



GARDEN CITY
BRITISH SCHOOL

Issue No. 4
January
2018



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Happy New Year!

I hope you have made your new year's resolutions. At GCBS we have decided that this is going to be our very best year and we are going to be the best we can be.

Welcome to two new teachers: **Miss Inge** KG1 and **Miss Samantha** KG2. We are delighted they have joined us.

January has been a busy month as we have been implementing some new procedures as a result of feedback from you and from our students and staff. Our first concern was the safety of students upon **arrival at school** in the morning. We try our best to support working parents but our priority is our students' safety. So we now accommodate early students in the reception area. The side gates open at 7.20 am. This ensures that no student who arrives before 7.20 is left unsupervised. This has been working well over the past few weeks and so this practice will continue. However, we do encourage parents to drop students off 7.20 am as our teachers are in their classrooms ready to receive their students.

We have also reviewed our procedures regarding **aftercare** for KG1/FS1 students (with siblings in the school) who wish to leave at 2.30 pm not at 1.10 pm. The number of students has increased dramatically. Please be aware that this is not curriculum time. Students are supervised but not taught during this period. Currently, our aftercare has no extra places available. FS1/KG1 students who are not picked up by 1.20 pm will be kept at reception. Again, we encourage parents to pick-up students on time as we do staff training at this time.



Our focus this term is **reading**. Students, parents and staff are encouraged to be caught reading, sometimes in unusual places. Please take a snap shot of where you were caught. We want to create a display of the most unusual places the GCBS family has been caught reading. Already, Ms Shirin's family caught her daughter reading in the supermarket and in the underpass. Well done Miss Shirin! At the end of the term, there will be a prize for the most unusual picture.

We are pleased to award the winners of the **junk modelling competition**. Students and staff voted for their choice and Mariam Hani in Grade 4 took the lead in organizing the voting and making sure everyone voted for their favourite fort.





On Thursday 1st February, we will inaugurate GCBS Leaders which is part of the '**Leader in Me**' programme' designed to give all our students the opportunity to develop leadership qualities.

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE CALENDAR

Please note that some event dates in the student diary have been changed. This has been unavoidable as we had to publish the diary before the ADEK calendar was approved. Thank you for your patience in this matter. The two key changes:

- There is no half-term on 11th Feb as this was not approved by ADEK.
- KG 1 graduation will take place on the 21st of June. This date was changed as we will have an inspection in Term 3 and the inspectors will want to see KG classes operational.

A new school calendar will be issued during February.

UNIFORM

New stock has arrived enabling all students to be fully dressed in school uniform. Please be aware that school shoes need to be black. Winter jackets are also available priced AED 100. The store is open from 2.40 pm to 3.30 pm Sunday to Thursday.

TARGET SETTING

There will be a target setting evening for all grades on Thursday 1st February. Please make an appointment through your homeroom teacher. The Principal will give two short workshops on target setting and the Cambridge Curriculum at 3.00pm and repeat again at 5.30pm. We will ask you to take a short survey whilst you wait so we can use your feedback to continue to improve our policies and procedures.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

It was with great sadness that we learnt about the death of Sheikha Hessa bint Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Nahyan. We all at Garden City British School wish to convey our deepest sympathy to His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan and to his entire family.

Best wishes,

PARENT COMMUNICATION

We are always trying to improve communication channels with you. It is very important that we have the correct contact details from all our parents. If your details are not correct, you will not receive our text messages or emails.

Please contact reception@gardencityschool.ae with your email address and mobile phone number if you are not receiving text messages or emails so that we can check and update your contact details.

INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED

We are pleased to announce that after a successful inspection, we have been officially approved as a Cambridge International Primary School.

KEY DATES

Target Setting Evening

Thursday, 1st February - 3.00pm - 7.00pm

ATTENDANCE/PUNCTUALITY

Best attendance: Grade 1B & 2A – 94.7%

Caroline Peel

