



CIS WE ARE AN ACCREDITED SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER

04 MARCH 2021



GEMS

أكاديمية جيمس العالمية
World Academy
DUBAI

WORLD BOOK DAY : 4 March 2021

Now is a perfect excuse to stay home and snuggle up with a book, it's a perfect time to buy a book as a gift, and it's a perfect time to read together with our children.

If you are staying home then look for free e-books online at the openlibrary.org/ They are an amazing non-profit organisation who are fighting to make reading free for everyone worldwide. [Read more.](#)

Scenes from World Book Day at GWA



GEMS

AMBASSADOR PROGRAMME

REFER FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO OUR SCHOOL TO SAVE ON YOUR CHILD'S TUITION FEES!*

*TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY.

MESSAGE FROM OUR ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS:

"A student is not a container that you need to fill up. It is a torch that you need to light up."

Albert Einstein

[Here](#) is this week's message from Mr Winders and Ms Gray.



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO/PRINCIPAL, DR RANA

Dear Parents, Carers and GEMS World Academy Community,

It is really encouraging seeing our students continuing to immerse themselves in their lessons and engage with their studies despite the challenges we face today. I have had some really fascinating and enchanting discussions with some of our Grade 9 and Grade 8 students this week who talked to me about their hopes and ambitions for the future and how much they enjoyed being part of the school. These were students who have been here for many years and they spoke about their excitement and love for GWA, which I of course share. I am always so impressed by our students and am always encouraged and delighted when I have the privilege of talking to them like this. In addition to this, two Grade 4 students Khalid Makahal and Mansoor Al Awar each day ask me how I am and give me the thumbs up whenever they are in my vicinity. Such kindness and warmth is something that the school aims to nurture throughout and it is wonderful to have students like this who exemplify the value of caring for others which we hold so dear. I have also had the pleasure of meeting many parents and carers throughout the week who have shared their views, their concerns and their ideas, inspected the refurbishment and new buildings and commented on how they welcome these enormously important changes.

Refreshing and extending the built learning environment so that opportunities and resources for all our students are enhanced is of course an immensely important part of the work we are doing, despite the difficult conditions. As might be expected, we are

not yet able to let everyone use the new facilities because of the safety bubbles we have in place to ensure we stay open during the pandemic, but there is no doubt that as these restrictions are eventually lifted we will be able to have everyone using these brilliant new resources. Of course, we haven't finished this work yet: I am meeting with the architects soon to design new facilities and spaces for future learning. We have developed new dance and food technology facilities and now we are looking to provide students with cutting edge Artificial Intelligence, Virtual Reality, Coding and Flight Simulator resources to put GEMS World Academy at the very cutting edge of educational and digital innovation.

Our staff and SLT continue to provide bespoke, personalised learning interventions. It's important that we get this right and if for any reason you feel your child is not getting this please don't hesitate to contact the school. The dialogue between school and home is an essential part of the work we are doing and helps us calibrate our teaching and resources to maximise learning opportunities for all our students.

Connected to this drive to continue to raise standards I am happy to say that our recruitment and talent selection process sees us nearing completion. As you can see, it's a busy time, and we're doing all we can to ensure that the future is bright for GWA.



MESSAGE FROM GWAPA



Please find this week's update from GWAPA [here](#).

Dragon's Den uniform store is open on Mondays and Wednesdays, 8:30 – 11:00 am.

THE HOLY QURAN AND SCIENCE

Salma Waked and her classmates have been exploring existing evidence of the Quran's acclaimed origins in their Islamic Studies through the lens of Science. They have recently been tasked to independently inquire about the different claims and statements in the Holy Quran that have scientific backing. [Read more](#).

CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

If you would like to participate in this wonderful initiative on 12 and 13 March, [here](#) is a step by step guide on how to enter.



DR PATIL'S TIP OF THE WEEK

Based on recent studies from the University of Oxford regarding the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine and as per the recommendations from the WHO, Dubai Health Authority has approved a 10 week interval between the 1st & 2nd dose of the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine.

COUNSELLING CORNER

You can find this week's message from our Counsellor's [here](#). Congratulations to our G12 students on this week's [University placements](#).

ARABIC DEPARTMENT

Usually as educators we praise students for their effort, but this week the team from our Arabic Department would like to praise an amazing group of parents, who started learning Arabic with us last year and even during these unprecedented times, continue to try their best to participate. "Shukran" to our lovely parents for their enthusiasm and positivity in learning this wonderful language.



NEWS FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT

The Arts department are so proud of the students who are still managing to create some wonderful artworks. We are trying to ensure that students still get a hands on experience working across a variety of media and get a rest from being online. Projects include ceramics, printmaking, and mixed media. Grade 10's are creating ceramic teapots in the style of an art movement, where they have to consider function as well as aesthetics. Grade 11 are working on sculptures and are creating larger than life ceramic busts. Grade 9 are working on mixed media paper weavings and Grade 8's are just starting a current events unit. Our Distance Learners are participating too. It is amazing to watch them at home exploring new concepts with sometimes unconventional materials. Well done art students.



OWLYPIA UPDATE

The GWA Owlypia Delegation recently participated in the Owlypia UAE, Egypt, Qatar, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and Bangladesh Local Round in February. This was a huge success with all teams qualifying for the Global Round and GWA won a total of 26 medals and 6 trophies. Read more about the team's success [here](#).

NEWS FROM PRE-K

Our Pre-K students have been learning about living and non-living things. The central idea is that living things in our care share the same basic needs. The students have been tuning into the new unit through various hands on activities such as planting beans, creating animals out of shapes and decorating their names with parts of a plant.

