



KUWAIT NATIONAL ENGLISH SCHOOL

مدرسة الكويت الوطنية الإنجليزية

A British International School

The KNES Gazette



Full return to normalcy!

In this edition, we have outstanding work from our pupils, articles, poems, pictures from school events and much more ...

May 2022

Editorial

Dear KNES family,

Our warmest welcome to the 10th edition of our school's flagship magazine - The Gazette. Since inception, the Gazette has continued to wax stronger, bringing you timely and detailed information of what goes on in our citadel of learning.

In this edition, it is our pleasure to invite you to browse/read the lively articles and stories from our students, as well as seeing our younger pupils having fun while learning. Perhaps, the most distinguishing or unique feature of this edition, is that there are fewer pictures with masks now — an indication that the world is finally returning to what it used to be before COVID 19.

Our final year, IGCSE and A Level students are currently taking their external examinations from Cambridge International Examinations and Pearson/Edexcel. This is a welcome development, given that the last two years have seen final grades being determined by predicted grades and Teacher assessed grades respectively.

From current data and government position, we can assume that the days of COVID restrictions are behind us now and we can begin to plan our learning to fully implement our curriculum, including external trips outside Kuwait in the near future.

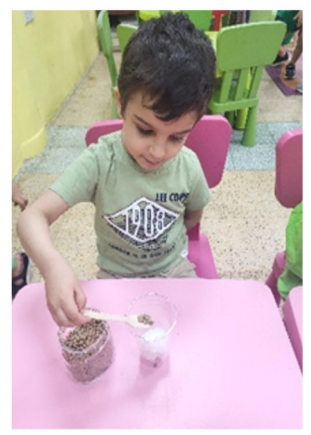
Please sit back and enjoy another bumper edition of our Gazette. See you again in the autumn term.

Kindest regards from all of us.

EYFS

As the academic year come to an End, our EYFS students had a very adventurous and busy 3rd term. KG students got a tour and introduction about REC for a smooth transition as well as REC students had their share of practice, activities, tours, and introduction for a happy and easy transition to Yr.1

EYFS students engaged in so many beautiful, global, and educational events this term; they learned about growth & change by planting and observing how plants grow beginning with the needs reaching to the importance of showing care and concern. They also made sure their surrounding environment was kept clean by helping one another clean the garden.



Reception students learned about the globe and spoke about global citizenship while they decorated their beautiful and colourful globe as well as taking a tour around the school explaining some of the paintings that are related to the topic



The Holy month of Ramadan is a beautiful, religious & cultural month and during this month the GCC community celebrates it through engaging in a colourful, musical, and entertaining event called Girgiaan. Our students are taught to engage, respect, and understand all cultures and cultural practices because our school aims to have a generation that grew on love, kindness, acceptance, and respect.

As part of our yearly tradition and as a way of diving more into the British culture since we are a British International School, our EYFS students celebrated Queen Elizabeth's Birthday by crafting a crown, colouring the British flag and singing the British national anthem. It is important for us at KNES that our students learn about all the different iconic symbols of the world



As mentioned before that our school shows great interest in teaching students at a very young age respect and acceptance towards all the different cultures of the world; EYFS celebrates their International Day around the same time the world celebrates Labour Day; we teach our students the importance of having a positive influence on the world and we achieve that by learning, dreaming big and excelling through education but most importantly ambition. Every year each class chooses a country to represent, they wear its traditional costume, share its traditional food, and create an art piece of their most significant aspect. This year we had:



KG1 presented Egyptian culture



KG2 presented Japanese culture



REC2 presented Jordanian culture



REC3 represented France

Key Stage 1



Year One students made rockets with clay to celebrate our Space theme.



Year One have been learning all about space.





They all planned and wrote a poem about senses.

Year 2 love reading!



They have been very creative this term.

Key Stage One classes loved celebrating International Day and Earth Day!



Transition Day - EYFS to KS1



Year Three



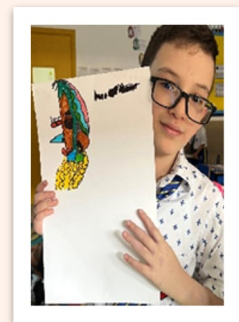
Listening to a Water Pollution Demonstration by Year 12 Students



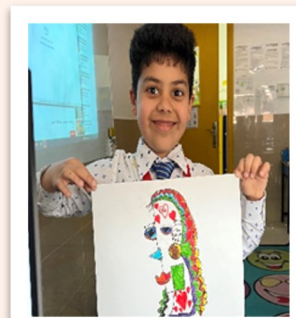
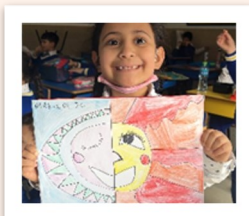
Celebrating International Day representing Portugal



Girgean celebrations marking the halfway mark of the Holy Month of Ramadan



Learners proudly displaying their art

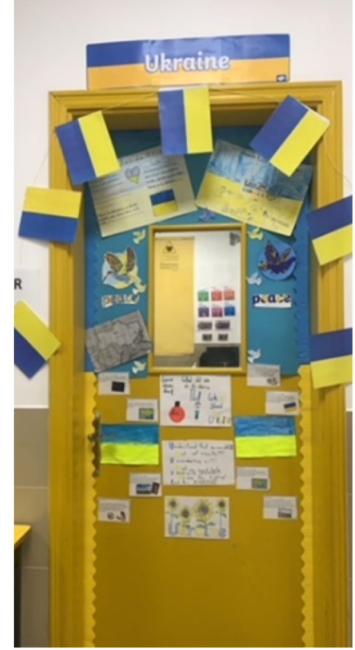


Year Four



4A—Design and Technology

We constructed model Viking Longships from templates and tested the durability before we made our own designs.



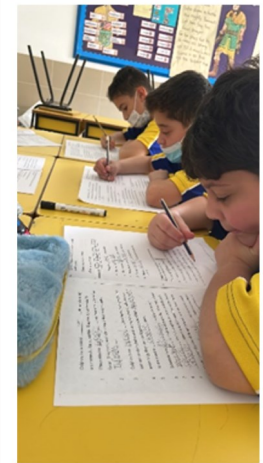
4B- Gergean/ Door Competition

Class 4B worked as a team to decorate the door of the classroom themed around Ukraine. Everyone worked hard to ensure we had a colourful door. The Gergean celebrations were also lots of fun as students shared sweets and enjoyed the sports tasks in the sports hall.



4c- Reading comprehension English/ History

In class 4c, we have been reading a book about children travelling back to the time of the Vikings and have been answering questions after each chapter. Students in 4c enjoy reading comprehension and found the story very interesting.



Year Five



Year 5A dressed up in traditional clothing and shared candy for Gurgian day.



Year 5A became Mexicans as we celebrated international day. We had lots of fun creating Mexican decorations to decorate our classroom door as part of the best door competition.



Mr Hamza's year 5 class had an experimental term. In their Art lessons, they had to sculpt a volcano and make it explode using coke and mentos. They also, in their science lessons, were testing different friction surfaces for their cars to drive working out which one had the greatest friction.



Mr Cyril's year 5 class celebrated Gurgian day and international day with their lovely costumes and winning an award for one of the best decorated doors.



Year Six



Year 6A were given Spain for International day. We had a day full of activities such as, Flamenco dancing, learning about Spanish traditions and eating lots of yummy traditional Spanish food.

We decorated our door in the colours of the Spanish flag and learnt some facts about Spain, it's cultures and traditions.

We also won 3rd place in the door decorating competition!!



As part of our International day in school, Class 6B celebrated the country Nigeria. We thoroughly enjoyed the vibrant colours, music, attire and delicious food. We hope to visit Nigeria one day to witness the culture, currency and beautiful landscapes that we discovered. The children put a huge amount of effort into the Primary Door Decorating competition and we won!

6C represented Russia on international day! Our day was filled with games, dances and lots of Russian food and sweets. Having a Russian member in our class allowed the children to explore the Russian culture and language whereby matching the right Russian word to the correct snack will result in prizes! Overall, everybody enjoyed themselves and managed to achieved 2nd place in the competition.



Secondary Department

Descriptive Writing - The Mysterious Manor

As I was navigating the dense thicket in the countryside with my friends, we unanticipatedly stumbled across the back of a peculiar-looking, decrepit manor. Concealed behind the towering trees, it was practically invisible despite its humongous size, and sat undiscovered until we chanced upon it. We started circling around the jagged, mossy, stone walls to try and find the entrance while dusk began to settle.

It was a two-story structure, with shattered windows and torn drapes, covered in vines and roots, as if nature had conquered it. Infront of the entrance, we were greeted by a chilling sight; the corpse of a colossal dead tree jutting out of the ground, each spikey branch appearing to be as sharp as a sword. It was inhabited by a murder of crows that cawed creepily. The ghostly ambience brought my friends to a halt, but since I was the only intrepid one, I decided to venture into the manor alone.

The front door slowly creaked open, and revealed a huge room, with a broken-down staircase, and portraits scattered across the walls. You could barely see the people in the portraits because of the layer of dust obscuring them. Cobwebs were everywhere! Every crevice and every corner were littered with them. There was an enormous hall to the left of the staircase, with a dining table that has a seating capacity of 24 people. The cushioned seats were all dismembered, with gaping holes in most of the furniture I saw. In the right wing of the mansion, there was a crimson-red couch in fairly decent condition, and opposite to that, was quite a large library. All the books were still on the shelves. As I was advancing through the library, the sight of something drained the blood away from my face. I froze, horror-struck, for a brief second, and then scampered out of the manor to my friends, clearly disturbed.

I grabbed my friends and dashed away. "What did you see?", they kept asking me. After gasping for air, and recovering from the startle, I replied: "A burning candle..."

Basheer Daboul



Narrative Writing - The Farewell

"My childhood home has vanished, swallowing away all the memories that once grew on its deck"

My friends and I have been planning a girl blowout after our graduation celebration at school. I haven't decided if I was going to go or not because I had a different and more essential trip in mind. "It was now or never" I whispered to myself.

I laid on my bed staring into the void. Was the graduation and after party with my friends worth attending? Is it my essential trip? I had such little duration to make such an important decision. My friends would be disappointed if I don't show up especially because I'm moving away from them, and this would be our last get together and last memory. However, will my friends be useful to me in any way in the future? Will they help me accomplish my goals? Everyone has different goals they would like to accomplish. They wouldn't help me challenge my own aspirations. I must fight for my own stars because no one will fight for me to reach them.

I jumped out of bed and got my suitcase and started packing, the next thing I knew I was on my way to the nearest airport, heading back to my hometown, and with a blink of an eye I was there once again. The winds of my home grounds greeted me as soon as I stepped out of the airport. I stood as all the flashbacks and memories of my youth finally reached its way into me. Soon enough, I was in a different car to my next destination, my neighborhood.

I stood there, my body losing colour and turning pale as snow. All I saw was construction debris, the leftovers of my childhood, it was all gone. I couldn't believe my sight. I walked around to find anything that can snap me out of this seeming illusion that's filled my head with disbelief and get me back to reality. There it was! The 'anything' that I was searching for to snap me back to reality. A photo frame of my family; broken and damaged, the exact feelings that took me over.

I fell to the ground crying in disbelief. How and when did my home turn into just leftovers? Everything turned to memories.

Here I was, watching the sunset next to the debris of my childhood home and the surplus of my memories. Once I was calm and rational, I saw the positive side so easily. I accomplished my goal in the end, even if it wasn't the way I wanted it to turn out. I still challenged my stars and fought to reach them, and that was the main moral of the story. I accomplished my goal which is to come visit my childhood home, which I did, and I was and still am very proud of myself for doing so. Not allowing any distractions to stop me from reaching my stars.

I finally got up, put down my family photo frame on top of the leftovers that was once the home of my youth and memories, and walked away. I looked back, realising that the building was now just a heap of rubble.

[Mariq Atallah.](#)

My 21st birthday

“What are your plans for your birthday this Saturday?”, my mother asked, “Where are you thinking to set up your party?” “To be honest, I have no plans regarding my birthday party!”, I replied. The weather news stated that the weather won’t be stable and safe beginning from the early morning of Saturday. They have predicted some harsh derecho storms which will hit our area.

We were all nervous from the likely weather conditions in the upcoming days. I wanted to have a unique birthday celebration which would remind me of something special when I grow up. Anyway, my mother agreed on printing the party invitations and for me to hand them out to my friends in school. She was a bit worried that this special birthday may get cancelled just before that night.

I searched up for some cake shops that can accept my customized order. I hardly found one shop which is nearly 2 hours far. I had to pay them an extra forty dollars tip to get it delivered. My second step was to grab a formal black suit that is suitable for the celebration. Therefore, I had to drive my mum to the shopping mall to get her views and comments on my options. “Well, it seems that the brown casual blazer looks perfect on you!”, my mother commented.

The next day afternoon, I had to check-up on the companies who are preparing the party. I was a bit happy with their progress. Suddenly, the windows began vibrating violently within their frames. This made me feel a bit noxious. However, I still got up and prepared my suit, so I won’t be late to the celebration in the restaurant located on the third floor of the nearby 4-star hotel. I was first to arrive there. The weather became even worse than I expected. The official time of the party is 7pm. In fact, it is 8pm and no one had arrived yet. The palm trees surrounding the building were swaying aggressively. The dust upon the streets was swirling like the Tasmanian devil.

I raced along the corridor and up the stairs reaching the third floor. The view up there was indescribable. The severe gales tore the roofs off the opposite houses viciously. I had no choice but to return home as soon as possible. I grabbed my necessities and walked downstairs quickly. The high-speed wind rushed into the hotel, breaking through the main door. I left the main building towards the small concrete room. I looked back and saw that the building was now a heap of rubble.

Meshari Al Shammari



A Birthday Miracle

The day to celebrate my birthday, had started off with a breakfast buffet sent from my grandmother; the food was scented with such sweet flavors. Later, I was invited to eat dinner with my parents and siblings. I was really looking forward to it, as I haven't seen them in a while. Although it was my birthday and they should be the ones to pay, I decided to get an ice cream cake for my family and I.

Heading to the bakery to get the cake, it was frozen like ice, perfect temperature since by the time it would have sobered up, it would be the time I arrive at home. The more time passed by, the more thrilled I was to go. I wanted time to fly faster. Why not do a bit of shopping? On my way to the mall, I started scanning through the shops for what I could purchase and had spotted this one shop that had a whole queue of people waiting. I was curious to know what they were waiting for, so I thought why not get the item.

The exact time that I was supposed to arrive was 6 pm sharp, but I was running late by 4 hours as a result of all the traffic. My hopes kept going high as more time passed by, I couldn't wait to see the look on their faces as they welcome me home. Getting close near my destination, I kept seeing the caution tape that officers stick around when an area needs to be investigated. Nonetheless, I didn't care at all; I just wanted to see my family on my special day. I observed that the tape was leading to the location of home sweet home. I stepped out of the vehicle, late at night, only to see that the house of all my memories was destroyed.

My heart skipped beats, increasing its pulse, I made my way through the crowd, till the police officers stopped me from going any further. I kept reasoning with them that it was my home, and my family was in there, stuttering the whole time. They explained to me that the situation was unknown, and they were still investigating. Thankfully, I was able to enter and explore what had happened, or more importantly, where my family was.

I started searching through the pile of rubble and dust, confused to as how this happened and when. The officers had told me earlier that it happened midway through the night, around 7 to 8 pm. My heart froze, had they been in the hospital? I began to pull aside the bricks and started tearing up. Did they really perish?

Looking the other way, I find them covered in dust, holding a half smushed cake with a "Happy Birthday" Banner. I rushed to them with no concern of the building anymore. I've never felt so relieved to see them, they began laughing at me to think that they would have gotten stuck. It seems that they had an evacuation plan prepared just in case.

Still, I had been so worried, but it didn't matter anymore. All that mattered was that everyone was healthy and safe.

Suaad Al Mohajni

Unending War

The day has come, it was my birthday. I have always dreamt of having a cake, decorations, and some friends over. However, war hasn't been the kindest at the moment.

My family and I have been going through this misery for two and a half years now with barely any breaks. We have moved into 3 shelters and 4 houses, which on the other hand were all destroyed into pieces by missiles, I wish this doesn't happen to this house either. It is as hard as it sounds like, but as long as we are alive. Having my parents and siblings with me has definitely made these past years so much easier. We got a message from a soldier that no upcoming events will occur this week, I felt so relieved. With my mum hearing that she jumped with excitement and rushed to the kitchen, which was not much but did the job.

"Close your eyes and open on 3!". I opened my eyes after the countdown ended, I couldn't believe it, I was grinning from ear to ear. My mum had surprised me with our last can of tuna with a lit candle on its top which we use as a light source. I felt so appreciated and safe at that moment, I was filled with exhilaration. I blew my candles and wished nothing but for this war to end.

We gathered all together and sat and we just spoke for hours to waste time because we had nothing for entertainment other than our voices and sense of humor. As my dad was talking about, how he felt when he first met my mum, I sensed something, but I was the only one who heard, so I said to myself 'probably paranoia'. Few moments passed by; I hear it again. My parents and siblings were so intrigued in the conversation I didn't want to raise false information and ruin the moment, but I couldn't handle the fear alone, so I said, stuttering with nothing but fear in my voice, "dad I think I hear something" he shook his head and said, "You heard the soldier yourself honey, you've got nothing to worry about." I accepted the fact I was being delusional and continued talking.

Ten minutes later, I woke up under 7 pieces of wood on top of me with the whole house on fire. What I was witnessing left me nothing but to be disoriented. "Mum, Dad" I cried out. I realized at that moment I had nothing. My sister and brother were lying there dead with blood leaking all over, and my mum and dad, I can't even describe it. I knew I had to run and survive so I took a piece of wood for protection and ran out, I looked back and saw that the building was just a heap of rubble. Guess my wish went to waste...

Patricia El Haddad





Global Goals Competition

TURNING TIDES



The aim of the competition is to **develop students' understanding of global citizenship** and to turn their ideas into reality. They will be challenged to plan and lead a team project which addresses one or more of the United Nations Global Goals, to **enable global change** on a local scale.

After a successful 2020-2021 effort at the Global Goals competition our students are back again this year. Turning Tides aims to create awareness of global issues and our students demonstrate the spirit of global citizenship through this event.



Ward, Basheer, Hadi and Jana comprise our Global Goals team who will participate in the Global Goals 2021-2022 challenge. They have already won the previous edition of this prestigious event and we are sure they will shine again this year.

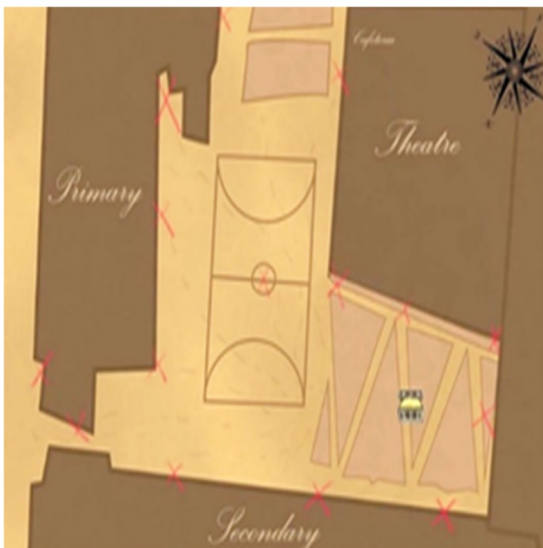
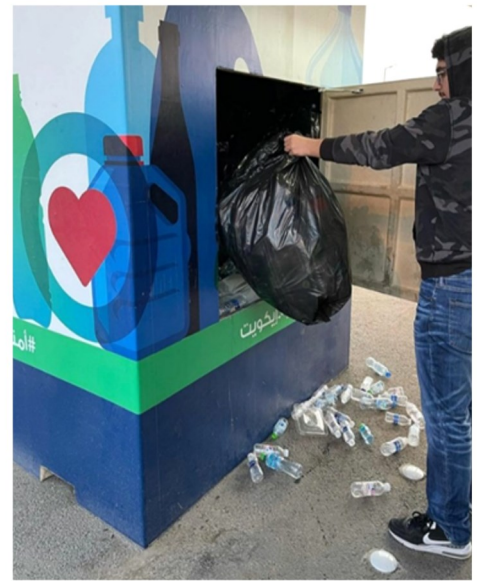
Our oceans are our treasures, and they need to be protected. Life below water is mesmerizing. The team aims to create awareness of plastic free waters and thereby protecting the sensitive marine world.



The Turning Tides team have been raising awareness at KNES through events such as a bake sale, plastic bottle collection day as well as a scavenger hunt day, all of which were exciting, fun and saw good student participation.



Turning Tide have made a mark and have been very involved in their mission of making our environment a better place.







Coming Up...

Secondary Graduation: 01 June, 2022.

Term Three Examinations: 05 - 09 June, 2022

End of Academic year: 16 June, 2022



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Dedications

Our warmest regards to all students and staff who have contributed to this edition of The Gazette. We are grateful to our Senior Leadership team (SLT) for their usual support and encouragement to our team.

This academic year is gradually moving to the end and we wish all readers happy holidays in advance. To all our students, we say: Keep working hard and enjoy learning!