MessaGES

GULF ENGLISH SCHOOL CAIRO - MessaGES

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Grow. Engage. Succeed.

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This special edition of MessaGES celebrates a successful, busy, creative and inspiring First Term for the academic year 2024/2025. That very first day of school on September 8th was exciting and promising. The students and Parents looked truly happy to be back. They were as generous with their hugs as they were with their smiles.

This year, so far, has fulfilled its promise to be exciting. The inauguration of our collaboration with Tawasol including their unforgettable acrobatic performance of El Leilah El Kebeerah; the 'Keep Egypt Warm' Campaign and the clothes drive in Establ Antar were all fruitful initiatives as part of this cooperative experience. There are so many more still to come.

This year also saw the introduction of Natateef Music Academy. As many of you have witnessed from their performances during the Seasonal Concert, the joy and energy that only music can bring is evident and will increase as the programme grows.

GES Cairo is a vibrant, busy school with an exceptionally successful educational programme. Two of our Seniors achieved Top in the World, Outstanding Cambridge Learner Award in the IGCSE English as a Second Language and Highest Mark in the World, Outstanding Pearson/Edexcel Learner Award in IGCSE Maths A. We couldn't be more proud!

Preparations are also well in hand for our first Whole School Production of 'Annie'. The students, teachers and staff are all hands on, rehearsing and planning. Only the Performing Arts can bring everyone together so beautifully. 'Tomorrow' is coming fast .. are you ready?

Ms. Ghada Dajani - Managing Director



Dear Students, Parents and Staff,

I am delighted to share this edition of our school magazine which highlights the vibrant and joyful moments of the first term of the school year.

Term One has been filled with unforgettable events, from inspiring assemblies that sparked meaningful discussions to engaging trips that expanded our horizons, students' council election and Honour Society Induction. It has been a joy to witness our students come together whether through the excitement of the Sports Day, or during BSME football and basketball matches as well as swimming competitions, where teamwork and school spirit shone brightly.

Parents play a crucial role as partners in the school.They engage in various school workshops and informational sessions that can equip them with the tools they need to support their children's education effectively such as "Thriving Teens", "Promote Love for Reading", "Conflict Resolution" etc.. They also participate in various activities and school events that create a sense of belonging for all families as in "FS 2 Fathers' Breakfast Day". Parents' engagement extended to the grandparents."Grandparents' Day" was truly heartwarming showcasing the loving bonds between our students and their cherished grandparents. The laughter and joyful conversations echoed while planting and colouring reflected the importance of family ties.

'Pink Day' is one of our various fundraising activities that demonstrate our commitment to giving back and show the entire school community solidarity and support for the Breast Cancer Foundation. Everyone wears pink clothing. Students and teachers organise various fundraising activities or crafting accessories not only to raise money but also to engage the school community in enjoyable and interactive ways.

Additionally, our breathtaking seasonal concert was a testament to the talented musicians and performers in our school. The stirring melodies and dynamic rhythms captivated the audience, leaving everyone in awe of our students' creativity. It was a memorable evening filled with festive mode that highlighted the passion of our young artists.

Each event showcased not only the talents and dedication of our students but also the invaluable support of our staff and parents. Students' enthusiasm and participation have truly made a difference, creating a warm and inclusive environment where everyone can thrive.

As you browse through the pages of this magazine, I encourage you to celebrate the wonderful moments we have shared and the achievements we have accomplished together. Let us continue to celebrate our achievements and collaboration as we move forward into the next term.

I look forward to all the exciting experiences that lie ahead.

Mrs. Mona El Masry - School Director

TINY STEPS TO NEW BEGINNINGS









The first day of school is always a milestone, but for our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) students, it marks the beginning of a journey filled with curiosity, discovery, and growth. Our students stepped onto the school grounds with a mix of excitement, wonder, and a few nervous smiles, ready to embark on this new adventure.

From the moment the gates opened, the atmosphere was alive with cheerful energy. Teachers and staff greeted each student with a warm smile, offering reassuring words to ease any first-day anxiety. Parents, too, played their part, extending hugs and proud waves as they entrusted their little ones to the care of the school.

The classrooms, thoughtfully set up with colourful displays and inviting activity corners, were all prepared with engaging activities as students explored their new environment. For our FS1 students, this was their first time stepping into a structured setting, and the excitement of discovering toys, books, and play areas was palpable.

The day was carefully planned to ensure a smooth transition for the young learners. Familiar routines, such as morning circle time and guided play, helped create a sense of comfort and predictability. Teachers introduced themselves with engaging stories and songs, quickly capturing the students' attention and hearts.

Activities were designed to encourage exploration and creativity. From painting to building blocks, every child found something that sparked their interest. Outdoor play was a particular highlight, with students running freely, making new friends, and enjoying the fresh air.

For the students, the first day was about more than just starting school—it was about taking brave steps toward independence. For some, it meant saying goodbye to parents for the first time, while for others, it was the thrill of making a new friend or sharing a toy.

Parents experienced their own mix of emotions, from the bittersweet feeling of letting go to the joy of seeing their child take this important step. The school supported this transition by ensuring orientation sessions took place ahead of time as well as responding to countless inquiries and updates to reassure parents throughout the day, ensuring parents felt connected to their child's experience.

The first day of EYFS is more than just the beginning of the school year; it's the foundation for a lifetime of learning.

By fostering a nurturing and stimulating environment, the school ensures every student feels valued, safe, and ready to embrace the journey ahead.

Ms. Rana Alsaadi - EYFS Deputy Headteacher



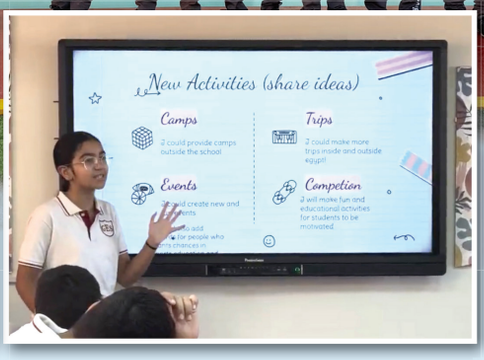


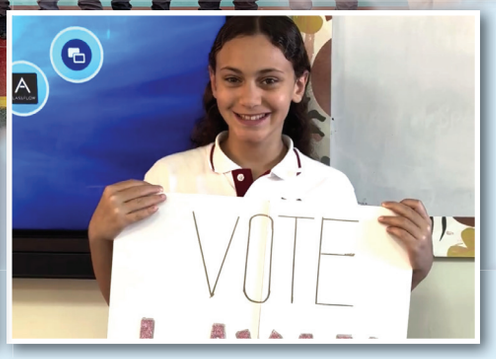












The Student Council: Take Three



This year's Student Council elections marked a significant milestone in GES Cairo's journey. The school witnessed an unprecedented number of applicants interested to represent their classes, and that only proves one thing: the council was indeed effective the previous year.

This wave of interest was followed by another one of showcasing skills where students got to deliver speeches to their classmates to help them vote for the one they see fit. After a week packed with presentations, the long-awaited day finally came and each class got to vote and results were shared with everyone.



As the dust settled and the new council members assumed their roles, excitement seasoned with anticipation filled the air. The council voted internally to choose a president and two vice presidents to represent them. Once that was done, the complete council swore the oath in front of the whole school and zealously buzzed to action.

From brainstorming and planning meetings to creating a platform for students' suggestions to analysing data gathered to meetings with the SLT, the council's presence has been felt through Student Bulletin presentations and in both the Pink Day and "Keep Egypt Warm" campaign. Currently, many initiatives are a work in progress as the representatives are working closely with the management to help better the school environment and spirit. Stay tuned.

Ms. Mai Monsef - Secondary Head of English Department & Student Council Advisor

Celebrating Grandparents: A Special Day in EYFS









FS1 students welcomed their Grandparents for a heartwarming and memorable event filled with love, creativity, and togetherness. The day was designed to celebrate the special bond between our students and their Grandparents while giving everyone a chance to create lasting memories.

The event began with a delightful greeting as the students sang a welcoming song, their cheerful voices filling the Theatre with joy and bringing smiles to everyone present. It was a wonderful way to set the tone for the day, and the Grandparents couldn't help but beam with pride as they watched their little ones perform with enthusiasm.

Next came the hands-on activities, where Grandparents and children worked together on planting seeds. With tiny hands and guiding support from Grandparents, pots were filled with soil, seeds were carefully planted, and little promises of "I'll water it every day!" were shared. These budding plants symbolised not just growth but also the nurturing relationship between the children and their Grandparents.

Following this, the pairs moved on to a creative card-making activity. The students poured their creativity into designing beautiful cards, adding drawings, coloured stickers, and heartfelt messages for their Grandparents. A truly touching moment was when Grandparents wrote special notes to be shared and withstand the span of time for their grandchildren—messages to be opened on their Graduation Day, filled with hopes, dreams, and love for the future. The joy of working side by side, sharing stories, and collaborating on these personalised creations added an extra layer of warmth to the event.
To round off the day, we invited everyone to gather for tea and cake. It was a perfect way to end the event on a sweet note, leaving everyone with happy hearts.

The day was a wonderful reminder of the important role Grandparents play in the lives of our students. We were thrilled to provide this opportunity for students to express their love and gratitude while making precious memories together.

Thank you to all the Grandparents who joined us—you truly made this event unforgettable.

Ms. Rana Alsaadi - EYFS Deputy Headteacher

GOODBYE FIRST BELLS AND WELCOME FINAL BOWS

As the sun rose over GES Cairo on Sunday September 8th, 2024, the air buzzed with excitement and nostalgia. It was a day unlike any other: the Senior Class of 2025's Last First School Day. This unique event marked a poignant milestone for our graduating class and their families, as they gathered to reflect on the incredible journey they've undertaken throughout their years at the school.

The morning began with a jubilant display of support as students lined up a path from the school gate to the Theatre. Each Senior, holding a cherished photograph of themselves on their very first day of school, greeted their parents with cheers and applause. The sight was both heartwarming and symbolic. Parents beamed with pride as they walked through the corridor of admiration, each cheer echoing their unwavering support and dedication over the years.







The nostalgic images, which captured the innocence and enthusiasm of these now-adult students, served as a powerful reminder of how quickly time flies. It was a bittersweet moment, evoking laughter and tears as families reflected on how much their children had grown. The pictures encapsulated not just the passage of time but the profound transformations that accompany the journey from childhood to young adulthood.

Once all the families gathered in the Theatre, emotions ran high as the Senior Class presented a heartfelt video montage. This visual tribute showcased the myriad memories created at GES Cairo school events, friendships, and milestones that have shaped their lives. Laughter filled the room, but it wasn't long before the atmosphere turned solemn. Parents and students alike found themselves wiping away tears, overwhelmed by the bittersweet beauty of this moment. It was a collective celebration of growth, love, and the bonds forged over years of shared experiences.

The video, thoughtfully compiled by the students, highlighted not only the joyous moments but also the challenges they had faced together. It served as a reminder of the resilience and support that the GES Cairo community embodies. Every frame told a story—stories of friendship, laughter, and the lessons learned along the way. It was a tribute not just to the students, but to the families and faculty who have been integral parts of their journey.

As the video concluded, the air was thick with emotion, yet a sense of joy permeated the room. The next phase of the day included an impromptu photo session, where parents, students, and staff members came together to capture the moment. Laughter and chatter filled the theatre as families posed for pictures, creating memories that would last a lifetime. These photographs, much like the friendships and experiences shared, will be cherished keepsakes—a tangible reminder of the journey from their first day of school to this monumental occasion.

This year's Seniors' Last First School Day was more than just a celebration; it was a heartfelt acknowledgment of the love and effort that has nurtured each student into the remarkable individuals they have become. It reinforced the idea that every step taken on this journey has been a collaborative effort—a testament to the unwavering support from parents and the dedication of teachers.







As the event drew to a close, it became clear that while this was a farewell to their first school days, it was also an invitation to embrace new beginnings. The lessons learned, the friendships forged, and the memories created at GES Cairo will serve as a foundation as these young adults embark on the next chapter of their lives.

Seniors' Last First School Day was a beautiful reminder that while time may pass swiftly, the love and memories created within our school community will last a lifetime. As these students prepare to leave the familiar halls of GES Cairo, they carry with them not just their academic achievements, but a treasure trove of experiences that will shape their futures.

Ms. Nermine Ali - Secondary Headteacher













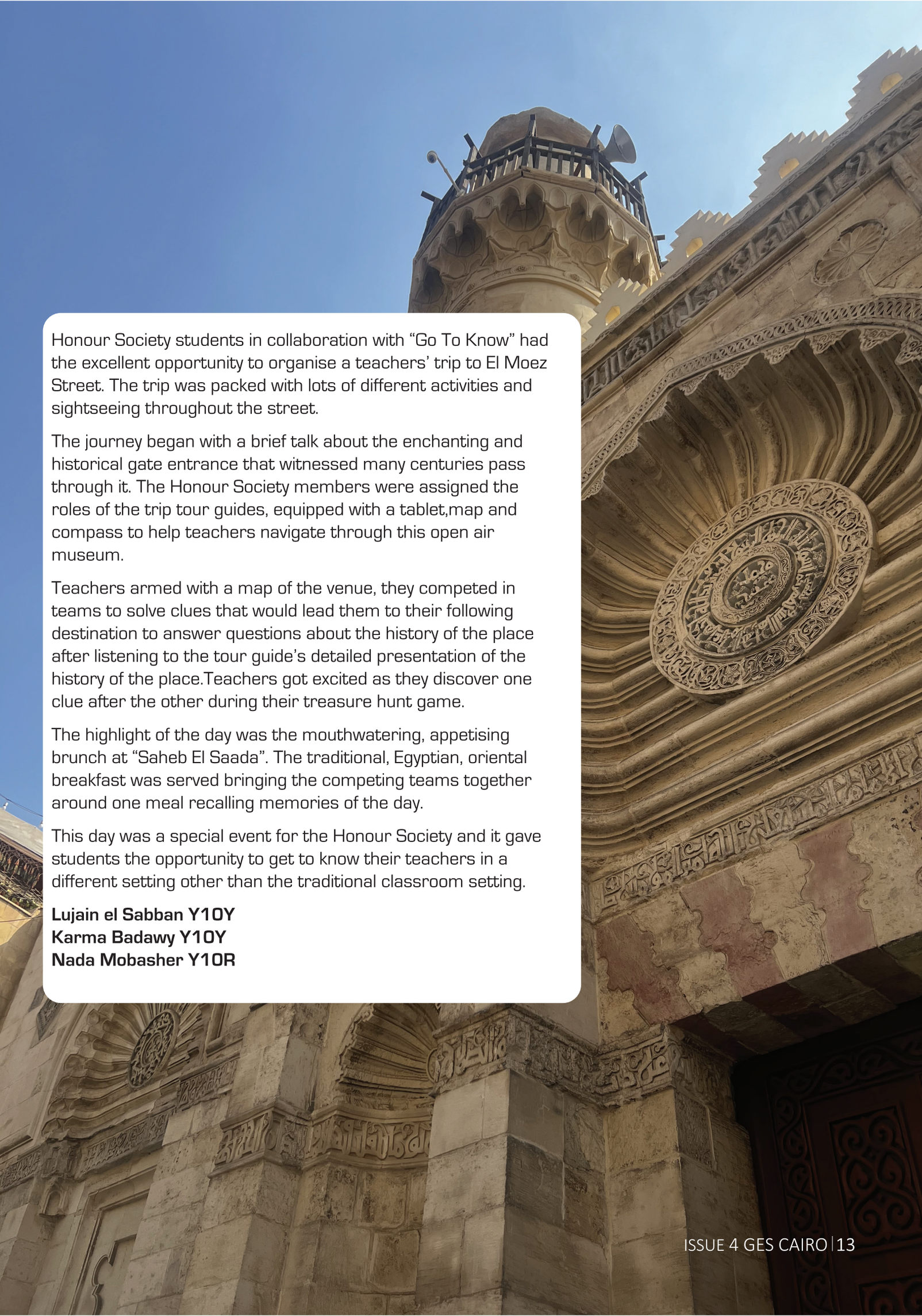






Discovering El Moez Street with the Honour Society





Honour Society students in collaboration with “Go To Know” had the excellent opportunity to organise a teachers’ trip to El Moez Street. The trip was packed with lots of different activities and sightseeing throughout the street.

The journey began with a brief talk about the enchanting and historical gate entrance that witnessed many centuries pass through it. The Honour Society members were assigned the roles of the trip tour guides, equipped with a tablet,map and compass to help teachers navigate through this open air museum.

Teachers armed with a map of the venue, they competed in teams to solve clues that would lead them to their following destination to answer questions about the history of the place after listening to the tour guide’s detailed presentation of the history of the place.Teachers got excited as they discover one clue after the other during their treasure hunt game.

The highlight of the day was the mouthwatering, appetising brunch at “Saheb El Saada”. The traditional, Egyptian, oriental breakfast was served bringing the competing teams together around one meal recalling memories of the day.

This day was a special event for the Honour Society and it gave students the opportunity to get to know their teachers in a different setting other than the traditional classroom setting.

Lujain el Sabban Y10Y
Karma Badawy Y10Y
Nada Mobasher Y10R

A MAGICAL MATINEE AT THE OPERA: A REVIEW OF "ONE THOUSAND AND ONE NIGHTS"

Year 7 and 8 students embarked on a magical journey to the Cairo Opera House to witness the mesmerising ballet performance of "One Thousand and One Nights". The production, a captivating blend of middle eastern dance and classical ballet, left us spellbound.

The moment we stepped into the Opera, we were transported to a world of enchantment. The set design was simply breathtaking, with intricate details and clever use of lighting to create a dynamic and ever-changing stage. The transition between scenes was seamless, making the performance even more immersive.

A special mention must be made to Ms. Ghada Dajani, GES Cairo Managing Director, the talented script writer and narrator, who brought the enchanting tales of "One Thousand and One Nights" to life with her captivating storytelling. Her performance was nothing short of extraordinary.

The heart of the show was the extraordinary choreography. The dancers effortlessly blended the graceful movements of classical ballet with the vibrant energy of middle eastern dance. The result was a stunning visual spectacle that captivated the audience from start to finish.

The costumes, too, were a feast for the eyes. The intricate designs and vibrant colours showcased the rich cultural heritage of the Middle East. Each costume was a masterpiece in its own right, adding to the overall magic of the performance.



This unforgettable experience has not only entertained the students but has also ignited a passion for classical performing arts within their hearts. Witnessing such a magnificent spectacle, created a deeper appreciation for the rich cultural heritage of our country and the timeless beauty of classical dance.

"One Thousand and One Nights" was more than just a performance; it was an experience. It was a journey through time and space, a celebration of art, culture, and human creativity. It was a trip we will never forget.

Ms. Wogood El Fowey - Year 9 & 10 Drama Teacher & Drama Head of Department

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EXPLORING EL FAYOUM: A JOURNEY OF TRADITION AND ADVENTURE



Year 9 and 10 students went to El Fayoum, a serene oasis in Egypt, offering visitors a perfect blend of culture, nature, and adventure. On our recent trip, we embarked on a journey that allowed us to immerse ourselves in the traditions of the area while exploring its stunning landscapes and engaging in a variety of activities. From savouring a traditional breakfast to horseback riding through scenic routes, the trip was an unforgettable experience.

Our day began with a hearty, traditional Egyptian breakfast that set the tone for the rest of the day. Served in a local eatery, we enjoyed a variety of oriental dishes that included warm, fresh feteer, old creamy cheese, boiled eggs and local honey. The flavours were rich and comforting, a true representation of the region's culinary heritage. As we savoured each bite, we knew that we were about to experience the culture and beauty of El Fayoum in a way few others have.

After breakfast, we made our way to Wadi El Rayan, known for its captivating waterfalls. As we approached the falls, the sound of rushing water grew louder, building up anticipation for what lay ahead. The sight of the falls cascading down into the deep blue waters of the lake was nothing short of mesmerizing. We took our time to explore the surrounding areas, capturing the beauty of nature and enjoying the tranquillity that came with being surrounded by such breathtaking scenery.

Next, we headed to Lake Karoun for an exciting sailing adventure. The boat ride was peaceful yet invigorating, offering stunning views of the lake, with its clear waters reflecting the bright blue sky. The calm breeze and the soft lapping of the water against the boat created the perfect setting for relaxation. As we sailed across the vast expanse of the lake, we couldn't help but feel a deep connection to the natural beauty that surrounded us.

After the boat ride, we set out for an adventure on horseback. Riding through the vast, open landscapes of El Fayoum's countryside by the lake, we felt a sense of freedom and peace. The rhythmic sound of the






horses' hooves on the earth, combined with the sights of the blue lake and distant hills, made for a truly memorable experience. Whether it was a gentle trot or a leisurely walk, the horseback ride gave us the opportunity to explore the area in a unique and intimate way.

To close our day, we participated in a pottery-making session, learning one of El Fayoum's oldest crafts. The hands-on experience allowed us to shape and mould clay, guided by local artisans who passed down their skills through generations. As we shaped our own pieces, we gained an appreciation for the artistry and dedication that goes into creating each unique pottery item. It was a perfect way to connect with the region's rich cultural heritage and leave with a souvenir that held a personal story.

As the day began to wind down, we enjoyed a hearty and flavourful traditional lunch. Served with a variety of dishes, the meal was a true celebration of Egyptian cuisine. We savoured grilled chicken, flavourful rice, fresh salads, and warm bread. The bold spices and local ingredients made every bite a delight, and it was the perfect way to conclude an incredible day of activities.

Our trip to El Fayoum was an incredible journey that combined nature, culture, and adventure in a way that few places can offer. From the tranquil beauty of Wadi El Rayan's waterfalls to the serene boat ride on Lake Karoun, every moment felt like a new discovery. Horseback riding through the countryside and the hands-on experience of pottery making allowed us to connect with the region's traditions, while the delicious traditional meals kept our spirits high. It was a day full of memories, laughter, and unforgettable experiences that will stay with us for years to come.

Ms. Sara Gaafar - Secondary Maths Head of Department & Year 10 Maths Teacher

Students Discover Egypt's Saqqara Complex



A group of adventurous students embarked on a remarkable journey to explore some of the most iconic ancient wonders of Egypt. The trip offered a fascinating opportunity to witness the genius of ancient Egypt's master architect, Imhotep, and explore the randeur of the Saqqara Complex. Not only did the students dive deep into history, but they also gained hands-on experience with navigation skills, using maps and compasses. The trip culminated in a visit to the mysterious Serapeum, adding an air of intrigue and awe to the adventure.

The Saqqara Complex, located just outside Cairo, is one of Egypt's most significant archaeological sites, home to the world-famous Step Pyramid of Djoser. This pyramid, designed by the visionary architect Imhotep around 2650 BCE, is considered the first stone structure ever built on such a grand scale, marking a major milestone in ancient Egyptian architecture. It laid the groundwork for the later, more elaborate pyramids that followed, including the great Pyramids of Giza.

Students were able to marvel at the magnificence of the Step Pyramid and its surrounding tombs and structures. As they explored the site, they learnt about Imhotep's groundbreaking architectural innovations, such as the use of stone in pyramid construction, which would later influence the design of Egypt's largest and most iconic pyramids. The students had the unique chance to stand before this monumental structure, witnessing firsthand the legacy of one of history's greatest architects. Beyond exploring ancient ruins, the trip also gave students the opportunity to engage in hands-on activities that connected them with the skills ancient Egyptians might have used. Armed with maps and compasses, they practiced navigation through the sprawling Saqqara Complex, simulating the techniques that ancient Egyptians could have used to navigate the vast desert and locate sacred sites.



As they worked their way across the site, students learnt how geography and orientation played vital roles in the design and positioning of Egyptian temples, tombs, and pyramids. Many of these structures were precisely aligned with the cardinal directions, reflecting the Egyptians' knowledge of astronomy and their deep connection to the stars, the sun, and the land. The students' navigation practice highlighted how critical these skills were for both ancient Egyptians and their modern-day counterparts.

The final destination of the trip was the Serapeum, an ancient burial site that holds many mysteries. Located in the Saqqara necropolis, the Serapeum is home to a series of underground tunnels that house the mummified remains of the sacred Apis bulls. These bulls were considered earthly manifestations of the god Ptah, and their tombs were among the most elaborate and monumental of ancient Egypt's sacred burial sites.

As students wandered through the Serapeum's dark corridors and examined the massive, intricately carved stone sarcophagi, they learnt about the religious significance of the Apis bulls in Egyptian mythology. The Serapeum remains one of the most enigmatic sites in Egypt, with its grand burial chambers and impressive architecture that continue to puzzle archaeologists. For the students, this visit was an unforgettable experience that connected them to Egypt's rich religious and cultural past.





This journey to the Saqqara Complex and Serapeum provided the students with much more than a typical field trip. It was a hands-on exploration of ancient Egypt's incredible achievements in architecture, religion, and navigation. By standing before the ancient pyramids, practising navigation like the Egyptians once did, and uncovering the secrets of the Serapeum, students gained a deeper understanding of the wonders of this ancient civilisation.

The trip not only brought history to life but also sparked a curiosity that will stay with the students long after they return home. It was a rare and exciting opportunity to connect with the ancient world in a meaningful and interactive way, providing them with memories and lessons that will last a lifetime. Fatima, from 7 Red, has stated, "Using a compass and map to navigate around Saqqara was so much fun. It felt like we were ancient explorers discovering hidden tombs. It really made me think about how smart the Egyptians were when it came to architecture and orientation." In addition, Asya, another happy participant from 7 Red, had also declared, "Visiting the Step Pyramid was like stepping back in time. I couldn't believe how old it was! Imhotep's design was so ahead of its time, and seeing it up close made me appreciate ancient Egypt even more."

Ms. Passant Maher - Year 7 Science Teacher



YEAR 3 FIELD TRIP TO FAGNOON: A DAY OF CREATIVITY AND ADVENTURE





The Year 3 students experienced an exciting field trip to Fagnoon, a vibrant hub for creativity and fun. This day promised to be filled with hands-on activities that would inspire the students' imagination and teamwork.

Upon arrival, the students' were greeted by the friendly staff of Fagnoon, who introduced them to the day's itinerary. The excitement was palpable as the students split into small groups, eager to explore everything Fagnoon had to offer.

The first stop was the pottery workshop. There, students learnt the ancient art of shaping clay. With hands covered in mud and smiles on their faces, they crafted their own unique pots and bowls. The instructors guided them through the process, emphasising the importance of patience and creativity.

Next, the students moved on to the ceramic mosaic area, where they could unleash their artistic flair. Armed with colourful tiles, they designed beautiful patterns and pictures. The vibrant colours and intricate designs reflected their personalities, and the results were nothing short of spectacular.



After a morning filled with creativity, it was time for a break with some furry friends! The students eagerly approached the animal feeding area, where they met goats, sheep, and rabbits. With laughter and squeals of joy, they took turns feeding the animals, learning about each species from the staff.

The final activity of the day was the obstacle course. This was the highlight for many students, who were excited to test their agility and teamwork. Climbing, balancing, and crawling through various challenges, the children cheered each other on and celebrated their achievements.

This field trip to Fagnoon not only provided unforgettable experiences but also fostered creativity, collaboration, and a love for learning. The Year 3 students returned to school with new skills, cherished memories, and a broader appreciation for the arts and nature.

Ms. Dina Ghanem - Year 3 Team Leader









A Blast from the Past







Year 8 students were led on a historical trip to the Museum of Civilisation. The trip began with a captivating tour, where students marvelled at the mummies of the great Pharaohs.

Afterwards, they ascended to the second floor for a more in-depth exploration of Egyptian culture, tracing its evolution from the dawn of humanity through the prehistoric era and various historical stages, culminating in the modern era. To cap off the enriching experience, the students enjoyed a delightful oriental breakfast while cruising along the serene Nile River.

Educating the students about Egypt's illustrious history was the primary objective of this excursion, as well as to educate them on the mesmerising history of Ancient Egypt. Starting from the ancient prehistoric era and progressing through the different historical periods leading up to contemporary Egypt, Year 8 students this year have definitely had a blast from the past.

Ms. Sanctus Yanni - Year 8 Maths Teacher

Year 4's Adventure At The Grand Egyptian Museum









Our Year 4 students embarked on an exciting field trip to the Grand Egyptian Museum. This adventure was an incredible opportunity to dive into the fascinating world of ancient Egypt.



Upon arriving at the museum, students gathered around to learn about hieroglyphics—the ancient writing system used by Egyptians. With the help of our knowledgeable guides, each student discovered how to write their name, age, city, and gender using this unique language. It was thrilling to see their faces light up as they crafted their own hieroglyphic inscriptions, gaining a deeper appreciation for this remarkable form of communication.

Next, we ventured into the Kids Museum, where students travelled through different eras of Egyptian history. They learned about the intriguing process of mummification and the significance of preserving the dead. The guides explained how ancient Egyptians believed in an afterlife, which made mummification an essential practice.



Additionally, students discovered the fascinating world of papyrus—the paper-like material made from the papyrus plant. They learned how it was created and its importance in ancient Egyptian writing and record-keeping. Students also learned about the various gods and goddesses of ancient Egypt. Students were able to handle replicas of ancient artifacts, participate in interactive exhibits. The models and displays made learning fun and memorable among the students.

This trip was particularly significant as it coincided with our English unit on Historical Fiction. Students have been reading stories set in Ancient Egypt, and visiting the museum brought those narratives to life. The experiences and knowledge gained during the trip enriched their understanding of the characters and settings in their books, allowing them to draw connections between fiction and history.

Our field trip to the Grand Egyptian Museum was an exciting day as students not only learned about the rich history of Ancient Egypt but also experienced it in a way that books alone cannot provide.

Ms. Yara Abdelgabar - Year 4 Team Leader





A Memorable Adventure: Year 11's Trip to Wadi Degla



The Year 11 students spent an engaging and fun-filled day at Wadi Degla. They engaged in team-building challenges, and creating lasting memories together. From singing our own song to an exciting treasure hunt, athletic games, and a stunning sunset hike, every moment was an adventure that brought us closer as a class.

The day began with the entire group being divided into four smaller teams, each tasked with creating a unique song to represent themselves.Teams brainstormed, composed, and practiced their songs. The enthusiasm was contagious, setting the tone for the fun and collaborative activities ahead.

After the musical creations, it was time for more challenges to design their own flags. Armed with markers, paint, and plenty of imagination, we worked together to create vibrant and meaningful flags that displayed our unity and creativity. The final result was a beautiful collection of flags, each one telling a unique story of the team spirit.

Next up was an exhilarating treasure hunt. Groups were given a series of puzzle clues that led them on a quest to discover more about Wadi Degla, its history, and ancient languages. Solving each clue was a thrilling adventure as students navigated the landscape, learning new things along the way. The treasure hunt not only tested their problem-solving skills but also brought teams closer as they worked together to unravel the mysteries of the place.

After the treasure hunt, it was time to settle into the camp. As tents were set and comfort surrounded the place, the real fun began. Students participated in a range of sports activities, including football, volleyball, American football, racket games, and archery. Each game brought out students' competitive spirit and teamwork, providing a fun way for them to bond as a class. The friendly competition helped students get to know each other better while staying active and energised.

As the day continued, students joined in with the animation team for some exciting team-building activities. These games were designed to bring them together, creating a sense of unity and camaraderie among the Senior class. Laughter and teamwork filled the air as students participated in various challenges that not only tested their physical abilities but also helped them develop trust and collaboration with one another.



A mouthwatering lunch followed where the scent of grilled chicken filled the air, making everyone's stomachs rumble in anticipation. Alongside the perfectly grilled chicken, we enjoyed fresh vegetables, pasta, and a delicious salad. The flavours were incredible, and the meal was the perfect fuel for the second half of our adventure.

As the afternoon sun began to set, we set off on a beautiful hike around Wadi Degla. The scenic views of the surrounding landscapes were breathtaking, and the peaceful hike allowed us to reflect on the day's experiences. On our way back, the fun did not stop as we had an epic colour and water fight, splashing each other with bright colours and water, creating a colourful spectacle that brought out the playful side in everyone.

As the sun dipped below the horizon, we gathered around the campfire to end our day. The crackling fire provided warmth and light, creating the perfect setting for one last shared moment. We roasted marshmallows, watching them melt to a golden perfection. The campfire was the perfect way to wind down and reflect on the amazing day we had just experienced.

The trip to Wadi Degla was nothing short of mesmerizing as every moment brought us closer together. The day was filled with adventure, laughter, and new connections, making it one of the most memorable experiences of our Year 11 journey.

Ms. Sara Gaafar - Secondary Maths Head of Department & Year 10 Maths Teacher

PINK PANTHER



On Thursday, 24th October 2024, Pink Day was held at GES Cairo's campus. GES Cairo's community makes sure that this particular event is held annually to honour the people who either fought breast cancer our survived it. Parents, teachers, and students are all involved in this event.

Pink Panther was the star of the event, witnessing the vibrant vibes of everyone around, either doing plenty of activities, such as eating, drinking, buying symbolic gifts, or enjoying the music under the warm sun of October. Everyone wore a smile and spread positivity all over the place. There were so many games, such as tic-tac-toe, puzzles, and a photo booth. Even students helped by selling unique things such as accessories, bookmarks, and even plants. Mrs. Aisha, Key Stage Two Arabic teacher, said, "This event teaches students a lot about empathy and compassion and gives them means to make such qualities applicable. Tia from Year 5 explained, "I think the Pink Day matches perfectly with compassion in our 7 Cs."

All the proceeds from this event shall go directly to the Breast Cancer Foundation Egypt, so patients can benefit from the money collected to help with better diagnosis and treatment. In addition, students will definitely benefit from raising awareness about the importance of health.

Talia Ahmed, Khadija Sameh & Rana Shady - Year 6 Red











Pink Day: A Heartfelt Celebration for a Cause

On a bright and cheerful day at our school, we celebrated ' Pink Day,' a special fundraising event dedicated to raising awareness for breast cancer. The theme of the day was 'Think Pink,' and our beloved Pink Panther was the hero of the event, bringing smiles and joy to everyone!

The day began with an enchanting performance by our talented students, who beautifully sang the heartfelt song "Han'eesh". Their voices filled the air with hope and inspiration, setting a wonderful tone for the day ahead.

Throughout Pink Day, students were thrilled to participate in a variety of fun activities. There were investigation games, crafts, and laughter all around, creating a joyful and mysterious atmosphere. The school was filled with vibrant pink decorations, and everyone wore their Pink T-shirt to show their support for the cause.

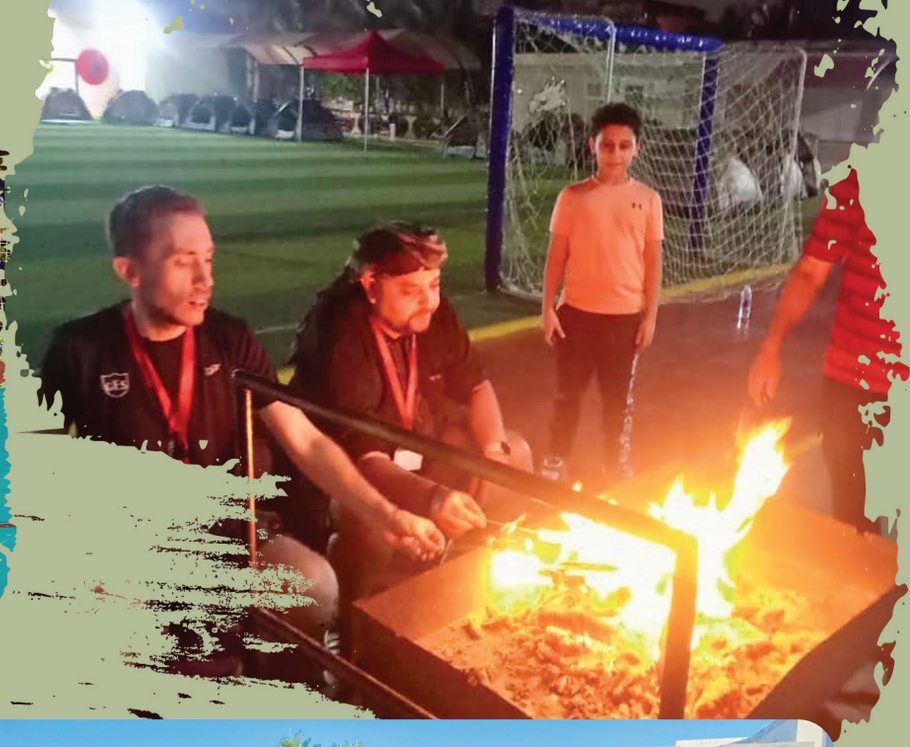
Our school also hosted a number of vendors who all competed to sell their products on the day. From delicious treats to handmade crafts, there was something for everyone! The excitement in the air was contagious as students browsed through the colourful stalls, eager to support their friends and the important cause.

A special auction for our hero of the day, the famous 3D Pink Panther, was held after the event. The bidding was intense, and in the end, a Year 11 student proudly took home this delightful treasure. All proceeds from the auction and the day's activities were directed to the Breast Cancer Foundation Egypt, helping to support those affected by this illness.

Pink Day was not just about raising money; it was a day filled with love, unity, and awareness. Together, we stood strong in our fight against breast cancer, proving that when we come together, we can make a difference. Thank you to everyone who participated in and contributed to this memorable event.

Ms. Yasmine Mounir - EYFS and KS1 Curriculum Activity and Events Coordinator





BUILDING MEMORIES FROM CAMPFIRE TALES



In October, the Years 5 and 6 students participated in an overnight in-school camp organised by the Physical Education department. This year's camp transcended a mere break from academic routines; it was a profound experience that fostered teamwork, resilience, and lasting memories. The diverse range of activities—from sports challenges to a treasure hunt, along with First Aid and CPR training provided students with invaluable opportunities for personal growth and connection.

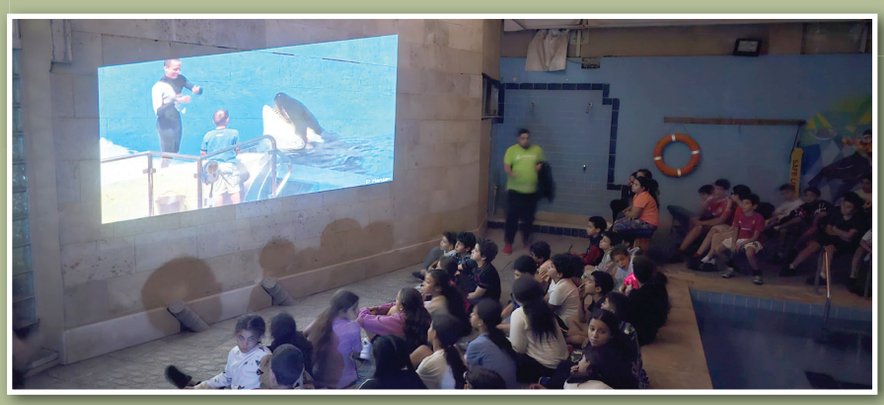
The hands-on nature of these activities not only cultivated practical skills but also instilled a sense of responsibility and confidence among participants. As we resume our daily routines, the lessons learned and friendships forged during this camp will undoubtedly continue to inspire and guide our students in the future.





Throughout the camp, students were encouraged to push their boundaries and confront challenges, helping them discover latent talents. Reflecting upon their return, students revealed that this experience was more than just an overnight stay; it was a life changing journey that enhanced their self-assurance and capabilities.







Over the course of two days, students engaged in a variety of activities that seamlessly blended enjoyment, teamwork, and learning. They resided in private tents, gathering under the moonlight to share meals prepared specially for them with care. The camp included numerous sports challenges, including football, basketball, and swimming. The swimming pool was transformed to a cinema hall where students watched the documentary 'I Believe'.

The treasure hunt added an element of adventure, while the evening was concluded by a campfire gathering and a pajama party, where students enjoyed themselves dancing, singing, and savoring roasted marshmallows. Additionally, the completion of First Aid and CPR courses equipped students with essential life-saving skills.

We take immense pride in our Year 5 and 6 students for their enthusiastic participation and commendable achievements during this enriching experience.

Mr. Hossam El Husseiny - Camp Coordinator

YEAR 6 ASSEMBLY: TIME TRAVELLER'S TALE BRINGS HISTORY TO LIFE















This year's Year 6 assembly, Time Traveller's Tale, felt like a real-life adventure through history. Guided by a helpful AI robot, students travelled back in time, making amazing discoveries and meeting legendary figures along the way.

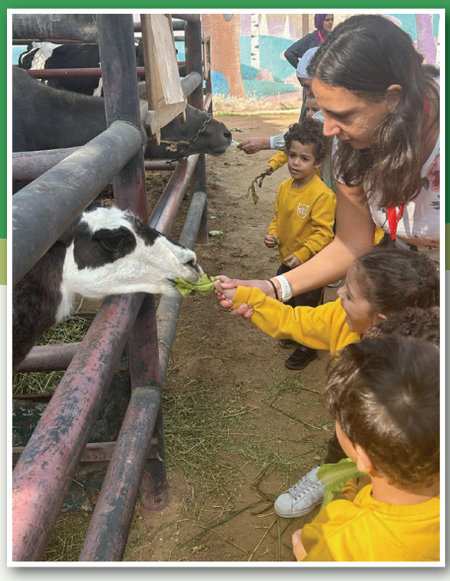
Their first stop was in Italy during the Renaissance, a time bursting with art and excitement. They arrived just in time for a lively celebration! The kids were so enthusiastic that one actor even learned to speak Italian to bring this scene to life. The girls then rocked the stage with a spirited Tarantella folk dance, impressing the audience with their energy and skill. After the dance, they met Leonardo da Vinci, who amazed them by revealing that he was not only a master artist but also an inventive genius. Students could not believe he had ideas for things like flying machines—he truly inspired them to think big.

Their next stop was in Ibn Khaldun's Study Hall, where he and his assistants were investigating how civilizations grow and change. Students had a fascinating discussion with him about the rise and fall of great societies and learned how unity helps build strong communities.

Their last stop was Gandhi's meeting room, where they explored the idea of "ahimsa," or non-violence. Gandhi's message of peace was powerful, and two students even led a calming mindfulness session, helping everyone connect with their hearts as well as their minds.
To finish their Time Traveller's Tale, the students came together for a beautiful Peace Song, filling the Theatre with hope and unity. This journey through time was a powerful experience.

Ms. Nour Noaman - Year 5 & 6 GP & Wellbeing Teacher

FS1 EXPLORING LIFE ON THE FARM







Earlier this Term, FS1 students embarked on an exciting field trip to a local farm, eager to learn about the fascinating life cycles of animals and their unique features. This hands-on experience not only enriched their knowledge but also provided unforgettable memories, as they engaged with various animals and participated in fun activities.

The day began with a warm welcome from the farm owner, who introduced the students to the concept of life cycles. The students learnt about the stages of life for different farm animals, such as cows, chickens, and pigs. Through interactive discussions and visual aids, they discovered how each animal grows and develops, enhancing their understanding of animal life in a real-world context.

One of the highlights of the trip was feeding the cows. The students were thrilled to have the opportunity to get up close to these gentle giants. Armed with buckets of fresh hay, they took turns feeding the cows, learning about their diets and behaviours. The experience was not only educational but also heartwarming, as the students formed a connection with the animals.

Next on the trip agenda was pony riding. Each student had the chance to mount a friendly pony, guided by experienced handlers. The joy on their faces was palpable as they took their first rides around the farm. This activity fostered a sense of confidence and adventure, allowing the students to experience the thrill of riding while learning about the care and training of ponies.

The day concluded with an encounter that left everyone in awe—holding a parrot! The farm featured a colourful parrot, known for its playful personality and vibrant feathers. Students were taught about the parrot's habitat, diet, and social behaviour. With guidance from the farm staff, they gently held the parrot, marvelling at its beauty and ability to mimic sounds. This interactive experience deepened their appreciation for avian life and the importance of animal welfare.

As the trip came to an end, the students left the farm with a wealth of knowledge and cherished memories. They had not only learnt about the life cycles and features of various animals but had also developed a newfound respect for nature and agriculture. This enriching experience highlighted the value of hands-on learning, igniting a passion for science and the environment that will stay with them for years to come.

Ms. Nahla Bassam - FS1 Team Leader

Take A Break: Pause



As has become customary at GES Cairo, and in our attempt to always highlight the importance of reading, this month our students participated in Drop Everything And Read.

This event encourages them to see that reading allows them to instantly travel to another time and place, wherever they are and whatever they are doing. At 11:30 on Tuesday November 19th, 2024 the entire school paused for 10 precious moments to delve into their fictional worlds. Whether in the middle of a lesson, during break time, or even between activities, all students stopped to read, allowing their imaginations to travel to far-off places, explore new worlds, and experience new perspectives. It was a brief, yet powerful moment when the entire school came together in the shared joy of reading.

And Turn The Page















At the same time, some special guests from our Senior Leadership Team visited classes to share in this experience, reading carefully selected stories aloud to the students, while FS1, FS2 and Year One were treated to a unique storytelling experience in our Theatre. The Theatre was transformed into a magical forest with our very own Ms. Ghada Dajani read to them "What are Friends For" to highlight the moral and importance of true friendship. Alongside the narration, acting of the main characters: Figgy Fox and Jefferson Bear, portrayed on stage by Ms. Yasmine Mounir and Ms. Yasmine Darwish who captured the audience's attention and clearly delivered the moral to students and teachers alike.

Ms. Claire Williams - Primary Deputy Headteacher

Year 7 & 8 School Camp: A Transformative Adventure

On November 14th and 15th, our school buzzed with excitement as students packed their bags for a much-anticipated school camp. The event was not only a break from the usual routine but a vibrant opportunity for personal growth, teamwork, and unforgettable memories.

From the moment the students settled in the camp, the atmosphere was charged with energy. The camp featured a variety of activities designed to encourage collaboration and foster a sense of community. Students engaged in team-building exercises that not only strengthened their bonds but also helped them discover new strengths within themselves.









On the evening of the first day, students gathered around a bonfire, where they danced and sang together, creating an unforgettable sense of camaraderie. These joyful moments allowed everyone to let loose and enjoy the magic of the night, forging connections that would last well beyond the camp.

One of the standout moments of the camp was the exhilarating game of "Call of Duty," where students teamed up with their teachers in a thrilling quest. All united by one objective which is to solve clues and rescue their teachers, who had been playfully taken as hostages. This engaging twist on teamwork and problem-solving had everyone laughing, strategizing, and cheering each other on.

Farida Moataz from Year 7 Red shared her thoughts on the camp, saying, "The camp wasn't just about fun; it was a platform for personal growth. Students discovered hidden talents and conquered fears (including me) and developed leadership skills. All games were original and well thought out, and the dedicated staff from L'Evento ensured a safe and joyous environment where everyone felt valued and important."

Indeed, the camp was more than just an escape from the daily grind. It was a transformative journey that encouraged students to step out of their comfort zones and embrace new challenges. Many students reported feeling more confident and connected to their peers after participating in the diverse range of activities offered.

In conclusion, the school camp was a resounding success. It provided students not only with a break from their routine but also with lasting experiences that fostered growth and connection. We look forward to many more adventures like this to inspire and unite our school community.

Ms. Farah Wafik - Year 7 Red & Yellow Teacher of English

Breakfast with Baba











Thursday, 21st November 2024 was a lovely sunny day, but the true warmth came from the infectious joy of FS2 students enjoying a special hour of breakfast on GES Cairo's campus. This heartwarming event brought together FS2 students, and their fathers, for a shared experience that celebrated more than just the most important meal of the day—it celebrated connection, laughter, and the joy of being part of a supportive school family.

The morning started with proud fathers arriving on campus, each carrying carefully prepared breakfast bags for their children. From classic sandwiches to creative breakfast treats, the variety of meals showcased the effort and thoughtfulness that went into making the day extra special.

Fathers and students sat together in cozy picnic-style settings, sharing not just food but also stories, laughter, and precious moments of togetherness. For many dads, this was a rare chance to step into their child's school life, experiencing firsthand the environment where their little ones learn, play, and grow.

The event also served as a platform for fathers to connect with one another. Between bites of breakfast, dads exchanged stories about parenthood, shared tips, and even discovered common interests. It was a moment of camaraderie that strengthened the sense of community within the school.

For the students, seeing their fathers actively involved was a source of pride and joy. The presence of so many dads not only highlighted the importance of family in their lives but also underscored the supportive environment the school fosters.

This FS2 breakfast was a beautiful celebration of fatherhood, family, and the joy of shared moments. We always look forward to more events that bring families closer and create memories that will last a lifetime.

Ms. Rana Alsaadi - EYFS Deputy Headteacher

WORDS WORTH WINNING: KS3 SPELLING BEE 24/25







The annual Spelling Bee Championship is a worth-waiting event because it captivates students and school alike. This distinguished competition celebrates the power of words and the importance of accurate spelling. By participating in the Spelling Bee, students not only enhance their vocabulary and spelling skills but also develop confidence, critical thinking, and public speaking abilities. This event fosters a love for language and encourages students to strive for excellence in academics. As each round progresses, the tension mounts, and the audience cheers on the talented spellers.







This year, we were delighted to launch a new approach to enhance the Spelling Bee experience. Before each oral round, participants were presented with a list of challenging words and their definitions. This innovative approach aimed to not only test their spelling abilities but also their comprehension of word meanings. By studying these words in advance, students were better prepared to tackle the oral challenges. This system both boosted their confidence and expanded their vocabulary. There were plenty of new words that were introduced, which have definitely pushed the students to explore the depths of the English language. This new approach elevated the Spelling Bee from a mere spelling contest to a comprehensive language arts challenge.

Spelling Bee's final round witnessed a fierce battle among the remaining spellers, with each participant showcasing exceptional skills. These remarkable spellers have demonstrated a deep understanding of the English language in addition to being able to possess an unwavering determination and composure under pressure. From Year 7, we had Abdullah Ali, Hala Ahmed Abdel Rahman, Khalid Hossam Khalil, Saleem Hanafy, Talia Mohamed Ali and Youlan Abd-El-Fattah, who were able to join the final round representing an excellent performance. On the other hand, we had Ahmed Mohamed Ellahamy, Laila Ali El-Haggan, Asser Ahmed Emam, Malak Abdel Motalem Badr, Youssef Enab, Bilal Silverstre and Hana Khaled Abouzaid.

As the moment of truth arrived and after a thrilling competition that was filled with suspense and excitement, we were proud to announce the winners of this year's Spelling Bee Championship. Khalid Hossam emerged as the ultimate champion in Year 7, and Youssef Enab as the shining spelling star in Year 8 displaying exceptional spelling skills as they demonstrated remarkable talent and deserved recognition for their outstanding performance.

The Spelling Bee Championship for the academic year 2024-2025 was a real testament to the value of hard work, dedication, and the joy of learning.

Ms. Fatma El Sayed - Year 8 Red & Yellow Teacher of English

Proudly Inducted: A Night to Remember











The Honour Society represents a prestigious platform for acknowledging and celebrating exceptional students who demonstrate outstanding academic and personal achievements. Annually, students who exemplify five fundamental characteristics: leadership, creativity, compassion, collaboration, and commitment are carefully selected.

Each academic year, a select group of students receives an invitation to join the Honour Society—a communication that signifies recognition by their teachers of their remarkable contributions both inside and outside the classroom. This invitation serves as both an acknowledgement of the student's achievements and as a source of pride for their families.

The induction ceremony is a long awaited event designed to honour these exceptional students. This year's ceremony hosted a GESconian, Yassin Badawy who inspired the audience and inducted alike by his speech. The keynote speaker for this year was Ms. Melanie Midwood, MES Cairo School Director, who shared her personal experience revolving around the five pillars of the Honour Society motivating students to be reseeint and pursue their dream.

The stage transformed to a speech arena where students tackled the five pillars from multiple viewpoints. The speeches were particularly noteworthy for their depth and potential to inspire meaningful personal growth. Throughout the programme, students are encouraged to pursue excellence through consistent effort and integrity, with the understanding that recognition may follow naturally.

The Honour Society Induction Ceremony is a celebration of academic achievement, character development, and potential personal growth. By recognising and nurturing exceptional qualities in students, the ceremony reinforces the GES Cairo's commitment to developing future leaders.





This event was and will always be a heartfelt appreciation for all GES Cairo community members as each plays a crucial role in creating a memor able and inspiring celebration of academic and personal excellence allowing students to grow mentally and academically.

Ms. Mai Shaker - Year 9 Maths Teacher & Assistant Maths Head of Department





















A Magical Celebration of Stories









This year's Book Character Day at our school was nothing short of enchanting. From the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) to Upper Primary, the day was filled with joy, creativity, and a deep appreciation for the power of storytelling.

The excitement was apparent as students arrived at school dressed as their favourite characters from their beloved books. From princesses and superheroes to wizards and animals, the hallways came alive with vibrant costumes that reflected the students' imaginations and love for reading.

In EYFS and Key Stage 1, the day began with teachers performing short skits from traditional tales. Classics like The Three Little Pigs, Goldilocks and The Three Bears and many more were brought to life with humour and enthusiasm. After each skit, the students were asked thought-provoking questions about the morals of the stories. The young learners eagerly shared their thoughts, discussing lessons about kindness, honesty, and perseverance. It was a wonderful way to blend fun with learning and to help the students understand the timeless messages hidden within these tales.

Lower Primary students embarked on a thrilling literary adventure helping Fantastic Mr. Fox locate Willy Wonka's missing golden tickets. Through a series of challenging questions, the students showcased their comprehension and problem-solving skills while diving deeper into the world of Roald Dahl's imaginative stories. The activity was met with cheers and laughter as the students worked together to solve the mystery.

Meanwhile, in Upper Primary, the teachers presented a unique merged skit featuring elements from Holes, The Witches, and Matilda. The performance was a hit, combining humour, suspense, and inspiring messages.













The students were captivated as their favourite stories intertwined in unexpected and delightful ways. The skit not only entertained but also highlighted the creativity of the teachers, leaving everyone inspired and eager to dive back into these classic books.

The day was a resounding success, with students from all year groups expressing how much fun they had. It was heartwarming to see their excitement and engagement, whether through dressing up, participating in activities, or reflecting on the lessons embedded in the stories.

Book Character Day reminded us all of the magic of reading and storytelling. It celebrated the imagination, creativity, and critical thinking that books inspire in young minds. We can't wait to see what adventures next year's Book Character Day will bring.

Ms. Dalia Okasha - EYFS and Primary Headteacher






A Day of Fun and Learning at Agwani Farm

Our Year 1 learners enjoyed an exciting day out at Agwani Farm, and it was truly a trip to remember. From the moment we stepped off the bus, the students were thrilled by the fresh air, wide-open spaces, and the promise of adventure.




One of the highlights of the day was feeding the animals. The students had the chance to get up close with friendly goats, waddling ducks, playful monkeys, soft rabbits, and majestic peacocks. Watching the animals eat from their hands brought wide smiles and even a few giggles. It was a wonderful way for the students to connect with nature and learn about the habits of different animals.




Afterward, we gathered for an authentic farm experience—making fresh 'baladi' bread. Guided by the hospitable and knowledgeable farm staff, the students learned how to mix and knead the dough. They carefully shaped the bread and placed it on a traditional oven. The best part for them was tasting their warm, fluffy creations. Many students agreed it was the best bread they had ever had.



But the fun did not end there. Next, we explored our creative side with pottery making. Each student shaped his/her own unique vase, feeling proud of their efforts as they molded the clay. We then moved on to ceramic art, where the students painted and decorated tiles with vibrant colours. Another exciting activity was printing on bags, which gave each student a personal keepsake to remember the day.

The trip was not just about fun—it was also a hands-on learning experience. The students discovered how bread is made, explored their artistic talents, and learned to care for animals. They worked together, shared laughs, and created wonderful memories.

As the day ended and we packed up to head back to school, the students could not stop chatting about their favourite moments. Agwani Farm gave us the perfect mix of fun, creativity, and learning. It's safe to say this trip will be a cherished memory for all.

Ms. Maha Attia - Year 1 Team Leader















Year 2's Incredible Adventure at Artyscience Farm

On Thursday, 5th December, our Year 2 students embarked on an exciting trip to Artyscience Farm. This journey seamlessly blended science learning with the joy of writing, providing a fantastic opportunity for the students to delve into the wonders of nature while honing their instructional and informative writing skills.

The day began with an exploration of various types of plants. The students learnt about the growth processes of plants and the vital role soil plays in supporting life. Guided by the farm's expert staff, they enthusiastically planted seeds, creating step-by-step guides to document the process. These guides not only reinforced their understanding of scientific concepts but also helped them practise structuring clear and precise instructions. It was inspiring to see their excitement as they combined hands-on activity with writing skills.

After the planting activity, the students ventured into the farm kitchen for a cooking session. Using freshly harvested fruits and vegetables, they created simple, delicious dishes while learning about the importance of healthy eating. This session provided a perfect opportunity for them to write instructional recipes, listing ingredients and outlining the steps involved. This hands-on experience helped them connect the dots between food production, nutrition, and science, sparking curiosity and creativity along the way.

One of the trip's highlights was the exploration of the farm's insect habitats. Armed with magnifying glasses and notebooks, the students observed a variety of insects in their natural environments. They were fascinated to learn about the vital roles these creatures play in maintaining ecosystems. Each student wrote an informative text about an insect of their choice, detailing its characteristics, habitat, and importance to biodiversity. This activity not only deepened their scientific knowledge but also encouraged them to express their findings in an engaging and thoughtful manner.

The Year 2 trip to Artyscience Farm was a perfect blend of outdoor learning, scientific exploration, and writing practice. Through planting seeds, cooking with fresh produce, and studying insects, the students gained a deeper appreciation for the natural world and developed essential communication skills. This memorable day will undoubtedly inspire future lessons and ignite curiosity among our young learners, laying a strong foundation for their ongoing educational journey.

We eagerly look forward to more adventures that combine learning, creativity, and fun.

Ms. Dina El Bassiouny- Year 2 Team Leader







Year 3 Celebration of Learning

This Term, our Year 3 students took the stage to deliver a delightful assembly, showcasing the knowledge and skills they have acquired. The assembly was a brilliant blend of literature, science, and creativity, providing a platform for our young learners to share and shine in front of an enthusiastic audience.

One of the highlights of the assembly was their skit based on The Magic Finger, the captivating class novel by Roald Dahl. Through imaginative acting and expressive storytelling, the students brought the story to life, sharing its themes of empathy, kindness, and the importance of respecting others. Their enthusiasm for the novel was evident, and it was a joy to see how much they had connected with the story and its characters. In addition to their literary exploration, the students demonstrated their knowledge of animal classification, a key topic in this term's Science lessons. They presented fascinating facts about mammals, reptiles, birds, amphibians, and fish, complete with vibrant visuals and props. The young scientists also demonstrated their understanding of the characteristics that distinguish different animal groups, impressing the audience with their clarity and confidence.

The assembly wasn't just informative, it was a treat for the senses. The students incorporated singing and acting into their performance. Their teamwork, enthusiasm, and stage presence made the experience even more enjoyable. The sight of our Year 3 students confidently presenting their work, with smiles on their faces, was heartwarming.

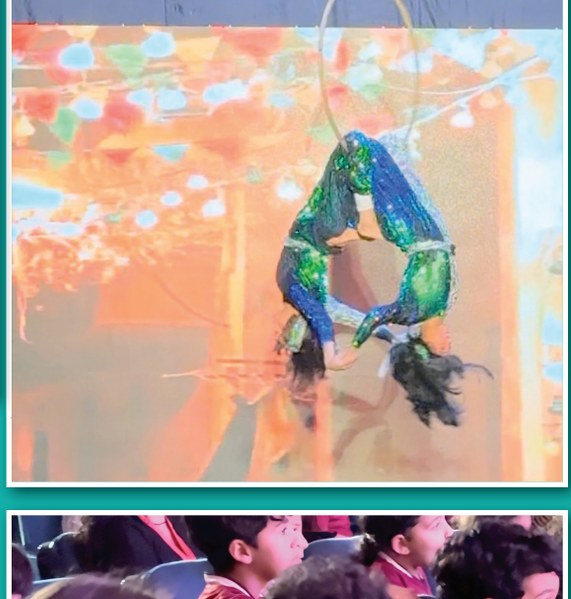
Events like these highlight the importance of giving students opportunities to display their talents and hard work. The assembly was a celebration of their learning journey, allowing them to develop essential skills like public speaking, teamwork, and creative expression.

A big congratulations to the Year 3 team for their outstanding performance and to the teachers who guided and supported students in every step of the way. It was a wonderful reminder of how much our students can achieve when given the chance to shine.

Ms. Dalia Okasha - EYFS and Primary Headteacher

KS1 Attends a Spectacular Performance of Tawasol's El Leila El Kebira



















Our KS1 students had the privilege of attending the outstanding and breathtaking performance of El Leila El Kebira, brought to life by the talented students of Tawasol. This iconic Egyptian puppet operetta, originally penned by the renowned poet Salah Jahin and accompanied by the lively music of Sayed Mekawy in 1961, holds a cherished place in Egyptian folklore. Its humorous and vivid portrayal of the Mawlid celebration has made it a timeless classic.

The performance took the KS1 students on a delightful journey to an Egyptian village celebrating the last night of the moulid, a vibrant festival honouring the Prophet Mohamed's birthday. Through captivating acrobatics, colourful visuals, and lively music, the story unfolded to depict the bustling activities of the carnival and circus. The expressive scenes featured food stall vendors, a fortune teller, and performers such as jugglers, clowns, and lion tamers. The dancers added to the spectacle, moving gracefully to the catchy rhythms of traditional Egyptian folk songs.

The Tawasol students showcased immense talent, immersing everyone in the festive spirit of El Leila El Kebira. The playful and energetic storytelling brought the joyous atmosphere of the moulid to life, leaving the audience mesmerized. From the vibrant costumes to the lively melodies, every detail of the performance reflected the rich cultural heritage of Egypt.

Our KS1 students were enthralled by the acrobatic feats, the humorous scenes, and the infectious energy of the music. The show offered them a glimpse into Egyptian traditions and folklore, fostering a deeper appreciation for the arts and culture of the region.

The day was a memorable experience for everyone, as the charm and magic of El Leila El Kebira left both children and teachers inspired. A huge thank you to the Tawasol students for their extraordinary performance, which brought this beloved piece of Egyptian folklore to life. It was an unforgettable journey into a world of culture, colour, and celebration!

Ms. Dalia Okasha - EYFS and Primary Headteacher



KS1 SPORTS DAY:

A GREEK OLYMPICS ADVENTURE



We had a fantastic time travelling back in time to ancient Greece. Did you know that the Ancient Greek Olympics were special games that started over 2,700 years ago? They happened every four years in a place called Olympia. Athletes from different city-states came to compete in sports like running, jumping, and wrestling. The winners received olive wreaths as prizes and were celebrated as heroes. The Olympics were not just about sports; they also brought people together to celebrate peace and friendship. These games were so important that they inspired the modern Olympics we have today.

Our Sports Day began with a grand opening ceremony. All the students and parents gathered to watch a parade. Each house had a representative who proudly held their flag high. Everyone cheered as we celebrated the start of our Ancient Greek Olympics.

Throughout the day, students and parents rotated among different activity stations, guided by our wonderful homeroom teachers and TLAs. Here are some of the exciting sports we explored: Running, Obstacle Course, Discus Throw, and Long Jump.

This Greek Olympics-themed event was not just about winning; it was a wonderful opportunity for children to develop valuable sportsmanship skills, build confidence, and enhance their overall physical well-being. Everyone cheered for each other, showing kindness and support, which made the day even more special.

Our Sports Day was a huge success. We had so much fun learning about the Ancient Greek Olympics while improving our physical skills through engaging team-based competitions.

We hope everyone had enjoyed this exciting adventure and will continue to foster an interest in physical activity. Let's keep moving and playing together.

Thank you to all the parents and teachers for making this day a success.

Ms. Yasmine Mounir - EYFS and KS1 Curriculum Activity and Events Coordinator





















From GES Cairo to Istabl Antar: A Community United in Giving



This year, GES Cairo proudly carried out the Keep Egypt Warm campaign, in collaboration with Tawasol, making a significant impact on our community and bringing the spirit of giving to life. Through the dedication of Honour Society students, staff, and students across the school, the campaign exemplified teamwork, creativity, and a heartfelt commitment to helping others.
This year's Keep Egypt Warm campaign was not just about collecting donations; it was about inspiring a school-wide effort to make a difference. The Honour Society students took the lead in organising two dynamic competitions to engage their peers and encourage generous contributions. These creative initiatives brought out the best in everyone, turning acts of kindness into a fun and spirited challenge.

Engaging KS3: The Winter Wonder Challenge
For Key Stage 3 students, the Honour Society introduced the Winter Wonder Challenge, a thrilling three-week class competition. The goal was simple: donate as many items as possible. The competition fostered excitement and team spirit, with students rallying together to fill their class donation boxes.

The Honour Society worked tirelessly to engage students, track weekly contributions, and ensure smooth logistics, embodying the spirit of leadership and service.

Year 8 Blue emerged victorious for two consecutive weeks, demonstrating incredible enthusiasm and generosity.

The Donation Race: A School-Wide Effort
The Donation Race brought together students, from Year 3 to Year 11, for a fast-paced and energising competition. Each day during the final week of November, a specific donation prompt was announced

during morning lines. One day it was blankets, the next day clothing, shoes, and toys, and on the final day, non-perishable food items.



The Honour Society students played a central role in ensuring the success of the Donation Race. Each morning, they made announcements to remind everyone of the next day's donation prompt, keeping the energy and excitement high throughout the week. They also took on key responsibilities, including organising and aligning the donations for each year group and carefully measuring each "donation line" in metres and recording the results in a well-organised tracking sheet, which they had designed themselves to keep track of the competition scores.

The race transformed the school field into a vibrant 'bar graph' of generosity, with each year group's donations measured as a line. The year group with the tallest "bar" by the end of the race earned the reward of an out-of-uniform day, movie time, and popcorn.

Year 8 (Red, Yellow and Blue) clinched the victory once again with an astounding 9.3 metres of donations! Their well-earned reward included choosing the movie they watched, making it a memorable day of celebration.

A Heartwarming Finale: Tawasol Clothes Bazaar

The campaign beautifully concluded on Saturday, 30th November, with a touching community service event. Honour Society students from GES Cairo and MES Cairo joined forces along with Tawasol to organise a clothes bazaar for the residents of Istabl Antar. The donated items, alongside generous contributions from Arafa Stores, were sold at minimum prices, ensuring accessibility for all.



Around four school buses were filled to the brim with donations. Students, teachers, and staff, including Ms. Ghada Dajani and Ms. Yasmina Abou Youssef, the founder of Tawasol, worked hand in hand to unload, sort, and categorise items by colour, size, and gender. This meticulous organisation made the sale seamless and enjoyable for the community.



As quoted by Ms. Dina Nabil, Head of the French Department: "Carrying all the boxes was certainly a workout, but seeing the pure joy in a young boy's eyes when he found football sneakers in his size at the garage sale was heartwarming. It reminded me of the true purpose of the campaign."

This heartwarming moment captured the essence of Keep Egypt Warm, highlighting how simple acts of giving can make a profound difference in someone's life.

The Keep Egypt Warm campaign was more than a school initiative; it was a testament to the power of teamwork, generosity, and compassion. Honour Society students demonstrated leadership, from managing logistics to fostering school-wide excitement, showing how much can be achieved when we work together.

This campaign reminded us all of the importance of giving back and the impact of small acts of kindness. The sight of students and staff united for a common cause—carrying boxes, sharing smiles, and extending warmth—was truly heartwarming.

Through initiatives like this, GES Cairo continues to foster a culture of community service and empathy, teaching us that helping others not only makes a difference in their lives but enriches our own.

Marina Medhat - Year 8 Science Teacher & Honour Society Advisor

Foundation Stage Two Adventure: Animals and Harvesting Fun at Kidzoo Farm

As part of our learning about animals and farming, Foundation Stage Two students enjoyed an exciting trip to Kidzoo Farm. The students had the wonderful opportunity to meet a variety of farm animals, including cows, donkeys, horses, ducks, and rabbits. They observed the animals up close, fed them, and learnt about what they eat and their roles on the farm.

The experience was packed with hands-on activities. The students explored the process of planting by making their own mini plants, adding soil and seeds while discovering how plants grow. They also had a fantastic time baking bread, gaining insight into how it's made—from farm ingredients to a delicious final product. To make the day even more special, the students helped decorate the farm's wall by painting it, adding their own creative touch to the space.

This trip brought learning to life, combining nature, animals, and farming in a fun and interactive way, leaving the students with unforgettable memories.

Ms. Sara Embaby - FS2 Team Leader















Year 5 Assembly: A Triumph of Teamwork and Talent

This Term, our year 5 students captivated our school community with their outstanding and enlightening performance about Egypt's different cities; Egypt: A Diverse Tapestry. This assembly was a testament to their dedication, creativity, and collaboration that defined the whole process. The assembly magnified how our students can indeed build tangible links across different subjects they learn at school transforming what is written in books to magic on stage.

In this assembly, students were able to take us on a mesmerising journey through different landmarks and cities of our beloved country, Egypt. Together, students and audience, got a chance to explore the rich history of Luxor, diverse culture of Aswan and Nuba, in addition to the breezy ambiance and coastline represented by Alexandria. The message of building a robust brand personality for Egypt as a tourist destination was well established via the diverse tapestry of monuments, culture, and sundry forms of arts. Not only did this help students to learn more about their country, but also empower their sense of belongingness, pride and patriotism to their country.

It was evident that collaborative skills practiced in different class projects and assignments have done wonders when applied on stage. Students' enthusiasm to memorise the lines, seize every possible opportunity to excel in their rehearsals, and go the extra mile to help with providing any missing props, costume, or any other detail was inevitable in making this year's group assembly a success. The equation of success is no secret when hard work is part of it, the support and devotion proved by every staff member involved in this project added a unique festive flavour to its success.

This assembly would not have been successful without the help and support of our beloved parents. The response and feedback witnessed on the day of the show from the audience made us look forward to more opportunities to inspire and engage our students through various activities that empower characters along with enriching their minds.

Ms. Samar Hisham - Year 5 & 6 Teacher of English

Wings and Wonders: Scouting the Heights







The Eagles and Eagle Scouts students went on an everlasting adventure that pushed their limits, built their courage and confidence, moreover, it created amazing memories. The day began with excitement and anticipation. As the students were getting ready for a series of exhilarating challenges that lay ahead. This trip wasn't just about having fun, it was about self-discovery, teamwork, stepping out of their comfort zones and outcoming their fears.

The first challenge of the day was listening carefully to the instructions and wearing the harness to keep them safe as it didn't take long for the students to realise just how thrilling it was. As they ascended across the treetops, many of them faced their fears head-on. Some students had fear of height and others were nervous at first, hesitated, but with a little encouragement from their peers, and advisors they got brave enough to complete the thrilling obstacles with wide smiles and a newfound sense of achievement. The joy and pride they felt after taking the leap was tangible.

The day continued with many challenges, of climbing obstacles that tested their physical strength and determination. Some students glided the climbing walls, showing remarkable agility and confidence. Others found the climb more difficult, but with persistence and a positive attitude, they pushed through the challenges. Watching their friends and advisors cheer them on, was a testament to the sense of unity and support that filled the air throughout the day.

The obstacles were not limited to physical tasks; they required mental and emotional assets. Each obstacle forced the students to think creatively, solve problems, and sometimes face their fears. Some students struggled but never gave up. They helped each other, offering advice or simply cheering on their peers,





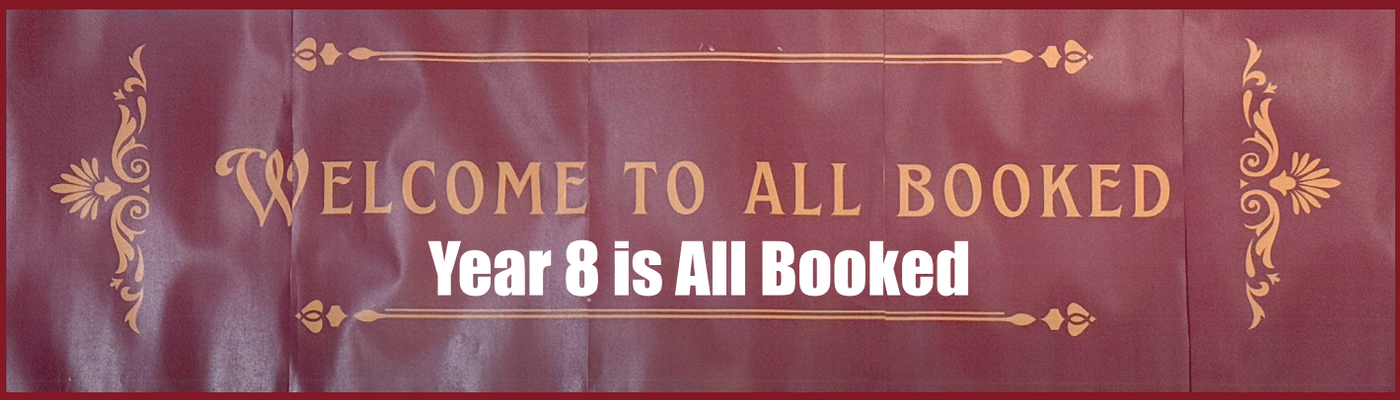


creating a strong bond between everyone whether an advisor or a student. The students learned that success wasn't always about completing the obstacle easily, but about the courage it took to keep them going.

The day was filled with moments of achievements, and bravery. A few students, who initially doubted their abilities, proved to themselves just how capable they were and they just had to believe in themselves a little more. One student, who had been terrified of heights, stood at the edge of the start, hesitated for a moment, but then pushed forward, making it all the way to the end. Another student, unsure of his strength, powered through the most difficult part of the obstacle course, reaching the end with a beaming face. It was clear that these moments of bravery and achievements were the heart of the adventure.

At the end of the day, the students were extremely proud of the accomplishments they had made. It was evident that this adventure had done more than just provide a fun day out. It had taught them the value of persistence, teamwork, and bravery. As the day ended, the students left with a sense of accomplishment and a stronger belief in themselves. They had faced their fears, conquered challenges, and grown as individuals, making the trip an unforgettable experience for everyone involved.

Ms. Sohaila Abdel Gabbar - KS2 English LDD



Year 8 is All Booked



This year, Year 8 English class recently has portrayed an image of a creative journey, transforming themselves into budding authors for a captivating project. Under the guidance of their teachers, students delved into the world of storytelling, brainstorming ideas, crafting compelling narratives, and even designing their very own books.

The project began, in the first week of November 2024, with a flurry of imaginative brainstorming sessions, where our students collaborated to develop unique storylines, exploring diverse genres such as fantasy, mystery, realistic and historical fiction, horror and sci-fi. They then took on the persona of fictional authors, complete with intriguing backstories and creative pen names. This imaginative step added a layer of depth and personality to their literary creations.

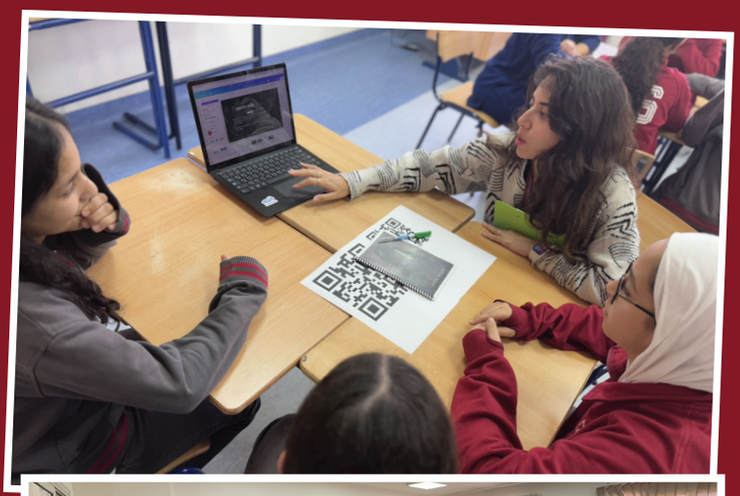
Equipped with their chosen storylines and author identities, the students poured their hearts and souls into writing their stories. They meticulously crafted characters, wove intricate plots, and infused their narratives with vivid descriptions and engaging dialogue. The result was a collection of original and captivating tales, showcasing the students' burgeoning literary talents.

Not to mention, the creative process didn't stop at writing. Students also took on the role of book designers, meticulously crafting the appearance of their literary masterpieces. They experimented with fonts, colours, and layouts, ensuring each book reflected the unique tone and style of their stories.

Moreover, the culmination of this ambitious project was the "All Booked" school event, which took place on Thursday, 12th December 2024.The students proudly showcased their literary creations as the authors' marketing teams, of their imaginary authors, to GES staff members, teachers and admins through various displays of their books and vivid slideshows that narrate their success stories of how they have compiled their work. The printed books, adorned with their creative covers, were displayed for all to admire. To further enhance the experience, the students also designed innovative bookmarks featuring QR codes that led their guests to be exposed to and find the story texts and dramatic readings of their own stories.

KS3 teachers were cordially invited to attend the event and roamed around the different groups in their stations, where each group had the opportunity to express their thoughts and motives behind their work. Not only did they showcase their work, they also participated in promoting their books to, hypothetically, sell them to their guest-teachers. Furthermore, the guests were able to share their feedback in the feedback forms handed-in as they entered each class. The process went smoothly. Both, teachers and students, had ample fun experiencing moments of pride and love.















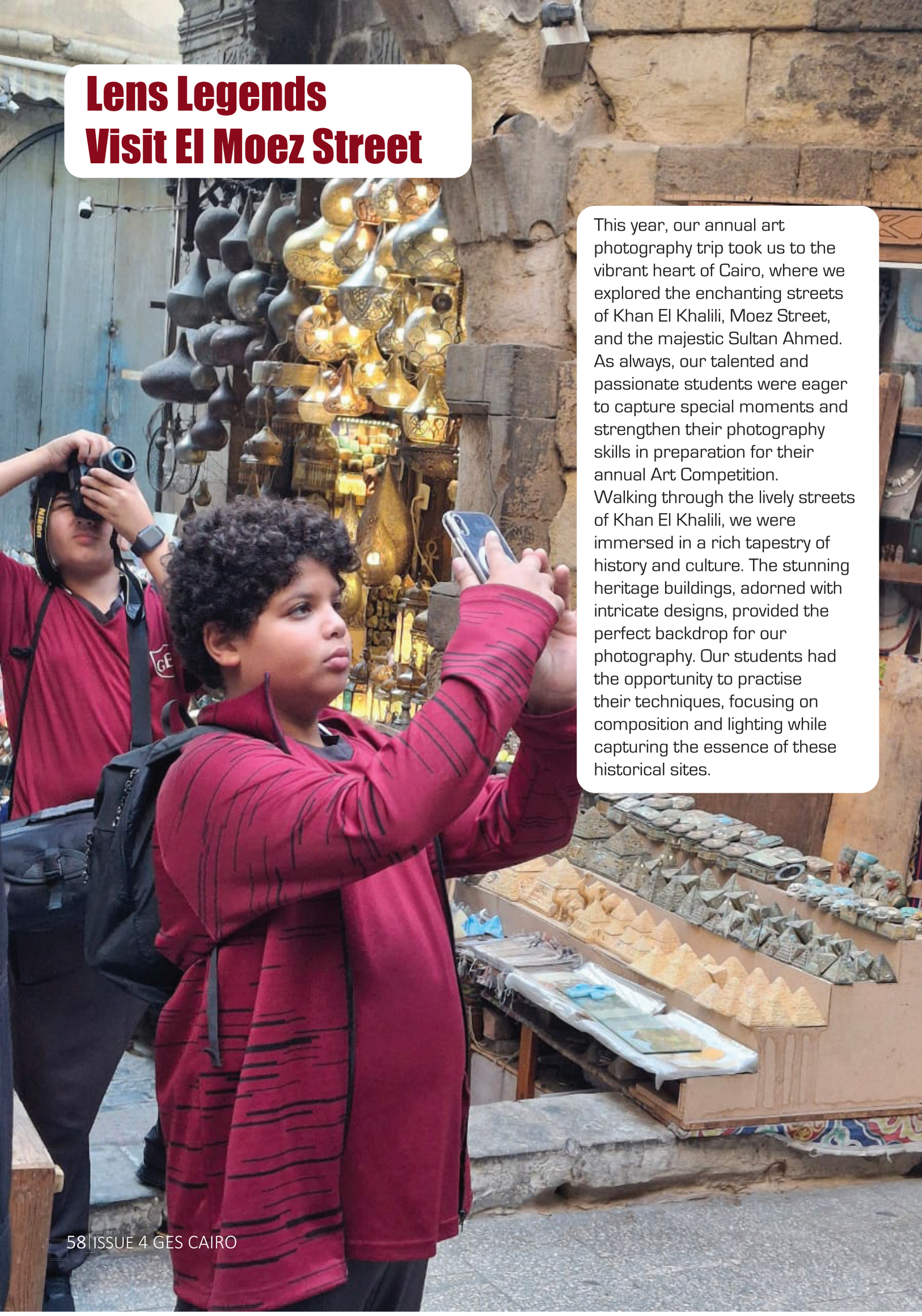


The “All Booked” event was a resounding success, celebrating the creativity and hard work of GES Year 8 students. It provided a platform for them to share their passion for storytelling and showcase their unique literary voices. This project not only fostered a love for reading and writing but also instilled in the students a sense of pride and accomplishment in their creative endeavours.

Congratulations to the Year 8 English class for their outstanding work.

Ms. Fatma El Sayed - Year 8 Red & Yellow Teacher of English

Lens Legends Visit El Moez Street



This year, our annual art photography trip took us to the vibrant heart of Cairo, where we explored the enchanting streets of Khan El Khalili, Moez Street, and the majestic Sultan Ahmed. As always, our talented and passionate students were eager to capture special moments and strengthen their photography skills in preparation for their annual Art Competition.

Walking through the lively streets of Khan El Khalili, we were immersed in a rich tapestry of history and culture. The stunning heritage buildings, adorned with intricate designs, provided the perfect backdrop for our photography. Our students had the opportunity to practise their techniques, focusing on composition and lighting while capturing the essence of these historical sites.











As we strolled through the bustling markets, we encountered a diverse array of people, vendors, artisans, and locals each with their own story to tell. The vibrancy of the market was palpable, and our students eagerly snapped photos of the colorful stalls filled with accessories, textiles, and traditional crafts.

In addition to exploring the streets, we also visited several workshops that showcased traditional crafts. The Oriental Accessories workshop was a wonder to behold; our students watched artisans skillfully create intricate jewelry pieces, learning about the cultural significance behind each design.

The glass-blowing workshop was particularly mesmerizing. We witnessed the entire process, from shaping molten glass to creating stunning, one-of-a-kind pieces. The students were captivated by the artistry and precision required to produce such beautiful items. This experience allowed them to appreciate the craftsmanship involved in creating rare and unique products, inspiring them to capture these artisans at work.

One of the highlights of our day was visiting the famed Om Kalthoom Café. Known for its rich history and connection to one of Egypt's most beloved singers, the café provided a cozy spot for our students to relax and reflect on their experiences. We discussed the day's shots and shared tips on how to capture the perfect moment.

As the day came to a close, our students reflected on their experiences and the photographs they hadtaken. Each shot told a story, capturing not just the visual beauty of the locations, but also the essence of the people and traditions that make Cairo so special.

This trip was not just about photography; it was a journey of discovery and appreciation for the rich heritage of our city. We returned home with not only stunning images but also lasting memories and a deeper understanding of the art we love.

Ms. Eman Yousry - Year 10 Art Teacher & Secondary Head of Art Department

Holidays Harmony







December is the festive season, bidding farewell to a passing year and welcoming a new one. Our school community came together for a heartwarming seasonal concert bridging between a busy term and relaxing holidays. Held in the yard and hosting around a thousand guests, the vibrant choir composed of students from all year groups, alongside enthusiastic teachers and supportive parents, filled the atmosphere with Christmas music and New Year wishes.

Greeted by a breathtaking sight: a towering Christmas tree adorned with twinkling lights and sparkling ornaments, its vibrant colours illuminating the whole area, guests were welcomed in.

Beside the tree were the cheerful elves in their colourful attire bustling about, adding to the joyous atmosphere. At the heart of this enchanting scene was Santa Claus, standing with a warm smile and hearty laugh, inviting everyone to take photos with him. The air was filled with Christmas aromas wafting through the air, inviting guests to explore the various stalls of vendors. The whole scene captured the essence of Christmas, creating a cosy atmosphere.

The concert opened with a joyful rendition by the School Family Choir that instantly lifted the audience's spirits. The GES Cairo students exhibited their talents through a variety of Christmas classics for all year groups. Each performance, creating a joyous atmosphere as the audience, mimed the songs with the performers, was met with cheers and applause. Parents and teachers joined the students on stage for a special finale, leaving everyone in a festive mode.

















This seasonal concert was a beautiful way to celebrate the new year, leaving everyone with cherished memories and a sense of togetherness.

Ms. Riham Sadek - KS3 Deputy Headteacher





Parents as Partners: Strengthening the Home-School Connection







Parenting is a journey filled with challenges, joys, and endless learning. At Gulf English School Cairo, we believe in walking this path with our parents, hand in hand, through our **"Parents as Partners"** programme. This initiative, led by the school counselors, provides workshops aimed at empowering parents with tools to better understand and support their children socially, emotionally, and academically at every stage of their development.

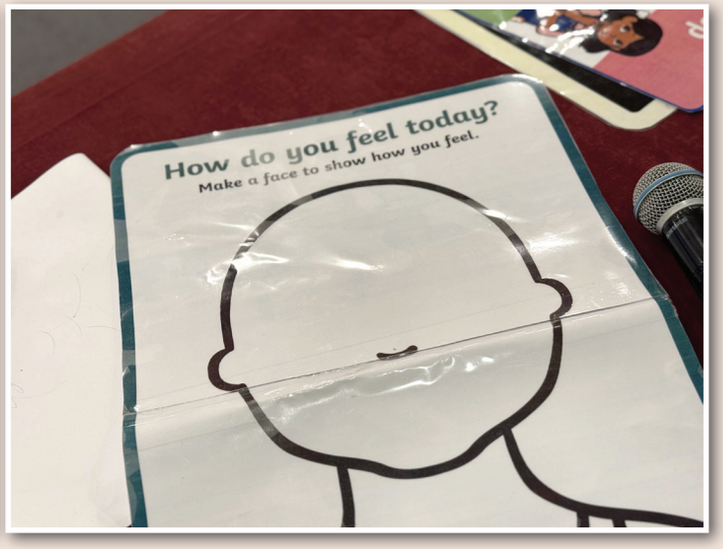
So far this academic year, we have hosted three engaging workshops tailored to address the unique needs of different age groups. These sessions have not only equipped parents with practical strategies but also fostered a deeper connection between families and the school community.

Workshop Highlights

1. First Day Foundations: Easing Your Child's Transition to School (FS1 Parents)
For many families, the first day of school marks an exciting yet nerve-wracking milestone. This workshop was designed to guide FS1 parents in supporting their little ones through this significant transition. Parents learned the **'Dos and Don'ts'** for a smooth first day, including tips for alleviating separation anxiety, creating comforting routines, and fostering emotional resilience. By helping parents approach this moment with confidence and empathy, we set the foundation for a positive start to their child's school journey.

2. Thriving Teens: Empowering Parents for Adolescent Well-being (KS3 Parents)
The teenage years bring their own set of challenges. Our second workshop delved into the intricacies of adolescence, offering parents a comprehensive guide to supporting their teenagers' mental health. From an "inside tour" of a teenage mind to identifying the signs of academic and emotional stress, the session addressed key topics like balancing academic expectations with well-being and knowing when to seek professional help. With actionable strategies to support mental health at home, parents walked away better equipped to navigate this transformative phase with their teens.











3. Conflict Resolution: Building Stronger Relationships at Home (KS2 Parents)
Conflict is an inevitable part of any relationship, but it doesn't have to be destructive. Our most recent workshop focused on empowering KS2 parents with effective communication techniques and conflict resolution strategies. Topics included building emotional intelligence, fostering empathy, and creating a home environment where conflicts are resolved constructively. This session emphasized the importance of modeling healthy conflict resolution to prepare children for positive interactions in all areas of life.

Looking Ahead

At Gulf English School Cairo, we believe that when parents and schools work together, children thrive. The **Parents as Partners** programme is more than a series of workshops; it is a commitment to nurturing a strong home-school connection and ensuring every child is supported at every step of their journey.

Stay tuned for more workshops designed to inspire, inform, and strengthen our community of parents. Together, let's make this school year a memorable and meaningful one for our children.

Ms. Asmaa El Zoghbi - Student Counselor Year 5- FY



GES

New Cairo, 5th Settlement, 2nd District, St. 55
Tel : 02 25993600 Mob: 01555553741 - 01555559681
E-mail:gescairo@gescairo.com
Website:www.gescairo.com