



BELVEDERE
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

BIS Newsletter

Issue No. 52 | 25 Sep 2026

*Learning Today
for a Healthier Tomorrow*
Healthy minds • Active Bodies • Brighter Futures



In this issue

- Principal's Message
- Vice Principal's Message
- Early Years Foundation Stage
- Primary
- Secondary
- Arabic / National Identity Team
- Inclusion
- Library
- Social Work
- Wellbeing
- Career University Guidance Counselling
- Physical Education
- Health and Safety
- Weekly What's On



Principal's Message

Strengthening Learning Through Subject Specialist Teaching at Belvedere International School

Dear Parents and Members of the Belvedere International School Community,

At Belvedere International School, we continuously review and develop our teaching and learning approaches to ensure that every student receives the best possible educational experience at each stage of their learning journey.

As students grow older, their learning needs naturally develop. They become more independent, encounter increasingly complex concepts, and begin to require greater depth and specialisation in individual subjects. With this in mind, we have been progressively developing our approach to teaching in the primary phase.

From Homeroom Teaching to Subject Specialist Teaching

Last academic year, **Years 5 and 6** were taught through a homeroom approach, where one teacher taught the majority of subjects to the class. This approach provided many valuable benefits. Having one main teacher for a range of subjects supported strong relationships with students, allowed the teacher to know each learner very well, and provided consistency in the classroom and across the school day.

As part of our ongoing reflection and improvement, we introduced a shift towards **subject specialist teaching for Years 5 and 6**. This means that students now have different teachers who specialise in particular subjects, allowing each area of the curriculum to benefit from greater subject expertise.

We are pleased to say that our students have transitioned very well to this approach. They have adapted positively to working with different teachers, moving between lessons, and taking greater responsibility for their organisation, learning and behaviour. This transition has also helped prepare them for the expectations of secondary education, where subject specialist teaching is an established part of the learning experience.

Three Key Advantages of Subject Specialist Teaching

1. Greater depth and subject expertise

Subject specialist teachers bring strong knowledge and expertise in their particular area. This allows them to develop students' understanding beyond simply covering the curriculum, helping learners explore concepts in greater depth, make connections between ideas, and develop the specific skills required within each subject.



Principal's Message

For example, a specialist Mathematics teacher can focus extensively on mathematical reasoning, problem-solving and application, while a specialist Science teacher can give greater attention to scientific enquiry, investigation and the application of scientific concepts.

2. Stronger preparation for secondary education

As students approach the end of primary education, it is important that they gradually develop the independence and adaptability required for the next stage of their education.

Subject teaching gives students valuable experience in working with different teachers, responding to different teaching styles, managing their equipment and resources, moving between lessons, and taking greater ownership of their learning. These are important skills that will support a smoother transition into secondary school.

3. A richer and more engaging learning experience

Different teachers bring different areas of expertise, experiences, teaching strategies and enthusiasm to the classroom. This can provide students with a wider range of learning experiences and opportunities to engage with subjects in different ways.

It also allows teachers to focus more specifically on the needs of their subject, including appropriate assessment, practical activities, subject-specific vocabulary, critical thinking, problem-solving and opportunities for students to apply their learning.

Building on the Success of Years 5 and 6

Our experience with Years 5 and 6 has demonstrated that students are capable of adapting successfully to this model while maintaining the strong relationships, pastoral support and sense of community that are so important at BIS.

It is important to emphasise that this change does not mean that the homeroom approach was less effective or less valuable. On the contrary, the homeroom model served our students well and provided a strong foundation of consistency, relationships and familiarity. Different approaches are appropriate at different stages of a child's development, and our aim is always to select the approach that best supports students' academic, personal and social development.

Building on the successful experience of Years 5 and 6, we are pleased to extend subject specialist teaching to Years 3 and 4 this academic year.



Principal's Message

This development will be introduced carefully, with a strong focus on ensuring that students feel secure, supported and confident throughout the transition. Our teachers will continue to work closely together so that learning remains connected across subjects and that every student's progress, wellbeing and individual needs remain at the centre of our approach.

Continuing to Develop Learning at BIS

At BIS, we believe that educational improvement is a continuous journey. We listen, reflect on our experiences, consider evidence of student learning, and make changes where we believe they will further benefit our students.

Our move towards subject specialist teaching in Years 3–6 is part of this wider commitment. We want our students not only to acquire knowledge, but also to develop **independence, confidence, curiosity, critical thinking, responsibility and a genuine love of learning**.

We would like to thank our students, teachers and parents for their continued support as we develop and strengthen our educational provision. We are very proud of how positively our students have embraced this change, and we look forward to seeing them continue to grow as confident, independent and successful learners.

Together, we continue to build an educational experience that prepares our students not only for their next year of school, but for the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

Warmest regards,

Ismat Ezzat Daou

School Principal

Belvedere International School - Al Ain



Vice Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another purposeful and productive week at Belvedere International School. Our students have continued to demonstrate enthusiasm for learning, while our staff have focused on strengthening teaching, assessment, wellbeing and student leadership across the school.

We sincerely thank our families for their continued partnership and support.

Supporting Every Student's Progress

Following the completion of baseline assessments, teachers and Heads of Department are carefully reviewing students' results to identify individual strengths and areas requiring further support.

Targeted intervention plans are being developed to close learning gaps, provide appropriate challenges and ensure that every student has the opportunity to make strong progress. These plans will be monitored and reviewed regularly.

Quality of Teaching and Learning

This week, the Senior Leadership Team conducted a review of students' books across the school. The focus was on:

- The quality and presentation of students' work
- Appropriate challenge and curriculum coverage
- Clear and constructive teacher feedback
- Students' responses to feedback and reflection on their learning
- Consistent expectations across subjects and year groups

Teachers provide feedback using green pens, while students respond and reflect using orange pens. This supports meaningful dialogue between teachers and students and encourages learners to take greater responsibility for their progress.

Developing Student Leadership

We are continuing to expand opportunities for students to contribute positively to school life.

Our Health and Safety Ambassadors will help promote safe practices and responsible behaviour across the school. The prefect election process for students in Years 10–12 is also progressing, giving students the opportunity to develop confidence, leadership skills and a stronger sense of responsibility.



Vice Principal's Message

Digital Innovation and Creativity

We are delighted that Year 9B students have registered for a BSME app-design challenge. This exciting opportunity will allow students to demonstrate their creativity, problem-solving abilities and digital skills.

The school is also continuing to explore the responsible use of artificial intelligence to enhance teaching and learning. Staff training will ensure that technology is used purposefully, safely and appropriately.

Supporting Student Wellbeing

Secondary students are being introduced to Komodo, our new wellbeing platform. This platform will help the school understand students' wellbeing needs and provide timely support where required.

We are also reviewing homework expectations and project deadlines to ensure that students maintain a healthy balance. Wherever appropriate, practical projects will be completed in school so students can benefit fully from collaborative and hands-on learning.

Positive Behaviour and Breaktime Activities

Supervised ball games have been reintroduced during breaktimes as a privilege linked to positive behaviour and our "Tidy Up Your Space" campaign.

Students are reminded that this opportunity depends on:

- Respectful and responsible behaviour
- Following staff instructions
- Using designated playing areas safely
- Keeping classrooms and shared spaces clean
- Demonstrating good sportsmanship

We look forward to seeing students enjoy these activities responsibly.

Swimming Lessons

We are pleased to confirm that swimming-pool maintenance has been completed and all required safety systems are operating normally. Swimming lessons will continue as scheduled.



Vice Principal's Message

Parent Portal

Parents are encouraged to use the Parent Portal to access important information relating to their child's attendance, academic progress and school communications. Please contact the school if you require assistance accessing your account.

Important Reminders

- Student mobile phones are not permitted on the school premises.
- Students must arrive punctually and attend school regularly.
- Full school uniform must be worn correctly each day.
- Students should bring the correct books, equipment and charged devices required for their lessons.
- Parents must follow the school's authorised collection and early-dismissal procedures.
- Please continue to monitor Google Classroom and ClassDojo for homework, resources and important announcements.

Looking Ahead

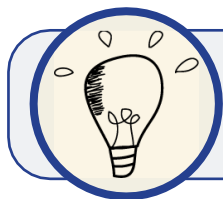
Planning is underway for our forthcoming Cross-Curricular Project Week. Students will engage in real-world challenges, investigations, creative design and collaborative learning. Further information will be shared with families soon.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and for supporting our commitment to high standards, student wellbeing and academic excellence.

Warm regards,

Ms. Karima Slama

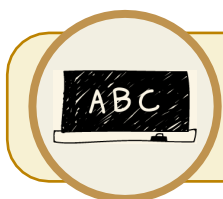
Vice Principal and Head of Secondary
Belvedere International School - Al Ain



Extra-Curricular Activities (ECA)

There is plenty to look forward to this term! Our ECA clubs are giving students the chance to try something new, build confidence and discover talents they may not have known they had. From creating and experimenting to reading, performing and playing sport, we can't wait to share a closer look at what happens in each club over the coming weeks. Watch this space for photographs and highlights from our students!

We are also putting the finishing touches on the **Term 1 trips planned for each class**. Once the arrangements are confirmed, parents and guardians will receive the trip details, consent forms, and all the information needed to help their child prepare for the experience.



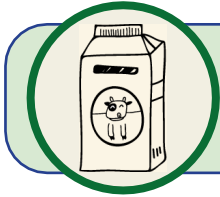
Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)



This week, FS2R proudly took part in the assembly on Tuesday, where we celebrated Happiness Week. We talked about how we can make others happy by being kind, caring and helpful, and we also linked our discussions to the UAE and how living in the UAE makes us happy. The children enjoyed exploring

the outdoor areas and taking part in outdoor play. We also covered many letters this week, and everyone worked incredibly hard and did a fantastic job. We are so proud of our FS2 children and all the wonderful progress they are making!





Primary School

Primary Homework Schedule

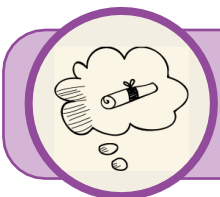
Starting next week, we will introduce an **alternating homework schedule** to help maintain a balanced and manageable workload for all Primary students.

The rotation will be as follows:

- **Week 1 – Next Week:** MOE subjects only
- **Week 2:** English, Mathematics and Science
- **Week 3:** MOE subjects only
- **Week 4:** English, Mathematics and Science

During the weeks allocated to **English, Mathematics, and Science**, homework should be limited to **one worksheet per subject**. All tasks should be purposeful, age-appropriate, and manageable for students to complete independently at home.

Homework will only be assigned during the **designated week for each subject**. Following this schedule will help ensure a positive and balanced learning experience for all Primary students.



Secondary School

It has been another active and engaging week across Secondary, with students taking an enthusiastic role in their learning. Lessons have provided opportunities for students to collaborate, think critically, solve problems and apply their knowledge in meaningful ways.

Across different subjects, students have been involved in a variety of activities, from practical and creative tasks to discussions, presentations and group challenges. It has been great to see students sharing ideas, asking questions and becoming increasingly confident and independent in the classroom.

We look forward to continuing to provide learning experiences that encourage our students to be curious, creative and active learners.



Arabic Department and National Identity Team

شهد هذا الأسبوع مجموعة من المبادرات والأنشطة الأكاديمية والتربوية التي ركزت على دعم تعلم الطلبة، وتنمية مهاراتهم في اللغة العربية، وتعزيز القيم الإسلامية والوطنية، إلى جانب ترسيخ الارتباط بالتراث والثقافة الإماراتية.

الشعر النبطي وتعزيز الهوية الوطنية

واصل قسم اللغة العربية وفريق الهوية الوطنية تفعيل مبادرة **الشعر النبطي**، باعتبارها إحدى المبادرات المهمة في تعزيز الهوية الوطنية والارتباط بالتراث الإماراتي.

وقد بدأ المعلمون بتفعيل القصائد النبطية مع الطلبة خلال الحصص، إلى جانب استثمار **حصص الاحتياط** لتدريب الطلبة على إلقاء القصائد وتنمية مهارات التحدث والإلقاء والثقة بالنفس.

كما يجري العمل على إشراك الطلبة في تقديم فقرات من الشعر النبطي خلال **الطابور الصباحي**، بما يتيح لهم فرصة إبراز مواهبهم والتعبير عن اعتزازهم بالتراث والثقافة الإماراتية.

ويحرص القسم على جعل الشعر النبطي جزءاً من الممارسات المدرسية اليومية، من خلال تفعيله في الحصص والأنشطة وحصص الاحتياط، بما يساهم في تعزيز حضور الموروث الإماراتي في البيئة المدرسية.

برامج الهوية الوطنية

يواصل فريق **الهوية الوطنية** تقديم برنامج وطني مميز كل يوم جمعة، يتضمن مجموعة من الفقرات والأنشطة التي تعزز قيم الانتماء والاعتزاز بالهوية الإماراتية.

وقد تناول برنامج هذا الأسبوع موضوعي **السلام العالمي** و**الوثيقة الوطنية**، حيث قدم طلبتنا مجموعة من الفقرات المميزة التي عكست فهمهم للقيم الوطنية والإنسانية، وأظهروا تميزاً واضحاً في المشاركة والتقديم.

كما تم خلال **حصص الأخلاقية على مدار الأسبوع** تناول موضوع **السلام العالمي** و**الميثاق الوطني**، حيث أتيحت للطلبة فرصة مناقشة القيم المرتبطة بالسلام والتسامح والاحترام والمسؤولية، وربطها بحياتهم اليومية ومجتمعهم.

وكما جرت العادة، حرص الطلبة والمعلمون على ارتداء **الزي الإماراتي كل يوم جمعة**، في مشهد يعكس الاعتزاز بالهوية الوطنية ويعزز حضورها في الحياة المدرسية اليومية.

مبادرات التربية الإسلامية والقيم

واصل فريق **التربية الإسلامية** تفعيل المبادرات التي تهدف إلى تعزيز القيم الإسلامية والممارسات الإيمانية لدى الطلبة، وربطها بالحياة المدرسية اليومية.

ومن أبرز هذه المبادرات **تفعيل الصلاة بشكل جماعي**، بما يساهم في تعزيز الالتزام بالصلاة وترسيخ روح الجماعة لدى الطلبة.

كما تم تفعيل مبادرة **الذكر في الممرات** من خلال عرض عبارات وأذكار مناسبة في مختلف ممرات المدرسة، بهدف تحفيز الطلبة والمعلمين على الذكر خلال اليوم الدراسي، وتعزيز الأجواء الإيمانية والقيم الإيجابية داخل البيئة المدرسية.



Arabic Department and National Identity Team

التقييم المستمر والمهارات اللغوية

يوصل قسم اللغة العربية تطبيق التقييم المستمر بشكل أسبوعي، بهدف متابعة تطور الطلبة في المهارات اللغوية الأساسية بصورة منتظمة. ويتم تخصيص كل أسبوع للتركيز على مهارة لغوية محددة من المهارات الأربع: القراءة، والكتابة، والتحدث، والاستماع. ويساعد هذا النهج في متابعة تقدم الطلبة بصورة مستمرة، ورصد نقاط القوة والجوانب التي تحتاج إلى تطوير، بما يدعم نموهم اللغوي بشكل متكامل.

القراءة والكتابة

يوصل قسم اللغة العربية التركيز على تنمية مهارات القراءة والكتابة لدى الطلبة، باعتبارهما من الركائز الأساسية في تعلم اللغة العربية. وقد تم تخصيص حصة أسبوعية للقراءة لجميع الصفوف، مع تفعيل سجل القراءة لمتابعة قراءة الطلبة بصورة منتظمة وتشجيعهم على جعل القراءة عادة مستمرة. كما تم تخصيص حصة أسبوعية للكتابة لتنمية مهارات التعبير الكتابي وتحسين جودة الكتابة، مع متابعة تطور الطلبة وتقديم الدعم المناسب وفق احتياجاتهم التعليمية.

ختام التقرير

يوصل قسم اللغة العربية العمل على تحقيق التكامل بين التقدم الأكاديمي وتعزيز الهوية الوطنية وترسيخ القيم الإسلامية، من خلال التقييم المستمر وتنمية المهارات اللغوية، إلى جانب تفعيل الشعر النبطي والبرامج الوطنية والمبادرات الإسلامية. ونعزز بما يقدمه طلبتنا من مشاركات مميزة، ونسعى باستمرار إلى توفير بيئة تعليمية متكاملة تشجعهم على الإبداع، وتعزز ثقتهم بأنفسهم، وتدعم اعتزازهم بلغة عربية وهويتهم الوطنية وقيمهم الإسلامية وتراثهم الإماراتي. كل الشكر والتقدير لفريق اللغة العربية على جهودهم المتميزة وتعاونهم المستمر، وعلى ما يقدمونه من مبادرات وأنشطة نوعية تساهم في تطوير تعلم الطلبة وتعزيز حضور اللغة العربية والهوية الوطنية في حياتهم المدرسية. نفخر بتميزكم وعطائكم، ونتطلع دائماً إلى المزيد من الإنجازات والنجاحات معاً.



Inclusion Department

Celebrating the International Day of Sign Languages



On Wednesday, 23 September, our school proudly marked the **International Day of Sign Languages**, raising awareness of the importance of communication, inclusion, respect and accessibility within our school community.

To commemorate the occasion, students and staff added a touch of blue to their attire and had the opportunity to learn and practise simple signs that could be used throughout the school day. Through a variety of engaging classroom activities, students developed a greater understanding of how sign language supports communication, connection and self-expression.

The celebration provided a meaningful opportunity for our students to promote understanding, appreciate the diversity and recognise the importance of creating an inclusive environment where everyone can participate and feel heard. It also reinforced our commitment to fostering a school community in which **every individual is valued, respected and empowered to feel a true sense of belonging.**





Library



This week in our library was filled with a variety of fun and engaging activities. Ms. Ghazal and her students joined us for a wonderful storytelling session, where the children listened to stories about friendship and colored beautiful pictures that represented the meaning of friendship.



We also had an exciting activity with Grade 7 students, who participated in an Escape Room game. They were full of enthusiasm and excitement as they searched for books and worked together to complete the challenge. It was a fun and enjoyable experience for everyone!

We look forward to welcoming you with lots of excitement in the coming days!

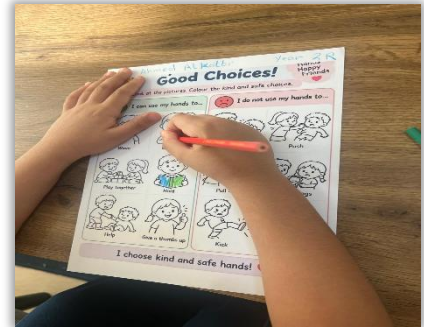




Social Work

Individual Student Sessions

Individual support sessions were conducted with students identified as requiring additional behavioural support, guidance, and targeted intervention. These sessions provided students with an opportunity to discuss their concerns in a supportive setting, develop appropriate strategies for managing their behaviour and emotions, and work towards positive personal and social development.



Student Support and Daily Problem-Solving

Ongoing support was provided to students to address their day-to-day concerns, challenges, and individual needs, with guidance to encourage positive choices and constructive problem-solving.

Daily Attendance and Absence Follow-Up

Students' daily attendance and absences were monitored, with parents and guardians contacted when necessary to clarify reasons for absence and ensure appropriate follow-up.

“UAE: A Nation of Peace” Initiative

An initiative titled “UAE: A Nation of Peace” was implemented with Year 7 female students to promote peace, respect, tolerance, and positive relationships within the school community.

Digital Safety Awareness

An awareness session on Digital Safety and Protection was organized for Foundation Stage students and delivered by Year 6 female students, promoting the safe and responsible use of digital devices and technology.



Promoting a Supportive School Environment

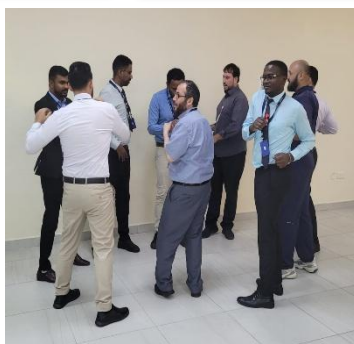
The “Star of the Week” initiative and Student Council were organized to promote positive behaviour, student participation, leadership, and a supportive school environment.



Wellbeing

International Staff Wellbeing Week

To celebrate International Staff Wellbeing Week, our team took a well-deserved pause for a rejuvenating afternoon "stretch and move" session. Teachers and staff gathered to shake off the day's stress, stretch out tired muscles, and share a few well-earned laughs. The gentle movement and mindful breathing provided the perfect mid-week reset, but the highlight came right at the finish—ending on an extra sweet note with a treat. It was an energizing, uplifting reminder that taking care of ourselves is key to showing up best for our students.



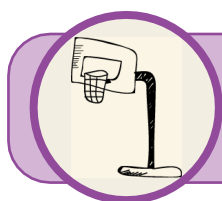
Further, our secondary students were introduced to Komodo, our new student wellbeing platform designed to give every student a voice and support their mental and emotional health. Through a guided tutorial session, students set up their profiles, learned how to complete quick, routine check-ins, and discovered how simple it is to request support or share feedback whenever they need it. The rollout sparked thoughtful conversations across year groups about self-reflection and proactive care, empowering our students to prioritize their wellbeing in a safe and supportive digital space.





Career-University Guidance Counselling

To help our students grow beyond the classroom, we are actively encouraging them to participate in prestigious BSME (British Schools in the Middle East) international competitions. Ranging from academic debates and STEM challenges to creative arts and sports, these events provide a powerful platform for students to sharpen technical hard skills like research, coding, and subject mastery, alongside vital soft skills like leadership, collaboration, and resilience. Representing our school on a regional stage empowers our young learners to push their boundaries, build real-world confidence, and shine in a global community. Explore the [BSME international competitions here](#).



Physical Education (PE)

Discovering Our Young Athletes!



This week, the PE Department will resume its exciting process of identifying and selecting students who demonstrate strong potential in athletic sports. Selected students will take part in a series of athletic try-outs designed to assess key areas of physical performance, including fitness, stamina, endurance, speed, agility, coordination, and overall athletic ability.

The try-outs provide students with an opportunity to showcase their strengths, challenge themselves, and develop their sporting potential. We look forward to seeing our students participate with enthusiasm, confidence, and great sportsmanship as they work towards representing our school in future sporting opportunities.



Health and Safety

Launch of the Health & Safety Student Ambassador Programme

Belvedere International School is pleased to announce the launch of its new **Health & Safety Student Ambassador Programme** for the Academic Year 2026–2027.

The programme is designed to give selected students an active role in promoting a **safe, healthy and responsible school environment**, while helping them develop valuable **leadership, teamwork and communication skills**.

Through the programme, Student Ambassadors will support health and safety awareness initiatives, encourage positive behaviours among their peers, and help promote a strong culture of safety and wellbeing across the school.

Welcoming Our First Student Ambassadors



Madjire Francies Blessing
Year 11



Khalifa Mohammed Alkaabi
Year 12



Health and Safety



SCHOOL TRANSPORT SAFETY VISIT

Our school was pleased to welcome representatives from the Department of Transport (DOT) to the school campus on 15 September 2026 as part of our ongoing commitment to promoting safe and responsible school transportation.

The Health & Safety Department appreciates the cooperation of our Bus Supervisors and Drivers during the DOT visit. Their daily commitment plays an essential role in ensuring that students travel safely and responsibly.

We also appreciate the support and guidance provided during the visit, which helps us **continuously strengthen our school transport safety practices.**



Our Safety Commitment

At Belvedere International School, student safety remains our highest priority. Through continued collaboration between the Health & Safety Department, Transport Team, Bus Supervisors, Drivers and relevant authorities, we aim to maintain a safe transportation environment for every student.

“SAFE JOURNEYS START WITH SAFE RESPONSIBILITIES.”

SCHOOL AGE VACCINATION PROGRAM 2026-2027

Vaccination is one of the most effective measures for preventing infectious diseases. The School Age Vaccination Programme provides recommended vaccines through routine health services and school-based activities. In line with the National Immunisation Schedule, the programme will be conducted for **Year 1, Year 5, Year 8, and Year 11** students. Consent forms and pre-vaccination checklists have been distributed to parents by hand and via email, with collection currently ongoing.

STUDENT MEDICAL INFORMATION FORM

The collection of Student Medical Information Forms is currently in progress. The forms provide essential health information, including students' medical history, allergies, existing health conditions, medications, and emergency contact details. The information collected will be reviewed and maintained confidentially to support appropriate healthcare provision and effective emergency management within the school.



What's On?

28 – Sep to 02 - Oct

28
SEP

Monday

Emirati Burqa Heritage Week
Whole School Assembly

29
SEP

Tuesday

KS1 Assembly
After-School ECA Clubs

30
SEP

Wednesday

KS2 Assembly
Arab Reading Challenge
Parents Meeting for IEP
Sharing Learning Morning

01
OCT

Thursday

Secondary School Assembly
Climate Action Project – Years 7-10
Environmental Awareness Workshop –
Years 8-9

02
OCT

Friday

السنة الاماراتي **Emirati Sanaa**
المخوره والغتره **Al-Mukhwara and Al-Ghutrah**
Whole School Assembly - Emirati Burqa
Heritage Week
Spelling Bee – 1st Round – Years 1-6



*See you
next issue!*