



MESSAGES

GULF ENGLISH SCHOOL CAIRO - MESSAGES

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Grow, Engage, Succeed



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'I LOVE THIS SCHOOL'

Those were my first thoughts as I entered the building that eventually transformed into Gulf English School Cairo. I fell in love with its warmth and potential. I was heartened by the family and team that surrounded the project from its very inception. I was strengthened by their belief and fortitude. Slowly, over weeks, months even years, the school unfolded, grew and expanded. We all poured our

hearts and souls into every aspect of her. The school is filled and supported by years of experience and thrives on the energy and wisdom they provide.

That hope and dream imagined in my mind, has blossomed into a school that is often recognised as a resounding success after only four years. It is now quoted and referred to as a model example of schools of its kind by educators both in Egypt and in the UK. GES Cairo has recently been accepted, after careful vetting, into BSME (British Schools in the Middle East). An organization that 'supports a network of high quality British International Schools in the region'. Not ones to sit on our laurels, we have now begun our challenging task of BSO (British Schools Overseas) accreditation. It is at least a two year project which we look forward to immensely and cannot possibly achieve without the same love, support and experience of our entire school family and community.

The Messa**GES** magazine is yet another example of our continued growth and



expansion. In addition to our usual social media posts, this publication delves into the details of our life in school with more depth and perspective. It is a physical memento of our family and community over time which is an invaluable addition to our archive of memories. I hope you enjoy and cherish it as much as I do. Please feel free to send us your contributions and suggestions on how to improve and expand upon them in the coming editions.

This is a special place of learning and a special place to grow and thrive. 'I love this school'. I sincerely hope you do as well and work with us to make it even better while enjoying every step and memory along the way.

Ms. Ghada Dajani - Managing Director

WHAT A VIBRANT SCHOOL

Reflecting on this academic year, I believe that we should be very proud of what we all have accomplished. We appreciate the presence and participation of our parents in all events held at school.

Annually at GES Cairo, we introduce new initiatives, build on our previous successes and adapt to inevitably changing times. This academic year, we are publishing our very first school magazine, MessaGES. The collection of articles within reflects the amazing work that goes on within the walls of our campus and beyond.

MessaGES is a magazine that will be issued once a year. At GES Cairo we seize each and every opportunity to develop the skills and values that our pupils will need to embrace for their life. GES Cairo calendar is always packed with so much to be carried out throughout the academic year. GES 7Cs core values come at the heart of all we do; the events, trips, camp activities, performances and ASAs school presents. We endeavour to embed our core values and develop the whole child, this magazine is a testimony to that. Our pupils are also always encouraged to take part in serving people and do acts of kindness. They are asked to help someone in need, to find ways to spread happiness around the school.

There have already been so many highlights so far this academic year including the opening of our new theatre and mosque, Pink Day and the initiation of our new Student Council members and GESTure team.

I have no doubts that like me, you will feel tremendous pride flicking through the pages of this issue, knowing that this is your community. Our pupils really do benefit from belonging to such a vibrant school.



Mrs. Mona El Masry - School Director



EAGLES SOAR

We run an EAGLES programme at GES Cairo for selected pupils from Year 3 to Year 6 and an EAGLES SCOUTS programme in Year 7. We aim to educate and empower pupils to be the best versions of themselves. The attributes we expect our Eagles to demonstrate at all times can be summarised in the following EAGLES acronym:

Energetic: being proactive and radiating positive energy to community

Accountable: learning to carry responsibility and taking actions as a leader

Generous: looking out for everyday actions that enrich the lives of others

Leadership: developing their sense of loyalty and pride in who they are, exemplified by their loyalty and sense of belonging to GES Cairo as their second home

Effort: understanding the importance of exerting their utmost effort in everything they do, striving to try new things, responding positively to challenging situations.

Supportive: seeking opportunities to empower others to reach their full potentials

EAGLES are encouraged to be proactive and participate in school charity events and community service initiatives. Last year alone, they proved their commitment to this time and time again.



Some of the highlights included:

- Forming a welcoming committee for the Ahl Misr visitors who came on campus to experience the wonderful atmosphere during our 12 Hour Run.
- Packing and sorting food and clothes items during the Keep Egypt Warm campaign.

This year they hit the ground running and willingly gave their time and effort to make:

- perfumes and crafts to be sold for charity on the PINK Day
- handmade, personalised birthday cards for all GES Cairo staff members

EAGLES can also expect to go on at least one team building trip per year. This year they attended a fun packed day at Sahsah Falah Village in Sakkara.

"I thought that being an Eagle meant having perfect qualities, but later I realised that being an Eagle doesn't just require perfection but it actually helps in seeking our good qualities, hidden talents and noteworthy abilities, finding the leader hidden within each and everyone of us." Hanna Nounou 6B, said with passion in the EAGLES Ceremony 2022.

Ms. Rehab Khairy - KS2 Deputy Headteacher



INSPIRED BY FAMOUS ARTISTS

Studying the artwork of the masters not only influences our artistic style but also improves our creative and critical thinking skills. Through exposure to different styles of art and the use of different mediums and techniques, Art teachers at GES Cairo inspire curiosity in their pupils, help them develop an appreciation for beauty and a connection to the past whilst giving them the tools to create their own originals.

We focus on a variety of famous artists including; Kandinsky, who used art to express his feelings and emotions, usually through bold use of line and colour. Roy Lichtenstein who is well known for using cartoon strips and comic books. Frida Kahlo



who is best known for her self-portraits, and includes elements from the culture in her artwork. Monet, Van Gogh, Matisse, Warhol and many more...

"Pablo Picasso, has a unique style in his portraits", Hala Rashed, Year 4 Red GES Cairo Junior Artists have a chance to see their artwork at our very own exhibition on campus. This has always been an essential and exciting aspect of our art programme which brings everyone together. It creates challenge, boosts self-esteem and provides students with artistic confidence and knowledge that is empowering.

"One of the pioneers of modern abstract art is Wassily Kandinsky. He created an aesthetic experience that engaged sight, sound, and emotions. His art and ideas inspired many generations of artists, from his students, to our GES Cairo pupils today!" Fatma Shawky, Art HOD We encourage a growth mindset in Art and believe all children are artists. We incorporate lots of fun with hands-on activities to tap into their creativity and truly enjoy the amazing journey with them.

Mrs. Fatma Shawky - EYFS - KS2 Head of Art Department
Mrs. Eman Yousry - KS3 Head of Art Department





Super SENIORS! WHY CHOOSE THE “THE SENIOR YEAR” AT GES CAIRO

Being a Year 12 pupil or Senior is one of the most anticipated times in any child's life. This sentiment is shared by teenagers all over the world. Younger pupils always look up to the Year 12 pupils, in eager anticipation to “walk the walk” and “talk the talk”. At GES Cairo, Seniors are given special privileges such as a different uniform and access to their own lounge, but as always, greater privileges come with greater responsibilities.

The Year 12 experience ensures that pupils are academically prepared for highly demanding fields of study both nationally and abroad, for instance, studying in the UK requires having completed more than one subject at the Advanced Level [AL]. Thriving in university, regardless of the field of study, requires certain skill sets such as note



Maryam Omar Class of 2022
Diwan Internship



Shahd Ahmed Class of 2022
Sparks Nursery

taking, research, referencing, presentation and effective time management. The GES Cairo Seniors' Programme provides a structured system for enhancing all these skills in addition to various other soft skills that are developed through activities such as internships and assemblies.

“Senior year at GES Cairo has been nothing but a roller coaster! But throughout the whole ride, the experiences I've gained will definitely last a lifetime. It truly showed me a glimpse of what the real world looks like.”- Hania Raed (Class of 2023)

A pupil's level of independence and readiness for life beyond school are important factors to consider when deciding to join university one year early or to continue to the end of Year 12. Being ready is not only about academics; pupils need to be emotionally ready. Life at university is very different from school; it is much less sheltered and requires well developed social skills in order to adapt and flourish.

“Being at GES Cairo has made me someone I'm really proud.”- Nour Tarek (Class of 2022)

When surrounded by a nourishing and supportive environment, a teenager blossoms into a healthy and productive member of society. That is the aim of every educator and all school leaders worldwide. GES Cairo is no exception, the school aims to support and guide its pupils in every way possible so that they are ready to lead happy and productive lives beyond its walls.

Mrs. Marwa El Hefnawy - Academic Coordinator



Jana AlBaghdady Class of 2022
I Make This! Internship



GRADUATION 2022

On Wednesday June 29th, 2022 school celebrated the inaugural graduation of its first Senior Class. The day was one that will always be remembered by everyone who took part in it whether physically or via the live feed.

Together with their teachers, families and friends, the class of 2022 celebrated their successful school journey and the achievements they were able to accomplish through their short stay at GES Cairo.

The ceremony was hosted by our sister school, MES Cairo in the main Theatre which lent a feeling of grandiose to this important event. Mr. Mohamed El Sayegh; Chairman of the Board at GES Cairo, opened the ceremony with a speech about the inauguration of GES Cairo and the strong bond that he feels towards our school and Egypt.

Mrs Sawsan Dajani; Chairman of the Board at MES Cairo graced us with her presence as the Guest of Honour and Speaker. She addressed the graduating class with a speech that was both motivating and heartwarming. Her words inspired the cohort to always be honest, humble and helpful to others. "If you are honest and truthful with yourself and others about all aspects of life, you will never be burdened with the negativity that comes with deception and half truths. Honesty is just a word; it is far more related to action. Seeing a task from beginning to end, as promised, is honesty as is standing up for yourself and others for what is right and just. Humility comes mostly from confidence. To succeed in life at universities, work, sports and relationships can not be truly achieved without first recognising the unpretentious simplicity of humility...Helpfulness is another term for giving back. Contribution to the betterment of others, empathy to those who need it most and giving yourself in energy, time and attention will give you the growth in character you need to become the future version of yourself. It will enrich your soul in immeasurable ways. It will expand your creativity, tolerance and bring you peace of mind and spirit."





The Class of 2022, led by Mrs Riham Sadek (KS3 Deputy Headteacher) and Mrs Nermine Ali (Secondary Headteacher) entered the stage accompanied by Copland's "Fanfare for the Common Man", a piece that "honours the common man who performed his deeds...on the home front." MES Cairo's Primary Choir regaled the audience with an Arabic medley and a rendition of "Wehyat Albi W Afraho" by the late Abdelhalim Hafez. Their lovely voices and smiles conveyed their sincere feelings towards the graduates of their sister school. Another highlight of the ceremony was the GES Cairo Secondary and Teacher Choir that celebrated the departing pupil's "Walk Through Life" on that "Defining Moment." A medley of Arabic songs, led by the breathtaking voice of Ms. Maissa Mohamed, delighted the audience and graduates alike.

Ms Ghada Dajani, our Managing Director, conducted the Presentation of Leaving Certificates which were presented to the graduating class by the School Director, Mrs Mona El Masry. Ms Dajani commenced by naming a missing member of the cohort, our beloved Begad Shoeir, (May he Rest In Peace) whose parent; Mrs Rodayna Shoeir was welcomed to the stage to receive the GES Cairo Recognition Award in his honour. Her words of gratitude towards his colleagues and school left not a single eye in the attendance dry and truly resonated that we are indeed a **"Family of Learners."**

Congratulations, Class of 2022! You will always have a special place in all our hearts. We wish you the best of luck in your future endeavours. Never forget that you are part of the family.

Mrs. Nermine Ali - Secondary Headteacher





On Monday August 29th, 2022 a group of Year 11 and 12 pupils met at the Cairo International Airport on their way to Barcelona, Spain. This long awaited trip, after two years of Corona induced “travel arrest”, was embarked upon with enthusiasm and excitement that could barely be contained.

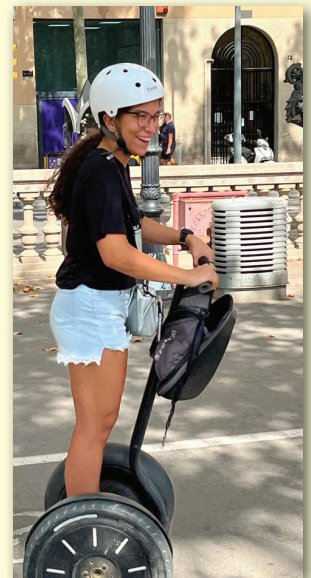
“Street walks, Ferrari World, Camp Nou, La Sagrada Familia...I left my heart in Barcelona.” Karma El Sabahy; Y11R “I’m so grateful to have experienced the beauty of Barcelona.” Salma Rashad, Y11Y. The trip itinerary was loaded with tours of the historic parts of the city. Upon their arrival, participants were driven to Sagrada Família; by far one of the most



popular landmarks in Barcelona. This famously unfinished cathedral is one of the most unique buildings in the world steeped in rich history and was indeed a site to behold. Although his main work was the Sagrada Família, one could not help but be astounded by the modernist architecture styles of Antoni Gaudí; a Catalan architect known as the greatest exponent of Catalan Modernism.

Pupils were amazed by the apparent “futuristic” designs which can be seen in his buildings strewn across the city.

In contrast, when driving through the streets of Barcelona, pupils were equally enamoured by the authentic Andalusí style of architecture also visible in many of the buildings.



“The city is haunted by history, yet it feels modernly beautiful” Habiba Bahy, Y11Y. That same evening, pupils took a guided walking tour in the Barcelona Gothic Quarter, the historic centre of the old city which encompasses the remains of the city’s Roman wall and several notable mediaeval landmarks. With its iconic, old-Europe streets and alleys, pupils learnt that this picturesque neighbourhood is the very heart of Barcelona. The blend of historic artefacts from its days under Roman dominion up through the Spanish Civil War with a vibrant modern-day culture of artisan shops and authentic culinary experiences could be felt by everyone within the group.

Naturally, we could not travel to Barcelona and not visit FC Barcelona, familiarly known as Barça and Camp Nou Stadium, founded in 1899 by a group of Swiss, English and Catalan footballers led by Joan Gamper. The club has become a symbol of Catalan culture and “Catalanism”, even more than football. The pupils visited the museum, the stadium and the players press and changing rooms.

After the excitement of standing on Camp Nou’s turf, pupils then toured Barcelona by Segway, going through the Port and La Barceloneta district with its attractive beaches, houses, restaurants and cafés. The ride was both exhilarating and educational as the guides regaled the participants with tidbits of information and historical facts about Barcelona.

A visit to Adventure Park where pupils challenged themselves and enjoyed different tree top courses and zip wires 90 metres high was next on their busy programme. One couldn’t look up and not see one of our pupils zipping from one tree to the next! Another adrenaline pumping activity was the pupils’ visit to Port Aventura World and Ferrari Land; Europe’s leading waterpark and theme park. The entire day was spent exploring the huge diversity of attractions and activities.

Of course, one could never say they visited Barcelona if one didn’t sample the extraordinary flavours and variety of produce the Spanish cuisine has to offer. Paella is perhaps the most famous Spanish dish and the seafood version of it was thoroughly enjoyed by all as were “patatas bravas” (brave potatoes) and “albondigas” (meatballs in tomato sauce). These delicious tapas were only some of the dishes on the menu ravished by pupils during one of the group dinners they shared on the trip. Another most memorable outing, was a late supper at the world famous Hard Rock Café where everyone had an enjoyable time dining on burgers while listening to amazing rock music.

Whenever two pupils who’ve been to this trip meet at school, you always hear them reminiscing about their time in Barcelona. Indeed, it is one to always remember. “The trip exceeded all of my expectations; everyone had a blast!” Kenzy El Sabban, Y11R

Mrs. Nermine Ali - Secondary Headteacher



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **GRAND OPENING** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **of our New Theatre**

The start of this academic year saw the grand opening of our brand new Theatre at GES Cairo, with the ribbon being cut by Mrs Sawsan Dajani and Mrs Mona El Masry.

It is with great anticipation that we imagine all the entertaining performances that will grace this stage for years to come.

Our 180-seat theatre, equipped with a sound room and moveable stage, really enhances the experience offered to our pupils through our Performing Arts programme.

Our pupils are thrilled to have this space not only for Drama lessons and rehearsals, but also as a regular year group meeting point for assemblies.

As one Year 6 pupil exclaimed, upon entering the theatre for the first time to listen to an excerpt being read from *The Hobbit*, "What an upgrade!"

Our staff members have already felt inspired by this new space and wasted no time booking it for special events and shows, throughout the course of this year.



It was wonderful to welcome parents in the new theatre during our orientation days prior to the first day of school and we look forward to inviting our families to many more special events to come.

Ms. Claire Williams - Deputy Headteacher of Primary



FS and KS1 Orientation Days

We took a different approach to our Orientation Days at the beginning of this academic year in EYFS and KS1. Parents had the chance to attend the orientation with their children in order to meet their child's Classroom Teachers, TLAs and the subject specialist teachers. It was the perfect opportunity for parents to gain a clearer view of their child's learning environment and to better understand the provisions and expectations of GES Cairo.



In June, our FS team introduced the school rules, explained the curriculum, and then took the FS1 parents on a tour around the campus. To guarantee a successful first school day, children were then invited in small groups with their parents to meet their new teachers and engage with them in many activities over three separate visits. During the first visit, the children were accompanied for the whole time by their parents. The following two campus visits saw parents attend well-being workshops with our school counsellors, while our FS1 children briefly experienced school life without their parents being beside them.

During the workshops, parents learnt how to deal with separation anxiety using strategies such as validation, empathy, and encouragement. They also learnt that their children cannot have fun until they feel safe, which is why our teachers focus first on building connections. Parents were given practical advice to follow, for example, not to make excuses for absences, to make time for relaxation after the school day, and to read special stories about separation, e.g., "A Kissing Hand for Chester Raccoon" by Audrey Penn.

This whole process contributed immensely to us all having a smooth, happy and memorable first day of school.

Mrs. Dalia Okasha - EYFS and KS1 Headteacher



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN EYFS PUPIL



EYFS pupils can expect to follow a similar routine every day. Their timetable is displayed in the classroom, and teachers explain when anything different will happen.

Pupils start their day saluting the Egyptian flag, and then enter class, where their name is called for registration. The teacher expects her children to get ready for the day when they enter class, so they take their folders, lunch, and water bottle out of their bags and put them in the correct places. They eat breakfast with their friends and then join in Circle Time when they discuss the day ahead and share stories with the class. "The routine set in class from the first day of school makes pupils feel more secure, which sets the path to better connection and a positive learning environment." (Nahla Bassam, FS1 Blue Teacher)

Every day pupils take an hour of phonics to improve their reading and writing skills. All of them listen to the teacher, and then break off into smaller pupil-led groups to complete the activities she has prepared. The same happens for Maths after they have eaten their lunch and played together in the yard. In Maths, pupils make links between numbers, shapes, and measures and the world around them. The games their teacher sets up help them make progress at their own pace.

At break times, pupils go out in the yard. Teachers supervise while the children explore and play together. There are many opportunities at this time for pupils to develop gross motor and social skills.

The pupils meet lots of adults throughout the school day who help by modelling how they should complete activities, monitoring how engaged they are and tracking their progress.

Children at this age learn best through play so teachers are careful to set up many play-based learning activities for them in the Pod areas. "We love activity time, it's our favourite."

(Aly Shahin FS1 R)



During the week, pupils also take literacy and topic lessons. In literacy, they put their phonics work to the test and understand that reading and writing serve a purpose. They also participate in guided reading groups, where they read at their own level to become more fluent and confident and develop comprehension skills.

The pupils love topic lessons because they really ignite their curiosity and help them better understand the world around them. They enjoy learning about this through story-telling, arts and crafts, role-play, and cooking. There are specialist teachers for PE, music, art, Arabic, and religion lessons.

By the end of the day, pupils get back into a circle to talk about the highlights of the day and celebrate their successes. They are expected to pack their own bags and line up ready for dismissal, so they can take the bus home or wait for their parents to collect them.

Mrs. Rana Alsaadi - EYFS Deputy Headteacher



EYFS Trips

Trips are an essential part of the children's unique learning journey, as it enhances their learning experience in different ways.

In EYFS, pupils went on a variety of trips which they have enjoyed so much. Throughout this academic year, FS1 went to Monzoo and Kidzania while FS2 went to Kidzoo and Sitara.



These trips are the children's first real taste of independence, as they experienced this independence in a safe and positive environment that boosts their self-confidence. It was also necessary for their personal and social development, allowing new friendships to bloom and new challenges to be faced.

In Kidzoo and Monzoo children went out of their comfort zone which was very important for their personal growth and to develop their eagerness and curiosity to try new things. These trips enabled our pupils to enjoy experiences that cannot be replicated in the classroom environment, like their exposure to different farm animals and getting the chance to feed them.



As part of our 'Community Helpers' topic in FS1, pupils went to 'Kidzania' where they lived and played the different jobs they learnt about in action. Going to 'Kidzania' made the children contribute to a wider world perspective as they ventured into undiscovered territory. Not only did they gain an understanding of different jobs, but they also came back with a sense of appreciation for the community helpers and the important services they provide.



When FS2 went to Sitara it was a change of school routine and timetable, as it changed education on that day to a new and exciting location. It was a memorable day and a very effective learning tool.

The children watched 'The Monkey Puzzle' play and giggled out loud about monkey's different incidents. They also got to sew their own animal puppet that they kept talking about for quite some time!

Those well-chosen trips supported and enhanced the curriculum as it has the power to breathe new life into classroom topics. Not all lessons in life can be taught in class, and this is when trips are always a good opportunity for children to seize the challenges met outside the classroom setting.

Mrs. Dalia Okasha - EYFS and KS1 Headteacher

GRANDPARENTS' DAY



Ever since GES Cairo opened its doors, Grandparents' day has been an annual heartwarming tradition where our lovely grandparents write a cherished message to FS1 pupils, to be saved and opened on their graduation day.

On the 16th of February 2023, we were honoured to have our grandparents who came on campus to celebrate their grandchildren after the last 2 years of COVID-19 restrictions.

The pupils greeted their Grandparents in Yard 1 with a beautiful song, then proceeded to bond together through many shared activities such as planting and craft activities.

The highlight of the day was the sealed message which each Grandparent wrote to their Grandchild, to be frozen in time until their graduation day. All the hopes, dreams and cherished wishes were enclosed in an envelope.

"Grandma makes me my favourite food, Koshari"
said Omar El Zorkany FS1 Red

"My Grandmother loves me so much; she got me a real rabbit"
said Younis El Araby FS1 Blue.

"Grandpa and I have the same name"
said Elsayed Hossam FS1 Yellow



Mrs. Rana Alsaadi - EYFS Deputy Headteacher

Maths Wizards



This special event celebrates and acknowledges our pupils' mathematical prowess. It is with great pride that teachers discuss their pupils' progress over the year, highlighting the exceptional skills they have witnessed the children use in class when calculating, analysing and solving various challenges.

This process involves observing pupils working through a selection of carefully chosen games and fun activities that give them the opportunity to demonstrate that they have met the targeted objectives. Our aim is not only to recognise pupils' ability and progress, but to inspire our pupils to engage fully in their lifelong learning journey and to see themselves as equipped problem-solvers and mathematicians.

Ms. Yasmine Mounir - EYFS Event Coordinator





Pink Day the Healthy Way!



We pride ourselves at GES Cairo on our service to the community. One of the most memorable annual events we host is our Pink Day in support of the Breast Cancer Foundation of Egypt. This year our theme was to spread health awareness. The following health stations were set up on the yard for everyone to enjoy:



P - Hygiene Pampering Corner - hand-made items on sale included bracelets, bath bombs, lip balms, sanitizers, soap, bookmarks and hand gel.

I - Intellectual and Mental Health - challenges included mind-stimulating games such as Jenga, Hangman, 24-game and SIM game.

N - Nutritious Snacks - delicious treats were sold by our Seniors, including fruit salad, cookies, cake pops and popcorn.

K - Kinaesthetic activities - to test their flexibility, agility and balance including a jump rope competition, Zumba dancing and stretching.



Parents and pupils were encouraged to collect a stamp on their hands from each station to spell out the word PINK. Many of our pupils were able to collect all the stamps multiple times, which meant we were able to raise even more for this worthy cause. There was a palpable buzz in the yard; everyone was busy and everyone was having a wonderful time. We raised a total of 250,000 EGP on the day through generous donations and the sale of our pink day t-shirts and tickets for the stations, all thanks to our loyal and supportive GES Cairo family!

Ms. Rehab Khairy - KS2 Deputy Headteacher



Nutty Scientists Day

The Nutty Scientists Day in KS1 provided a unique and interactive way for our Year 1 and Year 2 pupils to reflect and consolidate key scientific concepts that they have learnt in class.

In Year 1 the pupils were engaged in different activities where they were asked to transfer colours from one cup to another at the 'Materials Absorption' station. They tried out many materials such as tongue depressors, pencils, and tissues until they found the material that absorbed colours and transferred them from one cup to another!



They also loved the 'Plant Parts' station as they were provided with all the plant parts separately and they had to assemble them in a plant pot and label each part. Moreover, the pupils put all their energy in the 'Living and Nonliving' station; as they were split into teams to race and get as many pictures as they could of living and nonliving things and sort them in the correct place. But that was not the end of it; as soon as they were done with sorting living and nonliving, they had to re-sort the living into plants and animals and re-sort nonliving into things that were once alive and things that were never alive. Lastly, they loved putting the body parts together and labelling it, creating a big human body model on the floor!

Year 2 pupils were actively engaged in various hands-on stations which utilised the learning process and developed their questioning, observing and experimentation techniques.





Pupils enjoyed labelling food groups then sorting out different food in the correct groups on the gigantic 'Food Pyramid'. They also competed and were racing as individuals and in groups to label the different types of teeth and match each tooth type to its function in the 'Different Types of Teeth' station. Then things got really exciting and active when pupils had to run around in the playground looking for different natural and manufactured objects, then draw or write them on the whiteboards in the 'Natural and Manufactured' station. Finally, in the "Electric Circuit" station the pupils consolidated their learnt knowledge when they tried to find the missing component of the electric circuit and add it.

During our KS1 'Nutty Scientists Day', our pupils practised their analytical thinking skills, improved their communication skills and definitely promoted their love of learning Science!

Mrs. Dalia Okasha - EYFS and KS1 Headteacher



Junior Artist



On the 15th of January EYFS & KS1 children were dressed up as famous artists such as Picasso, Frida Kahlo, Kandinsky and many more. Children were encouraged to talk about the famous artists and their masterpieces.

The Junior Artist event builds up creative thinking, communication skills and curiosity. It exposes pupils to new art styles, processes and techniques from the past and inspires them to stretch their imagination.

Recreating some famous paintings with a twist is always a hit! "I got inspired by Henry Matisse and organic shapes, I really loved all the colours and shapes he used." Yassin Ali Radwan - 2Blue.

Mrs. Fatma Shawky - Primary Head of Art Department



YEAR 1 CURIOUS MINDS

Year 1 is the perfect time to venture, experiment and learn through our daily interactions. Our teachers aim to integrate life skills alongside educational skills wherever possible to stimulate inquisitive minds and encourage independence.



At this age, children are very curious about the world around them. Their enthusiasm for subjects and thirst for knowledge are fascinating. In order for them to get all the answers they seek, we have to teach them how to ask the right questions. We do this by asking them to 'begin with the end in mind' to help them organise their thoughts, thinking first about what they need to know and then which questions they need to ask.

Term 1 witnessed a lot of learning in Year One. In Global Perspectives, pupils learnt the first steps of inquiry skills, where they created a list of questions about teachers they were curious about, followed by interviewing the teachers to find the answers to their questions. In Science, we explored the five senses and were able to use our observations to answer the question: Are humans the only ones to have senses or do animals have them too?



In English, we differentiated between fact and opinion. Also, children learnt how to judge whether information is true or false through researching and finding facts from different sources.

In Maths, we answered many questions using different strategies and tools, for example, using a numberline to count and add groups together.

"I really liked the maths activities and all the math games." Mohammed El Touny Year 1 Red.

We understand how important it is for our learners to be engaged, happy and enthusiastic about their learning and believe that this is best achieved by nurturing their curiosity.

Ms. Maha Attia - Year 1 Red Classroom Teacher



Year 2

Love to Learn

Year 2 hit the ground running this year and discovered many fascinating facts in the first term. One of their favourite topics was 'Plants and Animals'. It was taught through both our Science and Global Perspectives lessons. Pupils learned about the different animal and plant habitats. They discussed the importance of animal shelters and researched how to protect endangered species from becoming extinct. They applied this knowledge to discuss how choices they make can have a positive or negative effect on the environment and explored ways to better protect it.

"I love learning about different kinds of animal habitats."

Adam Allam 2 Blue.

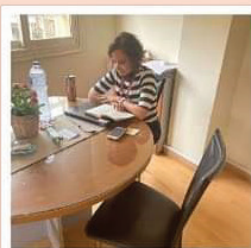
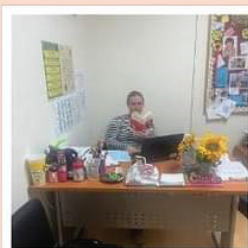
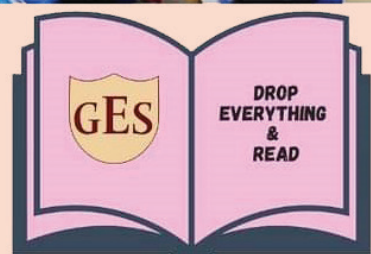
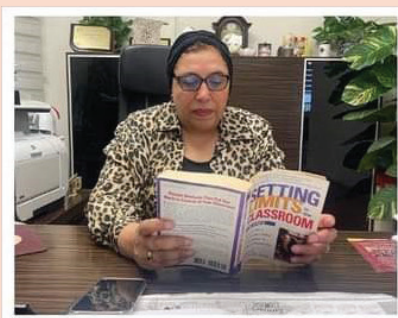
In collaborative groups, they read books about different types of endangered animals to find information, then wrote reports and designed posters to present their research.

"This is the best project ever!" Yassin Radwan, Year 2. "I learned a lot about endangered animals." Bilar Ahmed, Year 2.

Pupils also explored the differences and similarities between humans and animals.

Mrs. Nada elHamalawi - Year 2 Classroom Teacher





READING FOR PLEASURE

We want all pupils to get maximum enjoyment from books. In a world where children gravitate increasingly towards screens, especially social media, in their free time, it is not so easy to promote reading for pleasure and instill an unquenchable thirst for knowledge, but this is a challenge that our staff at GES Cairo are ready to embrace. This year, we are bringing reading into the spotlight in so many innovative ways and what is more, we are involving everyone!

Storytelling

Some staff have volunteered to host story-telling sessions during break times in the library, while others have gone as far as staging mini-plays in the school Theatre.

"I really enjoyed how the stories were told, I am sure that the teachers put a lot of effort into this, which is something I really appreciate." Adel Tamer, Y6B.

Drop Everything And Read

At random times throughout the year, the bell rings and everyone, including our staff, drops what they are doing, picks up their book and reads.

Book Banding

All books in the Primary Library have been colour banded to help pupils in the selection process by guiding them to books most suited to their age and ability.

Looking forward

We have so many more ideas to promote reading at home and at school, including some stunning performances planned for each year group, a read-a-thon and trips to Sitara.

Watch this space: We may be enlisting your help very soon to share a favourite fable

Ms. Claire Willimas - Primary Deputy Headteacher

STORY TELLING

Oral storytelling is one of the most ancient artforms, and continues to this day to be a vibrant part of culture worldwide. At GES Cairo, we aspire for our pupils to engage with this experience, giving them access to new ideas and information through a magical window to the world. Aside from being an excellent learning vehicle, through storytelling we are forming a special bond with our pupils and inspiring creativity and imagination.

This Term, our theatre has welcomed many wonderful storytellers from the GES Cairo family. We started off with our very own Ms. Ghada Dajani who read 'Winnie The Pooh' to pupils in Years 1 - 4. The audience was tickled pink, especially when the main characters appeared on set in full costume. It was such a treat to watch the delighted faces of our young audiences interacting with the story.

"Storytelling sessions are one of my favourite things this year. They are simply the best!" Ann 4Yellow.

Ms. Fatma Fawzy - Year 3 and 4 Reading Teacher



CHARACTER DAY! TEACHERS ACT AND PLAY !!

The aim was to create a fun special day whereby stories that reinforce our Golden Rules were performed by their very own teachers.

Mrs Dalia Okasha and Mrs Rana Alsaadi narrated the plays while EYFS & KS1 teachers wowed the audience in their costumes. Needless to say, our pupils, dressed as their favourite characters, sat enthralled in the audience. It was clear from the comments that our pupils enjoyed every minute. "Wow, I loved it," Yassin Radwan, Y2 Blue said. "It was very fun," Hamza Sherif, FS1 Red expressed. "I was happy I dressed up as The Little Mermaid," Lily Hisham, Y1 Red mentioned.

To wrap up, Mrs Dalia Okasha, who also got into costume for this wonderful event, read everyone a funny story, and the children eagerly answered Mrs Mona El Masry's questions, showing that they understood the morals behind the story.



In October, Mr. Sherif Mohsen seized the opportunity and read to Year 6 pupils about the 6th of October.

Ms. Claire Williams read a chapter of her favourite book, 'The Hobbit' introducing Year 6 to the main character of this fantastic fantasy world.

Ms. Dalia Okasha, dressed as a friendly witch, told Year 3 a captivating Halloween story.

Ms. Dalia Fathy read 'The Minpins' to our Year 4 pupils. Pupils were taken into the magical forest where they met the miniature people who live in the hollow trees.

At GES Cairo, we care so much that our pupils develop a passion for reading and pupils enjoyed a year full of wonderful storytelling sessions.

Ms. Yasmine Mounir - EYFS Event Coordinator



In May, Year 3 and 4 pupils participated in a Book Day event. The children turned up as their favourite book character and the day began with a vibrant parade through Yard 1 and 2 after Morning Lines. A fun packed array of activities followed throughout the day, including 'Drop Everything And Read' (on the hour, every hour), quizzes, a book swap and storytime.

Ms. Claire Willimas - Primary Deputy Headteacher

12 HOURS BEATS RUN

This year, the theme for our annual 12-Hour Run was 'Beats', to raise awareness about maintaining a healthy heart and in support of the wonderful work of the Magdi Yacoub Foundation.

Prior to the event, pupils participated in sponsored runs during their PE classes, collected and made items to sell at their stalls and attended assemblies about healthy living and Magdi Yacoub's work.

The event kicked off with all pupils singing 'Ersem Alb Eshha Bafia', and a first lap, completed with special guests, Mrs. Sawsan Dajani, Ms. Ghada Dajani, Ms. Nicki Singleton and Mrs. Shadin Gomaa from the Magdi Yacoub Foundation.

There was a truly uplifting vibe running throughout the day. It was a joy to see so many parents and pupils taking part in activities including storytelling in the Theatre, obstacle races, the hanging bar competition, facepainting and zumba classes. There were also various vendors, including our very own Senior Cafe and GESTures bootches, selling food, jewelry and gifts.





After the school day ended, pupils were eager to return to campus for Phase Two of the event which hosted the final of the Cook Fest, the football tournament and pupils and teachers taking to the 'Beat Buskers' stage to sing.

Finally, everyone gathered onto the track to complete the final lap before going home. We are extremely proud of our community for having raised an impressive 200000EGP for the Magdi Yacoub Foundation.

Ms. Claire Willimas - Primary Deputy Headteacher



YEAR 3 SCIENTISTS

Throughout Term 1, pupils were exposed to a variety of projects and activities that nurtured their confidence and presentation skills. They were also given many chances to work cooperatively in groups, which required them to reach a consensus through effective communication in order to produce their best work.

In science, students have been learning about the differences between living and nonliving things and how to tell them apart using the MRS. GREN acronym (Movement, Respiration, Sensitivity, Growth, Reproduction, Excretion and Nutrition). They later created a floorboard to demonstrate the features of living organisms. In order to embed information into the long-term memory, we find every opportunity to link new concepts to the pupils' prior knowledge, so we explored how their understanding of the features of living things could be applied to their knowledge of life cycles, food chains, and animal classification.

Our pupils have used these sessions to develop their understanding of fair testing through various experiments.

An important part of our science curriculum takes place in the lab, where pupils plan and carry out their own experiments. The pupils are always very excited and enter these sessions full of curiosity.



"Science this year has been challenging, but it's a lot of fun,"
Tia Andrew Y3B.

"I was so happy; it was so fun doing the experiments in the lab,"
Zein Ahmed Y3R.

"I was so excited when I went to the lab, and I wanted to see the results immediately," Hamza Hashem Y3R.

Ms. Alya Ammar - Year 3 Red Classroom Teacher



YEAR 4 COMMUNICATE

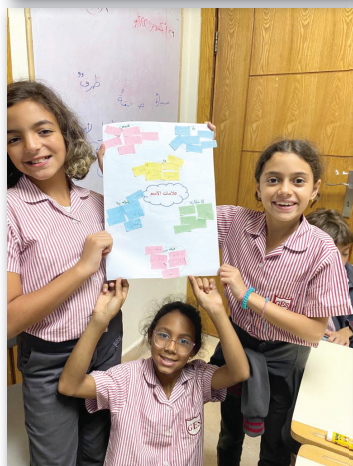
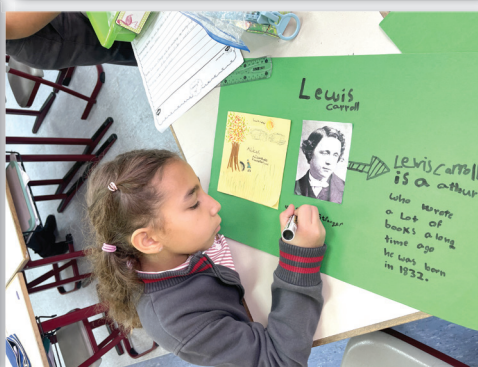
During the first term of Year 4, teachers have really been targeting how to make pupils actively engaged in the lessons. Teachers from all subject areas have planned engaging learning activities to advance children's communication skills.

Through these activities, pupils have understood the importance of their role within a group and explored ways to share their ideas whilst building on the ideas of others. They have thought carefully about the questions they want to ask and have discovered ways to engage others by adapting their language and tone to suit specific audiences.

Pupils refined these essential communication skills across the curriculum. For example, in English, they worked as a group to research, rehearse, and present information about authors without relying on any cue cards. Another excellent project that brought the pupils together to work collaboratively was the Stomp-style band project in Global Perspectives. Pupils brought materials from home and worked in groups to assemble their own musical instruments and form a "recycled" band. Pupils also got an opportunity to address the class in Arabic when they shared their presentations about the different parts of speech.

The more our pupils experience purposeful communication, the more skilled and confident they become at it. We hope that the foundations of these essential skills are now well-rooted and that we will go on to see them blossom in the years to come.

Ms. Dina Ghanem - Year 4 Red Classroom Teacher



SEASONAL ASSEMBLY

Every one of us looks forward to congregating at the end of Term 1 to celebrate in truly festive style, and no event is more fitting for this than our annual Seasonal Concert. This year, catchy hits such as “White Christmas”, “All I Want For Christmas”, “Walking in the Air” and “It’s the Most Wonderful Time of the Year” resounded through our theatre and across the ‘live feed’. Parents were also treated to beautiful renditions of Arabic songs including “Talj Talj” and “Laylet Eid”.



“The atmosphere was wonderful. The concert made everyone happy. It was so enjoyable.”
Kenzy Nabil, 6 Yellow.

Pupils from all key stages showed great commitment, pride and excitement singing on stage and the audience were visibly delighted by the whole experience.



“We enjoyed being in the Choir. The songs were so beautiful.” Dima Gamal, 6 Yellow.

It was clear that from the many rehearsals and careful guidance, our Music teachers had raised the quality of the performances to such great standards.

For the very first time, this year our Community Choir consisting of pupils, teachers, administrators and parents, performed on stage. This choir certainly added a very special touch to our event, highlighting that we are all one family. What a great message and example to set for our pupils, that with commitment and collaboration, the most beautiful results can be accomplished. All parents are welcome to join this choir and we look forward to many more memorable performances.

Mrs. Mai Abdelhameed - Primary Literacy Coordinator



SELF REFLECTION IN YEAR 5

There are greater expectations of pupils as they enter Upper Key Stage 2, therefore we have to equip them with the tools to adapt well to this change. One of the areas we focus on in Year 5 is the pupils' ability to evaluate their own learning.

As our pupils progress along their learning journeys, we encourage them to challenge themselves, go out of their comfort zones and not to be scared of making mistakes. For them to succeed in this, we must guide them in the process of self-reflection and self-assessment.

A simple yet effective way of helping our pupils keep track of what is required whilst performing a task is to use a checklist. We create these together in English to ensure all the required features of each genre they are writing about are included.

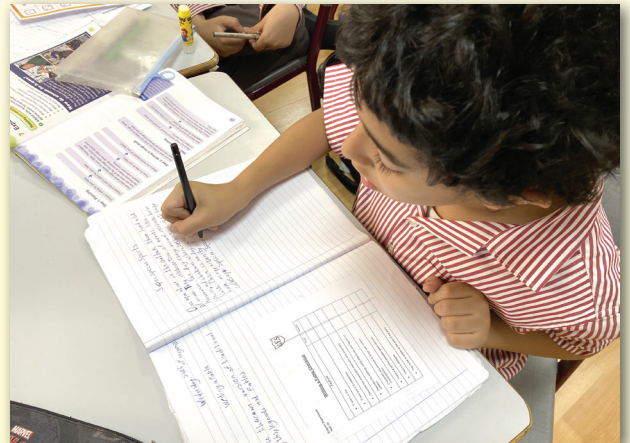
"Checklists have helped me a lot to make my writing as perfect as it can be." Talia Mohamed Hatem, 5 Red.

Pupils attach these checklists next to their writing with room for further comments and teacher's feedback.

In Maths and Science, teachers allow the students to reflect on their own work and assess it by doing collective correction. Such a method helps pupils identify whether their answer is correct or not and then seek ways of reaching the solution independently or by requesting additional support.

In Global Perspectives, pupils are learning how to do surveys to gather information. They are asked to predict the answers to their questions first and then compare the data with their initial predictions. This process teaches them to question their assumptions and understand the importance of using data to support their claims.

Mrs. Aya Fathalla - Year 5 Teacher of English



Super Sixes

Year 6 pupils have been focusing on their presentation skills. In English, we are developing their ability to voice their opinions articulately and with confidence whilst showing empathy and respecting the opinions of others. We have provided the perfect platform to practise these skills through debates, where pupils support their motions with logical evidence and provide examples from real life. This linked in well to their work in Global Perspectives, which explored how and why different people with an interest in a topic may have different perspectives on it. "I enjoyed the experience and how I worked with my group to make a strong argument" Laila Ali, Year 6 Red said joyfully. Pupils also worked collaboratively to create and present informative posters about Michael Morpurgo, who authored the class novel 'War Horse'.

Science classes provided an opportunity for Year 6 pupils to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the topics covered this term, including the phases of the moon and fossilisation. Pupils skillfully created their own detailed and illustrated flip books. This way of presenting data also helped pupils memorise the key facts.

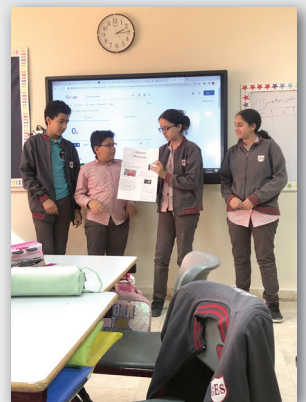
In Information and Communications Technology lessons (ICT), pupils demonstrated their innovation and creativity by writing their own stories with audio using Storyjumper. They also created presentations using Canva, adding audio, video and animated elements.

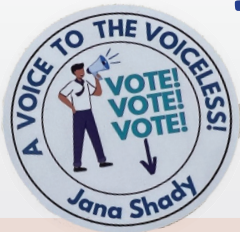
"I liked using Scratch in ICT to make games, I played a lot with them."
Karma Ahmed 6 Yellow

"It really is a great learning experience! I am impressed by all the activities and fun we are having in the lessons." Omar Abdullatif 6 Blue

Our Year 6s have continued to demonstrate their amazing potential to us throughout this year, and we are confident that these presentation skills will continue to develop, giving them a great foundation for Secondary. "What I really appreciate about GES is that it widens my childrens' knowledge, encourages a different way of looking at the world and it allows them to discover new talents." Mrs. Sarah Ahmed, Y6 parent.

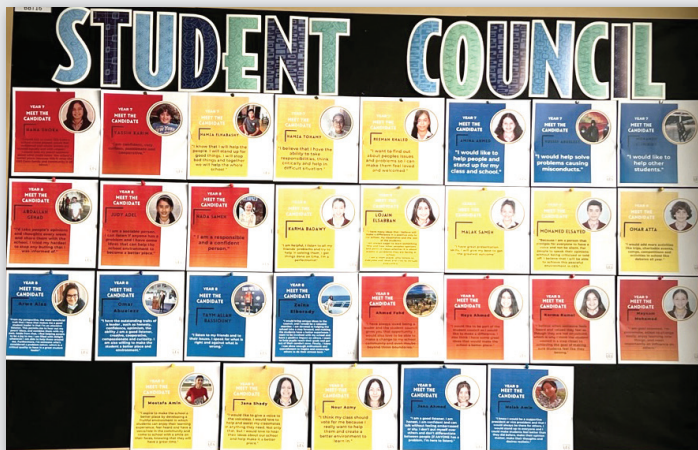
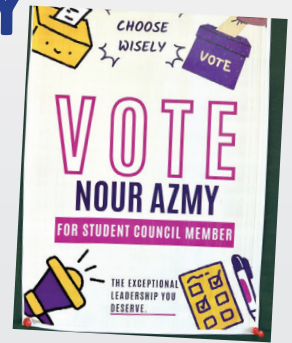
Mrs. Noura Nashaat- Year 6 Teacher of English





TOGETHER FOR A BETTER SCHOOL COMMUNITY

During the month of October, there was this buzz in the air. Everyone could feel it, teachers and students alike. Something big was in the making, the Student Council campaigns were upon us. After a two year hiatus due to a pandemic that shall remain unnamed, the Student Council campaigns were announced, launching an awe-inspiring momentum.



Under the mentorship of Mrs. Mai Monsef, Mrs. Reham Antar and Ms. Farrah Wafik, Gulf English School Cairo launched their campaign to announce the start of the hunt for the next Student Council members. Over the course of a week, students started campaigning for themselves, they prepared speeches and posters to tell their community about what makes them special.

"This should be the year where we set a standard for a councillor. If you vote for me, I'll ensure that the Council's flame will always be lit and the GES will always be a place for love, knowledge and growth." - Excerpt from Mohamed Elsayed's (8Y) speech running for the role of a VP.



We have seen an unparalleled level of creativity, leadership and confidence. All candidates had dreams about how to make their community an even better place. The competition was fierce yet honourable and by the end of the campaigning phase came the dreaded elections day on 19th of October 2022.

"I am willing to give it my all to help create the best school ever." SC Representative. Excerpt from Bilal Silvester's (6Y) speech running for the role of a VP.

Google voting forms were posted to give students the opportunity to cast their votes. Results were announced the following day resulting in a total of 19 unique individuals representing the student body for the academic year 2022-2023 through the Student Council. Student Council representatives are the link that connects the different parties within the school. They are the voice of the students and are responsible for building a better school community among all school members of GES Cairo. "A student council member should be self assured and willing to learn." SC Excerpt from Yusuf Aboeazz's (7Y) speech running for the role of a VP.

Ms. Ghaidaa Naguib - Teaching and Learning Coordinator



No one could have envisioned just how successful the Year 5 and 6 overnight camps would be after a two-year hiatus. Our pupils were literally bursting with anticipation, many having packed and repacked their belongings for the experience several times over.

The camps focused greatly on cooperation and scouting skills. The activities relied on good listening, turn-taking, creativity and teamwork.

Pupils engaged in numerous challenging outdoor activities; first-aid course, life-saving in the pool, arts and crafts, survival skills, tent-making and scavenger hunts to name but a few, to earn precious points for their team.

The food, prepared by our PE staff who organised and supervised the camp from start to finish, was 'top-notch' according to our happy campers.





Everyone indulged in some campfire songs and toasted marshmallows in their pajamas just before lights out and though the excitement may have inhibited a full night's sleep, energy levels were certainly high and smiles wide the following day at breakfast.

Sports activities and a barbeque followed and just before hometime, the final scores were announced and all pupils received their participation certificates.

There is no doubt that the camps will continue to be cherished memories for years to come and that our younger pupils are already eagerly awaiting their turn.

Ms. Claire Williams - Primary Deputy Headteacher





A TRIP TO THE PAST!

An amazing Year 5 and 6 residential trip to see the mesmerising historical sights of Luxor and Aswan during Term 2's mid-term break. Amongst the locations they visited were Luxor Temple, Karnak Temple, Temple of Hatshepsut, Lake Nasser, High Dam, and Philae Temple.

Not only did the pupils' exploration of Egypt's ancient civilisation stimulate their curiosity about the past but, since this was the first time for many of our pupils to travel without their families, the whole experience greatly impacted their personal development. It was an excellent opportunity for pupils to experience real-life challenges that required them to use their collaboration and communication skills and form new relationships with their peers and teachers.



The journey through ancient Egypt's history and its legendary mythology started right away by visiting the Temple of Philae on Agilkia Island. On the way to the temple, the pupils stopped by the High Dam to learn about its history, how and when it was built, its importance to Egypt, and the formation of Lake Nasser. They also learned about the mummification process and different theories about its secrets.

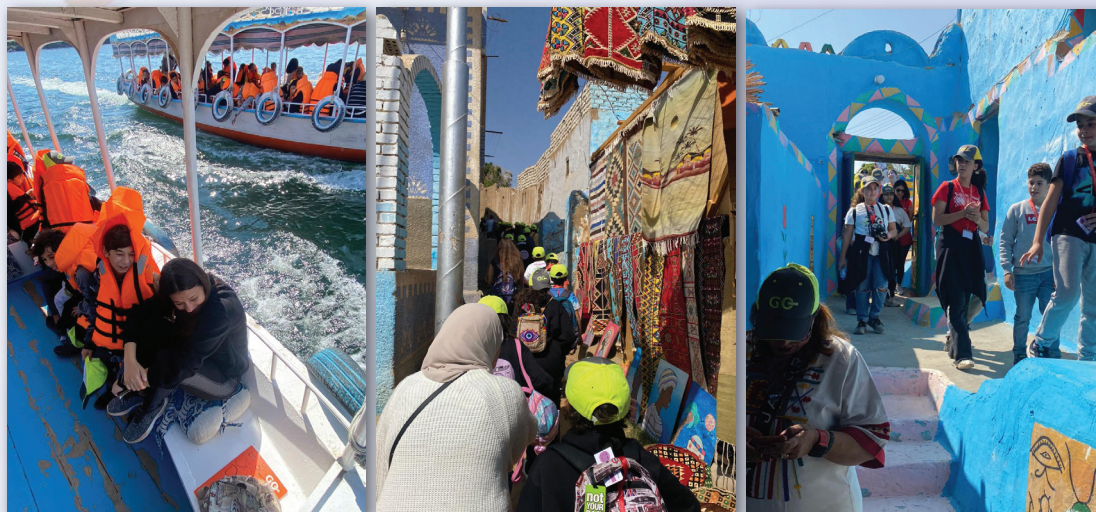
Pupils were transferred by motor boat to the Nubian Village where they visited one of the Nubian Houses and had a chance to learn about this unique part of Egypt, the Nubian life, customs and habits. The tour then navigated north to Kom Ombo to visit the

Temple of the Two Gods "Sobek the Crocodile and Haroeris" as well as the remarkable museum of the Mummified Crocodiles and back to the boat. On the third day, pupils arrived at Luxor, via Esna Lock, and experienced the water level inside the lock being adjusted to allow the boat to pass from the upper to the lower level.

Pupils enjoyed games and activities on the sun deck, met the captain, and enjoyed hot chocolate at sunset.

During their visit to the Temple of Karnak, pupils learned about the great complex of

temples, impressive columns, pylons and chapels which were built throughout the many different eras of the Egyptian history followed by a trip to the market of Luxor which gave pupils a practical lesson on how to bargain! At night the illuminated great Temple of Luxor and the Avenue of the Ram-Headed Sphinx was truly a sight to behold.



Back on the Nile cruise pupils enjoyed a farewell dinner and galabeya party, "We liked the galabeya party because we love dancing," Hassan and Kamal 5R. They spent the last day on the west bank of the River Nile, stopping at the Colossuses of Memnon, then proceeding to the Temple of Hatshepsut and finally the great Valley of Kings to explore the most beautifully preserved tombs in history, including the tomb of the famous young King Tut.

"The trip was amazing. I didn't expect that it would be that good. I hope the school organises more trips like this lot of facts about our history and I bought lots of stuff to trip. Thank you GES so much," Sama Osama 6B.

Mrs. Nour Noaman - Year 5 and 6 GP Teacher





MAROUF



Year 5 and 6 delighted the audience on 18th of May with their production of Marouf, the tale of a poor cobbler from Cairo, whose luck changes with a bit of magic. It is based on a tale from 1001 Arabian Nights by Sheharazade. The culmination of the efforts of 140 pupils and so many staff resulted in a truly polished performance.



Mrs. Mona welcomed our eager parents and siblings prior to the curtains being drawn and the stage instantly became ablaze with vibrant sounds, colours and energy. It would have been impossible not to be impressed by the clear delivery of the actors' lines, the beautiful choreography of the dances and the catchy songs resounding through the auditorium throughout the 90-minute show.





Marouf was written 30 years ago by Andrew Smith and David Talbot, teachers from MES Cairo at the time. David Talbot was keen to share his expertise during an actor's workshop at GES Cairo in the early stages of rehearsals and thoroughly enjoyed watching the show, stating that he was impressed how the director, Ahmad Mustafa and musical director, Maissa Mohamed had added real artistic flare to the original script and score.

The addition of the role 'Baba' delighted the audience when Ms. Ghada explained that this actor, Hesham Gad, was the MES Cairo alumni who had actually played the role of Marouf all those years ago, when he too had been in Primary.

As the parents left the theatre, they were clearly moved by the experience, eager to share their pride and smiles with all those they encountered.

The pupils are now left with a lasting impression of their time on stage that will no doubt enthuse them and give them the confidence and skills for future performances and presentations.

Ms. Claire Williams - Primary Deputy Headteacher



COLLABORATION IN ACTION

WEST SIDE STORY



On Thursday February 2nd, 2023, MES Cairo theatre hosted GES Cairo KS3 production: West Side Story.

Empowered by the magical belief of experiential learning and the impact of collaboration, all participants looked how each can add to the overall success forgetting the effort and tiredness working on rehearsals a couple of months or even more before the day of the show.

This performance was an opportunity for a huge number of participants to take part in the show ranging from actors, dancers, photography, costume design, backstage and choir. Talents were discovered and enhanced in all aspects. Such an opportunity enabled pupils to work on personal qualities and enhance skills that would always be the key to their success in real life: responsibility, collaboration, creativity, problem solving and the list would go on and on.





Pupils were able to realise that it is important to appreciate one another and accept differences among us because those differences are what make entities unique. Challenges were faced from the very first moment when auditions were held and pupils experienced what healthy competition is. Various fields were opened for pupils to discover themselves outside the walls of the classroom in a setting that would allow them to practise skills learnt. The impact was even more obvious through pupils' comments: "This play encouraged me to have more friends and I'm so happy about it." (Zeina el Refaei) 7R Whereas another pupil said, "It was an amusing mixture between feelings and actions that we all enjoyed (Omar Atta) 8Y It's the best experience I've ever had on stage (Mohamed Adel) 8Y The effect of this year's performance is not only reflected on this year's pupils, but gave us an assertion that next year's performance would definitely have new and more participants who wished to have been part of this year's show. "I wish I had participated in the play. I thought it's gonna be a small play but it turned out to be huge and really good." (Alia Ismail) 8R All GES Cairo community is looking forward to more performances.

Mrs. Wogood El Fawy - KS3 Drama Teacher



THE SOUNDS OF OUR CHOIR

Since the inauguration of the school, the GES Cairo choir has been going from strength to strength. A musical culture is being built by all teachers of music and supported by the school leadership, where pupils are encouraged to challenge themselves and discover new talents.

After such a long break due to lockdown and online learning, last academic year served as a new starting point for the school choir, with opportunities to perform in key events such as the Seasonal Concert and GES Cairo's first graduation ceremony.

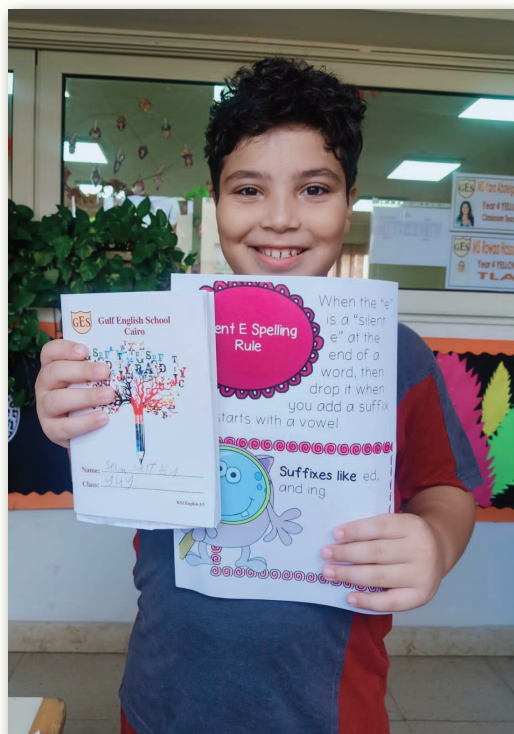
Choir members were eager to start rehearsing for the upcoming events as soon as the new academic year started. Our choir sang beautifully in celebration of Prophet Muhammad's birthday during Morning Lines. The whole school choir performed three equally impressive songs on the Arabic International Day: 'Ard el sharq', 'Watany Habebe' and 'Tooba fo' toob', reflecting the connection we have with our mother tongue and the love and pride we have for our country.

We are extremely proud that this year, our choir features complete Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass sections. This is a first for us, and we have no doubt that our harmonies will continue to captivate our audiences for years to come.

Mr. Ahmad Mustafa - Head of Music



Sketching it Together



“A picture is worth a thousand words” is a well-known saying.

Although it seems like common knowledge, putting it into practice is not that simple and requires some training.

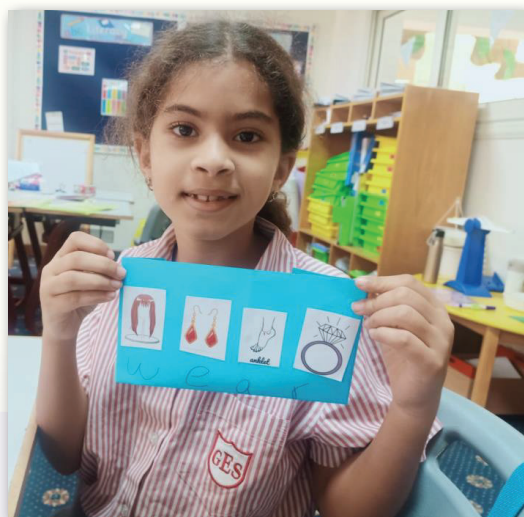
If pupils acknowledge the impact of pictures on our memories, they will be able to apply it creatively, and make it one of their study habits. Using highlighters and colours while studying is well known, but using drawings and pictures is not!

Concrete, everyday examples are a good start. If someone is asked to give directions, it will be easier and more memorable to use a map to convey this information, rather than write it down. The same concept applies while studying.

Organising the information into graphic organisers and flow charts makes it easier to understand the main idea and follow the sequence of steps or events. Similarly, plotting

facts in the form of tables, graphs, and charts makes it easier to identify and recall the targeted information.

Creativity in pictures is a key element. The more unusual and personal the pictures are, the more likely it is for them to be recalled. Consider the example of studying for a history class. Linking a historical event/ chapter to a family member is one good strategy. Adding that person's picture in the pupils' notes, with speech bubbles coming out of his/her mouth, and facts jumbled all around the picture will no doubt help the recall of information.



Arranging school-related information into categories facilitates memory, meaning, and retrieval. Categories show connections between words and concepts that are based on similarities and differences. Learning to sketch categories in the form of simplistic drawings will enhance the memory even more.

The more pictures, text, linkages, and sketches there are, the better the pupil will be able to perceive and recall all details, no matter how complex they are. Our pupils at GES

are encouraged by their teachers to practise this study habit regularly. The following are pictures of different GES pupils sketching their work.

Mrs. Nermin Gabr - Head of LDD Department



Our pupils at Gulf English School Cairo relished the opportunity to appreciate Arabic culture and language on International Arabic Day by showcasing a variety of entertaining performances for their peers and families to enjoy.



EYFS and KS1 kick-started the celebration with a vibrant flag and costume parade, Year 7 pupils recited “Moltaqa Al-She’r Al-Arabi” and children from Primary portrayed the culture of countries such as Sudan, Lebanon, Syria and Egypt through dance. Our choirs sang beautiful national songs like “Ard Al-Shrq”, “Toba Fo’a Toba” and “Al Watan Al Akbar” and KS3 actors performed “Al-Bayt Al Kabir” (The Big House), highlighting the importance of family and homeland.



During the closing speech, our School Director, Mrs. Mona El Masry stated how proud she felt and that this celebration demonstrated our school's commitment to uphold our identity and language, while instilling a true sense of belonging. "Collaborating and contributing in the preparation of an event such as the 'Arabic Day' was very entertaining. There was a lot to prepare such as the props and arts for the play, learning the songs for the choir and many others. It was such an amazing event that required a lot of work and cooperation from all pupils." Leila Korshid 8 Red.

Mrs. Fatma El Sayed - Year 8 Teacher of English



SPORTS DAY

During the past years, since the establishment of the school, the Department of Physical Education have organised a Sports Day for each school stage. We yearned to work and make this day an unforgettable day for pupils in different stages. Every year we had a new flow of generated ideas to implement to make sure that our pupils are fully engaged, and to maintain the feelings of longing for a sports day each year. Competition is the core of our sports days as it enables our pupils to take part in engaging and fun games.



On those days, pupils are divided according to their own houses as each house contains a number of pupils in different stages, starting from KS1 School to KS4. Through this house, all pupils try to accumulate the largest number of points to help this house win after the end of the competition on the sports day in all stages. Moreover, this brings together the whole school, staff and learners together hand in hand as teachers are also part of the house teams.



To encourage pupils to participate in sports on a regular basis, we develop a healthy and active lifestyle to raise the sport performance standard among pupils, and to identify potential future athletes.

The sports day for each stage helped in building interactive relationships among pupils, in different stages, as they all participate in the same house and share the same goal.

Mr. Islam Mekki - PE Head of Department





Honour Society

The Honour Society, first introduced to the GES Cairo community last academic year, has quickly earned its place as one of the highlights on the school calendar and a privilege our pupils aspire to be bestowed. In recognition of their academic excellence, pupils are selected to be part of that cohort. A long process takes place before the actual induction ceremony, which not only sees the pupils pledge their allegiance but also recognises the role played by all parents and teachers in their selection.

Approximately four weeks after the beginning of the first term, teachers nominate pupils in their year group who prove to be academically excellent and show leadership potential. Upon receiving these nominations, application letters are sent to the nominees, which are then submitted to the advisors on the committee. The applications are revised carefully, and then pupils are informed of the final selection.



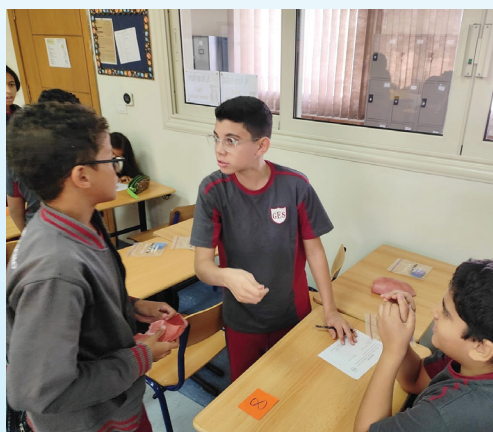
Members of the Junior and Honour Society elect a President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. A prestigious celebration is held afterwards to recognise the inductees and celebrate the current members who were able to secure their place in the society throughout the year.

The ceremony this year was held in the Theatre to a full audience of proud family members and staff. Ms. Ghada Dajani, Mrs. Mona El Masry, Mrs. Nermine Ali, and Mrs. Riham Sadek all took to the podium to address the pupils and their eager spectators.

The poignant speeches delivered by the elected members of the Honour Society and our guest speaker, Ms. Ghadaa Naguib, were delivered with such conviction that everyone was moved by the sentiments conveyed. As each member was sworn in, they presented their parents with a white rose and received a special badge, as is the tradition. The Honour Society is built upon five pillars: Leadership, Commitment, Creativity, Compassion and Collaboration. All members uphold those qualities, and their actions are governed by those attributes, not hesitating to help any person in need, such as recording audio books for the International Public Schools (IPS), participating in the Keep Egypt Warm Campaign, raising money for the annual Iftar and raising awareness about fire burns during the 12 Hour Run of last year that was dedicated to Ahl Masr Burns Hospital.

We have great faith in the members of our Honour Society to serve the wider community compassionately, willingly and collaboratively and to bring joy to the many people they will encounter on the way.

Mrs. Riham Sadek - KS3 Deputy Headteacher



We, as adults, generally prefer to slow down the ageing process, in stark contrast to our children's eagerness to rush headfirst into adulthood.

Transition is a period of change that can be both challenging and exciting! The transition our children face from primary to secondary requires our pupils to adapt to new academic duties and responsibilities alongside significant social and emotional growth.

Families are expected to adjust to new roles, expectations, and interactions in this phase, and this can have a profound effect on the overall experience. However, putting pupils' welfare in mind and their social and emotional wellbeing at heart, we can always ensure a safe and sound crossing of this transitional shore.



Teachers also play a critical role in supporting pupils to settle positively in this new phase. Teachers need to plan ahead to integrate prior learning into new skills and strategies and encourage learners to engage fully in a safe learning environment.

In Year 7, pupils are startled by the change of routine, graded assignments, scheduled assessments, rotating classes, contracts they have to sign, lockers they have to visit, extracurricular activities, and other details at the beginning.

Accordingly, the first week of school is fully devoted to easing the process by explaining any new important policies, walking them through how to access their classes, lockers, and different school utilities and modelling expected academic performance and behaviour. We provide endless tips on how to use their time efficiently and address much of this during homeroom time and assemblies.



"Though I was a bit worried, I felt really excited." Adham Abouelamgd, 7 Blue.

As always, communication is key to a smooth transition. We care about the feedback we receive from everyone involved and are delighted in the feedback we received this year. We are also proud of the progress our Year 7s have already accomplished.

Mrs. Samar Hesham - Year 7 English and GP Teacher



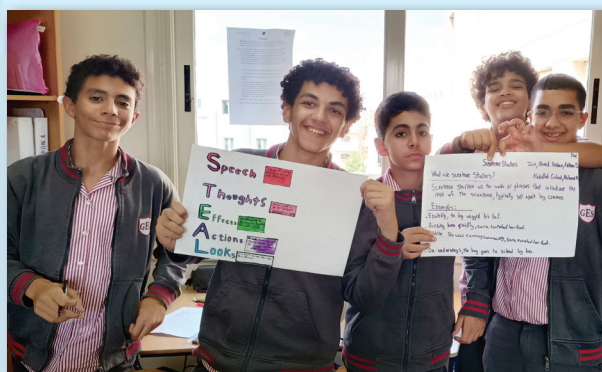
Floor Books

Flourish in Year 8



A vibrant initiative 'The Floor Book' has been introduced in GES Cairo this year across all stages. Floor books help pupils to organise and collate their thinking. They give children the opportunity to reflect on their learning and focus on what they find most valuable and interesting.

Our Year 8s embraced this opportunity to highlight the key skills and knowledge they have acquired this year across the curriculum.

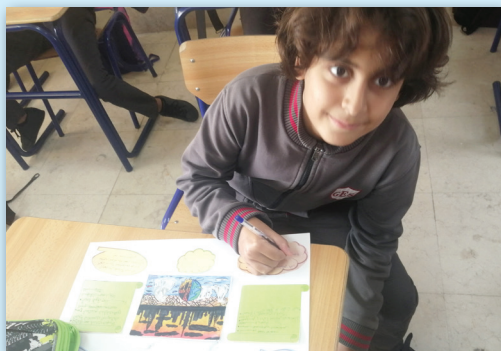


"It was very fun to do a floor book as we do project based learning" Malak Sameh 8 Yellow

Our highly motivated pupils were responsible for the project from start to finish and had to work collaboratively to reach the final outcome. As with all projects, the plan had to be established from the beginning. Once everyone knew their role within the group and the main aims, they had to design and add the content for each poster. Every page of the floor book maps out key aspects of the academic journey.

Creating the floor book allowed them to be creative in a way that, not only, consolidated their learning, but also allowed the reader to experience, in a nutshell, the incredible learning that has been taking place. GES Cairo teachers have found this to be such an effective and engaging way to boost progress in all areas of their subject.

Mrs. Fatma El Sayed - Year 8 Teacher of English



IMPROVED COMMUNICATION ... IMPROVED RELATIONS

On November 8th, 2022, Year 9 students had a break from their daily school routine and took part in a Global Perspectives day. It was a day filled with engaging activities with the aim of equipping students with communication, collaboration and reflection skills. Students started the day off with a game of Telephone Whispers where they acted out statements and passed the message along with just their body movements. It was a real eye-opener into how easily miscommunication can take place. Afterwards, an open discussion about the importance of 'Active Listening' took place followed by short skits prepared and presented by the students themselves with the aim of informing students about the 6 main features of being an active listener. The skits were creative and clearly showed what active listening looks like.



The day proceeded with a shift in focus on how social media has impacted the way we communicate and how this in turn affects the strengths and depths of our relationships. Students discussed their own opinions on this topic and applied their analytical and communicative skills to compare different perspectives. They researched the opposing views of Facebook and the Center for Humane Technology, and led a group discussion on which view they supported and why.

The day ended by students critiquing a poster about how to use social media. In teams, they then created a guide to show how to better communicate through social media, raising the issue that since there is no requirement for active listening, there is a danger that the use of these platforms could weaken relationships. Students stepped up to the challenge and worked under immense pressure to work collaboratively in order to educate social media users about the lessons learned from their Global Perspectives day.

Ahmed Fahd, from Y9 Red stated, "I would just like to say how wonderful today was. I truly enjoyed it. I think what made it really special is the fact that we got to work with other members of our year group that aren't with us in class. I believe this is the first time we've had an educational experience





that allowed for that to happen. Truly a wonderful experience.”

Malak Amin, from Y9 Blue claimed she enjoyed, “Learning how to communicate with people in a better way, dealing with different people and different teams throughout the day and doing activities that were very engaging and super fun.” Other Y9

students were significantly exhilarated about the day. “I have



learned too many things, which are; how to listen actively, how to work with people you don’t know, and how the social media has changed the way we communicate with each other,” said Habiba Montaser, Y9 Red, “it changes my behaviour as it will make me think more before communicating on whether it should be face to face or texting. For example, if I want to tell someone factual information I will text them, but if I want to talk about something emotional and important it will be face to face.”

It was evident from the students’ feedback that they learned important lessons about how to actively listen, how to effectively communicate and how to use their communication skills to improve their relationships. Additionally, they were able to practise their collaborative skills to learn more about social media and how it affects their relationships.

Ms. Ghaidaa Naguib - Teaching and Learning Coordinator



IT WAS CALLED "STUDY SKILLS" BY MISTAKE

Starting year 10, your daily decisions start having an impact on your future. Your subject choice begins to draw an outline for your future path and your grades assist in that too. When you finish year 10, you get faced with a decision that you never thought it would come so soon, your college choice. Everything shifted back 1 year due to the new law of being able to graduate after year 11.

At this time, it will look too foggy, and you won't know if you are standing at the edge of a cliff or if you are standing safely on a green landscape.

In every year 11 student's schedule, you will find an hour and a half slot called "study skills". It sounds boring and tiring. I even thought to myself that I can just attend the first session then disappear for the rest of them. I thought it will waste my time and effort that will be essential to help me pass this tough year. But everything changed when I knew who was going to teach those lessons. It was Miss Ghaidaa Naguib, also known as Miss G. I've always held huge respect for Miss G. Mostly, it's because although she tells everyone her weaknesses without being ashamed, I have never felt like she is vulnerable or weak. Instead, it only made her much stronger in my eyes, and I'm sure everyone else's eyes.

At the end of August, teachers started going to school, and I was already at school because of my October/November session. At this time, I saw Miss G and I talked with her about her new programme in the "study skills" session. She was surprised about what I was saying. I thought the rumor I heard was wrong and that she wouldn't be giving that session, but instead, it was the name of the session that shocked her. If we were to choose a more casual name for that programme, it would be Game of Life or JOY: Journey of You. Understanding the core values of that programme, made me look up to it and it was only then that I knew this session would be the highlight of my week.

Now fast forward to the first session, I was at the peak of the November session where revisions

are everywhere and you feel like giving up everything. I entered the classroom in hope to get a break from my worries, not knowing what was ahead of me. The session felt like a breeze, and for once again, I got reminded to stop and take a deep breath for a while. The session was nothing about learning how to learn. This was only a minor part of the actual plan for the whole year. This session's purpose is to help us with what





we are going through right now and at the same time to prepare us for what is about to happen when we leave this school. This session is made to hone us for the outside world so we don't break easily. I thought such a brilliant idea can only be seen in movies and series, but Miss G made it a reality.

During the sessions, a lot of activities get implemented, all with their own purpose and own benefits. For example, one time we worked on our

collaboration and leadership skills by building paper castles without uttering a word to your teammates or else the troll (Miss G) will knock out our building. We got competitive and subconsciously enjoyed our time and sharpened our skills simultaneously. We also do a lot of discussion about different topics. This task specifically teaches us the ethics of a conversation along with learning key topics about life like anxiety, our dreams, and morals of life. During the full duration of that programme, we are also supposed to pick a habit we would like to learn while sharing our progress bit by bit.

Miss G always says that she has made a lot of wrong decisions in her life and that she would change her course of action if she goes back in time, therefore she is trying to help us as much as possible not to regret any of our actions too by teaching us things she wished she had known before.

To show that I am determined about those sessions' success, I joined Miss G's teacher assistant team, and seeing how hard she works on each single class gives me the courage to try harder in my life. Every moment you live and every person you meet teaches you something new about life, but what I am learning in this session will STAY with me for life.

Mariam Rageh- Year 11 Yellow



FRENCH SPELLING BEE

For the second year in a row, pupils from Years 5 to 8 showed excellence in their knowledge of French vocabulary with an accurate pronunciation in their French Spelling Bee Competition. The final round of the competition took place in the school theatre on the 5th and 6th of April 2023. Pupils spelt excitedly a broad selection of words, with a varying degree of difficulty.

Mrs. Dina Nabil - Head of French Department



KS2 ENGLISH SPELLING BEE

KS2 English Spelling Bee was a very exciting competition where pupils were motivated to work hard towards their goal. Round Two and Round Three were held in GES theatre. The contestants were given in advance a list of words with a varying degree of difficulty to study and practise to spell out loud. On the day of the event, the contestants had to wear competition numbers and were called on stage by their names and numbers to spell out loud using a microphone. There were three judges from the English teachers who reviewed the words and announced to the pronouncer, the speller and the audience whether the word was correct or incorrect. All pupils of each stage attended the competition and encouraged their peers who participated. The Spelling Bee competition did not only inspire pupils to enhance their spelling skills but also sharpened their public speaking skills, helped them to overcome stage fright and boosted their confidence. Other pupils enjoyed the competition as well and were encouraged to participate in the upcoming Spelling Bee contests. Laila Ali said, "I was anxious at the beginning, but I really enjoyed the competition. It was an amazing experience!"

Mrs. Mai Abdel Hameed - KS2 Literacy coordinator



KS3 SPELLING BUZZING BEE



In an attempt to encourage pupils to notice words around them in everything they read, we tend to organise annual Spelling Bees, whether in English or in French.

Such competitions allow pupils to relate unknown or unfamiliar words to known spelling patterns.

The first round of the English Spelling Bee is open to all pupils in year 7 and 8. A second milestone in the journey of choosing KS3 best speller started on with around 35 competitors who reached to be only 17 in round 3.

Monday March 13th marks the

date where the best speller was chosen leading a very tough competition and survived lots of challenges ranging from a seen set of words to a number of unseen words that challenged participants to the maximum.

The experience allows pupils to compete against their own abilities and discover who the skill of oral spelling is different from the written one.

Attending the event and noticing how determined competitors are shows the real application of the traditionally said ability: work under pressure.

"Seeing our champions pave the way to a new success in their educational journey presented the inspiring spirit they possess. Spelling Bee 2022-2023 was their real competition of the year." Ms. Fatma El Sayed- Year 8 Teacher of English.

Well done to all participants and congratulations to the winners.

Mrs. Riham Sadek - KS3 Deputy Headteacher



LIFE IN YEAR TEN

September 2022 marks a new beginning in my educational path. We no longer confine ourselves to one class with specific students in the same group, where we spend the entire day together. This year, everyone has a different schedule depending on the subjects they choose. Although it may appear unfavourable to some pupils at the first glance, a closer examination reveals a positive aspect to it. It will help you get to know more people and become a social butterfly if you are not already one. All your sessions will last for an hour or an hour and a half. There won't be a fixed timing for your "break"; they will just be known as gaps between your sessions.

More frequent assessments are taking place, where one would find himself or herself having approximately three quizzes per week. I see it as a good way to track your performance and keep up with your grades. After experiencing in Year 10, there are two pieces of advice I would give you. The first is to always make a to-do list; it will help you organise your thoughts and avoid forgetting things. The second one is to try to take some time to study every day; you will realise the benefit of this at the end of the year when you are studying for your final exams.

"Although the pressure and stress increased greatly in Year 10 compared to all the years before, I believe that all this hard work will hopefully pay off at the end of the year.

In addition, lots of things make the school a better place in my opinion, such as my friends, the trips, and mostly the activities that we're sometimes allowed to do during our gaps. Year 10 hasn't been the easiest of years up to this point due to the quite overwhelming pressure to get perfect grades in each chosen subject alongside the bounteous amount of homework.

Retaj Ashoub - Year 10 Yellow

SECONDARY TRIPS

Trips are seen as an integral part of the learning process. They always provide an opportunity to learn outside the classroom walls. They do not only serve as a reinforcement for learning taking place in class, but also are an effective method to help pupils mature and acquire life skills that shape their characters and equip them well for the future. The choice of trips takes school management a lot of time to decide on the appropriate venue for pupils. The older the pupils are, the more difficult it would be to choose a place that serves both purposes.

Throughout the Term, Secondary pupils went on various trips, aimed at enhancing their skills and fossilizing previously taught concepts or learning objectives. A fun packed trip was the best beginning for KS4, going on a sandboarding trip to Fayoum, reviving a favourite Ancient Egyptian sport. The trip acted as an opportunity for the pupils to get to know each other better and inspire them for the term ahead.

Coupled with their Arabic Social Studies curriculum, Year 9 pupils had the time of their life exploring different Egyptian civilizations during their visit to the Museum of Civilisation.

History was revived as they toured the various sections that contained a collection of Egypt's cultural eras. Their magnificent trip ended with a tour of the River Nile, where they enjoyed the breeze on a Nile Cruise.

Year 7 started off their learning journey in Secondary with a creative trip to Fagnoon, where they were given the opportunity to experiment with different artistic activities. Pupils carved their names on wood, weaved



small woolen carpets and ate freshly baked bread on the day. It was a special time that allowed pupils and teachers to connect, beyond the walls of our campus.

A unique treasure hunt was held when Year 8 pupils toured El Moez Street, described by the UN



as having “the greatest concentration of medieval architectural treasures in the Islamic world”. Guides shared key historical information about each destination and tested pupils’ map and compass reading skills to solve given clues and complete their treasure hunt mission.

For a wrap up of their academic year and just before their mock exams and study leave, year 9 and 10 pupils went on an adventurous trip to Ain Sokhna where they spent an overnight full of activities and challenges. Obstacle course completion, minor hiking and team buildings activities were the highlight of the trip.

Year 7 and 8 went on a trip to Sharm el Sheikh where they explored marine life and learnt about Bedouin life in the desert. The first of their overnight trips where they learnt independence and time management was an unforgettable experience to them. ‘We had a fun tight schedule, there was always something to do, Basel Amr, Year 7 Yellow. Hamza Tohamy, Year 7 Red found that the desert experience was the most exciting part: ‘The experience I had in the desert was a well needed change in comparison to the city life.’

Pupils built new memories that will always be remembered as said by Mirana Shaheen, Year 8 Red ‘It was one of the most exciting trips we’ ve ever had. I got closer to many people and we all had an amazing time together.’ When asked about his impression about the trip, Omar Atta, Year 8 Yellow summed it all up saying: ‘We did activities that are not common at all in Cairo. Other than it being the funniest time I had in Sharm, it was the best trip I went on.’

Mrs. Riham Sadek - KS3 Deputy Headteacher



BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Our Year 4 pupils put on a performance, directed by Soha Grammon, Eman Hashim, and Maissa Mohamed and it truly was a show to remember. It was the first performance of its kind in the new Theatre, with nearly ninety pupils performing on stage in front of a full audience.

The children, dressed in wonderfully creative costumes, brought their characters to life with exceptional acting skills which left the audience giggling at times and on the edge of their seats at others.



Mums and dads mouthed to the words and clapped in time to favourites including 'Little Town', 'Belle', 'Be Our Guest' and 'Beauty and the Beast'. The solos were equally as impressive, with many pupils displaying pitch-perfect talent. The original choreography lifted the performance yet higher with a wonderful display of dancing skills, most notably in the scene where Lumiere and his friends prepare dinner for Belle.

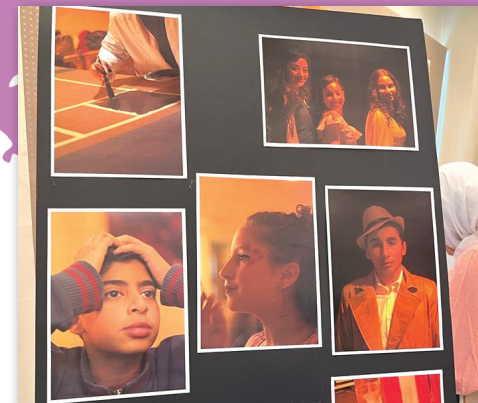
The finale brought all the actors back on stage for one last song. The applause from the proud parents clearly demonstrated their admiration and appreciation for all the efforts made and the pupils beamed with a truly well-deserved sense of accomplishment. Bravo!

Ms. Claire Williams - Primary Deputy Headteacher

GES CAIRO ART AND CREATIVE WRITING EXHIBITION: MODERNISM

Artwork celebrating the creative talents of so many pupils from every year group in school was displayed during the annual exhibition in the Theatre in May.

Ms. Ghada Dajani and Mrs. Mona El Masry proudly welcomed parents on campus to share in this special event once the opening ribbon had been ceremonially cut by special guest Mrs. Sawsan Dajani.



Our guests were enchanted by the explosion of colour around every corner and sensed a clear progression of skills in a variety of mediums including prints, collages, paintings, sculptures and photography. This year saw the addition of a new exhibit, showcasing the creative writing skills coupled with freehand or computer generated illustrations. These stories, written by Key Stage 2 pupils were published in books that could be scanned by visitors and read at their leisure. These stories were uploaded on Google Classroom to be used as a reading comprehension inside the classrooms. This gave great pride to our young authors who did not only explore their writing skills but also benefited from having an audience for their writing. It is impressive to think that our pupils accumulated so many incredible pieces within the course of one academic year, a true testament to their passion and inspiration, the encouragement of their families and of course the support and guidance given by their teachers.

Mrs. Fatma Shawky - EYFS - KS2 Head of Art Department

Mrs. Eman Yousry - KS3 Head of Art Department



THE IMPORTANCE OF QUALITY TIME

Making a meaningful connection with your children is important and has a positive impact on your children's development. This meaningful connection could be built through spending quality time together.

Quality time means a time spent with your children while giving them your undivided attention doing tasks that they like to do. This means that you are engaged in the activity you are doing, no distractions, no phones or gadgets, and no criticising or correcting just time to soak up your unconditional love.

On the bright side, spending quality time with your children does not have to be an over whelming task. It can be as simple as taking a few minutes each day to spend together. Research has shown that when it comes to spending time with your children, quality matters over quantity. It isn't about spending endless hours together, but rather about how you choose to spend this quality time that truly matters.

Quality time actually promotes children's self-esteem, strengthens family bonds, develops positive behaviours, and encourages communication. In addition, younger children's ability to regulate their emotions and cope with stress is developed in the context of their early interactions with their parents. Given the immense benefits mentioned of spending quality time with your children, establishing a daily, consistent routine where quality time is included is highly recommended!

Here are a few tips:

- 10 minutes of focused intentional one-to-one time with your child.
- Give this special time a name so it feels different and exciting from the rest of the day.
- Allow your child to lead the play activity they pick.
- Copy things your child does or things he/she says.
- Describe what your child is doing. This shows your child that you are interested and emphasises that you are giving them full attention.
- For younger kids, you can use a timer for an easier transition and remind them that they will have a more special time tomorrow.

Guess what! The benefits of quality time are not only relevant to younger children, but also to adolescents. Being a teenager is already a period of increased emotional intensity. The hormonal shifts that occur throughout puberty may have an effect on a teen's emotional state. They experience peer pressures in varying degrees. It's common for family interactions to take a negative turn due to factors like stressing out over finding time for extracurriculars, nagging about homework, conflict about social media and video games.

Increasing family bonding can also reduce emotional vulnerability, and be a buffer for negative family interactions. If parents don't make an effort to connect with their adolescents, many adolescents will drift apart from them. By showing teenagers love and appreciation and giving



them positive attention, parents can inspire them to act in ways they find more pleasing. By doing the following, you and your teenager can quickly become closer: going out for ice cream, making or baking something, going bowling, watching a favourite TV show or movie, going for a walk or run and talking about your greatest memories from childhood, or talking about the different types of video games they love playing.

It's important to meet your children where they are at all the stages of their lives, even if you don't understand all the memes they find funny. Keep in mind that your child can find the support and sense of security he or she needs in close relationships with caring adults.

Mrs. Gina Khalifa - School counsellor / Ms. Jailan Tawfik - School counsellor



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We were delighted to become members of 'British Schools in the Middle East' (BSME) this year. It was a landmark goal for us and opened the door to many exciting opportunities for our school, our pupils and our teachers.

The purpose of the inspection is school improvement. The accreditation involved a tour of the school and a close look at how the school provides a British curriculum in a safe and happy environment.

Being part of BSME allows the school leaders and teachers to network with the other 150 BSME schools and to gain access to cutting edge professional development.

Various BSME events are planned throughout the year, providing competitions for sports, creative and performing arts and academic subjects. We were so keen to get started that GES Cairo immediately started training teams in Primary and Secondary for regional matches and arranged some friendly competitions in preparation.

Becoming a member of BSME is the first step towards British Schools Overseas accreditation, an accreditation recognised by the British government that assesses the quality of provision within our school, and its compatibility with independent schools in England. Our sights are set firmly on this new goal and we have no doubt that together our school will continue to make great strides forward.

Ms. Claire Williams - Deputy Headteacher of Primary



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