Talk to us about the rigor of the course and the feedback you receive from your teacher to improve.

A: Leena: I'm not wrong the eternal examination is comprised of 45-multiple-choice questions and a lot of them are more concept-based rather than memorization, which is probably why I'm doing well because I cannot memorize. In terms of feedback, Mrs. Allison, our teacher, said that she prefers it if we don't use online resources such as artificial intelligence or Google because she wants us to get an idea of the real test conditions.

#### Q: Do you both feel ready to take the external AP examination in May?

A: Leena agreed wholeheartedly but we are both excited to take the examination to see our grades.

#### Q: What advice would you give to students thinking about taking an AP course next academic year?

A: Leena: Although a lot of people believe English classes are about grammatical rules and how to write normal sentences it's sort of like mathematics in the way that if you understand the concept. Then you're good to go, so as long as you start practicing early, especially because this is a difficult course. If you start practising early and you put a lot of effort into practising the skills that you've learned during the actual lessons, then you'll be fine, and I highly recommend the class.

#### Q: Which AP Subjects are you interested in studying next academic year?

A: Leena: if there was English Literature, I would sign up.







### CONGRATULATIONS



In recognition of our students' outstanding achievements, a special assembly was convened in the Auditorium, of Middle and High School Student. Duringthis spirited event, we had the privilege of hearing from two remarkable students, Hancen Alali and Albatool Alomran, who graciously shared their experiences as participants in Ibda'a. Their compelling stories inspired their peers, encouraging them to consider registering and participating in the program next year.

The spotlight of the celebration shone brightly on Hancen Alali, as we acknowledged her remarkable progression to the final stage of Ibda'a. Hancen's "Aqueous Modification ZIF-8 for the

showcased her dedication and expertise in the field.

Equally deserving of applause, we celebrated Albatool's achievement in reaching the penultimate stage of Ibda'a. Her research, titled: "Diversity and Bioactivity Potential of Halothermotolerant Microbes," reflects her intellectual prowess and her commitment to exploring diverse aspects of scientific inquiry.

Together, we embraced the accomplishments of Hancen and Albatool, fostering a spirit of pride and encouragement within our school's community.





## Boys' Schools



ICT Day, also known as World Computer Literacy Day, is celebrated annually on December 2nd. This day aims to raise awareness about the importance of computer literacy and the role of technology in our lives.



## WORLD COMPUTER LITERACY DAY



It is a day to promote the use of computers and other digital technologies, and to encourage people to develop their skills and knowledge in this field. Many organizations around the world hold events and activities on ICT Day to help individuals and communities improve their computer literacy and to bridge the digital divide.

## Boys' Schools

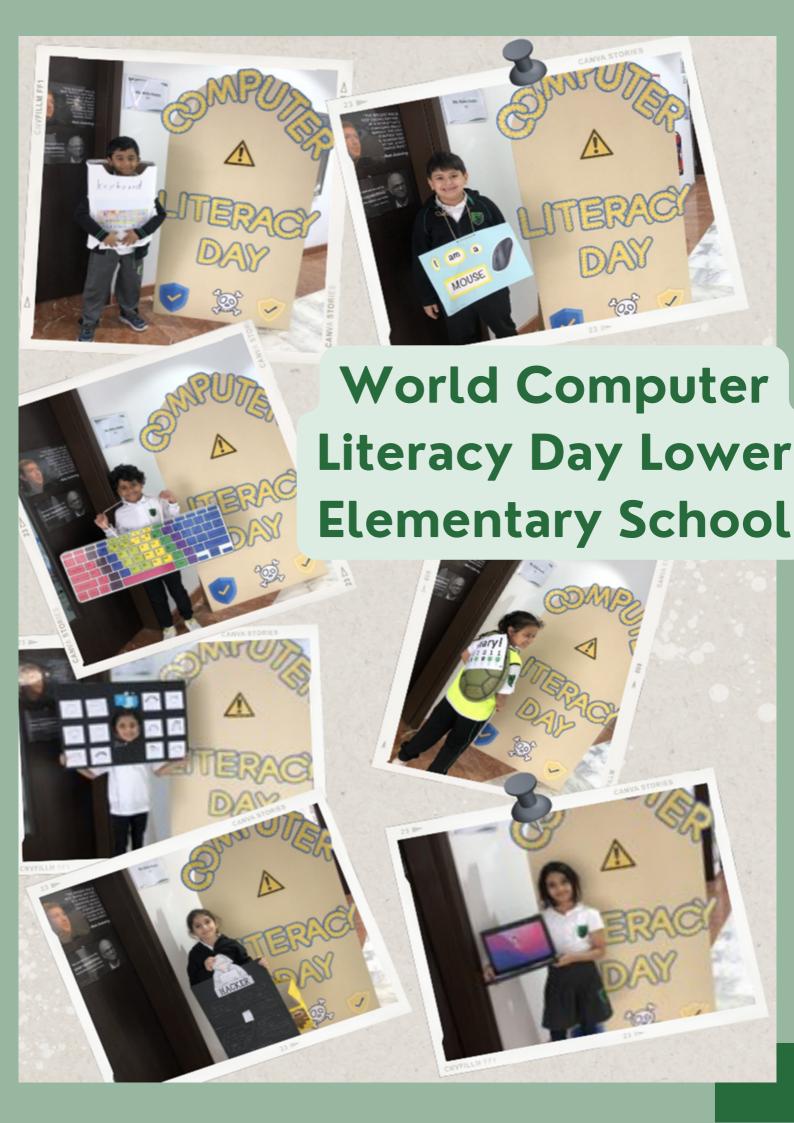


#### **ED - TECH Support**

Our students recently had a chance to meet with Ms Suheba from the Ed-Tech department to discuss the challenges they were facing. Ms. Suheba took the time to assist the students with their technical issues and helped them navigate various platforms such as PowerSchool and Teams. Her guidance was invaluable and greatly appreciated by the students.







## World Computer Literacy Day Grades

4-11











Students in Grades 4 - 11 had the opportunity to present their information and participate in the Q & A activities to view their understanding of key information that was shared

### S P O R T S

D A Y



The Sports Day at GSIS aims to promote physical fitness, teamwork and healthy competition among students. It was a great opportunity for students to showcase their physical and collaborative skills and to enjoy the day with their friends and classmates. The Sports Day was a major highlight in the school year.



#### WHAT WAS YOUR FAVOURITE PART OF THE SPORTS DAY AND DID YOU HAVE FUN?

"My favorite part was when we got free ice cream because it felt like a reward for participating, and yes, I did have fun because we all showed our sportsmanship, and it strengthened our teamwork. It was definitely a day to remember" - Jomana 8A

#### DID YOU USE THE SKILLS THAT YOU LEARNED IN PE CLASS TO HELP YOUR TEAM WIN?

"Yes, never giving up and basketball ball like dribbling and defending." - Jouana 6B

#### WHAT DID THE SPORTS DAY TEACH YOU?

"To put a lot of effort into your goal to achieve it."

#### - Maram 6B

At the end of the day, it was definitely nice to take a break from all the studying and just have a nice friendly game with your friends.

### S P O R T S

D A Y

















S P O R T S D A Y





















## F O O T B A L L

T O R N A M E N















Alqahtani Grade 10 for achieving the 2nd rank in the swimming competition held in Qatar with the Al3 Academy Winter Camp. It's always a matter of pride for the school when our students excel in their respective fields, and we are thrilled to hear about Musaed's success. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors.





#### Middle & Highschool School



اللغة العربية لغة القرآن الكريم وقد تميز القرآن الكريم بجمال خطه ولا شك في ذلك. فقد نزل بلسان عربي مبين. من هنا كانت فكرة إنشاء معرض الخط العربي في يوم اللغة العربية بمشاركة معلمة التربية الإسلامية لإستعراض إبداع الطالبات في كتابة وتلوين الخط العربي.













### Upper Elementary, Middle & High Schools

أحتفلت مدارس جيمس السعودية -الظهران بيوم الإثنين الموافق 18 ديسمبر2023م بيوم اللغة العربية وشاركت الطالبتان فاطمة قريضة - وخديجة قريضة ركن (القصة المصورة )

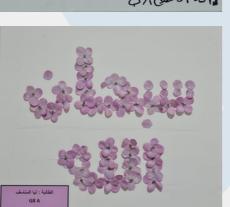














امن المهم الافتخار و التعلم عن اللغة العربية فهي لغت القرآن و اللغة التي يستخدمها اجدادنا و اجداد اجدادنا يعمل يوم العربي كموذكر لهاذا الامرو بمناسبة اليوم العربي لقد سألنا اسئله عن تجربة الطلاب.

كمعلمه هل تظنين ان يوم العربي يوم مهم و لماذا؟ اكيد لتعزيز اللغة عند العرب لان بعد سنوات يمكن أن تندثر اللغة.

- المعلمه أميرة

عند صناعات مشروعك هل تعلمتي شيء؟ نعم لقد صنعت مشروع عن المذكر و الموانث السالم وانه يدل على ان الاتنين بزياده واو و نون و ياء و نون.

امل ۷

ارجو ان نستمر في المحافظة على اللغة العربية و التحدث بها فهي لغتنا الام فكيف نستغني عنها؟

## بسم الله الرحن الرحيم

### WORLD ARABIC LANGUAGE DAY يوم اللغة العربية

ضمن احتفالات العالم باليوم العالمي للغة العربية والذي يصادف الثامن عشر من ديسمبر من كل عام ، شاركت مدارس جيمس السعودية العالمية العالم بهذا الاحتفال ، حيث قدم طلابنا فقرات جميلة ومميزة تعبر عن اعتزازهم بلغتهم وثقافتهم وحبهم لوطنهم ، وذلك من خلال عديد من الفقرات التي تضمنت بعض الكلمات والمسابقات والقصائد الشعرية، كما قام الطلاب بعمل لوحات تعبر عن جمال اللغة العربية وتم في نهاية الحفل توزيع الجوائز والهدايا على الطلاب





# TERM ONE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT CEREMONIES















## \*

# CERTIFICATES OF EXCELLENCE



MAP



Grade 5



Grade 6



Grade 8





DECEMBER 2023

# CRADES 7-8





DECEMBER 2023

# CRADES 7-8 700+







## ATTENDANCE & ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The upper elementary school recently honored its outstanding students with certificates of perfect attendance and academic achievement for term one, celebrating their dedication and hard work in a spirit of recognition and encouragement.

### **MAP Highest Scorers**



#### Snapshots from the Assembly









## ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

At GSIS Lower Elementary, high academic achievers shine, embodying a culture of excellence. Their achievements lay a crucial foundation for lifelong learning, fostering essential skills and confidence. Celebrating their success inspires the entire school community towards academic excellence.







# United Nations Sustainable Development Goals



At GSIS, all teachers are completing 7 UN sustainable development goals courses to be fully aware of the Goals and include them in their daily teaching. To steer our students towards Vision 2030, we engage them in conversations about the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Middle and High school students will enroll in the free optional UN courses completing one course every month. We conducted a morning assembly to elucidate the significance of these goals and their connection to our country's 2030 vision. Upon completing a course, students will receive a certificate from the UN. Notably, those who finish the course within the month will be acknowledged, and their names will be featured in the newsletter.





# United Nations Sustainable Development Goals



In the upper elementary school, our team of passionate teachers and curious students started on a global adventure. Inspired by the UN Sustainable Development Goals, they inquired into the global challenges and started taking action. Through creative projects, lively discussions, and vibrant posters, they sparked a wave of awareness and empathy within our school community. Their journey showcased the transformative power of education in shaping compassionate, socially conscious leaders of tomorrow.

















#### Net Zero in a Nutshell!

#### **DECEMBER SUGGESTED SDG COURSE**





How to prevent e-waste?

Circular economy

Self-paced courses

@ 2 hours

Q English

What is net zero?



Why should I take an e-learning course on UNCC?

Students who earn the elearning certificate for completing courses will earn recognition from GSIS.

https://unccelearn.org/





Saudi Arabia is undergoing transformation and change to align with their 2030 vision to have 50% of its power generated from renewable sources.



By 2060 Saudi Arabia plans to have net zero emissions!



You are all the future for Saudi Arabia

Reducing Carbon Emissions | Saudi Green Initiative Target

Saudi & Middle East Green Initiatives

### UN Sustainable Development Goals





Students address the UN SDG goals during weekly assemblies.









#### FAMILY FIRST STEP CHALLENGE







GSIS students and teachers completed

### 1 847 000 STEPS WHICH EQUALS 1477 KM.



WOW! Well done to our top steppers who each received a GSIS water bottle for their active contributions and more importantly spending time with their families!

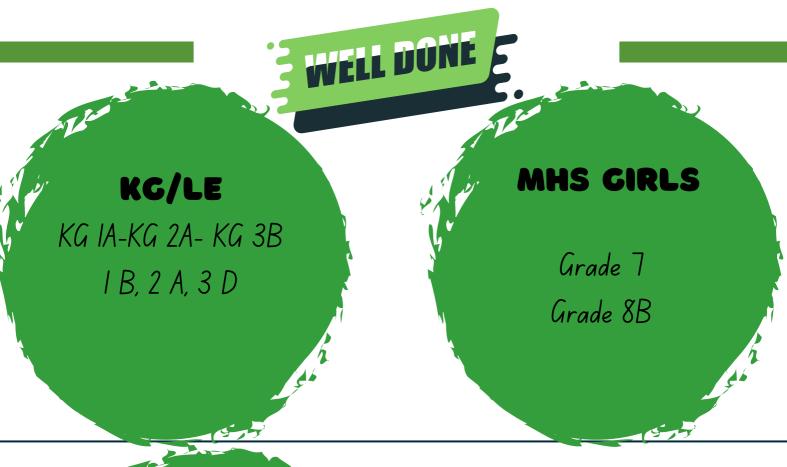
We can, with our collective steps, walk from

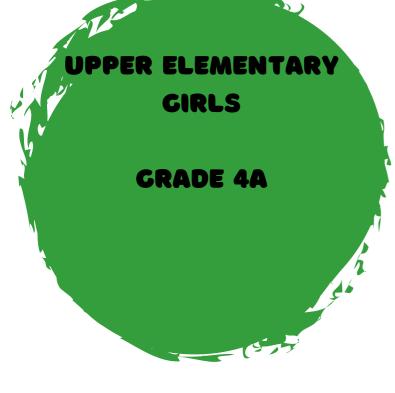
Dammam to Jeddah!





# TOP ATTENDANCE FOR DECEMBER







# GSIS Mascot Upholding the GSIS Values

We are excited to welcome our GSIS Mascot to the GSIS family.

Bring your suggestions on the **14th of January** and drop it in the suggestion box in the reception!



# GSIS Student Profile CARE KG-LE



IN OUR COMMITMENT TO INSTILLING THE CORE VALUE OF CARE WITHIN OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY, WE HAVE STRATEGICALLY INCORPORATED THIS PRINCIPLE INTO OUR MORNING ASSEMBLIES FOR KG AND LE. THESE ASSEMBLIES SERVE AS A PLATFORM FOR NURTURING A CULTURE OF COMPASSION, EMPATHY, AND CONSIDERATION AMONG OUR YOUNG LEARNERS. OUR MORNING ASSEMBLIES IN KG AND LE PLAY A PIVOTAL ROLE IN FOSTERING A SENSE OF COMMUNITY WHERE GSIS VALUES ARE NOT JUST VALUES BUT A DAILY PRACTICE.





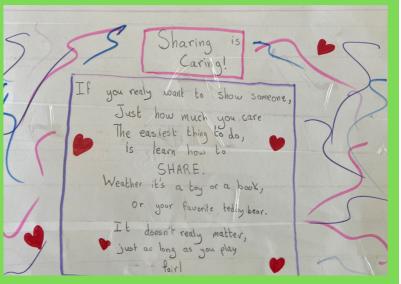
# GSIS Student Profile CARE in the Upper Elementary

Throughout the month, the value of "Care" has been a part of everything we do at school. We've seen so many acts of kindness and care from our students. Whether helping a friend, showing empathy, or being considerate, each small act has made a big difference. It's incredible to see how much we've all embraced this value and made it a part of our daily learning and teaching. Keep spreading kindness and showing care, everyone! You're making our school an even better place.



The students' creativity in the Care Competition was fantastic! Yasmine Bouaraki from Grade 5 emerged as the winner with her exceptional interpretation of "Care." Thank you to all the students who participated and shared their wonderful displays of kindness and creativity. Congratulations to Yasmine and all the participants for showcasing their caring spirit and artistic talents!





# GSIS Student Profile CARE



It's truly inspiring to hear a grade 6
student like Ali discussing the
importance of intrinsic motivation in
learning. Clearly, he cares deeply
about students' intentions and
believes that learning shouldn't be
about receiving rewards. Ali's
perspective is an excellent example of
what it means to be a role model of
care, and it's no surprise that he was
chosen for this recognition. It's
encouraging to see young students
like Ali embody such essential values.



#### **GSIS** Great Debate



Are you ready to compete with students in other regional schools?

The Great Debate was an excellent platform for middle and high school students to showcase their persuasiveness and eloquence on various moral topics. The students presented their arguments with passion and conviction, which made for a thought-provoking and engaging discussion. It was inspiring to see the students put forth their best efforts and express their views on critical moral issues. The Great Debate was a testament to the students' dedication and hard work, and it was a pleasure to witness their growth and development throughout the event.

#### **Great Debate Winners**



**Grade 8 Round 2** – Mujtaba Al-Baloola and Giacomo Proietti

Grade 9 - Leena Al-Faraj

**Grade 10** – Abdullah Al-Jeshi

Grade 11 - Taima Alsomali

**Best Debater** – Leena Al-Faraj (Grade 9 Girls) **Overall Champions** – The Boys Section (4 wins)



### ELEMENTARY %



#### SPELLING BEE





THE RECENT SPELLING BEE AT GSIS ELEMENTARY WAS A RESOUNDING SUCCESS, SHOWCASING THE REMARKABLE LINGUISTIC SKILLS OF OUR STUDENTS. ENTHUSIASTIC PARTICIPANTS FROM VARIOUS GRADES DEMONSTRATED IMPRESSIVE COMMAND OVER SPELLING. THE SUCCESS OF THE SPELLING BEE UNDERSCORES OUR STUDENTS' DEDICATION AND THE SCHOOL'S FOCUS ON CHAMPIONING LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY AND HEALTHY ACADEMIC COMPETITION.











# STUDENT PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE KG-LE

THE RECENT STUDENT-TEACHER-PARENT CONFERENCE AT GSIS SUCCESSFULLY PROMOTED CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE BETWEEN EDUCATORS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS. TEACHERS PROVIDED VALUABLE FEEDBACK ON STUDENT PROGRESS, WHILE PARENTS ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN DISCUSSIONS, GAINING INSIGHTS INTO THEIR CHILD'S ACADEMIC JOURNEY. STUDENTS PLAYED A PIVOTAL ROLE IN REFLECTING ON THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS. THESE CONFERENCES HIGHLIGHT THE STRONG PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS AT GSIS, FOSTERING A SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT FOR HOLISTIC STUDENT DEVELOPMENT.



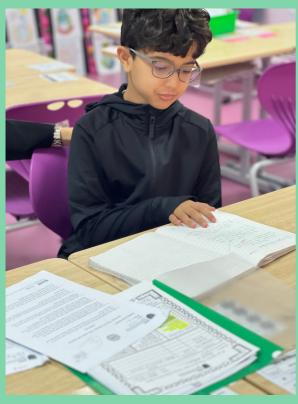






# STUDENT PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE UPPER ELEMENTARY

On December 28th, elementary students took charge of their own learning during student-parent-teacher conferences. They led the way, showcasing their work and discussing their progress with their parents. This inclusive approach not only gave students a sense of ownership in their education but also strengthened the bond between home and school. It was a proud day for young learners taking the lead in their educational journey.











# UPPER ELEMENTARY EXCELLENCE



In Term I, the students Deem Alkadi, Leena Alnuaimi, Talia Mashhour, Liyan Youssef, Elef Abusaif, Sadeen Abuessa, Jana Alqarni, Maram Elnoubi, Suad Jibrell, Yara Almutairi and Joud Alblaui exhibited outstanding dedication by securing the highest scores in the Upper Elementary Excellence category. Their remarkable achievements are a testament to the unwavering effort and commitment they poured into their studies. Throughout the term, these students consistently demonstrated a thirst for knowledge, actively engaging in class discussions, and going above and beyond to grasp challenging concepts. Their exceptional performance not only reflects their individual brilliance but also underscores the collaborative and supportive academic environment fostered within the group. As they continue to excel, their hard work serves as an inspiration to their peers and a source of pride for the entire educational community.



















# UPPER ELEMENTARY WEEKLY ENGLISH CHALLENGE!

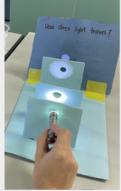




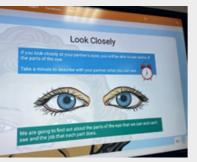


We are excited to announce the launch of our Weekly English Challenge! Starting Term 2, students had the opportunity to participate in engaging English language activities that will enhance their language skills and make learning a fun and rewarding experience. Each week, we will introduce a new challenge to stimulate creativity and overall language proficiency. To add a touch of excitement, we will be announcing the winners every Thursday. We encourage all students to participate and actively show their linguistic powers!

#### GRADE 4 SCIENCE IN ACTION









Grade 4 students underwent a journey of exploration in the Unit: Let's Ride Some Waves.

We chased some rainbows in the playground by refracting light in a prism, which confirmed the fact that sunlight contains all the colors of the spectrum, but objects reflect specific wavelengths based on their color.

Students learned how to differentiate between light reflection, refraction and absorption and uncovered the mystery behind the bending of pencils in water.

We also explored how our eyes work and the roles of eye parts, and it was fascinating to know that the image reaches our eyes upside down, and our hardworking brain flips it again in the correct orientation.

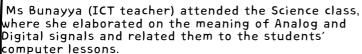
By the end of December, we delved into the Lesson titled: The Invisible Waves that Connect Us All, whereby we learned how phones transmit radio signals and how communication has changed throughout the years. Students enjoyed cracking the Morse code and writing their names using dots and dashes, which was the core of how Telegraph worked in the past.



By the end of December, we delved into the Lesson titled: The Invisible Waves that Connect Us All, whereby we learned how phones transmit radio signals and how communication has changed throughout the years. Students enjoyed cracking the Morse code and writing their names using dots and dashes, which was the core of how the Telegraph worked in the past.



## SCIENCE -ICT COLLABORATION



Ms Bunayya also explained how radio waves transmit signals and how certain factors affect the transfer. Students were asked questions at the end related to how the human body is affected by technological devices, such as: Do you think sleeping with your telephone or tablet by your side is OK and why?

This collaboration allowed students to approach lessons from different angles and acknowledged the GSIS value of "Collaboration".





#### Grades - H2O on the go

Celebrating the end of our Earths Water unit, students enthusiastically embraced hands-on activities integrated with mathematics. Students calculated surface areas, expressed their understanding through dramatic performances, and illustrated concepts via comic strips. Further enriching the experience, students incorporated music into their learning, crafting a water cycle song and rap. This hands-on approach not only reinforced Scientific concepts but also cultivated

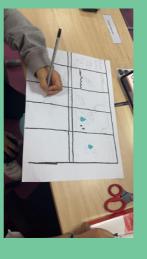














#### Science In Action

#### Grade6 - Cell Transport and Cell Division

In mastering Cell Transport and Cell Division, the students were immersed in dynamic activities, integrating ICT to create animations that depicted cell transport. The synergy of science continued as they crafted comic strips. Math found its place as well, with the calculation of cell division. This multifaceted approach deepened their scientific comprehension and fostered an interactive and engaging learning





#### GRADE 8 - MS. SARA RAGEH

Students used marshmallows to model the DNA double helix strands adding the nucleotides.

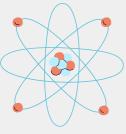








# PHYSICS ACTIVITY HIGH SCHOOL



E=m.c2







High school students used the law of conservation of energy to demonstrate a chain reaction machine, The sequence of actions represented the change of energy during each stage.



#### -Taima Alsomalli

-Kanzy Taher



Grade 11

-Fai Alinaizi



Grade 10

-Shahla AlZughaibi

Grade 11

#### WHY IS MUSIC EDUCATION IN **SCHOOLS IMPORTANT?**

MUSIC IS AN ESSENTIAL SUBJECT FOR ALL CHILDREN TO LEARN AND CAN LEAD TO BETTER BRAIN DEVELOPMENT. INCREASED HUMAN CONNECTION. AND EVEN STRESS RELIEF.

HERE ARE FIVE REASONS WHY MUSIC EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS IS **ESSENTIAL:** 

1. MUSIC STIMULATES BRAIN **DEVELOPMENT IN** CHILDREN

> 3. MUSIC INTEGRATES **MANY DIFFERENT SUBJECTS**

**OTHER PEOPLE** 

5. MUSIC CAN **RELIEVE STRESS** 



4. MUSIC **TEACHES DISCIPLINE** 

2. MUSIC IS A

**WAY TO** 

**CONNECT WITH** 



**PERFORMING ARTS** DEPARTMENT

# SNEAK PEEK! CHOIR AND DRAMA AUDITION & MELODY MONDAYS

The GSIS Performing Arts Department are so pleased to launch the School Choir. Auditions for this year's musical, "Matilda" were held recently. Students were so excited and happy on stage.

We would like to thank all the students for their participation in the auditions.

We are impressed with the level of commitment and enthusiasm they have shown.



The preparations and rehearsals are on track and our thespians are eager and excited for the big event.

#### **Melody Mondays**











We also want to thank all our lovely musicians for their participation in Melody Mondays.



# KINDNESS AND ENVIRONMENT AMBASSADORS AT GSIS





As **Environment and Kindness Ambassadors at GSIS**, the students have a crucial role to play in promoting environmental awareness sustainability, and fostering a culture of empathy and inclusivity within the school community. Their responsibilities encompass several key areas.

The **Environment Ambassadors** are tasked with raising awareness about environmental issues, promoting ecofriendly habits, and helping with recycling initiatives and energy conservation efforts. They also advocate for sustainable practices within the school environment, encouraging proper waste disposal, the use of reusable materials, and taking care of the school and classroom environment by turning off electricity while not in use and helping with the cleaning up in the classroom and playground.

In their role as **Kindness Ambassadors**, the students work to nurture a culture of empathy, compassion, and inclusivity within GSIS. Their responsibilities include organizing events and workshops focused on themes such as anti-bullying, empathy-building, and acts of kindness. They serve as role models for their peers, promoting positive behavior and respect for others and upholding the GSIS student value profiles.

The students also **rotate these positions every month**, providing more students with the opportunity to take on these essential responsibilities. This rotation system ensures that a larger and more diverse group of students can actively contribute to environmental awareness, sustainability, and kindness initiatives within the school.

At the end of each month, the **Environment and Kindness Ambassadors** are recognized and appreciated for their efforts through the presentation of certificates in the morning assembly. These certificates serve to acknowledge and celebrate the students' dedication and leadership in promoting environmental awareness, sustainability, empathy, and inclusivity within the school community. This recognition helps reinforce the importance of their roles and encourages continued participation and enthusiasm in their ambassadorial duties.







#### KG KINDNESS AMBASSADORS













#### KG ENVIRONMENT AMBASSADORS











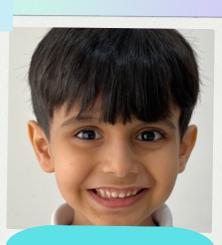
Zainab Alfaraj



#### GRADE I **KINDNESS AMBASSADORS**







Hamad

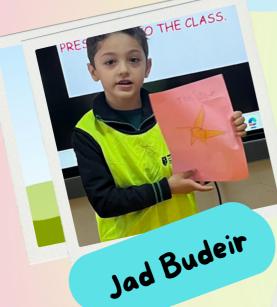
FROM THE MILLERS







#### GRADE I **ENVIRONMENT AMBASSADORS**







GRADE 2 KINDNESS AMBASSADORS





Reema



Khaiat



GRADE 2 ENVIRONMENT AMBASSADORS



Abdullah Al Badran







# GRADE 3 KINDNESS AMBASSADORS







GRADE 3 ENVIRONMENT AMBASSADORS





# ENVIRONMENT AMBASSADORS UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Ward Al Jeshi- 6A



Zainab Al Faraj- 4B



Joude Al Blowi- 5B



Hala Salem- 5A



Hala Al Ramadan-4A



Khadijah Al Yami-6B



Mohammed Al Mudhaffar-4D



Mohammed Abbas- 4C

## KINDNESS AMBASSADORS UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL





















Leena Al Dakhil-6A



Abdullah Al Dossary-4D



## GEMS AMBASSADORS - BOYS' SCHOOL













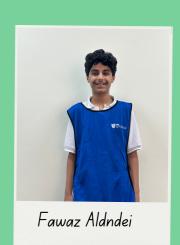












## GEMS AMBASSADORS - BOYS' SCHOOL























## MIDDLE & HIGHSCHOOL ACHIEVMENT BOARD





- Celine Alfarra G7
- Mira Dabbagh G10
- **Haneen Alali Gl1**
- Shouq Jaafer G9
- Maria Alkhateeb G8

#### Compassion

- Zaina Aljawabrah G7
- Ghalia Badoghaish G11
- Danya Al Dukhayil G8
- Noor AlMadan G9

#### Behavior

- Maryam Elnoubi G7
- Amal Haidar G7
- Samira Taha G9

#### **Uniform**

- Lara Alaql G7
- Malika AL Sayed G8

#### **Attendance**

- Zahra Tabraz G7
- Celine Mohammad G10
- Malath Alshammari G8
- Mayar Al Shazli G8
- Malath Alshammari G8

#### Respect

- Fatima Ahmad Guraidhah G7
- Noor Alsogair Gl1
- Salma Al Raqtan G8
- Fatima Alhalal G7

#### **Empathy**

- Rose Aljehani G7
- Ashley Tineoperales G10
- Jenna Darwish G8

## KG and LE School Principal

Dear GEMS KG and Lower Elementary Parents,

As we progress into the new term, I want to highlight a few essential aspects that significantly contribute to the success and well-being of our youngest learners.

Regular attendance and punctuality are foundational to your child's academic journey. Consistent attendance allows them to engage with the curriculum actively, build positive relationships with teachers and peers, and foster a love for learning. Punctuality ensures a smooth start to the day, promoting a sense of responsibility and discipline. I would greatly appreciate your cooperation in ensuring your child's regular attendance and timely arrival. While we strongly encourage students to attend school regularly and be punctual, we also want to emphasize the importance of prioritizing your child's health. If your child is unwell or exhibiting symptoms such as fever, diarrhoea, vomiting, or any signs of infection, we ask that you keep them at home until they fully recover. Your cooperation makes it a healthier environment for all students and helps prevent the spread of illnesses. We want to stress the importance of adherence to the school uniform policy. Wearing the school uniform is not just a requirement but a significant aspect of creating a positive and inclusive learning environment. A standardized dress code promotes a sense of unity among students, eliminates distractions, and allows the focus to remain on the learning experience. We'd like your support in ensuring your child comes to school dressed in the prescribed uniform.

By prioritizing attendance, punctuality, and adherence to the school uniform policy, we collectively contribute to a conducive and enriching learning environment for our young learners. Your partnership in reinforcing these principles is crucial to our students' overall success and growth. Thank you for your attention and cooperation. If you have any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Best regards, Fatimah Alwasmi KG&LE Principal



### A Message from the Upper Elementary School Principal

Dear Parents and Students

It has been a festive and eventful month here at Upper Elementary, as we celebrated a number of activities and events. Our students have shown great enthusiasm and participation throughout, making it a very successful month for the school community.

Computer Literacy Day was a significant event during which our students showcased their knowledge and skills in the field of technology. The ICT Team's efforts in organizing this event are highly appreciated as it has further enhanced our students' understanding of computer literacy.

Drama and Choir Rehearsals organized by the Performing Arts Team allowed our students to showcase their talents in performing arts. The rehearsals were engaging and brought out the creativity of our students, and we look forward to future performances.

Sports Day was an exciting and energetic event, thanks to our PE team's dedication and hard work. Our students displayed their athletic abilities and team spirit, making it a memorable day for everyone involved.

In honor of World Arabic Language Day, our students engaged in various activities to celebrate the language and its rich culture. We are proud to have recognized and celebrated the importance of the Arabic language in our school.

The Spelling Bee competition, coordinated by the elementary team, was a testament to our students' linguistic abilities. We are proud of all the participants and winners who demonstrated exceptional spelling skills.

We encouraged all parents to participate in the Student-Parent-Teacher Conference. This presented a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress and development.

Furthermore, we commend the Ambassadors for their dedication and commitment to making our school a better place. Their efforts have helped create a positive and supportive environment within the school.

We are proud of the achievements and participation of our students, and we are grateful for the continuous support and encouragement from the parents. We look forward to more successful events and activities in the upcoming months.

Thank you for your ongoing support and participation in making our school community vibrant and successful.

Sincerely, Nouf Almousa Upper Elementary School



## Boys Principal's letter

Dear students,

I wanted to remind you of the immense power that comes with education. As we face challenging times, being proactive in our learning is more important than ever. By prioritizing reading, studying, and revising at home, you are investing in your future and setting yourself up for success.

But being a great citizen goes beyond academic achievement. It means embodying the values of kindness, empathy, and respect towards others. It means taking responsibility for your actions and contributing positively to your community. By striving to be the best version of yourself, you can make a real difference in the world.

Fortunately, many resources are available to support your education and personal growth.

Online libraries, educational platforms, and virtual study groups are just a few examples. And remember to stay connected with your teachers and classmates - we are all in this together and can support each other in our learning journeys.

So, please take advantage of these resources, stay motivated, and keep pushing forward. Your education and personal growth are worth the effort, and I do not doubt that you will achieve great things with hard work and dedication.

Sincerely, Ahmed AlAsmari



### MHS Girls Principal Letter

Dear Parents,

As we kick off this term, I want to take a moment to emphasize the values and goals that are crucial to our students' success and development.

Punctuality is the first step towards success; regular attendance is vital for academic achievement. We request your cooperation in ensuring that students arrive on time and attend classes regularly. is not just about being on time; it's about respecting others' time and creating a conducive learning environment. Regular attendance is paramount for academic success and personal development.

Our commitment to the holistic development of each student remains unwavering. We believe in fostering an environment where care, respect, excellence, and collaboration are the guiding principles. This encompasses not only academic achievements but also our students' social and emotional growth. Let us work together to ensure that every student's unique profile is nurtured and celebrated.

I am delighted to share that our recent Great Debate was a resounding success and allowed students to showcase their intellectual prowess. Witnessing the passion and eloquence with which our students engaged in critical discourse was inspiring. Such events foster academic growth and enhance public speaking skills and the ability to articulate thoughts effectively. I sincerely appreciate all the students, teachers, and parents who contributed to making this event a triumph. Additionally, we recently celebrated the outstanding academic achievements of our students at our Academic Achievement Ceremony. It was a moment of pride and joy as we recognized our students' hard work, dedication, and resilience. Your support, as parents and guardians, plays a crucial role in their success, and we thank you for your continued partnership in the academic journey of your children.

As part of Saudi Vision 2030, we are aligning our educational initiatives with global goals. I strongly encourage our students to explore courses related to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs). Engaging with these goals broadens their perspectives and contributes to Saudi Arabia's vision for a sustainable and prosperous future.

In conclusion, I want to express my gratitude for your ongoing support. Let us create an environment where our students can flourish academically, socially, and emotionally.

Thank you for entrusting us with the education and well-being of your children. Here's to a term filled with growth, achievement, and collaboration.

Happy New Year!



Sincerely, Reem Alshamsi

# Waves of Excitement: GSIS Weekly Wave Unveiled!

In this month's edition of "The GEM Newsletter," we are thrilled to share our excitement as our students took the lead in choosing the name for our weekly news report. "GSIS Weekly Wave" captures the vibrant and dynamic spirit of our school community. The newsreport also highlights the upcoming events and activities that promise to keep the wave of excitement rolling through our school. Stay tuned to "GSIS Weekly Wave" for more updates and inspiring stories from the heart of our school community!









# Follows (#)













