

April 2024



# Welcome to the ruture Welcome to GISC!

#### What Not To miss

- April 15 : First Day in Term3
- April 21-23 : EEP CUP (U10 & U12 GISC Teams)
- ▲ April 22-24: Book Fair
- April 23: Book Character dress-up and share
- April 25: Sinai Liberation Day-Whole school off
- April 27: EEP RUN



### **Exciting Times at GISC!**

A whirlwind of learning and achievement filled GISC this month! Celebrate student success with a recap of STEAM Week's innovation and the Quran Competition's dedication. Witness the future of robotics at the SUMO competition, and explore the power of empathy during Autism Awareness Day.



Click <u>here</u> to check the IB newsletter















### A message from Ms.Catherine Spencer, The Head of School



Dear GISC families,

Term 2 is ending on a very positive high note with numerous activities and exhibitions celebrating our students' achievements. I was thrilled with our G2 Learning Showcase and the G4-9 robotics competitions last Thursday. These are two events that will certainly become GISC traditions as we race into the school year 2024-25. Term 3 is chock full of very special end-of-year activities from graduation ceremonies to concerts to IB exhibitions and projects that you will certainly not want to miss. Check your calendars often for all our many events open to our parent community.

Multiple school reviews and surveys this year have given us ample information and opportunity to continue to make improvements to our GISC learning environment. Your voice is always critical to the process of reflection and refinement so significant for our growing school

### Here are a few of the ongoing efforts that we are prioritizing:

- We have escalated **classroom observations** focusing on inquiry, questioning, and higher-order thinking skills. Teaching and learning improvement feedback is immediate.
- Our **SEN department** is focusing on individual students in our classes to ensure that the appropriate differentiation is in place. They are reviewing individual student plans with class teachers on a bi-weekly basis.
- 3 Specific **staff development** for individual teachers and small groups focuses on immediate student needs.
- Staff attendance and tardy data are reviewed regularly and addressed individually as needed. Emergency cover plans are available for all lessons.
- **Small group parent focus sessions** are underway with two areas identified:
  - Consistent and timely parent communication for all events and activities with closer liaison with student groups.
  - Student health and well-being considerations with behavior policy reviews and parent input.

As we enter Term 3 on April 14, please note that all policies are updated on Toddle including an Events Calendar. Please pay special attention regularly for any date changes, additions, and special activities you will want to attend.

The next week, you will also receive our official GISC School Calendar 2024-25. With a start date for students of September 3, we are already gearing up to welcome hundreds of new staff and students!

Very best regards,





### **Early Years Fun**





# Learner Profiles in Action: KG2 Whales Shine at Assembly:

The KG2 Whales recently took center stage at their class assembly, shining brightly with their knowledge of the IB Learner Profiles. Engaging everyone with interactive activities, these young learners demonstrated their skills in communication, collaboration, empathy, and critical thinking. It was a delightful showcase of their growth and commitment to learning. Keep it up, KG2 Whales!

### **Shining Stars: KG Quran Competition!**

Our Early Years students were radiant stars at the recent Quran competition! Their enthusiasm and dedication as they took their early steps toward learning the Quran were truly heartwarming to witness.



We are incredibly proud of all our participants and their passion for learning. Keep up the amazing work, little ones!

#### **STEAM Week:**

A week packed with exploration and innovation! Our early years students delved into physics, chemistry, math games, and arts through interactive and engaging activities.



#### KG2 Sea Turtles Become Published Authors!



Excitement has been bubbling in the KG2 Sea Turtle class! Our students are now published authors, having created their very own "How To" books that guide readers through various tasks and activities. We recently celebrated their achievement with a special publishing event. The budding authors proudly shared their work, and it was heartwarming to witness their joy and pride in communicating through writing.

## Starfish Class Welcomes New Teacher, Miss Dina!

Let's extend a warm welcome to Miss Dina, the new teacher for KG1 Starfish class! While Miss Hoda enjoys her maternity leave, Miss Dina will be leading our little starfish on their educational journey with care and dedication.



### **Upcoming Events:**

**Parent Master Class** - April 15th: Join us for valuable insights on navigating changes as your child progresses to the next year's group.

**Starfish Class Coffee Morning** - April 16th: An opportunity to meet Miss Dina and connect with other Starfish families.

**World Book Day** - April 23rd: Dress up as your favorite book characters and share the magic of reading with your classmates.

We express our deepest gratitude for your continuous support and engagement in our school community. Let's look forward to a month filled with learning, laughter, and fun!



# PYP5 Shares the Planet: A Collaborative Presentation Extravaganza!

Our PYP5 students confidently presented their understanding of the unit 'Sharing the Planet' to parents. The collaboration between homeroom, Arabic, and Art specialists was seamless, creating an unforgettable experience. Witnessing the students' radiating confidence and joy as they shared their new knowledge on stage was truly heartwarming.

### **Quran Competition**

The Holy Quran Recital Competition, hosted by our Arabic Team, displayed the spiritual talent of our students.



#### **PYP7 Shark Tank Exhibition**

In a separate event, PYP7 students wowed audiences with a mini-exhibition. They displayed their entrepreneurial skills by presenting their innovative Shark Tank projects. These young entrepreneurs impressed everyone with their creativity and business sense.



### **Exciting Term Finale!**







## STEAM Week: Hands-On Learning and Robot Battles

During STEAM week, learners from Grades 1 to 5 engaged in a variety of hands-on tasks led by MYP students. The highlight of the week was when some Grade 4 and 5 students ventured into the world of robotics, teaming up to build battle-ready robots for an exciting arena showdown, igniting a wave of enthusiasm throughout STEAM week.







### Term 2 ambassador Award Class Winners!



A big congratulations to the classes who received the most Ambassador Award certificates this term: The Grade 2 Principled Flamingoes and the Grade 5 Openminded Octopuses! These classes consistently demonstrated excellent preparation and a commitment to the dress code, and as a reward, they will enjoy a non-uniform day on the first Thursday back from the holiday **April 18th.** 

### **Learning Showcases: Term 3 Highlights**

Get ready to celebrate learning! During Term 3, each grade will host a showcase highlighting their achievements from either Unit 5 or 6. This is a fantastic opportunity for you to witness your child's learning journey and collaborative efforts with homeroom teachers and specialists. PYP8 will present their culminating PYP Exhibition. Stay tuned for more details and invitations!

# Term 2 Wrap-Up & Exciting News for Term 3!



We are sad to announce Ms. Menna Morad's departure from the school due to personal health reasons. We extend our sincerest gratitude to her for her dedication to music education.

However, the music doesn't stop! Mr. James Massi will continue leading music classes for Grades 4 & 5. To ensure continuity for Grades 1–3, we are excited to welcome Ms. Mariam Mounir, who will be joining us on Wednesdays and Thursdays this term. Updated schedules will be distributed by homeroom teachers.

### **Shine Bright! G1-5 Talent Show**

Calling all young performers! In conjunction with learning showcases and assemblies, we will be hosting a talent show in Term 3. This is a fantastic opportunity for students with musical, dance, or stage performance talents to shine in front of an audience. Look out for further details and sign-up information coming soon!



### **Home Learning Updates:**



To ensure consistent learning habits, each Elementary grade will receive home learning packs containing reading comprehension, writing tasks, and math exercises. These packs will be distributed on Sundays or Thursdays and should be completed and returned one week later on the same day. Your support in encouraging your child to complete these assignments promptly is greatly appreciated.

#### **Holiday Learning:**

During the holiday break, your child can continue their learning journey through the End of Term IXL Holiday Challenge (Skills Plans and tasks set by the teacher), Raz Kids online reading platform, and good old-fashioned reading with hardcopy books.

We look forward to a fantastic Term 3 filled with learning, celebrations, and showcasing student talent!



"STEAM Week" is a celebration of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) that is a week filled with innovation, creativity, and exploration. Where out students dive into a world of creativity with hands-on workshops where participants can explore robotics, art installations, and more. Each session is designed to inspire curiosity and spark imagination.

Not only have we had visitors to the school to showcase the fun and adventure of science, we have also been hosting our own experiments.

This month our budding scientists celebrated their science lessons with experiments in biology and physics. It is a fantastic way to engage students and let them show the level of their understanding. Thank you to Ms Diana and Mr Adawy for their hard work and all the STEAM teachers for all their organization.













