



Belvedere
British School

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Edition 2421

13 March, 2025

Topics of the week!

- 01 ✓ Message from the Principal
- 02 ✓ Arabic Department - Quran Competition
- 03 ✓ Head of Primary Message
- 04 ✓ Year 5 - Year 6 - Trip to Bounce
- 05 ✓ Message from the Vice Principal
- 06 ✓ KS4 to Jubail Mangrove Park
- 07 ✓ Year 7 to Warner Bros in Yas Island
- 08 ✓ Unlocking University Success: The Power of Super-curricular Activities
- 09 ✓ 🏆 Year 8B Crowned Football Champions! ⚽
- 10 ✓ STUDENT SPOTLIGHT
- 11 ✓ BBS INTERNATIONAL DAY
- 12 ✓ Upcoming Event - **CHECK THIS OUT!**

RECYCLE



Sustainability Tips of the Month



Recycle



This month, focus on enhancing your recycling habits by keeping recyclables clean and free from contamination to ensure they are properly processed. Be mindful of your local recycling rules and always choose products with minimal or recyclable packaging. Consider repurposing items before recycling and properly dispose of e-waste through designated programs. Additionally, support the recycling loop by purchasing recycled products and spreading awareness to others. Small changes can make a big impact in creating a more sustainable future!

Service Learning Fridays Initiative

Let's keep moving together to keep our Earth sustainable!



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MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

BELVEDERE BRITISH SCHOOL STRIVES 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.

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Shared Vision

When a community or organisation has high levels of trust, effective communication and collaboration, then a truly shared vision can emerge.

A shared vision is a guide, an anchor and a float, allowing us both to forge a clear path forward but also not letting us float away or sink. Without a clear vision, schools can lose their way, drift into poor practice, or enter a downward spiral of lack of trust, low-quality communication and insufficient collaboration, leading to bad feelings and low morale.

We have a vision statement at Belvedere. As well as being a guide for us, it is a promise to those who entrust us with their children's education.

It should be what prospective families read to find out if this is the right school for their children.

It is what school leaders should look to and ask, 'Are we doing all we can to deliver that?'
It is what teachers and staff should read and then ask, 'How am I helping our school community realise that vision through my role?'

To realise a vision, it would be wonderful to have everyone pursuing it – at least we need a 'critical mass' of people who will. We hear about leaders with vision – and while it's important to have leaders with vision or who can interpret the vision, it's not enough for sustainable change.



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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

A leader who has a vision but doesn't bother to share it is not very useful. Everyone needs to share the vision, relate it to their role, and then pursue it relentlessly.

Of course, as I often say, the most underused resource in most schools is students. Considering our young people – children and learners – what could be their role in helping us realise our vision? Do they know the vision statement? Have they read through it? Have they understood the concepts, ideas and challenges that lie within it? Have they related it to their lives, to themselves and their role in the school community?

Currently, at Belvedere, teachers are working their way through a professional development process (a course) which helps them consider each part of the school's vision statement. As well as exploring the possibilities that lie within the vision statement, the process asks teachers to relate their role to the vision statement, creating a type of personalised vision statement for themselves. The other task is to identify one action they can take to help us realise our vision. They will then plan and implement their action and share with us their success.

What would you do in your role to help us better realise our vision?



ARABIC DEPARTMENT



رمضان مبارك
ramadan mubarak

بمناسبة حلول شهر رمضان المبارك، يسرني أن أتقدم إليكم بأسمى آيات
التهاني وأصدق التبريكات.

أسأل الله أن يعيده علينا وعليكم باليمن والبركات، وأن يكون شهر خير
ونجاح لجميع أبنائنا الطلاب

أدعو الله أن يتقبل من الجميع صيامهم وقيامهم، وأن يمنحنا جميعًا
الصحة والعافية

كما أتمنى لكم شهرًا مليئًا بالطاعات، وأن يحقق الله لنا ولأبنائنا مزيدًا من
التفوق والتميز في هذا الشهر الفضيل 🌙

As the blessed month of Ramadan begins, I would like to extend my
warmest wishes to you and your family. May this holy month bring
you peace, joy, and countless blessings.

I pray that Allah grants you strength, health, and success, and accepts
all your prayers and fasts.

May this Ramadan be a time of spiritual growth and renewal,
and may it bring you closer to your loved ones and to Allah's mercy."

Ramadan
Kareem 🌙

ISLAMIC DEPARTMENT



تَهْنِئَةً



يتقدم قسم التربية الإسلامية بأجمل التهاني والتبريكات للطلاب الفائزين في مسابقة الفرقان في حفظ القرآن الكريم. نبارك لكم هذا الإنجاز العظيم الذي يعكس تفانيكم وجهودكم الجادة في حفظ كتاب الله نسأل الله أن يجعل هذا الإنجاز بداية لمسيرتكم القرآنية، وأن ينير دربكم بنور القرآن والسنة النبوية الشريفة.

The Islamic Department warmly congratulates the students who won the Quran competition. We appreciate your dedication and hard work in memorizing and reciting the Holy Quran.

May this achievement be the beginning of a journey filled with the brightness of the Quran and the noble teaching of the Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him).



HEAD OF PRIMARY MESSAGE

Are You Using Your Time Wisely? A Guide to Effective Exam Preparation

As assessments and exams approach, have you ever stopped to think about how you're using your time? Are you making the most of every study session, or do you find yourself easily distracted? Do you have a clear study plan, or are you leaving things to the last minute?

Many students struggle with time management during exam season, but have you considered what strategies could help you stay organised? Do you break your revision into manageable sections, or do you try to tackle everything at once? Are you using revision techniques like summarising notes, creating flashcards, or practising past papers?

How do you handle procrastination? Do you set specific goals for each study session, or do you find yourself scrolling through your phone instead? Have you tried setting timers to stay focused, or using apps that help you track your productivity?

When it comes to balancing study and relaxation, are you making sure to take care of yourself? Do you get enough sleep, eat nutritious meals, and take short breaks to refresh your mind? Have you noticed how much better you perform when you feel well-rested and energised?

Are you making use of all the resources available to you? Do you ask your teachers for clarification when you're unsure about a topic? Have you considered forming a study group with friends to test each other's knowledge?

As the days count down to your exams, will you look back knowing you've used your time wisely? Or will you wish you had started earlier and worked smarter? The choice is yours—how will you make the most of your time?



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YEAR 5 AND YEAR 6 TRIP TO BOUNCE – A DAY OF FUN AND FITNESS!



VICE PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

As we enter exam season during Ramadan, we recognise the unique challenges many of our students face. With shorter school days, fasting, early Suhoor meals, and the natural stress of upcoming exams, supporting your child in developing strong time management strategies to maintain their well-being and academic performance is more critical than ever.

For fasting students, waking up around 5:00 AM for Suhoor and preparing for exams just a few hours later can be physically and mentally demanding. Many may find it difficult to fall back asleep after Suhoor, especially with the added pressure of revision and exam preparation on their minds. This can lead to tiredness and difficulty focusing during the day.

How can you support your child?

We encourage you to work closely with your child to create a plan that balances rest, study, and wellbeing. Here are a few tips to consider:

- ✓ **Plan revision time carefully:** Encourage shorter, focused study sessions throughout the day, particularly when your child feels most alert. Avoid heavy revision immediately after Suhoor or late at night when energy levels may be low.
- ✓ **Prioritise sleep:** With the altered sleep patterns of Ramadan, help your child find opportunities to rest, whether returning to sleep after Suhoor or taking short naps where possible. Sleep is critical for memory retention and concentration.
- ✓ **Maintain healthy eating:** A balanced Suhoor and Iftar with slow-releasing energy foods can support sustained focus and energy throughout the day.
- ✓ **Stay calm and focused:** Remind your child that while exams are important, their health and well-being come first. Managing anxiety through mindfulness, breathing exercises, and family support can make a real difference.

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VICE PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

What does research say?

Recent studies conducted in the UAE have shown that students fasting during exam periods may experience higher levels of fatigue and reduced concentration if they do not manage their time and rest effectively. However, these same studies highlight that with good preparation, strong routines, and family support, students can perform to their usual standards during Ramadan.



A team effort

We ask for your cooperation in helping your child build a healthy routine during this period. By supporting them in balancing study, sleep, and nutrition, we can help them succeed in their exams and in managing life's responsibilities healthily and sustainably.

8

Tips for studying for exams



#1 **Chunk - Don't cram!**

We relearn info every time we revisit it. Group your class notes into sections to avoid overload.



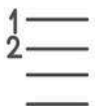
#2 **Start early**

Start studying several days before the exam. Cramming the night before will only increase your stress.

Stay positive #3



It is within you to do well if you work hard and put in the effort. You can do it!



#4 **Set priorities**

Spend the most time on what is most important for the exam. If you don't know what's most important, ask your teacher!

#5 **Make study sheets or cue cards**

Try to summarize main ideas in a few points - use sheets, cue cards or highlighted notes to draw your attention to the key words or ideas.



#6 **Go to the review class, find out about the exam**

Attend all your classes, including the review class - pay attention and take as many notes as you can. Ask questions if you have them! Be sure to know what materials and supplies you can bring and use during the exam.

#7 **Minimize distractions!**

Yes, you want to check your texts and Snapchat ... but the more time you do that, the less time you'll have to study. If you use your device to study, focus on that only. Close other apps/programs and set time aside for studying.



#8 **Get help**



Ask your teacher to explain any material that you don't understand. Classmates can also help! Don't be afraid to ask for help if you need it.

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KS4 IN JUBAIL MANGROVE PARK



دائرة التعليم والمعرفة
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YEAR 7 TO WARNER BROS



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UNLOCKING UNIVERSITY SUCCESS: THE POWER OF SUPER-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



As universities become more selective, students need to find ways to stand out beyond just their grades. One of the most effective ways to do this is through super-curricular activities—academic explorations that go beyond the school curriculum.

Unlike extracurricular activities (such as sports or music), super-curricular activities focus on deepening subject knowledge and demonstrating intellectual curiosity—a key factor in gaining admission to top universities, especially in the UK.

Why Do Super-curricular Activities Matter?

- ✦ Showcases a student's genuine interest in their chosen subject.
- ✦ Develop independent research, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.
- ✦ Strengthens university applications, particularly in UCAS personal statements.

What Counts as Super-curricular?

- 📖 Reading beyond the syllabus – academic books, research papers, and journals.
 - 🔗 Online courses & university taster lectures – platforms like Coursera, FutureLearn, and Springpod.
 - 🏆 Essay competitions & Olympiads – showcasing academic excellence.
 - 📺 Documentaries, podcasts, and museum visits – expanding subject knowledge.
- Work experience related to their chosen course – invaluable for medicine, law, or engineering applicants.

For UK universities, 80-90% of a UCAS personal statement should be focused on academic engagement—making super-curricular activities a crucial element of a strong application.

Encouraging students to explore their interests beyond the classroom not only enhances their university applications but also helps them make informed career choices.

For more guidance on how your child can engage in super-curricular activities, feel free to reach out to the University and Career Guidance Office.

🚀 Encourage your child to take the next step in their academic journey today!



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🏆 YEAR 8B CROWNED FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS! ⚽

We are delighted to announce that Year 8B has won the school football tournament after a thrilling final against Year 8A. The match was intense, with both teams displaying outstanding skill, teamwork, and determination. After a goalless game, the champions were decided in a dramatic penalty shootout, where Year 8B secured a 1-0 victory!

A huge congratulations to Year 8B for their well-earned triumph and to Year 8A for their incredible effort throughout the tournament. Well done to all the players who participated and made this competition an exciting and memorable event!

Keep training hard, and we look forward to more fantastic performances in future tournaments!



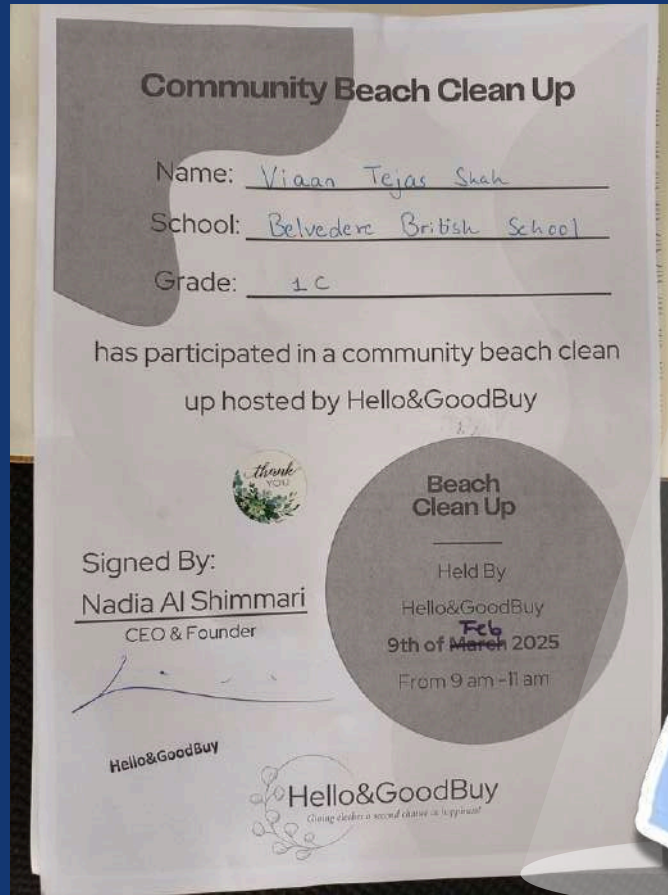
BEACH CLEANING ACTIVITY

Hello,

I wanted to share that Viaan Shah from Year 1C recently participated in a beach cleaning activity and received a certificate for his efforts. He was excited to contribute to environmental conservation and showed great enthusiasm in the process. He was also the largest contributor in collecting waste alone at a time.

We wanted to inform the school about this achievement, as it aligns with values of responsibility and sustainability.

Best regards,
Khyati Shah
Mother of Viaan 1C

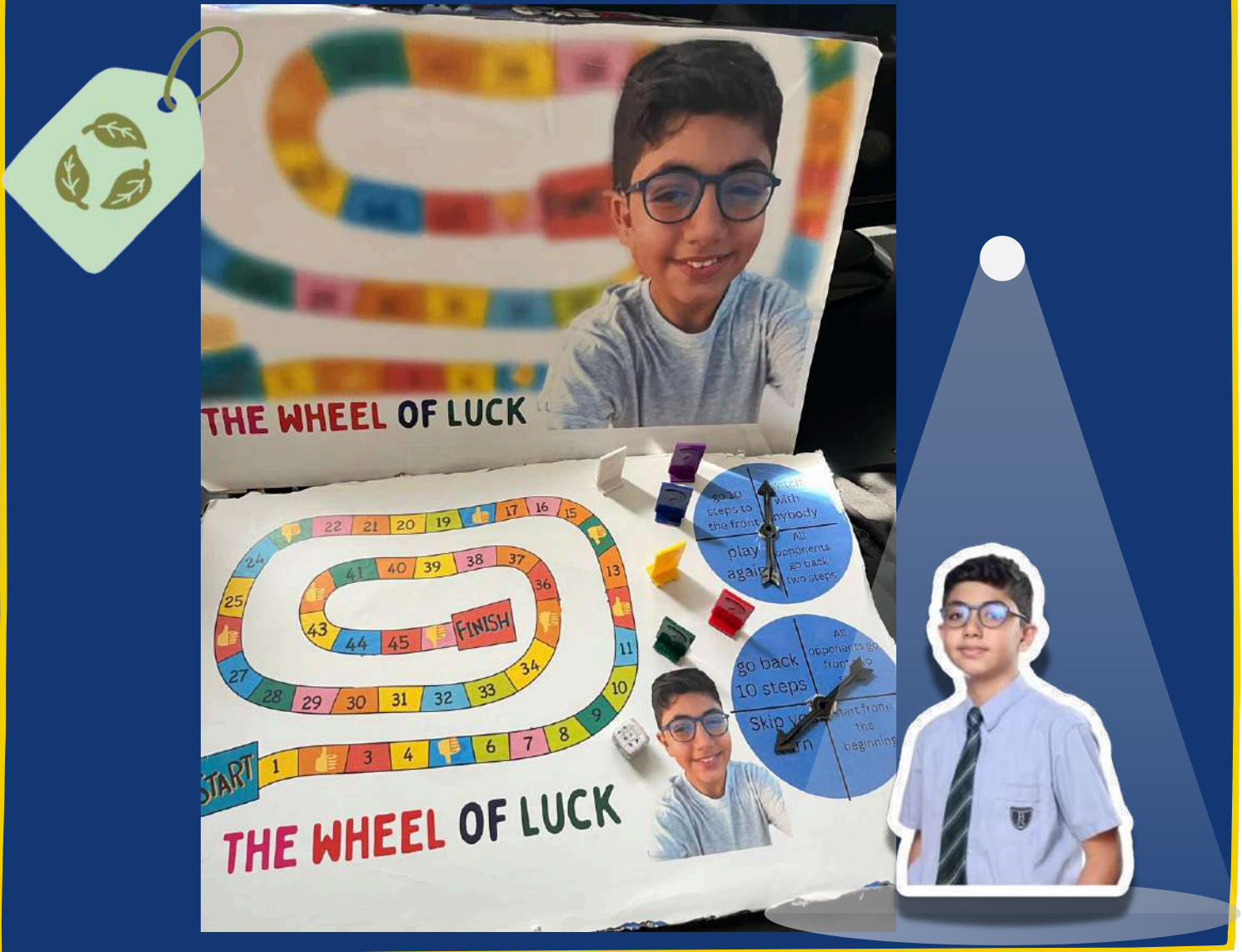


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FOCUS ON SUSTAINABILITY

Faris from 8C created his own board game using recycled objects.



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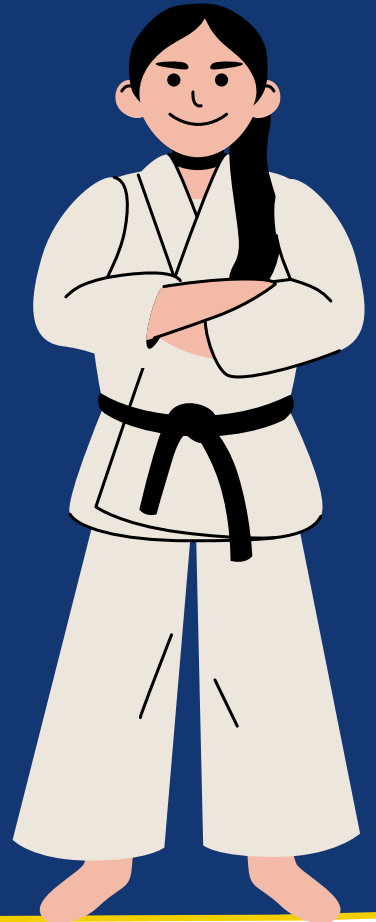
CELEBRATING LEANNE ELSIDDIG'S KARATE

SUCCESS! 🏆

We are incredibly proud to recognise the outstanding achievement of Leanne Elsiddig Abdelrahman, Year 6A, who has demonstrated exceptional skill and dedication in her karate journey!

Leanne recently advanced from Purple Belt to Brown 3 Belt, achieving an 'A' grade in her grading test held on February 22, 2025. This remarkable accomplishment is a testament to her hard work, perseverance, and unwavering commitment to the sport. Her success reflects not only her own dedication but also the incredible support from her instructors and family.

🎉 Congratulations, Leanne! Your achievements continue to inspire us all, and we look forward to seeing you reach even greater heights in your journey. Keep up the fantastic work!



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BBS INTERNATIONAL DAY



edexcel
Approved Centre



isams
By IRIS



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SUSTAINABILITY WALK SHOW



edexcel
Approved Centre



isams
By IRIS



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UPCOMING EVENT



BELVEDERE
British School

NON UNIFORM Day

الهلال الأحمر الإماراتي
Emirates Red Crescent

MAR | 14 | 2025

WE ARE HOLDING A NON UNIFORM DAY ON FRIDAY THIS WEEK - TO PROMOTE CHARITY CAMPAIGNS IN LINE WITH SERVICE LEARNING FRIDAYS IN RAMADAN, PLEASE SEND YOUR CHILD IN WITH A 5 DHS DONATION.

#EMIRATESREDCRESCENT



BELVEDERE
British School

YOU ARE INVITED!

BBS Community Iftar & Charity Campaign

SAVE THE DATE!

19th March 2025 | Wednesday | 6 PM
Venue: BBS MPH

FOR COMMUNITY IFTAR, FAMILIES MAY BRING & SHARE:

- MEAL BOXES / PACKS
- MEAL PLATTERS
- SWEETS
- PASTRIES
- FRUITS
- DRINKS / TEA / GAHWA

FOR CHARITY CAMPAIGN, YOU MAY BRING:

- CLOTHES
- SLIPPERS/SHOES
- GROCERIES
- BOOKS
- OTHER

Ramadhan

MONEY CLOTHES FOOD

Together, we can make a difference!

SEE YOU SOON

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TERM 2 FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We would like to inform you that Term 2 Final Exams will take place from 5th March to 19th March. Please see the exam schedule below for full details on subject timings and requirements.

Resit Exams for Absent or Failing Students

Students who missed an exam with a valid excuse or did not meet the passing criteria will be given the opportunity to resit their exams on 20th and 21st March.

School Attendance on 20th & 21st March

On these days, no new material will be taught. However, students can attend school for structured activities, including PE, art, and other engaging sessions. The schedule for attendance is as follows:

- Thursday, 20th March: 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM
- Friday, 21st March: 9:30 AM – 11:45 AM

Attendance on these days is mandatory, and any student who does not attend will be marked as absent in the ESIS system.

If you have any questions or need further clarification, please feel free to let us know. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring a smooth and productive exam period.

TERM 2 FINAL EXAMS TIMETABLE 2024/25									
Monday 10th March	Tuesday 11th March	Wednesday 12th March	Thursday 13th March	Friday 14th March	Monday 17th March	Tuesday 18th March	Wednesday 19th March	Thursday 20th March	Friday 21st March
Exams start at exactly 9:30am. School Day ends at 1:30pm				Exams start at exactly 9:30am. School Day ends at 11:45am		Exams start at exactly 9:30am. School Day ends at 1:30pm			Exams start at exactly 9:30am. School Day ends at 11:45am
All exams are 60 mins									
Year 1	Science	Arabic	Islamic	Maths		English	Topic		
Year 2	Arabic	Social Studies	Science	English		Maths	Islamic	Topic	
Year 3	English	Social studies	Science	Topic		Maths	Islamic	Arabic	
Year 4	Arabic	Islamic	Maths	Social studies		English	Topic	Science	
Year 5	English	Social Studies	Science	Topic		Arabic	Islamic	Maths	
Year 6	Maths	Topic	English	Islamic		Science	Social Studies	Arabic	
Year 7	Arabic	Business	Humanities	Computer Science	French	Maths	English	Science	
Year 8	Science	French	Computer Science	Business	Humanities	English	Maths	Arabic	
Year 9	Maths	Humanities	Business	French	Computer Science	Science	Arabic	English	
Year 10	Business	Physics	Maths	Chemistry	English Language	Biology	ICT	Arabic	
	Geography	Psychology	Social Studies	English Literature French History		Economics	Islamic		

Year 7 - 9: Social studies will be examined on Wednesday the 5th of March. Islamic studies will be examined on Thursday the 6th of March.