

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



Vision, Mission and Values

Belvedere British School to provide an excellent teaching and learning environment where students achieve more due to the high standards expected from our educational philosophy. Ultimately we aim to prepare students for life, based on our values of Tolerance, Respect, and Responsibility.

We provide a holistic education and inspire lifelong learning. Our students are motivated to apply themselves so they achieve their full potential in all aspects of school life. We encourage high and realistic expectations, so our students have aspirations that take them beyond school to their own futures, in the UAE and internationally.

#advitamparamus

☎ 02-5090000

#preparationforlife

🌐 belvederebritishschool.ae



Mr. Robert Thorn

School Principal | Belvedere British School

Independent Learners

This week, I have been observing teachers and getting to grips with taking our school community through the preparations for our visit from ADEK (they call it an 'inspection', but I call it a good opportunity for professional and community development in the middle of which they will visit us and see where we are in our development, what we're doing, and what we are planning to do).

Then two things happened this morning: The first was when I listened to a feedback session where a teacher was discussing how her lesson went. The second was discussing with a parent about supporting her children with their homework and difficulties with their studies. From these discussions, I see how important it is to not only help our young people become more independent as learners about also understand more, for themselves, about their learning.

Let's look at independence. Teachers are often very good at teaching young people – it's their profession after all. However, our understanding of education sometimes becomes warped towards the idea of 'providing' the explanations and answers when young people come across new ideas, are challenged by questions or home assignments they are unsure of. Adults, as parents and educators, often fall into the easy trap of providing the answers or explaining things or rushing to help tie a shoelace or fix a phone. It seems the right thing to do – but is it?

In the extreme case, if an adult does everything for a child, the child may very easily become reliant on the adult. As the child becomes a teenager, they may resent that reliance and rebel. In either case we haven't nurtured them towards independence.

We need to help our young people become independent learners as much as we can. So, next time a child asks you something, try not to give them the answer or explanation immediately but give them instead an invitation to think or find out for themselves. Usually that means answering their questions with a question from you: Have you thought it through? What is it you don't understand? Have you tried other ways? Have you checked the textbook or internet? What could you do if you were on a desert island and your life depended on figuring this out for yourself?

It's not always easy to change from being an 'adult answer machine' to being a coach and a guide and, of course, it is sometimes counterproductive if you always answer young people's questions with questions. However, if you strike the right balance, and gently push or pull young people towards answering questions, solving problems and learning new things for themselves, they will gradually become more independent and get used to, and want to, take more responsibility for their own education. How would it be if your young people were, let's say, 20% more independent at learning than they are now? So, why don't we help them to be?

So, what about knowing more about their learning? Let's explore that next week but for now, I leave you with a question or two:

What would change if our young people knew why they were taught in the way we are teaching them at school or at home? What if they knew why we have tests, homework, and projects? What would change if they knew why we display their 'work' on boards around the school or why we ask them questions, create opportunities and challenges for them; why we set deadlines and are strict with them at times? What if they learnt why we have extracurricular activities, inclusion and differentiation? Would it make them better learners and wiser people?

Mr. Robert Thorn
School Principal



Department
for Education

edexcel
Approved Centre from Pearson

BSME
BRITISH SCHOOLS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

AoBSO
By Schools • For Schools

British School
Overseas
Inspected by Penta International

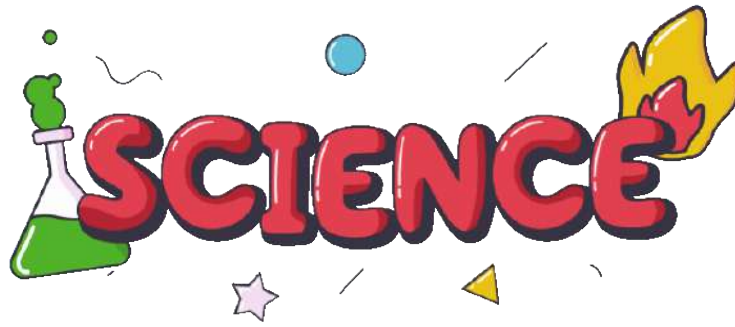


isams
By IRIS



دائرة التعليم والمعرفة
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AND KNOWLEDGE





**EXCITING EXPERIMENTS ACROSS
YEAR 3-6!**

Our budding scientists in Years 3 to 6 have been hard at work exploring different scientific concepts through hands-on experiments, bringing their classroom lessons to life. In Year 3, students took a green-thumb approach by planting seeds and observing the growth process. They are learning about the life cycle of plants, including what seeds need to sprout and grow. Their excitement grows along with their plants as they monitor changes daily and record observations.



Year 4 students have been tuning into sound! Through a series of fun experiments, they tested how sound travels, what affects pitch and volume, and how different materials and instruments can create distinct sounds. This hands-on exploration has helped them understand how vibrations create sound waves.



EXCITING EXPERIMENTS ACROSS YEAR 3-6!

Year 5 is delving into the properties of materials. They've been testing different everyday objects to determine why certain materials are chosen for specific uses, such as why metals are used for cookware or glass for windows. Their experiments have sparked engaging discussions on the practical applications of material properties.



Year 6 has been investigating the fascinating world of microorganisms through a yeast experiment. By observing how yeast reacts with sugar and warm water, students are discovering how these tiny organisms carry out essential functions like fermentation. This experiment has given them a better understanding of the role microorganisms play in ecosystems and daily life around them.

Stay tuned for more exciting updates from our young scientists!

Our science classes are thriving with discovery, creativity, and hands-on learning. Each experiment has ignited curiosity, encouraging students to think critically and explore the world.



ENGLISH



INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY CELEBRATIONS AT BBS

Last week at Belvedere, we proudly marked this International Literacy Day with enthusiasm and engagement, embracing the theme: “Promoting Multilingual Education Literacy for Mutual Understanding and Peace.” Our celebrations included dedicating form time to reading sessions, where students enjoyed exploring a variety of books.

International Literacy Day, celebrated annually on September 8th, was established to emphasize the critical role literacy plays in personal and societal development. This day is dedicated to promoting and recognizing the significance of literacy in enhancing education and opening doors to greater opportunities for our students.

Literacy is essential for improving vocabulary and knowledge. It enables effective communication, learning, and access to information, contributing to a more informed and equitable community which is essential for future success and development.





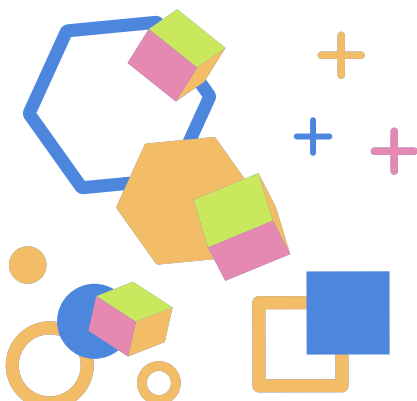
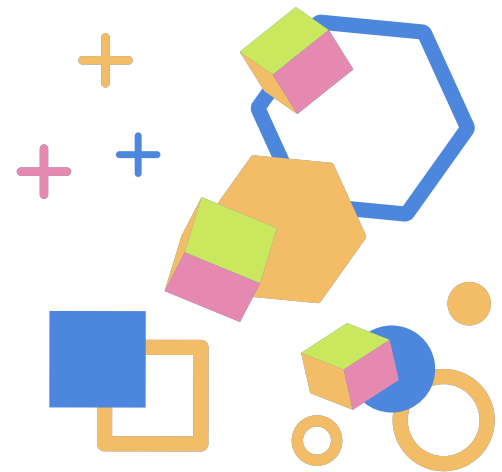
Dr Ahmed, a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), made a surprise visit to a Year 7 maths class recently, engaging the students with a series of questions aimed at getting to know both their teacher and himself a little better. The students enjoyed the opportunity to learn some personal facts about their teacher and Dr Ahmed, sparking excitement and curiosity in the classroom.

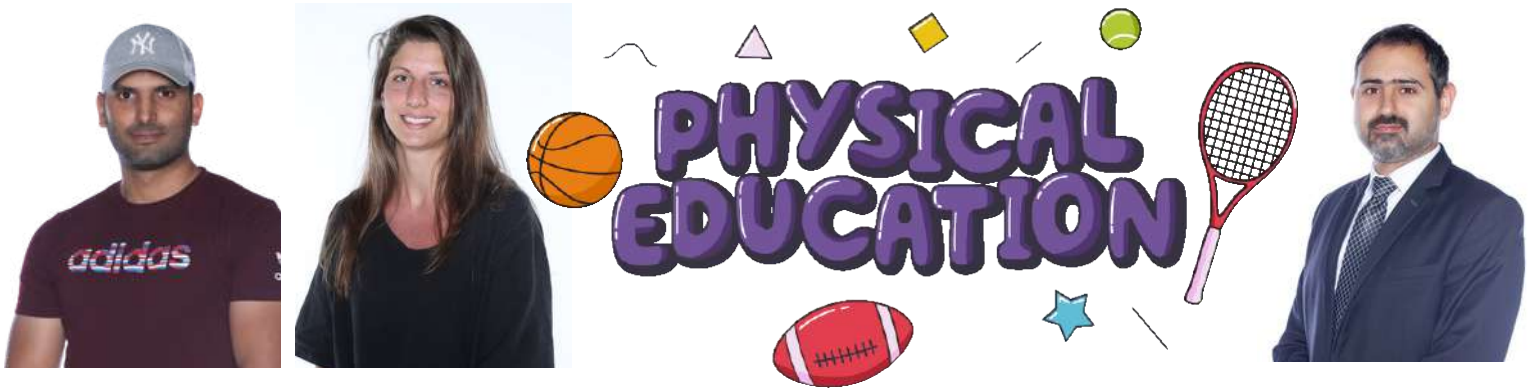
This delightful interaction comes just in time for Teacher Appreciation Day on 5 October 2024, creating a perfect lead-up to a day dedicated to honouring educators. The students' enthusiasm was palpable, as they eagerly participated in the fun exchange.

However, this wasn't just a casual chat! Hidden within the activity was an important lesson in recognising patterns—by analysing the types of questions asked, the students began to identify links and themes, further honing their critical thinking skills. What seemed like a simple game of "get-to-know-you" ended up being a clever way to teach students how to find connections, a skill that will serve them well in their studies.

This interaction highlighted the power of building relationships in the classroom while reinforcing the value of learning through engaging activities.

-Ms. Netanye Nash
Key Stage Leader 3





Continuing where we left off last year... Winning ways! "Great news, everyone!"

Our girls' basketball team played an incredible match last Saturday against Emirates National School and secured an impressive victory with a score of 30-4! The team showcased outstanding skill and teamwork on the court.

Well done to all the players! Let's keep up the great work! " A special shout out to Ms. Rena for her continuous support of our Basketball team.





Year 11 Triple Science Electromagnet Challenge

Our Year 11 Triple Science students recently took on an exciting challenge: building their own electromagnet using copper wire, batteries, an iron nail, wires, and a compass.

The students rose to the occasion, successfully creating electromagnets capable of moving the compass needle when placed nearby. They even applied their physics knowledge to enhance the strength of their electromagnets by adjusting the number of coils of copper wire around the nail.

We are incredibly proud of their problem-solving skills and ability to translate theoretical knowledge into hands-on application!



ARABIC DEPARTMENT



حرصاً منا على تطوير ودعم مهارة القراءة يسرنا إعلامكم بأننا انضممنا الى " منصة كتبي " للقراءة التفاعلية لتكون برنامجاً معتمداً ورئيسياً لدى مدرستنا لهذا العام الدراسي للطلبة الناطقين بالعربية ولغير الناطقين بها، كما تم الشرح والتوضيح لطلبتنا الأعزاء في آلية تفعيل هذه المنصة وعليه تم تزويد الطالب بكلمة السر الخاصة به حتى يتمكن من الدخول والتطبيق على المنصة .

To develop and support arabic reading skills, we are pleased to announce that Kutubee platform will be our interactive reading platform at our school this academic year. The process of activating this platform was also addressed and clarified with our students, and they were given a password to log in and apply.

Kutubee Interactive Reading Platform

Allow your children to enjoy a fun and interactive reading experience with hundreds of books and stories in three languages; a journey that ensures their progress while providing an enriching experience.

1600+	920+	3
Books	Educational Videos	Languages
19	28	950+
Countries	Publishers	Teacher's Resources

Why Kutubee?

- Easy access to the desired content based on categories or through keywords.
- Develop students' comprehension skills through questions.
- Spark creativity as children can create stories using their own words.
- Motivate children with points, badges and personalized avatars.
- Empower teachers with tools to monitor students' progress, assign homework, and use educational resources.

منصة كتبي للقراءة التفاعلية

منصة قراءة وتذكية ممتعة وتفاعلية تحتوي على مئات الفيديووهات والكتب والقصص بثلاث لغات مختلفة بخياره بداية من كراه لولدين، تضمن تقدم أطفالكم وتطوّرهم لغويًا.

3	920+	1600+
لغات	الفيديو التعليمية	كتب
950+	28	19
مصادر المعلمين	ناشرين	دولة

مميزات كتبي

- سهولة الوصول إلى المحتوى المطلوب بتحديد التصنيف أو باستخدام الكلمات المفتاحية
- تطوير مهارات الفهم والاستيعاب لدى الأطفال باستخدام أسئلة مخصصة في نهاية القصص
- تعزيز إبداع الأطفال وتطورهم عبر أداة يمكنهم من زيادة كلمة القصص باستخدام الكلمات
- تشجيع الأطفال على ممارسة القراءة باستخدام نظام النقاط والأوسمة، وعبر أفعال تكافئ يومهم بتكسب الجوائز لهم
- تمكن المعلم من متابعة أداء طفله بالاطلاع على تقرير مفصّل وإخراج التقارير واستخدام مصادر تعليمية

Using Kutubee application:

1. You can download the application on your smart phones, tablets, and computers using this link: <https://www.kutubee.com/download> Also, you can check the Kutubee application online using this link: <https://read.kutubee.com>
2. To enjoy reading on Kutubee, you need to enter your username and password, which will be provided by the school.
3. For additional help you can visit support.kutubee.com.

كيفية استخدام كتبي:

1. يجري تحميل التطبيق على أجهزتك الخلوية أو اللوحية (التابلت) أو أجهزة الحاسوب عبر الرابط التالي: <https://www.kutubee.com/download> كما يمكنكم قراءة الفصحى أونلاين عبر الرابط التالي: <https://read.kutubee.com>
2. ثم إدخال اسم المستخدم وكلمة المرور حيث سيتم تزويدكم بهما من قبل المدرسة.
3. للحصول على المساعدة يمكنكم زيارة support.kutubee.com للحصول على المزيد من التفاصيل.

ARABIC DEPARTMENT



نقدّ طلاب السنة السادسة الناطقين بالعربية بعض الأنشطة الصفية تطبيقًا لدرس
" الجملة الفعلية والجملة الإسمية "

*Y6 Native students did a various activities related to their
Grammar Lesson.*



WRITTEN BY:



Afsheen 10A



Kaitlyn 10A



Arianny 10A



INTRODUCING THE NEW BBS CLUBS

At Belvedere, students and teachers are dedicated to nurturing a wide range of talents and interests, and this year, we've expanded our club offerings to provide even more opportunities for all students. Our exciting new clubs include automotive design, future doctors, debate, newsletter, robotics, drama, podcast production, and software development, ensuring there's something for everyone.

Among the most popular clubs this year are the drama, future doctors, and automotive design clubs, where students have shown incredible enthusiasm. In the drama club, anticipation is building as we prepare for auditions for our production of Alice in Wonderland, scheduled for Term 2. Students will have the chance to showcase their acting talents and be part of a magical performance.

These clubs provide students with the perfect environment to explore their passions, connect with peers, and develop skills that go beyond the classroom. Whether designing the next great innovation, learning about healthcare, or stepping into a fictional world on stage, Belvedere's clubs offer something for everyone!



PROPHET'S BIRTHDAY FESTIVITIES AT BBS

Last week at Belvedere, we celebrated the Prophet's Birthday with excitement and reverence. Our school community came together to mark this important occasion, participating in a variety of activities that highlighted the Prophet (PBUH)'s life and teachings. The students shared their creations and understood the significance of the Kaaba and the Prophet's legacy, encouraging everyone to learn more about this auspicious occasion. Overall, the Prophet's Birthday celebration was a fun and educational event, allowing students to honour the Prophet (PBUH).



HEALTH AND SAFETY DEPARTMENT

BBS prioritizes everyone's safety in an emergency.

On 25th of September 2024, BBS conducted a first fire drill for this Academic Year 2024-2025. This is to maintain the preparedness of students, staff and visitors in the school premises in case of fire breakout emergencies.

Ensuring that everyone knows how to exit safely as quickly as possible if a fire, smoke, carbon monoxide, or other emergency occurs, and to familiarize students with the sound of the fire alarm.

Proper action like following escape plan, familiarizing the nearest fire exit door and following instructions are necessary to everyone's safety.



SAFEGUARDING

REMINDER: WEAR YOUR SCHOOL ID AT ALL TIMES

Dear Students,

This is a crucial reminder that all students are required to wear their school ID cards visibly at all times while in our school. Failure to comply with this policy may result in a visit to the detention area.

Wearing your ID not only helps maintain a safe environment but also fosters a sense of community within our school. If you find yourself without your ID on multiple occasions, please be aware that disciplinary actions will be enforced.

If you have lost your ID, please visit the school office for a replacement as soon as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation.



UAE
HERITAGE



SHARE
WITH US

Drawing Competition

The competition is about the best drawing communicating the heritage of the UAE

We are holding a fun and exciting drawing competition for you to join and get a chance to win many great prizes!



One winner from
each year level

Tuesday
-
Thursday

01st-03rd OCT
2024

Watch out!



BELVEDERE
British School



BASKETBALL

As part of Jr. NBA Week, the NBA is providing 1st place winners of Season 3 the opportunity to experience playing at Etihad Arena.

The winning team from Belvedere British School is invited to join the Jr. NBA clinic on October 5th at Etihad Arena.

experience
abu dhabi



SATURDAY, 5TH OCTOBER 2024

ETIHAD ARENA - Abu Dhabi

📞 02-5090000

✉️ enquiries@belvederebritishschool.ae

🌐 www.belvederebritishschool.ae

WELL-BEING

W E D N E S D A Y

It is said that 'a school is only as good as the teaching it provides'. As good teaching comes from the heart, then the heart should be happy. So, the well-being of our teachers is very important. A small gesture is to have 'Well-being Wednesday' a short gathering of teachers and staff at the end of each month. This month, we adhered to letting teachers relax and meet each other - to get to know those they might just pass in the corridors on their way to lessons. It's important in building a learning community to give time to people to be a community. Thanks to Finance for funding and to Ms Wejdan and the Ops team for organising.

*-Mr. Robert Thorn
School Principal*

