

**GLS / C / 548 -22**

**CIRCULAR**  
**Welcome Back**

**25<sup>th</sup> August 2022**

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new academic term that promises to be an exciting one for all our students, staff and parents.

We had an eventful and exciting summer camp at our Primary Campus during the holidays and lots of fun filled moments for our students. Even while you were away during the summer, we have had several improvements done to land and building in order to welcome our young learners. 103 air conditioners have been replaced to ensure that students experience quality air conditioning throughout the year in both our campuses. The secondary campus has had the canteen renovated and enhancements to the laboratories as well.

The most exciting bit of the summer for me was to have the installation of solar panels in our primary campus- something we have been pursuing for almost six years now. The Primary Campus will now be solar powered as the project nears completion in September. As a leader of Sustainability across the world, we are exceedingly proud of this new addition.

We have 12 new highly qualified and trained teachers joining us from overseas this summer. This will most certainly enhance the quality of instruction for our students in the coming years. The senior library will see a new stock of books and resources and over the coming months more additions are being planned for both campuses.

September is the Heritage month at GEMS Legacy School and there will be several activities planned for students to understand the local traditions and culture as well as broaden their understanding of Islamic Culture. This year the Right To Read Project will be taking place over the entire term with visits to the Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Library for all students from KG2 to Grade 7. On September 5<sup>th</sup> we will be celebrating Teachers Day to honor our teachers. A circular related to this will follow.

October will be the Breast Cancer Awareness Month and we will also be planning several outdoor activities once the weather improves. If the restrictions on COVID are relaxed we are hoping to hold our Sports Days for students this year and detailed instructions will follow later. Currently students need to continue wearing masks while in their classrooms until further directives are issued by DHA. GEMS Legacy School will be hosting an online event at T4 World Education Week to share our best practices in Sustainability with the world.

Academic learning is vital to the progress students make at school and assessments and learning will continue to be the focus. GLS will be conducting a KHDA mandated reading assessment to benchmark reading skills in students. The New Group Reading Test (NGRT) comprises three sections: Phonics, Sentence Completion and Passage Comprehension. The test is adaptive; each student's performance is assessed as they complete the test and the questions are adapted to be in line with the ability they demonstrate. The test is administered three times a year to determine progress and the testing windows will be shared with parents and students at a later date.

We are also building a nutrition curriculum which will be the first of its kind in any Dubai school with a focus on nutritional as well as sustainable diets for children. We are currently also piloting a physical education curriculum correlated to Science with BOUNCE and this will also be a unique provision for our students.

There are several more interesting initiatives in the pipeline and we will share more as the term unfolds. As always, we are excitedly looking forward to welcoming our students on the 29<sup>th</sup> of August and we hope that you will continue to engage with us and support all our endeavors at the GEMS Legacy Schools.

We hope that our children are refreshed and excited to be returning to school after a long summer vacation. We can't wait to get started!

**Warm regards,**



**Asha Alexander**

**Principal**

**Executive Leader - Climate Change**

آشا ألكسندر

مديرة المدرسة

الرئيس التنفيذي - تغير المناخ