

GLS / C / 493-22

CIRCULAR

21 February 2022

## PROJECT EMPATHY

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Dear Parents,

Empathy Week is a global schools programme, which is celebrated all over the world to enable students discover and build empathy.

As part of the problem-based learning approach at GLS, students learnt about the SD Goal #14 Life below water and SD Goal # 15 Life on land, among other SDGs. They were concerned and intrigued by the fact that plastic is harming the animals on both land and water. Our students empathized with the animals and campaigned for reducing the use of single use plastic bags and promote the use of cloth bags instead. In line with the recent UAE ban on the use of single use plastic bags a student-led campaign is being launched as part of the Empathy Month projects from 21st February to 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

Our students will be participating in several empathy projects during this month.

### **Building empathy through films**

All students from Kindergarten to grade 6 will watch five inspirational short films telling the stories of amazing and unique individuals followed by group discussions helping to foster a deeper understanding of empathy and its applications in the real world.

### **Circle time – Empathy time**

Students in Kindergarten will explore the different forms of empathy through puppets.

### **Reggio inspired Exhibition**

Inspired by the Reggio Emilia approach the students from Kindergarten to Grade 2 will present their explorations and understanding of empathy through a Reggio Exhibition in the second week of March.

### **Empathy towards nature –Designing of cloth bags**

This activity is in line with banning the single use plastic bags and moving to cloth bags. We would provide the cloth bags and our students will be designing their own bags with their creative minds, using only reused materials keeping zero waste at the heart of this project.

We encourage every parent to buy the bag designed by his or her own child for a nominal amount of AED 5 and use the bag for their weekly shopping.

Please find a few exemplars of the cloth bags, which our students will be designing using reused materials.

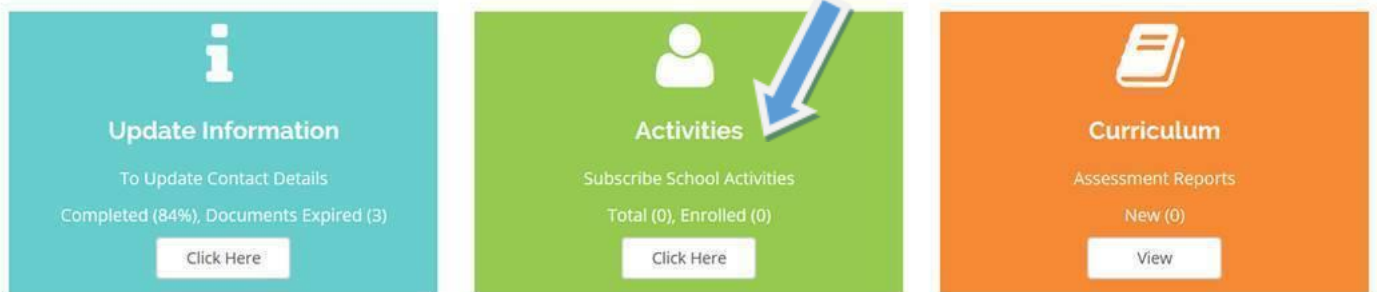


We request you to register and pay online for this activity - a small step towards building empathy for our environment.

**Steps to register & pay online for this activity:**

Step 1: Login to GEMS Parent Portal using parent login credentials

Step 2: Click Here under Activities



Step 3: To register your ward, select the **'Project Empathy-KG1 to Grade 6'** activity.

Step 4: Select Enroll

Step 5: Select Confirm and Proceed and then Pay Online and follow the screen instructions.

Looking forward to your support and cooperation in building empathy in our students.

Warm regards,

**Asha Alexander**  
**Principal**  
**Executive Leader - Climate Change**

أشا ألكسندر  
 مديرة المدرسة  
 الرئيس التنفيذي - تغير المناخ

