

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

Trust and Communication and 'Going to ADEK'

I had just finished an admissions interview with parents who wanted to transfer their child to BBS having been seriously let down by their previous school. Their child had won a scholarship to their previous school but even that didn't matter - they wanted a transfer. They had spoken to friends abroad and were advised to try BBS. The friends, whose own children had attended BBS in previous years, urged these parents to try BBS - 'it's friendly, community-based and attentive'. As a new principal, I can see that. The systems - whether run by non-teaching staff, support staff, or by educators are sensitive and geared towards identifying issues and fixing them - often before there are any actual mishaps. You can tell when you walk in what sort of school it is - friendly, attentive and responsive.

So, the after the interview with the family, I checked through some of my emails and saw that I had been copied into from a parent with a concern. The concern was genuine - the issue was, as it turned out, a misunderstanding in communication - but to that parent at that time, it seemed that there was a problem. The member of staff had written back politely explaining the situation and agreed to adjust matters so that such a misunderstanding would be unlikely to happen again. So, all good? Well, not really, and here's why...

The ADEK button

It is wonderful that we have parents who care enough to write in or visit us over issues - we either learn what we're doing wrong and improve or we have a chance to explain what we do and dispel misunderstandings. We encourage that. We're happy to improve and communicate. However, what I have noticed, in my few months here, is that some of our parents threaten to 'go to ADEK' in their first communication on an issue. It saddens me to see that because it suggests a lack of trust - and this is the point of my message here. We are trying to build a community of sorts and that needs to be based on trust. When I see a letter basically saying, 'if you do nothing about this, I will go to ADEK', it makes me feel that there is no trust.

At BBS, we take parent and student concern seriously. There shouldn't be a need to threaten us. Most likely, 'going to ADEK' will not bring the outcome better or sooner than we can. What it suggests to me is that parents who mention this have had a bad experience in the past - either at other schools or at ours. That saddens me.

So, if you have an issue, a suggestion, a question for us, please just write or visit us and let's discuss it. If we can't resolve the issue, then we can together go to ADEK and ask their advice. Let's build a community based on trust.

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





  **Physical Education** 

Ms. Jonalyn's Year 5B and Year 5C students are having a blast playing handball! Teamwork and fun on the court!



M A T H S



IGCSE and A-Level Mathematics Awarding



SCIENCE



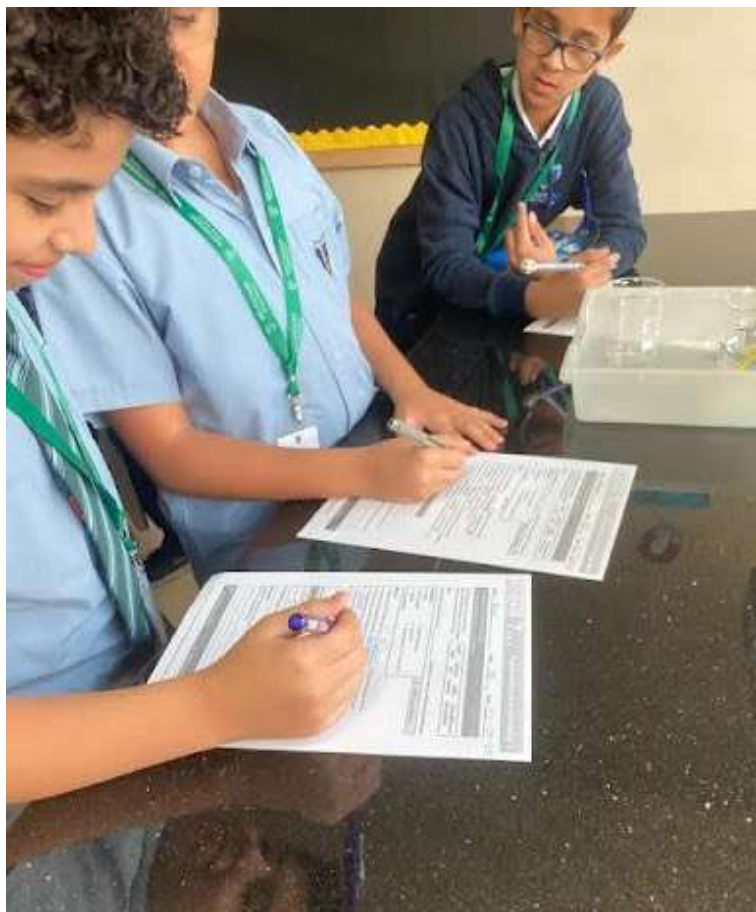
Year 7 Students Explore Solubility Through Hands-On Science

This week, our enthusiastic Year 7 students dove into the world of chemistry by investigating how temperature affects the solubility of substances. In an engaging practical experiment, students measured how much of a chosen solute dissolved in water at different temperatures, enhancing their understanding of a fundamental scientific concept.

Through teamwork and careful observation, students recorded their findings and discovered that solubility often increases with temperature. This activity encouraged them to apply critical thinking and scientific inquiry, skills that are essential in developing young scientists.

The curiosity of students was further sparked by discussions on the real-life implications of solubility—from dissolving sugar in hot tea to the environmental impact of temperature changes on marine ecosystems.

Well done to all the Year 7 students for their fantastic efforts and for making science both fun and educational! We look forward to seeing where their passion for science takes them next.





PSYCHOLOGY



Memory Experiment by the Year 12's

This week at BBS, psychology students from year 12 will conduct an interesting experiment based on the concepts they have learnt about memory. Students from key stages 3-4 will be given short tasks in order to understand how memory works and varies from person to person.

Their findings will allow them to explore the cognitive processes of psychology in depth and the hands-on experience will enhance their understanding and knowledge of the topic as seen in the flyer below:

We're having a psychology experiment!!

Will you remember what you forget or forget what you remembered?

We are doing a memory experiment. Join us if you want to learn more about memory.

We're looking for participants that are 14 to 18 years old. The experiment will last 25 minutes during the second break. After applying you will be shortlisted and called to join the experiment

A grand surprise will be waiting for you at the end of the experiment!!

Contact us
Aamina, Anya, Nushara, Yara in 12A in F22 during form time or break

DRAMA CLUB



UPDATES

At Belvedere, excitement is in the air as students from the Drama Club prepare for the upcoming production of Alice in Wonderland. This week, the club members have revealed the long-awaited casting of the actors and narrators who will be gearing up to reflect the whimsical and adventurous spirit of Lewis Carroll's beloved tale.

Rehearsals are set to commence shortly and both the cast and the crew are eager to bring their magic to the stage. We ought to know that this play will be an unforgettable performance that will surely delight the audience.

Casting will be revealed in the next newsletter edition... so keep an eye out!





SOCIAL STUDIES



Social Studies Project

This week in Belvedere, Ms. Eram encouraged the year 10s to research and broaden their knowledge of the way of life during the Bronze Age in Umm an-Nar. Some students were assigned to map trade routes through drawings and strings, while others had to handcraft tools and jewellery with clay and aluminium.

The project allowed students to explore and gain further knowledge on the topic. This, hopefully, helped develop their creative thinking and craftsmanship skills while still allowing them to enjoy the process.





REVIVE MY GRADES

Revive My Grades is website designed to assist IGCSE and IAS/IAL students with their exams.



It includes a unique past paper tracker which helps students save time and easily tackle even the hardest past papers with easy to access video solutions, grade boundaries, mark schemes and even includes a built in timer.

Revive My Grades is proven to be better than savemyexams and pmt for solving any past paper (and it includes more past papers too).

You can see the Revive My Grades website here: <https://www.revivemygrades.com/>

A lot more planned features are coming soon.

Developed Entirely by: Abdullah Munir 13B

PREPARATION FOR PISA 2025

Looking ahead, Belvedere British School (BBS) is gearing up for participation in the PISA (Programme for International Student Assessment) scheduled for 2025. This worldwide evaluation will test students' skills in English, Maths, and Science, providing valuable insights into a comparison of their academic abilities on a global scale. To ensure that our students are well-prepared for this important assessment, ADEK released a series of short quizzes which were completed by our Year 10 to Year 12 over this week.

MIDTERM BREAK

After a long yet successful half-term, the students, teachers, and staff were met by a well-deserved mid-term break! Even if you travelled, stayed home, or spent time with friends and family, we hope everyone enjoyed their break. We welcome everyone back to the second half of term 1 with a smile; we encourage everyone to continue learning and working hard while having fun!



أركان الإيمان



نقدّ طلاب الروضة الأولى بعض الأنشطة الصفية تطبيقًا لدرس
" أركان الإيمان "

FS2 students did various activities about pillars of faith.





أَرْكَانُ الْإِسْلَامِ الْخَمْسَةُ



نَفَّذَ طُلَّابُ السَّنَةِ الثَّانِيَةِ النَّاطِقِينَ بِالْعَرَبِيَّةِ بَعْضَ الْأَنْشِطَةِ الصَّفِيَّةِ
تَطْبِيقًا لِدَرْسِ " أَرْكَانِ الْإِسْلَامِ "





نشكر طلاب السنة الخامسة لمشاركتهم الرائعة في الإذاعة الصباحية "التنمر الإلكتروني"

We appreciate the enthusiastic participation of the Year 5 students in the morning assembly "Cyberbullying"





OCTOBER *is* ADHD AWARENESS



How can we help them:

- Be Inclusive
- Offer patience and understanding
- Help with organization
- Provide encouragement
- Create a distraction-free environment
- Communicate openly
- Model good behavior
- Be a FRIEND

Theme :

AWARENESS *is key...*

... to creating inclusive classroom
for students with ADHD

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

it is a neurodevelopmental condition defined by impairing levels of inattention, disorganization, and/or hyperactivity-impulsivity. A person with ADHD has differences in brain development and brain activity that affect attention, the ability to sit still and self-control. It affects both children and adults.

ADHD FACTS



Most cases are diagnosed under the age of 12, but you could be diagnosed at any age.

The ratio of boys to girls with ADHD is 3:1 as it is harder to detect in girls. Boys tend to display symptoms of hyperactivity more often than girls.

The exact cause of ADHD is unknown, but evidence has shown that there is a genetic element.

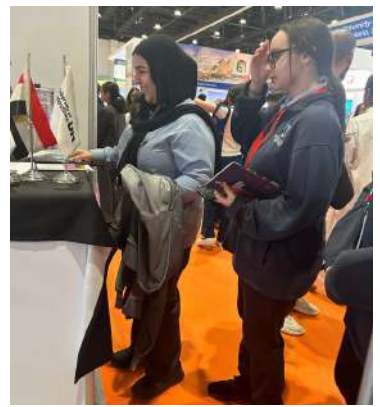
Approximately 5-7% of children and adolescents are estimated to have ADHD globally

Al Najah Expo and Further Education, Universities and Colleges

This week our students from Years 10 to 13 attended the Al Najah Expo in Abu Dhabi, a vibrant event showcasing diverse higher education opportunities from universities and colleges worldwide.

Our students engaged with representatives, explored future academic paths, and gained valuable insights into the programs and scholarships available to support their aspirations. The experience broadened their understanding of the possibilities ahead and helped them make informed choices about their educational journeys.

It was a fantastic opportunity for our students to envision their futures and learn more about the steps required to reach their goals!



Promotions



Charney Davids



Camerine van
Niekerk

This week we are happy to announce that we have two new promotions. Ms Charney Davids will become our new Key Stage 2 Leader taking care of learners and families in years 3-6 and Mr Camerine van Niekerk will become Science Head for Primary.

We are very happy for both of these colleagues who are very professional, and we are sure will do a great job in ensuring our learners receive the best education they can.

Farewell



On the other hand, we are very sorry to say farewell to long time BBS friend and colleague Ms Clair Godley who has been with us for four years. It is sad for us but we are also happy for her as she accepts new challenges in her professional career. We wish her every success and happiness.



FLAG DAY



P T S C



Proud siblings

In a thrilling showcase of talent, siblings Karam year 4 B and Leen year 6 B won medals on the weekend as they participated in a recent swimming competition.

With Leen securing gold and Karam earning a well deserved bronze, their dedication and hard paid off.

Here's to many more victories in and out of the water!



Weekend Warriors

Last weekend, our enthusiastic teachers Ms. Dzesika and Ms. Clair took part in physical activity events, demonstrating their commitment to health and teamwork.

Well done to Ms. Dzesika who took part in the 5km pink run in Galleria mall. The pink run is organised to raise awareness for Breast Cancer research.

Ms. Clair participated in the first of a 3 part event of tactical games in Al Dhafra region. Ms. Clair and her team placed 3rd and were presented with their medals by Highness Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hamad Al Sharqi. A big thank you to our teachers for leading by example and encouraging a vibrant community.



FIELD TRIP

**ENJOY!**

UPCOMING TRIPS

YEAR LEVEL	WHERE	WHEN
Year 1 and Year 2	Fabyland	7 November 2024
Year 3 and Year 4	Emirates Zoo	6 November 2024
Year 5 and Year 6	Emirates Zoo	11 November 2024
Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9	Bounce (Khalifa City)	12 November 2024



CONSENT FORM WILL BE SENT SEPARATELY.



FS2 & Year 1 Teddy Bears' Tea Party!



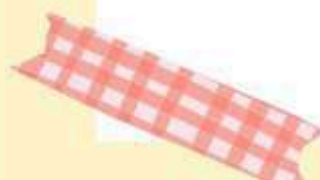
8th November 2024



Pack your tastiest treats to share with our friends!

Students can wear cozy pyjamas and bring their teddies and blankets. We will set up a wonderful picnic for our amazing students, where we will read stories, enjoy our treats and talk about our teddies.

We look forward to sharing this terrific time with you!





BOOK FAIR



BELVEDERE BRITISH SCHOOL
MAIN FOYER/LOBBY

4th – 8th November 2024



A wide selection of books,
for every book lover to enjoy

