



# KIStimes

Dear Parents,

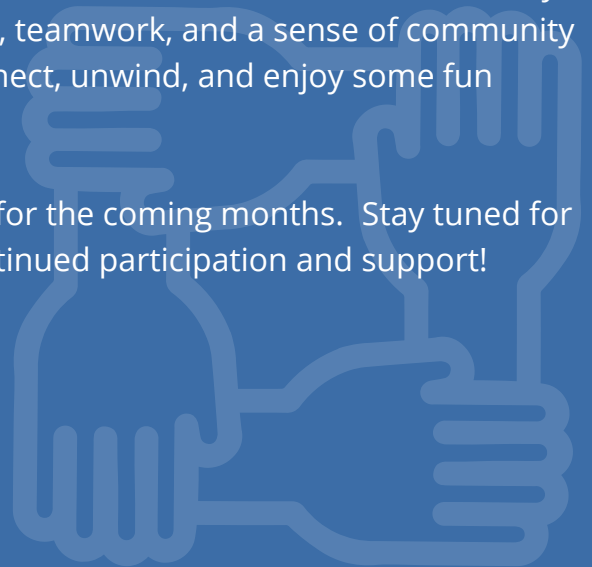
As the Academic Year draws to a close, KiS is buzzing with activity and excitement! November and December have been packed with incredible achievements, engaging events, and memorable moments. From academic milestones to fun-filled trips, our school community has much to celebrate. Let's dive into the highlights of these vibrant months!

## LAUNCHING NEW COMMITTEES AT KIS!

We are excited to announce the formation of three new committees at KiS, each designed to enhance different aspects of our school community. These committees will provide opportunities for learners, parents, and staff to collaborate and contribute to the vibrant life of our school.

- **The KiS Community Events and Activities Committee** started by organizing a heart-warming read-aloud activity that involved parents and turned out to be an amazing experience, especially with the presence of learners' mothers. The classroom was buzzing with stories, smiles, and special moments as they shared their favorite books and artworks, nurturing a love for reading in our little ones.
- **The Teachers' Committee** organized a special event for all staff members from both the boys' and girls' sections. This event aimed to foster fellowship, teamwork, and a sense of community among the KiS staff. It was an opportunity for us to connect, unwind, and enjoy some fun games and activities together.

We have many more exciting events and activities planned for the coming months. Stay tuned for updates and announcements. We look forward to your continued participation and support!



## ACADEMIC MATTERS

- **The First Parents – Teachers Conference** took place on November 5th, whereby parents – both mothers and fathers, for the first time – met their children’s teachers to discuss their academic progress and behavior.
- **Professional Development Workshops:** During November, Grades 4 and 5 teachers participated in an online training workshop arranged by the school in collaboration with the School Development Consultants (SDC). The workshop focused on addressing behavioral challenges and bullying behaviors among grades 4 and 5 Boys.
- **Microsoft Innovative Educator Expert (MIEE):** We are thrilled to announce that 18 of our dedicated teachers have achieved the prestigious Microsoft Innovative Educator Expert (MIEE) certification! This remarkable accomplishment recognizes their commitment to educational innovation and their expertise in leveraging Microsoft tools to enhance student learning. We are incredibly proud of their hard work and dedication.
- **Term Exams:** Term 1 Exams started on December 8, 2024

## RECENT EVENTS & SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

- **Trip for Grade 12 (Girls).** They made their choice to have their term 1 trip in an “Istiraha”, a nice, spacious venue with beautiful scenery in Diriyah. Seniors mingled, spent quality time together, played board games, and captured unforgettable memories.
- **World Children’s Day Celebration:** On November 20th, Grades 4 to 7 learners celebrated World Children’s Day by raising awareness about the UN Convention on the rights of the child. The convention was shared on Teams, and learners were encouraged to contribute by writing one right on a balloon.
- **A teachers’ Committee** meeting was held, where all group members were introduced to each other. During the meeting, they set a schedule for further meetings to facilitate discussions and start developing the committee's plans.



## PRESCHOOL DEPARTMENT

- On November 7th, the KiS learners had an energetic day filled with various games and activities organized for them. The children arrived at school dressed in their favorite sports outfits and participated in various exciting new games prepared for the event.
- Our Preschool learners explored nature and created joyful memories on a perfect picnic day under the sunny skies at the park.



## ELEMENTARY DEPARTMENT (GRADES 2 & 3 GIRLS / GRADES 4 & 5 BOYS)

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The first term has flown by and Elementary learners have settled into school well.

The main highlights of November and December were many for Lower Elementary Learners:

- Grades 2, 3, 4 & 5 learners were so happy to visit the science laboratory, where they applied the theories through hands-on activities and experiments.
- The Spelling Bee Competition: On November 24th, 2024, Grade 3 learners participated in The Spelling Bee competition. Contestants were asked to spell a selection of words with varying degrees of difficulty.
- Pajama Day: On December 12th, 2024, Grades 2 and 3 learners enjoyed a cozy Pajama Day. They dressed in their favorite pajamas and comfortable shoes, shared snacks, read stories, and watched a movie while sharing popcorn with their friends.

## UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – GIRLS SECTION:

- **Riyadh Shapers:** A group from "Riyadh Shapers" visited grade 5 on November 27th and 28th to spread awareness against cyberbullying.
- **Bullying:** Volunteers from grade 11 and 12 visited grade 4 girls on November 20th for bullying awareness.
- **Costume Day:** Grades 4-7 girls had a "Costume Day" on December 1st. The learners were requested to wear a costume of their favorite character from a story/movie or a famous character.
- **Classroom Competition:** The objective of this competition is to create an atmosphere of excitement among the learners and encourage them to learn from each other and work together to win. Winning classes were announced on Monday, November 4th, during the morning assembly. Winners were given rewards of their choice to celebrate their hard work.

## UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – GIRLS SECTION:



### Introduction of the "Calming Corner"

Learners were sent to Mrs. Nadine's Baroudi's office to check the "Calming Corner". A post with all the details about the corner was shared on Teams.

The corner is a safe space designed for learners to process negative feelings. Learners can sit and learn to regulate their emotions, including breathing exercises and grounding techniques.

The corner is equipped with a basket filled with stress balls, mindfulness journal prompts for reflecting on emotions, hourglass sand, affirmations, and steps to identify and calm down one's emotions.

If the learner feels overwhelmed, he/she will visit Mrs. Baroudi's office. Then, the learner will be guided to the corner to calm down.

#### Mindful Talk

Every Thursday, a mindful question is posted on Teams for learners to reflect on.

#### The KiS Food Patrol Program

To encourage learners to bring healthy food to school, Food Patrol members randomly inspect the type of food students are bringing to school during recess.

# MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL – GIRLS' SECTION

## College Guidance

### KiS Hosted 3 Canadian Universities in November:

1. The Toronto Metropolitan University on Tuesday, November 19th
2. The University of Carleton on Thursday, November 21st
3. Queen's University on Wednesday, November 27th

All university representatives met with a group of Grade 12 learners who are interested in applying and studying in Canada. They discussed different programs and scholarships and emphasized the co-op program, which is an opportunity for learners to work and gain real-world experience while earning money and acquiring academic credits. Learners were enthusiastic and motivated to apply when they heard that the universities have accessible admission requirements. Also, the university representatives mentioned the importance of AP courses which can add value to learners' application while saving tuition and credits. Learners also realized the benefit of taking all core subjects instead of dropping some.



### Volunteering in the girls school

Some passionate learners in Grades 10 and 11 made a valuable contribution by volunteering in upper elementary. They gave awareness sessions on the occasion of World Children's Day for the boys in grades 4 & 5. Also, they were actively engaged in organizing and helping during the Costume Day activity. Learners assisted the attendees in their designated areas, helped organize the classes and the participation on the runway, and introduced and presented all grades. All this volunteer work enhances their organization, planning, and communication skills, leaving a positive impact on the school community.



**Grade 10 learners are:** Sarah Shebaro, Zilal Ahmado, Lina Ismail, and Rayadh Neama.

**Grade 11 learners are:** Farah Jaber, Manal Al Naser, Salma Mheisen, Lama Thabet, Sadeen Abdelaziz, Dana El Kudsi, Zein El Bliwi, Dana Hafiz, Retal Bashir, Mira Azar, Leen Kasim, Salla Fransis, Ranim Snih and Natalie Zayyat.

### Learners in the Girls School Participating in MUN

This year, more learners are interested in applying for and participating in MUN. Leen Hubeishi, in grade 9, and Yumna Rizk, in grade 11, are those who have shared their experiences. Both have a rich background and experience in MUN.

# BOYS SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

## Charity – Delivering Donated Clothes

After two months of collecting clothes and different items, the seniors worked on packing and preparing them. They delivered all the bags to Al Rabwa Charity Center.

## Sports Day

As a part of our extracurricular activities, our learners in grades 6, 7, and 8 enjoyed a Sports Day on Monday, December 3rd. They participated in different games and matches, creating a fun and positive atmosphere throughout the day. It was a wonderful time for teachers and learners to have fun all together.



## University Visits

- **Turkish Universities Roadshow:** The seniors at KiS had the chance to attend a roadshow done by representatives from different Turkish universities.
- **Carleton University in Canada:** The seniors attended a session arranged by Ms. Sara Abbas from Carleton University in Canada.
- **UKuni visit:** Mr. Taha from UKuni visited our school and met with a group of learners interested in studying in the UK. He provided detailed information about the application procedures and answered their questions.

## Health Team Visit

A medical team from the Ministry of Health visited our school. The team met learners in different classes for a general check-up.

## Trips

Learners in Grades 10 &11 went on a Trip to Nofa Safari. The learners enjoyed a Wildlife Safari trip where they took part in various activities.

They saw different animal species, including giraffes, zebras, ostriches, pygmy hippos, elands, among others.

After the safari, learners were transported to the Wildlife Visitors Centre, where they had close-up encounters with various animals (birds, emus, porcupines, hedgehogs, deer, lechwes, and others). They also experienced horse riding there.



# SCIENCE ROCKS!

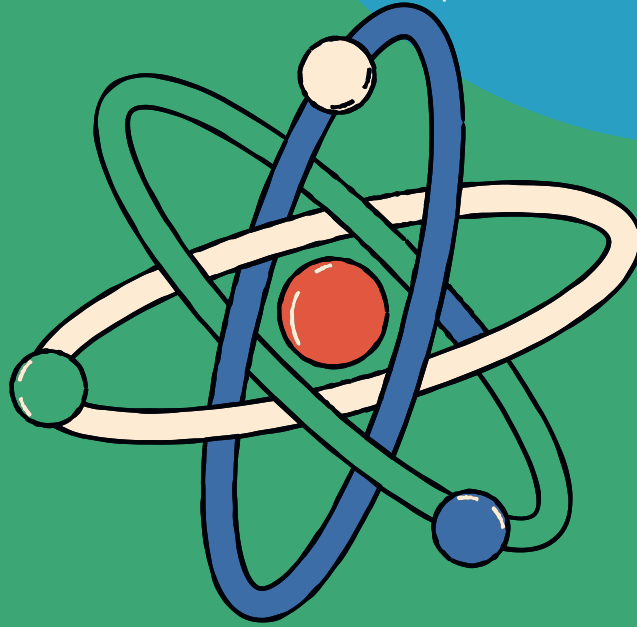
## Grade 6:

### Limiting Factors in an ecosystem

In this interactive activity, learners delved into ecosystem limiting factors using a tech-integrated card game and Excel. Groups were assigned cards representing elements like food availability and climate, inputting data into Excel to visualize population impacts on a graph. The session ended with a reflective discussion as learners shared and analyzed their Excel-generated graphs, enhancing their grasp of ecology.

## The Carbon cycle

In this activity, learners participated in a carbon cycle diagram by placing arrows and stickers to depict the movement of carbon within ecosystems. By labeling elements like plants, animals, and the atmosphere, they strengthen their comprehension of essential processes like photosynthesis and respiration.



## Grade 7:

### Modeling atoms

Grade 7 learners immersed themselves in the science lab, investigating molecules, atoms, and diverse 3D structures. They unraveled scientific complexities through hands-on experiments and modeling, fostering curiosity and collaboration.

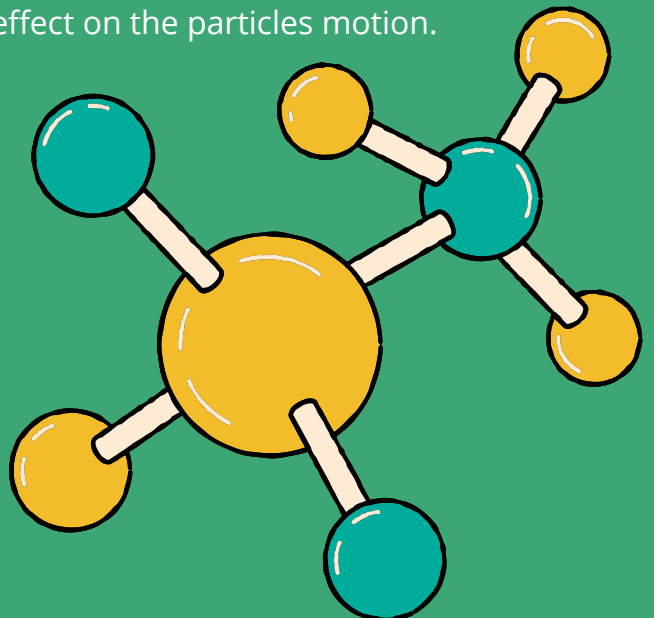
## Dynamics of Thermal Energy and Pressure

Through interactive experiments in PHET simulations and engaging demonstrations, grade 7 learners delved into the fascinating connection between energy and pressure. Young learners observed the relation between pressure and thermal energy and its effect on the particles motion.

## Grade 8:

### Learning through Gaming

Welcome to the virtual realm of Minecraft Education, where learners explored the rock cycle by creating vibrant towns and majestic castles using an array of rocks. Through interactive quests and collaborative building tasks, this project promises an engaging and immersive learning experience that ignites curiosity and creativity.



# COMMUNICATING WITH THE SCHOOL & LEADERSHIP TEAM

## Teachers Office Hours:

Parents and guardians are welcome to meet with their child's teachers during office hours. Additionally, you can visit the school to meet with the Leaders, Academic Director, Head of Section, or Coordinators.

## GIRLS' SCHOOL

Hawraa Abdallah, English coordinator (4 to 12) – Girls' school & AP/IB coordinator  
hawraa.abdallah@kis-riyadh.com

Razan El-Jamal, Science Coordinator (3 to 8) – Girls' school  
razan.aljamal@kis-riyadh.com

Rima Mekdash, Chemistry/Biology Coordinator (9 to 12) – Boys' / Girls' school  
rima.mekdash@kis-riyadh.com

Rania Ghazali, Arabic Coordinator (1 to 12) – Girls' school  
rania.ghazali@kis-riyadh.com

Chantal Khoury, Math Coordinator (3 to 12) – Girls' school  
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Dahuk Thamine, ICT/Robotics Coordinator (3 to 12) – Girls' school  
dahouk.thamin@kis-riyadh.com

## BOYS' SCHOOL

Samir Jneid, English Coordinator (10 to 12) /Activity Coordinator – Boys' school  
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Youssef Al-Masri, English Coordinator (6 to 9) – Boys' school  
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Hossein El-Jassem, Arabic Coordinator (6 to 12) – Boys' school  
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Elias El-Jumayel, Science Coordinator (6 to 8) – Boys' school  
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Abdelrahman Abou Zaher, Math Coordinator (6 to 12) – Boys' school  
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Hassan Saleh, Physics' Coordinator (8 to 12) – Boys' / Girls' school  
hasan.saleh@kis-riyadh.com

Joe Khoury, ICT Coordinator (6 to 12) – Boys' school  
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## 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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