



# KISTIMES

Dear Parents,

What a month October has been! We are excited to share with you some updates in this newsletter.

#### **Learners' Dress Code**

We remind you once again that wearing the school uniforms on daily basis is mandatory!

#### **ACADEMICS**

#### **Academic Progress Report Distribution:**

The first progress report was distributed to Grade 1 to 12 learners on Tuesday, October 17, 2023, which allowed parents and their children to understand the expectations and benchmarks set by KiS in order for our learners to succeed and excel in school, both academically and socially.



#### **Professional Development Workshops**

Our dedicated team of educators in various departments had the opportunity to attend online training workshops during the month of October, that the school arranged with School Development Consultants (SDC), to enhance the teaching approaches and enrich the learning process.

Date	Workshop title	Grades
Wednesday, October 11	<ul><li>Project-based Learning</li><li>Implementing Inquiry</li></ul>	10 - 12 (English) English teachers
Wednesday, October 18	<ul> <li>Al-Powered Virtual Assistants in Education, using Al tools</li> <li>The NGSS Standards &amp; 3D Learning</li> </ul>	4 - 9 (Boys & Girls, English)
Wednesday, October 25	<ul><li>The Student-Driven Approach</li><li>Behavior Difficulties</li></ul>	KG & Lower Elementary

The workshops were exceptionally engaging and provided our educators with a wealth of comprehensive insights and knowledge.

#### MORE ACADEMIC UPDATES

#### **AP Classes - now after School**

Extra AP classes started on Monday, October 17.



#### Term 1 Exams will be taking place starting November 5

- Schedules were sent to grade 4 to 12 learners
- The exam material has been shared with learners

#### **Orientation Sessions:**

Orientation Days for NEW parents were held as per the following:

- For KG learners, on Monday, October 2, 2023
- For Grades 1 to 3, on Wednesday, October 4, 2023
- For Grades 4 to 12 on Sunday, October 8, 2023
- Orientation for the AP courses / IB-DP program was held for parents or learners in Grades 10 to 12 on Wednesday, September 27, 2023

#### ALL ABOUT SCIENCE!

#### What has been happening in Science class?

#### **Grade 3:**

In our grade 3 science sessions, we understand the importance of hands-on learning. Our learners actively participated in experiments and activities to explore the lifecycles of plants. These experiences ignite their curiosity and deepen their understanding of scientific concepts.

#### **Grade 6:**

Learners engaged in exploring and understanding the patterns and processes of population change using inquiry-based methods and ICT tools. This approach fosters an active and engaging learning environment where students develop content knowledge and important skills while using technology to explore the fascinating world of population dynamics.



#### ALL ABOUT SCIENCE!

# What has been happening in Science class?

#### Grade 7:

In a lab session focused on chemical changes and the law of conservation of mass, grade 7 learners actively participated in various experiments and gained a deeper understanding of the law of conservation of mass and its application to chemical changes. They also developed essential laboratory skills, including accurate measurement, observation, data recording, and critical thinking.

#### Grade 8:

The Heart Dissection Lab is an exciting and hands-on learning experience designed specifically for Grade 8 learners to explore the anatomy and function of the heart. In this lab, students had the opportunity to dissect a preserved heart specimen, allowing them to observe and examine closely the various structures within the heart.

#### BE A BUDDY, NOT A BULLY!

We shared a campaign with our learners, to foster kindness, raise awareness on the types of bullying, and to encourage them to be a buddy, and not a bully.





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#### RECENT EVENTS & SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

- A new experience for preschoolers and lower elementary learners who went on a field trip to Medhal Equestrian Center, where they will be involved in different types of activities with horses and ponies. Such trips are fun and educational since students enjoy their time by learning about different horse species, what they eat, how to groom them. Learners will also experience the fun of riding ponies.
- Learners in Grades 4 to 7 went on a trip to 'The Project', where they were introduced to different farm animals, rode horses, and learned the process of making pottery.



- Technology integration is not an event. It encourages and challenges learners with brand-new and interactive learning methods. Our preschoolers are now able to deal with not only familiar technologies, but also new devices that will be an important part of their future success.
- With hands-on activities, learners work together and foster teamwork skills. This type of learning improves their cognitive understanding of the subject material and social skills. Learners at KiS are enjoying such activities that are being implemented in our classes daily.
- KG2 learners had fun wearing their favorite community supporter costume. This activity encourages the children to think more closely and appreciate all the people in their community who work to keep them safe, healthy, well-fed, and educated.



#### LOWER ELEMENTARY DEPARTMENT

Dear Lower Elementary Parents,

This month, our learners were engaged both academically and socially.

Academic tasks, as well as interactive activities, play a dominant role in the learning process because they entice learners to be proactive in the classroom.

Classroom curricular activities provide a practical environment for learners. Hence, they use their skills to increase their knowledge about everything surrounding them with the help of teachers whose role is to assist them in creating new ideas and discovering how to communicate and work in groups with their peers, which reduces misbehavior among learners and helps in creating a healthy classroom environment.

Among various activities, our learners in Grade 1 modeled a bird by using printed papers and colorful feathers. Such activity is a great way to make science fun and interesting.

Our learners in Grade 2 participated in a water balloon activity. Teachers prepared this activity by labeling the nouns (place, animal, people, and thing). Then, each child picked a balloon and threw it on the correct word. This activity was full of fun and helped students understand nouns, communicate, and play with friends.

Our learners in Grade 3 took part in a "Show and Tell" activity. This activity gives the speaker and the rest of the class something to talk about as a conversation starter, leading our young pupils to realize that they share common traits, which can aid in forming friendships. These discussions reinforce self-esteem as well as social skills. Such activities are helpful because they give confidence for students to speak out for themselves.

Ms. Alia Alameddine

#### BOYS' SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

#### **University Visits**

The seniors attended a series of presentations by representatives from different universities and colleges. They had the chance to collect information about majors, admissions, and possible scholarships.

#### **Grades 4 to 12 Trips**

Students at KiS enjoyed trips to different places.

They spent time outside school playing games and sharing happy moments together.

#### **Grade 12 Seniors – English class presentation**

Grade 12 Seniors presented "The Epic of Beowulf" with its main parts, major events, and the final outcomes.

#### UPPER ELEMENTARY - GIRLS' SCHOOL

Based on the classroom competition criteria shared with the learners, winning classes were chosen and learners were rewarded for their hard work and dedication.



#### MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL - GIRLS' SCHOOL

#### **Breast Cancer Awareness Month (activities)**

Learners made many contributions during this month to raise awareness on breast cancer:

- Three paintings were done by 9th graders Raya Nemeh, Leen Al Amin and Reema Hillis.
- Three learners in grade 10, Darine Samaha, Marvina Atta, and Ranim Snih presented facts, poems, and an interactive activity during the morning assembly.
- Grade 10 learners had a friendly basketball game under the title "TOGETHER WE FIGHT".
- Grade 10, 11, and 12 participated enthusiastically in a race for the same cause.

# THIS OCTOBER LET US RAISE AWARENESS ON BREAST CANCER & SEND STRENGTH TO THOSE BATTLING. GOES PINK.

#### **Mental Health**

- During the art classes, 8th graders colored mandalas while listening to soft, relaxing music in the morning assembly.
- Grade 9 learners Sarah Shebaro, Lara El Enezi, Dana Daoud, and Zein AlQassem talked about mental health and gave tips on how to improve wellbeing.

#### **College Guidance**

- On Wednesday, October 18, Mrs. Mariam El-Maazmi, Assistant Director of Admissions at NYU Abu Dhabi, met with grade 12 learners interested in applying to the institution.
- On Tuesday, October 24, many learners registered and attended an event with Ukuni. They met the UK and USA university representatives and they had the chance to attend workshops pertaining to AI & Computer Science, STEM studies and Portfolio advice for Art and Design courses.



#### CAREER DAY!

All throughout our Academic Year, we teach our learners about members of the community, who support and help keep things in order. To celebrate all that has been learnt, a "Career Day" Activity was scheduled on Wednesday, November 1, 2023. Learners came dressed up as real community heroes that they look up to, and discussed their chosen career in front of their classmates.

#### LEARNERS' ATTENDANCE POLICY

Learners should be at school by no later than 7:20 a.m.

All learners are expected to report to school regularly and to be on time for all classes. This is important so they can develop punctuality, self-discipline, and responsibility habits. Late arrivals disrupt the classes. Daily attendance is one of the criteria for the learner's evaluation as absences and lateness are included in the Progress Report Cards every term.

### COMMUNICATING WITH THE SCHOOL

At KiS, we believe that active communication and meetings with the faculty, staff and School Leadership Team is vital. We have numerous channels in place to facilitate this.

#### **Teachers Office Hours:**

Office hours for all teachers were sent by all departments to parents/guardians, informing them when they can meet with their child or children's teachers.

Please do not hesitate to visit the school and meet with the Academic Director, the Leaders, the respective Head of Section, or the Coordinators.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

#### **GIRLS' SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION**

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Ms. Rania Bekdach Middle & High School Head of Section (8 to 12)

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Ms. Alia Alameddine: Lower Elementary Head of Section & Head of Section for Grade 4 (Boys) Ext. 200, e-mail: alia.alameddine@kis-riyadh.com

Ms. Randa Dagher, School Nurse, Ext. 135

Ms. Rawan Atiyeh, School Nurse, Ext. 165

#### **BOYS' SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION**

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Mr. George Srour: Boys' School Academic Director Ext. 164, e-mail: george.srour@kis-riyadh.com

Mr. Rami Farah: Associate Academic Director and High

School Head of Section (9 to 12)

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Mr. Waleed El-Jassem, School Nurse, Ext. 123

Mr. Nabil Barakat, Receptionist, Ext. 140

#### OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Hind Al Oteibi & Layla El Saadan Girls' School Leaders

Johanne Mohanna

Girls' School Academic Director

Saud Al-Oteibi **Boys' School Leader** 

George Srour

**Boys' School Academic Director** 

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