Message from the Principal







GEMS UNITED INDIAN SCHOOL

CYCLE 1 NEWSLETTER MAY 15/05/20

- * PRINCIPAL ADDRESS
- * VICE PRINCIPAL ADDRESS
- * SUPERVISOR ADDRESS
- * STUDENT WORK SAMPLE
- MOTHERS DAY CELEBRATION

Dear Parent,

GEMS has been delivering academic excellence for more than 50 years and is committed to leading international best practice at all times. The global pandemic of COVID-19 has resulted in school closures since March 2020. Robust Remote Learning Programmes (RLPs) are in place and our teachers are using innovative tools to provide educational continuity until the anticipated reopening of schools in September 2020.

While parents are encouraged to establish clear routines at home for their learning, they can very well witness the learning taking place at home. We do not expect parents to be makeshift educators. We recommend parents to observe their children's learning style and guide them to improve their learning behaviour. Parents may have a conversation with the child on the character aspects such as responsibility, self-assessment, attitude to improve, growth mind-set (to fight the 'can't learn attitude'), build a sense of relevance and purpose by asking 'how can you use this learning in the real world'?

If you notice carefully, most of the learning tasks that students need to complete are situated in the context of learners' experiences. Our intent is to connect the learner emotionally with the learning content and relate to it as much as possible.

In order to bring in a sense of social interaction, we have scheduled various activities. Your ward may have already participated in intra-class, inter class competitions. Student leadership team is all set to take charge as champions in their area of responsibility. We are turning the challenging stay-home situation into an opportunity for our young innovative minds to work in virtual space.

COVID 19 may have caused several disruptions but we are quickly adapting to the new normal. It may be a completely new experience to the teacher and the student, but most feedback from our wonderful parents is very encouraging and motivating. Together, we can make the stay-home learning time an exciting and enriching experience! Thank you for your support.



K. George Mathew Principal/CEO

Dear UIS Community

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It is wonderful to reach out to you once again with snapshots of the fortnight!



The holy month of Ramadan has flown past and we're now on the last stretch of homerun towards Eid. This promises to be a very unique Eid as we remain confined to our spaces and meet and greet our dear ones digitally.

Our students continue to impress as we see them getting more creative and expressive in their performance tasks. All learners have shown resilience and great adaptability as they continue to make very good progress in their learning. Please be sure to visit the social media links shared by the Supervisor to see the wonderful work done by our students. Kudos to the students and parents for all their valued support!

Teachers on the balancing hand have demonstrated unflinching commitment and continue to work round the clock to ensure high quality learning is within every learner's reach. Well done teachers! Hats off to you!

In the following weeks, teachers will be playing additional video clips (between classes) to facilitate simple stretching exercises for their students. Please ensure you are part of these relaxation sessions. While they are aimed for the learners, parents are most welcome to partake in these short sessions.

For those who missed out on the reading links I shared in my previous newsletter message, here are the links for perusal.

KG 1 & 2: Mekids Junior: <u>http://tmg-worldwide.com/emagazine/aprilmkj/index.html</u> Grades: 1 – 3 Mekids: <u>http://tmg-worldwide.com/emagazine/aprilmk/index.html</u> Grades: 4 & UP - The Youngest: <u>http://tmg-worldwide.com/emagazine/apriltyme/</u> <u>index.html</u>



While there has been encouraging activity on the ACTIVEKIDS portal, we need more of you students to upload your fitness routines and get rewarded.

I encourage you read all the RLP guidelines for students and parents that are part of this newsletter and follow the same on a daily basis. Inculcation of these values as remote learners will significantly improve their overall development as young learners.

We had a very interesting set of sessions with the student leaders of the school this week. Each of the bright and zestful candidates was eloquent while presenting their skills and thought processes. The selection committee had a tough time selecting leaders from this dynamic bunch. The final list of student leaders will feature in the next edition of the newsletter. Do watch out for that feature.

Until next time, keep the flame of kindness and respect burning bright! We will be sending out requests to share your acts of kindness so please gear up to share your efforts.

Eid Mubarak to all in advance!

Shaikh Murad Sarfraz

VICE PRINCIPAL



Greetings from UIS family!

We hope that you are all remaining safe and are well in these strange times of isolation.

We have officially completed week SIX of distance learning and we are HALF way there until the end of the summer vacation! We know that this has been a difficult time for all and the transition to working & learning from home is a difficult one. We just want to thank all the parents who have reached out to provide positive comments, suggestions/ideas for improvements. I am fairly certain that this is every one's first experience with a true pandemic and we are so impressed with how our teachers, students, parents and community have responded.

We are constantly inspired by the positivity and creativity of UIS students with the work they are producing. We look forward to the Newsletter bi monthly and are *-*filled with pride for our UIS community.

Highlight

In this Era of 'Social Distancing and virtual learning' Dunes International School Abu Dhabi hosted its 2nd Inter school Islamic Fest on the 9th of May 2020. It was a virtual Interschool Competition for Recitation from the Holy Quran. The prime objective of this competition was to motivate students spiritually and encourage the intrinsic and latent abilities in them.

The UIS fraternity takes pride in announcing that Haya Mohamed Razan of 2E bagged the 'FIRST' position for her outstanding rendition in the recitation competition

CONGRATULATIONS HAYA !!!!

Updates

Assessment – The RLP assessment process for Grades 1 to 5 has been simplified, standardized and uploaded on the portal on 7th May 2020

Online Collaboration —In order to promote robust student interaction and communication, collaboration is made possible with ONE NOTE app. Our students can collaborate, create and share their work on a regular basis.

We want to share our heartfelt **thank you** with all of our students, parents, and staff. These are unusual times, and we do realize of some our families have been affected in many different ways. Our students' well-being and education continue to be our top priorities.

Stay safe and be healthy out there. We are here to support you. Please reach out to your ward's teacher or Supervisor when you have questions or concerns.

Ms. Priya Sonnakula

Ms. Chitra Seshadri

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Cycle 1 (Grades 1 to 5) – RLP Expectations for Parents and Students



Dear Parents

Please find below expectations of students and parents during remote learning sessions. We've listed out what you need to know and do during daily routine set-ups, teaching and learning, assessments and in the event of cyberbullying or violation of safeguarding limits. Parents are requested to explain students' expectations to their wards frequently so their minds are prepared to practice expected behaviours.

As parents, you are requested to practice these guidelines on a regular basis and encourage your children to follow the same to ensure all remote learners and caregivers are demonstrating the ethos and values of GEMS United Indian School.

Daily routine	Teaching-Learning	Assessments	Cyber-bullying alerts
Prepare a comfortable well lit study area with all necessities in one place. Dress their wards in uniform or smart dresses. Wards to have their breakfast and be ready to learn before the class teacher period. Wards should keep the study materials ready as per the day's time table. Wards to be instructed to sit straight in upright position. Ward should be focused on learning and not be distract- ed with the surroundings.	Parents should engage with their wards about what they are learning, resources they require, their learning targets and goals. Parents to help their wards to own their learning. Parents should only support their wards for technical assistance and let them be independent learners. Encourage them to ask questions and clarify their doubts from the teachers rather than teaching them. Establish time for reflecting that days learning. Encourage them to do physical exercise during the short breaks in between the classes. This increases the readiness for learning.	 Keep a track on assessments and assignments sent by teachers During all MS Forms assessment, read the question and options to your ward, enter answer as chosen by your ward and submit the form. Do not answer for your ward but only assist in understanding the question. Parents must follow up on all corrections and feedback given by the teachers. 	Parents to ensure that their wards do not use inappropriate words/ emoji's in the chat option during or after the class. Wards should not be using the TEAMS platform after the school hours. This is an official platform for remote learning only. Remind your child to be polite, respectful and appropriate in their communications, and to follow school guidelines in their interactions with oth- ers.
Parents to ensure their wards have their microphones on mute and do not fidget with the mute button during the class. Wards to avoid using chat options for fun and should not engage in unnecessary conversations. To ensure their wards attend all synchronous sessions and work on assignments set for asynchronous sessions.	Ensure ward meets the expectations of completing the assigned async tasks and HW.		

Students to login to MS Follow instructions given by the Teams and be ready for teachers. the teacher to start the class. Students should complete ins tional activities assigned by te Students to come ers within the expected time dressed in school uniforms or smart dresses. Complete all tasks in each less Ensure that your attend-Check all uploads on the porta ance is marked for the complete and submit what is day. pected of you on a daily basis Establish daily routines Have healthy academic conve for engaging in the learntions through chat box as and ing experiences from needed. 9:30am – 1:05 pm Use thumbs up/ thumbs down Identify a quiet and comtocol to communicate with th fortable where you can teacher. work effectively and successfully. Communicate quickly with yo teacher if you need any additi Demonstrate online besupport in academics. haviour that will enhance positive learning experi-To follow up on the conceptu ence of your peers. feedback provided by the tea and work on the targets set b Be a reflective learner: teachers. and learn from your daily reflections. **Regularly** monitor online platforms to check for uploads, announcements and feedback from your P) teachers. Complete assigned tasks with integrity and academic honesty. Complete all your work

Daily routine

within the time set by the teacher. Ask for more time only if you need to.

UIS

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

Teaching-Learning

	Assessments	Cyber-bullying alerts
the struc- each- lines. sson. tal, s ex- s. ersa- d when vn pro- he	To get used to the e-learning platforms like Phoenix class- room, MS Forms and MS Teams. Since we follow continuous form of assessments students must complete all tasks and assignments before the time- line. Students are expected to show integrity and honesty during assessments and un- derstand that assessments are a part of their learning.	Use good words when speaking to your friends. If your friends are using words that make you feel bad, let your parents and Class Teacher know. Once your period is over, leave the meeting.
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STUDENTS at work @GUIS







GRADE-3 TOPIC- SHAPE

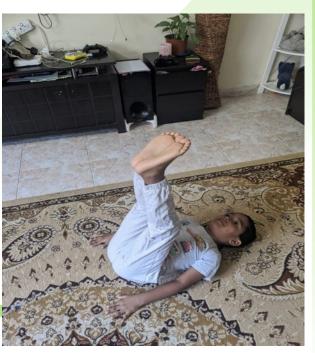
Student are understanding the shapes of "MUD HOUSE" using geometrical shapes.

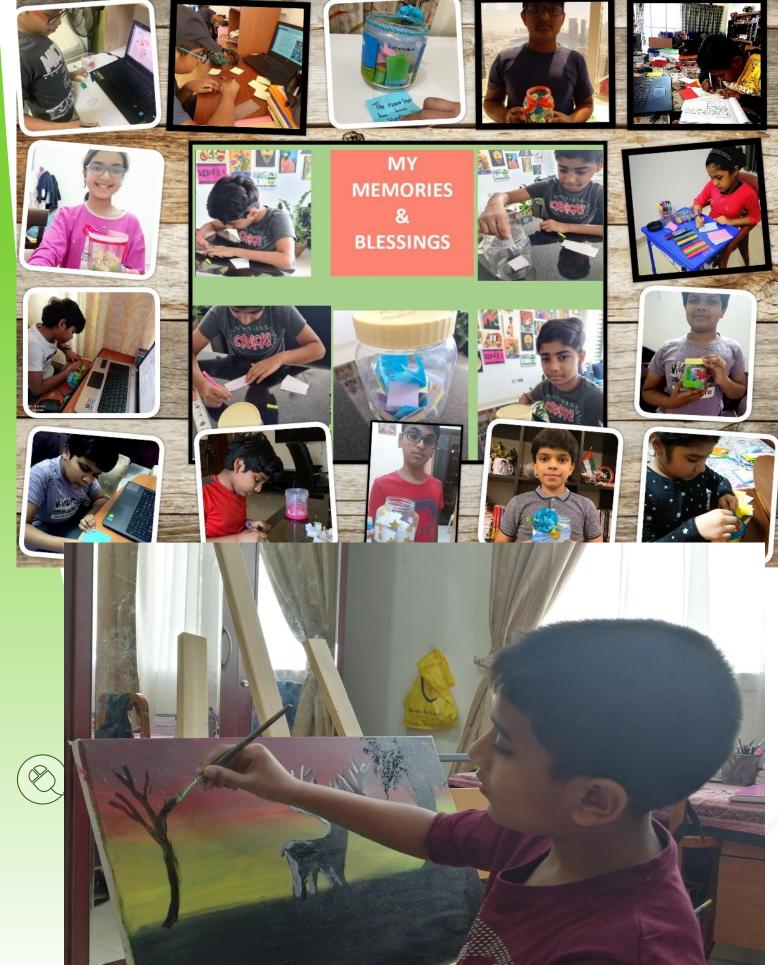
GRADE 1

NAME- AMAL A great art work done by Amal to give message in this difficult situation of COVID-19. "STAY HOME STAY SAFE"













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STUDENTS at work @GUIS

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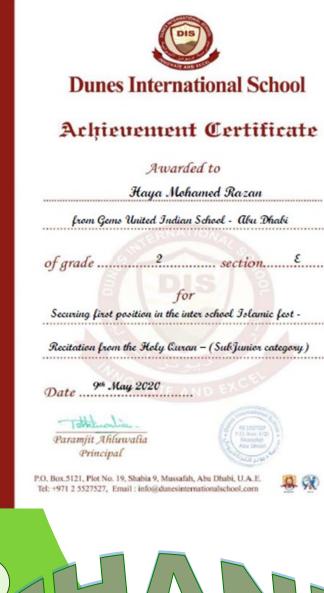
Student demonstrating the artificial method of propagation in plants



Mothers Day celebration @GUIS







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May 10, 2020

LETTER OF APPRECIATION

Dear Haya Mohamed Raza,

I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartiest appreciation towards your participation in Dunes International School Virtual Inter School Islamic Fest 2020 in Quran Recitation Competition and securing First Place in Sub-Junior category on Saturday, May 9, 2020.

Best wishes!

Warm Regards,

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K. George Mathew Principal/CEO



