

GIS NEWS

The latest news and updates for Faculty and Staff of Gulf International School



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STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS

A school without students is just a building. Involving students in different aspects of the school is crucial to creating a healthy environment.

For this reason, we decided to create a student council committee to be the link between the students, teachers and upper management.

During the beginning of the month, students in grades 7 -12 chose one student in each class to be a candidate to join the committee. Once they were chosen, we conducted a school wide election.

The committee was chosen based on popular vote. The committee is a total of 9 students that hold positions that include, but are not limited to, a president, vice president, and a secretary. These elections were done in both the girls section as well as the boys section.

Cognia Conference

Cognia, formerly known as AdvancED, is a global network that helps strengthen schools, thus helping students reach their highest potential. As

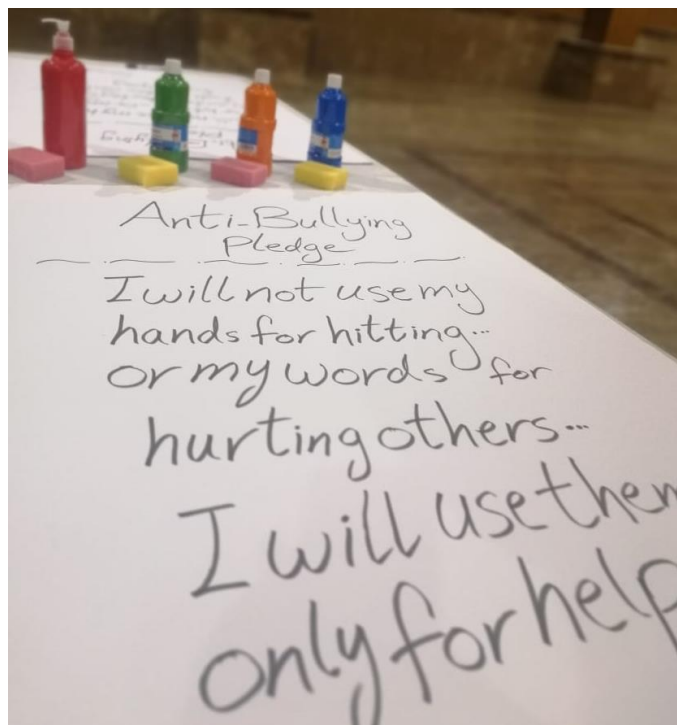


may know, we at Gulf International School would like to continue our accreditation from Cognia. Our review for re-accreditation will be in February. One of the decisions made to continue our accreditation was selecting five of our teachers to attend the Cognia development workshops in Abu Dhabi in the past month. The teachers chosen were Mr. John Rey, Mrs. Huda AlRamadan, Mrs. Asra, Mrs. Hend AlMukhayta, Mrs. Iyeswariya, as well as

one member from our administration, Dr. Brenda Mathis. Each member attended 4 workshops all conducted in one day starting from 8:00 am to 5:30pm

Body Safety Program

The activity coordinator, Mrs. Heba, in collaboration with Mrs. Rasha, the school counselor, have conducted an anti-bullying workshop. This workshop was done for students in the boys and girls section from grades 4 - 6. Different activities were done to help students identify what bullying looks like and how it affects other children. By the end of the workshop, students were asked to give an anti-bullying pledge.



They were given different colors of paint to leave a hand print on the pledge, demonstrating that they will not use their hands for hurting others.

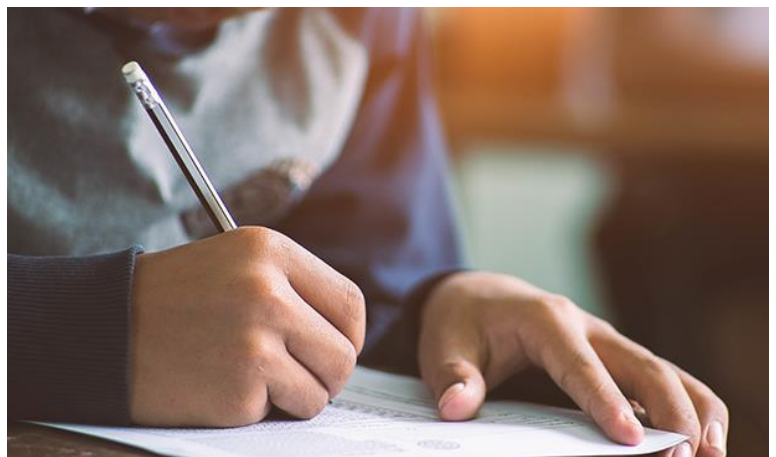
Upcoming Events: Health Awareness Week



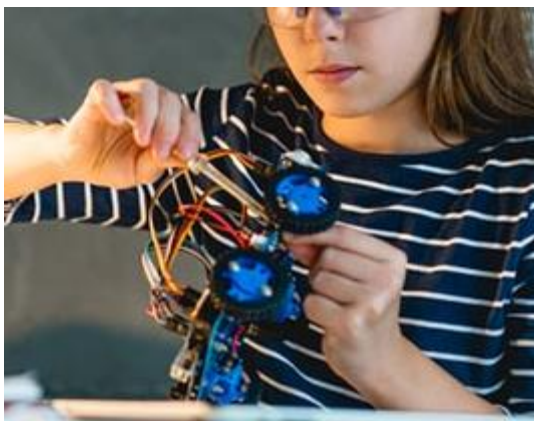
As the famous saying goes: “An apple a day keeps the doctor away.” Though, we all know it takes more than an apple. Which is why we will be hosting a week long health awareness campaign during the second week of December. During this week, we will talk about various topics such as dental care, exercising, and many more. Stay tuned to see all the topics that will be covered during this week.

Beginning from December 22nd to January 2nd, students will take their first semester examinations. It is advised that teachers are attentive to their emails making sure to answer any questions from students or parents. Teachers should try as best they can to help the students de-stress and to remind students to try their best. The last day of the examinations marks the first day of our mid-semester break.

First Semester Examination



Science Fair



The science fair will be carried out in the first week of December. Students will have the option to create a project on their own, or make a group project. The projects must be submitted by the 3rd of December after which they will be showcased in their classrooms. The next day, internal judges will choose one winner with the best science project. The winners will have their project showcased in the playground. Thursday of that week, the ministry of education will visit the school and have a look at the projects.

The school will then invite the parents to come on Saturday to view the projects.

ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS PRINCIPALS' MEETING

In November, we conducted our first annual international schools principals' meeting. By strengthening our relationship with the school principals of other international schools, we can gain a lot of helpful information and cooperation regarding teachers, teaching methods, and much more. The event was held in the auditorium where a presentation was carried out by our principal, Mrs. Fatima AlIbrahim. The main objective of this meeting was to bond with other principals, and this meeting was a great start. Many of the principals left with kind words and positive feedback. This was a great start to a yearly gathering.



Professional Development

At the end of November, the Vice Principals presented their teachers with professional development courses to help teachers achieve their highest potential. The topics were chosen specifically to fit the needs of the teachers based on the Vice Principals observations of the teacher's methods of teaching. The topic chosen by Mrs. Shaista was "Differentiation in Teaching and Learning". Mrs. Hanna's topic was "Differentiated Instruction" while Mrs. Sehar's topic was also "Differentiated Instruction in our Classrooms". And finally, Mr. Arif's topic was "Enhancing Learners Engagement". We received positive feedback from many of the faculty concerning these workshops.

Faculty and Staff Members of the Month

Gulf International School is fortunate to have many outstanding faculty and staff members. We are grateful and appreciative of the dedication and achievements of everyone who is a part of the school's organization. The criteria for nominating and choosing the faculty and staff member each month, includes, but is not limited to, individuals who go above and beyond their job description. Nominations of these individuals by the School Administrators must be documented with artifacts that reflect the qualities of this criteria.

With great pleasure, we announce the Exceptional Leaders for November:

Mrs. Ghada Hussain

Mrs. Mervat Shahin

**Mr. Abdulmotalab
Badar**



Letter from The School Director

I love it when we are busy. “Busy you say, lady have you lost your mind? We are tired.” I love it when we are busy because we are growing, we are changing; we are developing as educational leaders and we are prospering.

What’s going on? A lot. (Okay, English Teachers, please don’t correct my grammar.) In the new few weeks and months, as you can see from this newsletter, there are many events happening and there are more to happen. Mrs. Abida and Mr. Tabraz and the entire Cognia team are working to get us ready for our review. Teachers are preparing our students for the end of semester exams and we are looking towards continuous improvement for us all.

Next week all administration; vice-principals, academic directors, and principals will attend a workshop. The title of the workshop is “From Good Schools to Great: What Their Leaders Do Well”. The workshop will be next December 5, 2019, from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m.

In addition to our student council; we have formed another advisory group of our stakeholders; the Parents Advisory Committee (PAC). This organization will provide the school with further feedback as to our continuous school development and our long-term strategic planning, In sha’Allah.

Finally, we have one additional group of stakeholders that we need to be hearing from – YOU – our faculty and staff. In sh’Allah, next month we will be announcing more about this important stakeholder group.

