



NEWSLETTER

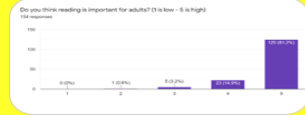
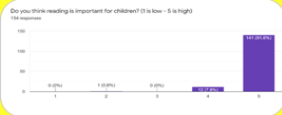
18 MARCH 2021



أكاديمية جيمس العالمية
World Academy
DUBAI

MESSAGE FROM THE GWA READING CLUB

Last month the GWA Readers Club sent a survey; and we received a fantastic 154 responses. As promised we have analysed your responses and are ready to show you some of the results, which will be published over the next few weeks in the newsletter. [Read more](#)



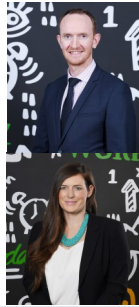
ENRICHMENT CLUBS REMINDER

Please be advised that Term 2 Enrichment ends on Thursday 18 March. There will be no Online Enrichment Clubs, Sports and Swimming Clubs during the last week of term, 21 -25 March. We are excited to launch the Term 3 Enrichment Programme. This will commence on Sunday 16 May and run for six weeks until Thursday 24 June 2021. No Enrichment Clubs will be run during the Holy Month of Ramadan. [Click here](#) for an Enrichment Swimming update.



MESSAGE FROM OUR ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS: CURRICULUM, PROGRESS AND ASSESMENT

Staff at GEMS World Academy believe that homework assignments can be an important part of providing practice and deeper understanding of the lessons taught in the day. There are lots of ways that students and families can help make the most out of this process. Read more about some useful homework hacks from Mr Bonner and Ms Nyborg [here](#).



ONLINE CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

GWA would like to congratulate Aryan Goyal, the youngest competitor to enter this year's DBS Chess Championship. Aryan ranked 18th out of 207 participants in the Under 9 category.



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO/PRINCIPAL, DR RANA

Dear Parents, Carers and GEMS World Academy Community,

This has been another exciting week for GEMS World Academy, where we continue to build upon our previous achievements and give our wonderful students the best educational experiences we can. It's been a long and hard two years for our IBDP students with the pandemic making everything just that more challenging than anyone could have anticipated at the beginning of their learning journey. It is a tribute to the great resilience of both students and staff that we are now approaching the end of this course and the examinations will be where we show ourselves to be outstanding on the world stage. I am so very proud of the way everyone has continued to work and I know that we will be rewarded with deserved success.

There has also been the great news that we have now been given permission from the department of education to allow all our students to have access to the music and science facilities in the school. This will be a tremendous boost to everyone who has been waiting to use these world class spaces. I know that everyone has been looking forward to this moment and now everyone can enjoy and benefit from these state of the art facilities.

Myself, my Assistant Principals and Grade Leaders have begun our meetings for monitoring and tracking of every student, looking at every part of them, from academic performances to behaviour in order to then set targets and put in place interventions to support them, from running extra basketball clubs to extra math classes. We will be focusing on making sure each child is genuinely supported and given the bespoke, targeted resources needed to help them grow and be successful. As well as this fundamental work we will also be working on transition groups moving from Grade 5 to Grade 6, 9 into 10, 10 into

11 and 11 into 12. These are our key transition years where children will encounter change and different environments and pedagogies and so will require help to ensure that they continue to make progress. We will be inviting parents to support this and know that this will strengthen the personalization work that is so important to the school.

Recruitment of new staff continues and is now nearly complete. From Sunday we will be introducing the new members of staff starting with the middle leadership, whole school posts, Grade Leaders and classroom teachers. All these new staff have indicated how excited they are with GEMS World Academy and our vision of high expectations, the best pastoral care and wellbeing and our personalized curriculum. We can all look forward to welcoming this additional dynamism and expertise to our wonderful Academy.

What we are building on is a very strong sense of community. It has been one year this week since schools were closed down because of Covid, and fourteen months since the pandemic began. I started 100 days ago in the midst of the heartbreak and turmoil brought by this disease but we have managed so much despite the devastating challenges it has brought. We as a school community can be excited by the future as we look ahead, and also when we look back and see what we have overcome and achieved. We are a Global Academy, an international school, and our world exams will showcase us at our best. Our Grade 12 students have been working so hard and everyone is right behind them as they prepare for their examinations. Together we can achieve so much and this week reminds us of this inspiring fact.



MESSAGE FROM GWAPA



You can find this week's message from our Parents Association [here](#).



COUNSELLING CORNER

Please join us in congratulating our senior students on this week's offers of admission:

- University of Guelph
- Istituto Marangoni Milano
- University of Bristol (4 students)
- King's College London (6 students)
- University of Miami
- Santa Clara University

[Read more](#) from our counsellors with this week's spotlight on Australian Universities.

DR PATIL'S TIP OF THE WEEK

Please read through our [Travel Guidelines](#) for families travelling abroad this Spring Break. Thank you for all your support in keeping the GWA community safe.

GRADE 10 PERSONAL PROJECTS

This week saw the culmination of months of work for our Grade 10s as they shared their finished projects during a massive zoom marathon that combined 100 presentations, to a rolling audience of 400 students, parents & visitors, and lasted 7hrs. Congratulations to all our Grade 10s.

Below are some project samples:

- A stunning book of poetry, self published on Amazon...<https://amzn.to/38PByM5>
- A video educating others about the important issue of anti-biotic resistance..<http://bit.ly/3bXZy1D>
- A website that lets you travel around the world from the comfort of your kitchen...<http://bit.ly/3tsQd7O>

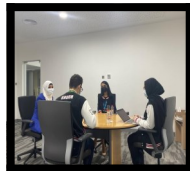
OLYMPIAD RESULTS

Congratulations to all our students who recently participated in the Olympiad. You can find the full list of results for the UAE Top 3 and Top 10 Rank for multiple subjects [here](#).



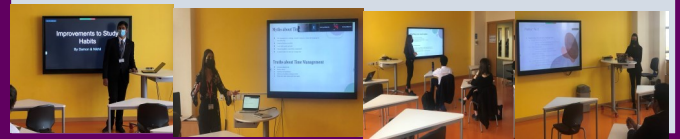
MOTHER'S DAY

In Celebration of Mother's Day on 21 March, Grade 12 students are publishing a Mother's Day magazine in Arabic. As part of this project, our students interviewed Dr Rana where she shared how she was inspired by her mum. During the interview, Dr highlighted the importance of mums and their role in raising children. The full interview will be published in both Arabic and English in the magazine and will be published next week.



GRADE 11: MASTERCLASS

Martina, Nikhil, Damon, Alissa and Zara all demonstrated great courage and insight when they delivered masterclasses on Study Habits, Time Management and Motivation and Self Care to the whole Grade 11 cohort this past week. We are very impressed with the content they delivered, the respect shown from their peers and the discussions they were able to develop. True IB Learners in action!



RECOGNISING STUDENT VOICE

Selected Grade 3, Grade 4 and Grade 5 students had a great interactive session with the owner and the senior management team of the furniture manufacturing company, who designed and supplied the new classroom furniture at GWA. The company representatives listened to the students' concerns and opinion about the new furniture and explained the design element, ergonomic feature and the thought process involved in the manufacturing of the furniture that they are sitting at.



MASLENITSA EVENT

In Slavic mythology, Maslenitsa is a sun-festival, personified by the ancient god Volos, and a celebration of the imminent end of the winter.

On Sunday, GWA's Russian and Ukrainian families met online to celebrate Maslenitsa. The students made a presentation about the festivities that last for a week while Ms Kudakova performed a Puppet show and Ms Medvedeva made a quiz.

