



BELVEDERE
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

BIS Newsletter
Issue No. 51 | 11-Sep-2026

Learning Today for a Healthier Tomorrow

Healthy minds • Active Bodies • Brighter Futures



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Principal's Message

Welcome to a New Academic Year at Belvedere International School

Dear Parents and Members of the Belvedere International School Community,

A very warm welcome to a new academic year at **Belvedere International School, Al Ain**. I hope that you and your families have enjoyed a restful and memorable summer. As we begin another exciting chapter in our school's journey, I would like to extend my sincere thanks for your continued trust, support and partnership.

Every new academic year brings new opportunities. At BIS, our focus remains firmly on providing our students with an **exceptional learning experience in a safe, supportive and caring environment**, while preparing them to become confident, responsible and successful young people.

This year, we will continue to build on the progress and successes we have achieved together, while setting ourselves **higher targets and greater aspirations** for our students and our school.

Strengthening Our UAE National Identity

As a school community in the UAE, one of our important priorities this year is to deepen our students' **understanding, appreciation and lived experience of UAE national identity and values**.

We want our students not only to learn about the UAE, but to understand what it means to be part of its rich culture and heritage and to demonstrate these values in their daily lives.

As part of this focus, we will be introducing and strengthening initiatives that provide students with opportunities to explore UAE heritage, culture, traditions and language.

One exciting initiative will be our increased focus on **Nabati poetry**, allowing students to discover and appreciate this important part of the UAE's cultural heritage and giving them opportunities to engage creatively with its language, stories and traditions.

We will also place particular emphasis on the **National Anthem during our daily assemblies**. We want every student and member of staff to participate respectfully and confidently. This daily routine is more than simply singing an anthem; it is an opportunity to develop a sense of **belonging, respect, pride and appreciation for the country in which we live and learn**.

Developing Kindness, Humility and Responsibility

Academic achievement is important, but we believe that education is about much more than examination results.

We want our students to become **kind, humble, respectful and responsible individuals** who understand that their actions have an impact on the people and environment around them.



Principal's Message

This year, we will be promoting the **“Clean Your Own Space” initiative**, shared by ADEK, as an opportunity to develop these important attitudes and habits. Through simple daily actions—looking after our classrooms, keeping our environment clean, taking responsibility for our belongings and respecting shared spaces—we can help students understand that being responsible begins with the choices we make every day.

Our aim is to develop a culture where students do the right thing **because they understand its value**, not simply because they are asked to do so.

Preparing Our Students for the Future – Introducing AI Education

Another exciting development this academic year will be the introduction of the new AI curriculum, which is expected to begin in the **last week of September**, following the release of the detailed plans and guidance from ADEK.

The curriculum will provide our students with opportunities to develop their understanding of Artificial Intelligence and, importantly, the skills needed to use technology **responsibly, intelligently and ethically**.

The programme will support future-readiness skills across the school, from **FS2 through to Year 12**, helping students develop the knowledge, critical thinking, creativity, problem-solving and digital skills they will need in an increasingly changing world.

We see this as an important step in ensuring that our students are not simply consumers of technology, but become **thoughtful, responsible and confident users and creators of technology**.

Building on Our Success

Alongside these initiatives, our core priority remains unchanged: **improving teaching, learning and student outcomes**.

We will continue to work closely with our teachers, leaders, students and parents to strengthen the learning experience at BIS. We will continue to use assessment information and evidence to identify students' strengths and areas for development, provide appropriate support and challenge, and ensure that every student has the opportunity to make strong progress.

We are also delighted to welcome **new leaders and members of staff** to our BIS family this academic year. They bring new ideas, experience, energy and expertise, and will work alongside our existing team to build on the strong foundations we have established.

Together, we will continue to challenge ourselves, learn from our successes and areas for development, and work towards **even higher standards and aspirations for Belvedere International School**.



Principal's Message

Our Partnership with Parents

None of this can be achieved by the school alone. The partnership between school, students and parents is fundamental to our success. We value your feedback, your support and your involvement in your children's education.

As your Principal, I would like to assure you that my door is always open. If you have a concern, an idea, or simply wish to discuss how we can better support your child, please do not hesitate to contact the school and book an appointment. I will always be happy to listen and support wherever possible.

Let us work together to ensure that our students have a successful year—not only academically, but also personally and socially.

*Let us help them become **proud of who they are, respectful of others, responsible for their actions, curious about the world and ready for the future.***

I look forward to working with all of you throughout the year and to celebrating the achievements of our students and our wider BIS community.

Together, let us make this another successful and memorable academic year at Belvedere International School.

Warmest regards,

School Principal
Belvedere International School - Al Ain



Vice Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the first edition of our school newsletter for the 2026–2027 academic year. As Vice Principal and Head of Secondary, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to our students, families and staff for their cooperation and positive start to the year.

At Belvedere International School, we believe that students achieve their best when the school and families work together with a shared commitment to high standards, student wellbeing and academic success. As we begin this new chapter, I would like to share several important developments and expectations that will guide our work throughout the year.

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE Implementation in Year 10

One of the most significant developments this academic year is the implementation of the Pearson Edexcel International GCSE curriculum for our new Year 10 cohort. This carefully planned change reflects the school's commitment to providing a rigorous, internationally recognised curriculum that prepares students effectively for future study and university pathways.

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE qualifications are recognised by schools, colleges and universities around the world. The curriculum promotes strong subject knowledge, critical thinking, problem-solving, independence and the practical application of learning. It also provides clear subject specifications and assessment expectations, allowing teachers, students and parents to understand what must be taught, learned and assessed throughout the course.

Our Year 10 teachers and Heads of Department are working collaboratively to ensure that curriculum maps, schemes of work, assessments and learning resources are fully aligned with the relevant Pearson Edexcel specifications. Student progress will be monitored carefully through regular assessments, moderation, feedback and targeted intervention. Parents will also receive clear information about subject requirements, examination structures and their child's progress.

This implementation applies to the new Year 10 cohort for the 2026–2027 academic year. Students who are already studying Cambridge courses in Years 11 and 12 will continue with their current examination board so that their learning is not disrupted by a mid-course change.

While examination specifications and assessment structures may differ, our core expectations remain the same: excellent teaching, regular attendance, punctuality, consistent effort, completion of homework and a strong partnership between home and school.

FS2–Year 3 Student Arrival Tags

To support the safety and smooth movement of our younger students, we have introduced student arrival tags for children from FS2 to Year 3. These tags are attached to students' backpacks and include important information such as the student's name, class, teacher, room and method of transport—either bus or parent pick-up.



Vice Principal's Message

This simple initiative helps staff identify each child quickly and ensures that students are guided to the correct classroom and dismissal area. It is particularly valuable during busy arrival and dismissal periods and supports our commitment to safeguarding every child in our care.

Parents are kindly requested to ensure that the tag remains securely attached to their child's backpack and that the information remains clearly visible. Please inform the school immediately if there is any permanent change to your child's transport arrangement so that our records can be updated.

Uniform and Presentation Standards

Wearing the correct school uniform is an important part of belonging to our school community. It promotes equality, strengthens school identity and helps students develop pride, discipline and a professional attitude towards learning.

Students are expected to attend school each day wearing the complete, approved uniform in a neat and appropriate manner. Hair must be tidy and, where appropriate, tied back. Makeup, nail polish, artificial or excessively long nails, and unsuitable jewellery are not permitted. Students may wear only the school-approved cardigan or jacket, and footwear must comply with the school's uniform expectations.

Shorts are not permitted for female students in the Senior School. We respectfully ask parents to support the school by checking that their children are dressed correctly before leaving home. Consistent cooperation between home and school prevents unnecessary disruption to learning and allows students to begin their day positively.

Attendance and Punctuality

Regular attendance and punctuality are essential for academic progress. When students arrive late or miss lessons, they lose valuable learning time and may find it difficult to keep up with the sequence of teaching. Late arrival can also interrupt the learning of other students.

Parents are therefore requested to ensure that students arrive at school on time, prepared for the day and carrying all necessary books and equipment. Family appointments and early departures should be avoided during school hours whenever possible. If an absence is unavoidable, the school should be informed promptly and the appropriate supporting documentation provided where required.

Attendance and punctuality will be monitored closely. Where concerns arise, the school will contact families so that we can work together to identify the reasons and provide appropriate support.



Vice Principal's Message

Behaviour and Personal Responsibility

We want every student to feel safe, respected and ready to learn. High standards of behaviour are therefore expected in classrooms, corridors, play areas, school transport and during all school activities.

Students should speak respectfully, follow staff instructions, care for school property and demonstrate kindness towards others. Bullying, aggressive behaviour, inappropriate language and any action that compromises another person's safety or dignity will be addressed in accordance with the school's behaviour and safeguarding procedures.

Our approach is not simply about rules or consequences. It is about helping students understand responsibility, make positive choices and recognise how their actions affect others. We ask parents to reinforce these expectations at home so that students receive a clear and consistent message from both school and family.

Working in Partnership

Open, respectful communication is essential to the success of our school community. I warmly welcome parents who wish to share a concern, suggestion or constructive feedback. If there is something affecting your child's wellbeing, learning or experience at school, please do not hesitate to contact us.

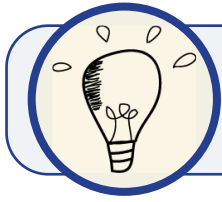
Where possible, concerns should first be discussed with the relevant teacher, Form Tutor, Head of Department or Key Stage Leader, as they are often able to provide immediate clarification or support. However, parents are also welcome to arrange a meeting with me through the school office. I remain committed to listening carefully, investigating concerns fairly and working collaboratively towards solutions that serve the best interests of our students.

As we move forward, our priorities remain clear: maintaining a safe and respectful environment, strengthening the quality of teaching and learning, raising academic standards and ensuring that every student is known, supported and encouraged to reach their full potential.

Thank you for your continued trust, cooperation and partnership. I look forward to working closely with you throughout the year and celebrating the many achievements of our students and school community.

Warm regards,

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



Extra Curricular Activities (ECA)

Welcome Back to Our Term 1 ECA Programme!

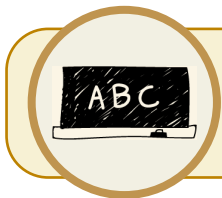
We are delighted to welcome our students back to the Term 1 ECA Programme. Registration has now been received, and we look forward to an exciting term filled with creativity, learning, and enrichment.

Our ECA sessions will begin on Monday, 14th September, and will run only on Mondays and Tuesdays throughout the term.

To ensure smooth dismissal and student safety, we kindly remind parents of the following:

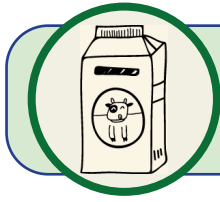
- ECA dismissal time: Students must be collected promptly at 3:15 PM on ECA days (Monday & Tuesday).
- Regular school days: There are no clubs on Wednesdays or Thursdays. Please ensure students are collected at the regular school dismissal time of 2:20 PM.

We look forward to a wonderful and engaging ECA season ahead, and we thank all parents for their continued support.



FS2 - Y2/EYFS

The FS2 to Year 2 classes have completed their transition weeks and baseline assessments this week. We are excited to start our formal academic curriculum next week. Our teachers and students are ready to learn, take part, think, reason and discover.



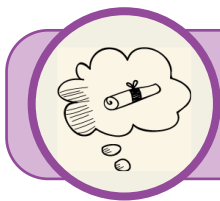
Primary School

This week, our Primary School has continued to settle into the new academic year with **enthusiasm, excitement and a wonderful sense of community.**

It has been fantastic to see our students returning to school with such positive energy and enthusiasm for learning. Our teachers have been busy establishing routines, building strong relationships with their students and creating engaging learning environments where every child feels **safe, valued and ready to learn.**

We have also been delighted to strengthen our **partnership with parents**, as we work together to support the academic, social and emotional development of every child. Our parents play an invaluable role in their children's educational journey, and we look forward to continuing this positive collaboration throughout the year.

As we move forward, we are excited about the many opportunities ahead for our Primary students to **learn, explore, create and grow.** With a dedicated team of teachers, enthusiastic learners and strong parental support, we look forward to a **happy, successful and inspiring Term 1 in Primary School!**



Secondary School

This week, our Secondary School kicked off the academic year with energy, excitement, and meaningful parent engagement. We were delighted to welcome our Year 10 parents to a special orientation where we introduced the Edexcel curriculum pathway for their children. It was a wonderful opportunity to share how the programme supports academic growth, exam readiness, and future success.

Our students have also been busy and successfully completed their baseline assessments this week. These baselines help us understand each student's starting point so we can tailor teaching, support progress, and ensure every learner thrives throughout the term.

With strong parent partnerships and motivated students, we are looking forward to an inspiring and productive Term 1 in Secondary!





Arabic Department

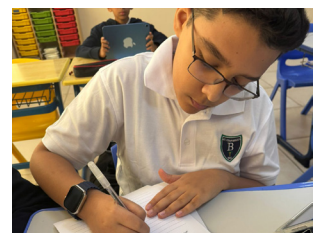
انطلاق العام الدراسي الجديد - قسم المواد العربية

مع انطلاقة العام الدراسي الجديد، حرص قسم المواد العربية على توفير بداية تعليمية مميزة ومحفزة للطلاب، تجمع بين التعلم والمتعة والتفاعل، وتسهم في بناء بيئة صفية إيجابية تشجع الطلبة على المشاركة والإبداع منذ الأيام الأولى للعام الدراسي.

وخلال الأسبوع الأول من العودة المدرسية، عمل فريق المواد العربية على تنظيم مجموعة متنوعة من الأنشطة التفاعلية والمسابقات والتحديات التعليمية، بهدف كسر روتين العودة، وتعزيز الحماس والدافعية لدى الطلبة، وإتاحة الفرصة لهم للتعلم من خلال المشاركة والتجربة والتنافس الإيجابي.

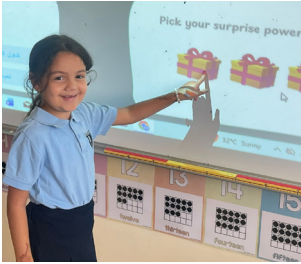
ولم تقتصر جهود القسم على الجانب الأكاديمي والترفيهي، بل حرصنا كذلك على تعزيز اللغة العربية والهوية الوطنية من خلال أنشطة متنوعة تسهم في تعريف الطلبة بتراث دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة، وترسيخ قيم الانتماء والاعتزاز بالثقافة والموروث الإماراتي الأصيل.

وتواصل هذه الجهود على مدار العام من خلال مجموعة من المبادرات والأنشطة الثقافية التي تهدف إلى جعل اللغة العربية حاضرة بصورة حيوية في حياة الطلبة، وربط تعلمهم باللغة بجوانب الأدب والثقافة والتراث والهوية الوطنية.





Arabic Department



الاحتفاء بالهوية الوطنية

وتتوج هذه الجهود أسبوعياً في صباح كل يوم جمعة، حيث تتزين المدرسة بأبهى صور الاحتفاء بالهوية الوطنية خلال الطابور الصباحي، ويحرص الطلاب على ارتداء الزي الإماراتي الذي يعكس أصالة الجذور والتاريخ.

كما يشهد الطابور الصباحي برنامجاً إذاعياً مميزاً، يقدم من خلاله الطلاب فقرات متنوعة وإبداعية تناول اللغة العربية والثقافة والتراث والهوية الوطنية، وذلك بالتعاون والتنسيق المثمر مع معلمات الدراسات الاجتماعية والهوية الوطنية.

ومن منطلق حرصنا على توسيع دائرة اهتمام الطلبة بالتراث الأدبي الإماراتي، يأتي ضمن خطتنا لهذا العام الاهتمام بالشعر النبطي الإماراتي، من خلال مبادرة متخصصة سيتم تنفيذها للطلبة، تتضمن أنشطة تعليمية وثقافية ومسابقات شعرية تهدف إلى تعريفهم بهذا الجانب الأصيل من الموروث الإماراتي، وتنمية مواهبهم في الحفظ والإلقاء والتعبير.

وفيما يلي نود أن نعرّفكم بشكل أكبر بمبادرة الشعر النبطي ومنسقتها في المدرسة، الأستاذة عائشة سلطان الكعبي، وما تتضمنه المبادرة من فرص وأنشطة للطلبة.

وتأتي هذه الجهود ضمن رؤية قسم المواد العربية لتقديم تجربة تعليمية متكاملة، تعزز مهارات الطلبة في اللغة العربية، وتفتح أمامهم آفاقاً أوسع للتعبير والإبداع، مع ترسيخ ارتباطهم بهويتهم الوطنية وتراثهم الإماراتي الأصيل. مع خالص التقدير والاحترام.

الأستاذة نسرين الربابعة
رئيسة قسم المواد العربية ورئيسة فريق الهوية الوطنية
Belvedere International School



Inclusion Department

Building Strong Foundations for Every Learner

At Belvedere International School, we believe that every learner deserves to feel valued, understood and empowered to succeed. Our Inclusion Department is committed to recognising individual strengths, understanding learning needs and creating meaningful opportunities for every student to learn, grow and thrive.

As we begin the new academic year, our Inclusion Team has been working closely with students and teachers through baseline assessments, classroom observations and individual sessions to identify each learner's strengths, areas for development and learning needs.

Through support both within and beyond the classroom, alongside close collaboration with teachers, these insights will guide the development of Individual Education Plans (IEPs), meaningful learning goals and targeted support strategies tailored to each learner's needs and potential. Throughout the year, we will continue to monitor progress, strengthen partnerships with teachers and families, and celebrate every step of achievement.

Because inclusion is not simply about being present — it is about belonging, participating, progressing and succeeding.



Library

This week in our library, we enjoyed a variety of activities, including reading stories, listening to audiobooks, and watching story videos. We also asked students questions about the stories, and they participated beautifully.

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





Social Work & Wellbeing

Last week our Wellbeing Team conducted a CPD workshop to promote student social and emotional wellbeing. Clear mutual expectations were discussed, alongside a structured 5-step process—Observe, Communicate, Plan, Implement, and Follow Up—to guide student intervention and support. The session details practical ways to embed wellbeing into daily instruction, including emotional check-ins, low-stakes practice, brain breaks, differentiated options, and dedicated spaces for self-regulation. The workshop highlighted the critical warning signs of student distress and reaffirmed that safeguarding is a shared responsibility across the entire school staff.



Career-University Guidance Counselling

Last week, the school's academic counselor launched dedicated 1:1 discovery sessions with Year 11 students using the CU Discovery Booklet to raise self-awareness rather than rush final career decisions.

Session Structure & Student Focus

- **Strengths & Hobbies:** Students reflected on their personal pursuits and evaluate core competencies, including transferable skills.
- **Academic Appraisal:** students evaluated their current IGCSE grades, distinguishing between subjects that feel natural and those that require more concentrated effort, while setting specific annual goals.
- **Study Preferences:** The session assessed preferred studying techniques.
- **Career Exploration:** Counselor and student discussed prospective qualification pathways—such as A-Levels—alongside career clusters including Aviation, STEM, healthcare, business, creative arts, and humanities.
- **Counselor Prep & Action Planning:** Students prepared personal questions beforehand, concluding the meeting with a structured Action Plan Summary that assigned target goals.

Through this structured framework, Year 11 students receive tailored guidance to navigate the year with clarity, confidence, and actionable next steps.



Social Worker

This week, we focused on supporting our students, promoting positive behaviour, and creating opportunities for meaningful student engagement. We:

- Supported our students by addressing student concerns that required intervention, communicating with parents, following up on individual cases, and completing the necessary reports and documentation.
- Encouraged student participation by identifying students who showed interest and potential in social initiatives and encouraging them to take an active role in supporting their school community.
- Promoted positive behaviour through student guidance sessions on the Student Behaviour Policy, focusing on understanding school expectations, following the rules, taking responsibility, and reinforcing positive choices.
- Promoted tolerance and inclusion by organising initiatives with secondary students to encourage values of tolerance, respect, acceptance, and appreciation of differences.
- Strengthened community partnerships by contacting Abu Dhabi Community Police to explore opportunities for workshops and initiatives for both students and parents, supporting awareness, safety, positive behaviour, and community engagement.



Physical Education (PE)

This week, the PE Department began the process of identifying and selecting talented students who demonstrate strong potential in endurance sports. Selected students were invited to participate in tryouts designed to assess their fitness, stamina, endurance, speed, and overall athletic ability.

Following the tryouts, students who show promising potential will be selected to represent the school in the upcoming Abu Dhabi Sports Championship. The PE Team will then provide these students with focused training and preparation to help them develop their physical abilities, improve their endurance, and build the confidence and discipline needed to compete at a high level.

This initiative provides our students with an excellent opportunity to develop their sporting talents, challenge themselves, and gain valuable experience in competitive athletics. We are proud to support our young athletes as they work toward representing the school and participating in the Abu Dhabi Sports Championship.



Health and Safety

Belvedere International School Conducts First Fire Emergency Drill

Building a Culture of Safety, Preparedness and Responsibility

Belvedere International School successfully conducted its First Fire Emergency Evacuation Drill for the Academic Year 2026–2027.

The drill provided an important opportunity for our students and staff to practice the correct actions to take during a fire emergency and to reinforce our commitment to maintaining a safe school environment.

□ Successful Evacuation Time: 3 minutes 32 seconds

During the drill, students and staff responded to the fire alarm, followed the designated evacuation routes and proceeded calmly to their assigned Assembly Areas. Teachers and supervisors supported student movement and completed headcounts to ensure accountability. The successful evacuation demonstrated the importance of:

- Responding promptly when the alarm is activated.
- Following designated evacuation routes safely.
- Remaining with the assigned class or group.
- Completing accurate headcounts at the Assembly Area.
- Reporting any missing or unaccounted persons immediately.
- Not re-entering the building until the authorized all-clear is given.





Health and Safety

Thank You to Our School Community

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to all students, teachers, supervisors, Emergency Response Team members, Security, First Aid Team and support staff for their cooperation, professionalism and active participation.

The drill is an important part of our ongoing Emergency Management and Health & Safety programme. Our goal is not only to achieve a fast evacuation, but to ensure that every person knows what to do, where to go and how to remain safe during an emergency.

Together, we continue to build a safer and more prepared Belvedere International School community.

ALERT • PROTECT • ACCOUNT • REPORT

Safety is everyone's responsibility.

LUNCH BOX INSPECTION PROGRAMME 2026-2027 SECTION - FS2 - YEAR 2 (7-9-26 TO 11-9-26)

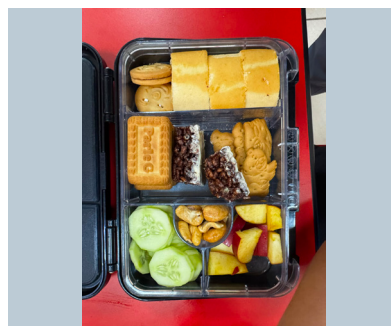
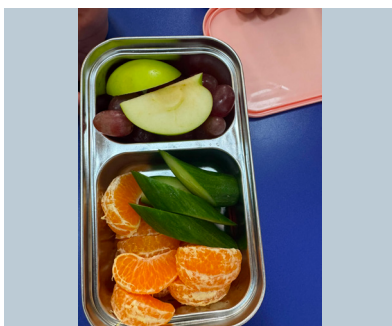
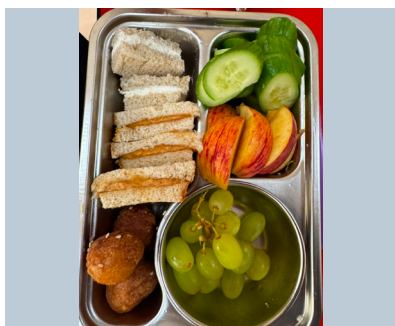
As a part of EAT RIGHT AND GET ACTIVE PROGRAMME, we conducted Lunch box inspection for Fs2 to Year 2 students , the following observations were noted;

- Most children brought clean and properly packed lunch boxes.
- Some lunch boxes contained unhealthy food items, such as chips, chocolates and deep fried items.
- Some children did not have fruits or vegetables included in their lunch boxes.
- A few lunch boxes contained excessive salty and processed foods.

IMPROVEMENT IDEAS

Parents were advised through emails to include a balanced and nutritious lunch consisting of whole grains, proteins, fruits , vegetables and water.

Children were encouraged to eat healthy and keep their lunch boxes and eating area clean .





Health and Safety

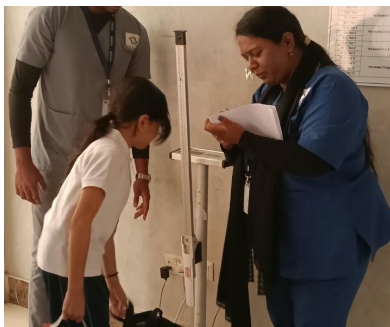
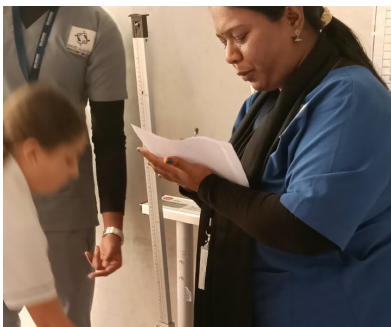
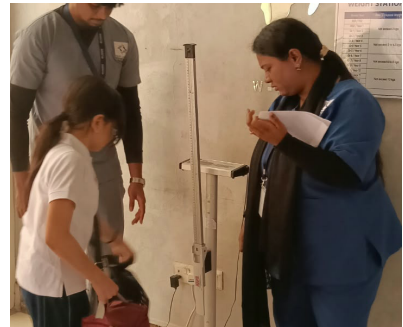
HEALTHY SPINE PROGRAMME 2026-2027

Conducted On 7th and 8th of September 2026

A random inspection of students' school bags was conducted to assess whether the bags were within an appropriate weight range.

A total of 135 bags were randomly assessed and 37 bags were found to be overweight, while 98 bags were within the acceptable weight range.

- Students were advised to carry only the books and materials required according to their daily timetable.
- Parents were notified by email about the healthy spine programme and the importance of appropriate bag weight.





Whats On?
14 Sep - 18 Sep

14
SEP

Monday

Roald Dahl Day
Whole School Assembly
After-School ECA Clubs

15
SEP

Tuesday

Friendship Day
KS1 Assembly
After-School ECA Clubs

16
SEP

Wednesday

KS2 Assembly
Students Safety Representative
Selection

17
SEP

Thursday

Secondary School Assembly

18
SEP

Friday

Tournament Registration Cutoff Date
– Abu Dhabi Sports Championship
(TBC)



*See you
next issue!*