



مدرسة جيمس رويال دبي الخاصة
GEMS Royal Dubai School

2019 - 2020 Yearbook



Achieving • Excellence • Together



AADI ANAND, AALIYA VERMA, AAMYA DHAMMI, AARAV DHAMMI, AARIN NAIR, AARON ANTHONY CORCORAN, AARON KASSAW, AARUSH ANURAG, AARUSH KENATH, AAYRA LODI, ABDALLA ALSHAMSI, ABDELRAHMAN ABOUELWABA, ABDULAZIZ ALRAIS, ABDULAZIZ KHANSAHEB, ABDULAZIZ MOHAMED, ABDULAZIZ SHAIKHAN, ABDULLA AL FALASI, ABDULLA ALKOUR, ABDULLA ALNUAIMI, ABDULLA ALZAROONI, ABDULLA BIN ESSA, ABDULLAH ALJAZZAZI, ABDULLAH ANWER, ABDULLAH DALAL, ABDULLAH KHALIL, ABDULLAH UWAISKARNI, ABDULRAHMAN AHLI, ABDULRAHMAN ALDAOWR, ABDULRAHMAN SHARIF, ADAM ABU ARJA, ADAM EL HAKAWATI, ADAM EL DICK, ADAM EL SHAFEI, ADAM FALLAH, ADAM GHALI, ADAM MOHAMED, ADAM NABIL GHAZI (SHEIKH YOUSEF), ADAM SOLIMAN, ADEENA SUFYAN RAHMAN, ADEME AKIMZHANOVA, ADHAM IBRAHIM, ADHAM SOLIMAN, ADIVA SHARDA, ADNAN ALAMOOSH, ADNAN IBRAHIM SADEKALI, ADRIANA CENTENERA, AESHA SHARMA, AFFAN AHMED, AFFAN KHURRAM, AFRA EBRAHIM NASER HASAN AL ALI, AHMAD ALAWADI, AHMAD SAIF, AHMAD SARA, AHMED ALHUMAIDI, AHMED ALMUHAIRI, AHMED ELSAMADISY, AHMED FAROOQ KHAN, AHMED HASSANE, AHMED MAHER, AHMED SHEIRA, AIDEN D SOUZA, AISHA AHLI, AISHA ALI, AISHA ALMARZOUKI, AISHA BUSHEHAB, AISHA LAMLOUM, AISHA NARULA, AISHA RASHED MOHAMMAD ALWARDI ALMHEIRI, AISHA SIDDIQUI, AIYMEN VAQQAS ABDULLAH, AIZAH ABID, AIZAH ANASE, AKI ODATE, AKRAM AHMED MOHAMED HELMY IBRAHIM SALLAM, AKSHADA DONTAMSETTI, AL REEM DARWISH, ALAENA MOUFFER, ALAHNAH MARTIN, ALANA FERNANDES, ALANOOD SALEM, ALESYA ERYIN, ALEXANDER EL KHOURY, ALEXANDRA ALWYN-JONES, ALEXANDRA EL KHAZEN, ALEXANDROS KAFOUROS, ALEXIS PEREIRA, ALI ALOBEIDLI, ALI ALVI, ALI BAKHEIT, ALI BALABEL, ALI ELNASHAR, ALI NUAMAN, ALI SHEERAZ, ALI TAHIR MOHAMMAD, ALI UWAISKARNI, ALI YASSINE, ALIA AHMED, ALIA AL ALI, ALIA AL SHIMMARI, ALIA ALHARTHI, ALIA ALMEMARI, ALIA MOURSRY, ALISHA VERMA, ALIYA QAIS SAEED QURASH ALFALASI, ALIZEH SHERJAN, ALJOURI ALKETBI, ALKADI ALKETBI, ALLEN ISSA, ALMA ABDULKHALEQ, ALMA IBRAHIM, ALMA YAHYA ABU HULWAN, ALREEM ALFALASI, ALTAN RICHARD FITENI, ALY HOSNY, ALY SHEIRA, ALYAZIA SALEM, AMAANA IQBAL, AMAIRA ANWER, AMAL AL TAMIMI, AMEERAH MURFAD, AMEERAH SUMNER, AMEYAH SOORAJ, AMINAH MOIZUDDIN, AMJAD MOUSA BACHA, AMNA HASSAN ALI AHMAD ALJAZIRI, AMNA SAAD, AMNA SAEED, ANAYA ISMAIL, ANAYA UZZAM MALIK, ANDREW EL KHOURY, ANEZKA SVITAK, ANGELA NAJJAR, ANIKA KENATH, ANJA ESSAM, ANNABEL ANGUS, ANOUSHAE SHAH, ANSHARAH YOUSUF, ANTONIO AOUN, ANUSHEH SHAH, ARCHIE ANGUS, AREEBA KHALILI, ARHAAN TALHA, ARI LUIS FERNANDES, ARIA MATHEWS, ARIANNA MUDIYANSELAGE, ARMAAN KHAN, AROHI JAIN, ARON RAUL, AROUSH KHALID, ARQAM HUSSAM QURESHI, ARWA ALSERKAL, ARYA SUBRAMANI, ARYAN WICKRAMASINGHE MUDIYANSELAGE, ARYEH HIRAN NAIR, ARZEEN MALIK, ASENSA HALIYA KUTLU, ASMA AL GERGAWI, ATEEKSH MEHROTRA, ATHARVA CHAUHAN, ATICHAT BHANKINGTONGKAM, AURA MEHRA, AURELIE SHIMA, AYAAN MURTAZA, AYAAN SAAD SIDDIQUI, AYAANAH SAEISHA RAMIZ, AYAN ABDI, AYAT MINHSA, AYESHA ATHAR, AYESHA BINTE ABUBAKR, AYESHA IZHAR, AYHAM HASSAN, AYISHA SAFFRON, AYLA ALBARGHOUTHY, AYLA IBRAHIM, AYLINE NEGIB, AYRA ANSARI, AYSEL SIDDIQUI, AYSHA AL HUMAIDI, AYUMI KHAN, AZAAN KHAN, AZLAN KHAN, BADER ALREMEITHI, BANA DAOUD, BANDAR ALRAWASHDEH, BARBAROS ILYAS OZTOPRAK, BEA MISSELHORN, BEATRIZ PEREIRA, BEHRAD FARD, BEJED ALMUTAIRI, BIANCA ISAILA, BILAL YOUSUF, BORA PETER FITENI, BORNA DORRI, BRADLEY D MELLO, BRENNIA PELSER, BURHANUDDIN KANPURWALA, BURHANUDDIN MARVI, BUSHRA ALFALASI, BUTTI BIN HOABA, CAITLYN LARYEA, CALLUM COPPOCK, CALLUM SIMPSON, CARLA HARIRI, CARLA NEACSU, CARTER BROOKS, CEDRIC CHEN, CELINE CHEN, CHARLES ISAAC PATTEN, CHARLOTTE HOWELL-JONES, CHEN ZOU, CHENG-TING TSAI, CHRISTOPHER JOHN, CLARA BARRETT, CONNOR LUKE JACQUES NARINX, CONOR BIRCH, DAANIA RANGARI, DALEEN DWEDARI, DAMIANA ATTEYA, DANIEL ARNAOUT, DANY BADR, DAROK HAQ, DAVID BOUASSALY, DAVID KHREICHE, DAYYAN ABU RABIE, DEETYA PAMNANI, DIKSHA SUJITH, DIKUO BAI, DINAR DINAR, DIRUI BAI, DIYA ASGHAR, DUA FAROOQ, DUBAI ALSHARIF, EDUARD MATEI ZOIA, EIRINI KAFOUROU, EISA FAZLAN, ELENI RIVANS, ELIE BIJO, ELISA VAN ULDEN, ELISSA BIJO, ELIYA NEGIB, ELLA MASTERMAN-ESQUIBEL, ELLA RIZK ALWAN, ELLI THEODORIDOU, ELYAZIA DOEI, ELYSE ALEX, EMAAN ADEEL BAIG, EMAD ABDULLAH, EMILY OLIVER, EMIR KAN DONMEZ, EMMA HEYDENRYCH, EMMA PRINCE JOHN, ENZO APUYA, ERIC CHENG, ERIC DRAGOI, ESAH ISMAIL, ESHAAL BASID, ESHAAL KHAIRI, ESHAAL TALHA, ESHAAN AMIN, ESHAL FAISAL, ESHAL SAAD, ESSA ASAD, ESSA ASSAD, ETHAN PEREIRA, EVAN SAAD, EYAD YOUSEF, FAEZAA AFOLABI, FAHAD ALZAROUNI, FAHEEMAH AFOLABI, FAISAL SAMI, FALAK ANJUM RANGARI, FARAH AL HASHMI, FARES ALRAWASHDEH, FARES THAHER, FARIDA KHAIRY, FARIS ABUDAYYEH, FARIS ALARAIMI, FARIS REDHA, FARIS TAJ, FAROOK ABDULSALAM, FATIMA ABDULLA ALMARZOOQI, FATIMA AL ALI, FATIMA AL REMEITHI, FATIMA DARWISH, FATIMAH SURAH, FATMA ALZAROONI, FATMA ISMAIL AHLI, FAYE AL GARNAWI, FLYNN WHITEHOUSE, FRASER MARTIN, FREDERICK KEITH, GABRIEL HARIRI, GABRIELA OAKDEN DOMINGUEZ, GAURI SANTHOSH, GEORGE MADBAK, GEORGIOS KAFOUROS, GERASIMINA KOMBOU, GHAITH ABDULLA, GHAITH AHLI, GHAITH MATAR MOHAMED ALKHATEIBY ALKAABI, GHALA AHMED, GHALA ALMARZOOQI, GHALA SHAMAL, GHALIA HIJAZI, GHAYA ALDALLAL, GHAYA BIN ESSA, GIA ZAMEEL, HABIB AROUNI, HAILEY KEITH, HAKAN ALP KAYA, HALA AL MUWALEKH, HAMAD ABDALLA MOUSA RAMADAN ALANSARI, HAMAD ALI MAJID ALSHAMSI, HAMAD ALMUHAIRI, HAMAD BUSHEHAB, HAMAD GARGASH, HAMAD SAFFRON, HAMDIA ADEL ALFALASI, HAMDIA ALSAHLAWI, HAMDAN ALANSARI, HAMDAN ALBANNA, HAMDAN ALFALASI, HAMDAN MARWAN MAHMOUD IBRAHIM BIN ESSA, HAMED AL MAAMARI, HAMED ALJAWALI, HAMED ALKHAJA, HAMED ALSHAER, HAMED AMIRI, HAMZA ABDELWAHAB, HAMZA AL EMAD, HAMZA ELNAYEB, HAMZA ISMAIL, HANA ABDELHAY, HANEEN AL DOORI, HANNAH MARIA AL-QASEER, HAORYANG YU, HAREB MAJID MOHAMMED ALI ALJAWALI, HAREB SAEED, HAREB SHAMAL, HAREEM WAHAJ, HASSAN HARBAVI, HAYA ABUBLAN, HAYA AL HAJ NASSER, HAYA AL SHARHAN, HAYA BIN HOABA, HAYA DAOUD, HAYA DESOUKY, HAYA MANSOUR, HAYA WAHAB, HESSA ABDULLA SAIF SALEM ALSHAMSI, HESSA AHMAD, HESSA ALFALASI, HESSA ALGHADIRI, HESSA ALMARZOUKI, HESSAH LOOTAH, HICHAM TOUTOUNJI, HIND AL ALI, HIND AL HAJ NASSER, HIND AL MUDHARREB, HIND MADANI, HIND MAJID MOHAMMED ALI ALJAWALI, HISHAM MANNA, HOOR AMIRI, HSIN-YU TSAI, HUDA ALSHARIF, HUMAID ALMANSOORI, HUMAID ALREMEITHI, HUMAID ALSHAMSI, HUMNA AYAZ, HUSSEIN ELGAZZAR, IBRAHIM AL QURASHI, IBRAHIM ALI, IBRAHIM ALJARN, IBRAHIM FAGEAR, IBRAHIM KOBROSSI, IBRAHIM LARI, IBRAHIM PARHAM, IDA MAY AL-HAJJ, IMAANI ISMAIL, INAAYA ABID, INARA IRSHAD, INAYA EJAZ, INAYAH RAHMAN, IRAJ DALAL, IRIS PEREIRA, ISABELLE THOMAS, ISHAQ MOUFFER, IVANKA DSILVA, IYAAD ABDI, JACK OXENHAM, JAD ABDO, JAD ABU RABEI, JAD BASSAM DAOUD, JAD SARIEDDINE, JAMES MARRINGTON, JAMIL MALAS, JAMILA AL LHAMMADI, JAMILA SOLIMAN, JANA AL BARAZANGI, JANA MOHAMED, JANITH RATTESAR, JANNAT MOHAMED, JASMINA VAN ULDEN, JASMINE ANIA AL-QASEER, JASSIM AL ALI, JAWAHER ALSHARIF, JAWAHER BINMASOOD, JAY CHAKRAVARTHY ANAND, JAYDEN THOMAS, JEAN-MARC EL KHAZEN, JEEBAL MOHAMED, JIAHUI DONG, JIMENA SASSELLI-AGUEDA, JINMIN YANG, JOHAN KURIAN, JOHN BROWNING, JOLIE ABODIAB, JONATHAN FRENCH, JONATHAN THOMAS, JOOD SHAMS, JOODIE ALASSAF, JOORY AL ABBASI, JOSEF KHREICHE, JOSEPH - ALEXANDRE ABI SEMAAN, JOSHUA SHIMA, JOUD MELHEM, JUAN CHONG, JUDE AL GARNAWI, JUMANA HEJAZI, JUNHENG CHEN, JUNXI QIAN, JUNYI QIAN, JUNYI ZHANG, JURY HAMED, KAIROS FELICIANO, KAPEESH A DALAL, KAREEM ABDO, KAREEM KADDOURA, KAREN MASSOUD, KARIM ABDELRAHIM, KASHISH KADAM, KATHERINE BLIGNAULT, KATHERINE PENG, KAVYAA DOSHI, KAYANN HAMADE, KAYLAN KATETEI, KAYLIN FERNANDES, KEIRA NAIDOO, KELLY FLEMING, KHADIJAH AKHTAR, KHALAF HADI, KHALED SULTAN HASAN SHAHIN ALBLOOSHI, KHALID ALBAYATI, KHALID SHAMS, KHALID SULTAN ABDULRAHMAN ALI ALSAADI, KHALIFA ALDALLAL, KHALIFA ALHAJ NASSER ABDULLA, KHYLAN REDDY, KIARA ARORA, KIMIAN MATHEWS, KINDA HAMED, KINZA ANJUM RANGARI, KINZY MOHAMED ALI HASSAN AHMED, KONAH BURNES, KRESIMIR TEPES KRISTA OHANIAN, KRIYANSH DEB, KYRIAKI RIVANS, LAIBA ASIF, LAITH HAMAD, LAITH MORJAN, LAMIHA SHARFUDDIN, LANA KHAMIS, LANA ZAZA, LARA ALBARGHOUTHY, LARA SAFFARINI, LATIFA AL DALLAL, LAYAL EL DICK, LAYAN ABUHULWAN, LAYAN HAMADE, LAYLA LAKHDIM, LEAH SOLOMON YISHAK, LELYAN ABDULKHALEQ, LEV ASTIONOV, LEYLA ALYAMMAHI, LIAM MISSELHORN, LIFU BAO, LILIA AL ABBASI, LILIA BUTRES, LILIA NAWAR, LILIANA SABRY, LILY DESOUKY, LILY KAMEL, LILY MASTERMAN-ESQUIBEL, LINA HACHED, LINA LAITH, LINCOLN BROOKS, LINDA GASRI, LINMENG (LINDA) SONG, LIYUE (GARY) FENG, LIZBETH ALEX, LLOYD OXENHAM, LOJAIN HAMZA ALI ELMUSHARAF, LUCAS SONG, LYUDMILA ZYKOVA, MAAYRA BANGA, MACKENZIE HASSANE, MAHA MUHAMMAD ASIM ASIM, MAHAD HUSSAM QURESHI,



GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP



GROWING BY LEARNING



LEADING INNOVATION



PURSuing EXCELLENCE

*We aim to develop **high performing learners** who are happy, successful and confidently equipped to apply their learning skills in an ever-changing world, where they will seek to make positive contributions to the GRDS community and beyond.*



مدرسة جيمس رويال دبي الخاصة
GEMS Royal Dubai School



صاحب السمو (الراحل) الشيخ زايد بن سلطان آل نهيان
His Highness (Late) Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan

رئيس دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة (1966 - 2004)
President of United Arab Emirates (1966 – 2004)



صاحب السمو الشيخ خليفة بن زايد آل نهيان
His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan

رئيس دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة
President of United Arab Emirates



صاحب السمو الشيخ محمد بن راشد آل مكتوم
His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum

نائب رئيس الدولة، ورئيس مجلس الوزراء، وحاكم دبي
Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai



صاحب السمو الشيخ حمدان بن محمد بن راشد آل مكتوم
His Highness Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammed Al Maktoum

ولي عهد دبي
Crown Prince of Dubai

Founder's Message

Delivering a quality education, providing exceptional opportunities and ensuring the well-being and happiness of our students and their families is what we at GEMS Education continue to strive for every day – and this remains unchanged even in these unprecedented times.

In what has been a unusual end to the academic year for us all, our relationship with our parents, class teachers and our students remains of vital importance to us, which



is why we are continuously looking at ways to adapt and find new techniques to build and enhance our collaboration through increased digital activity and capability. Education Technology, or EdTech, has always been at the forefront of our teaching and learning at GEMS, and I am proud of the way our teachers and students embraced the new way of learning so readily. Willingness, adaptability and the foresight to see challenges as opportunities were the key to success, and I would like to congratulate everyone in the GEMS community for their readiness to act: our students, our teachers and our parents.

This academic year, we promised to further listen to the needs of our parents through our Quality Assurance Programme and, take on board feedback and act accordingly. In spite of social distancing and increased online activity, it is vital that we continue to get closer to our families and better understand all requirements and circumstances, as this results in improved learning outcomes and altogether happier students, parents and staff.

The five ground-breaking Centres of Excellence that we launched in partnership with key industry players towards the end of last year are fast gaining momentum and have already begun to deliver an array of unique opportunities for students. These centres benefit not only the schools out of which they operate, but also the wider GEMS Education network. They reflect our forward-thinking approach to learning and are designed to help furnish our young people with the skills and knowledge they need to prosper in a rapidly changing world.

The launch of the GEMS Jewels of Kindness and Respect initiative ensures that values remain high on our students' and teachers' minds. Values have always been visible in our schools and bringing them together under this initiative ensures that we continue to truly embed fundamental human values across every aspect of our education provision, and reward and recognise our students for their actions. I am delighted with the wonderful examples of the programme across all our schools.

Thank you to all our leaders and staff members for your continued dedication to your school, students and community. We will build on the tremendous achievements of this academic year and continue to provide students and their families with the highest-quality education and service.

I wish all our students every success for the year ahead, wherever you may be. For our graduating students, take the lessons and values that you have learned from your time at GEMS, and use them wisely. I wish you all the best as you embark on the next stage of your lives. There are many exciting challenges and opportunities ahead. Grasp every opportunity that comes your way.

God bless,

Sunny Varkey

Founder and Chairman, GEMS Education

كلمة المؤسس

الصف وطلابنا ذات أهمية حيوية بالنسبة لنا، ولهذا السبب نحن في بحث مستمر عن طرق للتكيف وإيجاد تقنيات جديدة لبناء وتعزيز تعاوننا من خلال زيادة الأنشطة الرقمية والقدرات. لطالما كانت تكنولوجيا التعليم في طليعة أساليب طرق التدريس و التعلم في جيمس وأنا فخور بالطريقة التي تبين بها مدرسوننا وطلابنا طريقة التعلم الجديدة بسهولة ويسر. الإستعداد والقدرة على التكيف والبصيرة لرؤية التحديات والفرص هي مفتاح النجاح، وأود أن أهنئ الجميع في مجتمع جيمس على استعدادهم للعمل: طلابنا ومعلمينا وأولياء الأمور.

ومن أهم مبادرات جيمس للتعليم الفريدة من نوعها، هو برنامج ضمان الجودة حيث أننا قد وعدنا بالمزيد من الاستماع إلى تلبية احتياجات أولياء الأمور عبر البرنامج. برغم التباعد الإجتماعي و التعلم عن بعد، يجسد برنامج ضمان الجودة وعدنا للطلاب وأولياء الأمور، للاستماع إلى احتياجاتهم، واستيعاب ملاحظاتهم والتصرف وفقاً لذلك. إننا في جيمس للتعليم ندرك مدى أهمية أن نقرب أكثر من عائلاتنا ونفهم بشكل أفضل متطلباتهم وظروفهم، مما سيؤدي إلى تحسين نتائج التعلم وإلى سعادة الطلاب وأولياء الأمور والموظفين في مدارس جيمس للتعليم.

وإضافة إلي برامجنا المميزة، فإن مراكز التميز الخمسة الرائدة في المدارس التي أطلقناها حتى نهاية العام الماضي بالشراكة مع الجهات الفاعلة الرئيسية في عدد من الصناعات، قد لاقت زخماً سريعاً وبدأت بالفعل في تقديم مجموعة من الفرص الفريدة للطلاب. فتستفيد من هذه المراكز ليس فقط المدارس التي تعمل منها، ولكن أيضاً مجموعة مدارس جيمس للتعليم الواسعة. حيث تعكس طريقة التفكير المستقبلي في التعلم وهي مصممة للمساعدة في تزويد شبابنا بالمهارات والمعارف التي يحتاجون إليها للازدهار في عالم سريع التغير.

شيء واحد لم يتغير هو أهمية غرس القيم في طلابنا. إن مبادرة جيمس للتعليم لجواهر اللطف والاحترام التي تم إطلاقها العام الماضي تعمل الآن على قدم وساق، وفي عام ٢٠٢٠ ستقوم مدارسنا بالانتقال إلى المستوى التالي من هذه المبادرة الثمينة، لتضمين القيم الإنسانية الأساسية عبر كل جانب من جوانب التعليم. ونستمر في عرض الأعمال الرائعة المتمثلة في التعاطف والمساعدة والرحمة والاحترام التي يقوم بها طلابنا وموظفونا يومياً، وأنا أشجع أولياء الأمور على تشجيع أطفالهم على الاستمرار في هذه الأعمال الطيبة.

أتمنى لجميع طلابنا كل النجاح للعام المقبل، أينما كنتم. وبالنسبة للطلاب المتخرجين، خذوا الدروس والقيم التي أمضيتم وقتكم في جيمس لتعلمها واستخدموها بحكمة. أتمنى لكم كل التوفيق وأنتم تشرعون في المرحلة التالية من حياتكم، ستحظون بالعديد من التحديات والفرص المثيرة المقبلة لذلك اغتصموا كل فرصة تأتي في طريقكم.

وفي الختام، أتمنى للجميع عاماً ناجحاً يحمل بين طياته الأمن والأمان والرخاء.

صني فاركي

مؤسس ورئيس مجموعة جيمس للتعليم

في ظل سعينا المتواصل في جيمس للتعليم لتوفير تعليم جيد وفرص استثنائية، وضمان رفاهية وسعادة طلابنا وعائلاتهم، وضعنا في قلب أولوياتنا علاقتنا بأولياء الأمور، والعلاقة بين المعلمين والطلاب، من أجل بناء وتعزيز تعاوننا مع أولياء الأمور ومجتمعاتنا المدرسية - وهذا سيبقى دون تغيير حتى في مثل هذه الظروف الغير مسبوقة.

في ما كان نهاية غير عادية للسنة الأكاديمية الحالية ، تبقى علاقتنا مع أولياء الأمور ومعلمي



Principal's Message



It is an immense privilege to lead GEMS Royal Dubai School and to play a part in the school's continued success. The sense of pride I have in the efforts of the whole learning community has only been exemplified during Term 3 as we have all been required to adapt to new ways of learning and living. The commitment, energy and positivity shown by students through the learning they submitted online has brought new meaning to the term "Outstanding!"

We originally planned for a two week model of Remote Learning which quickly needed to be adapted to ensure longevity and sustainability for the

remainder of the year. What became apparent, was that the vast majority of students were attending and engaging in their learning with the support and encouragement of parents, yet we needed to ensure that the GRDS sense of community was palpable even though we were unable to access our beautiful building. We quickly reinstated assemblies, House Points and whole school collaborative opportunities such as the PE Challenges, Art Projects, "We Are One" school's Expo challenge and 'RDS has talent' to ensure that we could socially connect as a learning community during a time of 'social distancing'. We began hosting our first ever virtual: 3-way conferences, coffee mornings and parent support groups. We also gleefully received images, quotes and videos for the GRDS Virtual Iftar and end of year celebrations.

I must take a moment to acknowledge my deep appreciation and respect for parents who maintained and encouraged their children's remote learning whilst also balancing personal and professional responsibilities. Additionally, credit should be given to the



teaching staff, admin team and Senior Leaders who have given their all to ensure students and families were supported. Many of our teachers live alone and have been isolating for lengthy periods of time, whilst others have families themselves, yet they showed absolute professionalism, personal resilience and cheerfulness to maintain the true spirit of GEMS Royal Dubai School.

Recently, I was asked to submit an evaluation for the school's annual renewal of the COBIS (Council of British International Schools) accreditation where I was required to list some of the school's achievements in the last 12 months, they included but were not limited to: 5th Outstanding DSIB Inspection; achieving World Class status as a High Performance Learning school; successful Emirati focused DSIB review, increased Parent Satisfaction through the NPS survey (28 to 53 in 2 years) and...a pedestrian crossing being added at the front of the school!! We are certainly not complacent and look forward to more opportunities in the next academic year as we solidify our partnership with Arts Ed International, renew the Gold Primary Science Quality Mark and seek the Optimus Education awards for Well-Being and Parent Partnership.

Saving the best until last, I would like to address the students of GEMS Royal Dubai School who have consistently been phenomenal throughout their learning journey; both inside and outside the school building. They have shown greater resilience and independence than any of us could have imagined during these changing times. We have celebrated: sports super stars; excellent performers, award winners; published authors (who could forget the moment Mc Grammar purchased Dua's book online!) and have watched proudly as students have represented the school in various academic, innovative and charity events. Additionally, Student Council have shown a great commitment to eco projects and a genuine concern for society through various conservation projects - strengthening our commitment to help the environment by reducing the use of plastic, electricity and water ensuring a greener (brighter) future for our next generation.

Additional thanks must be given to our wonderful FORDS committee and Local Advisory Board who kindly give their time and support to ensure we maintain a "Vibrant, harmonious and caring learning community". The GRDS National Day was the best yet due to the support and ideas of our parent community – thank you once again!

Finally, as some members of our community leave at the end of this academic year and move on to the next stage in their learning journey, I want to thank you for your contribution in making GRDS such a special place to learn. I hope that the Memory Moments gathered in these pages will bring a smile to your face and warmth to your heart for many years to come. I know you will take the knowledge and skills developed here at GRDS as you continue to be High Performing Learners and responsible global



citizens of the future, whether that is in new year groups, secondary schools or countries across the world. If you are moving on please do stay in touch: send an email, post on the social media accounts or come back to visit us soon!

On behalf of myself, my family, and the team at GEMS Royal Dubai School, stay safe and well. Enjoy a well-deserved rest over the summer and we will see you in August 2020 for the school's 15th Year birthday celebrations.



Student Leaders



Head Boy

"I wanted to be Head Boy because I felt it gives me the opportunity to develop my leadership skills which I can use later in life. I like being a leader and being in charge, I was confident I had the qualities of being a good role model. I've helped RDS continue to develop, I've shared a lot of ideas that have had a positive impact at RDS. Being Head Boy is a big responsibility as well as being a privilege. I always feel the need to help people out and being Head Boy feels like I'm doing just that. I think the teachers, students and parents that make up RDS is what makes it so special. We are so lucky to have teachers that make new learning easy to understand as well as creating an environment that is so fun and enjoyable. I'm moving on now and would like to wish our new Head Boy all the best".

Ahmed Khan, Head Boy



Head Girl

"Over the many years I have spent in Royal Dubai School, I have come to understand a lot of things including responsibility, hard work, commitment, confidence, empathy, the Jewels of Kindness and friendship. When I reflect on my eight years here, I can say that I've enjoyed my time here and I wouldn't want it in any other way. I am taking this role as Head Girl as a responsibility to give back to the younger students at RDS and share my cheerful personality and ideas at this school. RDS is a content and happy school environment that enables children to learn naturally and put more effort in both school work and extra-curricular activities. RDS is a part of my family and I hope it is to the other students as well! Good luck to the next Head Girl, I hope she enjoys and loves it as much as I did!"

Maiara Neacsu, Head Girl

House Captains

Balmoral



**Ademe
Akimzhanova**



**Ishaq
Mouffer**

Clarence



**Ali
Sheeraz**



**Sophie
Marrington**

Sandringham



**Laiba
Asif**



**Salar
Hamtaei**

Windsor



**Ahmad
Saif**



**Anoushae
Shah**

Student Leaders



Civic Ambassador
Hamdan Alfalasi



Civic Ambassador
Jood Shams



Civic Leader
Aysha Al Humaidi



Civic Leader
Hessah Lootah



Civic Leader
Hind Al Haj Nasser



Creative Arts Leader
Anaya Malik



Creative Arts Leader
Rawdha Alobeidli



Digital Leader
Amaana Iqbal



Digital Leader
Kresimir Tepes



English Leader
Ayesha Binte Abubakr



English Leader
Rafay Mahmood



HPL Leader
Sara Bakheit



HPL Leader
Yousef Elzokm



Innovation Leader
Hamdan Al Ansari



Innovation Leader
Rohaan Talha



Maths Leader
Nicholas Mathews



Maths Leader
Sophia Rajakulendran



Maths Leader
Nouran Reda



Maths Leader
Veer Shandilya

Student Leaders



Moral Leader
Dua Farooq



Moral Leader
Sabrina Al Dahhan



Science Leader
Alma Hulwan



Science Leader
Arqam Qureshi



Science Leader
Ayaan Siddiqui



Science Leader
Imaani Ismail



Science Leader
Shayna Vyas



Sports Leader
Lara Saffarini



Sports Leader
Layal Eldick



Sports Leader
Omar Jaber



Sports Leader
Sarah Rashid



Sports Leader
Warsan Fahad



Sports Leader
Yousif Arouni



Well Being Leader
Ali Nuaman



Well Being Leader
Bea Misselhorn



Well Being Leader
Elsa Seyedzadeh



Well Being Leader
Margarida Severino



Well Being Leader
Nadin Moursy

Student Council



Alana Fernandes



Asma Al Gergawi



Ayaan Murtaza



Bilal Yousuf



Christopher Prince John



Daleen Dwedari



Dany Badr



Eisa Fazlan



Fahad Alzarouni



Inayah Rahman



Kaylan Katetei



Khylan Reddy



Nouran Reda



Reagan Katetei



Sam Bright



Sam Shirazifard



Sheikha Abdullah



Sambhav Jain

Foundation *Stage 1*

As the year began, our outstanding team were excited to welcome the FS1 children who were beginning their learning journeys at Gems Royal Dubai School. The staff began the year by supporting the children to feel safe and secure in their new environments and helped them settle into school and the daily routines. Creating friendships helped the children to boost their confidence and self-esteem, this was achieved by helping them to develop their social skills in speaking and listening and turn taking. Over the year the creative learning environments helped the children to develop their skills across all areas of learning. This was possible through planning a curriculum that was engaging and fun and allowed the children to take an active role in their learning by sharing their thoughts and ideas. Adult led learning helped the children to develop new skills, whilst child initiated activities allowed the children to reinforce their learning and develop their independence. Ongoing observations of the children helped to ensure that the children were engaged and excited about their learning and offered an insight into their needs and next steps.

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Over the year the children also took part in many exciting whole school events such as Wonderful Words Week where they learnt to use their imaginations and developed an understanding of books through the story "Room on the Broom". National Day and International Day taught them about the world around them and helped them to celebrate themselves and each other through clothes, music, crafts and food. Experiencing these different events allowed them to understand why their similarities and differences made them special and unique.

To celebrate our achievements this year, the FS1 parents were invited to watch the children perform in their winter concert where they observed how much they had grown in confidence when performing a song and dance with their peers. They also watched the children join in with Sports Day where the PE team and PlayMaker® leaders helped them to show the progress they had made in their physical development. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the children completed their final term through remote learning. The dedicated teachers continued to plan high quality lessons that would inspire and excite the children and allow them to learn and make progress in their home environments with thanks to the support of their families. The FS1 team are very proud of the progress that the children have made this year. We have loved spending each day with such friendly, fun and happy children and have felt privileged to have helped them in their first year at school. We wish them the very best of luck as they move onto FS2.



FS1A Dolphin



Back row- Left to right: Faeza Afolabi, Zaid Al Doori, Ibrahim Fagear, Shamma Shamal, Yanal Melhem, Joshua Shima, Dubai Alsharif, Hussein Elgazzar, Ali Uwaiskarni, Hamad Bushehab, Hassan Harbavi, Hamed Al Khaja, Fatima Darwish, Aryan Wickramasinghe **Front row-** left to right: Hessa Alshamsi, Perla Hariri, Hessa Alfalasi, Mia Mensah, Khalifa AlDallal, Affan Khurram, Aisha Ali, Umar Mujahid Khan **Teacher:** Rebecca McAleenan **Teaching Assistant:** Vely Tshili **Nanny:** Bimala Gurang



FS1B Shark



Back row- left to right: Mohamed Kaoud, Jad Abdo, Iris Pereira, Darok Haq, Nehail Al Dhaheri, Arissa Parvez, Mazna Abu Hamra, Ibrahim Al Qurashi, Humaid Alremeithi, Neil Dhakan, Adam Hatoum
Front row- left to right: Riham Massouad, Fatimah Surah, Zhi Hao Huang, William Okene, Aarin Nair, Zirwah Mohsin, Mahra Bin Tamim, Ameyah Sooraj
Teacher: Joy Rowan **Teaching Assistant:** Keshinee Rathnayake **Nanny:** Kalpana Rai

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FS1C Seahorse



Back row- left to right: Saif Morrar, Mohamed Al Ali, Mustafa Usman, Sanvi Tippireddy, Hessa Alghadiri, , Hamed Al Maamari, Abdulrahman Sharif, Aarush Kenath, Inara Irshad, Tooba Zeeshan, Abdullah Anwer, , Deetya Pamnani **Front row-** left to right: Aizah Anase, Reem Albalooshi, Dinar Dinar, Rashed Ahli, Noora Alblooshi, Hareem Wahaj, Reyansh Ajit, Shanzay Khan **Teacher:** Jamie Hinde **Teaching Assistant:** Eram Khan **Nanny:** Shushma Rapal



FS1D Turtle



Back row- left to right: Honglin Zhou, Alia Almemari, Yara Othman, Rashed Almheiri, Saif Almaazmi, Carla Hariri, Marko Tepes, Lily Kamel, Jad Bassam Daoud, Vielka Kapilraj, Hamad Almuhairei, Zayed Albastaki **Front row-** left to right: Yassin Maher, Hamdan Albanna, Abdulla Al Falasi, Mahmoud Mohamed, Yasmin Al Karaghoulili, Karen Joy, Alreem Alfalasi, Maryam Aldallal **Teacher:** Sian Pascoe **Teaching Assistant:** Anishka Dias **Nanny:** Anushka Rathnapala

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FS1E Starfish



Back row- Left to right: Ghala Ahmed, Kinza Anjum Rangari , Raaid Mohammed Al Rowaishan, Ari Luis Fernandes, Reema Aldorsari, Xiyu Luo, Misha Ahmed Khan, Mohammed Rayyan Qureshi, Serena Chen, Arwa Alserkal , Ayline Negib, Nasser Naseer **Front row-** Left to right: Fatima Al Ali, Omar Albalooshi, Aarav Dhammi, Mansoor Almarzooqi, Mahra Alhammadi, Muhammad Farooq, Yahya Mahomed, Muyan Tian **Teacher:** Louise Hurley **Teaching Assistant:** Jocelyn Factor **Nanny:** Kaushalya Rai



Foundation *Stage 2*

Our Foundation Stage Two provides an inspiring and engaging environment that promotes independent learning. We have a passionate and dedicated team that welcomes children and encourages them to learn in a safe and happy environment. We offer a wide range of learning opportunities through different approaches from their first day at school, which is enabled through our indoor and outdoor classrooms. Our experienced team stimulate and motivate children's learning and encourage them to try new things. There is a good balance between child-initiated activities and adult directed activities that enable children to reach their full potential socially, emotionally and academically with confidence.

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FS2 have enjoyed taking part in International Day, where we were able to celebrate the diversity of our school. Our incredible PE team provided an Olympic Games themed Sports Day showing off our amazing physical development. We also took part in academic events such as Science Week and Wonderful Words Week where we used the storybook 'Zog' as our stimulus for learning. These events have provided the children with real life learning experiences as well as opportunities to develop their skills across all areas of the curriculum whilst building their foundation to becoming independent life-long learners.

Our outstanding FS2 team have covered a wide range of stimulating topics that have engaged and broadened the children's knowledge, skills and experiences. We started the year with #MyDubai, where children were able to share their personal experiences in the UAE. We visited The Dubai Frame and the children compared the new and old parts of Dubai, as well as developed their Social Studies knowledge of Dubai and the wider UAE. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the children completed their final term through Remote Learning. The teachers continued to provide high quality lessons and delivered them through an online platform, and the children demonstrated perseverance and resilience throughout the whole term with the support of their families and teachers. The FS2 team are grateful and thankful for the ongoing parent support that we received this year, and we wish everyone the best of luck as they move forward in their learning journey to Year One.



FS2A Elephant



Back row- left to right: Haoyang Yu, Aura Mehra, Dayyan Abu Rabie, Eshaal Basid, Sheza Siddiqui, Yousef Heidar, Omar Rahideh, Zaid Hamad, George Madbak, Inaya Ejaz, Yuran Zhang, Juliana Dong
Front row- left to right: Alyxandra Abushaaban, Mohammed Marvi, Musa Khan, Safia Murfad, Tamim Abdulla, Lojain Elmusharaf, Ali Alobeidli, Ayan Abdi **Teacher:** Nicola Everett, **Teaching Assistant:** Odessa Geguiera, **Nanny:** Dinusha Fernando



FS2B Hippo



Back row-left to right: Junyi Zhang, Beatriz Pereira, Eric Bai, Zohan Fahad Khan, Layan Mansoor Yousef Mohammad Alkhaja, Adam Nabil Ghazi, Leyla Ebraheim Abdulla Saeed Alyammahi, Chenxuan Qiao, Mohammad Al Sarrah, Manaa Arif Thabet Ahmad Saeed, Mariam Murtuza, Najat Mama Adam Chabi, Ibrahim Ali, Musabbbeh Alfalasi **Front row**- left to right: Salama Al Mehairi, Abdullah Aljazzazi, Xuan Lai, Jamila Mostafa Hussien Kamel Selim Soliman, Ghaith Matar Mohammed Alkhateiby Alkaabi, Sara Khan, Stephanie Samuel, Abdullah Dalal **Teacher:** Sinead Avitabile **Teaching Assistant:** Marivic Forro **Nanny:** Revathi Tirukala

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FS2C Tiger



Back Row- Left to Right: Vidisha Shetty, Al Reem Darwish, Salma Bilshalat, Eduard Zoia, Yaphet Kassaw, Haya Bin Hoaba, Ted Bullock, Layan Hamade, Kinzie Ahmed, Eben Kraftt, Yihang Song, Ghala Almarzooqi, Ruben Pelser **Front row-** Left to Right: Aly Sheira, Saeed Al Dhaheri, Tayem Abu Radwan, Mohamed Almarzooqi, Salma Kaddoura, Hugo Alwan, Georgios Kafouros, Mahra Al Suwaidi, Emma Prince John, Joshua Kamal **Teacher:** Lauren Stokes **Teaching Assitant:** Anna Svensson **Nanny:** Stellah Mbabazi



FS2D Giraffe



Back row-left to right: Aisha Ahli, Linda Gasri, Siena Van Ulden, Mohamed Eesa Shafquat, Moosa Idrees, Omar Belshalat, Xianjun Xu, Frederick Keith, Umar Ali, Omnia Elsergany, Tadgh Abou Rjeily, Hamad Gargash, Aliza Parvez **Front row**- left to right: Humaid Almansoori, Zayed Rasheed, Bejed Almutairi, Alia Al Shimmari, Adam Shehata, Alexandra Alywn-Jones, Philippa French, Omar Jarrar
Teacher: Eva Fotopoulou **Teaching Assistant:** Mary Promodh **Nanny:** Anupa majhi

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FS2E Lion



Back row- left to right: Hind Majid Al Jawali, Jude Al Garnawi, Mohamed Abourida, Georgia Ritchie, Bader Alremeithi, Janith Rattesar, Iraj Dalal, Ayla Albarghouthy, Aurelie Shima, Fatma Alzarooni, Sophie Noronha, Selim Soliman, Muhammad Afridi **Front row-** left to right: Meya Ardalan, Zayed Alnaqbi, Salama Ajlan, Tia Chelsea Njanike, Ayesha Athar, Naya Manna, John Leonardo Rupinta Browning, Mohammad Alsaffar, Laith Morjan, Arohi Jain **Teacher:** Ellie Gosling **Teaching Assistant:** Jocelyn Tadeja **Nanny:** Lochani Sunapati



FS2F Monkey



Back row-left to right: Essa Asad, Yousef Yamen Aldorf , Fares Thaher, Faisal Sami, Raphael Elias, Jamila Al Hammadi, Shaikha Alshamsi, Shamma Albanna, Samantha Alwyn-Jones, Shumin Yang, Lyudmila Zykova, Rishika Patil, Turki Alahmadi **Front row**- left to right: Taliah Ahmed, Maryam Hassan, Noora Ahli, Chen Zou, Mohammad Saalim Soobashah, Rayyan Ahmed, Abdulla Alnuaimi, Eric Dragoi, Riya Kodituwakku, Tomas Perera **Teacher:** Victoria Jennings **Teaching Assistant:** Michelle Maningas **Nanny:** Pushparani Kadiravel



FS2G Rhino



Back row-left to right: Haya Al Haj Nasser, Saif Jassim AlBalooshi, Shamoil Ibrahim Sadekali, Majed Al Aرامي, Shaima Al Jaziri, Afra Ebrahim Naser Hasan Al Ali , Pearce El Hachem , Hamdan Marwan Mahmoud Ibrahim Bin Essa , Ali Balabel, Zahra Noor Ali, Khalid Sultan Abdulrahman Ali Alsaadi , Mohamad Choukair **Front row**- left to right: Anaya Ismail, Aisha Almarzouki, Maryam Al Ismail, Qingwei Bao, David Bouassaly, Hind Abdalla Mohamed Fakhra Al Ali , Maryam Zeeshan Khalid Shaikh, Rabah Saffron **Teacher:** Emma Trevette **Teaching Assistant:** Clarence Asegurado **Nanny:** Badra Jinadari Adikari Ad



Year 1

Well, that's another amazing year completed, and I must first of all congratulate the wonderful students in Year 1 for their efforts throughout the year! They have been a fabulous cohort and we all wish them every success in Year 2 – we know they will be superstars!

When the year began in September, we welcomed 3 new teachers from the UK and Ireland; Miss Weeks, Mrs Redpath and Mrs Murray. They all brought excellent new talents to the team and settled in fantastically. Miss Adrianna took over as the Teaching Assistant in 1LLK, and proved to be an incredible addition to our team of top – notch TAs! We were ready!

Our first topic was #MyDubai. The children loved cementing the relationships with their new classmates by sharing their 'Identity boxes', sharing information about their families, cultures and traditions. The year group enjoyed a trip to The Sheikh Mohammed Cultural Centre for Understanding, and enjoyed their morning tasting dates, coffee and learning about Dubai in the past.

The children all loved linking their learning to Super Heroes, and each designed an amazing new character to use in their own writing. The teachers were all very impressed with the stories the children wrote about making good choices! Our trip to Kidzania was an excellent way to help the children relate their 'Super Heroes' to 'Real Life Heroes', and they loved the opportunity to find out more about the roles of the people who help us. We think many of them will be doctors, nurses and firemen when they grow up!

We were delighted with the children's enthusiasm and learning during our 'Animals' topic, they all used super scientific vocabulary and were able to group animals by many different criteria.

Another memorable time for the children in Year 1 was 'Wonderful Words Week'. They were so star-struck to be able to meet MC Grammar and this was definitely reflected in their work! The children focused on the book 'The Day the Crayons Quit' and all wrote persuasive letters asking them to change their minds. Maybe we will have some lawyers, too!

In term 3, the children became the first Year 1 children to take part in 'Remote Learning'. The teachers were so proud of the ingenuity the children expressed in completing their tasks at home – every response to each activity was different and inventive and caused the teachers to celebrate the children's 'Creative Thinking' skills. We were super glad that they were all able to continue developing their High Performance Learning through facing and overcoming such a unique challenge! We really were amazed by their resilience.

We are now looking forward to yet another exciting year in Year 1 and are ready to find out what it brings!



Year 1LB



Back row-left to right: Yamen Yassien Hemdan Ibrahim Mohamed, Ghaya Bin Essa, Junheng Chen, Rashid Alshamsi, Aryeh Hiran Nair, Vivaan Budki, Suzaan Sneygans, Anja Essam, Naya El Hakawati, Milia Hamdan, Bana Daoud, Ayaanah Saeisha Ramiz, Tia Alhasani, Hamza Ismail, Muhammed Saffron **Front row**- left to right: Abdulrahman Ahli, Rashid Ahli, Thyab Hassan Mohammad Abdulla Al Blooshi, Ryan Al Muwalekh, Saeed Ahli, Essa Assad, Youseff Taher, Nasser Majid Al Suwaidi, Reema Al Jaghbir, Jumana Hejazi, Ghaith Abdulla **Teacher:** Lauren Brockbank **Teaching assistant:** Nadine Salama



Year 1 HW



Back row- left to right: Aaron Anthony Corcoran, Barbaros Ilyas Oztoprak, Shuodi Wang, Rayyan Ahmed Umarul Farouk, Eric Haibo Cheng, Lily Ahmed Desouky, Alexis Pereira, Gabriela Oakden Dominguez, Mohammed Ishaq Arshad Khan, Kelly Holly D Mello Ian Fleming, Fatima Al Remeithi, Shiv Nilesh Dhakan, Hannah Maria Al-Qaseer, Aiden Nathaniel D Souza, Muhammad Arham Mohib Un Nabi **Front row-** left to right: Aisha Narula, Veeva Roby Mathews, Sultan Khalifa Ahmed Yusef Bushaqar, Shayan Haroon Butt Haroon Waheed Butt, Ateeksh Mehrotra, Aizah Abid, Junyi Qian, Adham Soliman, Lilia Abdelhamid Mohamed Abdelhamid Ismail Nawar, Salama Marwan Abdulla Mohammad Aljaziri, Evie Ward **Teacher:** Hannah Weekes **Learning Support Assistant:** Giovannah Cinco **Teaching Assistant:** Karen Alzapiedi



Year 1 KM



Back row- left to right: Muhammad Zayan Adeel, Sultan Alsharhan, Taoran Quan, Sultan Majid Al Suwaidi, Saeed Alobeidli, Marwan Ghareeb, Muza Bushehab, Talia Abu Arja, Kayann Hamade, Sama Ahmed, Kriyansh Deb, Haya Desouky, Adam Soliman, Aisha Rashed Almheiri, Mansoor Zarooni, Alyazia Salem **Front row-** left to right: Lana Khamis, Nora Zsanett Lengyel, Amna Aljaziri, Mayram A M Abushi, Mahra Alshamsi, Muhammad Tayyab Khurram, Ali Tuncer, Elie Bijo, Lucy (Zixi) Zhao, Moza Aldallal **Teacher:** Kellie Murray **Teaching Assistant:** Aira Garcia **Learning Support Assistant:** Ekin Fiteni



Year 1LLK



Back row- left to right: Sulaiman Mahomed, Zainab Asadallah, Saif Al Memari, Ryan Khezri, Maya Ibrahim, Nael Salem, Sheikh Saeed Almaktoom, Cedric Chen, Andrew El Khoury, Zunaira Khalid, Ali Bakheit, Yassin Sami, Mackenzie Hassane, Omar Essam, Maryam Al Doosari **Front row-** left to right: Adam Fallah, Nawal Khalid, Nathan Yishak, Eshaal Khairi, Jawaher Alsharif, Fatma Ismail Ahli, Meera Anwahi, Hisham Manna, XINUO LUO, Gabriel Hariri **Teacher:** Leanda Kelly **Teaching Assistant:** Adriana Filipescu



Year 1TR



Back row- left to right: Eyad Yousef, Suhail Al Tamimi, Elissa Bijo, Sang Yicheng, Emir Kaan Donmez, Elyse Alex, Hakan Alp Kaya, Qiluo Wu, Ida-May Al-Hajj, Faheemah Afolabi, Salma Abdelrahim, Aayra Lodi, Yiru Wang, Abdullah Tahir, Lilia Al Abbasi **Frontrow-** left to right: Umar Uwaiskarni, Krista Ohanian, Haya Wahab, Aminah Moizuddin, Fraser Martin, Zian Chen, Ahmed Hassane, Zahra Rangwala, Eshaan Amin, Khalid Shams **Teacher:** Teddi Redpath **Teaching Assistant:** Reem Zidan



Year 1VF



Back row- left to right: Mazen Kazaw, Omar Zhou, Ali Alvi, Sara Alameri, Mikaela Elian, Areej Shaikh , Eshal Faisal, Hamza Al Emad, Abduaziz Faisal, Sinan Ibrahimoglu, Abdullah Khalil, Connor Narinx, Obaid Alshaer, Mariam Belshalat, Si In Honey Wu **Front row-** left to right: Rashid Al Nashash, Aarush Anurag, Hareb Saeed, Ali Yassine, Mansimar Bakshi, Abdalla Alshamsi, Ameerah Murfad, Shamsa Alrais, Maayra Banga, Ati Bhankingtongkam, Akshada Dontamsetti **Teacher:** Vanessa Fernando **Teaching Assistant:** Sheflin Qais



Year 2

What a marvellous year it has been for Year 2! It has been a pleasure to continue within my role as Year Leader and work alongside the dedicated Year 2 teachers. Miss Reynolds stayed in Year 2 for another year, whilst we welcomed Mrs Kearney to the GRDS family. Mrs Coppock and Mrs Wareing joined us from Year 1 and Miss Gray joined us from Year 3; making Team 2 a highly successful team of creativity, experience and enthusiasm. It has been wonderful to see how well all of the new children to GRDS have adapted to school life and have enjoyed their learning experiences.

This year has provided the children with engaging, challenging and 'real-life' learning, which all of the teachers and teaching assistants have thoroughly enjoyed too! We have had many exciting learning hooks, which have helped to inspire and engage the children in their new learning opportunities. Some highlights have been the Year 2 teachers dressing up as Emirates Airline Staff to pose the mystery of the 7 lost suitcases; the teachers dressing up as Rock stars to launch the idea of 'becoming responsible'; the teachers and some children dressing up as characters from the Wizard of Oz to celebrate Wonderful Words Week and our fantastic new concept 'Colours of the Rainbow'.

The year began with our 'Learning to Learn' unit, based on our HPL/ICARE statements with a particular focus on how students learn and the specific HPL skills we need to apply to become successful learners and access all lessons. The children enjoyed joining cooperative learning groups, discovering the difference between different cooperative learning roles and learning how to communicate and collaborate with others. The children explored how the Learning Wave would be used in our everyday lessons in order to self-assess and decide what our next 'Wonder moment' might be.

Our first Discovery Journey started with #MyDubai which required the children to research and explore the concept of transport. They worked on a project linked to EXPO 2020 which they presented at National Day. It was amazing to see such innovative ideas come from all of Year 2, where the children first found out about the changes in Dubai's transport history, as well as then understanding the importance of developing eco-friendly methods of travel. The children loved their school trip on the 'Big Bus Tour', where they completed a scavenger hunt to try to spot as many different famous landmarks as well as all of the types of transport which they had been learning about on their journey.

Our next concept was Around the World, where the children learned about the 7 continents and 5 oceans, as well as discovering the landscape and human and physical features, making comparisons and finding similarities. The children thoroughly enjoyed receiving videos and letters from their link school in Ireland, and enjoyed making comparisons between this country and their own. The children learned all about animals, habitats, houses and different cultures. They were able to make comparisons using their knowledge gained from their #MyDubai unit of work, which was fantastic to see.

Responsible Rockstars was another very enjoyable concept for Year 2 this year, with a huge focus on becoming socially, morally and physically responsible for ourselves and others. The children enjoyed learning about how they could become more responsible both at home and at school. They discovered the importance of showing respect and designed their own poems, teaching others all about how to be respectful and responsible. The highlight was of course hearing the teachers sing a rock song and dressing up as Rockstars! These are just some of the amazing concepts and special days we have experienced this year, all of which the children and teachers have thoroughly enjoyed.

A huge thank you must go to our fabulous Teaching Assistants and Learning Support Assistants: Miss Lavinia, Miss Sharon, Miss Rachel, Miss Anne, Miss Ruma, Miss Sara, Miss Josephine and Miss Iram. They work tirelessly and show incredible dedication to support the children's learning with so much positivity, encouragement and always a huge smile on their faces. Another important thank you must go to Miss Heba, our wonderful Enrichment Teaching Assistant, who has worked incredibly hard throughout the school year to support groups of children with their learning, with her original and inspiring lessons and activities.



Year 2SJA



Back row- left to right: Juan Chong, Rayan Hatoum, Qianran Bao, Mikayla Scheepers, Jannat Mohamed, Elisa Van Ulden, Ivanka Dsilva, Yashmit Kankonkar, Alahnah Martin, Lily Masterman-Esquibel, Ghala Shamal, Shiv Nair, Rawan Alaa, Polly Bullock, Brenna Pelser **Front row-** left to right: Eshaal Talha, Diya Asghar, Khaled Alblooshi, Bradley D Mello, Xinyue Ren, Nandini Patel, Nahla Mensah, Waleed Mubashir, Zayed Alsaadi, Abdulaziz Shaikhan **Teacher:** Suzanne Jackson **Teaching Assistant:** Rumana Shaikh **Learning Support Assistant:** Josephine Ngallam



Year 2MK



Back row– left to right: Sam Saaid, Iyaad Abdi, Hailey Keith, Mariam Alromaithi, Kavyaa Doshi, Thani Almansoori, Alexandros Kafouros, Yasmine Suleiman, Ghaith Ahli, Noor Shafquat, Maryam Abouelsoued, Yiwei Jessie Xiang, Soud Alsuwaidi, Fares Alrawashdeh, Faris Taj **Front row**- left to right: Muyun Zhang, Aamya Dhammi, Roudha Albalushi, Meharpreet Bakshi, Aysel Siddiqui, Lev Astionov, Vihana Rao, Saud Nalakath, Jinmin Yang, Khadijah Akhtar **Teacher:** Maria Kearney **Teaching Assistant:** Analyn Concepcion



Year 2RC



Back row- left to right: Lily Zhao, Talia Abushaaban, Hoor Amiri, Dikuo Bai, Zara Hassan, Alkadi Alketbi, Nicolas Cid, Mikaa'il Zeeshan, Maria Khairi, Hamad Alansari, Maryam Bharuchi, Maya Chaker, Viraj Shandilya, Atharva Chauhan, Arhaan Talwar **Front row-** left to right: Humna Ayaz, Charles Patten, Anezka Svitak, Conor Birch, Reeman Mohamed, Maryam Alzarooni, Saif Abou Shady, Lucas Song, Sara Essa, Aliya Alfalasi **Teacher:** Rebecca Coppock **Teaching Assistant:** Lavinia Antoce



Year 2RW



Back row- left to right: Ibrahim Farooq, Zaid Alkour, Rumaysa Khan, Salma Abboud, Farook Abdulsalam, Shama Al Nuaimi, Huda Alsharif, Ella Masterman-Esquibel, Laith Hamad, Mohamed Imbarek, Hessa Almarzouki, Mohammed Hassan Wahab, Nusaybah Aman, Sheikha Maryam Al Maktoum, Shehrbano Qaisrani **Front row-** left to right: Nelly Essam, Yahya Alshaer, Fatima Almarzooqi, Muhammed Khan, Archie Angus, Farida Khairy, Maryam Gargash, Naif Fahd, Kimian Matthews, Yousef Yousef **Teacher:** Rachel Wareing **Teaching Assistant:** Sarah Zainudin



Year 2SG



Back row- left to right: Hamad Alshamsi, Mohammed Doeji, Burhanuddin Kanpurwala, Aadi Anand, Kapeesh A Dalal, Aroush Khalid, Zayed Almarzooqi, Satroop Lall, Mina Van Ulden, Azaan Khan, Keira Naidoo, Nour Shima, Adeena Sufyan Rahman, Viraj Mehra **Front row-** left to right: Amna Saeed, Jimena Sasselli-Agueda, Asena Haliya Kutlu, Adriana Centenera, Yousef Essawi, Siham Khalil, Carla Neacsu, Jonathan Thomas, Helen Ding, Sulaiman Khansaheb **Teacher:** Scarlett Gray **Teaching Assistant:** Rachel Ngethe



Year 2LER



Back row- left to right: Khalifa Alhaj Nasser Abdulla, Arya Subramani, Isabelle Thomas, Suhail Al Mehairi, Mansour Aljarn, Falak Rangari, Emma Heydenrych, Chenxi Zhu, Aki Odate, Alma Abdulkhaleq, Saarah Anoop, Tamara Darwazeh, Kiara Arora, Adam Eldick, Matthew Blignault **Front row-** left to right: Yohana Kassaw, Wadeema Alali, Saif Madani, Daniel Arnaout, Oliver Done, Mohamed Alsahlawi, Kyriaki Rivans, Nandita Sharma, Eliya Negib **Teacher:** Leigh Reynolds **Teaching Assistant:** Sharon Oxenham **Learning Support Assistant:** Taqdees Iram



Year 3

What an amazing year we have had in Year 3. It has been a privilege to be the Year Leader for such resilient and caring children and staff. The children have brought a positive attitude to all challenges and I am very proud of all of their achievements.

We have been very fortunate to have an amazing team of dedicated teachers in Year 3 this year. They have shared their enthusiasm with the children and they have inspired them to become life-long learners. Mrs Basson, Mrs Deerey and I all shared our knowledge of Year 3 at RDS, while Miss Farrell provided her amazing expertise from Year 2. We also welcomed Miss Powell to complete the Year 3 team for 2019-2020.

The year started by welcoming all of our new students. It was such a delight to be greeted by their eager faces on the first day. The children settled in to the routines of GRDS quickly and they immediately contributed to our cooperative learning environment. From the offset, all of the children were demonstrating their HPL/ ICARE skills from the previous year. We continued to embed these principles further and develop the children's understanding of these skills. We have seen many examples of adaptable, creative and innovative learning across all subject areas. As the children continued on their learning journey, they all showed how reflective they could be by using our learning wave. It has been so lovely watching the children mature and grow in independence towards their learning. All of the Year 3 staff are amazed at their progress.

Our first concept of the year was "My Dubai" concept. This included an unforgettable trip to the spice souk and the Dubai Frame. The children were very confident in getting a bargain at the souk. I had never seen bartering quite like it! We travelling through time during our concept, exploring traditional clothes, trades and dishes. Once national day came around, it was great to see the children using their concept knowledge to identify some of the dishes provided and to recap on traditional trades.

As EXPO approaches, we wanted to offer the children the opportunity to delve into EXPO's main principles. The children became advocates for a plastic-free and a sustainable society. This topic of learning branched over all subject areas and the children were very enthusiastic about it. It has been amazing to see so many Year 3 children receiving awards for their recycling efforts. Although we explored sustainability in term 1, the children have reflected on this learning throughout the year and they are still using their knowledge of reusing and recycling today. At GRDS we promote life- long learning opportunities and it is amazing to see the children embrace everything that is taught to them.

Did you hear about the dinosaur who turned all of the tables over in our classrooms? Luckily, the children were great detectives and they helped restore order back into the learning environments. The concept of "Survival requires..." saw the children looking at habitats, adaptation and food chains. This then led us perfectly onto our "World's Weirdest Weather" concept. The children all wrote some detailed newspaper articles and they participated in some excellent discussions on how the earth and environment affects quality of living.

A highlight for the children this year was definitely the Year 3 camp. As teachers, we could see such bravery and perseverance in the children trying new challenges. They worked really well together and supported each other through the tasks. Great friendships and unforgettable memories were made during this experience. As we moved towards the remote learning period of the year, I am amazed at how adaptable the children were. They demonstrated a mature and independent response to the change in their learning. Although all of the teachers and staff dearly miss them, we could not have asked for a better response from them. I am proud of each and every one of you.

This year would not have been successful without the continued support of our teaching assistants. Mirium, Jisha, Sara, Ansa and Helena have been fundamental in providing outstanding learning opportunities for all children. I am so thankful for their continued support. Another big thank you goes to all of our parents. Without your support, we would not be able to provide the children with these great learning opportunities. As we say a goodbye from Year 3, we wish you all the best as you move on with your education. You have all been superstars! Please take all of the great things that you have learnt with you to Year 4 and continue to strive to be the best that you can be.



Year 3AWH



Back row- left to right: Amal Al Tamimi, Nuha Haq, Ayaan Murtaza, Mohammed-Zeeyad Ayub, Yousuf Khan, Mohammad Anwar Zabin, Ibrahim Parham, Abdulla Taher, Thanvi Jeyendiran, Ayra Humayun, Raudha Nasser, Noora Mubarak Aljabri, Jana Al Barazangi, Konah Burness, Sameer Ahmed, Mohammed Khalil **Front row-** left to right: Muxi Ruan (Cola), Liyue Feng (Gary), Burhanuddin Marvi, Yousef Othman, Mustafa Khalid, Rania Khaleel, Haya Alsumaiti, Sarra Jannet, Rayan Abu Rabei **Teacher:** Abbie Williams-Hall **Teaching assistant:** Jisha Madhavan **Enrichment Teaching Assistant:** Ansa Shafaat



Year 3CP



Back row- Left to right: Haneen Al Doori, Abdullah Shahzad, Mohammad Jamal, Rashid Aldallal, Joud Melhem, Abdulaziz Khansaheb, Tahani Thanveer Abdul Rahiman, Karim Abdelrahim, Zeina El Gharably, Adam Abu Arja, Aly Hosny, Youssef Sharaf, Ayham Hassan, Amaira Anwer, Amjad Mousa Bacha **Front row-** left to right: Yasin Yaman Al Fatouhi Al Jendi, Ayla Ibrahim, Zareen Danishwar Niamat, Abdulaziz Alrais, Ranim Ben El Haj Massouad, Maryam Rahideh, Dany Badr, Kairos Feliciano, Adam El Shafei, Junxi Qian, Ameerah Sumner **Teacher:** Charlotte Powell **Teaching Assistant:** Mirium Agustine

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Year 3MD



Back row- left to right: Habib Arouni, Faye Al Garnawi, Inayah Rahman, Youssef Gasri, Omar Aljammal, Amir Khan, Morgan Taylor, Sophia Oluwashetemi Olajide, Riddhima Dave, Zainab Khairi, Nicole Krejsa, Tia Mahmoud, Raima Mahmood, Kashish Kadam, Alia Ahmed **Front row-** left to right: Jean-Marc El Khazen, Ryan Issa, Mehek Mudassar Deshmukh, Arianna Mudiyansele, Reem Alblaoshi, Xinyan Yu, Behrad Fard, Adham Ibrahim, Hala Al Muwalekh, Jayden Thomas, Hsin-Yu Tsai **Teacher:** Maggie Deery **Teaching Assistant:** Sara Ahmed **Teacher Trainee:** Asma Saloom



Year 3RF



Back row- left to right: Ansharah Yousef, Noor Albastaki, Ayesha Izhar, Arzeen Malik, Caitlyn Laryea, Lara Albarghouthy, Abbas Altaf, Omar Soltan, Latifa Al Dallal, Zoya Khan, Sara Awan, Suhail Al Jasmi, Aisha Bushehab, Omar Ahmed, Esah Ismail, Faris Abudayyeh, Josef Khreiche **Front row-** left to right: Shaza Saaid, Jolie Abodiab, Shamma Sultan Hasan Shahin Alblooshi, Sam Shirazifard, Inaaya Abid, Suhail Al Muhairi, Kareem Abdo, Rashid Alameri, Abdulla Bin Essa **Teacher:** Rachel Farrel **Teaching assistant:** Mirium Agustine



Year 3TB



Back row- left to right: Haya Abublan, Jeebal Mohamed, Alia Al Ali, Mahad Hussam Qureshi, Maria Severino, Abdelrahman Abouelwafa, Mido Sammak, Alexandra El Khazen, Marita Kobrossi, Rashid Ahli, Mostafa Ahmed, Abdullah Uwaiskarni, Megan D Mello, Ayat Minhas **Front row-** left to right: Alaena Mouffer, Khylan Reddy, Rashed Mubarak, Emaan Adeel Baig, Amna Saad, Prisha Shetty, Faris Alaraimi, Butti Bin Hoaba, Yosr Hached, Grace Ward, Hamed Aljawaly **Teacher:** Tania Basson **Teaching assistant:** Jisha Madhavan



Year 4

This year has been truly brilliant for Year 4! It has been wonderful continuing my role as Year Leader and being part of a team where such innovative, creative and amazing teaching has consistently occurred all year round. We have been very lucky keeping Miss O'Keefe and Mrs Tabner in our year group and were joined by Mrs Angus who brought her expertise of Year 5 to our team. It has also been lovely to see how well all the new children joining us this year have settled straight into our routines and how much they have enjoyed learning at RDS.

This year has provided the children with engaging, challenging and 'real-life' learning opportunities, all of which the teachers have enjoyed too! Having exciting hooks along with clear and purposeful exit points to each unit has been extremely successful. We began the year by examining our HPL/ICARE statements, with a particular focus on how we learn and the skills we need to access learning. This led into building upon our cooperative learning, where the children worked closely and collaboratively with different pupils all year long. Finally, we looked at how The Learning Wave would be represented in our classrooms and how it would facilitate our learning. The children were very confident with sharing their ideas, understanding their next steps and knowing that learning is continuous. They are excited by learning and have no fear when it comes to new challenges. Their thirst for knowledge and enthusiasm to create new Wonders has been wonderful to see this year. Seeing them make connections between all the skills they have been exposed to throughout the year has been a credit to them on how far they have progressed and expanded their understanding of what they are capable of and how they can achieve this.

Our first Discovery Journey started with #MyDubai which allowed the children to research and explore the concept of Sustainability. They worked on a project linked to EXPO which they presented at National Day. It was amazing to see such innovative ideas come from all of Year 4. The children really have wanted to make lasting changes to help protect the environment, with reducing plastic waste being one focus area. They worked on how they could also create more sustainable spaces by reusing buildings and spaces rather than starting again. Working together to create portfolios for Atlantis and the Palm were by far highlights of this year! All the groups developed such innovative ideas and articulated them in a clear and purposeful way. What fantastic role models with truly inspirational aspirations on how to make a positive change to our planet!

Term 2 smoothly transitioned into looking at culture, community and population around the world; we were closely considering tribes and how they live. The children were able to build upon their skills and apply them to different locations around the globe, as well as comparing different cultures to the UAE. Their passion and dedication to basic and moral rights was brilliant to see, especially through their debating skills. Learning about tribal medicines, dances, languages and games through our 'Hook Day' was certainly a highlight and one we will all remember! Our Wonderful Words Week unit on choices saw the children creating potions and medicines through science experiments and instructional writing, all whilst using their mathematical measuring skills to support them. The children absolutely loved being immersed into books and reading for pleasure which we continued throughout the year.

Another highlight this year was taking part in the Equine Education Programme at the Meydan Racecourse which was a fantastic learning opportunity. It led on to us participating in the Fun Day World Cup where we came 1st place for the writing competition – well done Siddhant! Other special events such as Sports Day Olympic Theme was a fun day for all, especially for some competitive teachers! All of the children showed great support for each other and for different classes. These are just some of the amazing concepts and special days we have covered this year, all of which the children and teachers have thoroughly enjoyed.

All of the fantastic work that goes on in Year 4 would not be possible without the committed support of our fabulous Teaching Assistants and Learning Support Assistants. They work tirelessly to ensure that the learning that happens is outstanding and they always support and encourage the children with a huge smile on their faces. A huge thank you must go to Ansa, Carmina, Iram, Jean, Milica and Ruby.

Finally it is important for us to say a huge thank to the parents. Without your support towards the teachers and that you give your children, this year would not have been the same. So THANK YOU! As it is the end of the year we sadly say farewell to our lovely Year 4 children and wish them all the best for the start of their new adventure as Year 5's. We hope they continue to succeed and be as excited about their learning journey along with being great role models to the younger year groups. Well done!



Year 4LK



Back row- left to right: Farah Al Hashmi, Simiao Cheng, Sophia Najjar, Eisa Fazlan Ayumi Khan, Serhan Haq, Celine Chen, Haya Mansour, Alisha Parvez, Yazan Alamer, Evan Saad, Wenlu Long, Mia Aoun, Khalid Albayati, Bandar Alrawashdeh, Roy Arnaout **Front row-** left to right: Katherine Peng, Sophia Butres, Emad Abdullah, Jay Chakravarthy Anand, Haya Al Sharhan, Kinda Hamed, Jad Sarieddine, Syed Ahmed Sami, Rana Ramtoola, Mira Kaddoura **Teacher:** Lauren Kavanagh **Teaching Assistant:** Carmina Garcia **Learning Support Assistant:** Rajvinder Kaur



Year 4KT



Back row- left to right: Alana Fernandes, Stefan Milson, Callum Simpson, Marko Kovacevic, Bora Peter Fiteni, Ayaan Deen, Carter Brooks, Hareb Shamal, Youssef Maher, Sama Al Nashash, Ahmad Alawadi, Alisha Verma, Malak Mutaz, Yehia Ghali, Ali Tahir Mohammad **Front row-** left to right: Riya Subramani, Siddhant Saravana Natesh, Salma Khairy, Jury Hamed, Areeba Khalili, Tayma Aljaloudi, Yuthmika Kariyawasam, Noekin Santos, Ali Elnashar, Hamed Amiri, Ahmed Alhumaidi **Teacher:** Katie Tabner **Teaching Assistant:** Ansa Shafaat, Jean Peters

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Year 4CK



Back row- left to right: Aesha Sharma, Aisha Lamloom, Daania Rangari, Adiva Sharda, Hamed Alshaer, Aaliya Verma, Rayan Saeed, Layan Abuhulwan, Jonathan French, Rayana Alnasser, Johan Kurian, Adam El Hakawati, Aaron Kassaw, Moza Al Yousuf, Adnan Ibrahim Sadekali **Front row-** left to right: Adam Mohamed, Azlan Khan, Christopher John, Essa Sami, Jana Mohamed, Ahmed Maher, Liam Misselhorn, Meera Alharthi, Alanood Salem, Szheanelle Erich Santos, Abdulla Alzarooni **Teacher:** Clare O'Keefe **Teaching Assistant:** Carmina Garcia **Learning Support Assistant:** Milica Kovacevic



Year 4CA



Back row-left to right: Moza Al Kaabi, Clara Barrett, Shahd Alobeidli, Saif Ahmed, Malaak Abuserdaneh, Mira Ghareeb, Maha Asim, Mubeen Mubashir, Mira Alfalasi, Tim Cheng-Ting, Omar El Samadisy, Raudha Al Dhaheri, Ibrahim Kobrossi, Ethan Pereira, Maitha Anwahi, Altan Richard-Fiteni **Front row**- left to right: Bushra Alfalasi, Syed Ahmed, Mohammad Kremid, Yahya Mostafa, Raneem Yassine, Mohammad Ismail, Sahana Ravi, Gia Zameel, Sara Alsharif, Adnan Alamoosh, Asma Al Gergawi **Teacher:** Clare Angus **Teaching Assistant:** Jean Peters

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Year 5

What an incredible year it has been for Year 5. I have thoroughly enjoyed my new role this year as Year Leader and have worked alongside inspirational, devoted and resilient teachers. Luckily, Miss Kelly stayed in Year 5 for another year whilst we welcomed Miss Izzet into the GRDS family from England, Miss Jackson joined us from Year 3 and Mr Dempster from Year 4. We are also extremely grateful for our creative and hardworking teaching assistants: Miss Nancy, Miss Sara and Miss Chui. As always, Miss Lynda has been of huge support to the year group providing quality enrichment sessions, helping at school events and being our pro photographer! Our Year 5 team has thrived on team work and by working together, we have provided the children with exciting learning experiences, challenging lessons and we are all so proud of what they have achieved in school as well as online.

We began the year with our Learning to Learn unit. The children were immersed in different activities which linked to the High Performing Learning attributes. We worked together to understand what a growth mind set looks like and the children turned fixed mindset statements into growth mindset statements to support them for the rest of the year. Whilst working on our identities, we learnt there are five ways to find happiness; connect, be active, take notice, give and keep learning. We have been so impressed with how the children have responded to their own wellbeing this year. They have set themselves positive thoughts and affirmations that they can say to themselves as well as other strategies to help them manage in various different circumstances, including remote learning.

Our first unit of learning #MyArabia, gave us the opportunity to learn all about the different countries in our local region. The children loved sharing traditions from their home countries and learning about others. We read a cultural story set in the Omani mountains written by Julia Johnson called 'Leopard Boy'. Using Talk for Writing skills, the children acted out the story to learn it in greater depth whilst also noting the key features of a cultural story for a writing tool kit. The children innovated the story to an animal of their own choice from an Arabian country. They applied their research skills to finding out about the animal, its habitat and its diet before planning and writing their own cultural story.

Another highlight of term one was watching Hazza Al Mansoori take off, arrive at the International Space Station and follow his journey while he was up there. He was an inspiration to the Year 5 children as the first Emirati astronaut to reach space. This coincided with our 'Lunar Leaders' unit of work, where the children learnt about the solar system. Intellectual explanation texts were written by the children to explain the importance of the moon, phases of the moon and visitors to the moon as well as other interesting moon facts! They later enjoyed proving their knowledge of the phases by creating Oreo representations of the moon. We visited the Dubai Astronomy Centre and were able to use their telescopes to look at the Sun, visit the planetarium, the observation dome and see the labs in action. It was an awe-inspiring day out! Following on from this, the children impressed their teachers with their innovations skills by designing and making a new space suit for Mars space travel. These were later displayed in our school EXPO on National Day.

During term two, the children went back in time to learn all about 'Infamous Invaders'. We focused on the Anglo Saxons and the Vikings and compared their daily lives to ours today. The children read a variety of newspaper reports and we focused particularly on one about the Viking's invasion at Lindisfarne. As news of Dubai's rare weather at the time filled the headlines, the children took the opportunity to write their own newspaper reports about this using their first hand experiences.

As we reflect on the year, it has been certainly been a different one with remote learning taking center stage in term 3. However, the children have continued to work diligently on their targets and have excelled in their resilience and independence, proving that they can achieve anything! This would not be the case without support from home too, so a huge thank you must go to all our amazing Year 5 families. The children are indeed ready for the new challenges of Year 6 and becoming role models for the school. We wish the best of luck to everyone and once again, thank you for an unforgettable year.



Year 5HMF



Back Row- left to right: Yahia Eltaieb, Affan Ahmed, Zoe Lengyel, Gauri Santhosh, Salma Saeed, Alia Alharthi, Katherine Blignault, Jawaher Binmasood, Aria Mathews, Sandy Essawi, Saffiya Hassan, Jasmine Ania Al-Qasser, Thomas Foster, Sam Bright **Front Row-** left to right: Akram Ahmed Mohamed Helmy Ibrahim Sallam, Hamda Adel Alfalasi, Karen Massoud, Maria La Saga, Maitha Shamal, Maryam Bin Essa, Lelyan Abdulkhaleq, Ghalia Hejazi, Lifu Bao **Teacher:** Hannah Franklin **Teaching Assistant:** Nancy Emam



Year 5BD



Back Row- left to right: Reagan Katetei, Ahmed Sheira, Meitha Faisal Mohammed, Salama Alsahlawi, Joodie Alassaf, Alma Ibrahim, Mohamed Al Hussaini, Ahmad Sara, Rohaan Talha, Muhammad Shayan Baig, Salwa Ramadan, Alesya Eryin, Shahad Juma **Front Row-** left to right: Milena Rivans, Reem Ahli, Veer Shandilya, Humaid Alshamsi, Elli Theodoridou, Nourseen Zuraiqi, Shayna Vyas, Hind Madani, Maya Eladawy, Yimo Xiang **Teacher:** Brice Dempster **Teaching Assistant:** Nancy Emam



Year 501



Back Row- left to right: Sophie Murtaza, Alyziah Doej, Sara Almarzooqi, Mahmoud Tawiq, Trinesh Liyanage, Rafay Mahmood, Callum Coppock, Emily Oliver, Yousuf Wani, Abdulrahman Aldaowr, Anusheh Shah, Hamda Alsahlawi, Shaikha Abdullah, Marc Bouassaly **Front Row-** left to right: Omar Naseer, Ayra Ansari, Aron Raul, Sophia La Saga, Ayaan Siddiqui, Leah Solomon Yishak, Aisha Siddiqui, Hessa Ahmad, Sakina Rangwala **Teacher:** Olivia Izzet **Teaching Assistant:** Sia Chui Chui



Year 5RK



Back row- left to right: Anika Kennath, Ella Rizk Alwan, Nidhi Nair, Miriam Lootah, Maya Halpin, Eirini Kafourou, Tilly Done, Lizbeth Alex, Zoey El Hachem, Imaani Ismail, Reem Algahdiri, Monai Ahmed, Lamiha Sharfuddin, William Loft, Saeed Alaraimi, David Khreiche, Ahmed Almuhairei **First Row-** left to right: Layal Eldick, Gerasimina Kombou, Melisssa Iordanoiu, Flynn Whitehouse, Hamza Elnayeb, Sambhav Jain, Sukhveer Lall, Annabel Angus, Bianca Isaila, Nasser Al Suwaidi **Teacher:** Rionach Kelly **Teaching assistant:** Sia Chui Chui



Year 5SJ



Back row- Left to right: Dua Farooq, Lina Laith, Mashel Faisal, Zara Rasheed, Aarish Un Nabi, Omar Shehata, Yassin Sharaf, Gerasimos Kontogouris, Lina Hached, Lincoln Brooks, Zeid Aljammal, James Marrington, Maryam Jamal Darwish Alnuaimi, Miriam Fallah **Front row-** left to right: Moaz Mohammed, Zain Jaber, Amaana Iqbal, Joory Al Abbasi, Daleen Dwedari, Yousef Elzokm, Ghaya Aldallal, Misbah Choudry, Hana Abdelhay **Teacher:** Samantha Jackson **Teaching assistant:** Sara Ahmed

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Year 6

It has certainly been a memorable year for Year 6! I have been very fortunate to lead a wonderful group of students in my first year as Year Leader as well as being part of a team full of dedication, expertise, professionalism and enthusiasm for the job. It has been great to work alongside Mrs Done again, with the addition of Mr Cooper from Year 5 and Miss Timmins who is new to the RDS family. I feel together with the students we have made a great team. I thank them for their incredible efforts this academic year.

My other big thank you goes to our students. They have shown a thirst for learning from the moment we started in September all the way up to the end of the year; even with the unusual circumstances. It has been a privilege to work with these students and see their maturity grow in front of our eyes. I have no doubt that they will all thrive and make you proud on their next journey at secondary school.

This year we have explored some difficult concepts in Year 6. These were: 'Growth and achievement always lead to a positive outcome', 'Every crime deserves a punishment' and 'Social media is the biggest influence on an individual's choices'. All of these concepts required the children to think critically, explore new ideas and be big picture thinkers. Through doing this, they have applied many of our High Performing Learner skills in a variety of contexts. The students have tackled each challenge they have faced head on and I know that this resilience and willingness to learn will stand them in good stead moving forward to the next step of their education.

Year 6 is a year of 'lasts' and this year has been no different. Last RDS camp, last Sports Day, last National Day – the list goes on. I know that the team and I have been so blessed to have spent these opportunities with the students. Seeing them face their fears at camp, the enthusiasm and energy they had at Sports Day and the joy in their faces when celebrating UAE National Day. These events take on a great significance in Year 6 and I hope that the students have made memories that will last them a lifetime.

All of the fantastic work that goes on in Year 6 would not be possible without the committed support of our fabulous Teaching Assistants and Learning Support Assistants. They work tirelessly to ensure that the learning that happens is outstanding and they always support and encourage the children with a huge smile on their faces. A huge thank you must go to Lynda, Diana, Durakshanda (Dixi), Azhar and Jushanie. Not only do our teaching assistants need to be thanked, everything we do would not be possible without the support of the parents. We thank you for the time and effort you have put into supporting your child at home.

Finally, it is time to say goodbye and good luck for the future to all of our wonderful Year 6 students. Your time here will not be forgotten and you have left a lasting legacy here at RDS. We look forward to hearing all about your new adventures. Enjoy your experience at your new school. Remember, work-hard and stay safe!



Year 6BT



Back row- left to right: Sarah Rashid, Fahad Alzarouni, Ibrahim Lari, Muhammad Emaad, Jassim Al Ali, Hessah Lootah, Lara Saffarini, Ayisha Saffron, Amira Taher, Orhun Selcuk, Hamdan Alfalasi, Yahia Soltan, Rola Hamza, Malavika Rose Thomas, Charlotte Howell-Jones, Damiana Atteya **Front row-** left to right: Alma Yahya Abu Hulwan, Lilia Butres, Ahmed Elsamidisy, Majid Sultan Ali Mohammad Abdullah Alsubaihat, Khalaf Hadi, Nicholas Mathews, Lloyd Oxenham, Haya Daoud, Aljouri Alketbi, Ali Nuamen, Ali Sheeraz, Abdulla Alkour **Teacher:** Ben Tabner **Teaching Assistants:** Jushanie Goootheratne, Durakshanda Butt



Year 6BC



Back row- left to right: Sophia Rajakulendran, Sophie Marrington, Sarra Bakheit, Margarida Rodrigues Severino, Mohamed Hamdan, Antonio Aoun, Robert French, Nouran Reda, Maiara Neacsu, Samira Swan, Ahmad Saif, Ishaq Mouffer, Jack Oxenham, Yousef Mahmood, Adam Ghali, Salar Hamtaei Pour Shirazi Fard Front row- left to right: Ayesha Binte Abubakr, Bea Misselhorn, Jood Shams, Rakan Al Dhaheri, Hareb Aljawali, Kresimir Tepes, Troy Galloway, Aysha Al Humaidi, Allen Issa, Joseph-Alexander Abi Semaan, Linda Song, Hind Al Haj Nasser **Teacher:** Brynn Cooper **Teaching Assistant:** Jushanie Gootheratne **Enrichment Teaching Assistant:** Lynda Marrington



Year 6CD



Back row- left to right: Warsan Fahad, Sabrina Al Dahhan, Anoushae Shah, Roshan Mathews, Rashed Al Khazraji, Majid Alzarouni, Hamdan Alansari, Armaan Khan, Mark El Massih, Leyla Lakhdum, Nadia Khan, Wael Kremid, Arqam Qureshi, Ahmed Farooq Khan, Kaylin Fernandes, Alia Moursy, Aiymen Vaqqas **Front row-** left to right: Bilal Yousuf, Enzo Apyua, Kareem Kaddoura, Zeinab Ali, Laiba Asif, Omar Jaber, Faris Redha, Liliana Sabry, Maria Hamdan, Moaza Al Mansoori, Ulyana Fischer **Teacher:** Carrie Done **Teaching Assistant:** Diana George



Year 6LT



Back row- left to right: Saad Ahmed, Youssef Saeed, Mohammed Almheiri, Hind Al Mudharreb, Maryam Abuserdaneh, Nadin Moursy, Lana Zaza, Borna Dorri, Angela Najjar, Ademe Akimzhanova, Alizeh Sherjan, Yasmin Al Yammahi, Seyedeh Elsa Seyedzadeh, Hamza Abdelwahab, Yousif Arouni, Kaylan Katetei **Front row-** left to right: Ibrahim Aljarn, Alexander El Khoury, Sky Sebastian Pertierra, Omar Hosny, Eshal Saad, Yaseen Al Shaer, Jamil Malas, Yossef Tourky, Rawdha Alobeidli, Anaya Uzzam Malik, Talya Abdelsalam **Absent:** Muhammad Sumner **Teacher:** Laurel Timmins **Teaching Assistant:** Diana George



Sport at RDS

What an interesting year of sport 2019 – 2020 has been!

Years 3 and 4 Netballers played a series of tournaments in Term 1, while Years 5 and 6 continued with the regular league format. The Netball Squad had a record number of players making it the biggest sporting squad in RDS to date!

Our Football teams scored many goals throughout the season and, perhaps more importantly, saved even more! With such sterling performances, all teams qualified for the league finals.

RDS Swim Squad competed in some of the most challenging gala formats in Division 4, out of a total of 10 divisions. Our older swimmers also competed in the Aquathlon which consisted of a 150m sprint swim followed by an extremely tiring 1.5 kilometer run.

Our Cross Country runners showed true commitment to the squad by training through the hot and humid weather in order to compete in January. All of our runners finished the grueling course with some very commendable times! Athletics was another success story for RDS with solid individual performances in the Athletics league and GEMS Cup. Other memorable athletic events have been Sports Days for the whole school and Years 5 and 6 Athletics Enrichment Day. This is a whole day of participating in different athletic disciplines in a purpose built stadium and track.

The Rugby season got off to a positive start with boys and girls from Years 3 to 6 participating in all forms of rugby – tag, touch and full contact! Some of our players travelled to the Sevens Stadium to watch professional, international teams in action. We had a chance to meet and greet many of the players including the Irish and New Zealand women and the English men's teams.

The Royal Dance Squad had been training since the start of the year to perform in the annual Desert Dance festival. The dancers rose to the occasion and performed a faultless routine on stage in front of an audience of over one thousand. The Regal Dancers started training in Term 2 for various performances. The addition of this squad meant that RDS had a record number of dancers in training – over 70!

This year hasn't quite been what we were expecting, with some sporting seasons finishing prematurely and some not even been given the chance to start at all. Despite the unique circumstance that the world has experienced this year, our GEMS Royal Dubai Sports Squads have made wonderful progress and have had many successes. We are very proud and extremely grateful for the commitment and dedication of all our students and parents and look forward to returning to school fit, healthy and raring to go!





Dance



Royal Dance Squad: Alexandra El Khazen, Maria Rodrigues Severino, Moza Al Yousuf, Mira Kaddoura, Sophia Najjar, Katherine Peng, Maya Eldawy, Maitha Shamal, Sam Bright, Yehia Eltaieb, Maryam Bin Essa, Callum Coppock, Loyal Eldick, Ella Rizk Alwan, Eirini Kafourou, Gerasimina Kombou, Nidhi Nair, Daleen Dwedari, Sara Bhakeit, Margarida Rodrigues Severino, Troy Galloway, Adam Ghali, Ishaq Mouffer, Lilia Butres, Sarah Rashid, Alma Hulwan, Liliana Sabry, Warsan Fahad, Alexander El Khoury, Yasmin Al Yammahi, Angela Najjar, Alizeh Sherjah, Lana Zaza, Elsa Seyedzadeh

Regal Dance Squad: Tia Mahmoud, Asma Al Gergawi, Rafay Mahmood, Monai Ahmed, Leah Solomon Yishak, Lizbeth Alex, Bea Misselhorn, Layla Lakhdim, Sophie Marrington, Ademe Akimzhanova, Emma Heydenrych, Nuha Haq, Zoya Khan, Alaena Mouffer, Gia Zameel, Rayan Saeed, Salma Khairy, Ayumi Khan, Amir Khan, Maya Halpin, Ghalia Hejazi, Jawaher Binmasood, Alyazia Doe, Bianca Isaila, Sambhav Jain, Miriam Lootah, Hind Al Haj Nasser, Ayesha Binte Abubakr, Charlotte Howell-Jones, Sandy Essawi, Melissa Iordanoiu, Bushra Alfalasi

Royal Dance Squad Achievements: Desert Dance - Audience Engagement Award, Palladium Award for Outstanding Work Ethic - Callum Coppock, Ria Maria Award for Most Improved Dancer - Lana Zaza

Netball



Year 3: Alaena Mouffer, Maria Severino, Lara Albarghouthy, Raneem Salah, Ranim Massoud, Arianna Mudiyanse, Raima Mahmood, Inayah Rahman, Alexandra El Khazen, Alia Ahmed, Caitlyn Laryea, Joud Melhem, Megan D'Mello, Ayla Ibrahim, Grace Ward, Emma Heindreich, Zoya Khan, Sophia Olajide

Year 4: Haya Mansour, Farah Al Hashmi, Ayumi Khan, Rana Ramtoola, Layan Abuhulwan, Mia Aoun, Mira Ghareeb, Gia Zameel, Wenlu Long, Mira Kaddoura, Alisha Parvez, Celine Chen, Kinda Hamed

Year 5: Ella Rizk Alwan, Eirini Kafourou, Tilly Done, Joodie Alassaf, Annabel Angus, Miriam Lootah, Layal Eldick, Zara Rasheed, Misbah Choudry, Mashel Faisal, Lamiha Sharfuddin Maryam Bin Essa, Gerasimina Kombou, Hind Madani, Karen Massoud

Year 6: Lara Saffarini, Yasmin Al Yammahi, Samira Swan, Sarah Rashid, Warsan Fahad, Lilia Butres, Angela Najjar, Sabrina Al Dahhan, Sophia Rajakulendran, Sophie Marrington, Bea Misselhorn, Ayesha Binte Abubakr, Layla Lakhdin, Liliana Sabry, Linda Song, Alma Hulwan, Alia Moursy, Talya Abdelsalam, Ademe Akimzhanova

Achievements: Year 3 GEMS Netball Cup- 2nd Place, Year 5 GEMS Netball Cup- 2nd Place, Year 5 League Winners.

Football



Year 3: Dany Badr, Adam El Shafei, Youssef Sharaf, Omar Soltan, Faris Alaraimi, Morgan Taylor, Sam Shirazifard, Sameer Ahmed, Mostafa Ahmed, Adham Ibrahim, Mahad Qureshi, Rashed Mubarak, Omar Ahmed, Aly Hosny, Yasin Al Jendi

Year 4: Youssef Maher, Altan Fiteni, Bora Fiteni, Johan Kurian, Evan Saad, Muhammad Kremid, Mohammed Eisa Sami, Mohammed Ahmed Sami, Adam Elhakawati, Yahya Sherif Talat, Eisa Fazlan, Jad Saredidine, Mohammed Mubeen, Ayaan Deen, Ahmad Alawadi, Yehia Ghali, Hamed Alshaer, Johan Kurian, Hareb Shamal, Ahmed Adeel, Yazan Alamer.

Year 5: Sam Bright, Thomas Foster, Affan Ahmed, Omar Shehata, Muhammad Shayan Baig, William Loft, Hamza Elnayeb, Yassin Sharaf, Yahia Eltaieb, Omar Naseer, Yusef Mohamed Elzokm, Lifu Bao, Gerasimos Kontogouris, Akram Sallam, David Khreiche, Zeid Aljammal, Ahmed Sheira

Year 6: Ali Sheeraz, Troy Galloway, Kareem Kaddoura, Jamil Malas, Joe Tourkey, Faris Redha, Wael Kremid, Ishaq Mouffer, Yahia Soltan, Ahmed Farooq Khan, Adam Ghali, Yusef Mahmood, Lloyd Oxenham, Hamza Abdelwahab, Fahad Alzarouni, Omar Jaber, Jack Oxenham

Girls: Talya Abedelsalam, Sarah Rashid, Tilly Done, Layal Eldick, Shayna Vyas, Aysha Al Humaidi, Alma Abu Hulwan, Maria Hamdan, Sophie Marrington, Alyaziah Doe, Layan Abu Hulwan.

Rugby



U11 Girls Touch Rugby: Laiba Asif, Sarah Rashid, Sophia Rajakulendran, Ademe Akimzhanova, Hind Madani, Annabel Angus, Ella Rizk Alwan, Layal Eldick, Tilly Done, Shayna Vyas, Talya Abdelsalam, Bea Misselhorn, Emily Oliver, Ayumi Khan, Sophie Marrington, Angela Najjar, Lilia Butres, Ayesha Binte Abubakr

U11 Boys Touch Rugby: William Loft, Thomas Foster, Lifu Bao, Hamza Elnayeb, Jack Oxenham, Troy Galloway, Ishaq Mouffer, Lloyd Oxenham

Year 3 Tag Rugby: Dany Badr, Youssef Sharaf, Omar Soltan, Morgan Taylor, Sam Shirazifard, Sameer Ahmed, Mostafa Ahmed, Omar Ahmed, Yasin Al Jendi

Year 4 Rugby: Eisa Fazlan, Ayaan Deen, Saif Ahmed, Ibrahim Kobrossi, Altan Fiteni, Yahia Mostafa, Bora Fiteni, Callum Simpson, Youssef Maher, Jad Sarieddine, Yehia Ghali, Yuthmika Kariyawasam

Year 5 Rugby: Thomas Foster, Sam Bright, Hamza Elnayeb, Yassin Sharaf, Youssef Mohamed Elzokm, William Loft, Flynn Whitehouse, Lifu Bao, Yahia Eltaieb, Gerasimos Kontogouris, Zeid Aljammal

Year 6 Rugby: Lloyd Oxenham, Ishaq Mouffer, Salar Shirazifar, Allen Issa, Youssef Saeed, Jack Oxenham, Troy Galloway, Yahia Soltan, Adam Ghali, Mark El Massih, Fahad Alzarouni

Swimming, Aquathlon & Athletics



Swimming - Year 2 Swimming: Oliver Done, Salma Abboud, Viraj Shandilya, Kimian Mathews, Archie Angus

Year 3 Swimming: Alexandra El Khazen, Jean-Marc El Khazen, Adham Ibrahim, Arianna Mudiyansele, Omar Ahmed, Mostafa Ahmed, Omar Soltan, Zoya Khan, Faris Alaraimi, Alaena Mouffer, Maria Severino, Mira Ghareeb

Year 4 Swimming: Ayumi Khan, Farah Al Hashmi, Omar El Samadisy, Ahmed Al Humaidi, Ayaan Deen, Marko Kovacevic, Jury Hamed, Kinda Hamed, Yehia Ghali, Youssef Maher, Ali Elnashar, Elsa Fazlan, Yazan Alamer, Evan Saad, Angela Cheng

Year 5 Swimming and Aquathlon: Zoey El Hachem, Tilly Done, Ella Alwan, Emily Oliver, Lina Hached, Hamza Elnayeb, William Loft, Callum Coppock, Veer Shandilya, Zeid Aljammal

Year 6 Swimming and Aquathlon: Nouran Reda, Alia Salama, Ayesha Binte Abubakr, Kaylin Fernandes, Aysa Al Humaidi, Maiara Neacsu, Ademe Akimzhanova, Yasmin Al Yammahi, Omar Hosny, Omar Jaber, Ishaq Mouffer, Adam Ghali, Nicholas Mathews, Troy Galloway

Athletics - U11: Affan Ahmed, Callum Coppock, James Marrington, Lifu Bao, Omar Nasser, Saeed Alaraimi, Thomas Foster, William Loft, Moaz Mohamed, Zeid Aljammal, Annabel Angus, Eirini Kafourou, Ella Rizk Alwan, Alyaziah Doe, Hind Madani, Joodie Alassaf, Layal Eldick, Zoey El Hachem, Tilly Done, Ademe Akimzhanova, Alma Abu Hulwan Angela Najjar, Kaylin Fernandes, Lilia Butres, Sarah Rashid, Aysa Al Humaidi, Warsan Fahad, Sophia Rajakulendran

Achievements: Aquathlon: Aysa Al Humaidi & Ella Rizk Alwan – 3rd Place. Athletics: U11 Girls GEMS Cup – 2nd Place

Cross Country, Hockey & Golf



CROSS-COUNTRY - Year 3: Alaena Mouffer, Maria Severino, Amal Al Tammimi, Zoya Khan, Ayla Ibrahim, Emma Heydenrych, Oliver Done, Sameer Ahmed, Ibrahim Parham, Suhail Almuhairei, Dany Badr
Year 4: Farah Al Hashmi, Ayumi Khan, Mira Ghareeb, Kinda Hamed, Jury Hamed, Ahmed Al Humaidi, Yahya Mostafa, Ali Elnashar, Youssef Maher, Emad Abdullah, Ali Tahir Mohammad
Year 5: Annabel Angus, Tilly Done, Zoey El Hachem, Ella Rizk Alwan, Hind Madani, Joory Al Abbasi, Zeid Aljammal, William Loft, Callum Coppock, Lifu Bao, Yahia Eltaieb, Abdulrahman Aldaour
Year 6: Sophie Rajakulendran, Aysha Al Humaidi, Angela Najjar, Ademe Akimzhanova, Ayesha Abubakr, Hamza Abdulwahab, Lloyd Oxenham, Jack Oxenham, Fahad Alzarouni, Joe Tourkey, Ishaq Mouffer
Achievements: Cross Country: Annabel Angus finished Top 10 out of over 150 runners. **Athletics: U11 Girls GEMS Cup – 2nd Place**
Hockey - U11: Adnan Sadekali, Yahia Ghali, Ahmed Alhumaidi, Sam Bright, Flynn Whitehouse, Saad Ahmed, Bilal Yousuf, Bea Misselhorn, Sophie Marrington, Charlotte Howell-Jones, Adam Ghali, Ishaq Mouffer
Golf Squad: Gary Feng, Shayna Vyas, Lifu Bao

Sports Days



Sports Day Champions:

Year 3: Nuha Haq & Sameer Ahmed

Year 4: Jury Hamed & Youssef Maher

Year 5: Tilly Done & Zeid Aljammal

Year 6: Sophia Rajakulendran & Majid Alsubaihat

Record Breakers: Javelin: Marko Kovacevic, Alyazia Doe

Long Distance: Annabel Angus, William Loft



KS2 Camps

Year 3 Camp – UAQ Marine Club

This year RDS visited a new camp venue, organised with our camp providers Ecoventure. RDS had exclusive use of the UAQ Marine Camp whilst we were there, with the comforts of a resort, plus the proximity of excellent outdoor education facilities. This was the perfect introduction to staying at camp.

The trip consisted of one night and two days of activities. It began with a boat ride to the mangroves to do our paleontology activity. We enjoyed singing songs and getting to know new people!

Activities included:

Paleontology; Canoeing; Low Ropes; Problem Solving; entertaining evening activities.

The students were so brave trying new activities, being independent, especially as for many this was the first time away from Mum and Dad!

Year 6 Camp – Al Sahara Camp and Al Jeer Camp

This years' Year 6 camp undoubtedly pushed the boundaries. We stayed at two different campsites, Al Sahara Desert Camp and Al Jeer Marine Camp provided a unique opportunity to take part in marine activities as well as all new activities such as sandboarding. The trip consisted of three nights and four days' worth of activities.

Activities included:

Sandboarding; Climbing; Jacobs Ladder; Microscope Encounters; Leap of Faith; Survival Skills; Windsurfing; Kayaking and more.

We look forward to being able to organise all of our camp trips for next year and are excited about all the new adventures that lie ahead. Thank you to our RDS parents, staff and students for making our residential camp possible.









What Makes RDS Special?

We asked the RDS community what they think makes RDS special

This is what they said...

Staff:

- "A strong commitment from everyone in our learning community to ensure children are at the heart of all we do"
- "It feels like coming home!"
- "The family feel is what makes RDS special- families that have been with us for years; watching the babies join our school community and the graduates coming back to share their stories of 'big school'"
- "The RDS family are truly inspirational. Staff, parents and children always striving to succeed, regardless of the situation. I feel proud to be part of such a wonderful school and community"

Parents:

- "I feel everyone knows my child and that they're taken care of"
- "Everyone cares about each other and is proud of being a member of the RDS community"
- "Everyone is so welcoming and willing to help and make sure you're doing well"
- "Friendly and positive staff, who are dedicated to making RDS a happy place full of well-rounded, confident learners"

Students:

- "We all care for and support each other"
- "RDS always finds a way to make learning unique, fun and special for us"
- "That our school has an amazing principal and wonderful teachers and staff who enable us to learn everyday"
- "I think the fact that staff, students and parents are from all around the world - this makes RDS stand out"



Achievement Centre

The vision for Inclusive Education at Royal Dubai School is that we achieve excellence together by all students receiving the support they need to meaningfully belong to our school and wider community, feel valued for their contributions, engage purposefully in learning and experience academic, cultural, social and emotional success in a common learning environment.

At Royal Dubai School we welcome children with a range of learning preferences, including Students of Determination (students with special education needs and disabilities), students who are Gifted and Talented and students who are English Language Learners.

The Achievement Centre (ACe) offers a variety of personalised supports to ensure that every child has opportunities to achieve excellence in their personal areas of strength and need. The support is directly linked with classroom activities providing the children with enhanced opportunities to be pre-taught or reinforce classroom learning through practical methods.

Our Learning Support Assistants offer a range of multisensory activities using a range of concrete resources and physical activities to embed learning to ensure all children make progress on their individualized targets.

Our Funky Fingers club offers the children an opportunity to develop their fine and gross motor skills through fun and interactive activities.

Our parent coffee mornings and workshops every two weeks are very successful in creating a collaborative learning support system.

This year we have seen some incredible writing from our students linked to exciting hooks such as Vikings or finding hidden treasure. They have used real life objects to help them when learning phonics and have become amazing readers by using online tools such as Nessy and Read Naturally. We have spotted groups of children making witches potions and doing yoga at Funky Fingers to develop their fine and gross motor skills. In Maths, children cut up pieces of bread and pizza and have spotted numbers in context around school. What we are most proud of is when we see our children taking what they have learnt in the Achievement Centre and apply it in the classroom.

It is so lovely to watch our students make progress in all areas of learning; we strive to build confidence, resilience and independence in our pupils. This year we have seen our students become members of the Student Council, Student Leaders and top performers at Sports Day. As well as supporting the children, our parent partnership has grown in to 'The Link' where we have regular meetings to offer workshops on specific areas as well as a listening ear to provide advice and support to our parents.

We have attended a number of Gifted and Talents events this year including Maths and Digital Learning. We also hosted a very successful English event where a number of other schools came to RDS to write about one of the most exciting events of the year in the UAE; Hazza Al Mansoori, first Emirati in Space. In ELL, we had lots of fun building assault courses to develop our prepositional language, tasting fruits and vegetables while learning their names and have created our own paper to practice writing in the past tense. We are so proud of the progress our students have made.



Science

"A scientist in his laboratory is not a mere technician: he is also a child confronting natural phenomena that impress him as though they were fairy tales." - **Marie Curie**

Indeed, all children are natural scientists and encouraging that natural curiosity is a teacher's main aim in our Science lessons at RDS. We pride ourselves in setting up irresistible opportunities to explore and investigate the world in which we live. Questions, or as we say, wonders, are encouraged as is risk taking and mistake making. Science at RDS is exciting, hands-on, messy, interesting and surprising. That is how just some of our students and teachers have described the Science that takes place inside our Science Lab and classrooms each week.

"In the Foundation Stage, we explore Science through play-based activities. A highlight was experimenting with different textures and observing the interaction between different materials. We found some little 'animals' stuck inside blocks of ice and we had to use our thinking skills to figure out how to save them and help them escape. We discussed that hitting the ice could hurt the animals, so we thought about which different materials (such as salt, sunlight, water) might melt the ice. Through experimenting, we discovered that sunlight was the best and quickest way to melt the blocks of ice and free the animals. Clever thinking!"

Miss Avitabile, FS2 Hippo Class

UAE makes history

The entire RDS community was so excited to celebrate and support Hazza Al Mansouri in his historical achievement as the first Emirati to go into space. The buzz of excitement could be felt throughout the school as we followed his journey in our lessons and assemblies. We even watched live-streamed videos of the expedition in our classrooms. Some Year 4 students were lucky enough to meet Hazza on their Arabic school trip and even managed to get his autograph.

"I was very excited to meet him as he was the first Emirati to go to Space. We were very lucky to have the chance to meet him."

Asma, 4CA

ECAs

Our Science ECAs are always at capacity, which is testament to the popularity of Science at RDS. This year, all students from Years 1 to Year 6 had the opportunity to join in the fun and thought-provoking activities led by the Science leaders, Mrs Tabner and Mrs Angus, each week. KS1 explored sound and how to build a strong bridge from Lego whereas KS2 made models to represent different types of bridge engineering as well as investigating light, including how rainbows form.

"Science club was good because I made my guitar when we were learning about sound and the teachers were kind. Also, I love the lab."

Polly, 2SR

Meet the Team

Teamwork makes the dream work and it certainly has been a dream working with our amazing Science student leaders this year: Arqam, Ayaan, Alma, Imaani and Shayna. Our leaders have shown great commitment by attending weekly meetings, maintaining our Science noticeboard and organising events and activities for the students at RDS. We also have the wonderful Helena Matthews, our amazing lab technician, to thank for supporting us in our lessons. She always goes the extra mile to acquire all of the resources we need for our exciting investigations and experiments to take place in the lab and in our classrooms every week. From dissecting fish eyes and flowers to building bridges and trebuchets, she always makes sure that we have what we need.

Mrs Tabner and Mrs Angus (Science Leaders)



STEAM Week

The week of 27th - 31st October 2019 saw Royal Dubai School's first ever STEAM week. STEAM education is an approach to learning which incorporates Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Maths. It encourages children to take risks, to problem solve, to develop perseverance and resilience and to work collaboratively. As a school which prides itself on developing confident and innovative learners, it was a natural fit!

At RDS, our STEAM week was closely linked to Dubai's Expo 2020 and culminated in our own RDS mini Expo. Year groups linked their STEAM week activities to the different themes of the Dubai Expo: The Legacy of the UAE, Universe in Motion, Sustainable Planet and World of Opportunity. Our projects also built upon our My Dubai and My Arabia learning concepts. These real-life links made the children's learning even more exciting!

Our Foundation Stage linked their project to 'The Legacy of the UAE' Expo theme and the children built amazing models of some iconic buildings found in the UAE such as the Burj Khalifa. In Year 1, the children used their knowledge of Hazza Al Mansouri, the first Emirati astronaut to visit the International Space Station, and his journey to space to design rockets. They also used their learning about senses and thought about all of the different things that an astronaut might see, smell and taste in space!

The Year 2 students focused on the theme of 'The Universe in Motion' and designed transport of the future. After drawing out their designs, the children made detailed prototype models. Year 3's project linked closely to 'Sustainable Plant'. They showed how environmentally friendly they are by applying their knowledge of sustainability to the repurposing of different items. Their final display for our Expo included pencil pots made from recycled and repurposed materials.

In Year 4, the children were given a brief and had to present a sustainable way to reuse an empty hotel. After putting together folders full of research and creating prototype models, they were lucky enough to have a special visitor to present their ideas to. Year 5 students designed new spacesuits for astronauts. They had to use their previous knowledge of space to explain which materials would be appropriate and think about special features that would make their designs work in space.

Year 6 based their project on the 'World of Opportunity' theme of Expo. In small groups, the children used innovative thinking to design new initiatives to help improve different areas of life around the globe.

We ended STEAM week with a dress up day and a special assembly. On Thursday 31st October, RDS was filled with scientists, vets, doctors, astronauts and engineers as the children came in dressed up as what they would like to be when they grow up. It was wonderful to see how high our students are aiming and the passion and knowledge that the children had of their future careers was astounding! In assembly, we watched inspiring videos of some of our RDS parents talking about their careers in the STEAM fields. Our school staff also shared stories of their previous careers and the jobs that they had wanted to do when they grew up!

However, STEAM week didn't stop there! On Wednesday 27th November, as part of our school National Day celebrations, each year group displayed their final projects in our own RDS mini Expo. Upon entering our Expo, visitors were able to read about the history of the Expo and learn about how it all began.

Our first RDS STEAM week was a great success and we are looking forward to seeing where our STEAM education journey takes us next!

Mrs Tabner, Mr Champsey and Miss Gray



Wonderful Words Week

Wonderful Words Week in March was a true celebration of stories, characters and authors. This year's theme was 'Adventure' and year groups selected texts that explored this through all areas of learning. There was a fantastic atmosphere around the school throughout the week with author visits, World Book Day dress up, and competitions. Year 4 explored George's Marvellous Medicine by Roald Dahl and made magical colour-changing potions, and even created their own 'Gobblefunk' language too! FS1 also made potions whilst exploring Room on the Broom by Julia Donaldson. In FS2 the children found eggs had been laid in their classrooms and they needed to solve the mystery, which led them to Zog, a story about a brave dragon, also by Julia Donaldson. In Year 2 the children made their own 'Yellow Brick Road' like in The Wizard of Oz, each brick representing what makes them unique. It was an exciting week in Year 1, where the students explored feelings through The Day the Crayons Quit by Oliver Jeffers, and wrote a persuasive letter to the crayons, explaining why they should not quit! Throughout the week, the students in Year 1 and 4 were visited by the well-known author, Julia Johnson. Julia used her puppets and story, "One Humpy Grumpy Camel" with Year 1 and focused on "The Secret of the Cave" with Year 4. Year 5 explored elements of adventure through The Hobbit by J. R. R. Tolkien and even made their own 'Hobbit Holes' using recyclable materials. Year 6 students had to face a real challenge when deciding if they would rescue the character, Ginny Weasley from the Chamber of Secrets in the second Harry Potter book, as well as designing their own Chamber of Secrets!

We ran some fun competitions during Wonderful Words Week, which really engaged the children across all year groups. To encourage a love of reading we launched the Extreme Reading challenge, asking children to send in photos of themselves reading in creative ways. We received over one hundred entries including reading in a kayak, underwater, on horses and whilst learning karate! Alongside this competition, we also ran a Mystery Story Quest, where different clues from a classic story were shared on the school's social media each morning. The lucky winner guessed Winnie the Pooh correctly and was treated to a Hot Chocolate with Ms O'Keefe and Mrs Hoskin.

It has been a fantastic year of English at RDS, with a visit from MC Grammar being a real highlight! None of this would have been possible without our wonderful Library Team. Thank you to Tracey, Laura and Fatima for all that you do to encourage a love of reading at RDS.

We look forward to seeing which authors, stories and characters the students discover next year!

Emma Trevette - English Leader

Clare O'Keefe - Deputy English Leader

Samantha Jackson - Deputy English Leader



Maths at RDS



We have had another amazing year of learning in Maths at RDS with the children continually challenging themselves and exceeding our high expectations.

Learning in Maths: This year the teachers at RDS have continued planning many engaging and exciting daily lessons using the objectives from the English National Curriculum and White Rose scheme of work. These have helped children in all year groups to develop their fluency, reasoning and, problem solving skills. The children have been so confident using the CPA model when learning new concepts and have been working very hard to improve their use of mathematical vocabulary when explaining their understanding. This Year the FS children have started using a new learning programme called 'Magic Maths'. The combination of songs, rhymes and repetition of number games has helped them retain facts about numbers and they are now able to recall these quickly.

Lessons: Our children have been linking their learning in Maths to real-life contexts and have been taught how to solve complex problems in their new 'Problem of the day' sessions. It has been a joy to see the children participating in such an amazing array of lessons taking place in the classrooms, hallways, outdoors and around Dubai on different field-trips. They are brilliant at working independently, in pairs and in co-operative learning groups. The teachers have been very lucky to receive training from leading educational consultant Claire Gadsby, who is based in the UK. She has shown them many innovative ways to make Maths learning come alive in the classroom. ICARE and HPL is integral to all learning that takes place at RDS. Children from FS1-Year 6 are able to self-assess using the 'Learning Wave' model and explain their next steps. All RDS children are continually developing a can-do attitude in Maths, as their dedicated teachers encourage them to use a growth mindset and transferable learning skills. We want every child to achieve mastery in Maths.

Mental Maths: The children in KS1 and KS2 have been working hard to complete their weekly Cracking Number Facts (KS1) and Cracking Times Tables (KS2) which are timed tests to improve their mental arithmetic skills. They have worked hard to prepare for these at home using Doodle Tables and ICT games. This year we introduced Doodle Maths in Years 3-6. This application generates a personalised work programme for every child to help them improve from their own individual starting points.

Maths support from parents: This year the Maths team developed a calculation policy for each year group so teachers and parents are clear about how strategies are taught and used with the children across the school. These documents also include an overview of maths learning objectives that are covered throughout the year. This means parents know what their child is covering in school and what they can work on with them at home. The teaching staff really enjoyed when the parents in each year group joined PENG workshops with the teachers and the Doodle Maths workshop led by our expert Antonio in Year 6.

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Week: STEAM Week is a STEAM-education-focused project designed to provide experiential learning in a variety of STEAM subjects with strong arts integration. This year each year group focused on a different area of sustainability and completed a project linked to this. The children had to use their maths skills to record statistics, measure equipment to create projects and explain how they solved problems. They thoroughly enjoyed making connections between their learning and creating new inventions.

Maths Events and competitions: This Year some of our Year 3 pupils participated in a G&T Maths competition called the Dubai Mini Enrichment League at Kings School and some of our Year 5 pupils participated in the Junior Maths Cup at DESC. They really enjoyed using their skills to compete against their peers and showcase their learning. Well done to the Year 5 children who came 3rd Place! Some of our KS2 children registered for the 2020 the Ken-Ken competition. These 'puzzles that make you smarter' are a great way to challenge yourself and improve your mental arithmetic.

We are very proud of all that the RDS children have achieved in Mathematics this year.
Keep up the great work!

Ms. Farrell and Mr. Dempster



Community and Charity

Wow, what a year for community and charity! Over this academic year, we have supported and participated in a number of philanthropic events.

We kicked off the year with our FORDS bake sale, held in October, to raise money to support the Al Jalila foundation. This was a great success; the children and staff enjoyed choosing a delicious treat and donating money to support this cause. We thank everyone involved - those who donated cakes, ran the stalls and supported on the day. It was lovely!

During our National Day event, we raised money for Red Crescent and Rawafed. Charity club students planned and ran two stalls on the day. One sold UAE bracelets, which they had made themselves, and the other provided a balloon pop game for the student community to participate in. The charity club students very much enjoyed coming up with ideas for the day and preparing for the stalls. Thank you to all of the students and staff involved.

Before the Winter Break, the RDS community came together to provide all of our amazing support staff with a little gift and an end of term party as a huge thank you for all of the incredible work that they do.

In January, we were incredibly happy to invite 10 students from Al Rawafed School to take part in some exciting opportunities at RDS. The students were buddied up with some of our children, including our head boy and girl, our moral leaders and some of our charity club students, and completed activities together throughout the day. The children followed a timetable of Science, Art, Music and finished with a lesson in the Innovation Lab with the VR headsets! Thank you so much to all of the teachers involved in teaching these lessons and setting up exciting activities for the children. Thank you to Slices catering who provided lunch for the children and STS who helps with transport!

We have had a wonderful year supporting charity and community events and thank everyone involved for their continued support.

Miss. Redpath



Eco Friendly RDS

This year our school signed up for the **DEWA Conservation Award**. Whilst the final awards will not be announced until next academic year, we are pleased to say that we have been entered into the following three categories.

DEWA Distinguished Institution Award - What RDS has done to ensure that we are able to support the initiative.

DEWA Distinguished Leader Award - Mrs Martin, Principal, has been nominated having helped conserve and reduce the amount of water and electricity used due to her commitment and support of the whole school community

DEWA Distinguished Team Award - Two teams of girls (Maiara Neacsu, Charlotte Howell-Jones, Sophie Marrington, Nouran Reda, Samira Swan, Daleen Dwedari, Margarida Rodrigues-Severino, Shiekha Abdullah and Alia Moursy) represented our school in promoting, collecting ideas and sharing the initiative to the whole school community.

The initiative this year allowed us to conserve an amazing 10% on our electricity and water consumption. DEWA Conservation Award 2019-2020 General Manager, Mr. Ali Amjad, visited our school to present a special assembly to Year 5 and 6. He was very impressed with the commitment and support that RDS had given in order to increase awareness of the environmental issues.

Our school also strengthened our commitment in helping the environment by taking part in the Simply Bottles initiative once again. By the end of Term 2, we had collected over 425 kilos of plastic bottles – nearly double the amount of what we had collected during the whole of the previous year. The student council/ ECO leaders were tirelessly promoting, supporting and leading the initiative. These children were very successful and made a massive impact in promoting awareness and most especially in helping the environment.

Mr. Galas



Creative Arts

“Creativity is contagious, pass it on.” – Albert Einstein.

It's been a super successful and busy year and it's wonderful to see that creativity continues to grow across the school. We were delighted to start this year by welcoming the very talented and lovely, Ms Rhian Powell to the Creative Arts Department; she's been a great addition to the team.

We were super proud to win 2nd place at this year's Design Technology Enrichment League competition and had an amazing experience at the Drama Lama Day. Our budding artists have submitted work to the COBIS International Art competition and we have been looking at ways to get further involved with Expo 2020. We saw our KS2 choir singing at an event in the Marriot Hotel. The KS1 choir, school orchestra and staff choir also had their moments of glory at our Winter Concert and International Day.

One of the highlights of our year though has had to be our exciting new partnership with Arts Ed. We are looking forward to working with professional theatre graduates over the coming year which will be a fabulous experience for both staff and children.

Amanda Pemberton, Bernadett Shonibare, Rhian Powell and the talented Ms Levy – Creative Arts





Wellbeing at RDS

At RDS we believe in teaching our children how to be empowered to look after their own wellbeing. We do this through discussions about what it means to be happy – following the PERMAH model. This incorporates Positive Emotions, Engagement, Relationships, Meaning, Accomplishment and Health. From FS to Year 6 we are engaging in mindful practices as well as different discussions about understanding and developing our own wellbeing.

Our lovely Wellbeing Room is home to many different clubs such as Listening Lounge, Mindfulness Club and Yoga. It is also home to our beautiful Positivi-tree; where children can add positive thoughts or feelings. This is a safe place for children to come to discuss anything that may be on their minds or simply relax.

This year we especially enjoyed the Teacher and TA appreciation day which we carried out with FORDS. It was great to see the huge smiles on everyone's faces who was involved. The Wellbeing leaders have been fantastic in helping to spread the importance of looking after our own wellbeing as well as looking out for their fellow peers.

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"Happiness is like jam. You cannot spread it without getting a little on yourself."

Miss. Avitabile



Moral Education

Moral Education has continued to flourish at GRDS. This year, we have seen so many incredible events and activities to support the children's learning in Moral Education. The school supported Anti- Bullying Week through a range of activities and enriching learning experiences.

The children have been trying hard all year to carry out random acts of kindness, and this has been recognised and celebrated during assemblies, Act of Kindness Week and the RDS Outreach Programme with the Rawafed Charity School. Children have also participated in the GEMS Jewel of Kindness Programme. RDS have created their own digital portfolios on See Saw of their Jewels of Kindness; showing random acts of kindness in a variety of ways through the GEMS Jewels - Compassion, Helpfulness, Empathy and Respect. This enabled many of the school community to earn certificates, pins and the kindness camel! A final well done to our Moral Education leaders - Dua Farooq and Sabrina Al Dahhan for promoting Moral Education throughout our RDS community

Miss. Kelly



Digital Learning

This year in Digital Learning, we have moved to our new learning platforms, Microsoft Teams and Seesaw. The children have adapted well to the changes and are showing high resilience in their use of Seesaw and Microsoft Teams. It has been wonderful to see the collaboration between the pupils when working on Teams and the fantastic quality of work the pupils are posting to Seesaw.

Along with the move to the new learning platforms, we have continued to ensure that our pupils are good digital citizens and are fully aware of how to conduct themselves online and how to work safely when they are online. Online safety training continued throughout the year to ensure the pupils were reminded of how to be a good global citizen and stay safe when navigating the online world.

During this academic year, we had the benefit of two new learning aids in Digital Learning: the Classroom Virtual Reality Headsets and Spheros. The Classroom VR headsets were used across the year groups with great excitement. The pupils were able to see the rainforest, Dubai, jungle animals, planets and the Space Station in virtual reality. The excitement created by the pupils' use of the headsets was a great hook for their writing; I am sure this will be used even more next year.

The next addition we had to Digital Learning was Spheros. These little robots in the shape of a sphere were controlled by the pupils using code. Year 3 used the Spheros to look at the relationship between predators and prey and Year 5 used the Spheros as Viking invaders. It was great to see how interactive the pupils were with their learning and how well they were able to create and debug code.

It has been great to see how the pupils' coding skills evolved throughout the year. However, it is not only coding skills that have developed but also the way digital learning has been used in the school. We have moved more lessons away from standalone Digital Learning lessons to a more digitally integrated learning approach. Digital Learning is being used in the classroom to enhance other subjects to create more immersive learning. We have used Lego Wedo 2 and Spheros in our Science investigations, Classroom VR in English and Microsoft Sway to create presentations for speaking and listening.

What an amazingly fun way to learn!

Mr. Champsey

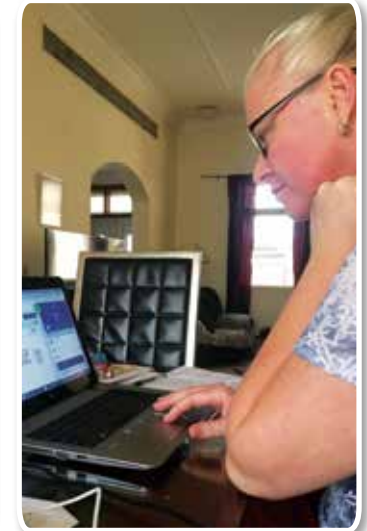


Remote Learning

The final Term of GRDS will be remembered for Remote Learning that played a vital part in our learning journey and that was part of keeping us all healthy. GEMS Royal Dubai School, like schools all over the world, created a strategy to engage, support and educate our students during an unprecedented time. The parents, students and staff collaborated to find our way through uncharted territory and to continue to keep the GRDS family together.

Learning continued with the same high standard we always provide. We began with screencast lessons which developed into live learning through video conference technology that all students from Foundation Stage to Year 6 used. This new way of engaging in learning was due to the school's continual investment in new technology and the way in which the GRDS family rise to a challenge. This strengthened the bonds we have with our community and showed the resilience and the innovative drive that we are so proud of in the students, their families and staff at GRDS. Assemblies, virtual coffee mornings with parents and support groups flourished in a new way. Our strong school culture and embedded ethos meant we were confident and successful in what we did.

As the year draws to a close, we want to thank all of our community in the way we supported each other, found new strength and developed skills we did not have before to ensure that the number one goal, to educate and support our students, would continue. It is with great thanks that we end the year strong and look forward to welcoming you all back into our school when it is safe to do so.



Cultural Understanding

This year we have had a very exciting year with UAE Social Studies. The year began with our #MyDubai concept and the new #MyArabia concept in Year 5 and 6. We continued to learn all about Dubai and expanding our knowledge to a wider Arabia focus. We hosted our 2nd Dubai EXPO at our National Day celebrations where each year group had a different theme. We looked at The Legacy of the UAE, Universe in Motion, Sustainability and a world of Opportunity. The children all had a wonderful time exploring how these ideas have changed in Dubai over time, before creating their own projects to display at RDS EXPO.

On National Day we had a very exciting day with a range of activities for all year groups. The day began with an exciting assembly filled with information, songs, dances and much more. The children were then able to explore different traditional crafts as well as seeing what happens at an Emirati Wedding! It was a lovely day enjoyed by all.

The children have enjoyed bringing their learning to life this year with school trips around Dubai. From trips to Dubai Frame, the Souks Dubai Museum, a big bus tour of Dubai and Meydan Racecourse. This allowed the children to see what they have been learning about and to consolidate and deepen their understanding.

Thank you to the wonderful Civic Ambassadors and Leaders for all their work throughout the year – Hamdan, Jood, Hind, Aysha and Hessah. They have continued to help UAE Social Studies grow across the school by leading assemblies for the school and working on projects across the school including The Tolerance Tree.

It has been a very exciting year for UAE Social Studies where the children have gained valuable information about the country they live in.

Scarlett Gray



Learning at RDS

The Learning Wave is an analogy created by Royal Dubai School as a tool for learners to describe their learning process. This is an adaptation and development of John Edward's work on 'The Pit'. We believe that this tool has provided our learners with a framework and understanding of how they learn while encouraging the children to wonder and explore lines of enquiry. As facilitators of learning, we aim to nurture wonders and uncertainties as a fundamental part of a learner's process in order to build excitement and curiosity. As teachers, we promote an enriching, stimulating learning space to allow children to discover new skills and concepts, try out different possibilities and link ideas together to master learning objectives. When drawing upon various sources of research, our learners may develop new wonders which should be supported and encouraged. When the children have acquired new ideas, skills and concepts, we provide opportunities for them to apply their learning across different contexts and consolidate their learning in a variety of ways.

The school has adopted High Performance Learning as a way of bringing together our Learning Wave and ICARE Models. At RDS, we believe that all pupils can use these to become High Performing Learners. The school has fully adopted the philosophy by using the Cognitive Domains (ACPs) and Values, Attitudes and Attributes (VAAs) to inform the language of ICARE. These are skills and behaviours our pupils need learn and master to achieve the best they can. This comes from the HPL research conducted by Deborah Eyre over many years.

Pupils are now able to articulate where they are on the Learning Wave by using the ICARE language and state the skills and behaviours that they are using and most importantly, how they can improve and adapt to become even more successful. This year, RDS students and teachers have continued to evolve this process through the integration of a HPL focus of the week. Teachers have provided students with short, meaningful activities to introduce a HPL skill at the start of the school week, which has then been applied in their subsequent learning for the duration of the week. This has not only enabled the children to deepen their understanding and clarity of the ACPS and VAAs, but has also enabled students to make connections between prior learning and the skills needed to be selected to become successful in their independent tasks.

RDS delivers an enhanced and innovative version of the National Curriculum for England, which is in unison with the UAE Vision of 2021. This is achieved through a Concept Curriculum; a modern approach of teaching concepts through real life links and various contexts but which provide entrepreneurship, innovative and creative opportunities that extend students aspirations and curiosity. It is intrinsically interesting, motivating and diverse. This allows learners to use a variety of skills, embedded through our HPL/ICARE values to acquire, apply and transfer knowledge whilst enabling students to have agency over their learning. We promote skills such as collaboration, critical thinking and independence by the use of continuous provision that leads into co-operative learning groups as the children move further up the school.

We have adapted the coverage of contexts to include the UAE to develop student's knowledge, understanding and appreciation of Emirati traditions, culture and the values which influence UAE society. In addition, the children are then able to apply their understanding to wider contexts such as their home country and that of others.



 I am a High Performing Learner 				
I	C	A	R	E
Concerned for Society	Creative and Enterprising	Enquiring	Practise	Collaboration
Confident	Intellectual playfulness	Risk-Taking		
Open-Minded	Flexible Thinking	Meta-cognition	Self Regulation	Intellectual Confidence
Perseverance	Fluent thinking	Strategy planning	Connection Findings	
	Originality	Generalisation	Critical and Logical Thinking	
Resilience	Evolutionary and revolutionary thinking	Abstraction	Complex and Multi-Step Problem Solving	Seeing Alternative Perspectives
	Big picture thinking	Precision		
Speed and Accuracy	Imagination	Automaticity		

French

French has been a unique and fascinating subject this school year for the students at GRDS.

They learned lots of vocabulary about cities, French food, sports, types of transport, hobbies, house description, weather, classroom objects, classroom instructions, daily routine, family members, clothes, body parts, numbers, animals, fruits, colours and days of the week.

During lessons, students have been engaged in a variety of ways through creative mediums such as multi-coloured sheets, posters, French quizzes, digital technology, dictionaries and mini whiteboards.

Year 2 have had the opportunity to attend a fun French Club to learn, repeat and apply this fantastic language!

I am very proud of my GRDS students and grateful for all their hard work and input. Therefore, I am pleased to say that we had an amazing year!

Hasiba Hamdi - French Teacher

Karine Ndjom - French Teacher Assistant



Arabic & Islamic

Throughout this year, our Arabic department has been striving to ensure that the year is a successful one for every student in RDS. Our mission began from within the classrooms where we created exciting and engaging lessons. We walked hand in hand with our students, making sure every step of their learning journey was smooth and exciting.

A range of activities supported our initiative this year. These included the students' active participation in the Emirates Airline Literature Festival in which they participated in reading books, poetry, and they also had the opportunity to meet influential Emiratis such as Hazza Al Mansouri. With the help of our RDS family, we worked on enhancing our students' speaking skills, where parents acted as judges. Our students also had weekly guided reading and phonics lessons, in addition to implementing the I Read Arabic program, to ensure that every student continuously developed their reading skills.

The students stood proudly on stage during National Day and performed traditional dances and songs that expressed their love and belonging to the UAE. To enhance the love for Arabic books, we provided Arabic books in the school library and book fairs. Additionally, we used Talk for Writing to develop spoken Arabic language and create an enjoyable writing journey for the students.

During remote learning, our team continued to work alongside each other and the teachers across the school to guarantee that we maintained a high level of Arabic learning and understanding.

This year students learnt how to memorise the Qur'an through the use of mind maps and the 'Memorise Qur'an' app. These strategies support memory through repetition and visual representations. The application repeats every Ayah several times with slow and fast recitation according to the students' level, which makes the memorisation experience more engaging for children. To add to this, students learnt the Qur'an by repeating after the teacher, with a focus on correct pronunciation of the words. This strategy also focuses on Tajweed, which underline rules of how to recite the Qur'an in the way it was delivered to us for centuries. This recitation was the way that our Prophet received it from Angel Jibreel and transmitted from Allah SWT. Additionally, to learn about the birth and life of Prophet Muhammad PBUH, the students engaged in trips, projects and a range of additional activities. The highlight was that the students got to experience real life situations and see some of the features of the environment in which underlined the rules...

During remote learning the students uploaded their work for Arabic on Seesaw. This was a great platform for the students to display their amazing work and engage in homework, weekly plans and competitions that took part across the school. It also enabled the students to remain connected with their teachers of Arabic during this time. To improve the level of progress and attainment across the school, the teachers of Arabic set challenges which encouraged the students to spread kindness and show good manners.



PENG

Parental Engagement at Gems Royal Dubai School is like no other. We take pride in the relationship we have with our parents and are very fortunate to have them by our side. Like every year, our parents have been at the forefront of every event, from sports days to phonics workshops, national days and curriculum workshops to also making sure that clothes are ready for hook days and dress ups! This year, as before, we have also asked the parents to join in with the development of our school action plan to assist the school in continuously moving forward.

But unlike any other year, a global phenomenon has meant that schools had to be closed and the children had to receive online teaching and our wonderful parents stepped in to provide the teaching guidance and assist teachers from home. The RDS parents had a key part in the final term of lessons, which although stressful and challenging, proved that parental engagement is undeniably the most overwhelming key to a child's success.

As teachers we hope over this last year to have created a supportive environment in which we have demonstrated, through our words and actions, that we value parents' knowledge as their children's first educator. Thank you for making Gems Royal Dubai School an outstanding family orientated school.

Mrs. Basson



National Day

National Day at RDS is always a special event. This year, to mark the UAE's 48th National Day, the FORDS ladies spent hours designing and making flower decorations in the colours of the UAE flag which made the entire school look amazing and was commented on by many. As always, the National Day assembly was organized by the Arabic Team and started with a recitation from the Holy Quran. The rest of the assembly included enthusiastic performances by children from all grades and really showcased the amazing talents we have at RDS.

For the first time ever we had the unique opportunity to witness a traditional Emirati wedding. This was a once-in-a-lifetime experience for many children and parents at the school and enabled us to have a rare glimpse into this special aspect of Emirati culture.

As in previous years, students were able to enjoy an up close and personal experience with camels and falcons – much to the delight of many. A traditional supermarket was set up which allowed the children to purchase many wonderful items. The ladies at the henna stand were kept busy all day and their beautiful handiwork could be seen on both students and adults alike. A popular addition to the traditional coffee with dates and baking section was laqimat – a favourite amongst many on the day.

Stations were set up that allowed the children to express their pride in the UAE through art and drama. The younger students were able to enjoy a traditional puppet show.

It was lovely to see so many children dressed in the colours of the UAE flag or traditional Emirati clothing. The school was awash in red, white, green, black and happy smiles! You could definitely see and feel the spirit of the Union.

A special thanks needs to go to all the parents and teachers who worked hard to make this an amazing day full of lovely memories.



International Day

We loved every part of our International Day! It was a vibrant day, full of celebrations, performances and a real opportunity for students to learn about each other's cultures. We had a special assembly to start the day followed by a host of international themed activities across the school. We would like to thank everyone in the RDS community who helped to bring us all together on this day and make it an International Day we will not forget!



Mariamamma Varkey Award

It was a great privilege to attend the Mariamma Varkey Award Ceremony in October 2019 to celebrate the achievements of our wonderful **Arabic B teacher, Yasmin Ahmed Sha Touroy**. As a school, we are incredibly lucky to have Yasmine as an Arabic teacher for non-native speakers. Yasmine was selected from the GRDS 2018-2019 monthly teacher prize award winners to go forward as the RDS representative due to her impact on student and colleagues alike. It was lovely to see the pride from Ms Yasmin's husband, friends and colleagues as she received the recognition she very much deserved. We are very proud of Ms Yasmin here at GRDS as she goes above and beyond to ensure the needs are met for 'every single child' in her care. The fun and passion she instils into the delivery of each lesson is inspiring and students leave her class with a love for the Arabic language. As well as teaching, Yasmine coaches her colleagues, takes groups to support and spends time observing and team teaching in different classes, developing her own pedagogical practices integrating a variety of innovative strategies to bring a modern approach to teaching Arabic.

Debbie Simpson – Deputy Principal

"She makes learning fun!" **Szheanelle (Year 4 pupil)** "Very kind, she always helps us and we play Arabic games to make learning fun!"

"Ms Yasmine made me want to go to Arabic, she answered all of my questions and helped me to truly understand it!"

Samira (Year 6 pupil and Sheikha Fatima award winner 2019)



"The majority of students are making better than expected progress against their differing starting points"

DSIB Report Arabic B



As part of the Mariamma Varkey Award each school selects a teacher-of-the-month award winner from nominations received from parents, teachers and students. Congratulations to all of our GEMS Royal Dubai School Award winners this year for your commitment and contribution to learning and teaching.



Eva Fotopoulou
September 2019



Rachel Wareing
October 2019



Mandy Robinson
November 2019



Charlotte Powell
December 2019



Tania Basson
January 2020



Rebecca Coppock
February 2020



Graham Champsey
March 2020



Abigail Williams Hall
April 2020



Carina Otte
May 2020

H.H. Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Award for Excellence 2019

Samira Swan



The distinguished Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Award for Excellence is awarded to one girl in every GEMS school. This year, the award went to Samira Swan for her exceptional academic success and contributions to wider school life.

Samira is involved in many aspects of school life. This year she has supported Student Council with their DEWA and Simply Bottles project – something which has impacted her greatly when thinking about the health of our planet. She loves trying out new ECA's each term and is a proud member of the RDS Netball Squad. She is set to represent Dubai in the Youth Inter Gulf League. Samira demonstrates a concern for society and has even started using her own pocket money to tip when receiving deliveries!

Always looking for a challenge, she is currently learning to play the guitar. She is playing a key role in a school magazine for students to enjoy during remote learning.

"Samira has been a fantastic Sheikha Fatima and I know that I speak for the whole school when I say how proud of her we are. She has always displayed excellent behaviour and set a fantastic example to other students in the school with how she has conducted herself at all times. Samira has regularly given up her own time to help others including staying behind after lessons to support her peers and giving up her break times to support in the library. She is a High Performing Learner who is meticulous in her approach to work and endeavors to ensure she is proud of all of her work. Samira will be truly missed at RDS but the way she has conducted herself will live on in those students who have been led by this year." **Brynn Cooper – Class Teacher**

"It was an honour to represent RDS as this year's Sheikha Fatima. I can't believe that I received such a great award, just by doing something that I love; which is coming to school. I feel very proud that my teachers recognised all of my hard work, and that they believed that I could be an inspirational role model for my peers. This is a memory that will stay with me forever." - **Samira Swan**



Graduating Class of 2019-2020



Abdulla Alkour

I am from: Palestine & Jordan

Two words to describe me would be: Smart and Sporty.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and the amazing teachers.

I will be most remembered for: My comedy and my Football skills.

In ten years I will be: A professional Football player or a Doctor.



Ahmed Elsamadisy

I am from: Egypt

Two words to describe me would be: Science lover and Curious.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and teachers and the selection of

books in the Library.

I will be most remembered for: My knowledge of and love for animals.

In ten years I will be: In my third year at University studying Zoology.



Ali Nuaman

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Supportive.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and the

teachers and all the laughter in the school.

I will be most remembered for: Being the kind jokester.

In ten years I will be: Living in the UAE and working as a Comedian.



Ali Sheeraz

I am from: Turkey

Two words to describe me would be: Sporty and Smart.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends.

I will be most remembered for: Being House Captain.

In ten years I will be: A Football player.



Aljouri Alketbi

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Caring.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: All the amazing friends I've made and the

extraordinary teachers I've had.

I will be most remembered for: Being the quiet friend but also socially active.

In ten years I will be: At College as a medical student studying Oncology or a Doctor.



Alma Hulwan

I am from: Jordan & Palestine

Two words to describe me would be: Outgoing and Friendly.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and teachers.

I will be most remembered for: Being in Squads.

In ten years I will be: Either graduating from College as a pediatrician or owning my own company.



Ayisha Saffron

I am from: India

Two words to describe me would be: Energetic and Friendly.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and teachers.

I will be most remembered for: My Art.

In ten years I will be: Hopefully a pilot. I love to fly to different places.



Charlotte Howell-Jones

I am from: Britain

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Creative.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: I will miss the teachers

and activities.

I will be most remembered for: Being helpful and supportive.

In ten years I will be: Hopefully a Comedian or a Scriptwriter.



Damiana Atteya

I am from: Egypt

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Caring.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My best friends and my teachers.

I will be most remembered for:

Being the girl you would ask for help in Maths.

In ten years I will be: Hopefully working in NASA as an Engineer.



Fahad Alzarouni

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Sporty and Smart.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and the feasts on National Day.

I will be most remembered for: Soccer a buzzer beater in a real game and winning the league in Basketball with a MVP trophy.

In ten years I will be: I haven't decided yet.



Hamdan Alfalasi

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Strong and Helpful.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: The teachers and my friends.

I will be most remembered for: Being Civic Ambassador.

In ten years I will be: In College studying Law to become a future Judge.



Haya Daoud

I am from: Jordan & Palestine

Two words to describe me would be: Creative and thinks outside the box.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: That is was in RDS at the start until the end of

Primary school.

I will be most remembered for: Being helpful and funny.

In ten years I will be: Either and Interior Designer or a Fashion Designer.



Hessah Lootah

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Smart and Inlegant.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and

teachers and how much easier it was then it will be in Secondary.

I will be most remembered for: Being a Civic Leader.

In ten years I will be: Hopefully an entrepreneur with a cosmetics brand.



Ibrahim Lari

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Happy and Kind.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and teachers and the good

memories I made.

I will be most remembered for: Being kind and considerate.

In ten years I will be: I will be working as a Pilot.



Jassim Al Ali

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Helpful and Funny.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and teachers.

I will be most remembered for: My sense of humour.

In ten years I will be: Studying at university.



Khalaf Hadi

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Kind and Helpful.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and teachers.

I will be most remembered for: Being a good friend.

In ten years I will be: In college.



Lara Saffarini

I am from: Palestine

Two words to describe me would be: Active and Funny.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and kind teachers.

I will be most remembered for:

Being a good friend.

In ten years I will be: At university studying Architecture or Graphic Design.



Lilia Butres

I am from: Canada, China and Syria

Two words to describe me would be: Sporty and Kind.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends.

I will be most remembered for:

My smile.

In ten years I will be: A gymnast, have my own company or just work in business.



Lloyd Oxenham

I am from: Wales

Two words to describe me would be: Sporty and Friendly.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My teachers and friends.

I will be most remembered for: Being in Sports Squads.

In ten years I will be: In the Royal Air Force training to be a Pilot.



Majid Sultan

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Active and Brave.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and teachers.

I will be most remembered for: My friendliness.

In ten years I will be: Working in the UAE as a Police Officer.



Malavika Thomas

I am from: India

Two words to describe me would be: Kind and Creative.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and teachers.

I will be most remembered

for: My drawings.

In ten years I will be: Graduating from College and maybe a Vet.



Muhammad Emaad

I am from: Pakistan

Two words to describe me would be: Bookworm and Football lover.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and teachers.

I will be most remembered for: Being an obedient student.

In ten years I will be: Setting up two good school in Pakistan; one for less privileged families and one for those who can afford.



Nicholas Mathews

I am from: Czech Republic

Two words to describe me would be: Smart and Funny.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: The teachers and staff.

I will be most remembered

for: Being the Go-Cart racer.

In ten years I will be: A F1 Racer.



Orhun Selcuk

I am from: Turkey

Two words to describe me would be: Smart and Friendly.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My teachers and friends.

I will be most remembered

for: Being reliable, dedicated and hard-working.

In ten years I will be: In Medical School.



Rola Hamza

I am from: Syria

Two words to describe me would be: Friendly and Kind.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My best friends and my teachers.

I will be most remembered

for: Being a good friend.

In ten years I will be: Graduating from College and training to be a Plastic Surgeon.



Sarah Rashid

I am from: Tanzania and Pakistan

Two words to describe me would be: Sporty and Fun.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends.

I will be most remembered

for: All of my sporting achievements.

In ten years I will be: Either a Footballer or hopefully an actress.



Yahia Soltan

I am from: Egypt

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Sporty.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends.

I will be most remembered

for: Being friends with too many people in year 6 and being funny.

In ten years I will be: Trying to become a social media star.



Amira Taher



Ademe Akimzhanova

I am from: Kazakhstan

Two words to describe me would be: Smiley and Kind.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Pretty much everything.

I will be most remembered for: Being House Captain of Balmoral.

In ten years I will be: A pilot or maybe something else.



Alexander El Khoury

I am from: Lebanon

Two words to describe me would be: Active and Negotiator.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends, teachers, the campus, familiar faces....

everything!.

I will be most remembered for: My hair bun!.

In ten years I will be: In Law School.



Alizeh Sherjan

I am from: Pakistan

Two words to describe me would be: Crazy and Kind.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and Dance.

I will be most remembered for: Being in the Dance Squad

for 3 years.

In ten years I will be: Going to LA to achieve my Dancing profession.



Anaya Malik

I am from: Pakistan

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Nice.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends.

I will be most remembered for: Taking people's food.

In ten years I will be: Living with my parents and have a house full of pets.



Angela Najjar

I am from: Lebanon

Two words to describe me would be: Kind and Sporty.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My amazing friends and teachers.

I will be most remembered for: For my athletic ability and being in Dance Squad.

In ten years I will be: Achieving my dream of becoming an Architect.



Borna Dorri

I am from: Iran

Two words to describe me would be: Friendly and Sporty.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Basketball Squad and my friends.

I will be most remembered for: Being in the team that won the GEMS Basketball Cup.

In ten years I will be: Part of my Dad's business and a Basketball player.



Eshal Saad

I am from: Canada

Two words to describe me would be: Book Worm.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My teacher Ms Timmins.

I will be most remembered for: Loving to read!.

In ten years I will be: Studying to become an Author.



Hamza Abdelwahab

I am from: Egypt

Two words to describe me would be: Sporty and Kind.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and my teachers.

I will be most remembered for: My athletic ability.

In ten years I will be: Studying Engineering in England.



Hind Al Mudharreb

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Kind and Respectful.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: The PE teachers, my friends and teachers.

I will be most remembered for: For being in the Football Squad.

In ten years I will be: Having my own business/Artist/Doctor.



Ibrahim Aljarn

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Sporty.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and my teachers.

I will be most remembered for: Being funny.

In ten years I will be: A Police Officer.



Jamil Malas

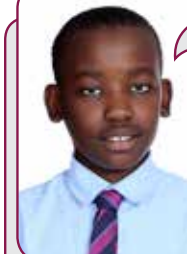
I am from: Syria

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Friendly.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Friends and Sports.

I will be most remembered for: Being in the Football Squad.

In ten years I will be: At university in the USA studying Architecture.



Kaylan Katetei

I am from: Kenya

Two words to describe me would be: Smart and Funny.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and teachers.

I will be most remembered for: Being the first Student Council President and my friendships.

In ten years I will be: Studying to be a Pilot and working with Artificial Intelligence.



Lana Zaza

I am from: Lebanon and Palestine

Two words to describe me would be: Bubbly and Friendly.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: All of my friends.

I will be most remembered for: My enthusiasm.

In ten years I will be: Focusing on my College studies in the field of Journalism.



Maryam Abuserdaneh

I am from: Jordan

Two words to describe me would be: Kind and Silly.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Everything and everybody especially my friends and Miss Timmins.

I will be most remembered for: Being kind and generous.

In ten years I will be: At University studying.



Mohammed Almheiri

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Enthusiastic.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends, teachers and Mr Mensah.

I will be most remembered for: Being funny & creative.

In ten years I will be: A Prison Guard working to keep my country safe.



Muhammad Sumner

I am from: Britain

Two words to describe me would be: Fast and Crafty.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: PE.

I will be most remembered for: My hard work.

In ten years I will be: Doing Parkour.



Nadin Moursy

I am from: Egypt

Two words to describe me would be: Kind and trying my best.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and teachers.

I will be most remembered for: Wellbeing and kindness Leader.

In ten years I will be: A TV representative at MBC.



Omar Hosny

I am from: Egypt

Two words to describe me would be: Respectful and Kind.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: The Swimming Gala and my friends.

I will be most remembered for: Swimming and kindness.

In ten years I will be: In the Marines in the military.



Rawdha Alobeidli

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Sweet and Kind.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Everything, especially the staff and all my friends.

I will be most remembered for: Being kind and caring.

In ten years I will be: I don't know exactly but I aspire to be an Astronomer, an Artist or a Businesswoman.



Saad Ahmed

I am from: Pakistan

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Active.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: All my friends and the teachers that taught me at RDS.

I will be most remembered for: My love of Sports and being on so many Squads.

In ten years I will be: Hopefully in the Army as that is my dream job.



Elsa Seyedzadeh

I am from: Iran

Two words to describe me would be: Passionate and Imaginative.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My best friends and the Canteen.

I will be most remembered for: Participating in Dance Squad and Production.

In ten years I will be: Studying Dermatology, producing my own skincare line or being a Flight Attendant for Emirates Airlines.



Sky Pertierra

I am from: Philippines

Two words to describe me would be: Energetic person.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Friends.

I will be most remembered for: Making bad jokes.

In ten years I will be: Somewhere nice – I don't know where but I think it would be nice. I would like to work as an Artist.



Tayla Abdelsalam

I am from: Egypt

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Kind.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and teachers and Camp.

I will be most remembered for: Participating in Squads and being kind and helpful to everyone.

In ten years I will be: A Businesswoman or a Makeup Artist.



Yaseen Al Shaer

I am from: Britain

Two words to describe me would be: Smart and Curious.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: The special events.

I will be most remembered for: Being a Science lover.

In ten years I will be: Working as an animal Biologist.



Yasmin Al Yammahi

I am from: United Arab Emirates and Russia

Two words to describe me would be: Friendly and Sporty.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: All my teachers and friends and all my accomplishments.

I will be most remembered for: All the Squads I've been in (Netball, Dance, Swimming, Rugby, Basketball).

In ten years I will be: The Minister of Happiness in the UAE, making people happy and also an Artist.



Yossef Tourky (Joe)

I am from: Egypt

Two words to describe me would be: Athletic and friendly.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Friends and sports.

I will be most remembered for: Squads and being a fast runner.

In ten years I will be: Studying Engineering and playing Football.



Yousif Arouni

I am from: Lebanon & Britain

Two words to describe me would be: Helpful and Logical.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: The amazing environment, my friends and the teachers that have taught me.

I will be most remembered for: My love of learning and being a Sports Leader.

In ten years I will be: At university studying Aviation and pursuing my dream of playing in the NBA.



Youssef Saeed (Joe)

I am from: Syria

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Athletic.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My teachers and my mates.

I will be most remembered for: My humour and my kindness.

In ten years I will be: Studying science at NASA with focus on Natural Disasters, and passion to join the NBA.



Ahmed Khan

I am from: Pakistan

Two words to describe me would be: Responsible and Kind.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: I will miss all my friends and teachers.

I will be most remembered for: Being Head Boy.

In ten years I will be: A Cricketer or a Shooter or a Technological Engineer.



Aiyemen Vaqqas

I am from: Pakistan

Two words to describe me would be: Kind and Friendly.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My teachers.

I will be most remembered for: Bring kind and in the

school Production.

In ten years I will be: The owner of my own business.



Alia Moursy

I am from: Egypt

Two words to describe me would be: Creative and Funny.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My teachers and my friends and all the memories

I made there.

I will be most remembered for: Squads and my sarcasm.

In ten years I will be: Owing my own fashion brand with my cousin.



Anoushae Shah

I am from: Canada and Pakistan

Two words to describe me would be: Confident and Friendly.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Friends and the

Productions.

I will be most remembered for: Being a House Captain and getting a main role in the Production.

In ten years I will be: A Movie Director or an actress in Hollywood.



Armaan Khan

I am from: India

Two words to describe me would be: Kind and never giving up.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and teachers and all the events I

participated in.

I will be most remembered for: Being a supportive person to others.

In ten years I will be: Working for my dads company and construction site and opening a new business.



Arqam Qureshi

I am from: Britain and Pakistan

Two words to describe me would be: Smart and Funny.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends.

I will be most remembered

for: Being at the top of the class.

In ten years I will be: In the UK as a professional Scientist.



Bilal Yousuf

I am from: Pakistan

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Friendly.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends.

I will be most remembered

for: Being the Tech nerd.

In ten years I will be: Probably working at a big tech company or owning me own tech company.



Enzo Apuya

I am from: Philippines

Two words to describe me would be: Melophile and Comical.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: The fact that indoor breaks were like board game

tournaments.

I will be most remembered for: How I had a huge file of drawings.

In ten years I will be: Probably studying architecture or working as a mangaka.



Faris Redha

I am from: Kuwait

Two words to describe me would be: Charming and Helpful.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and teachers.

I will be most remembered for: Helping out others.

In ten years I will be: Working as an Engineer.



Hamdan Alansari

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Musician and Professional.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: The teachers, my

friends and Music.

I will be most remembered for: Being the kid in back who got Innovation Leader twice.

In ten years I will be: Probably a game creator.



Kareem Kaddoura

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Nice and Kind.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends.

I will be most remembered

for: Always playing video games.

In ten years I will be: A world class Football player.



Kaylin Fernandes

I am from: Portugal

Two words to describe me would be: Generous and Friendly.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My teachers and my friends.

I will be most remembered for: Being the second fastest sprinter.

In ten years I will be: A famous Photographer in New York City.



Laiba Asif

I am from: Pakistan

Two words to describe me would be: Friendly and Kind.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and the Production.

I will be most remembered for: Being Sandringham House Captain.

In ten years I will be: An Artist in Hollywood.



Layla Lakhdim

I am from: America, Romania and Morocco

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Loud.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: The people I've met and Production.

I will be most remembered for: Being Chef Louis in the Little Mermaid.

In ten years I will be: At Harvard studying Performing Arts.



Liliana Sabry

I am from: Ukraine and Egypt

Two words to describe me would be: Mature and Fun.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Dance Squad, teachers and the school.

I will be most remembered for: Being Ursula and knowing a lot of people.

In ten years I will be: Probably studying to be a lawyer and helping out with Animal Shelters.



Majid Alzarouni

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Intellectual and Comedic.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: All the funny jokes we make with our friends and teachers there.

I will be most remembered for: My logical capabilities and the funny and optimistic attitude I have.

In ten years I will be: Perhaps a Civil Engineer working alongside my brothers in my Dad's company.



Maria Hamdan

I am from: Lebanon

Two words to describe me would be: Confident and Funny.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends, teachers and all the memories I made there.

I will be most remembered for: Being in Squads.

In ten years I will be: A Fashion Designer of a Makeup Artist.



Mark El Massih

I am from: Lebanon

Two words to describe me would be: Cat lover and Passionate.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends.

I will be most remembered for: My kindness to my friends.

In ten years I will be: Doing YouTube and living in Australia.



Moaza Al Mansoori

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Caring and Kind.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and my teachers.

I will be most remembered for: Being a good friend.

In ten years I will be: A Doctor.



Nadia Khan



Omar Jaber

I am from: Australia

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Kind.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and teachers.

I will be most remembered for: Swimming.

In ten years I will be: A successful businessman working in Australia.



Rashed Al Khazraji

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Kind and Understanding.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends.

I will be most remembered for: Being a good friend.

In ten years I will be: A Civil Engineer in a big company.



Roshan Mathews

I am from: India

Two words to describe me would be: Hilarious and Energetic.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Creative Arts.

I will be most remembered for: My drawings of Pokemon and shaded animals.

In ten years I will be: Hopefully pursuing my Pre-Med and training for a career in soccer.



Sabrina Al Dahhan

I am from: Ukraine

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Creative.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and teachers.

I will be most remembered for: Being a good friend.

In ten years I will be: A Historian and writing my own fantasy book.



Ulyana Fischer

I am from: Germany

Two words to describe me would be: Kind and Creative.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends.

I will be most remembered for: Being one of the Art kids.

In ten years I will be: Hopefully a Zoologist or an Author.



Wael Kremid

I am from: Jordan

Two words to describe me would be: Fast and Cheeky.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Friends and Football.

I will be most remembered for: Football.

In ten years I will be: Hopefully in the USA working as an Architect or a Footballer.



Warsan Fahad

I am from: Pakistan

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Kind.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Laughing with my friends and teachers.

I will be most remembered for: Being Sports Leader and being kind.

In ten years I will be: Having fun at University.



Zeinab Ali

I am from: India

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Kind.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Laughing with my friends.

I will be most remembered for: Being the shortest in the class.

In ten years I will be: An artist or actor in Hollywood.



Adam Ghali

I am from: Egypt

Two words to describe me would be: Sporty and Funny.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: The teachers and all my friends.

I will be most remembered for: Loving basketball more than anyone and for being funny and having lots of friends.

In ten years I will be: In the NBA or in university studying Engineering or Business.



Ahmad Saif

I am from: Pakistan and England

Two words to describe me would be: Intelligent and Funny.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends.

I will be most remembered for: Being House Captain.

In ten years I will be: At Harvard studying to be an Orthopedic Surgeon.



Allen Issa

I am from: America and Lebanon

Two words to describe me would be: Helpful and Friendly.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends.

I will be most remembered for: Being a good friend.

In ten years I will be: A Designer.



Antonio Aoun

I am from: Lebanon

Two words to describe me would be: Honest and Resilient.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My teachers, my friends and all the RDS staff.

I will be most remembered for: Being a Doodle Maths master.

In ten years I will be: In the American University studying Computer Engineering.



Ayesha Binte Abubakr

I am from: Pakistan

Two words to describe me would be: Kind hearted and Passionate.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: The teachers and staff.

I will be most remembered for: Beating the record for 6 million words and being English Leader.

In ten years I will be: A Pilot.



Aysha Al Humaidi

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Helpful and Friendly.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Everything.

I will be most remembered for: Being a swimmer.

In ten years I will be: A Pilot.



Bea Misselhorn

I am from: South Africa

Two words to describe me would be: Helpful and Respectful.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and the Teachers/Staff.

I will be most remembered for: My weird personality.

In ten years I will be: A Michelin Star Chef and own my own restaurant.



Hareb Aljawali

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Kind and Ambitious.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends.

I will be most remembered for: My honesty.

In ten years I will be: A Chiropractor or a Football player.



Hind Al Haj Nasser

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Kind and Funny.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Everything.

I will be most remembered for: Being kind and a good friend.

In ten years I will be: In London studying and I would like to open an Art Institute to assist young children to become professional artists.



Ishaq Mouffer

I am from: Sri Lanka

Two words to describe me would be: Charismatic and Popular.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and being House Captain.

I will be most remembered for: Being in the most Squads in the school (11).

In ten years I will be: Either a professional Footballer or be in a Youth Program for Football.



Jack Oxenham

I am from: Wales

Two words to describe me would be: Intelligent and Funny.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends.

I will be most remembered for: Being in quite a few Sports Squads.

In ten years I will be: At New York University studying Law.



Jood Shams

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Energetic and Smiley.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and

amazing teachers.

I will be most remembered for: My smiles.

In ten years I will be: Hopefully making animations, working as a lawyer and living in a house with my friends and writing books.



Joseph-Alexandre Abi Semaan

I am from: Lebanon & Russia

Two words to describe me would be: Naughty & Sporty.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends, the good times making everyone laugh. The Teachers & Teaching

Assistants and everyone who supported me throughout my time at RDS.

I will be most remembered for: Being funny and mischievous and being in the Basketball Squad.

In ten years I will be: At an American University and working towards opening the largest company in the world.



Kresimir Tepes

I am from: Croatia

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Adventurous.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Mostly my friends, my class and the outside play area.

I will be most remembered for: Participating in Chess, Science and Maths competitions as well as being so good in class.

In ten years I will be: An Archaeologist, exploring the world and finding lots and lots of wonders.



Linmeng (Linda) Song

I am from: China

Two words to describe me would be: Kind and Helpful.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Everything, especially my amazing friends.

I will be most remembered for: Being a good friend.

In ten years I will be: Studying to be an Orthodontist and preparing to start my own dental clinic.



Maiara Neacsu

I am from: Romania

Two words to describe me would be: Happy and Helpful.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Mostly my friends but everything!

I will be most remembered for: Being Head Girl.

In ten years I will be: Acting in a movie or studying at College.



Margarida Rodrigues Severino

I am from: Portugal

Two words to describe me would be: Helpful and a good friend.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Everything.

I will be most remembered for: Being resilient and spreading happiness.

In ten years I will be: Acting the main lead in a famous movie.



Mohamed Hamdan

I am from: Egypt

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Helpful.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends.

I will be most remembered for: Helping people.

In ten years I will be: Working.



Nouran Reda

I am from: Egypt

Two words to describe me would be: Smart and Polite.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Everything. I will miss the friendly environment of RDS, all my wonderful friends

and my awesome teachers.

I will be most remembered for: Competitions and having two Leadership roles in Year 6.

In ten years I will be: Studying at University to be either a Zoologist, Pediatrician or Teacher.



Rakan Al Dhaheri

I am from: United Arab Emirates

Two words to describe me would be: Helpful and Kind.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: The learning with my friends.

I will be most remembered for: All my friends.

In ten years I will be: Studying at university to become a leader of the future.



Robert French

I am from: United Kingdom

Two words to describe me would be: Artistic and Imaginative.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: The whole school - I made a lot of history there.

I will be most remembered for: My story telling.

In ten years I will be: In California doing Civil Engineering or working at an amusement park.



Salar Fard

I am from: Iran

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Smart.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: All my friends, teachers and the staff who made my journey at RDS amazing.

I will be most remembered for: Being House Captain and a really good Rugby player.

In ten years I will be: The owner of a successful business that is doing good for the world.



Samira Swan

I am from: Scotland and Britain

Two words to describe me would be: Happy and Kind.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: All my amazing friends and awesome teachers.

I will be most remembered for: Being a good friend and the Sheika Fatima Award winner.

In ten years I will be: Completing my Equine Studies course at University and preparing to open my own Riding School in Scotland.



Sarra Bakheit

I am from: Sudan

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Energetic.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My friends and teachers.

I will be most remembered for: Being friendly and kind.

In ten years I will be: A Lawyer or a Doctor.



Sophia Rajakulendran

I am from: Sri Lanka

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Sporty.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Everything.

I will be most remembered for: My sporting achievements.

In ten years I will be: At university studying to be a Pediatric Endocrinologist.



Sophie Marrington

I am from: Australia

Two words to describe me would be: Kind and a Good Friend.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: Everything and everyone.

I will be most remembered for: Being House Captain and funny and kind.

In ten years I will be: An Architect in Australia.



Troy Galloway

I am from: Scotland

Two words to describe me would be: Funny and Sporty.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: The PE Teachers and the Sports Days.

I will be most remembered for: Being sporty and having lots of friends.

In ten years I will be: Practicing Football as I would like to turn professional and join a major Scottish Football team.



Yousef Mahmood

I am from: Austria and Iraq

Two words to describe me would be: Smart and Funny.

Things I will miss about RDS will be: My teachers and my friends.

I will be most remembered for: Being in Tech Team.

In ten years I will be: Studying at Oxford to be a Virologist.

'The beautiful thing about learning is no one can take it away from you'

-B.B. King

Staff at RDS



Senior Leadership



Admin Team



FOH Team



Creative Arts



ACE Department



Clinic Team



PE Department



Islamic



Languages



FS1



FS2



Year 1



Year 2



Year 3



Year 4



Year 5



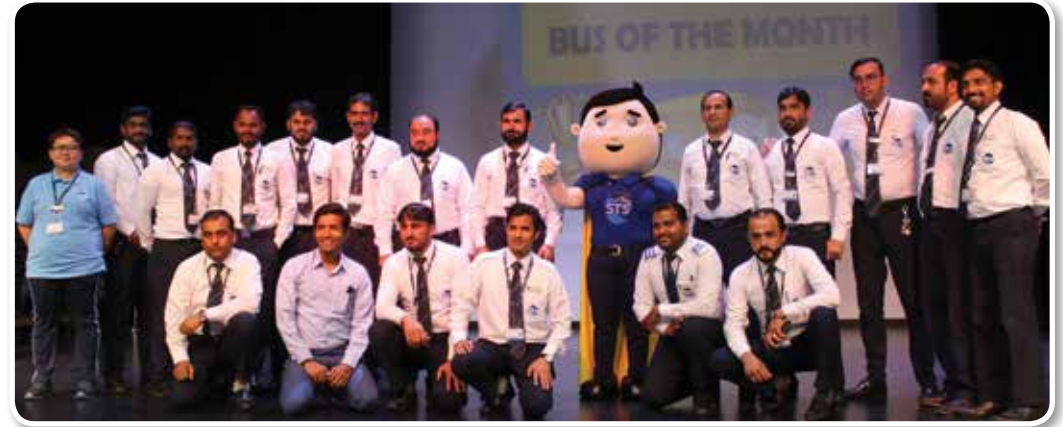
Year 6

RDS and STS

Bus of the Month



We have been working really hard this year, in partnership with STS, to ensure all of our wonderful bus students, drivers and nannies come together to make every journey, to and from school, as safe as possible. Reminding ourselves how to stay safe can also be fun with our bus friends and colleagues. We have awarded a record number of 'Bus Superstar' stickers this year and have also introduced the new 'Bus of the Month' Award! We really enjoyed our bus team building assembly and loved meeting our special visitor 'Super Driver', the STS mascot!



Goodbye and Good Luck

To the staff moving on this year



Adam Hassoun



Clare Angus



Eva Fotopoulou



Graham Champsey



Hannah Franklin



James Oakden



Jamie Hinde



Lauren East



Leigh Reynolds



Maria Kearney



Rebecca McAleenan



Rionach Kelly



Said Abdelrazek
Mohamed Hamed



Sanha Aziz



Schahrazed Kaci



Sian Pascoe



Teddi Redpath



Victoria Jennings

Thank you for your contributions to our learning community.

MAHMOUD MOHAMED, MAHMOUD TAWFIQ, MAHRA AL ARIFI, MAHRA AL SUWAIDI, MAHRA ALHAMMADI, MAHRA ALSHAMS, MAHRA BIN TAMIM, MAIARA NEACSU, MAITHA ANWAHI, MAITHA SHAMAL, MAJED MOHAMMED SAID MOHAMMED AL ARAIMI, MAJID ALZAROUNI, MAJID SULTAN ALI MOHAMMAD ABDULLAH ALSUBAIHAT, MALAAK ABUSERDANEH, MALAK MUTAZ, MALAVIKA ROSE THOMAS, MANA ARIF THABET AHMAD SAEED, MANSIMAR BAKSHI, MANSOOR ALMARZOOQI, MANSOOR ZAROONI, MANSOUR ABDULLA EBRAHIM ABDULLA ALJARN, MARC BOUASSALY, MARGARIDA RODRIGUES SEVERINO, MARIA HAMDAN, MARIA KHAIRI, MARIA LA SAGA, MARIA SEVERINO, MARIAM ALROMAITHI, MARIAM BELSHALAT, MARIAM MURTUZA, MARITA KOBROSSI, MARK EL MASSIH, MARKO KOVACEVIC, MARKO TEPES, MARWAN GHAREEB, MARYAM A M ABUSHI, MARYAM ABOUEL SOUED, MARYAM ABUSERDANEH, MARYAM AL DOOSARI, MARYAM AL ISMAIL, MARYAM ALDALLAL MARYAM BHARUCHI, MARYAM BIN ESSA, MARYAM GARGASH, MARYAM HASSAN, MARYAM JAMAL DARWISH ALNUAIMI, MARYAM NOOH ALZAROONI, MARYAM RAHIDEH, MARYAM SHAIKH, MARYAM TOUTOUNJI, MASHAL FAISAL, MATTHEW BLIGNAULT, MAYA 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