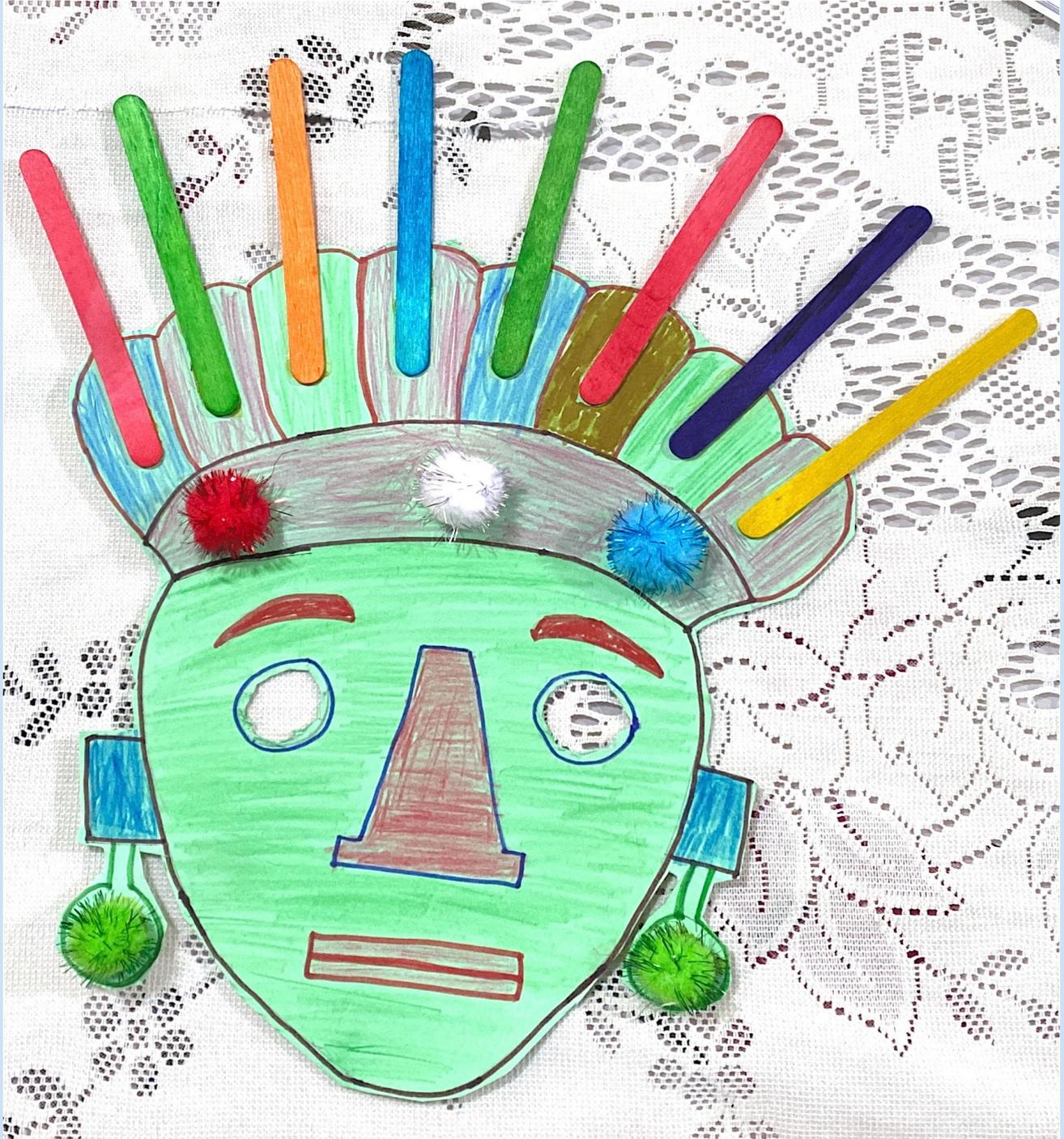




THE KNES GAZETTE

Online learning edition 2



Triumph in Adversity!

Featuring in this edition:

Entries to COBIS competitions, articles, poems, captivating short stories, throw-back pictures, online learning highlights, and much more ...

Editorial:

Dear readers,

I would like to welcome you to the latest edition of our beloved KNES Gazette. Our headline for this edition aptly captures the mood in our school as we have turned a difficult situation, caused by the current global pandemic, into a hugely successful and innovative, virtual learning enrichment for our students. Below is an article by a colleague, **Ms. Priyadarshini Bynipudi** espousing this fact. Enjoy!

In a flash, we moved from real to virtual world, from teaching in a room to teaching on the Zoom (now Teams). It reminds me of a famous quote by **Tim Berners-Lee**, the inventor of World Wide Web, "*The Web as I envisaged it, we have not seen it yet. The future is still so much bigger than the past.*" As COVID Pandemic has taken the world by storm, technology is now the highest human hour time consumer. The education industry also has switched to online teaching and learning platforms, making learning limitless. Stay home, work from home and learn at home are the new realities now. Traditional methods of teaching are rapidly being substituted and reformed and teachers must come up with innovative pedagogies to redefine learning in a virtual space.

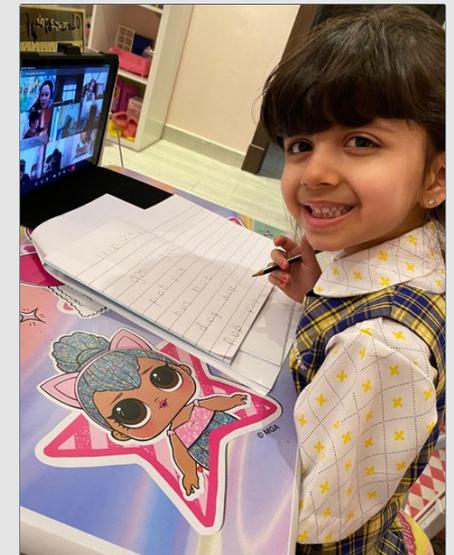
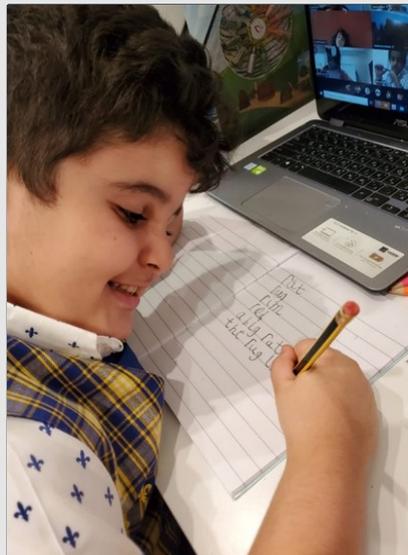
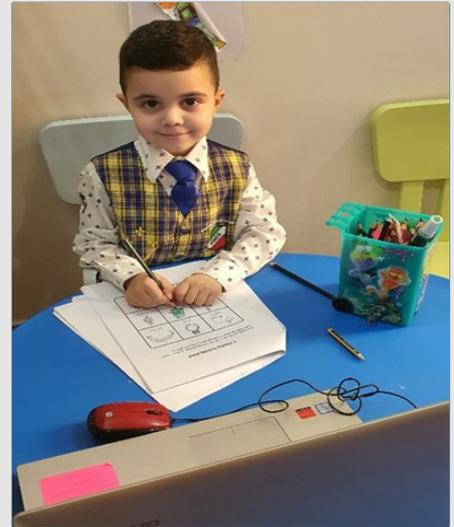
Overnight, the traditional classrooms have been transformed to a virtual classroom via latest technologies and the traditional teacher has become a virtual teacher with a personalized Bitmoji, Zoom and TEAMS banner to welcome the students in a virtual school. The digital natives of today are responding excellently to this new model and the NexGen students are completely inclined to self-directed, self-paced and collaborative home-based learning.

Amidst all this, the teaching community is clouded with the doubt - whether students are learning effectively through virtual methods? The answer to this is an affirmative YES. These are the Millennials of Generation Z who prefer multimedia like interactive/animated videos, podcasts, apps, audio, mobile, game-based learning. The bite-sized microlearning not only engages them but also amplifies the pace and degree of their learning. The best part being that virtual learning is available on smartphones, tablets, laptops, and PCs. With open-ended topic questions, students get the chance to post thoughtful answers, post their own questions and comments to which a teacher can give feedback and ask other learners to provide insights as well. Small group/project work allows students to share ideas, solve problems and discuss the content together. The millennials enjoy creating short videos and posting them as bite-sized nuggets.

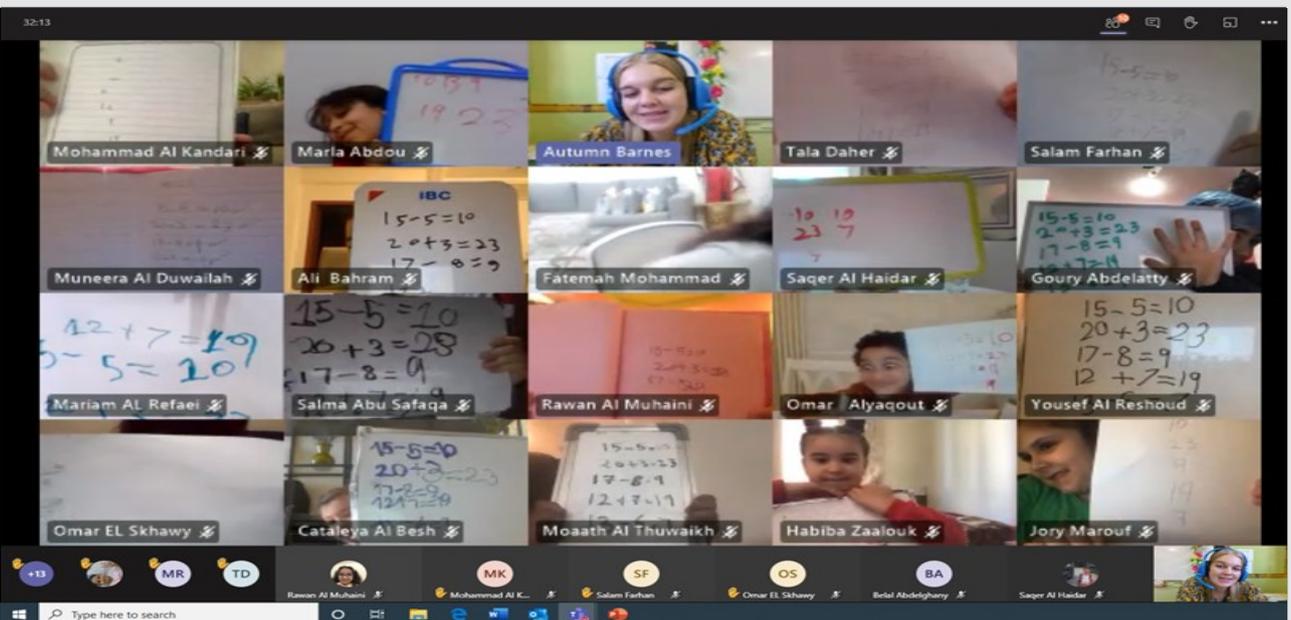
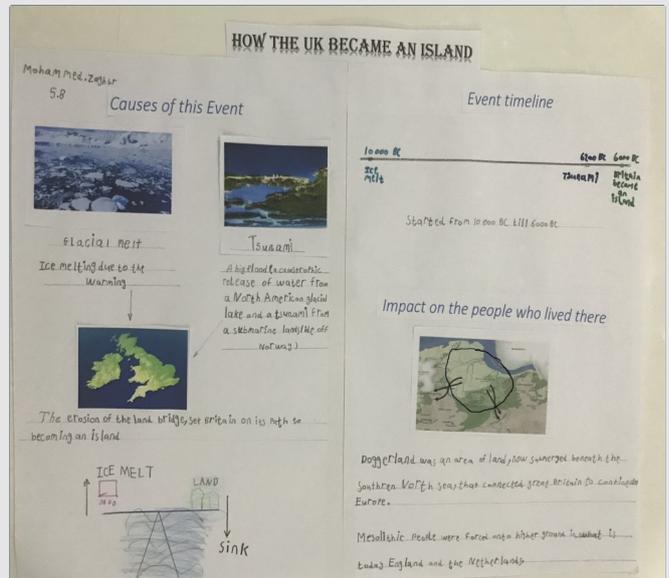
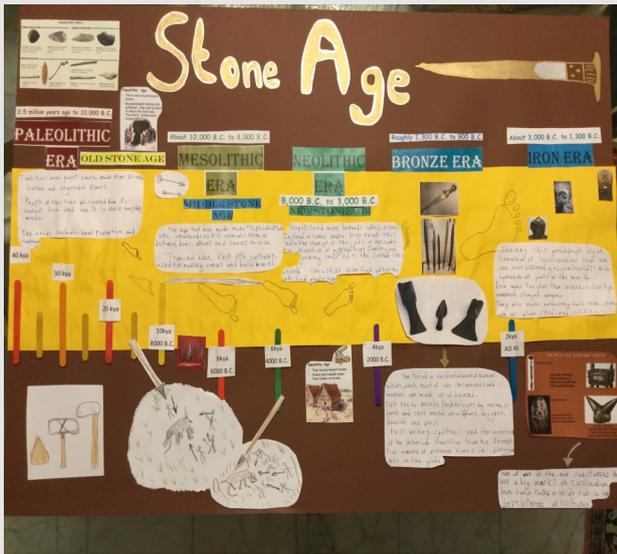
TEAMS non-verbal feedback tools in group chats like virtual hand raising and clapping have led to increased engagement and enthusiasm in class. Announcements in TEAMS Channel is efficient and effective means to send deadlines, assignments, and recommended readings. On screen assessments is the next step towards virtual level of learning. Virtual classroom is no doubt leading to high retention, higher learner performance levels and a better experience. I am sure that through reality technologies, we would be able to cater to the needs of all types of learners and produce highest level of immersive and differentiated learning.

Learning experience platform integrated with Artificial intelligence (AI) Augmented, virtual, and mixed reality (AR, VR, MR) seem to be the next upcoming things in the domain of education, that will deliver self-directed, explorative, engaging, and effective learning experiences. While moving to online teaching may seem overwhelming sometimes, but digital pedagogical techniques and tools are the only way to ensure continuous education in the coming times. Online teaching here gives us other challenges, but they are an enjoyable kind! We have had to adapt the way we teach, and most of us have enjoyed exploring new methods and activities, becoming better teachers through doing this.

Picture gallery – E-Learning in the Early years Department



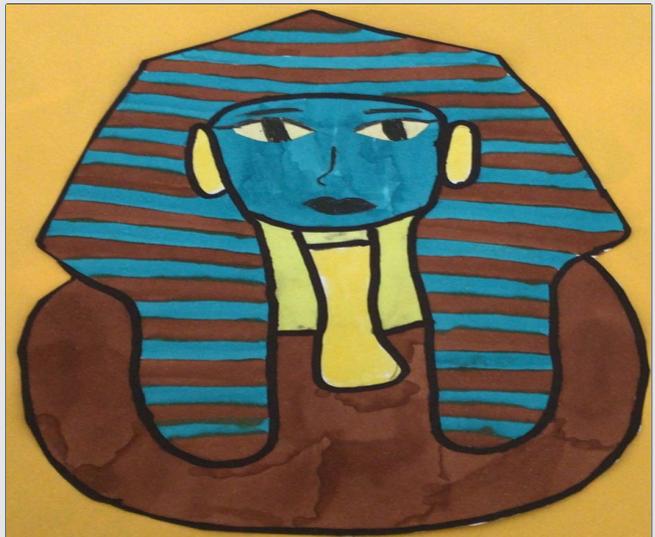
Picture gallery – E-Learning in the Primary Department



Picture gallery – E-Learning in the Primary Department



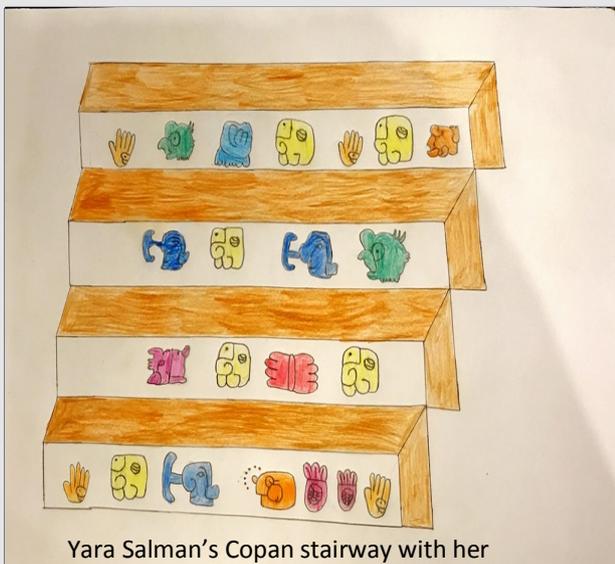
Year 4 Art, Anglo-Saxon Brooch by Basel Faisal



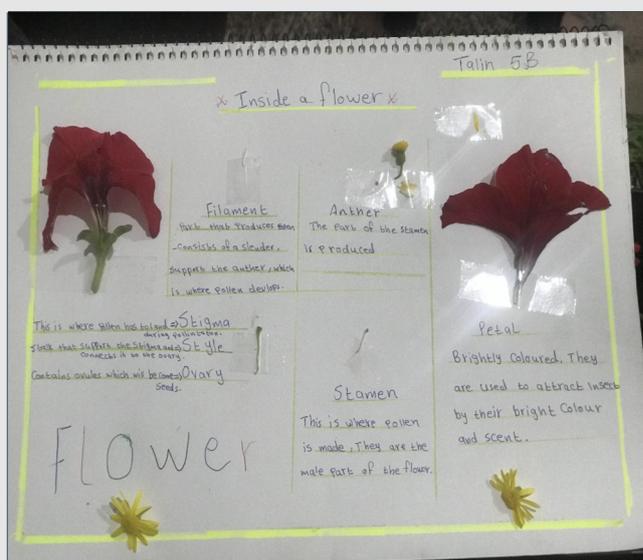
Ancient Egyptian Death Mask by Saleh Akthuwaikh



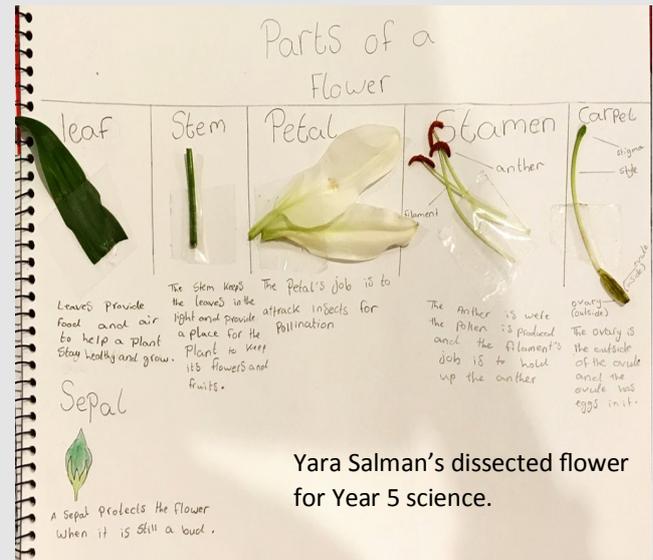
Adam Taha 5A with his Mayan Headdress



Yara Salman's Copan stairway with her family's names on it.



Picture gallery – E-Learning in the Primary Department



Yara Salman's dissected flower for Year 5 science.

Physical Education - Fitness Star of the Month (KS1&KS2) January 2021



Ahmed I. Saleem (1C) ★



Joury Ayman (2A) ★



Kareem Elsayed (3A) ★



Marwan Hany (6B) ★



Abdalrahman Kamal 4A ★



Bader Al Mohaini 5C ★

Creative writing – Primary Department

Nature's Great Return

During the Covid-19,
I realized how much we have been
Disconnected from Mother Earth,
And how much she was hurt.

The lockdowns were tough,
But nature would quickly regrow.
And take back the cities and seas,
We even saw dolphins in Venice.

The cities of Europe saw foxes and boars,
Marching the empty streets like Emperors.
The Gulf Road in Kuwait was no exception,
A group of ducklings spotted on the Marina
Mall intersection.
So, one year of human deprive....
Equals to nature's revive.

Sara Waleed 6A (COBIS Entry).

Connected

Stretching over land and sea
A link you click on in-between.
For their face to pop up on the screen.

A thread, a rope, or a chain,
Hoping to connect us.
But there is no hope,
Nobody's even opening the door.

And with a mask on our mouths,
It's hard to say 'hey'!
Now we're caged in our houses,
With almost no word to say.

The roads are empty,
No trace of life.
When can we really be free,
and live our life?

Covid-19, the worst disease,
Hide in your homes, if you please.
I hope for a cure soon to be released.

Don't come out until it's clear,
Cheer up, do not fear.

We can unite and defeat the disease!
We need to stay connected,
We need to stay united,
We need to be brave,
And not run-away.

Mariam A. Khalil 6B (COBIS Entry).

Jack and the Beanstalk

Once upon a time, there was a boy named Jack living with his mother and they were very poor people. One day, Jack's mum said, "We can't buy anything unless we sell our cow." Jack replied, "I'll handle it, Mother." So, Jack went to the market and talked to the salesman. "Hello young boy, what's your name?" The salesman asked. "My name is Jack and I want to sell my cow." Jack replied. The salesman said "Okay." and offered to give Jack magic beans which can grow overnight fast and reach the sky. Jack accepted the offer and took the beans.

Jack went back home and happily told his mum about the magic beans. But his mum wasn't happy and threw the magic beans out of the window. While they were sleeping, the beans started to sprout, growing into a ginormous beanstalk. When Jack woke up, he went outside and saw the beanstalk. So, he decided to climb it to see where it leads to. Jack climbed until he reached the clouds and there, he saw a path leading to a castle. He walked all the way and entered the castle where he saw a giant sleeping. He saw a hen laying golden eggs next to him. Jack thought it would be better to take the hen with the eggs to his mother because they were so poor.

He caught the hen but, on his way out, he heard the giant saying, "Fee-fi-fo-fum, I smell the blood of an Englishman, be he alive, or be he dead, I'll have his bones to grind my bread." The giant saw Jack and grabbed him before Jack managed to escape. The giant told him that he knew he is coming because he smelled him easily but added that he will not eat him. He will let Jack work in the castle as a servant and therefore, he cut the part of the tree next to the clouds to prevent Jack from returning to his house. So, Jack lived sadly ever after in the castle.

Abdulrahman Mreish 5C

DIFFERENCE DOESN'T SEPARATE US

Their eyes are blue,
ones to appreciate.

Our eyes are brown,
which is what people call lame.

Their skin is pale, they call it clean.

Our skin is dark, they say it's dirt.

They call us ugly, they call us different.

But we want peace one way or another.

Because at the end of the day we are all sisters and brothers.

If my hair is brown it doesn't mean I am boring.

If my eyes are brown that doesn't mean I am lame,

because brown is the color of the soil that holds all the riches of Earth.

But we want peace one way or another.

Because at the end of the day we are all sisters and brothers.

Picture gallery – E-Learning in the Secondary Department

Geography

For the past couple of weeks, Mr Charlton and I have been using a great earthquake tracker app called "Earthquake Network". A free app on the Play Store and Appstore. The app notifies you of live earthquake updates; when and where an earthquake occurred, including the magnitude.

This then became a part of what we have been studying in class: Volcanoes and Earthquakes; how a volcano forms and why a volcano erupts, and how and why earthquakes happen.

From what we have seen via the app, we got more than 10 earthquake notifications in one minute; hundreds a day; and thousands a week. As you are reading this, multiple earthquakes have occurred somewhere in the world. Most of these earthquakes have occurred around the Pacific Ring of Fire; along the North and South American Pacific coast, the Philippines, New Zealand, Indonesia, and the Asian Pacific coast. Where hundreds upon hundreds of earthquakes, ranging from magnitudes of 3.4 to 6.5, sometimes even 7.1, have occurred. As I am writing this, a 4.7 magnitude earthquake has hit Guatemala. This shows that the plates and convection currents under the crust are very, very active; constantly moving without any sign of ever stopping.

This has led us into creating a fun game out of it, where we predict where an earthquake might hit next and what magnitude.

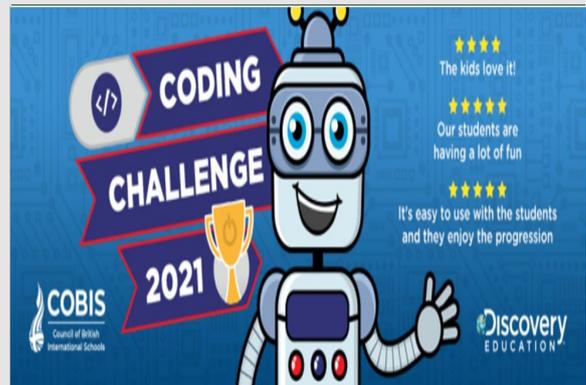
Some earthquakes have also occurred in the Middle East and Southern Europe, especially around the Zagros Mountains, Eastern Mediterranean Sea, and the Adriatic Sea. Where several earthquakes have caused many deaths in Croatia and



KNES December Art Competition



[Discovery Education](#) invited British international schools to compete with their peers around the world to create their own app. Using [Discovery Education Coding](#), students will gain a firm understanding of coding concepts like algorithms, sequences, and variables, while practicing computational thinking through problem-solving and the breaking down of tasks into logical steps. KNES students from primary 4 year 7 students will be entering this competition.



Year 9 produced excellent practical work on plant transportation, done at home during distance learning. Students showed maturity of self-directed learning and proved that learning is taking place even during difficult time.



Creative writing – E-Learning in the Secondary Department

Descriptive writing

As I stepped out of the elevator, the brisk wind met my face and caused my hair to wave about. The clouds were just out of reach and the sun was below me. I could see the blue and orange in the sky meet as the sun steadily set. It was as if an artist had painted a bold, rich, and stunning work of art.

I took a few steps towards the railing and found myself looking over the whole city. Streetlights were like stars in the ground and all the vehicles moved in harmony. I could never have guessed that metal and glass could combine to make such a magnificent piece of architecture. Dust in the air settled on my tongue and the metallic smell of the railing began to fill my nose. It was an opportunity I knew I would never have again, so as I looked at the horizon and the gorgeous view, I took a deep breath, taking it all in.

I set my hands upon the freezing railing as I looked directly below me and realized how ridiculously high I was. Everything seemed to be a miniature version of itself, the hotels which once seemed enormous on the floor were now nothing compared to the skyscraper. I felt as if the clouds were carrying me over the metropolis and I was able to go to wherever I wanted or look at any corner of the city. My body loosened itself due to the decrease in the gravity, my mind was cleared of all things and all I could see was the marvelous yet silent skyline.

Araiz Bajwa Year 10



I was savoring the delightful scent of the marshmallows, roasting over the crackling campfire that we managed to ignite in the bitter cold weather. As soon as night struck, I climbed up the rough, jagged, and coarse wood of the abandoned shack at the peak of the mountain, whilst holding on to my marshmallows, to behold the terrifying, yet magnificent view of endless trees covering the landscape.

It was quite dark as the light emitted by the full moon, and the countless stars in the night sky, was constantly being obstructed by thick clouds gently drifting by. The eerie atmosphere settled in, as the sound of the melodic birds slowly faded away into ominous silence. The trees began to visibly and violently sway, as a gust of wind briefly swooshed in. I ate the luscious, cloud-like marshmallows, whilst being mesmerized by the horrifyingly gorgeous view. At a distance, I noticed that fog was slowly engulfing the trees, as it gradually approached the bottom of the mountain we were camping at. I looked into the horizon and saw shadowy figures passing by, prompting me to swiftly tug on the small bag attached to my jacket, and yank out my binoculars to take a closer look. It was an intimidating and terrifying army of crows, flying just over the fog, and creepily passing by, too far away to be heard. All of a sudden, the unnerving silence was abruptly broken by the intimidating echo of a howling wolf from a distant mountain, which struck fear into my soul. After recovering from the fright which I experienced, I laid back to admire the gorgeous sky as it began to clear up, revealing an infinite number of twinkling stars.

Basheer Daboul Year 10



I sit atop the tallest structure ever built by my species, The Burj Khalifa, I think it was called. 830 metres tall.

The air is fairly cold and thin, but it does not bother me. For miles upon miles, I see nothing but a desert wasteland and whatever humanity has left behind; ruined, abandoned buildings, planes that have fallen from the blue heavens above, cars and tanks left smoking and destroyed, and roads ruined.

The once-blue, life-giving sea, bordering this ruined wasteland, is now a dark, life-ending, toxic, oil dump; littered with half-sunken, destroyed ships of war. Void of any form of life. The beaches are littered with skeletons dressed in uniforms of meaningless nations, and smaller, destroyed transport boats. It will be centuries before the sea has properly recovered.

I sigh a sigh of disappointment as I lean back, close my eyes, and rest my head on the cold, hard wall behind me. I hear a loud crack and an explosion far off in the distance. I quickly get up and look towards the direction from which the noise came. There is a large crater next to the ruined highway. I think it was an unexploded bomb from the war, but then I remembered, the Moon. I look up at the sky and see large and small fragments of the Moon raining down on this cold, dead Earth. Behind the large cloud of fragments was the Moon, and a large chunk of it to its right; appearing ever so larger as it grows closer to the Earth.

Is this the consequence of playing God?

Feras Husain Year 10

Creative writing – E-Learning in the Secondary Department

Narrative writing

A woman is washing dirty clothes outside a decrepit wooden house, a howling gale of wind came blowing down onto the woman shocking her slightly; she hollered, "Children, come back now, the wind is starting to pick up." The two children run hastily inside, waiting for their mother to accompany them. The mother enters and begins to prepare the boys' dinner. The younger child begs his mother to serve them their food swiftly.

"Mum, when will dinner be ready?"

"Soon."

"How long is soon?"

"Soon is as long as you can wait."

The elder child whines "Why can't it be ready now?"

"I only have one set of hands, so please spare me the headache." The mother replied aggressively.

The elder child, known to have a temper, felt hostility and insisted, "Dad used to help you prepare dinner so when will he come back?" The child had struck a nerve and pushed the mother to her limit. The mother answers.

"Edward, do not take that tone with me."

"I WANT TO KNOW WHEN FATHER WILL RETURN!"

"BOY!" She thundered, alerting Edward and he sits silently.

The next day Edward is woken by the sound of rain, trickling down his bedroom window. He slides the window open.

He leans his head out, as the water drips on his head he slowly starts to feel...uneasy. Unsettled he seeks the comfort of his mother. He rushes like the wind to her bedroom. 'Thump, thump, thump, thump, thump.'

'THUD.' Edward flinches, alarmed by the noise, he slows down. He opens the mother's bedroom door. "mum...?" he whispers hesitantly awaiting a response. It never arrived. He builds up the courage, he shuts his eyes and he bravely swung the door open with all his might... 'THUD!' The boy's eyes widen, he feels as if his heart has not just skipped a beat but the entire chorus entirely. Petrified he is unable to move a singular muscle. In his mind the situation he is in is the most frightening experience he had ever encountered in his life, unfortunately he was right. But, in a few moments that would all fade into the back of his mind, because instead of being greeted by a grueling beast ready to shred him to bits as he had thought. He encountered something many of emotion beyond fear. Something on the floor had caught his eye. At that moment, seemingly lasting a lifetime, he faintly remembers his farewell to his father, specifically him saying "Be good to your mother, and make sure you never raise your voice at her, got it?"

Although not the response he was expecting, he barely heard a voice, "Goodbye."

The mother was dreadfully ill and knew her time would come someday.

Edward now had to bid his mother a farewell. **Ziad Bashir Year 11**

Michael sat dead silent in the car. It was 10 minutes into the ride home from school and he had not said a single word yet. His mom worried and knew something was wrong but she decided to let him be and not ask him anything until he was ready to talk. He was a very polite, well behaved boy and loved telling his mom stories and sharing his day with her when she picks him up from school. And he would usually keep talking until they got home. Today was different. He was very stressed out because he felt guilty about what happened at school. Michael is the type of kid that likes to always set an example and not do anything against the rules. Again, today was different.

It all started during break time. There was 15 minutes left for the assembly to start. Michael and his classmates found assemblies extremely boring, especially his 2 best friends. Ron, Mark, and Michael had been best friends ever since they were in year 5 and were always at the top of their class competing for the best grades. This year, tall, curly-haired Ron and blonde, blue-eyed Mark grew up and began having other priorities like playing for the school basketball team and becoming one of the popular guys. Michael remained the same. He focused on his studies and was the perfect example of a responsible student. As usual, Mark and Ron were planning on skipping the assembly to go play basketball with some other guys on the team and told Michael to join them. "You guys go ahead and if I feel like it, I'll catch up to you," replied Michael.

Right as the bell rang, Michael headed towards them. He really hated assembly and figured that none of the teachers would notice that he is missing. That is because they never seemed to notice the other kids. Or did they? The boys had just started playing when Michael walked into the school gym. He joined Ron's team, who were short a player and they continued playing. It only took two minutes for their class teacher, Mr. John, to catch up to them! It was as if he was waiting for Michael to go missing. Mr. John took the boys down to the hall right in time for the assembly but gave them a detention afterwards. He told Michael how shocked he was to find out that Michael was breaking the rule for the first time and that he hopes it does not repeat. Michael apologized and walked out as the bell rang for home time.

And that is exactly why Michael sat speechless on the way home. He did tell his mom the story later that evening and promised himself that he will never break a rule again. At school the next morning, when Michael walked into class, his teacher greeted him and smiled. He was a teenager after all! **Radi Ahlat Year 11**

Picture gallery – throwback to the days before virtual Learning.



Picture gallery – then and now



Now



Dedications:



Dear readers,

A warm welcome to our latest edition of the KNES Gazette. Oprah Winfrey once said, “Do what you have to do until you can do what you want to do.” At KNES, we are not just doing what we must do, but we have created an innovative approach to online learning, by utilizing the best online learning tool out there (TEAMS), to keep our pupils fully engaged in their learning and recreating a virtual classroom experience for them all the time. Although our preference would always be to have our pupils physically in their classroom, we are maintaining the next best thing, by ensuring that utmost learning continues online in the meantime. Also, you can count on our magazine to bring you, periodically, an update of happenings within and around our school.

In this special edition, our gazette covers a variety of activities such as our entries to the Council of British International schools (COBIS) competitions, and the usual news items, articles, pupil’s online work and experience, poems etc.

Several people contributed to the success of this edition. Let me start by thanking our school Director, Madame Chantal Al Gharabally for her vision, drive, energy and unflinching support to my team and I. We appreciate the members of our senior management team, who are ever willing to lend us a hand, especially Dr. Raouf, Ms. Gaythree and Mr. Bernie. In my moment of despair, Ms. Autumn came to my rescue, canvassing for articles and evidence of pupil’s work and I am very appreciative of her effort. I wish to also thank Ms. Zoe, Ms. Rebecca, and my colleagues in Primary and Secondary departments for their contributions - our biggest strength is our rapport!

Finally, I would like to thank the KNES news team for their usual support. It was tough not being able to meet but we will find a better way to keep working together.

Michael Bardi (Editor-in-chief)

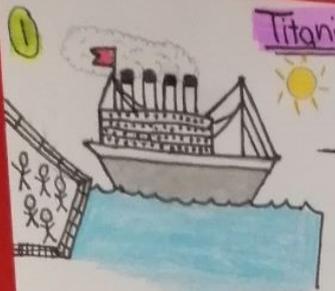


Contributors:

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- Rania Sundal- Year 11
- Feras Husain - Year 10
- Basheer Daboul- Year 10
- Araiz Bajwa - Year 10
- Jana Yousef—Year 10
- Yehia Bayoume - Year 9
- Suaad Al Mohaini - Year 9
- Sara Waleed - Year 6
- Mariam Khalil - Year 6
- Gabriel Valashia—Year 6
- Yara Salman - Year 5
- Adam Taha - Year 5
- Majid Awad - Year 5
- Addulrahman Mreish -Year 5
- Basel Faisal—Year 4
- Saleh Akthuwaith—Year 4

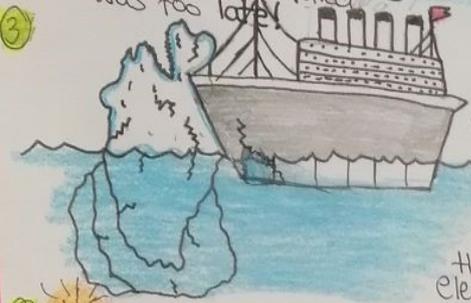


Titanic Maiden Voyage

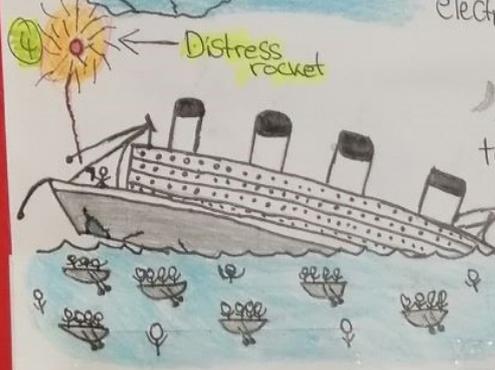


① The Titanic was launched at Harland & Wolff's yard at Queen's Island, Belfast Lough on **April 10, 1912** in the presence of thousands of ticket-holding spectators.

② On the **14th of April**, the Titanic was more than halfway through the journey and it received a warning of an iceberg ahead. The iceberg was spotted but it was too late!



③ The iceberg struck the Titanic on the starboard (right) side of her bow on **11:40 pm**. The collision was heard & felt by the passengers but they didn't really care until the engines turned off & the electricity went out!

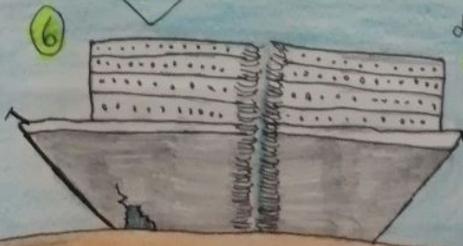


④ The orders were given to uncover the lifeboats & to get passengers & crew ready on deck (**12:05 am**). The first life-boat launched can hold/carry **65 people** but it only went holding **25 people**. The ship was starting to sink and tilt down. Distress rockets were launched that night.



⑤ The ship was at a **20°** angle & half of the ship was underwater so it was too much for the ship for it to stay intact therefore it cracked in **2 pieces**.

2.5 Miles



⑥ After like **2:30 am** the Titanic was sinking **2.5 miles** down to the seabed. **711** people were saved & the captain & **1.5K** people died.