

This Week at TBS!

Dear TBS Family,

Last week our TBS Senior Leadership Team were invited to join our parent company, EEP for their annual end of year celebrations. I have been lucky enough to have been to this event before but this was the first time that SLTs from all our sister schools were included. The two day conference focused on celebrating the achievements from the past year from all the teams who support our schools as well as a chance to collaborate as combined teams for the year ahead. I was particularly proud to see two of our TBS support staff being promoted within the corporate group. It is unlikely that you will have met them but as we pride ourselves on being a place promoting life long learning, we celebrate everyone's achievements.

Nada Khaled joined our TBS HR department as an intern and was then given the opportunity to work in the corporate offices. She has shown such talent and dedication over the past three years that she has been promoted to the Senior Compensation and Benefits Specialist overseeing all the schools and subsidiary companies within EEP.

Myrna Abdelkarim has been a much valued member of our HR specialising in recruitment and onboarding of new staff. At the start of this academic year she was offered a promotion and as sad as I was to see her go, this was a great opportunity for her to advance her career in the role of Human Resources Business Partner supporting all of our schools.

You Don't Want to Miss Out on...

17th October: Parents Coffee morning

21st October: Y2 Dress up Day

22nd October: Parents Academy webinar (Parents guide to TBS secondary Curriculum)

22nd October: FS1 & FS2 Stay & Play

23rd October: Pink Day

Index

[1 - Ms Jane's message](#)

[2 - MS Jane's message](#)

[3 - Ms Jane's message](#)

[4 - FS1](#)

[5 - Y4](#)

[6 - Y6](#)

[7 - Ms Rachel message](#)

[8 - Arabic](#)

[9 - Secondary](#)

[10 - important reminders](#)

[11 - important reminders](#)

[12 - useful links](#)



TBS Student leadership Team

I would like to congratulate all of Student Leadership for 2024-25. The new team were announced at Secondary Assembly last week and we are very proud of everyone who put themselves forward for any role.



Thank you to all our Year 1 Grandparents who joined us last week. How wonderful to have three generations of families together experiencing learning together. It is so important that the children of today understand the similarities and differences between the world today and that of previous generations. So many things have changed so quickly but the values and the family bonds still remain – as do many of the toys and games children still play with.

Thank you to our Arabic Department for their touching tribute to those involved in the 6th of October conflict. This is a tribute to the resilience, teamwork and resourcefulness of the brave men and women who are an example to the youth of today. What an honour to have Adham, a hero of the 6th October conflict speak with our Senior students and Year 5 and 6 students giving them some valuable words of wisdom.



Thanks to you, our GEMS TBS parent community's suggestions, we are introducing a new initiative developing our Partners in Learning workshops: GEMS TBS Parent Academy.

Our regular webinars will replace our in-school workshops allowing more parents to participate live or access whenever it is convenient. However, there may be occasions when the webinar requires a 'hands-on' experience. They will be run face-to-face with the session recorded. The webinars, like our previous workshops, will all have a specific focus which may be age groups specific or for a wider audience.

To obtain a Certificate of Achievement for each webinar, we will be asking you to share with us your reflections. Certificates of Achievements count towards an end of year GEMS TBS Parent Academy Diploma.

Successful completion of our ongoing Parent English courses will also receive a Certificate of Achievement.

Objectives of GEMS TBS Parent Academy

- Enhance Understanding of Modern Education: To provide parents with a comprehensive understanding of current educational practices, curricula, and pedagogies to better support your children's academic journey.
- Equip Parents with Tools and Strategies: To offer practical tools, resources, and strategies that parents can use to support your children's learning at home, including study habits, time management, and effective communication techniques.
- Promote Effective Parenting Practices: To educate parents on effective parenting strategies that promote positive behavior, resilience, and emotional intelligence in children, helping them navigate the complexities of modern parenting.
- Facilitate Digital Literacy: To enhance parents' digital literacy, enabling them to understand and monitor your children's use of technology, support digital learning, and promote online safety.
- Address Parenting Challenges: To provide a platform where parents can discuss and find solutions to common parenting challenges, such as managing screen time, handling peer pressure, and supporting mental health.
- Foster a Collaborative Community: To build a strong, collaborative community of parents and educators who share common goals and support each other in the collective mission of nurturing well-rounded, successful students.

This week sees the very first of our Parent Academy Webinars. This one is being led by our Assistant Head of Primary and Early Years, Laura Dominguez. The focus is on the use of our online assessment tool, Learning Journal and the aim is to make sure you understand how to use it effectively as a parent. The webinar is on Tuesday, 15th October at 9am. However, if you are unable to join us live, we will be sharing the recording with you all on the VLE for you to watch at your leisure and as a reference tool.

British Council's Annual Principals Forum

Later this week I will be attending the British Council's Annual Principals Forum. The theme to this year's forum is 'Empowering Schools: Self-evaluation, Entrepreneurship, and Emotional Intelligence'. Key speakers include:

- Mark Howard – Director of British Council Egypt
- Iman Sabry – Assistant Minister of Education for Private and International Schools
- Yasser Ali – Director of Business Development and Partnerships, British Council Egypt
- Jane English – British Council UK Educational Consultant
- Mohammad Issa – President of Creativity Lab for Empowerment and Innovation
- Heba El Ansara – Head of Business Development and Partnerships, British Council Egypt

There will be lots of time for questions and discussions as well as networking with fellow Principals from all across Cairo and beyond.

Coffee morning

As next Thursday will be a staff Professional Development Day, I will be hosting our next Coffee Morning this Thursday, 17th October at 8am in the Quad. Our topic will be 'Bedtime Routines' so come along and share your successes with fellow parents and get some useful tips that you might want to try.

Have a great week.

MS Jane knight

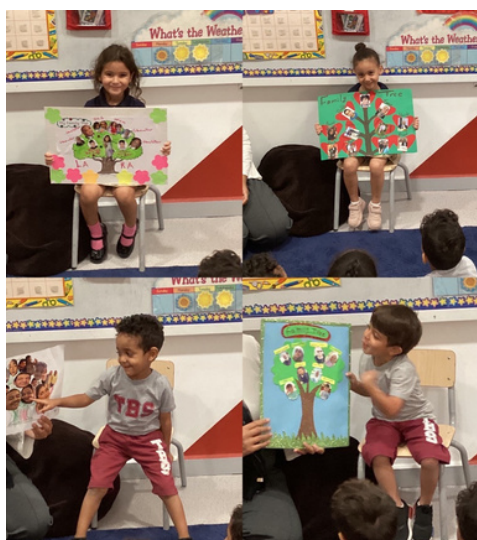
School principal

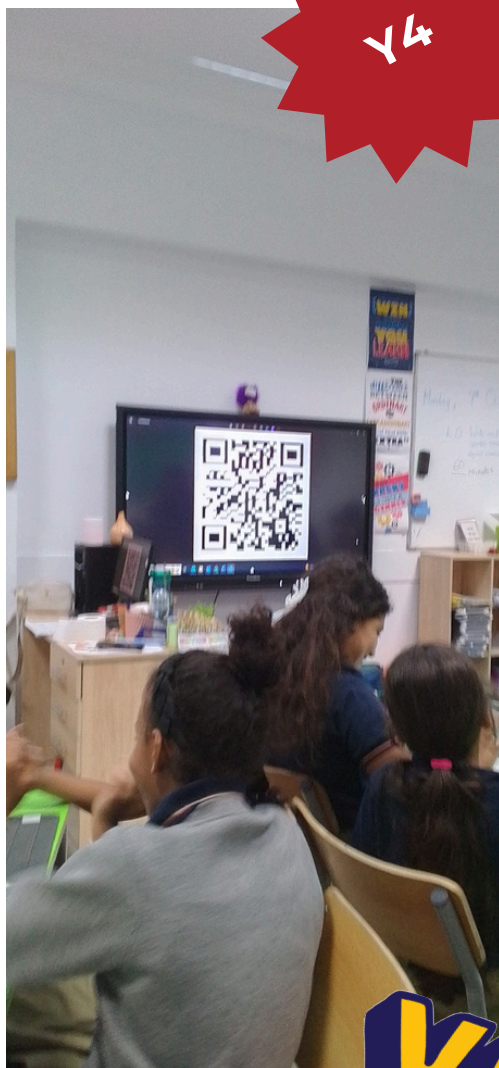


FS1

In FS1 our students enjoy our play-based, student-led curriculum. Learning through play allows them to explore, create, and take charge of their own learning. Whether they're building with blocks, experimenting with sensory materials, or role-playing in the home corner, they are constantly enhancing their language, problem-solving, and social skills. It's wonderful to see them engage in meaningful play, making choices that inspire creativity and critical thinking. Our approach ensures that each child learns at their own pace while having fun and developing a lifelong love of learning!

YAY





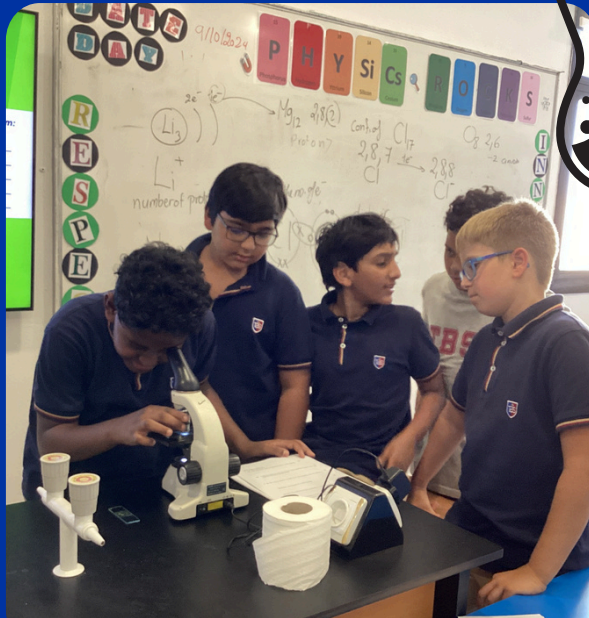
Over the past couple of weeks, our Year 4 students have been engaging in some exciting projects! They have been using AI technology to bring their story characters to life by animating their drawings. This innovative approach has not only enhanced their storytelling skills but also introduced them to the fascinating world of artificial intelligence. Additionally, the students have been exploring the rich history of the Maya civilization by recreating various forms of Maya art. They have crafted beautiful pieces of Maya jewellery and vibrant murals, showcasing their creativity and understanding of this ancient culture. It's been a period of incredible learning and artistic expression for our young learners!



Year 6 have made an excellent start to the year, demonstrating hard work and enthusiasm across all their subjects. In Science, they have been exploring the fascinating world of microorganisms. One of their experiments involved observing how quickly mould grows on bread, a hands-on activity that sparked curiosity. Following this, they visited the science lab to use microscopes, allowing them to take a closer look at the mould and gain a deeper understanding of its structure. They also explored the interactions of yeast, learning how these tiny organisms contribute to everyday processes. Alongside their scientific studies, Year 6 have been developing their artistic skills by studying the work of the famous Russian painter, Wassily Kandinsky. After learning about his unique abstract style and use of vibrant colours, the students were inspired to create their own Kandinsky-style artwork. Their creations reflected Kandinsky's emphasis on shapes, lines, and colours, allowing them to express their individuality and creativity. The combination of scientific inquiry and artistic exploration has made for an exciting and engaging start to the school year.



SCIENCE



A message from Ms Rachel Hardwick , Head of Primary

Dear Parents,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. Last week, Ms. Jane, Mr. Daniel, and I had the pleasure of attending an EEP (Egypt Education Platform) event. We engaged in insightful discussions about the positive learning environments we strive to create, both in our school and across the group. It made me reflect on how fortunate I am to work with such a dedicated team of educators who maintain high expectations for students' learning. Equally, I am continually impressed by our students' perseverance, resilience, and collaborative spirit, and I am grateful for the unwavering support of our parents. Looking ahead, we have an exciting array of trips and events lined up for the term. Just last week, Year 1 hosted a special event where family members were invited to speak in classrooms about changes in recent memory. The discussions about toys from the past versus today sparked fantastic conversations, and the children thoroughly enjoyed learning from these personal experiences.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to the Arabic team for organising a wonderful day of reflection on the 6th October conflict. Our students presented exceptionally well on stage, and I am confident we will see some brilliant performers emerging this year.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to a busy and fulfilling term ahead.

Warm regards,
Ms. Rachel

لغتنا العربية

كان هذا الأسبوع أسبوعاً استثنائياً بكل المقاييس حيث كان مابين أداء تطبيقات أسبوعية وتدريبات لاحتفالات أكتوبر المجيد ثم جاء يوم الاختفال يوم الأحد وكان يوماً رائعاً حيث شارك التلاميذ من رياض الأطفال وحتى المرحلة الثانوية وشرفنا بالحضور أيضاً البطل المصري النقيب أدهم الشوباشي والذي ضرب لطلابنا مثلاً حياً للبطولة والتضحية من أجل الوطن وتحدث البطل قائلاً أنه يجب أن يكون كل منا بطلاً في مجاله حتى يعلو شأن وطننا الغالي .



Science Department

Physics class is an exciting journey into the world of matter, energy, and motion. In the past few weeks, we've been exploring the fundamental concepts of physical quantities and measurements, motion and forces. These topics are not only essential for understanding the world around us but also have practical applications in our daily lives. Have you ever wondered how fast a car is moving or how heavy a bag of groceries is? These are examples of physical quantities, which can be measured using specific units. In physics class, we've learned about various physical quantities, such as length, mass, time, temperature, and force. We've also explored different units of measurement, like meters, kilograms, seconds, degrees Celsius, and Newtons. Understanding physical quantities and measurements helps us make sense of our surroundings. For instance, knowing the distance between your home and school allows you to estimate travel time. Similarly, understanding the concept of mass helps you determine how much force is needed to lift an object.

TBS Houses

This month, we proudly appointed our new House Leaders and Captains, who are ready to inspire and lead their peers. We are also excited to announce the sign-ups for our Thursday Challenge Activities, including table tennis, Tabba ball, dodge ball, and volleyball. It's time for some friendly competition and team spirit! 🏏🏐🏓



Important reminders

Trust in School Decisions re classes: We would like to emphasise the importance of trust in the decisions made by our experienced and dedicated teaching staff. Classes are carefully crafted to provide balance by our qualified and experienced teachers and Heads of School, and any decisions they make to shuffle classes and allocate teachers are done with the best interests of our students in mind. It is essential to note that we will not accept requests from parents regarding their son/daughter's assigned class. Our primary goal is to create an optimal learning environment for every student, and we appreciate your support and trust in this matter.

A gentle reminder about GEMS TBS expectations which are part of the School-Parent Agreement:

Appearance:

We believe that a neat and well-groomed appearance is not only a reflection of personal pride but also essential for fostering a readiness to learn. Please note that all girls and boys with longer hair are required to have their hair tied back at all times. No extreme or fashion hairstyles are permitted. This includes hair shaving for boys and braids and coloured hair for both girls and boys.

No jewelry or accessories are permitted, including piercings other than studs in ears, and will be asked to be removed if worn. Neither make-up nor nail polish is allowed and students with either will be asked to remove it. Smart watches are not permitted in school.

School Uniform Policy:

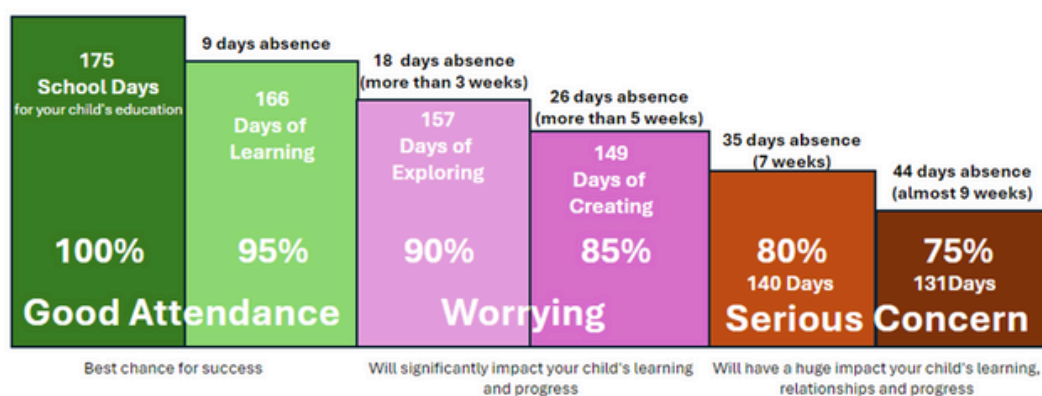
Our uniform not only promotes a sense of unity but also minimises distraction, allowing students to focus on their studies. Please, ensure that your child adheres to our school's uniform policy. Only items that are part of our school uniform are allowed within the school campus except on specified dress up days. Children will be asked to remove non-uniform items of clothing before entering school and if this is not possible, you will receive a call asking for you to bring the correct uniform. Please note that this includes shoes – trainers are to be worn only on allocated PE days.

Attendance

At GEMS TBS we emphasize the importance of regular and punctual school attendance. We believe that through good attendance at school children will achieve higher attainment, have better opportunities and establish good habits that will support them throughout their lives. This is supported by the Ministry of Education guidelines and sanctions for lateness and absences.

This infographic clearly shows the impact absences will have on your child: academically and emotionally.

At GEMS TBS, every school day counts!
There are 190 NON school days every year.
Perfect for family time, visits, shopping and appointments.



Trust in School Decisions re classes:

We would like to emphasise the importance of trust in the decisions made by our experienced and dedicated teaching staff. Classes are carefully crafted to provide balance by our qualified and experienced teachers and Heads of School, and any decisions they make to shuffle classes and allocate teachers are done with the best interests of our students in mind. It is essential to note that we will not accept requests from parents regarding their son/daughter's assigned class. Our primary goal is to create an optimal learning environment for every student, and we appreciate your support and trust in this matter.

Useful websites to help keep your child safe online

- [NSPCC](#): The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children offers a range of resources and guidance for parents on online safety, including tips on setting parental controls and talking to children about online risks.
- [Internet Matters](#): Internet Matters provides advice and support to help parents keep their children safe online. Their website offers guides on various topics, from social media safety to gaming and streaming.
- [Childnet International](#): Childnet International works to make the internet a safer place for children. Their website features educational resources, interactive games, and advice for parents, educators, and young people.
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#): The UK Safer Internet Centre provides resources, helplines, and advice for parents, schools, and young people to promote the safe and responsible use of technology.
- [Thinkuknow](#): Thinkuknow is an education program from the National Crime Agency's Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command. Their website offers resources for parents, including age-specific advice on online safety and how to report concerns.
- [ParentsGuideToABetterInternet.pdf \(npc.ie\)](#): very useful PDF guide to all aspects of internet safety
- [Guardian's Guide | TikTok](#) everything you need to know about how to keep your child safe on this social media app
- [Parental Guide for Teens on Instagram | About Instagram](#) specifically written to support parents with older children and how to support
- [Whatsapp for kids. Parental control on the popular messenger | Kidslox](#) guide on how to set up security measures
- [Top 5 Must-Have Apps for Monitoring Kids' Social Media Activity \(eyezy.com\)](#). Apps that could help keep your child safe online monitoring their usage