



Belvedere  
British School

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Edition 2423

| 23 April, 2025

## Topics of the week!

- 01 ✓ Message from the Principal
- 02 ✓ Message from the Deputy Head/Head of Arabic Department
- 03 ✓ Arabic Department - Break the Fast
- 04 ✓ Message from the Head of Primary
- 05 ✓ English Department Award
- 06 ✓ FS2 Curiosity
- 07 ✓ Gymnastics Competition with Loureth Esquivel 2B
- 08 ✓ Message from the Vice Principal
- 09 ✓ Health and Safety Department Reminder
- 10 ✓ 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!

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



Belvedere British School

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

## 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.

Edition 2423 | 23 April, 2025

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### Give or Take?

Welcome back to everyone. We are having a productive start to the term with a lot of activities taking place and being planned. All last week and this, I seem to have been engaging in conversations with wonderful parents and young people. One of the things that stuck in my mind after all this was the perspective of 'providing an education'. Something didn't quite sit right.

Many schools and universities say that they 'provide an education' and, in many ways, they do. They have a building; they hire staff to run the building and to assemble a team of educators and supporters to 'provide' young people with some sort of education. I meet many students and parents who seem to think that it stops there – that that's all it takes.

In reality, what schools and universities provide are opportunities. The good ones will help their young people make the most of those opportunities. Having opportunities means making decisions, and the best schools will help their young people to make wise decisions.

When we have a lot to learn, it takes a very dedicated, disciplined, compliant student to learn all that material, pass all those tests and exams, and spend a great deal of their childhood learning to do so.



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## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

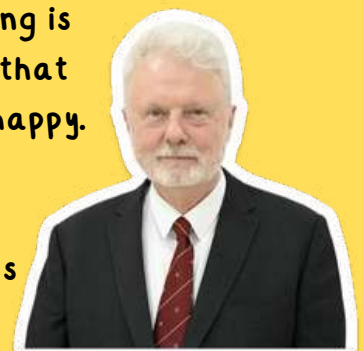
Not all young people can or should do this. Does it mean those who can't, or don't want to be like this, are not so intelligent? No, it just means that we waste a lot of their time trying to force them to follow one pathway. They are bright, they can fulfil their great potential, but just not in this way.

So, in most systems, we get a smaller and smaller number of young people following the 'academic' route. It's not because they aren't perfectly intelligent people with great potential – it's because this is the pathway we give them. It doesn't have to be that way.

### Taking.

How about if a young person comes to school to take their education? What if they say to themselves, 'There's a lot to learn, so I had better be good at learning.' What is it I need to learn? What will maximise my ability to learn that? They might begin to realise that waiting for a teacher to tell them what to do, sitting passively in a classroom being 'given' their education, will not be very challenging or engaging, and learning is always best when it is challenging and engaging. They might realise that their learning power will not be maximised if they are bored and unhappy. So, what should such a young person do?

They need to start taking their education. Next week, we can discuss all about how to do that best – but in the meantime, what do you think?



## ARABIC DEPARTMENT



مع بداية فصل دراسي جديد...

بكل الفخر والاعتزاز، نرحب بكم من جديد في رحاب مدرستنا العزيزة، مع انطلاق الفصل الدراسي الثالث، فصل الهمة العالية والطموحات المتجددة. أعزائي الطلاب والطالبات، أنتم نبض المدرسة وروحها، وعودتكم تعني استمرار المسيرة التعليمية بكل شغف وأمل. في هذا الفصل، نؤكد على أهمية الاجتهاد، والانضباط، وتقدير كل لحظة تقضونها في طلب العلم والمعرفة، فأنتم بناء المستقبل وأمله. فنحن نثق بقدراتكم وبأنكم ستصنعون فرقاً وتحققون أهدافاً عظيمة تليق بإصراركم وحماسكم. ها نحن نبدأ فصلاً جديداً، لنكمل فيه رحلة التعلم والإنجاز، يدًا بيد، بروح الفريق الواحد، وبقلوب يملؤها الشغف والرغبة في التميز.

كما لا يفوتنا أن نُشيد بجهود معلمينا ومعلماتنا الذين لا يدّخرون جهداً في سبيل تعليمكم، ودعمكم، وصناعة الفرق في حياتكم العلمية والشخصية. نسأل الله أن يكون فصلاً حافلاً بالنجاحات والتقدم، ومليئاً بالفرص التي تليق بأحلامكم الكبيرة. أهلاً بعودتكم، ومرحباً بخطواتكم على طريق العلم والنور.

With great pride and honor, we welcome you back to our school as term 3 begins, a term of fresh enthusiasm and ambition.

Dear students, you are the school's heartbeat and spirit, and your return represents the continuation of the educational journey with enthusiasm and hope. This term, we will emphasize the value of diligence, dedication, and enjoying every moment spent seeking knowledge and learning. You are the builders and hope for the future.

We are trusted with your abilities and believe you will make a difference and achieve outstanding goals that are worthy of your hard work and dedication. We are starting a new term, continuing our journey of learning and achieving together, with a team spirit and hearts full of enthusiasm and a drive for excellence.

We also want to recognize our teachers' ongoing efforts to teach, assist, and improve your academic and personal lives. We pray to God that this portion will be full of success, progress, and possibilities to realize your enormous aspirations.

Welcome back, and welcome to your journey toward knowledge and enlightenment.

## ARABIC DEPARTMENT



# تركيب العطف



شارك طلاب السنة السابعة بحماس في نشاط ممتع حول درس تركيب العطف، حيث أبدعوا في استخدام أدوات العطف لربط الجمل والأفكار، وحولوا القواعد إلى رحلة مليئة بالمرح والتفاعل!



## HEAD OF PRIMARY MESSAGE

Dear Learners,

A very warm welcome back to Term 3! We hope you enjoyed a restful break and are returning refreshed, recharged, and ready to take on the final term of the academic year.

As we begin this exciting new chapter, it's the perfect time to pause and reflect: What are your goals for Term 3?

Perhaps you want to improve in a particular subject, become more confident when speaking in class, take on a new challenge, or simply stay more organised with homework and revision. Whatever your personal goals may be, now is the moment to set your sights high and go after them with purpose and determination.

Setting a goal is just the beginning – the real magic happens when you put a plan in place to achieve it. Ask yourself:

- What small steps can I take each day or week to get closer to my goal?
- Who can support me along the way – a teacher, a friend, a family member?
- How will I know I'm making progress?
- 

Remember, every achievement starts with a decision to try. This term is full of opportunity – new lessons, new discoveries, and plenty of chances to show what you're capable of.

Let's make Term 3 our best one yet. Stay curious, stay kind, and keep striving to be the best version of yourself.

You've got this!



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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## WELCOME BACK TO TERM 3!

We are excited to welcome our KS2 students back for the final term of the academic year! We hope everyone had a restful break and is feeling recharged and ready for a term full of learning, growth, and exciting opportunities.

In this week's KS2 assembly, Ms Sabra and the English Department presented awards for Term 2 excellence and spelling. A big well done to all of our students— your hard work and commitment continue to inspire!

Let's carry this momentum forward and make Term 3 our best one yet!



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## FS2 CURIOSITY

Our FS2's are curiously engaged in the classroom. We are taking charge of our learning and having fun in the process. Developing curiosity when learning is super important, it deepens the children's understanding of what they are learning about, while developing a love for learning. It is such a great pleasure to see the children excited to learn, participating and remembering what they are learning about.





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## GYMNASTICS COMPETITION WITH LOURETH ESQUIVEL 2B

Hi my name is Loureth from 2B. I had so much fun at my gymnastics competition. I travelled to Dubai with my family and they were watching me. I came in 1st place and I got a medal! All my friends got a medal as well and we were all so happy!



## VICE PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### *Say No to Private Tuition – A Shared Responsibility*

Dear Parents,

As we approach the final stretch leading to external examinations, we want to discuss an essential matter concerning your child's academic preparation.

At Belvedere British School, we strongly believe in the quality of teaching and support provided within our classrooms. Our dedicated teachers follow carefully structured plans that balance delivering curriculum content and preparing students through targeted exam practice, including past paper questions. We are confident that our staff provides students with all the tools they need to succeed.

We would also like to remind parents that, contractually, Belvedere teachers are not permitted to offer private lessons to students within our school community, and if doing so, risk their employment in the school.

We are occasionally asked why the school discourages private tuition. The reason is rooted in the principle of fairness and safeguarding student wellbeing. Private tutoring—particularly when conducted by a student's own teacher—creates a clear conflict of interest. It risks favouritism, whether academically, socially, or in preparation for external exams. This undermines the integrity of classroom learning and damages trust within the school community.



## VICE PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

This article is not about our teachers; it is about our overall stance on private tutoring from external sources.

We kindly ask for your support in discouraging private tuition. External tutors are not aligned with our schemes of work and often operate without a full understanding of the student's academic pathway. In some cases, their primary motivation may be financial, leading to unnecessary or prolonged sessions that offer little benefit. More concerning, reliance on private tutors can lead to a pattern of spoon-feeding, reducing the student's ability to think independently; a skill that is essential not just for exams, but for success in higher education and beyond.

I have encountered external teachers from other schools who have openly admitted to withholding key information in class, only to offer it during private sessions. This is clearly unethical and not in the best interest of any child.

To help reflect on this issue, we invite you to consider the following questions:

- If the school provides everything a student needs, what is the real added value of private tuition?
- Could private tutoring send the wrong message; that success depends on being "coached" rather than working independently?
- Is it fair for some students to receive additional, often expensive, help that others may not afford or access?



CONT....

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## VICE PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

- Should we risk placing our children in a system that promotes dependency over resilience?
- Wouldn't it be better to focus on building confidence, responsibility, and trust in their teachers?

Research conducted globally, including by UNESCO and the OECD, has highlighted growing concerns around the rise of private tutoring. While intended to supplement learning, such tutoring can inadvertently widen educational gaps, reduce student motivation, and create dependence on external help rather than encouraging self-regulation and resilience. Studies have also noted that students engaged in frequent tutoring may underperform in problem-solving tasks that require independent thinking.

Closer to home, the UAE Ministry of Education and ADEK have repeatedly emphasised that private tuition should not replace or undermine structured school learning. ADEK regulations discourage private tutoring unless officially approved, noting that unregulated tuition can lead to inconsistencies in learning and excessive academic pressure.

We urge you to trust the process and guidance provided by our teachers, who have your child's best interests at heart. Should you have any concerns or become aware of any discrepancies relating to private tuition arrangements, we encourage you to raise them with us directly and confidentially.

Together, let us say no to private tuition and yes to fairness, independence, and long-term student success.

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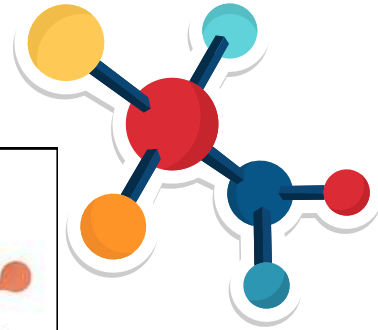
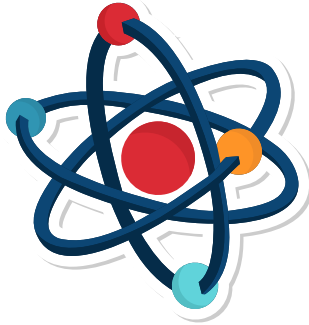


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UPCOMING EVENT

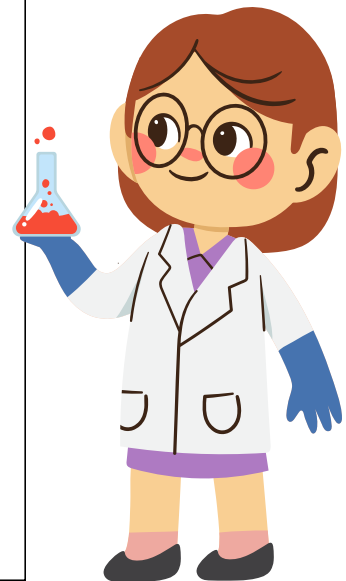
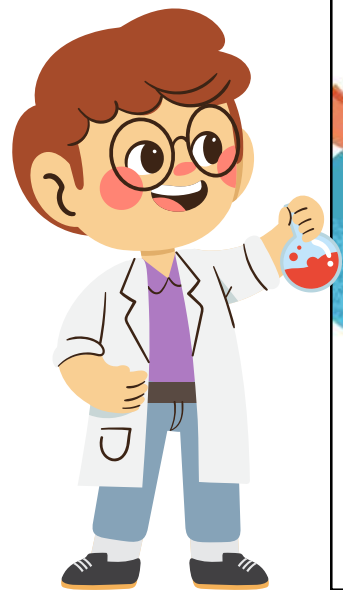


**BELVEDERE  
British School**

## SCIENCE DRESS-UP DAY!

WHEN: FRIDAY, 25 APRIL 2025

Come dressed as your favourite scientist or anything science-related. 🧪 ⭐



دائرة التعليم والمعرفة  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
AND KNOWLEDGE



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## UPCOMING EVENT

**BELVEDERE  
British School**

# PI DAY

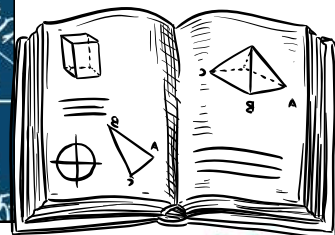
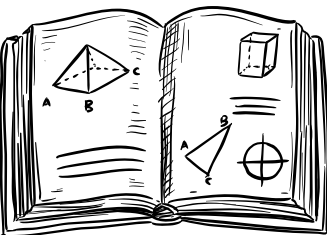
**FOR YEAR 10 TO YEAR 13**

**25TH APRIL 2025**

This event will involve a series of interactive and educational activities such as:

- Pi Memory Challenge – Students compete to recall the digits of Pi.
- Treasure Hunt – Focused on interesting information related to Pi.
- Hands-on Activities – Such as measuring circular objects to discover Pi by using a thread and ruler.

These activities are designed to promote curiosity, critical thinking, and a positive attitude towards mathematics in a fun, inclusive way.

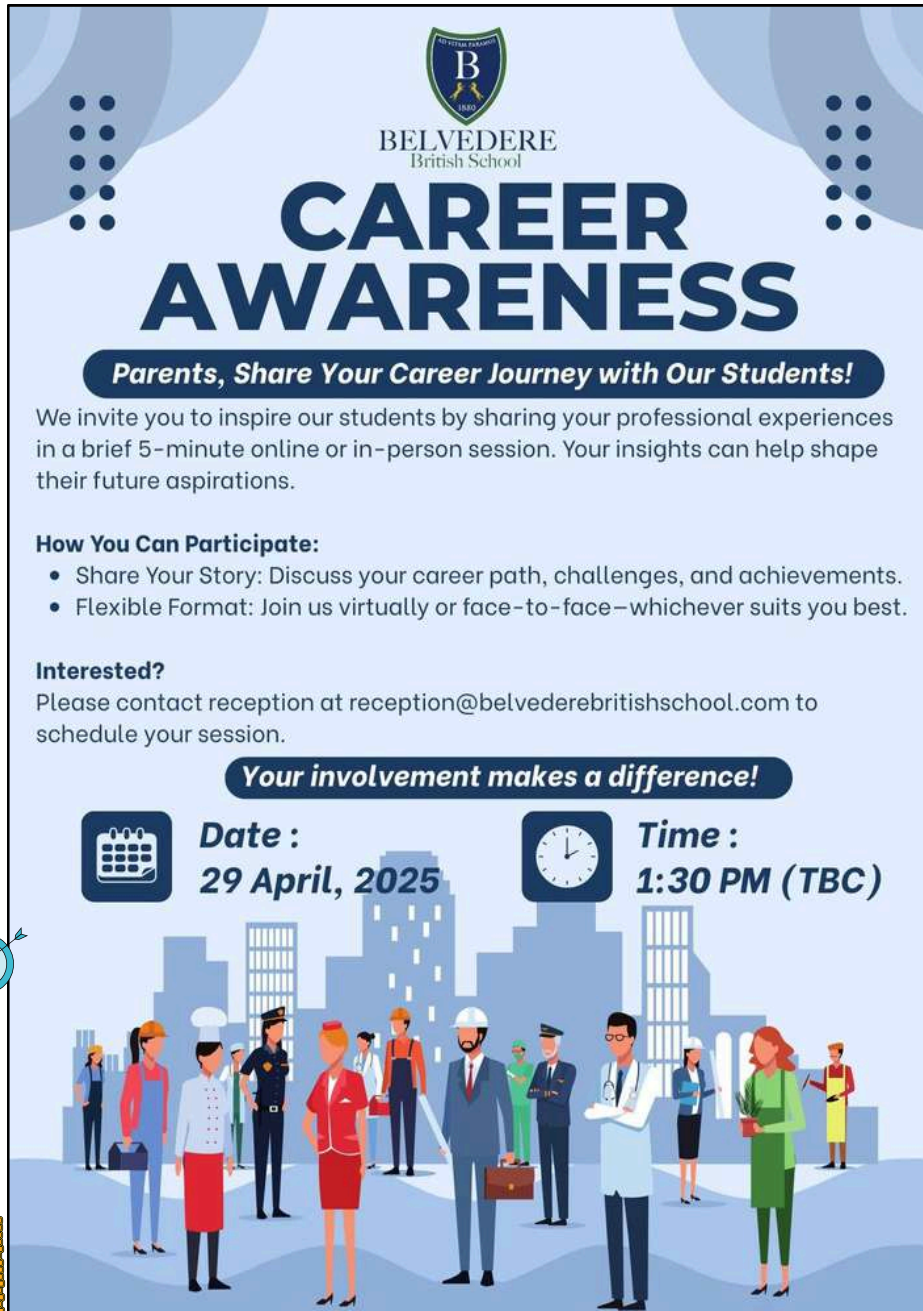


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## UPCOMING EVENT



The poster features the Belvedere British School logo at the top center. Below it, the text 'BELVEDERE British School' is displayed. The main title 'CAREER AWARENESS' is in large, bold, blue letters. A dark blue banner below the title contains the text 'Parents, Share Your Career Journey with Our Students!'. The main body of text invites parents to share their professional experiences in a 5-minute session. It lists participation methods: 'Share Your Story' and 'Flexible Format'. An 'Interested?' section provides contact information for scheduling. A dark blue banner at the bottom of the poster reads 'Your involvement makes a difference!'. Below this, two icons (calendar and clock) indicate the date '29 April, 2025' and time '1:30 PM (TBC)'. The bottom of the poster is decorated with a colorful illustration of various professionals in a city setting.

**BELVEDERE**  
British School

# CAREER AWARENESS

**Parents, Share Your Career Journey with Our Students!**

We invite you to inspire our students by sharing your professional experiences in a brief 5-minute online or in-person session. Your insights can help shape their future aspirations.

**How You Can Participate:**

- Share Your Story: Discuss your career path, challenges, and achievements.
- Flexible Format: Join us virtually or face-to-face—whichever suits you best.

**Interested?**  
Please contact reception at [reception@belvederebritishschool.com](mailto:reception@belvederebritishschool.com) to schedule your session.

**Your involvement makes a difference!**

**Date :**  
29 April, 2025

**Time :**  
1:30 PM (TBC)





Belvedere  
British School

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UPCOMING EVENT

## FS2 Tea Party

Thursday 1st May

The children are welcome to  
dress up and bring along their  
toy tea set

Please feel free to send in  
small treats for the tea party



Department  
for Education

edexcel  
Approved Centre

BSME  
BRITISH SCHOOLS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

AoBSO  
FOR SCHOOLS BY SCHOOLS

British School  
Overseas  
Inspected by Penta International



isams  
By IRIS



دائرة التعليم والمعرفة  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
AND KNOWLEDGE



Belvedere  
British School

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## UPCOMING EVENT

**BELVEDERE**  
British School

### BBS MUSIC CONCERT

JOIN US FOR A PAW-SOME MUSICAL  
ADVENTURE!  
FEATURING: FS2 & YEAR 3

**DATE: FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2025**  
**TIME: 8:30-9:30**  
**LOCATION: MPH**

To help us prepare enough seating,  
kindly answer the survey and let us  
know how many family members will  
be joining.

**ATTENDANCE SURVEY**



دائرة التعليم والمعرفة  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
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British School

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## UPCOMING EVENT

**BELVEDERE**  
British School

### BBS MUSIC CONCERT

JOIN US FOR A WORLD-TASTIC MUSICAL  
ADVENTURE!  
FEATURING: YEAR 4&5

**DATE: FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2025**  
**TIME: 10:00-11:00**  
**LOCATION: MPH**

To help us prepare enough seating, kindly  
answer the survey and let us know how many  
family members will be joining.

**ATTENDANCE SURVEY**



edexcel  
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**BSME**  
BRITISH SCHOOLS IN THE MIDDLE EAST



isams  
By IRIS



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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
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