

GES Messages

GULF ENGLISH SCHOOL CAIRO - MessaGES

ISSUE NO. 3 September 2024



Grow. Engage. Succeed.

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Ms. Ghada Dajani - Managing Director

We are embarking on a new academic year and 2024/2025 is promising to be an exciting year full of activities, celebrations, academic success and what I am sure will be a few quite pleasant surprises. This particular edition of the magazine is mostly in recognition of our achievements as a school during the previous academic year with just the smallest of peeks at the year to come.

Looking through these pages is like reliving every one of those events again. I can still hear our students' laughter and our staffs' encouraging words to them. I remember all the hours and days and months of planning it took to ensure that every detail is covered and nothing overlooked. It truly takes a 'Family of Learners' to accomplish so much and so well.

Each and every one of you, my GES Cairo family, fill my heart with pride and joy.

May you always soar like the Eagles you are. You have all very certainly exceeded all of my aspirations for you and have allowed for larger aspirations.

Yalla .. here we go.. starting a new academic year full of hopes and dreams.

Kul Saneh ow Entu Salmeen



Mrs. Mona El Masry - School Director



Dear Parents, Students and Staff,

Looking at the events that GES Cairo organised throughout the past half academic year and reflecting on the remarkable achievements of our students and all the school community members, I am genuinely filled with immense pride. Our third edition of the school magazine confirms the unwavering dedication, creativity and intellectual curiosity that permeates every corner of our school and acts as a live proof that we are a 'Family of Learners'.

As you flip through the pages, you will find the remarkable participation of our students captured in virtuosic performances and lively events that left our audience and visitors in sheer awe and with memorable joy. With the steadfast support of our staff, students were able to shine on full display with breathtaking works of visual arts. While prepping for our events, opportunities were offered to our students to help them contribute in an array of ways, which guaranteed an inclusive experience for all. And this is what our school life revolves around!

Despite the numerous events that the students were engaged in, they still demonstrated resolute dedication to their studies, yielding impressive scholastic achievements. The IGCSE outstanding results of Class 2024 are indeed a testament to the students' perseverance and the teachers' unfaltering support and hard work.

As we embark on a new academic year, I am confident that the formula of a nurturing school life and constant aspiration to academic excellence that our community strives for will help grant GES Cairo another exceptionally fruitful year.

Year 9 Shines in Powerful Performance of **MULAN**



The MES Cairo stage lights gleamed on a talented cast of year 9 students as they brought the timeless story of *Mulan* to life in a rousing musical performance. The audience was captivated by the dedication and skill of these young performers as they tackled this classic tale of bravery, honour, and self-discovery.

Mulan is a demanding musical, requiring a strong ensemble cast and impressive solo leads. The year 9 students rose to the challenge, delivering both powerful vocals and nuanced acting. The lead, Zena El Borady, portraying *Mulan's* fierce determination, undoubtedly stole the show with her captivating performance. The supporting cast, including *Mulan's* ancestors and the hilarious Mushu, Omar Atta, provided excellent comedic relief and heartwarming support.

Months of rehearsals were evident in the polished choreography co-designed by Jana Othman 9B and seamless transitions between scenes, thanks to the amazing backstage crew.

The set design, crafted by the amazing art team and the students themselves, transported the audience to ancient China, adding another layer of immersion to the performance.

The audience left the theatre, not only entertained, but also inspired by the courage and resilience of *Mulan*, a message that undoubtedly resonated with the young cast members themselves as highlighted by Mohamed Adel 9Y.

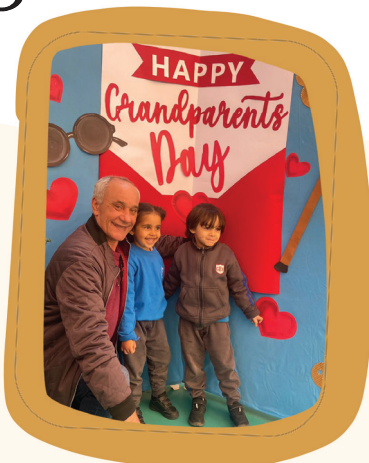


With such a successful performance, the future of the school's theatre programme looks bright. The talent and dedication displayed by the year 9 students promise many more exciting productions to come.

Ms. Wogood El Fowey - Drama Head of Department



Heartwarming GRANDPARENTS' DAY AT GES CAIRO



Grandparents' Day is a cherished annual tradition at GES Cairo. It's an event full of warmth and togetherness, a day that brings generations closer to carve memories and share glorious moments. Our Early Years Foundation Stage (FS1) students were excitedly eager to welcome their grandparents on campus.

On that day FS1 were eagerly anticipating the arrival of their grandparents. A special performance to aserende songs was presented to express love and appreciation towards grandparents' efforts and impact on their grand children's daily lives.

The yard was transformed into a vibrant place with decorations and activities. The event included engaging activities tailored to ensure both grandparents and grandchildren have a memorable time. Every moment was designed to foster connection and create lasting memories. The sealed letter each grandparent wrote to their grandchildren to be opened on their Graduation Day, expressing their pride and hope for a successful future for each and every one of them, was the highlight of the day.

Grandparents play a unique and invaluable role in a child's life, and Grandparents' Day at GES Cairo is a testament to the bond between generations, it's more than just a celebration, it's a demonstration to the importance of family and the connections that span generations. The memories created on this special day will be imprinted in the hearts of both young and old, reminding us all of the enduring power of family bonds.

Ms. Rana El Saadi - EYS Deputy Headteacher



Year 2 Performance

‘Tut Tut’

The stage lights dimmed, anticipation hung in the air, and the Year 2 students entered the stage revealing a world lost in time. Year 2’s performance of ‘Tut Tut’ was not just a play; it was a quick journey into the heart of ancient Egypt, where history and imagination danced hand in hand, leaving the audience spellbound.

As the story unfolded, we were introduced to a vibrant cast of characters, each bringing their own unique flair to the stage. The young actors breathed life into their roles, embodying the spirit of Ancient Egypt with remarkable conviction. From the noble Pharaohs to the humble peasants, every character was portrayed with depth and authenticity, drawing us deeper into the narrative with each passing scene.

Central to the plot was the tale of Tutankhamun, the boy king whose legacy continues to captivate the world to this day. Through his eyes, we witnessed the struggles and triumphs of a young ruler thrust into a world of intrigue and betrayal. But ‘Tut Tut’ was more than just a historical drama; it was a celebration of friendship, courage, and the enduring power of the human spirit. As the characters faced adversity and uncertainty, they discovered strength in unity, teaching us valuable lessons about resilience and perseverance along the way.

Of course, no production is complete without the tireless efforts of those working behind the scenes. The set designers, costume makers, and stage crew transformed the stage into a vivid tableau of Ancient Egypt.

It was clear that ‘Tut Tut’ had left an indelible mark on all audiences through its captivating storytelling and heartfelt performances. ‘Tut Tut’ will always remain a testament to the creativity, talent, and passion of the Year 2 students who brought it to life.

Ms. Dalia Okasha - Primary Headteacher





THE POWER OF ONE: GES CAIRO'S 12 HOUR RUN



This year, GES Cairo dedicated a significant portion of its community service hours and fundraising efforts to support the Ommar El Ard Foundation. Our initiatives, particularly the 12-Hour Run, were designed with this goal in mind, resulting in an impressive fundraising total of 250,000 EGP.

The event kicked off with the traditional opening ceremony, featuring Mrs. Sawsan Dajani, our special guest, leading the inaugural lap around the field wearing the sash. Accompanying her were student flag bearers and representatives, Ms. Ghada Dajani and Mrs. Mona El Masry.

Throughout the following 12 hours, the sash was passed non-stop among members of our school community, sporting their 12-Hour Run t-shirts, as they completed laps around the track. Parents joined their children in participating in various games and competitions offered during the event. Food outlets and market stalls were available, with student-led tables selling homemade items proving to be particularly popular.

After school hours, new activities were introduced, and a stage was set up to showcase musical talents from both students and staff. Towards the end of the event, Mostafa Hosny, the founder of Ommar El Ard, delivered a meaningful address to the audience, emphasizing values of: humility, community, and generosity.



In keeping with tradition, everyone on campus joined in for the final laps around the track before Ms. Ghada Dajani expressed gratitude to all participants and bid them farewell. This event stands as a shining example of our community's unity in supporting those in need, and it is a day that fills every member of the GES Cairo community with pride.

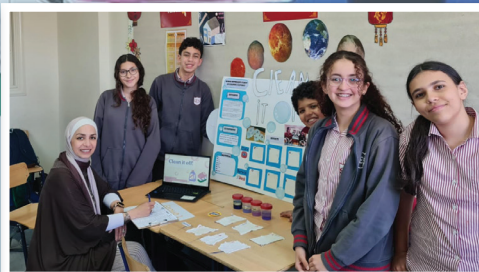
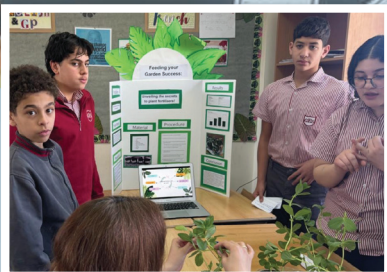
Ms. Claire Williams - Primary Deputy Headteacher



SCIENCE FAIR

2023 2024

Igniting Curiosity



Year Seven and Eight annual Science Fair took place at the end of Term Two. Students curiously explored the natural world through hands-on experiments and investigations. Over the course of several weeks, students worked in teams to choose a scientific topic, conduct research, design an experiment, and prepare a presentation to share with their peers, and teachers. The projects covered a wide range of scientific disciplines, from Biology and Physics to Chemistry.

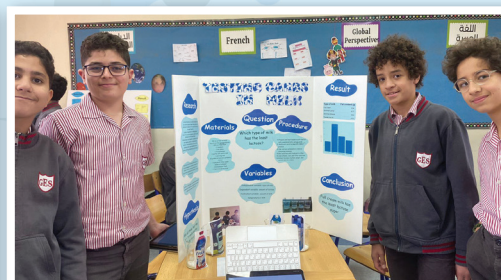
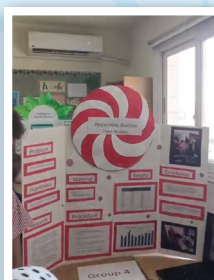
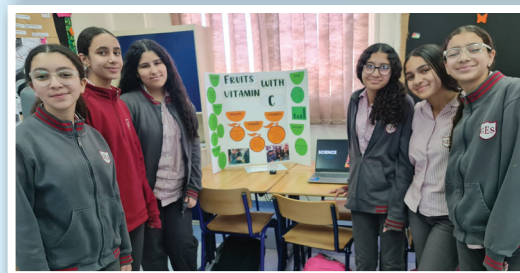
“The Science Fair is such a valuable experience for our Key Stage 3 students” said Mrs. Nahla Hassan, KS3 Chemistry teacher. “It allows them to go deep into areas of science that interest them and develop important skills like critical thinking, problem solving, and public speaking.”

On the Science Fair day, students eagerly set up their projects and impatiently awaited the arrival of the judges. Teachers volunteered their time to evaluate the students’ work and provide feedback.

Indeed, science events ignite a passion for science in the young students and encourage them exploring the natural world.

“I enjoyed working with my colleagues and it was really surprising to find out that vitamin C concentration is really high in kiwi”, said Karma Tarek [7 Red].

Ms. Noha El Saed - KS3 Head of Science



The Battle of Values



In a thought-provoking performance, the Year 5 students put on a play entitled “The Battle of Values”. The play explored the internal struggle we all face between our positive and negative thoughts, and how the values we choose to follow can significantly impact our decisions and actions.

The play followed a group of students as they navigated various dilemmas testing their values through situations involving friendship, exclusion, cheating, environmental responsibility, and kindness. As the students grappled with these challenges, two groups of students represented the battle in their minds.

On one side were the “positive thoughts” - the positive values of integrity, friendship, saving the environment, and compassion. These thoughts stepped forward as the students’ subconscious guides, offering advice rooted in doing the right thing.

On the opposing side were the “negative thoughts” - the selfish, hurtful impulses that tried to attract the students towards poor choices. Through their interactions with these two forces, students demonstrated the vital importance of following our moral compass, even when it’s difficult.

By embodying these conflicting thought processes, the Year 5 students brought to life the internal struggle we all face in upholding our values. Their performance highlighted how the decisions we make have real consequences, both for ourselves and those around us.

All the audience, whether teachers or parents left reflecting on the power of positive thinking and the ability of integrity, kindness and environmental awareness to triumph over selfishness and cruelty. This insightful play served as a reminder of the battle of values we all wage within our minds.

Ms. Nour Noaman - Year 5&6 GP Teacher





Class of 2024 Senior Walk



As the sun cast its golden glow over the campus on Sunday March 3rd, 2024, a sense of anticipation and nostalgia hung in the air. It was a day marked not only by ceremonial attire, but by emotions that transcended words. The Senior Walk of the Graduating Class of 2024 was a poignant moment, a culmination of years of hard work, friendship, and growth.

The day began with a symbolic gesture as students adorned themselves in their caps and gowns, a visual representation of their journey through academia. Smiles mingled with tears of happiness as they prepared to embark on the final leg of their school life. Amidst the sea of burgundy robes and mortarboards, there was a palpable sense of accomplishment and excitement for the future.





The Yard, a central gathering place on campus, became the stage for the next chapter in their lives. Here, against the backdrop of plants and manicured lawns, the Graduating Class assembled for a group photo. It was a snapshot frozen in time, capturing the essence of camaraderie and shared experiences that defined their years together. But it was the Senior Walk through the familiar halls of their alma mater that truly stirred the soul. Led by the rhythmic beats of the authentic “Hasaballah” band, students embarked on a journey down memory lane. Cheers erupted from every corner as they were hailed by peers, teachers, and staff alike. From the youngest faces in FS1 to the seasoned veterans of Year 10, the entire student body came together to celebrate this momentous occasion.

For parents, watching their children walk through those hallowed halls one final time was an emotional experience. Tears flowed freely as they witnessed the culmination of years of love, support, and sacrifice.

It was a testament to the parent child bond, a bond that had guided them through the ups and downs of academic life.

This year’s graduating cohort was unique in more ways than one. Comprised of two year groups that had journeyed together since the school’s inception, they had weathered storms and forged friendships that would last a lifetime. Despite the challenges they faced, they emerged stronger and more united, a testament to their resilience and determination.

As the day drew to a close, there was a bittersweet realisation that this chapter of their lives was coming to an end. But amidst the tears and farewells, there was an undeniable sense of hope and excitement for the future. For the Class of 2024, the Senior Walk was not just an end, but a new beginning, a stepping stone to the adventures that lay ahead.

As they scattered to the winds, embarking on their individual journeys, one thing remained certain: they would always carry with them the memories and lessons of their time at school. And while the halls may grow quiet and the classrooms empty, the spirit of the Graduating Class of 2024 would forever echo through the corridors, a reminder of the bonds that unite us all.

So here’s to the Class of 2024, may your futures be bright and your hearts forever filled with the memories of this remarkable day. And remember, no matter where life may take you, you will always have a home here, waiting to welcome you back with open arms.

Ms. Nermine Ali - Secondary Headteacher





Week Without Walls: The Future of Education with a Return to the Origins



“Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself”, argued John Dewey an American philosopher and educator in his book ‘My Pedagogical Creed’ published 1897. It is this philosophy that drove the Week Without Walls initiative. We wanted to create this unique experience that made our students fall in love with learning once more.

Starting April 21st till April 24th 2024, our entire approach to schooling changed. Year 5 to Year 8 students experienced what school would look like without the traditional walls and boundaries. Each Key Stage followed a theme that was embedded in everything that they did throughout that week, from the in-school activities, to the art challenges and even the day trips. Years 5 & 6 explored World History while Years 7 & 8 learned more about how to lead a more sustainable life.

Key Stage 2 students were split into two teams, our explorers participated in the overnight trips to Alexandria and Ras Al-Hikma Wellspring Camp, while our historians joined the programme that combined on-campus activities with day trips. Our explorers investigated the past through their trip to Alexandria where they visited key historical sites, and they learned more about modern day



countries through the well-planned activities prepared collaboratively between GES Cairo and Wellspring. In addition to broadening their knowledge of World History, our students got to develop their life skills through the intensive camp programme offered by Wellspring.

Our KS2 historians similarly investigated the past by visiting key historical sites in Alexandria as well as the King Tut exhibition at the Grand Egyptian Museum and the Museum of Civilisations. Through a fun interactive simulation, students acted as kings of different lands, and this is how they explored life in Medieval Europe. Lastly, through a set of interactive activities the students got to learn more about modern day countries and they developed their research and collaboration skills through their exploration of a pre-assigned country. Their days were structured differently and were filled with games and art challenges that allowed them to build new friendships and enjoy school and learning in a different setting.

Likewise, Key Stage 3 students were split into two groups where our more adventurous students navigated the beautiful terrain of Fayoum city through a 4 day overnight trip. They visited The Whale Valley, which is a natural reserved zone. They roamed Tunis Village where they interacted with community members and learned more about how those citizens are leading a more sustainable life. Moreover, they partook in collaborative games that encouraged them to work together as teams and build this sense of community which is essential to bring about change. Whether through their sand boarding adventures or showcasing their artistic styles through pottery, students built everlasting memories.

The academic thrill-seekers of KS3 learned more about sustainability through debates about wants vs needs, an introduction to the production cycle, art challenges about upcycling and they researched how to discard various products in a more sustainable way. The students visited the Garbage City where they learned more about the recycling process and saw how people are taking advantage of every scrap of trash and finding ways to reuse or recycle it. During their one day trip to Fayoum, they met the students from our adventure group, where they spent time together honing their collaborative skills in Wadi Al Rayan. The week ended with a visit from a guest speaker, Ms. Mariam Mourad, the founder of Diar Mariam who shared her personal story about how she started an organic farm and what it's like to live on a farm. The big finale was a simulation of what a market looks like; the students had to use their limited resources efficiently, they had to build products and trade them in the market competing with other businesses and interacting with the bank to build their wealth. It is through this experience in particular that students understood that learning can be fun and that it can happen beyond the confines of a traditional classroom, a book or even the Internet.

This was the first year to ever offer this experience, but it certainly will not be the last. This initiative has proven that education is present in everything that we do and in order to prepare our students for jobs that haven't been created yet, we need to teach them the love of learning. This starts by thinking about learning differently and taking the time to reflect on everyday experiences and how they change how we think. Education is life!

Ms. Ghaidaa H. Naguib - KS3 Teaching and Learning Coordinator & Global Perspectives Head of Department



A Shared Table, A Shared Spirit:

Class of 2024

Senior Ramadan Iftar

On Saturday March 23rd, 2024, the Senior Class of 2024 gathered at Qasr El Kababgi for a memorable Ramadan Iftar. It was a time of celebration, camaraderie, and reflection as students and teachers alike shared a meal.

The ambiance of Qasr El Kababgi lent an air of authenticity and charm to the occasion. With its oriental decor and delectable spread of traditional dishes, the venue provided the perfect backdrop for an event filled with laughter and conversation. From the aroma of freshly made “Molokheya” to the tantalising flavours of Middle Eastern cuisine, every detail added to the magic of the day.

As the students and teachers mingled, there was a palpable sense of joy and nostalgia in the air. Memories of shared experiences and milestones flooded the conversations, reminding everyone of the journey they had undertaken together over the past years. From late-night study sessions to unforgettable moments in the classroom, each memory was cherished and celebrated.

What made the event truly special was the bond that existed between the students and their teachers. Despite the looming prospect of graduation, there was a sense of unity and solidarity among the cohort. Teachers reminisced about the growth they had witnessed in their students, while students expressed their gratitude for the guidance and support they had received along the way.

Amidst the laughter and shared stories, there was a promise made by the graduating class – a promise to always come back to their Alma Mater, to visit the halls where they had laughed, learned, and grown together. It was a testament to the lasting impact of their time at school and the deep connections forged within its walls.

As the day drew to a close, there was a sense of bittersweetness in the air. While the students looked ahead to the next chapter of their lives, there was a recognition that they would always carry a piece of their school with them wherever they went. For in the heart of every graduate, there would forever be a place for the school that had shaped them into the individuals they had become.

In the end, the Ramadan Iftar for the Senior Class of 2024 was more than just a meal – it was a celebration of friendship, growth, and the enduring spirit of community. As the students bid farewell to their teachers, they did so with gratitude in their hearts and a promise on their lips – to always remember, and to always return.

Ms. Nermine Ali - Secondary Headteacher



Arguments And Eloquence Displayed in Year 8 Debate



The Year 8 Debate League took place in Term Two culminating in a thrilling final match on May 1st, 2024.

The Year 8 Debate League wasn't just about winning arguments; it was about igniting intellectual curiosity and personal development. Participants honed their skills in confidence, public speaking, critical thinking, research, communication, collaboration, and teamwork.

The League mirrored Year 8 curriculum's focus on developing persuasive speeches, exploring viewpoints, expressing complex ideas, and adapting speech for different audiences.

The journey began with forming teams within each class. Students were encouraged to find classmates who shared their enthusiasm for debate and possessed complementary skill sets, and this is where the debates truly came alive! Each week, teams were paired randomly with opponents within their class. A coin toss determined if the team argued for or against a pre-assigned debate topic. Each team member showcased their skills, following a structured format with allocated speaking times.

After Round 1 concluded, the winning team from each class emerged victorious. These champions then went head-to-head in a knockout format within their respective classes to determine the overall class winner.

The class champions faced off in a series of semi-final matches before converging for the grand finale on May 1st, 2024. The audience attended one of the finest debates between the two winning teams across the three classes: Year 8 Red, represented by Malek Mohamed, Khaled Begad, Adham Ossama and Ziad Ghareeb, and 8 Yellow, which was represented by Hamza Tohamy, Omar Sadek, Bassel El Shimy and Aly El Sharkawy.

Moderated by Mrs. Fatma El Sayed, the final battle of wits and eloquence must have been an unforgettable spectacle noting that it was witnessed by Mrs. Mona El Masry, and a bunch of very rich panel of judges including SLT and teachers. They have shared with all Year 8 students this very significant moment in their learning journey.

Not to mention, KS3 English Department has cherished another remarkable moment when Debate Stars were acknowledged because these star students not only shone working on their research and debate skills, but they also showed complete devotion throughout the league even though they haven't been merited with victory.

The Debate League served as a fantastic platform for Year 8 students to step outside their comfort zones, challenge their thinking, and develop valuable life skills. By participating in the League, students not only sharpened their communication skills and learned to articulate complex ideas, but also gained valuable experience in critical thinking, research, and teamwork.

Ms. Fatma El Sayed - Year 8 Teacher of English

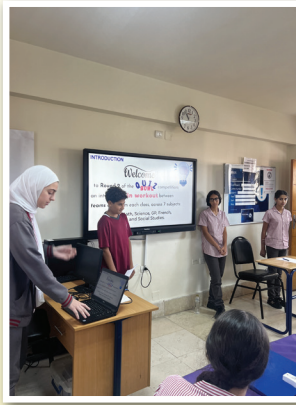




Academic Showdown: Year 7 and 8 Students Sparkle in Quiz Bowl Competition

In a dazzling exhibition of scholarly brilliance, Year 7 and 8 students participated in a captivating Quiz Bowl competition during Term 3. Organised by the Honour Society, this event was designed to foster an engaging and stimulating environment to assist students in their exam preparations.

The preparation for the event was extensive and thorough. The process was initiated by advertising the event, successfully generating excitement and enthusiasm among the students. Following this, sign-up forms were posted on Google Classrooms to organise teams of seven from each class. The creation of the question bank was a collaborative effort between teachers and students, ensuring a comprehensive set of questions. This collaborative process, not only enriched the question bank, but also enhanced students' understanding by involving them in the generation of questions, which is a crucial aspect of effective studying.



The competition featured teams from each class, who competed over two rigorous rounds, demonstrating their knowledge across seven subjects: Maths, Science, English, Global Perspectives, French, Arabic, and Social Studies. Each round witnessed a rise in difficulty, offering a comprehensive examination of the participants' knowledge and readiness.

The time allotted for each question varied according to its difficulty, ranging from 30 to 60 seconds, adding an element of pressure and excitement to the competition. The event was meticulously moderated and managed by four students from Year 8 who were responsible for stating the rules, explaining the structure, and keeping track of time and score to ensure the competition ran smoothly. Teams used buzzers to signal their readiness to answer.

The atmosphere was electric as students from all classes, along with their teachers, gathered to cheer for their teams. The sense of excitement, thrill and competitive energy was palpable, with every correct answer met with enthusiastic applause and cheers.

After a series of intense and closely contested rounds, the competition concluded with Year 7 Yellow and Year 8 Blue emerging as the victorious classes. Their triumph was a testament to their hard work, teamwork, and dedication to their studies.

This Quiz Bowl competition, not only provided a dynamic and competitive avenue for students to review their subjects, but also fostered a sense of community and school pride. The Honour Society's initiative successfully transformed exam revision into an exciting and memorable event, leaving students eagerly anticipating future editions.

Ms. Marina Medhat - Year Eight Science Teacher & Junior Honour Society Advisor



Excellence on Display



The Excellence Awards Ceremony is now a tradition and awaited for celebration by all members of the school. It will always remain a wondrous and emotional occasion for parents and teachers as they witness their children flourish and grow. It empowers the awardees and their peers alike to strive and reach for the stars which they certainly did!

On April 18th and May 30th, GES Cairo's Theatre hosted two separate occasions to celebrate the achievement of Year 9 and KS4 as well as Year 5-8 students. The Excellence Ceremony recognises the growth and success of students across a wide range of fields. It is a testament to their well rounded characters and hard work throughout the year. In addition to academics, students are recognised for their individual skills and talents which make each one of them unique.

A Celebration of Diverse Excellence

Students who consistently excelled in their academics received the "Academic Excellence Award", while those who showed exemplary work habits and a relentless pursuit of knowledge were awarded the "Dedicated Learner Award". We also celebrated student writers and the most devoted readers with the "Young Author" and "Book Dragon" awards.



Students who exemplified true sportsmanship, embodying the values of teamwork and fair play on the field and beyond were also recognised. Talented and creative young artists, musicians and performers had their share in acknowledgement.

The “Citizenship” award honoured those who demonstrated exceptional character and made positive contributions to the school community. While those who fostered positive change, the “Change Maker” award was their reward.

Beyond The Classroom

A number of awards were dedicated for those who displayed practical embodiment of the 21st century skills, a recipe of success outside the classroom boundaries. The “Critical Thinker” award recognised those who approach challenges with a thoughtful and analytical mind. We emphasized the value of collaboration and tolerance through the “Team Player” award. While the “Confident Presenter” award shed light on students who can captivate an audience with their clear communication. Finally, the “Researcher” award acknowledged the dedication of students who show curiosity and delve deep into research in their pursuit of knowledge.

Congratulations to all the award recipients!

Ms. Marwa ElHefnawy - Academic Coordinator



Spring Splash, Summer Bash



Have you attended any of last year's celebrations, our Spring Splash or Summer Bash organised by the Student Council? If not, then you have missed out on a great deal of festivities! Even though both celebrations were held on separate days; they followed the same drill: enjoying poolside fun, playing stimulating sports and feasting on tasty treats.

Pool time, with the array of floaties and noodles, alongside the balls and goals, allowed everyone, students and teachers alike, to have a whale of time following no specific routine, unlike regular swimming sessions. Splashes and giggles echoed around the pool, making the background music sound so faint.

When the students got the chance to roam around the yard to choose from a variety of games, they were unleashed, each chasing after their favourite activity. The more artistic students enjoyed some quiet quality time with their friends and teachers in the colouring corner where they produced vibrant posters.

No event is complete without food that is fulfilling to the heart and soul. Not only did students dig deep into their sandwiches, but they also devoured ice-cream popsicle sticks that were the perfect solution to counter the scorching heat.





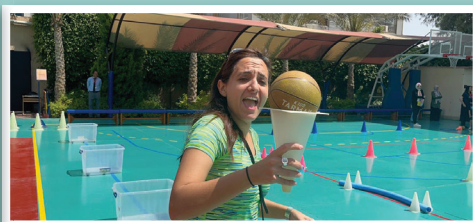
Raffle prizes were the cherry on top. Anticipation and excitement filled the air around the table full of colourfully-wrapped prizes as the ticket numbers of the winners were being called out. Cheers and claps followed, praising the lucky winners while they eagerly unwrapped the gifts.

The Summer Spring Bash Splash - all-time favourite tongue-twister - was definitely a wonderful wrap up to the academic year. If you were there, you would attest to that. If not, don't forget to book your ticket for this year's events!

Ms. Mai Monsef - KS3 Head of English Department

Ms. Ghada Khafaga - KS3 Teaching and Learning Co-ordinator Assistant





Ready, Set, Smile...EYFS Celebrates Sportsmanship



EYFS Sports Day takes place at the end of the school year, where EYFS children get the opportunity to showcase the skills they have learned throughout the year. This event, not only brings joy and excitement, but also plays a crucial role in promoting skill development among young children. Regular participation in sporting activities from a young age can instill a habit of physical

fitness and increase the likelihood of leading an active lifestyle as they grow older.

At GES Cairo Sports Day is not just about having fun and playing games; it is an essential part of a child's overall development. By participating in various activities and stations, children have the chance to demonstrate the skills they have acquired throughout the school year. This not only boosts their confidence, but also encourages them to continue practicing and improving their abilities.

Running, jumping, throwing, and balancing are just a few examples of the skills children can enhance during Sports Day. Regular physical activity at a young age sets the foundation for a healthy and active lifestyle in the future.

Nevertheless this event is an excellent opportunity for children to refine their motor skills. Relay races, obstacle courses, and ball games require coordination, balance, and agility. Through enjoying these activities, children improve their hand-eye coordination, spatial awareness, and overall motor skills.

Teamwork and cooperation are also enhanced during this event among children. Many of the activities selected involve working together in teams, promoting communication, collaboration, and the ability to work towards a common goal. Sports Day also teaches children the importance of sportsmanship and fair play. They learn to respect their opponents, follow rules, and accept both victory and defeat graciously. These values are crucial for developing good character and integrity.

The active participation of parents alongside their children is one of the highlights of EYFS Sports Day. Parents join in with excitement, cheering their little ones and celebrating their achievements. This creates a supportive and encouraging atmosphere, where children feel motivated to do their best.

Sports Day is a memorable and valuable experience for every child involved bringing growth to our little athletes!

Ms. Yasmine Mounir - EYFS Curriculum Coordinator





Young Scientists Shine



On Tuesday, May 14th, our students from Year 1 to Year 6 eagerly participated in the Primary Science Fair showcasing their exceptional problem-solving skills, scientific inquiry, and critical thinking. The fair was a testament to the students' dedication to applying their knowledge, exploring their curiosities, and presenting their scientific investigations to eager judges.

Through vibrant displays and creative projects, they explored different ecosystems, showcasing their understanding of various habitats and the creatures that inhabit them.

Year 2 students conducted captivating experiments to apply their understanding of air and gases.



The older students, from Years 3 through 6, followed the scientific method to investigate diverse topics. Each group embarked on a journey of discovery, posing questions they were curious about, designing experiments, and presenting their findings. Over the course of 6 weeks, the students chose a scientific topic, conducted research, carefully planned and executed their experiments, collected data, recorded their observations and drew conclusions. The students worked together to design visually appealing display charts, honing their presentation skills, creativity and hard work.



The Primary Science Fair has had a profound impact on our students, fostering a deep appreciation for scientific inquiry and problem-solving. This experience has also allowed them to integrate their knowledge of Science, Mathematics, and Language Arts, preparing them for future success in STEAM-related fields and beyond.



The Science Fair has not only enriched our students' academic growth but has also contributed to their social and emotional development. Through teamwork, collaboration, effective communication, fostering confidence and self-expression, our students have honed essential life skills that will serve them well in their educational and personal journeys. "Collaborating with my friends on our experiment was challenging but rewarding. I feel proud of what we achieved together." - Laila, Year 5 Blue "The Science Fair wasn't just about Science; it was about learning how to work together, communicate effectively, and present our ideas confidently. It was amazing to see everyone's projects and learn about different scientific concepts." Mohamed Gheit, Year 6 Yellow "I loved designing our display chart to showcase our experiment. It was like being a real scientist!" Kinda Ahmed, 6 Blue

Ms Nada Osama - Year 5 and 6 Maths and Science Teacher



Year 4 Assembly Performance- MAUI TAMES THE SUN



On a bright and fortunately not scorching Tuesday, June 4th, the Year 4 students transported us all to the heart of Polynesia with their fantastic performance of "Maui Tames the Sun."

Based on the famous Maori legend, the play told the story of Maui, a mischievous demigod who decided to slow down the sun's fiery chariot. It was the culmination of weeks of hard work and preparation by the young actors and actresses.

Under the direction of our diligent Drama and Music teachers and the amazing props created by our wonderful Art department, students brought the legendary tale to life with infectious energy and enthusiasm. From the opening scene, where Maui and his brothers set out on their mission, to the climactic moment when Maui snares the sun with his enchanted rope, the performance had the audience captivated.

"The kids really embodied their characters and did an amazing job telling the story", said one of the students' parents. " They should be incredibly proud of themselves."

Year 4 performance of "Maui Tames the Sun" was a resounding success. It showcased the students' talent, hard work, and their ability to collaborate on a large-scale project. A big round of applause to everyone involved – you brought sunshine and a little mythology to Gulf English School Cairo theatre!

Ms. Yara Abdelgabar - Year 4 Team Leader



Foundation Stage 1 Kids Gym

Our FS1 students leaped, laughed, and learned during their fun-filled day. They enjoyed gymnastics, creative activities, cooking, and slime-making. It was a day packed with fitness, friendship, and fantastic memories!

Engaging children in a series of structured activities, promoted their physical fitness, enhanced their motor skills, encouraged teamwork, and provided a fun, hands-on learning experience that blends physical activity with creative and sensory play.

The event was intended to reinforce all the learning of students through enhancing motor skills, improving balance and coordination through participating in the gymnastics activities. Encouraging teamwork and cooperation in group activities as well as building friendships were two main skills promoted during the event. In order to accomplish all their tasks, children had to practice listening to and following instructions in addition to developing problem-solving skills through creative play.

During that assortment of balanced physical exercises and learning by doing, opportunities, children enjoyed the day to the maximum and this was evident in their opinion about the event saying:

"I loved jumping in the trampoline pit making colorful slime! It was the best day ever! Youssef Marwan, FS1 Red Student:" Asser Ayman, FS1 Student Yellow said about the day: "Making waffles was so much fun. I even made one for my mom!" Laila Mohamed, FS1 Student Blue highlighted her favourite activities saying: "My favorite activities were cooking and gymnastics."

Ms. Sarah Shaheen - Foundation Stage 1 Team Leader



ALI BABA AND THE BONGO BANDITS



On the stage of MES Cairo Theatre, our Year 6 performers amazed the audience with their rendition of Ali Baba and the Bongo Bandits, whisking them away to a realm of excitement, melody, and amusement. While the story itself is well-known, our adaptation infused it with unexpected plot twists and lively music.

The setting was bustling with lively market scenes in the ancient city of Old Baghdad, where we met a gang of ruthless thieves led by the spirited Ismail Yehia 6Y, portraying Balthazar Bongo. As the tale unfolded, we witnessed the disappearance of Sultan Pepper's beloved princess, impeccably portrayed by Youlan Khaled 6B, along with the Royal Ruby. It became evident that the conniving Vizier, played by Younis Mohamed 6R, and his mischievous sidekick Booboo couldn't be relied upon to recover them. The fate of the day rested on the shoulders of Ali Baba, played by Yehia Shehab, and the assistance of a lively Genie of the Ketchup, portrayed by Asya Mohamed 6R.





At GES Cairo, we view theatrical productions as more than just performances; they are opportunities for our young actors, singers, and dancers to explore beyond their comfort zones and express themselves collaboratively on stage. This process fosters essential skills in teamwork and communication while encouraging them to tap into their own creative potential. The dedication and effort put forth by our Year 6 students underscored their appreciation for this experience, one that we are confident they will fondly remember for years to come.

Ms. Claire Williams - Primary Deputy Headteacher





A HARMONIOUS BLEND OF CREATIVITY AND CULTURE

This year, GES Cairo's highly anticipated annual Art Exhibition has taken visitors on a journey to the iconic Louvre Museum in Paris. From the moment you approach the entrance, you'll be greeted by the grandeur of old Louvre architecture, with towering columns lining the way.

Just 20 steps past the entrance, you'll be welcomed by a sight straight out of the Louvre - a massive Egyptian obelisk, recreating one of the museum's most famous landmarks. This leads you down "Champs-Élysées", our very own version of the famous Parisian street, lined with replicas of the Louvre's most celebrated works.

As you stroll down this gallery, you'll be amazed by the students' artwork on display - all entries from our school's participation in various competitions. The creativity and skill on show is a true testament to the artistic talents of our students.

After immersing yourself in the indoor galleries, head outside to our Louvre-inspired courtyard, complete with al fresco seating perfect for enjoying a French-style coffee and brunch. Soak up the Parisian ambiance while listening to live French musical performances and watching captivating pantomime sketches.

Before you leave, be sure to visit two of the Louvre's iconic landmarks recreated at the entrance to our school theatre - the famous glass Louvre Pyramid and the Theatre Gate created as an eiffel tower. And no Louvre experience would be complete without a photo with the ever-famous Mona Lisa herself, who will follow you with her gaze.





French artist representations were featured in this Louvre-inspired Art exhibition through the work of students portraying: Monet-Inspired Landscapes, Matisse-Inspired Portraiture, Automata and Cardboard Sculptures and Chanel-Inspired Fashion.

In the technology-focused art section, visitors will be delighted by the sculptures created by our students. Drawing inspiration from the Louvre's vast collection of innovative artworks, these young creators have crafted mesmerising automata - mechanical sculptures that move with the turn of a crank or the push of a lever.

Alongside these automata, guests will discover intricately designed cardboard animal sculptures. With an eye for detail and an understanding of form, our students have transformed this humble material into majestic birds, graceful mammals, and other creatures that seem to spring to life.

In the fashion corner, the influence of legendary French designer Coco Chanel is evident in the stylish student creations on display. Combining classic Chanel silhouettes with modern flair, these garments and accessories showcase the students' talent for blending timeless elegance with contemporary style.

The exhibition was a celebration of not just the works of renowned French artists, but also a testament to the creativity of our students from FS1 to Year 6. It featured diverse artwork, including



paintings, sculptures, and mixed media pieces. Each grade level contributed their unique interpretations of the French theme, immersing themselves in France’s vibrant culture and artistic heritage. They studied and drew inspiration from famous French artists, creating their masterpieces in distinct styles. From impressionist landscapes to vibrant abstracts, their artwork reflected their deep understanding and appreciation of the French art movement.

Our FS1 and FS2 students have explored the world of colours and shapes by experimenting with flower bouquets inspired by the works of Berthe Morisot and Henri Matisse’s collage. Year 1 students have displayed lovely sculptures of croissants and baguettes, while Year 2 students have experimented with buildings and created beautiful landscapes inspired by Paul Klee’s water lilies. Year 3 and Year 4 students have delved into abstract art, using bold colours and geometric shapes to express their inspiration by famous buildings like the Eiffel Tower and cityscapes inspired by Centre Pompidou. Finally, Year 6 students have honed their sculpting skills and created stunning wire sculptures inspired by the Eiffel Tower, Paul Klee’s sun, and castle, incorporating mixed media and digital art.

Through these diverse mediums and artistic approaches, our students have masterfully captured the spirit of the Louvre and its most celebrated artists. All visitors were amazed by the range of artwork on display, from colourful paintings to intricate sculptures, and were inspired to explore their own creativity. This art exhibition is a true feast for the senses, transporting visitors to the heart of Parisian creativity and culture

Ms. Eman Yousry - KS3 Art Head of Department
Ms. Fatma Sahwky - Art Primary Head of Department





UNE FENÊTRE SUR LE LOUVRE



C'est avec une immense fierté que je vous présente l'Exposition d'Art du Louvre. Cet événement exceptionnel a offert une expérience unique en intégrant les départements d'Art et de Français. Notre but était de vous emmener en voyage à travers la ville de Paris, la ville de l'art et de la culture, à travers des œuvres d'art inspirées des plus célèbres monuments tels que le Musée du Louvre, la Tour Eiffel, la Place de la Concorde et la Joconde. Les parents et les visiteurs ont été époustoufflés par la créativité de nos élèves, leur prononciation et leur assurance. Les élèves de la 5e à la 8e année se sont illustrés avec brio dans le rôle de guides touristiques avec une maîtrise remarquable des langues offrant l'explication en 3 langues: français, anglais et arabe. De plus, l'un des moments les plus marquants a été le spectacle de pantomime et les chanteurs de rue français qui ont captivé l'audience. Cet événement a été un véritable succès, témoignant de l'excellence de nos étudiants et de leur passion pour l'art et la culture française. Vive l'art et vive la langue française!

Ms. Dina Nabil - French Head of Department



EYFS End of Year Production:

THE WIZARD OF OZ



The end of the school year is always an exciting time, filled with celebrations and accomplishments. At GES Cairo, the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) students showcased their talents with enthusiasm and dedication in a spectacular production of “The Wizard of Oz” at the school theatre. The young performers amazed the audience with their confidence and ability to thrive on stage.

The EYFS students have been working diligently throughout the year, honing their skills and learning important lessons. The end of year production provided them with an opportunity to demonstrate everything they have learned and practised: singing, dancing, acting and teamwork skills. They learned the value of cooperation and the power of unity, skills that will serve them well in their future endeavors.

“The Wizard of Oz” is a timeless tale that holds valuable lessons for both children and adults. The story follows Dorothy and her friends as they embark on a journey to find the Wizard of Oz, who they believe can help them achieve their desires. Along the way, they encounter various challenges and learn important life lessons.

One of the key morals of “The Wizard of Oz” is that we all possess the qualities and strength within ourselves to overcome challenges and achieve our goals. The characters in the story exemplify important life long messages highlighting the importance of courage, empathy, intelligence and home and family.

These lessons encourage children to believe in themselves, embrace their unique qualities, and face challenges with determination and resilience. The production of “The Wizard of Oz” provided a platform for the young performers to explore these themes and convey them to the audience.

The children’s hard work and dedication were evident in their performances. They practised tirelessly, rehearsing their lines, perfecting their dance moves, and fine-tuning their singing.

Their commitment to the production was truly commendable, and it paid off in their confident and captivating performances.

As the final curtain fell on the EYFS production of “The Wizard of Oz”, the audiences were left inspired by the children’s performances and the timeless lessons conveyed by the story.



The EYFS end of year production was a resounding success. It was a celebration of their growth and achievements throughout the year, leaving a lasting impression on all who had the privilege of witnessing their performance. Congratulations to the young performers and the dedicated teachers who helped bring this magical production to life.

Ms. Yasmine Mounir - EYFS Curriculum Coordinator





Turning the Tassel: Graduation of Class of 2024

As the sun set on the evening of Thursday June 13th, 2024, a magical ambiance enveloped the MES Cairo school grounds, setting the stage for a night that will be cherished by the GES Cairo Class of 2024 for years to come. The graduation ceremony, an event meticulously orchestrated to honour the culmination of years of hard work and dedication, was an outstanding success. With fairy lights twinkling overhead and a meticulously crafted stage setup, the evening sparkled with a sense of celebration. Parents, staff, and students alike were beaming with pride, their faces illuminated by the soft glow of the lights and the warmth of shared memories.

The night was made even more special by the heartfelt speeches delivered by the recipients of the GES Cairo Scholarship Award for the academic years 2022/2023 and 2023/2024; Ms. Mariam Rageh and Ms. Retaj Ashoub respectively. These outstanding students took the stage to express their gratitude for the support they had received throughout their school journey. Their reflections on their years at school were poignant, highlighting the dedication of teachers and the encouragement of family and friends. Their hopes for the future were as bright as the lights that adorned the venue, promising that the values and lessons learned would guide them as they embarked on new adventures.

The inspiring words of our distinguished guest speaker, Dr. Moustafa El Fikki; a renowned figure in education and innovation, captivated the audience with his eloquence. His address resonated deeply with the graduates, as he spoke about the power of perseverance, the importance of embracing challenges, and the role of education in shaping a better future. His words provided not just inspiration but a call to action for the Class of 2024 to continue striving for excellence and making a positive impact in the world.



Adding to the enchantment of the evening was the performance by the Secondary School Choir and Staff Choir. Their musical recital was not only a showcase of their talent but also a testament to the strong sense of community within the school. The highlight of their performance was a moving rendition of a song about the Arab dream of unity “الحلم العربي” — a poignant reminder of the collective aspiration for a peaceful and harmonious world. The song resonated deeply with everyone present, reinforcing the shared values and dreams that bind us together.

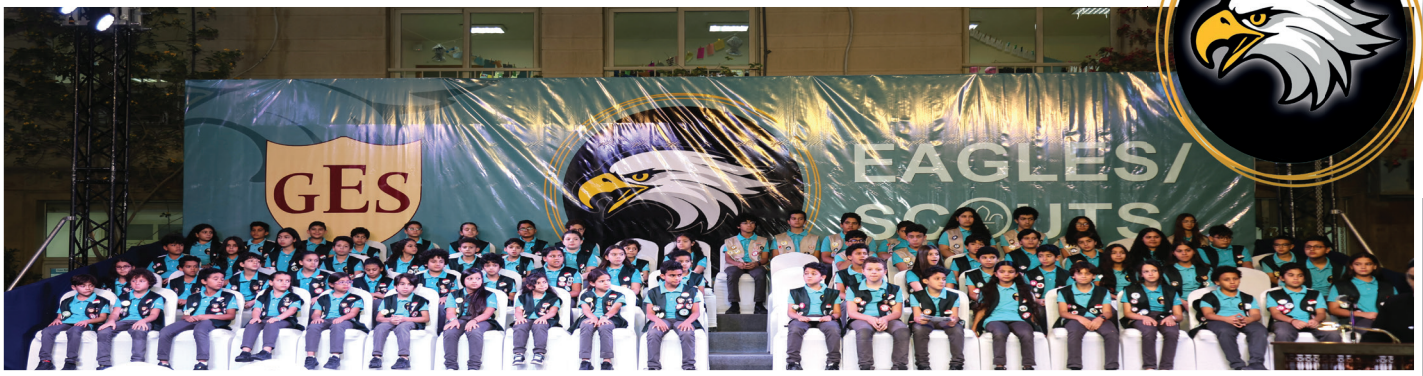
The presence of Mrs Sawsan Dajani, Ms Ghada Dajani and Mr. Mohamed El Sayegh lent a sense of prestige and significance to the event. The Dajani Family’s known strong leadership and vision have guided the school’s journey and have been instrumental in its success. Mr. Mohamed El Sayegh’s pride in the graduating class was evident throughout the evening, adding to the sense of achievement and celebration that filled the air.

Orchestrating the entire event with grace and eloquence was Mrs. Mona El Masry. Her words, both heartfelt and inspiring, set the tone for the evening and ensured that the night was memorable for all. Mrs. Mona’s commitment to her students was evident in every aspect of the ceremony. Her presence, alongside her students, underscored the deep bond between the school’s leadership and the graduating class, making the evening all the more meaningful.

As the graduates walked across the stage, receiving their diplomas with a sense of accomplishment and pride, it was clear that they were embarking on a new chapter in their lives. With the final notes of the Choir’s performance fading and the last of the fairy lights dimming, it was clear that the graduation ceremony of the Class of 2024 was a resounding success. It was a night filled with pride, joy, and reflection—a fitting tribute to a group of students who have not only excelled academically but have also contributed to a vibrant and supportive school community. The memories created that night will be cherished by all, a testament to the dedication and spirit that define our school. Congratulations to the Class of 2024—your journey has just begun, and we can’t wait to see where it leads.

Ms Nermine Ali - Secondary Headteacher

Celebrating Skills and Community



GES Cairo takes pride in running the Eagles and Eagles Scouts programme for students to empower them to develop into well-rounded, capable, and community-oriented young leaders. Every year, since its start, the programme is wrapped up by a celebration where students are acknowledged as well as their advisors. This year, the celebration was a bit different from previous years as students took pride in the skills they have honed throughout the year by practically demonstrating them to Parents, teachers and fellow students.

During the ceremony, the Eagles and Eagles Scouts were given the stage's spotlight to simulate what they have learned. Audiences were treated to impressive displays of wilderness, survival techniques, first aid skills, knot tying, and fire ignition. The Eagles and Eagles Scouts worked together seamlessly to set up a tent, and cook a delicious meal over an open flame - all while explaining the process to the enthralled audience.

Beyond the practical demonstrations, the Eagles and Eagles Scouts also shared their experiences of giving back to the community. They discussed their involvement in school and local service projects, such as Pink Day, 12 Hour Run, Workers Iftar and assisting in 'Ommar El Ard' food cooking, packing and distribution. As much as these activities benefit the community, they also instill a sense of duty and empathy in the young Eagles and Eagles Scouts.

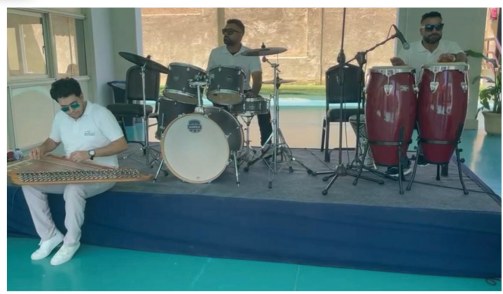
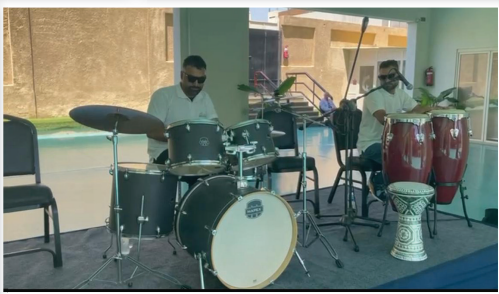
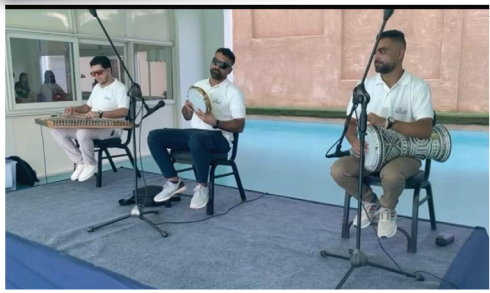
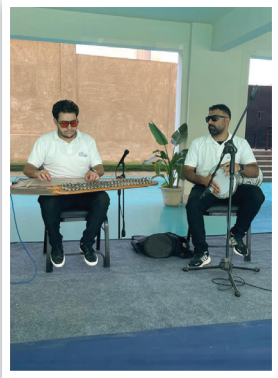
"The Eagles and Eagles Scouts programme has always been a wonderful opportunity to work with a team across the school. Regardless of the age group, we all are one group," said Alia Ahmed, Year 7 Red. "This year's ceremony was the best way to show our Parents how we can stay safe, not by telling, but through demonstrating all procedures on stage. It has been an amazing experience."

The Eagles and Eagles Scouts celebration was a testament to the hard work, discipline, and leadership of our students. It was a day filled with pride, excitement, and a sense of wonder at the impressive capabilities of these young people. GES Cairo community is grateful to have such a distinguished programme that cultivates members who are ready to: Grow. Engage. Succeed.

Ms. Riham Sadek - KS3 Deputy Headteacher



We Are Preparing For Next Year.....



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