

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

Balance

An issue raised at our Parents-in-Partnership meeting last Wednesday and again in interactions with parents at our Parent-Teacher-Learner Conference last Friday:

Are we dealing with technology appropriately?

This question has been hanging over many school communities for decades, leads us also to ask further questions such as:

- Do our young people have too much exposure to screens, games, social media, etc? Are we neglecting to teach our young people enough about how to use the latest technology?
- Are we using too much technology in the classroom or not using it enough?
- Are our young people damaging their eyes on screens not enough book-reading time?
- Are they typing too much and are we neglecting to help them practice handwriting? In the case of Arabic, are we focusing too much on handwriting and not preparing them enough for typing the language?
- Are we holding young people back from using a keyboard or are we wasting their time in developing skills with pen and paper?

I am sure you have your own questions. At BBS, this is all leading towards a review of how we learn to use technology in school and in life (see next issue) however it made me think of the issue of **balance**. One aspect of the tech issue is certainly about balance - how can we help our young people gain a sense of balance in using tech? However, surely that applies to other aspects of life, and we can also ask:

- Are our children getting the right amount of play, sleep, reading time, homework, etc? Are our children getting the right amount of physical activity and the right amount of rest?
- Are they getting the right amount of fruit, vegetables, protein, etc?

Cont...



Mr. Robert Thorn

School Principal | Belvedere British School

- Are they getting the right number of treats?
- Are they getting too much pocket money or too little to learn with – perhaps they don't get any because everything is bought for them or because they are not considered responsible enough – do they have the right amount of money and the opportunities to be able to learn to be responsible with money?
- Do they have enough guidance from you or not enough?
- Do they have opportunities to develop their own ideas, their values, how they will apply the principles they are learning?

As a parent or teacher, do you get it right when it comes to controlling the balance in the lives of your young people and allowing them to identify the balance? Do you feel you lead a balanced life? Did your parents and teachers help you lead a balanced life? How did they do that? How could they have done it better? Wouldn't it be good if our young people gain their own sense of balance that they could apply to their lives?

Balance is one of the attributes all learners need to develop. Oddly, balance does not always mean getting equal amounts of opposite things. It may be that, at different times in one's life – or indeed in your day you might need to focus on one thing and then later on another. The athlete will do more specific physical exercise than the artist or the scientist but they each need to choose a balance that's good for them. What is the right balance for you? What is the right balance for your children?

How do you make these decisions for younger children? How do you help your children make balance an important aspect of their lives for themselves as they grow older?

Balance is often in our hands at least to some extent. We can decide to have more or less exercise, to balance our food, to organise our schedule to regulate our screen-time and use of technology – but are our young people able to make wise decisions? How can they unless we give them opportunities to do so?

Cont...



11 Jan 2025 **BASKETBALL**

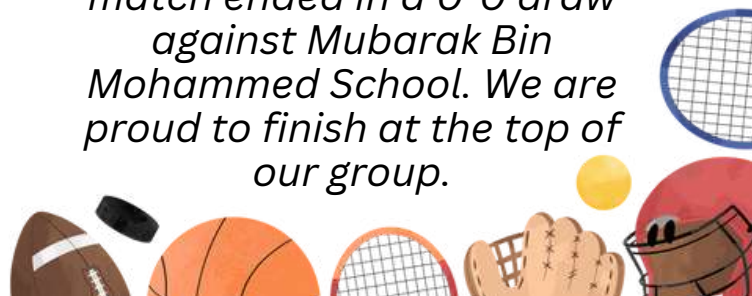
We missed letting you know that our under-15 girls' basketball team played four matches in the ADEK Cup. They began with a strong 20-0 victory against Al Emarat National School. They followed up with a 12-10 win against Rawafid Private School. They narrowly lost 18-14 to the Australian School in a close match. Then they finished the day with another fantastic 20-0 win against Al Shahama School. A splendid effort from everyone!



FOOTBALL

11 Jan 2025

Last weekend, our Under-13 football team competed in the ADEK Cup group stage today. We secured a 1-0 victory in our first match against Bright Riders School, followed by a 2-0 win against Al Dhafra Private School. Our third match ended in a 0-0 draw against Mubarak Bin Mohammed School. We are proud to finish at the top of our group.





مهرجان التُّمور

BBS Date Festival

في إطار تفعيل " هويتي " وتعزيز القيم الإماراتية في مجتمعنا وقلوب طلابنا، ستنظم مدرستنا مهرجان التمور الذي سيُقام من يوم الاثنين 27/01 الى يوم الجمعة 31/01 . ندعو جميع الطلاب للمشاركة في هذا المهرجان من خلال إحضار سلة مزينة تحتوي على أي نوع من أنواع التمور مع كتابة أسمائكم على السلة بموعد اقصاه يوم الجمعة الموافق 24/01 ، حيث سيتم عرض السلال المميزة وتوزيع الجوائز لأجمل سلة ، وسيتم تنفيذ المشاريع الخاصة بهذه المناسبة مع المعلمة أثناء الدوام المدرسي . نتطلع لمشاركتكم في هذا المهرجان الرائع الذي يعكس تراثنا الإماراتي العريق ، ويشجعكم على إظهار معرفتكم بأهمية التمور وأنواعها المختلفة ومنتظر منكم الإبداع كما عودتمونا في تزيين السلال!

ملاحظة: يُمكن لكل عائلة ارسال سلة واحدة مشتركة عن جميع الأخوة في المدرسة.

The BBS Dates Festival, which runs from Monday, January 27 to Friday, January 31, aims to promote Emirati values and activate "My Identity" within our community and students.

We encourage all students to participate in this festival by providing a decorated basket containing any type of date with their names written on it no later than Friday, January 24th, as all baskets will be displayed and prizes will be presented to the most attractive basket, and some projects will be implemented with the teacher during school hours.

We look forward to your participation in this magnificent celebration that celebrates our ancient Emirati heritage and encourages you to learn about the significance of dates and their various kinds. We expect you to be as creative as you have been in decorating the baskets!

Note: Each family can send one basket of dates for all siblings in the school.





هل تمتلك موهبة الكتابة بخط جميل؟
هل تعشق إبراز جمال الحروف العربية؟

تفاصيل المسابقة:

التاريخ

من 20/1/2024

إلى

25/1/2025

تسليم المشاركات

إلى

معلمة اللغة العربية

شروط المسابقة:

المسابقة مفتوحة لجميع الفئات العمرية

يتم كتابة النص بخط اليد باستخدام الأقلام التقليدية

يُسمح باستخدام خطوط مثل: النسخ، الرقعة،

(أكثر نفاً بسيطاً وذو معنى، مثل بيت شعر أو حكمة)

لا تقبلون الفرصة لاستعراض موهبتك في فن الخط العربي والمساهمة في الاحتفاء بلغتنا الجميلة

DO YOU HAVE A TALENT FOR WRITING BEAUTIFULLY?

DO YOU LOVE SHOWCASING THE ELEGANCE OF ARABIC LETTERS?



COMPETITION DETAILS

DATE  :

FROM 20/01/2025

UNTIL 25/01/2025

SUBMISSION:

HAND IN YOUR ENTRIES

TO THE ARABIC

TEACHER.

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MOST BEAUTIFUL ARABIC HANDWRITING COMPETITION, HELD AS PART OF ARABIC LANGUAGE WEEK. THIS EVENT CELEBRATES THE ELEGANCE AND MAGNIFICENCE OF THE ARABIC LANGUAGE AND THE ART OF BEAUTIFUL LETTERING .

SUBMISSIONS WILL BE JUDGED ON

- THE ELEGANCE OF HANDWRITING
- THE CONSISTENCY OF LETTER SHAPES
- CLEANLINESS AND PRESENTATION

COMPETITION RULES

THE COMPETITION IS OPEN TO ALL AGE GROUPS

THE TEXT MUST BE HANDWRITTEN USING TRADITIONAL

PENS

ACCEPTED STYLES INCLUDE NASKH AND RUQ'AH

SCRIPTS

(CHOOSE A SIMPLE AND MEANINGFUL TEXT, SUCH AS A LINE OF POETRY OR A WISE SAYING.)

DON'T MISS THE CHANCE TO SHOWCASE YOUR TALENT IN THE ART OF ARABIC HANDWRITING AND CONTRIBUTE TO CELEBRATING OUR BEAUTIFUL LANGUAGE!



Congratulations!
تهنيتاً



مزمارة داود
Dawood's Flute

نهنيئ جميع الفائزين في مسابقة مزمارة داود لتلاوة القرآن الكريم ، ونقدم لهم أحر التهاني على هذا الإنجاز الرائع. نسأل الله أن يوفقكم ويبارك في جهودكم، وأن يجعل القرآن ربيع قلوبكم ، ونور صدوركم، وزهاب همومكم وأحزانكم .

We express our warmest congratulations to the winners of Dawood's Flute Competition for their outstanding achievements. We ask God to grant you success and blessings in your interests and to make the Qur'an a guiding light in your life.





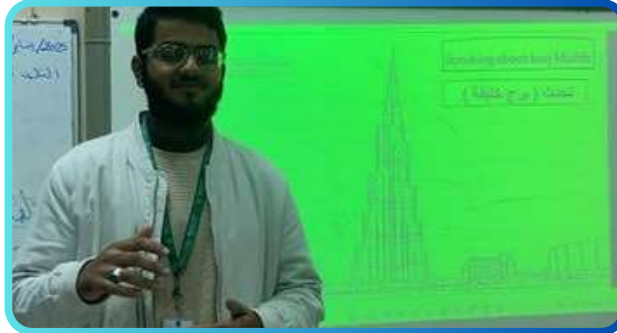
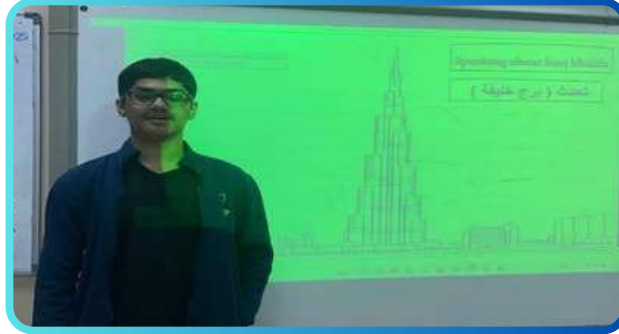
برج خليفة

Burj Khalifa



The Burj Khalifa is a symbol of growth and innovation in the UAE, as well as one of the world's most popular tourist attractions. Year 12 non-native students attended a debate about this remarkable tower to learn more about it and how it represents human aspiration. The students showed mastery of their objective by using the strategy "Find me and talk."

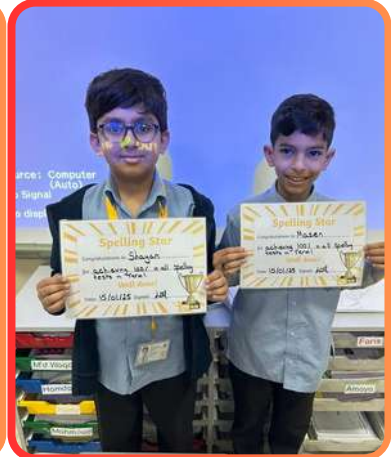
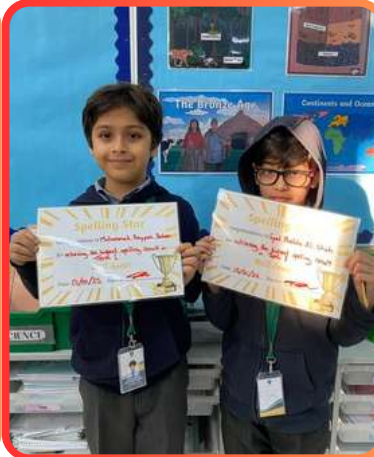
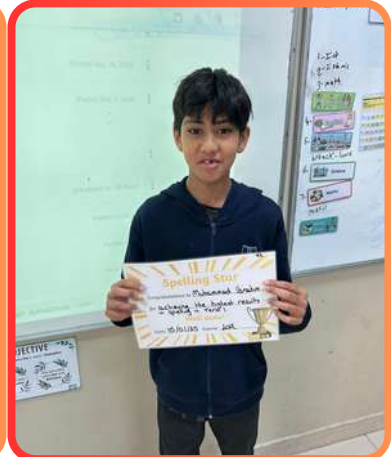
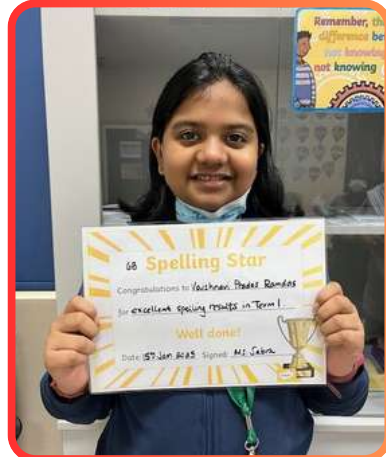
برج خليفة هو رمز من رموز التقدم والابتكار في الإمارات العربية المتحدة، ويُعد من أبرز المعالم السياحية في العالم. حيث نفذ طلبة السنة الثانية عشر غير الناطقين محادثة حول هذا البرج المميز، لتتعرف على المزيد من المعلومات عنه وكيف يعكس طموح الإنسان، وقد أظهر الطلبة إتقانهم للهدف المرجو منهم وتم ذلك باستخدام إستراتيجية "ابحث عني وتحدث"





ENGLISH

On Wednesday this week, we celebrated our high achieving English spellers and writers in the KS2 morning assembly. Certificates were given to some students for excellent writing and effort in the National Day writing competition held in November. Several students shared their work with the entire KS2, reading their entries aloud onstage. Certificates were also presented to the students with the highest spelling score in each class from Term 1. We are so proud of our English students' dedication and high standard of work!











HEALTHY LUNCHBOX

What Makes a Healthy Lunchbox?

A healthy lunchbox is key to supporting your child's energy, concentration, and overall well-being throughout the school day. Here are some tips to help you pack nutritious and delicious meals:

-  **Balanced Meals:** Include a mix of proteins (chicken, eggs, beans), carbohydrates (whole-grain bread, rice, pasta), healthy fats (avocado, nuts*), and plenty of fruits and vegetables.
-  **Wholesome Snacks:** Add options like yogurt, cheese sticks, or veggie sticks to energy boost.
-  **Hydration:** Pack a water bottle to keep them hydrated—water is always the best choice!

AVOID THESE ITEMS:

-  Sugary snacks, sodas, and fast food items like chips or candy.
-  Foods high in salt, sugar, or saturated fats.
-  Avoid food sharing as items containing allergens may affect other students.

Packing a healthy lunchbox is a simple way to set your child up for success—fueling their body and mind for a day of learning.

Let's work together to ensure every student has the energy they need to thrive!



What goes in my lunchbox?



Examples of healthy options:

FRUIT (2 PIECES)	
SANDWICH, WRAP OR ALTERNATIVE	
DAIRY	
VEGETABLES (2 PIECES)	
FIBRE/GRAINS (Wholegrains)	
WATER	



YEAR 7A AND MS NADIA KICK OFF KEY STAGE 3 WITH BRAIN-BOOSTING FUN!



Key Stage 3 got off to an engaging start this term, thanks to Year 7A and their teacher, Ms Nadia, who hosted the first online assembly of the year. In celebration of International Brainteaser Month, the session was filled with riddles, brain teasers, and interactive challenges designed to stretch the mind. Focusing on Maths, Logic, and visual problem-solving, students were encouraged to think critically and creatively. The assembly provided the perfect opportunity to energise and inspire learners, fostering teamwork and a love for problem-solving from the very beginning of the term. A big thank you to Year 7A and Ms Nadia for starting the year on such a positive and thought-provoking note!

What is International Brainteaser Month?

January Fun!

International Brainteaser Month is celebrated every January, making it the perfect time to kickstart your brainteaser.

Brain Boost!

This month is dedicated to pushing your cognitive limits, sharpening your mind, and boosting brain health.

Creative Thinking!

It encourages creative thinking, problem-solving, and engaging with puzzles in a fun and playful way.



Why are Brainteasers Important?

Brainpower Booster

Regularly solving puzzles can help delay cognitive decline and keep your mind sharp.

Teamwork Makes the Dream Work

Brainteasers provide a fantastic opportunity for collaboration, bonding, and brainstorming with others.

Stress Relief

Focusing on a fun challenge can be a great mental escape, reducing stress and promoting relaxation.

Round 2: Math Problems

1

Three-Digit Mystery

I am a three-digit number. My tens digit is five more than my ones digit, and my hundreds digit is eight less than my tens digit. What am I?

2

Number Pattern

If $2 = 6$, $3 = 12$, $4 = 20$, what is 5?



Round 3: Visual Problems



GIVE GET
GIVE GET
GIVE GET
GIVE GET

WORKING
time

Bonus Round

Get ready for a final challenge! We'll be using a rebus puzzle, which uses pictures and symbols to represent a phrase or word. Your group needs to decipher the hidden message. Are you up for the final test?

Round 4: Logic Problems

1

Family Mystery

A man is looking at a photograph of someone. His friend asks, "Who is it?" The man replies, "Brothers and sisters, I have none. But that man's father is my father's son." Who is in the photograph?

2

Matchstick Challenge

You're in a dark room with a candle, a wood stove, and a gas lamp. You only have one match. What do you light first?





WEEKLY

ASSEMBLY



Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are pleased to share an update on this week's assemblies in the Secondary School, which focused on a range of important and engaging topics for our students.

Our primary focus was on anti-bullying and digital security, where students learned about the importance of fostering a safe and respectful school environment, both online and offline. These sessions highlighted the significance of treating others with kindness, recognising bullying behaviours, and protecting personal information in the digital world.

In addition, Ms. Tatiana led some creative and exciting assemblies, introducing students to the art of crochet. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to explore this unique and skillful activity, which many found both fun and intriguing.

Year 10A also took the stage this week, delivering an inspiring presentation on good hobbies for students to consider. They emphasised the benefits of engaging in constructive and enjoyable activities that support personal growth, well-being, and the development of new skills.

We are proud of the enthusiasm and effort our students and staff bring to these assemblies, making them a valuable part of school life. Thank you for your continued support in encouraging your children to participate and learn from these experiences.

Best regards,
Ahmed
Vice Principal





CELEBRATING STUDENT INITIATIVE: FARIDA EL SHAMMA'S AVIATION ENTHUSIASM TAKES FLIGHT



Farida El Shamma, a passionate and driven student from 8C, has truly soared to new heights by creating her very own Google Site, The Plane Museum. This impressive project showcases her deep interest in the world of aviation and reflects her dedication to learning and creativity.

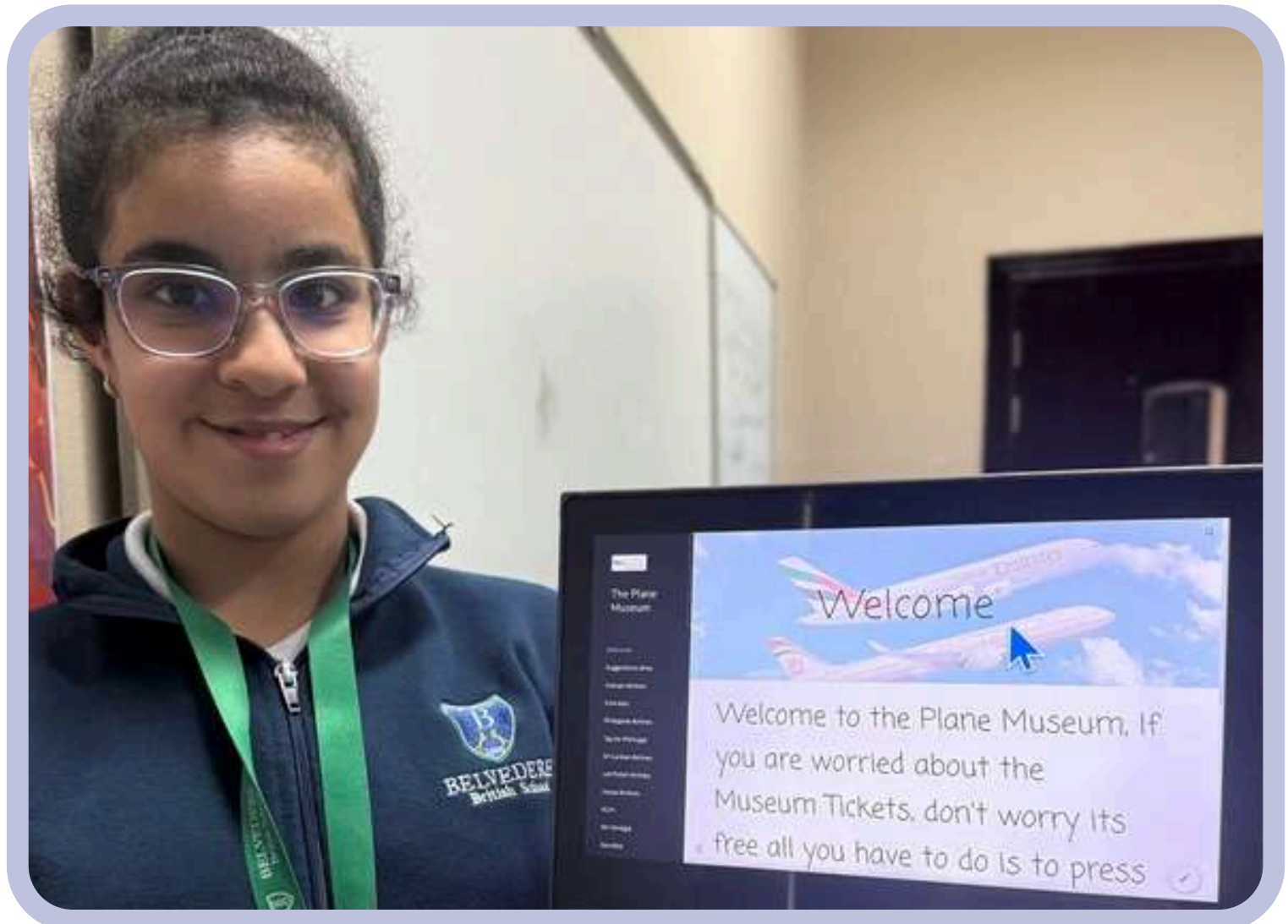
The Plane Museum is a digital treasure trove for aviation enthusiasts, offering insights into various aspects of the industry. Farida's initiative highlights her commitment to independent research, innovative thinking, and her ability to use technology as a platform to share knowledge.

We are incredibly proud of Farida's remarkable achievement and the initiative she has shown. Her work stands as an inspiration to her peers, demonstrating how curiosity and effort can lead to extraordinary results.

You can explore Farida's website and delve into the fascinating world of aviation by visiting The Plane Museum. - [The Plane Museum](#)

Congratulations, Farida! We are certain this is just the beginning of your journey to great success.

-Ms. Netanye Nash
KS3 Leader





MATHS



REVVED UP THE EXCITEMENT IN MATHS!

Year 8 pupils recently dived into the thrilling world of Formula Ethara through an engaging STEM project! This initiative combined creativity, engineering, and mathematical problem-solving to give students a taste of the exciting motorsport industry. As part of the project, students: Crafted their Team Identity by designing logos, brainstorming unique team names, and selecting bold colours. Designed and assembled mini car bodies, starting from net diagrams and transforming them into sleek racers. Gained hands-on experience in how maths integrates with the innovative world of motorsport. The Formula Ethara project wasn't just about racing – it encouraged teamwork, fostered creativity, and gave pupils the opportunity to develop practical STEM skills in a fun and competitive environment. It was a fantastic experience for all involved – and who knows, we might see some of these budding engineers on the tracks in the future!

-Ms. Netanye Nash
KS5 Leader



Parent-Teacher Student Conference

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