



# NEWSLETTER

05 NOVEMBER 2020



أكاديمية جيمس العالمية  
World Academy  
DUBAI

## COUNSELLING CORNER

### Resilience, Self-regulation and Executive Function: Strengthening core life skills to overcome adversity

There will no doubt be many enduring legacies of the Covid-19 crisis. Perhaps one important legacy will be the incremental strengthening of core life skills. How well each of us recalibrates, rebuilds and navigates in the Covid and post-Covid world will ostensibly depend on a well-stocked arsenal of skills that we can practice and use to adapt and solve problems during times of crises. See article [Here](#)

*Salima Musa*  
Primary School Counsellor (Gr 3-5)

### MYP Grade Level Coffee Mornings

Thank you to the parents who had the opportunity to meet the Grade Level Leaders, Curriculum Coordinator, and Counsellors this week. Parents not able to attend, please see attached links to the presentation content. Please reach out to us should you have individual questions. Thank you for your ongoing support. Click relevant grade links for more information.

[Grade 6](#) , [Grade 7](#) , [Grade 8](#) , [Grade 9](#)

## CELEBRATING UAE FLAG DAY

GWA celebrated Flag Day on Wednesday 04 November by raising the UAE flag, following safety protocols and social distancing. Some of our primary learners celebrated by making their own flags during their formal social education lesson. Flag Day is an occasion that raises the value of loyalty, and belonging, and reflects the people of the Emirates rallying around their leaders, in a civilised image that embodies the feelings of unity and peace. Flag Day reinforces and solidifies the feeling of love for the homeland, preserves the achievements and gains, which symbolises an independent nation of the states sovereignty and elevation.



*Rihabe Akerkedou -Head of Arabic*

احتفلت دولة الإمارات بيوم العلم، المناسبة التي تُعطي قيم الولاء والانتماء وتعكس التفاف أبناء الإمارات حول قيادتهم الرشيدة في صورة حضارية تجسد مشاعر الوحدة والسلام بينهم وتُعزّز وترسخ شعورهم بحب الوطن والمحافظة على الإنجازات والمكتسبات، وهو رمز لوطن مستقل ولسيادة الدولة ورفعته.

وبهذه المناسبة الوطنية قامت أكاديمية جيمس العالمية برفع علم الإمارات مع مراعاة شروط السلامة واحترام التباعد الاجتماعي.

ودام علم الإمارات حَقًا قوياً كشمس وقوة أبناء الإمارات.

# MESSAGE FROM THE CEO/PRINCIPAL, DR RANA

Dear Parents, Carers and the GEMS World Academy Community,

I hope you are all very well under these continued challenging circumstances. I am so impressed by the way students and staff continue to achieve great things each day. This augurs us well for the future.

I am delighted that Mr Mark Lidell our Assistant Principal Teaching and learning Secondary and Ms Awhina Houppapa our Assistant Principal Teaching and learning Primary have taken post from 01 November and are already making impact.

I am also very pleased that we have secured a fantastic new candidate to replace Mr Ivan Rigney who concluded his tenure at GWA last week. Ms Karen Nyborg joins us on 13 December as Assistant Principal Curriculum, Assessment and Data Secondary. She will begin preparations for the new year. We are currently interviewing for our Assistant Principal Personal, Development, Welfare and Behaviour Secondary and I am very happy that we have a large pool of quality candidates.

During the last two weeks I have delivered assemblies on kindness to all Grades. I have enjoyed very much speaking to the children on the importance of kindness and the impact this can have on us all. I shared one of my favourite quotes

from Mother Teresa 'Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless'. This is an ethical code that we can all strive to embed in our GWA Community.

I have been delighted to see first-hand our wonderful students participating in our enrichment activities. I thank all our teachers for providing such amazing opportunities for our students, in particular when mental health and wellbeing is a priority.

Reports for all students for Quarter 1 are published today and I would like to thank all staff for making sure the reports reflect the achievements of our students. GWA is enjoying having 100% of our students onsite learning (unless parents opt for distance learning). It has been a very exciting week having everyone together again.

Finally, happy Flag Day to you all. We enjoyed raising the flag. It was an honour to be with our Emirati representatives to consolidate national identity and enhance the notion of unity.

I wish you all an absolutely wonderful Quarter 2.



## G11 ENGLISH

Delving into Early Modern English, Grade 11 students get to grips with William Shakespeare's first protagonist of colour - Othello, the Moor of Venice. Originally penned in 1603, the Bard of Avon's controversial play continues to challenge our intellectual and conceptual thinking on such matters as the significance of race, culture and identity, as well as representation, perspective and that delicate relationship which exists between author, audience and text.

Further preparation for individual oral examinations will include the study of selected satirical political cartoons from the pioneer of graphic journalism, caricaturist Patrick Chappatte. Congratulations to all GWA Grade 11 English students for having made such a sterling start to their DP course!

*Ms Lea Campbell  
English Teacher*



Featured picture is Ms Campbell's Grade 11 HL Language and Literature class partaking in a guided reading of the opening scene of Othello.

This [student sample](#) is an analysis of the viewpoint of immigration during Elizabethan England compared to modern perspectives of immigration addressed in Patrick Chappatte's political cartoons.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event
Tuesday 10 November	Webinar - <a href="#">Your Child's Mind Matters</a>
Wednesday 11 November	Behaviour and Wellbeing in Primary - Mr Winders and Ms Murphy
Thursday 12 November	Wellbeing Secondary Virtual Coffee Morning with Ms K Spartalis
Thursday 12 November	<a href="#">GWA Speaker Series - Lucy Chow speaks to G3</a>
Thursday 19 November	MYP Core Virtual Coffee Morning with Mr J Howarth and Mr A Winstone
Monday 23 November	Arabic Day
Wednesday 25 November	Arabic and Islamic in Primary - Ms Akerkedou and Mr Alawneh
Thursday 26 November	DP Core
Wednesday 09 December	Maths and Literacy in Primary - Mr Wedge and Ms Sykes
Sunday 13 December - Thursday 31 December	Winter Break

## KG2 ART

This week, our Kg2 Art students have been learning about self-portraits and how to carefully observe their facial features in mirrors. Can Uzman created this impressive self-portrait and showed his love of bees in the stripes of his shirt. Well done Can.

*Ms Leanne Collins  
EC & PYP Visual Arts*



## DR PATIL'S TIP OF THE WEEK

As the flu season is near, this is the best time to get the Flu Vaccine. Please visit your doctor and get your family vaccinated.

**GWA is proud to announce our participation in the F1 in Schools team, DELTAX-15 for 2020**

2019 National F1 in Schools team champions will represent GWA at this year's upcoming competition. See article [here](#)

