

Newsletter

Issue #8
13, December 2015

This Week's Newsletter:

- * Pg. 1. From the Principal's Desk
- * Pg. 2. Secondary School
- * Pg.9. Primary School
- * Pg.13 . Whole School
- * Pg.17. GCP News



From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents,

As the first term draws to an end and the holidays approach I would like to thank you for your support of our school and hope that you will be able to spend some quality time together over the holidays. We wish all our families a happy holiday.



Our Primary Student Council has come up with the idea of 'Putting the Green Back into Greenfield', an initiative that has everyone's support. Inspired by this, one of our parents has approached Wade Adams, the construction company, who have donated the manpower and materials to make a series of flower beds and paving in the area where the gravel used to be in front of the Primary building. The plaza has been transformed. Each Primary class will adopt a flower bed and make it their own. In a few months we will see a lot more greenery around the school. It is terrific to have such a supportive parent community in our school.

During the holidays construction will start on a changing room block that will be located in between the swimming pool and the large pitch. This will add to the quality of provision for sport at our school. Many of you will have enjoyed sitting on 'Benjamin's bench' that has been built alongside the smaller pitch during this term. These improvements and investments in upgrades are a visible expression of Taaleem's commitment to ensuring that our school has a very well-resourced and functional campus.

Last week we enjoyed three superb performances by our choir. They are very talented and clearly love singing. Watching them perform so beautifully I reflected on the many lessons that performing in a choir teaches: teamwork, commitment, pride in the achievement of the whole choir, listening, learning, watching.... Thank you particularly to Miss Doyle and Miss Conlon who inspire our ordinary young people to do extraordinary things.

We have had a particularly busy and successful sporting term with our football, swimming and basketball teams competing well and bringing home a number of trophies. Last week the boys U16 basketball team had a tough match against one of the top local schools. Five minutes from the end of the match they found themselves seven points behind. In basketball this is a huge margin. They rallied round and played with grit and determination, scored the eight points and won the match in the final minute. They were given plenty of provocation by their opponents, but kept a cool head. I met with them later in the week to commend their determination and the

Secondary School

Butch Reynolds & Klara Spikova Visit



The Olympic Gold Medalist
Butch Reynolds



The Golf Player Klara
Spikova



sportsmanship that they showed. Thanks must be given to our PE and teaching staff who train and manage these teams.

This week we hosted two visiting speakers, both world class athletes. 'Butch' Reynolds is an Olympic Gold medalist sprinter who held the 400m world record for many years. Secondly, Klara Spikova is competing in this week's European Ladies golf event at the Emirates Golf Club. Both shared their stories of sporting success spoke of the need to have a dream to be the best and then of the enormous determination and discipline it takes to achieve that goal. Butch trained for six hours a day six days a week: Klara spends seven hours a day on the golf course. Their message to the students was that many have talent; few have the commitment that it takes to rise to the top. Both were truly inspiring people and I am sure they made a powerful impact on our children.

Novak Djokovic has a coach: he may be the top tennis player in the world, but he does not rest on his laurels and always looks for feedback to raise his game. He trains and trains and trains, looking for small ways in which he can improve. As a school leadership team we are in the process of undertaking a self-evaluation in preparation for our CIS/NEASC membership and our annual DSIB inspection. This process allows us to celebrate our successes and to identify areas for improvement. Each year we seek to be better than our previous best and to build on the good work and solid foundation that we have established. One of my favourite quotes is from Michelangelo who said that 'The greatest danger for most of us is not that we aim too high and we miss, but that we aim too low and we reach it'.

Best wishes

Andrew Wood
Greenfield Community School Principal

Secondary School Head of Secondary: Mr. Neil Bunting

Cultural intelligence

Arguably there has never been a more important time for developing cultural intelligence in schools if we are going to develop a sustainable future and more peaceful world than we have now, with greater understanding and respect for others' points of view.

Cultural intelligence is, arguably, more important – or will become more important in the future world of work and international relations – than IQ.



Secondary School

Butch Reynolds & Klara Spikova
Visit




CIS
COUNCIL OF
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOLS

Certainly, when recruiting teachers for international placements, I have found, most important is judging a candidate's ability to adapt and to settle in quickly to a new and potentially unknown country and culture. Cultural intelligence is certainly essential when you consider the diversity and dynamic of GCS.

I am enormously proud of the international mix in our school. It is always interesting to hear so many differing points of view expressed, languages spoken, and, as a parent, I believe also that it is an excellent environment for my children to be educated.

My lucky break – and exposure to multiculturalism – came as an art student in London. It was a real eye-opener.

Everyone has to start somewhere. My monoglot and insular upbringing, in Essex, was not an auspicious predictor for working in multicultural settings and developing international mindedness and intercultural understanding. But I escaped to London and here I am – a proud head of an IB world school with over eighty nationalities and thirty nationalities of staff.

In my opinion, London was – and remains by and large – an education in tolerance and a model of diversity. London has such a range of nationalities and beliefs living and working alongside each other and, mostly in an atmosphere of respect and acceptance. I experienced Arabic for the first time living in London and I was opened up to food and language reflecting all the corners and continents of the world that have been established across the capital.

What I discovered in London was the beginning of a long term passion for examining and celebrating cultural similarities and differences.

When I return to the UK, London still holds a special place in my heart and it is a joy to travel on the tube –except when it is closed for ice or leaves on the line or in August on a hot day with no air conditioning – and hear so many different languages being spoken. My new home, Dubai, reminds me of London in its openness, tolerance and diversity and in the sense that anything is achievable here if you work hard, contribute and open up to others.

The recent National day was a celebration of our host country and a reminder of the importance of having awareness of the UAE, its language and its culture. I thank Iman and the Arabic and Islamic staff for their work on making this such a success. I also thank our support staff for their work and also the music department. I thank the Emirati parents for your contributions and support and all those parents who helped out and attended the assemblies.

Kind regards,

Neil Bunting

Head of Secondary

Secondary School

Eton College Summer School

A representative from Eton College visited our school two week ago. This was an information session aimed mainly at male students in the Secondary School during an assembly. The purpose of this visit was to encourage students to participate in the summer programme Eton College will be hosting during the summer holidays. Please use the link below if you are interested in acquiring more information.

http://www.taaleem.ae/dubai_international_schools/eton-college-summer-school

Teacher appreciation

Farzana Karin and Ritu Dubey were the November winners of our teacher appreciation raffle this month.

Thank you to Costa and Votre Beauty Spa for their generous donations of gifts.

Attendance and Punctuality for November

	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Attendance	95.93%	96.3%	96.6%	95.08%	94.62%	94.52%	93.79%
Tardiness	.85%	1.08%	1.92%	1.82%	1.82%	3.26%	5.7%
KHDA Rating	Good	Very good	Very good	Good	Good	Good	Acceptable
Improvement since last report?	No ☹️	Yes for punctuality ☺️ Thank you parents!	Not for attendance ☹️ ☺️ for punctuality.	Not for attendance ☹️ ☺️ for punctuality.	Not for attendance ☹️ ☺️ for punctuality.	Attendance and punctuality cause for concern.	

Secondary School

GCS' Orchestra & Choir



Anne Marie Conlon : Secondary Music Teacher

Choir

Choir takes place every Sunday during ECA time and we have students from Grade 6-11 singing in the choir this year. This term the choir have been preparing for numerous performances. We have three public performances happening in December including the lighting of the Christmas tree in Sofitel JBR on 7th December, Taaleem Winter Concert on 9th December, and GCS WinterFest on 10th December. It will be a crazy week for us but we are thankful for the opportunities to showcase all the hard work the students have been putting in since the ECA began in October. Next term our main focuses will be International Day and this year the choir will also feature in some scenes of the musical production.



Orchestra

The school orchestra this year consists of 1 violinist, 2 flautists, 3 guitarists, 1 tenor saxophonist, 1 alto saxophonist, 2 pianists and a drummer. Orchestra ECA takes place on Tuesday and we have been working very hard since October preparing winter pieces for this year's WinterFest. In term 2 our main focus will be the Musical Production. It will be a challenging yet rewarding term trying to arrange, practice and perform up to 15 pieces that will feature in this year's musical production. We are excited about the challenge ahead.

Musical Production

The Musical Production ECA has gotten off to a great start this year. We have 24 students attending every Monday and Wednesday and that is just the singers, dancers, and actors. This year our production will involve a variety of scenes from numerous Broadway musicals. Our Grade 12 Theatre Studies class is directing some of the scenes as part of their Diploma under the guidance of Ms. Atienza, Ms. Conlon, Ms. Doyle and Ms. Cashin. We will begin Friday rehearsals in term two to ensure that this production is our best one yet. The production itself will take place in March.

Assemblies

We decided at the beginning of this year that all assemblies should include musical performances. Assemblies are a wonderful opportunity for all the musicians in our school to have the opportunity to perform either solo or in small groups. So far this year we have had a different pianist play at the beginning of every assembly. We find that this is a great way to set the tone at the beginning of an assembly. We have also had a range of performances from many different genres including; pop, classical

Secondary School

GCS' Orchestra & Choir



and jazz. Where possible, we have tried to relate the performances to the theme of the assembly. If you would like to perform in a future assembly, please approach Ms. Conlon to discuss your performance. She is always looking for performers and will support you in whatever way she can.

Music in the Classroom

All grades have completed at least one unit in Music so far this year including; Notation & Composition, No.1 Pop Songs, Transferring Music and Score Analysis.

Grade 6 completed their first ever written assessment in music where they had to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of musical notation. During this unit they learned about reading notes in the treble and bass clef, composing rhythmic patterns and using simple time signatures. They are currently working on a unit called My Musical Culture. As part of this unit, each student has to complete a presentation about their music culture. They are also developing their skills on the recorder by learning some Irish tunes from Ms. Conlon's musical culture.

Grade 8 started off the year with a unit about No.1 Pop Songs. During this unit they developed their skills on the guitar while studying the four chord progression that is used in most pop songs. They engaged in many whole class performances of different pop songs and at the end of the unit, each student had to do a performance to demonstrate their skills on the guitar. We also examined different key signatures and how to transpose from one key to another.

Grade 9 began the year with a unit that focused on different ways of transferring music. Each student chose one instrument to focus on to try and develop their skills and we explored different ways of transferring music e.g. standard western notation and chord symbols. As a whole class, Grade 9 did a performance of *Hey Jude* to demonstrate their skill development on their chosen instrument.

Grade 10 began the year revising and extending their knowledge of notation reading. They examined different key signatures, time signatures, chord banks, and treble and bass clef notes. For those students who were new to Music this year, they focused on mastering the basics of Standard Western Notation and for those who have studied Music in previous years, they developed their understanding of notation by composing in different keys and composing chords to fit with melodies. They also did a whole class performance of *Pompeii* in order to apply their newly developed notation reading skills to an instrument. Currently Grade 10 Music students are completing a unit about score analysis. They are exploring the 8 elements of music and how they are represented on a music score. To conclude this unit they will analyse music from different genres both aurally and visually.

Anne Marie Conlon

Music Teacher

Secondary School

GCS' Orchestra & Choir



أثر اللغة العربية على متعلم البكالوريا

اللغة العربية هي لغة عظيمة يجب على كل عربي أن يفخر بها و يحافظ عليها. فهي لغة عريقة، مفرداتها مفعمة وغنية بالمعاني، تستطيع أن تستخدمها في الحوارات و المحاضرات العالمية للناطقين و الرّاعبين في تعلمها بأفضل شكل. و هي تنعكس علينا نحن كطلاب في مدارس البكالوريا إلى استخدام لغتنا بما يليق بها، و نقمها لمن لا يعرفونها بشكلٍ لائق. فهي لغة عميقة تطور الشّباب المتطلّعين المتعاطفين مع الآخرين، و الذين يساعدون على خلق عالم أفضل و ذلك من خلال التواصل باللغة العربية .

تؤثر اللغة العربية على طلاب البكالوريا ، و أكثر الملامح تأثيراً هو أن اللغة العربية تصنع التواصل الفعّال بين الأفراد، و تجعلهم يعبرون عن أنفسهم بثقّة و إبداع. كما أنّها تجعل طالب البكالوريا يستخدم مهارات التفكير الناقد و الإبداعيّ و ذلك خلال تحليل نصوصٍ أدبيةٍ متنوعة.

تجعلنا اللغة العربية نفهم أهمية توازن الجوانب المختلفة من حياتنا – الفكرية، و البدنية، و العاطفية – لتحقيق الخير و السعادة و الرّفاهية لنا و للآخرين. و تجعلنا ندرك علاقة الاعتماد المتبادل بيننا، و بين الآخرين، و بين العالم الذي نعيش فيه.

يمكن خلال تعلم طالب البكالوريا أن تجعله بمعن التفكير و التّفكير. فيوسعها أن تساعد الناس على أن يصبحوا أعضاء مسؤولين و تصنع مجتمعاتٍ مزدهرة.

أنا أحب لغتي، و أحب اللغات الأخرى، و أتمنى أن يكون لديّ برنامجٍ ثقافيّ أصبو لصنعه و أقنع به الشعوب و معارفي من دولٍ أخرى ليست عربية حتى أبين لهم عمق لغتنا و جمالها، و أبقى على تواصلٍ دائمٍ بالنصح و الإرشاد حتى أنتج فئةً لغير الناطقين بالعربية يحبونها و يتعلمونها. فهي لغة سامية، فيها العلم و التّسامح و المجازفة و قوتنا في لغتنا فهي فخرٌ لنا.

أسامة شعبان
تلميذ في الصف العاشر

Secondary School

The Impact of the Arabic Language on IB Learners

Arabic is a great, excessive and abundant language, where every Arab should take care of it and should hold it with ultimate pride, pleasure and vanity. Arabic is an old ancient language, which contains prodigious excessive words that can be used in dialogues and in international conferences for Arab speakers and Non-Arabic speaker that are willing to learn this old supreme ancient language in the best ways and forms of literature. This ancient language reflects on us as IB students to use it in the right form, using the right respected, appreciated and esteemed manner for it. The Arabic deep fulfilled language helps develop students who are aspired and sympathized by others, who help to build a greater world that is better, bigger and healthier, using the terminology of understanding and comprehending other cultures, with showing the ultimate keen and respect towards others.



The Arabic language seems to impact the IB student in a major positive way, where the biggest factor that impacts the IB students is that the Arabic language creates an enormous and tremendous connection between the students, where it gives them the opportunity to express their feelings in several and various methods that allows them to express their ideas and thoughts freely, this also helps the student to have a to uses their critical knowledge and to express their creativeness, especially when analysing Arabic literature texts.

Arabic language makes us understand the importance of balancing the different aspects of our lives - intellectual, and physical, and emotional aspects- to achieve goodness, happiness and prosperity for us and for others. This make us aware of the relationship of interdependence between us ourselves, among others, and the world we live in. Learning the Arabic language can help the IB student to mull in thinking and reasoning for different situations and for different ideologies, additional to that this will help the students to be more aware and principled, this will offer them the potential ability and will give them a better opportunity to create a better world in the out coming generations.

I love my language and other languages, I wish to have a cultural program that I can create and use to influence different people from different communities, societies and nations worldwide so I can implement the fulfilled meanings of the great Arabic language. Arabic is a Semitic language that contains language power, positive risk and ultimate knowledge.

Abdelrahim Shaaban
Grade 10 Student

Primary School

Primary End of Term Highlights



Primary School

Head of Primary: Mr. Gary Mallon

End of Term 1 Reflection

I would like to wish all of our Primary GCS parents, students and friends a safe and happy holiday season. I would also like to acknowledge the contribution of staff, parents and students to GCS so far in the 2015-16 academic year.

Walt Disney once said **'You can dream, create, design and build the most wonderful ideas in the world, but it requires people to make the dream a reality'**. This is certainly the case as Head of Primary. The reality is that the learning experiences and projects that have already taken place this academic year could not have happened without a great deal of commitment and support from the staff, parents and students; *Pink Day, Green Day, Innovation Week* and *U.A.E National Day* to name but a few.

One of the critical factors of any successful school is the staff. There has never been a time when being a teacher has been more demanding or challenging. To our teachers and support staff, thank-you for your energy, passion and enthusiasm. I am privileged to be a part of a school with highly capable and committed teachers and support staff.

Our teachers in turn are privileged each day to participate in their students' academic journeys. They recognise and applaud just how hard their students try. They celebrate their students' progress and achievements whether they are great or small and they share with pride the progress their students make with their learning. Your children have all made an encouraging start to the academic year and we look forward to guiding and nurturing them to ensure they meet their individual goals as the year progresses.

Whether you and your families are travelling to see loved ones over the holiday period or enjoying the lovely winter weather here in Dubai, stay safe, spend some quality family together and have lots of fun. See you all in 2016!

Kind regards,

Gary Mallon

Head of Primary

Primary School

Primary End of Term Highlights



Film Festival Awards (animation)

I didn't really know what animation was and how much effort it took to make a small film until I attended this work shop. I have experienced lots of new things. I have made lots of new friends, most of all I learned how to animate in stop motion. We needed lots of patience but it was worth a try. We made a one minute movie in which we first planned our story then made our story board in which we put down all our ideas. Then we started creating the animation and it took us 4 days to complete with sound effects. I had an amazing group and amazing professional trainers who guided me with a lot of my learning. I would like to thank Mr. Robinson, Mr. Mallon and Taaleem who always guided me and gave me this opportunity to show my creativity. I could have never got this far without these people. It was a very fun and exciting workshop.

Nabil Memon

Grade 5 student

PYP Environmental Club

In the PYP we have started an Environmental Club. The aim of the club is to help improve the environment around Greenfield Community School and in general. We have 18 members and myself Mr. Robinson. We meet each week in the newly refurbished PYP Science Inquiry Room to work on projects and discuss how we can meet our aims.

The first two projects we are launching are a 'Can Collection' and a 'Compost Bin'.

The can collection is to help families of GCS create less waste by giving them somewhere to put their aluminum cans where they know they will be recycled. This project is in conjunction with the Emirates Environmental Group that operates across the UAE. Each homeroom will be given a collection point made from reused materials. We ask that any aluminum cans you use at home are saved and brought into school and placed in the collector. This will run all year with the EEG collecting them and weighing them at the end.

Our second project is part of 'Putting the Green back in Greenfield' which is in partnership with the Student Council. We aim to use funds from 'Green Day' to start a school garden. Last year a large compost bin was purchased and to make good use of this resource we want to collect organic waste to eventually help the plants in the garden grow. Members of the Environmental Club will collect food scraps in the canteens and place them in the bin, hygienically of course!

Thank you for taking the time to read this and please give us a hand!

James Robinson
Grade 5 Teacher

Primary School



Grade 5 Parents attending the Secondary Coffee Morning



The Grade 5 Transition to MYP

One of the most important tasks the Grade 5 teachers face each year is preparing our students to make the much anticipated migration to MYP. When they get to Grade 5, our students have risen to the prominent role of 'Leaders of the PYP'. Following this exciting year, their status becomes very different when they commence Grade 6; they face a world of new understandings, unfamiliar faces, adjustment to different routines and knowledge of greater expectations. The Grade 5 teachers endeavour to make this transition a smooth experience for the students and their families. We have established a close working relationship with the Grade 6 coordinator, Ms. Bovaird, and the Grade 6 teachers.

1. During the academic year, we create collaborative opportunities where we take our students into the MYP classrooms and collaborate with Grade 6 teachers. For example; for during 'How the world works', our students visit the high school Science labs. Students get to do hands on experiments, wearing lab coats and goggles.
2. In Grade 5, the teachers begin to use MYP command terms, familiarising students with the language which they will later hear. These command terms are used in class as well as in rubrics used during assessment.
3. Students visit the Grade 10 Personal Project Exhibition; this mirrors their own PYP Exhibition experience, showing students what they are working toward in Grade 10 of MYP.
4. Students are invited to visit the MYP library during their own Exhibition so that they will have greater access to a more complex selection of literature.
5. Students are invited to use the MYP computer labs, under the supervision of their teachers.
6. One of the highlights of Grade 5 are the actual 'Transition Days'. These mark the first Grade 5 experience without their Grade 5 teachers. This exciting event will see students move up to the MYP for two full days. Students get a taste of the subject areas which they will study as well as exploring the MYP buildings and classrooms, and getting to work directly with MYP teachers.
7. Post Exhibition in May 2016 the quantity and type of home learning will be adjusted to help greater match the needs of what will be required in Grade 6.

At this point in the year, parents wonder what they can do to help facilitate this important transition process.

1. Encourage independence through the use of technology. For example; students can communicate any issues directly to their own teachers through the use of email.
2. Ensure students are responsible for organising themselves; packing their own school bags and ensuring their kits are ready for PE.

Primary School

Grade 4TF



3. Promote organisational skills by ensuring students check their own email for homework, and meet the expected deadlines
4. Ensure students are aware of their academic calendar; how long their UOI will last; when their assessments will take place etc.
5. Discuss and reflect with students upon their personal and academic goals.
6. Encourage accountability; if expectations are not met, then discuss the appropriate consequences.

The move to MYP can be an emotional experience for students, their families and the teachers. PYP enables us to form close bonds which are not broken once our students move up. The Grade 5 classroom doors are always open, welcoming familiar faces and maintaining our sense of community.

Jane Gaughan

Grade 5 Coordinator

Innovation Day Math 2 Dimensional shapes

Students in Grade 4 TF read the story of the 'Greedy triangle'. In groups of four students went around the playground and the primary building to identify different shapes. They had to identify and write all the characteristics of the shape they had drawn.



Green Day Problem solving activity

Grade 4 TF students were divided into five groups. Each group was given a problem related to the environment. The students were told that they should be creative but reasonable when solving their problems. The students discussed their situations and came up with solutions to the problems. Each group then presented to the class. This gave them a better understanding of how parts of an ecosystem work together as well as gaining an appreciation of the importance of balance in the ecosystem. They could also practice their problem solving and critical thinking skills.

Tabassum Fatima

Grade 4 Teacher

Whole School

National Day



عيد الاتحاد ٤٤ لدولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة

ما أجدل أن يكون لديك وطن يهفو إليه القاصي و الداني من كل مكان ، وطن يتصف بالأمن و الأمان وطن ترتفع به الرؤوس كالأعلام ، وطن شيدته قادة و حكام ألا و هو دولة

الإمارات العربية المتحدة ، ننتظر نحن عيد الاتحاد في كل عام فهو العيد و ليس مثله أعياد ، فدامت العقول و العيون متألفة بالخير في أرض ألف شعبها الأمجاد وفي هذا العام الفرحة ليست واحدة و لكنها فرحتان فرحة العيد و فرحة الشهيد و كما ذكر في الحديث الشريف " الجنة تحت أقدام الأمهات" فالإمارات هي الأم لكل من تطأ قدمه على أرضها، كلنا ندرك ما هي قيمة الوطن الذي يعيش في قلوبنا جميعا، ولا يبخل أي منا في حب الوطن الذي تربي وترعرع على أرضه الغالي سواء كان مواطنا أو مقيما، عربيا أو أجنبيا من مختلف الأجناس وشتا المنابت، فحب الوطن هو نتيجة لانعكاس السلوك والتصرف الحسن الذي يشمل الكثير من الأمور التي يثبت من خلالها الفرد ولاءه للوطن والتضحية بالغالي والنفيس من أجله .

ولا شك أن الدفاع عن حرية و رقي الوطن هو أولويات كل من يعيش على أرض الإمارات الطيبة والحفاظ على كل ما يجعل ذلك الوطن في الصدارة بين الأمم، فالوطنية ليست مجرد كلام يقال أو شعارات ترفع وتنتهي مع انتهاء الحفل، ولكن التضحية بكل ما تحمل الكلمة من معنى هي أساس الانتماء للوطن، وحول هذا المفهوم، وما تمثله المناسبة لأهل البلد والمحبين له، قمنا بالاحتفال بعيد الاتحاد الرابع و الأربعين لدولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة و قدّم الطلبة العديد من الفاعليات التي تعبر عن الحب الكبير لدولة الإمارات و كان منها قسّم الولاء و المسرحية الوطنية و الرقصات التراثية و الأشعار الجميلة التي تعبر عن مدى هذا الحب و كذلك الخيمية التراثية و الأكلات الشعبية و الألعاب القديمة و حضر العديد من أولياء الأمور و أبدوا إعجابهم بما قدمه الطلاب و ما نظمته اللغة العربية فكل عام ودولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة بخير و نماء في ظل رعاية صاحب السمو الشيخ خليفة بن زايد آل نهيان و أخيه صاحب السمو الشيخ محمد بن راشد بن سعيد آل مكتوم حفظهم الله و رعاهم .



Whole School

Under 10 Boys



Sports Results

The boys went to Rashid School for Boys with high expectations, rightly so, and that confidence paid off!

In the first game versus GEMS FPS we started well with some fantastic interplay between the midfield of Matej, Nabheel and Gianluca. As well as strong defensive work from Will and Nicholas to ensure there was very little football played near our goal, which left Brice very little to do early in the game. Eric proved to be very difficult for the other team to manage as he kept working his way through their defense. But it was Nabheel that opened up the scoring and then didn't stop scoring!! He finished the game with 4 goals just by himself. As always Owen, Antonios and Marc proved to be great subs when they came on, creating real problems in attack and solid in defense. The boys ended up winning 5-1 with Matej scoring one goal too.

In the second game, our final, we started with the same team to allow for continuity and it seemed to work. The boys really played for each other and created great chances by passing and moving. Also what was more impressive was all the teams ability to track back and win the ball back, if they lost it.

Nabheel continued his scoring performance but this was well supported by some great passing and attacking from Gianluca, Eric and Matej as well as Owen and Nicholas when they were in midfield Will really proved strong in defense and nothing got past Brice. In the second game the boys really sealed a great win which allowed Antonios and Marc to enjoy their part when they came on too.

What a great team and what a great final, winning 3-0 against GEMS WPS to take home the trophy. In addition Nabheel took home the top goal scorer trophy for the whole tournament too, which was a great achievement for him and the team who helped get him into good positions to score from.

Well done boys.

Mr. Callum Under 10 Boys coach

Head of Advisory Board: BOYD EDMONDSON

I would like to take this opportunity to keep our school community aware of the points of discussion during our Advisory Board (AB) meeting of the 19th October 2015.

Firstly, may I start by saying that as of this academic year the structure of the AB now includes student representation from both the Primary and Secondary Schools. This I believe, will be an important part of the AB as we move forward and feedback received from the Student Council will be directed to the AB for further discussions and suggestions.

The above now creates true representation from all concerned within our school community and will add



Whole School

value to the existing board structure. The structure consists of:

- The Principal: Mr. Andrew Wood
- Heads of School: Secondary - Mr. Neil Bunting; Primary - Mr. Gary Mallon
- A representative from the Taaleem Central Office: Mr. Clive Pierrepont
- Primary School Teacher Representative: Ms. Barbara Sandford
- Senior School Teacher representative: Ms. Sophie Redding
- GCP Chairperson: Mrs Dipika Kalra
- Parents of the school: Mr. Dorgham Shaaban and Mr Paul. Evans.

Several topics were discussed and focused on during our meeting. Below is a summary of discussion and action points.

Mr Andy Wood focussed on his vision for the school this year which is to encourage **'Challenge, Accountability and Rigor'** for all involved in our school community. This focus is set to give a clear sense of direction and plan to continue to create momentum in moving the school to even greater heights. These points were echoed in the Head of Secondary Mr Neil Bunting's and Head of Primary Mr Gary Mallon's feedback.

Regular **lesson observations** provide the school leadership with information and feedback on the quality of teaching and learning that will be used in the ongoing staff professional development.

The school is moving its **marketing campaign** forward by promoting the IB Curriculum to parents through conferences and coffee mornings, whilst internally promoting the secondary school to all those within the PYP programme.

Further marketing support from the Taaleem Central Office is being implemented through **local press coverage**. This includes the involvement of Taaleem schools in the Dubai Film Festival, Literacy, Science and Choir Fests along with our GCS students being involved with the upcoming Omega Dubai Ladies Masters in December 2015 and the Omega Dubai Desert Classic in February 2016.

The school recently underwent a preliminary quality assurance visit from the Council for International Schools and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. Whilst our regular DSIB and International Baccalaureate reviews are mandatory, these visitors were here by invitation. The school is now placed to start a 14 month self-assessment in preparation for a full accreditation visit. Authorisation by these bodies will provide both prospective parents and universities with an additional assurance of the high standard of education at Greenfield. The report highlights many areas of strength in our school and, as always, there are areas of improvement which will be on the agenda for our Senior Leadership Team. Mr Andy Wood will shortly, through our school newsletter, give more feedback to parents and students in this regard.

I was very pleased to witness and be part of the **student feedback** through our Head Student, Melissa Dando who thanked all for the new canteen with its



Whole School

new equipment and good service. Furthermore, Melissa spoke of the developments that have taken place this academic year so far and that they have given all our students a clear picture of students assessment work and what is expected from a homework perspective.

I am also pleased to give feedback that the very real need that we have had, in having a **school career councillor**, has been facilitated and has been warmly received by the GCP and students. I wish Mark Bishop every success as he caters and equips our students in their future career paths.

There has been much talk in respect of the possible change of **school uniform**. This is currently under discussions between the school, Taaleem Central Office and the supplier. I will update you shortly with the progress that is made.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all parents for their support of the **KHDA parent contract**. The AB, in consultation with the SLT have identified some areas of concern with parents understanding the process and some of the terms. These concerns are currently being addressed, however, the AB would like to ask our parent community for your continued support in this regard. The deadline for signing the KHDA parent contracts have been extended to 15th of December, 2015.

BOYD EDMONDSON
CHAIRPERSON
ADVISORY BOARD



GCP Updates

Brought to you by the Greenfield Community Parents Comzmittee



2015 is coming to an end and the GCP is amazed to see how much show of support we've had so far from our community sponsors! Our sponsors have provided us with everything from sun-shielding outdoor portable shades, to donating food to sell at our school events, as well as, super discounts at their businesses catered just for us GCS families and staff!

And the generosity continues!

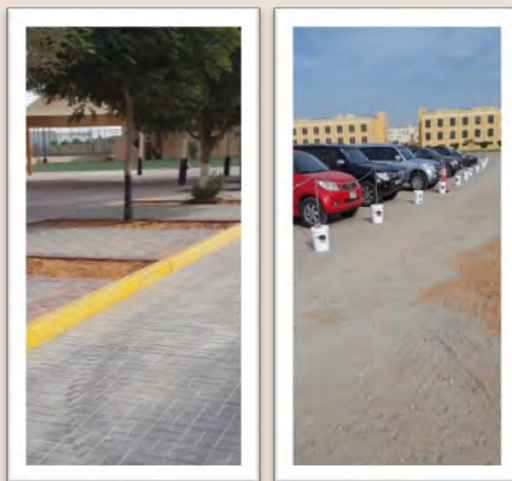
As we you may have noticed already, the white pebbles have been replaced with a cleaner and safer interlock sidewalk generously provided by **Wade Adams Contracting LLC**, a multi-national project development and construction company. Wade Adams has also taken the initiative to provide our school with a garden, as well as, to level out some of the main areas of the school parking.

Caparol Paints has provided us with useful sectioners with attached chains to help safely organize the car park area.



The GCP is so happy to thank **Votre Beauty Spa**, for supplying our school with an outdoor shade! As you can see, we put it to good use as one of our serving stations here at our National Day celebration.

The GCP would also like to wish **Glitter Beauty Salon**, a big "National Day Thank you" for providing our students and staff with complimentary flag color nail painting service during our festivities!



INTERNATIONAL DAY 2016

International Day is fast approaching on the **4th of February!** Sign up for your country's table on our sign-up board located near the front of the school. The GCP will also have an exciting raffle during this event! If you would like to donate any fabulous raffle prizes, contact the GCP committee via our email address. Also, don't forget to book a spot during the event to show off your country's song, dance, or any other colorful talent.

MORE SHADES!

The GCP would like to thank **Metamindz Dubai Learning Centers** and **NMC Healthcare** for co-sponsoring an outdoor shade for our school! These outdoor shades will be well appreciated at our school events!



A HUGE THANKS FROM GCP TO OUR SECURITY AND MAINTENANCE STAFF!

It is with their work and effort that our events here at GCS work out so smoothly and efficiently!



Visit us on Facebook by adding yourself to **The Greenfield Community Parents Group**. Email us at GCP4GCS@gmail.com with any questions or suggestions. We're looking forward to hearing from you!

