



NEWSLETTER

14 JANUARY 2021



أكاديمية جيمس العالمية
World Academy
DUBAI

G11: GWA GARDEN

Ella Yip (pictured), with Claudia Lightbody and Sinem Emiroglu in Grade 11 decided to take on the challenge of developing the GWA garden by growing lots of different vegetables and fruits as part of their CAS project. Pictured here is a tasty radish from their garden being sold for charity.



CONGRATULATIONS MATTIA SPARACINO

GWA would like to extend their congratulations to G12 student Mattia Sparacino who has been selected by Occidental College on a Baseball and Academic Scholarship. All the best Mattia!

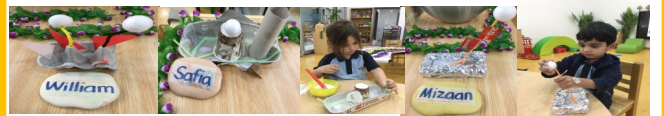


Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Award for Excellence,

This scholarship is presented annually to exceptional female students who exhibit outstanding academic success, commitment to social responsibility and global citizenship. Congratulations to Salma Waked who has been selected as the 2020-2021 winner of this prestigious award.

PRE-K CREATIVES

Our students in Pre-k have been learning about different materials. This week recycled materials were selected by our students and were used to create their own boats.



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO/PRINCIPAL, DR RANA

Dear Parents, Carers and GEMS World Academy Community,

Once again, it has been a very busy week at GWA. Grade assemblies continued this week and I very much enjoyed delivering messages of hope, mental health and wellbeing to all our students, hope is particularly important at this time during a Global pandemic. I continue to be very impressed by the way everybody in our school community is adhering to the regulations, although these regulations undoubtedly make things more difficult we are successfully negotiating these challenges and our school life continues to thrive.

What we are working on at the moment is to ensure all our teaching is of an outstanding standard and so we are looking at lesson planning, unit planning and differentiation for all students regardless of their starting point so that everyone of our students is guaranteed the high quality education experience that we promise and they deserve. I am really enjoying walking the corridors, visiting lessons and seeing our staff delivering high quality teaching and our students participating in high quality learning. I've seen some tremendous examples of great lessons and many students have told me how much they are enjoying being immersed in their lessons and there is nothing more rewarding than this for any Principal. It's also been a pleasure to move around the school and see

how the new building developments and refurbishment are beginning to impact on the life of the school. Many of the school community, including parents, carers, children and visitors have commented on the school environment being fresh, brighter and modern, which again is very much part of the project to maintain and further world class standards in everything we do. This is just the beginning of the end of phase one. There is still much to be done and over the next few weeks we will be introducing new furniture, fittings and artwork in order to inspire our young people to strive for the very best and all of this innovation is in keeping with our international ethos and profile.

As ever, our students continue to impress. Grade 12 student Mattia Sparacino has become our first ever student to be accepted into Occidental College on a Division 3 Baseball and Academic Scholarship and Grade 11 student Salma Waked has been awarded the Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Award for Excellence. These are just two examples of success for our superb students and we should all be very proud of what our students are achieving in these very difficult times.



MESSAGE FROM GWAPA



We are excited to announce our very first **GWAPA Walk** on Monday, January 18. All parents are welcome.

Dragon's Den uniform store has relocated to the front of the school near Admissions. The shop is open on Mondays and Wednesdays, 8:30 – 11:00 am.

If you need any information or guidance, please contact us at [Gwapa gwa@gemsedu.com](mailto:gwa@gemsedu.com)



COVID-19:DHA GUIDELINES UPDATE

Please find the [updated guidelines](#) from the Dubai Health Authority regarding management of COVID-19 positive cases and close contacts. We would like to remind you of the [protocol](#) to be followed if a student has been in quarantine as a positive case or close contact.

COUNSELLORS CORNER

Spotlight Canada



Canadian universities are among the best in the world. According to the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2019, 27 of Canada's universities feature within the world's top 1000, with three in the top 50. The list ranks universities based on their quality of teaching, research, knowledge transfer and international outlook. In addition, Canada's education system offers flexibility - students are encouraged to explore their interests through electives before they declare a Major, allowing them to make an informed decision. It's worth noting, however, that module choices early on can affect your ability to specialise in a certain subject. Find out [more](#) about why Canada could be a great university destination for international students.



G6 Form Time: Student Success Brag Boards

Grade 6: Thursday 7th January 2021

Happy New Year!

First of all, happy new year to everyone and I hope you had an amazing 2020. Although there were many rough times especially in the pandemic, we finally made it! A fresh new start. Also merry christmas for those who celebrate.



This week students have been working very hard to show amazing learning attributes. It's as if there are no boundaries anymore as school is running perfectly and smoothly. Therefore big thanks to all the SLT for all this!



Student Attributes :

Grounded- Anthony
Entrepreneurial- Julius
Nurturing- Serena
Innovative- Frederik
Unique- Marilla
Sophisticated- Anthony

Student Of The Month!

The Student Of the month of December was,

Anna Thon

Anna has shown very supportive attributes to her peers throughout the month.



SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

Over 40 GWA Students participated in the Science Olympiads 2020. The students ranged from Grades 6-12, the event was online and all students completed revision via the online Enrichment activity during the first term.



Everyone worked great together and followed the rules perfectly for the exam. In the UAE in the qualifiers round several of our students made it within the top ten:

- 1st Place: Arnav Kedia
- 4th Place: Nur Jannah and Aisyah Torbett
- 5th Place: Sofia Roozbeh and Mansoor Faghihy Nejad
- 10th Place: Seongjoon Yang

Well done to all students in GWA who participated and a very well done to our top 10 qualifiers! Let's get ready for another round that will take place soon.

MESSAGE FROM MS MURPHY

Happy New Year to you all. 'We are in this together' and 'We are all responsible' are phrases we hear regularly now and phrases that I am sure we all agree with. But saying them and living them can sometimes be difficult, especially as numbers increase across our country and situations worsen across the world. How we view the COVID-19 situation and decisions we make within our families are personal. They are dependent on our personal situations; someone in our house is high-risk, a close family member or friend has died from COVID 19, we work as a frontline worker, etc. We are all members of the GWA community and though how we act during this pandemic is an individual decision, it does affect us as a whole [Continue reading](#)

SECONDARY: MESSAGE FROM MS NYBORG

Students in grades 6 to 9 will be participating in the MAP assessments from May 17th to the 21st. These assessments will be used to measure students attainment and progress in Mathematics, General Science, Reading, and Language.