



CIS WE ARE AN ACCREDITED SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER

25 FEBRUARY 2021



GEMS

أكاديمية جيمس العالمية
World Academy
DUBAI

100 DAYS TO GRADUATION

Wednesday, 24 February marked 100 Days to Graduation for the class of 2021. While recognizing this distinguished day was quite different from the traditional GWA style, we ensured there was a fitting acknowledgment of this milestone in each student's education. [Read more](#).



MESSAGE FROM MS MURPHY

"Always remember you are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, smarter than you think and twice as beautiful as you've ever imagined." Dr Seuss



Read Ms Murphy's full message [here](#).

NEW APPOINTMENTS AT GWA

We are delighted to announce the appointment of our Secondary Principal, [Mr Thomas Meakin](#). We look forward to welcoming Mr Meakin after the Easter Break. Welcome to GWA.

Middle Leader Appointments: August 2021



[PYP](#)



[MYP](#)



[DP/CP](#)

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO/PRINCIPAL, DR RANA

Dear Parents, Carers and GEMS World Academy Community

This has been a very positive and productive week, full of exciting activities and one extra special event and two extra special staff appointments. I am thrilled to announce the appointment of our Secondary Principal, [Mr Thomas Meakin](#), who joins us on 01 April 2021. The selection process was an incredibly rigorous and challenging one, involving the Senior Leadership Team, Parent representatives through the Local Advisory Board, Middle Leadership Team and most importantly, our Students.

Our students have been busy engaging with their learning through multiple perspectives, learning to articulate and communicate through a variety of medium their own opinions on their learning whilst balancing their academic work with their summatives. Students have been enjoying their enrichment activities and I too have loved visiting the swimming club, the athletics club, the football club and the debating club to watch our students managing their own learning through experiences which are supporting their personal growth. One example of this was the tremendous '100 days to graduation event' held at the school on Wednesday. Our wonderful Grade 12 students enjoyed the day, celebrating in the company of their peers and their teachers. I would like to thank GWAPA for supporting this event. This will be a very special memory for all of us.

I am grateful to our teaching staff who continue to work hard for all students both onsite and online. Staff remaining with us next year have already started planning for next academic year and

have been meeting with me and Ms Murphy to discuss leadership opportunities and initiatives that would benefit our school community next year. Exciting news will be shared about these ideas soon. I am delighted to share with you our [DP/CP Coordinator](#), our [MYP Coordinator](#) and our [PYP Coordinator](#) biographies. We have recently secured an incredibly talented and experienced MYP Coordinator and we thoroughly enjoyed his selection process and believe he will bring great rigour, personalization and expertise to our MYP programme.

I have written to you all personally regarding the extraordinary times that we are all living through this year. The Global Pandemic has been a crisis which has threatened all our lives and we have all had to live up to the values embedded in the International Baccalaureate learner profiles which sit firmly at the heart of who we are. As a result, each of us has continued in the relentless pursuit of the very best for all our children. Sadly, we lost two members of our GWA Community to Covid this year, one a father of one of our Grade 9 students and the other the husband of one of our Teaching Assistants. We have done everything we can to provide support to both families and we will continue to ensure they have our support throughout this very sad and difficult time. This reminds us of that we are all fragile and need each others support. We *must* look after each other and in particular those who have lost loved ones as a result of the Pandemic.



MESSAGE FROM GWAPA

Please find this week's message and upcoming events from our parents association [here](#).



GWA Parent Association

We would like to remind our community about the GWAPA Ambassador Programme. If you would like to connect with families in your child's Grade or your country of origin, register your interest [here](#).

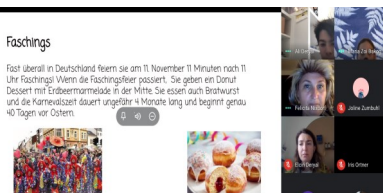
COUNSELLING CORNER

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

Esmod Paris
 BI Norweigen Business School
 Queen Mary University of London (2 Students)
 Allegheny College
 College of the Holy Cross - with Scholarship

GWALI : FASCHING EVENT

GWA's German, Austrian and Swiss community celebrated Fasching during an online event last week. The students prepared presentations to show how they celebrate Fasching in their country. They also prepared a Kahoot game on Fasching.



GWA ACADEMY TOURS

We would like to invite our community to join us at the Academy for a tour. At this stage we can only accommodate up to 10 people per visit as per KHDA guidance. Please register your interest [here](#) and we will be in touch to confirm your slot.

SECONDARY PE

Mr Martin would like to thank all students for their resilience and commitment to their PE program during these difficult times.

Our students are currently participating in Track and Field Athletics and Striking and Fielding Games. The students remain positive, competitive and hard working in their lessons accepting the challenges and enjoying their lessons.



DR PATIL'S TIP OF THE WEEK

Please find the COVID-19 Vaccine basic information booklet by the DHA [here](#). Don't wait Vaccinate.

NEWS FROM THE HUB

As part of The Hub's social impact activities, six GWA Grade 11 students took part in a week long internship with the global NGO MSF, Doctors Without Borders.

The students were asked to prepare research on youth in the UAE and create campaign ideas for Ramadan. They worked together for the research and then split into teams of 3 to do the campaigning: one selected Sudan, the other selected neglected diseases (NOMA and Thalassemia).

Congratulations to Buse Mehmetli; Maitry Ujas Panchal; Mark Thompson; Amishi Gupta; Fadi Mahmoud; Fatemeh Jafarian who all did a wonderful job and made GWA very proud.

ISLAMIC DEPARTMENT

Re-designing the prayer and ablution rooms

During the month of February, Nur Jannah Aisyah Torbet, together with Mr Waseem Aalawneh have been working hard at redesigning the Islamic Prayer and ablution rooms at GWA. Read more about this exciting project [here](#).



The Islamic department and Individuals and Society department also had an interdisciplinary and collaboration activity during the week of Feb 14 to 18. [Read more.](#)

STEM CLUB

Find out which accomplished University Professors have been invited to speak at STEM Club [here](#).

Term 3 for STEM Club will bring something new. The club is creating their own platform, a website, and YouTube channel, where they will research topics they are passionate about and use these platforms to teach their peers. Courses and activities will be created on the platform over the course of Term 3. This is a wonderful SA activity. Email moervicaeranus.p_gwa@gemslearning.com to join the STEM Club.