



**COGNITA**

HIS\_DIGITAL MAGAZINE  
MARCH 2023

SCIENCE WEEK

# SPIRIT OF HORIZON EDITION

LITERACY WEEK

INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY

WORLD ART DUBAI

HACKATHON

BUGSY PRODUCTION

FUTURES WEEK

NEURODIVERSITY



**N° 1**  
Community  
Magazine

SPARKLE GAMES



# EDITORS NOTE

Welcome to the Spirit of Horizon Edition of our termly digital magazine.

This edition showcases the wonderful learning and experiences that have taken place across the term for our students and HIS community and it is testament to Horizon International School on how we consistently manage to fill our community magazine to the capacity of 30 pages! Fitting everything into the magazine is a challenge, but what a wonderful challenge to take on.

Students across our school have had the opportunity to look into future pathways, explore Science, sustainability projects, collaborate with other Cognita Schools, not to mention the individual accolades and achievements that our students continuously obtain too and more.

You can also view the Primary edition of HIS Way Term 2 here: <https://www.flipsnack.com/hisdigital/his-way-term-2-2023/full-view.html>

If you would like to feature anything in our community magazine, please do reach out to Mr. Petkar at [zareef.petkar@hisdubai.ae](mailto:zareef.petkar@hisdubai.ae) and we take this opportunity to wish you a wonderful, reflective Ramadan Kareem and spring vacation period ahead.

May your prayers be answered and enjoy spending time with family, friends and loved ones, for Term 3 brings us much more and we must be ready to go again!

Best wishes,  
Mr. Petkar  
Head of Digital Learning, Technology & Innovation.



# COGNITA HACKATHON

COGNITA



HACKATHON CHAMPIONS

My crime is that of  
**curiosity**



Students from Horizon International School and Royal Guildford Grammar School Dubai collaborated in a "Hackathon". With a focus on sustainability, students programmed micro:bit technology to provide a smart solution to their chosen sustainable development goal, using everyday items to help them.



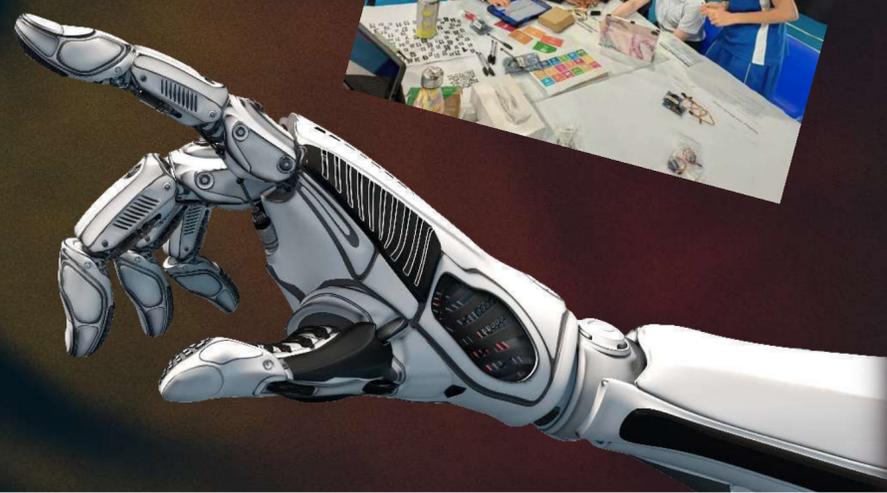
Students needed to utilise their research, resilience, collaboration, problem solving and design thinking skills in order to successfully complete their project within the given time frame that they have! In addition to this, they had the option of using a "Hack Mode" where students obtained expert advice and guidance from industry robotics experts and Student Digital Leaders from Horizon International School for a one time 5 minute use.



As part of the requirements, groups were had to provide an elevated presentation to showcase their concepts and talk through their idea.



The whole process was judged following a shared rubric, after which the winners were announced as Hackathon Champions 2023!



# DESERT DANCE

After months of auditions and rehearsals, Desert Dance 2023 was held at Dubai College with the theme 'All that Glitters'. Our Secondary Desert Dance Team performed the piece 'Don't lose a diamond whilst chasing glitter', a piece inspired by the mysterious Jay Gatsby and the novel 'The Great Gatsby', the dancers explore the rise of the party and the fall and disaster of the obsession of love. Showing that all that glitters isn't always gold.

The Secondary team were awarded excellence in choreographic intent by the judges.

Our Primary Desert dance team performed a piece about the fabulous New York. A place where people go to follow their dreams and make it on Broadway entitled 'If I can make it there'. The team was awarded excellence in dancers technique by the judges.

The dancers were not only brilliant on stage and in rehearsals but were commended for their effort, focus and kindness backstage.



# RESIDENTIAL AND SKI TRIPS

This term KS3 went to JA Hatta Fort with The Adventure Centre to take part in a weekend of Outdoor Activities. Students tried buggy building, abseiling, rock climbing, rifle shooting, water team building, survival and of course the infamous inflatable slides. They also got to eat some amazing food, join a camp for performance and watch a movie under the stars.

They developed their skills in teamwork, resilience, independence and made fantastic memories and friendships. It was the most amazing experience with exemplary behaviour and HIS spirit.

A special mention to Ayan Farook in 8E who was awarded The Tom Creen Award for the values of Resilience, Determination and Humility.



During the half term break we took 19 students from year 5 to 9 skiing to Gudauri in Georgia with Ecoventure.

It was a wonderful trip with so many new skills, friendships and positive experiences gained for our children. It was the first time many of the group had ever seen or touched snow which brought great fun and excitement.

Within the group there was a mixture of ability levels from beginner to advanced with the majority skiing and one snow boarder Flynn.

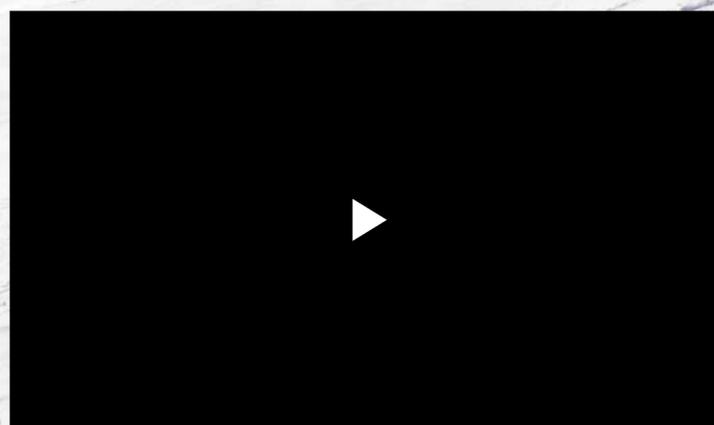
Once the groups were organised and boots were fitted, they headed to the slopes to meet the instructors and travel up in the Gondola.

The beginners gained their confidence and picked up the skills quickly while the intermediate and advanced groups explored the mountain. Each day they made rapid progress, took on different challenges and explored new slopes. They had three fabulous days of skiing and boarding in excellent conditions with plenty of fresh snow.

The hotel was very comfortable and had a fun games room. They catered very well for our whole group and the lunch on the slopes was excellent. The Ecoventure staff were lovely and provided a nice balance of fun entertainment and down time for everyone. The group bonded well throughout the week forming new friendships across different year groups which we hope will continue to blossom in school.

Everyone who met our group were extremely complimentary of our children. They all represented HIS with respect and pride, showcasing the spirit of Horizon.

All the students who attended the trip are keen to go again next year. We will certainly look to offer another ski trip next year, so please if you are interested begin to plan for this.



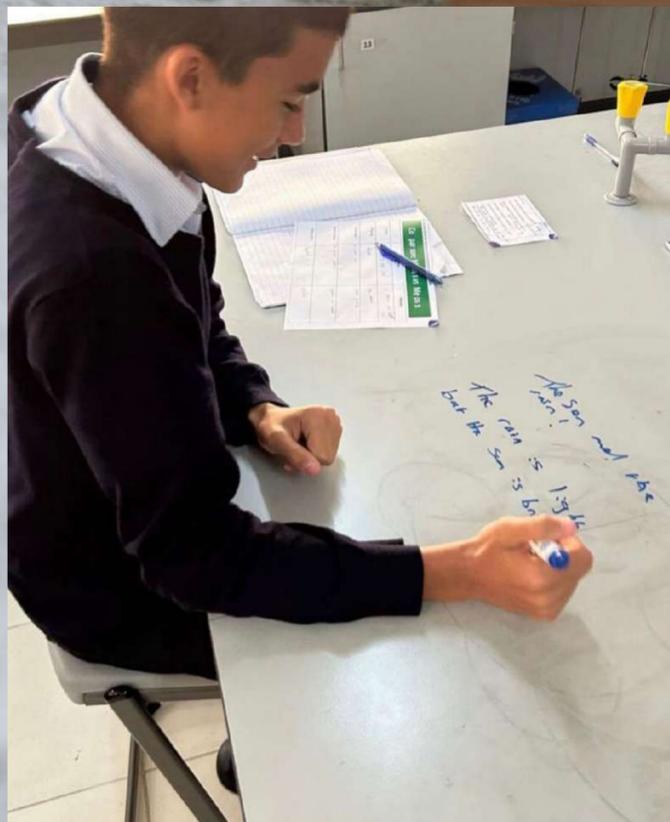
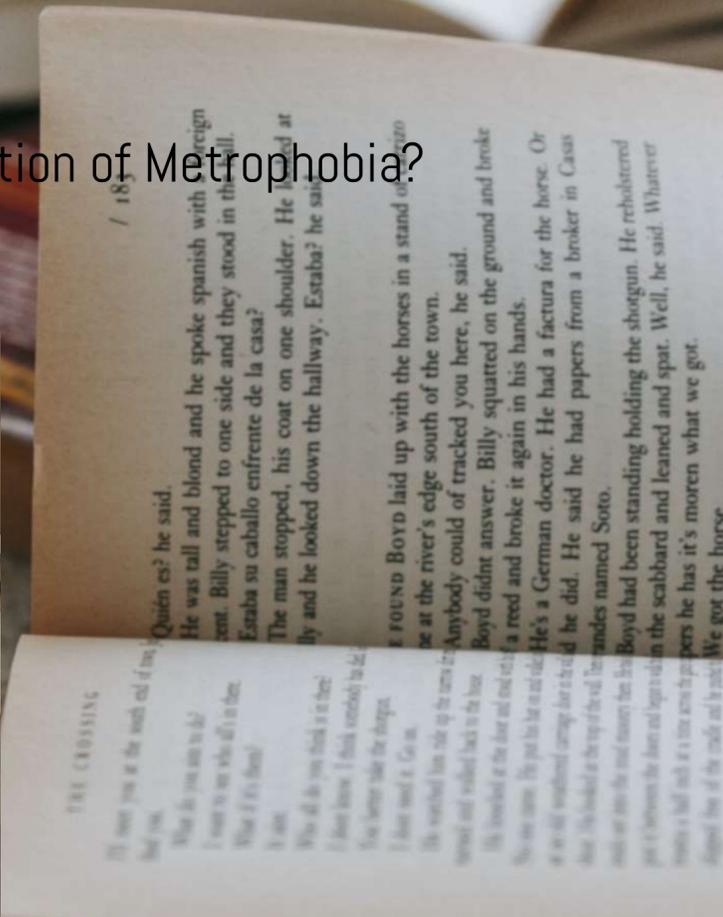
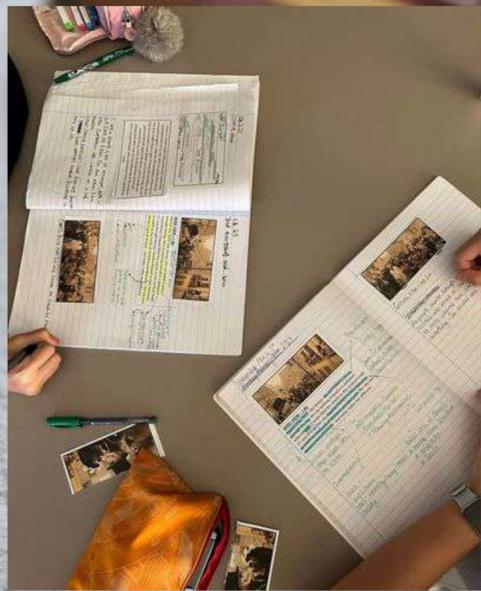
# LITERACY WEEK

At HIS, we celebrated Literacy Week in the most immersive way this month! Students across the school were invited to Drop Everything And...complete a different Literacy Challenge every day.

On Monday, students picked up their favourite book and read. On Tuesday, they brought out their inner spelling champion with a cross-curricular spelling test. On Wednesday, it was time to put pen to paper and write something creative and original. On Thursday we had a wonderful time with Drop Everything and Rhyme.

Finally, on Friday, we brought all of this together and demonstrated our learning through an interactive quiz. Students loved the opportunity to engage in a range of literacy based challenges in all subjects and learn some interesting literacy based facts as the week progressed.

Do you know the definition of Metrophobia?



# SPORTS DAY

Wow! What a half term. On top of all of the usual PE and sport happening it has also been....SPORTS DAY SEASON! Our students have once again blown us away with their effort, enthusiasm and the HIS spirit that we all know and love. All of our students from FS1 up to Year 13 have had the opportunity to experience 'Sports Day' this term, over a series of 6 events, 5 of which were hosted at HIS and then the final year 4 to 13 event taking place up at ISD in Dubai Sports City.





# L&T FUNDAMENTALS AT HIS

*'There is no substitute for exceptional teaching.'*

**Consistency is what transforms average into excellence...**

- **Minimal Whole Class Teaching** (1min per chronological age +1)
- **Differentiation/personalisation** of learning informed by AFL
- **'In the Moment'** adaptations to lessons to ensure challenge and support for all
- **Purposeful use** of LA/LSA
- **A Large Majority** (or more) of students can articulate **what** they are learning, **why** they are learning and **how** they are going to get there
- **A large majority** (or more) of students are **engaged** in their **learning** and **thinking**
- **Purposeful Feedback** is given within the lesson
- **Questioning** challenges the students and **Makes Everyone Think**



## **REVIEW THE IMPACT!**

Remember to keep **STUDENT OUTCOMES** at the forefront of everything you do. How can you support all students to make **progress** on the **Learning Objective** set? How can you make it explicit?

## **HOW WILL YOU BE SUPPORTED?**

**Learning Walks, CLR**s and **Learning Reviews** will all focus on the L&T Fundamentals and the L&T Matrix to support you to develop your own Learning and Teaching.

**Feedback** will be timely and offer actions or follow up support if required. We are here to support and develop!

**Everyone Counts. Everyone Contributes. Everyone Succeeds.**

# WORLD ART DUBAI

The Year 7 students have done an amazing job with their work showcased in the World Trade Centre at World Art Dubai.

They came in second place, which is amazing as lots of the other schools had GCSE students' work presented!

The student applied their mixed media skills inspired by Picasso and Alexander Calder to create a collaborative piece inspired by the diverse community we live in.

They have been concentrating on applying a continuous line to create facial features in sculpture to create these 3D pieces.

Congratulations on being recognized for your wonderful creativity!



# SPIRIT OF HORIZON

Smiling faces everywhere, a Safe Place to Stay and Play.  
Children having so much fun, Calm and Crayons and Classrooms,  
Horizon school is full of care, Hello, Hugs, and Helping,  
Off to school I run, Oh, what a wonderful place to go,  
to, Learn, play, explore and grow.  
HIS was built in 2008,  
Ever since then, we've been great!



Our school was made with love and bricks,  
And it became a perfect mix,  
Once upon a time, it was just sand, But now HIS proudly stands.

We used to be tiny, then we grew,  
Star International was all we knew.  
An upgrade to Horizon, we paved the way,  
Facilitating learning that lasted all day.  
Everyone counts, contributes and succeeds,  
Horizon is the place we'll all exceed!  
Because everyone counts like each little seed,  
Kindness and unity is what we need.



We are the start of all things new,  
Everyone succeeds as a classroom crew.  
Every day is a brand new beginning,  
If you are trying, then you are winning.

And we are winning, because here at HIS,  
No one is too small, For each person plays a part, We grow as a team.



We are united.  
The motto we follow well, brings us together.

Our goals are our dreams,  
 This is what our motto means,  
 Let us all succeed.  
 A motto to guide,  
 Urges us to soar and fly.  
 We are family. Light casts new shadows,  
 We will all flourish as one,  
 A perfect sunset.  
 But then COVID hit,  
 like a punch to the gut,  
 And our perfect sunset hit an impossible rut,  
 We were stuck,  
 Chained to our phones and applications,  
 Other than family, no physical communication,  
 Always doing schoolwork but with no teamwork,  
 Stuck in a pit of endless questions,  
 When will we see a friend?  
 When will this isolation end?



Will I ever see Horizon again?  
 But after what had seemed centuries,  
 we finally were back at school,  
 Even though we were choked by masks,  
 Strangled by the social distancing,  
 We were back together as a community,  
 standing and learning in unity.

We did it, we cried, we finally did it!  
 We escaped the man-eating virus that violently hit,  
 Like mighty pillars, we held up together,  
 The heavy weight as light as a feather now we were back,  
 Back at Horizon International School,  
 a place where kindness thrives,  
 Charity, philanthropy, generosity and benevolence,  
 We aid the less fortunate and make a difference in their lives,



If anyone is in need,  
 HIS will spare no expense.  
 Because it was our hands and our hearts,  
 that carved the way out of COVID,  
 And it is our hands and our hearts that will rebuild.  
 They say it is darkest before the dawn,  
 That there can't be a rainbow without bearing a storm,  
 Be it darkness or storms, we say 'Bring it on!'  
 Because we're Horizon,  
 We are strong!  
 We are one.



# F1 ETHARA

Students in our Primary School had the opportunity to test their bespoke designed F1 car models to see how they performed on the Yas in Schools Ethara track.

At speeds of 0.19 seconds and more, students' reaction times were put to the test under immense pressure to see which group finished their race first.

The impact of this for students was to engage, explore and deepen their understanding of design, engineering and speed.

The best team will now put their skills to the test by competing in the UAE Ethara National Finals at Yas Marina Circuit, Abu Dhabi in June 2023!



# F1 IN SCHOOLS



ECOLYTE: "Building a greener tomorrow, one watt at a time."

We are proud to announce our second F1 in Schools UAE National Finals team who will be entering the Rookie Category in June 2023! With the experience, guidance and impression that our first team provided, ECOLYTE are pushing for a winners medal with an entry into the Rookie Category.

As part of their entry, ECOLYTE are looking for official sponsorship to support their campaign and to raise awareness of sustainability; referring explicitly to Sustainable Development Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy.



PROLIVE: "To inspire the sustainability of consumerism and production, to increase the longevity and spark the livelihood of current and future generations."

On the back of the success of Horizon International Schools' first entry to F1 in Schools UAE National Finals last year, PROLIVE (previously known as Velocita) are entering the Professional Category in June 2023! PROLIVE finished in 4th position in the UAE, just missing out on a podium spot, in the UAE National Finals 2022.

With the knowledge and experience that they gained, they are pushing for a winners medal this time round with an automatic entry into the Professional Category.

As part of their entry, PROLIVE are looking for official sponsorship to support their campaign and to raise awareness of sustainability; referring explicitly to Sustainable Development Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production.



# BUGSY MALONE PRODUCTION

The CPA team were thrilled to be back after a long three years away with a whole school musical. The students performed Buggy Malone a play by Alan Parker over two nights in the HIS Theatre. We had such talented students that we wanted to showcase them all so Miss Brandariz and I decided we would rehearse two casts with principal roles being doubled. We were delighted to have a huge contingent from year 6 and the rest of the cast were made up from secondary students from Year 7-11. Our fabulous CPA scholars (Isabella Lucci and Chloe DaCosta) featured performed brilliantly and were excellent role models to the younger cast members.

Both casts performed like professionals and blew everyone away with their talent. So much so, that they had standing ovations on both nights. We performed matinees to Years 3 and 4 and Years 5 and 6. The primary students gave them 10/10 and left with huge smiles on their faces with many asking how they can be involved in next year's show.

The school show is a massive commitment to make for students and staff. Long evenings and weekends spent rehearsing over several months. We are so proud of how the students kept the faith and kept on going with us as, they wanted to be the best they could be. A fine example of resilience and collaboration. It was wonderful to see the cast who had performed on day one become backstage crew and cheer on the actors from the wings the following night.

As CPA teachers our mission is to inspire students to get up and perform. It is the most magical thing to entertain an audience and be part of something as big as the school show. This cast came together, made new friends, showed each other kindness and I know will miss being part of something very special. They really were a tight knit show family, and this experience will live long in their memories.

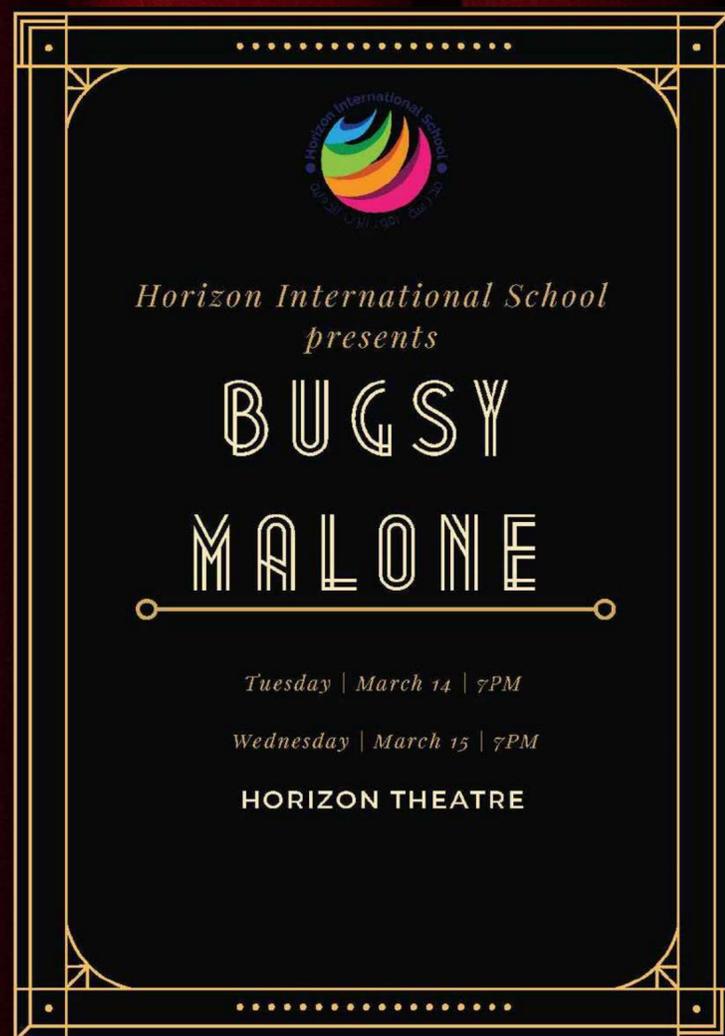
Thank you to all staff that supported in any way big or small. We are so very proud of what we have produced and all the performances by the Buggy casts and crews.

Congratulations to you all on a well deserved smash hit. We couldn't be prouder of our Buggy stars!

CPA Show Team

Mrs Shakespeare, Miss Brandariz

Mr Isbell and Miss Saunders





It is 1929 in New York and the city is divided by gang warfare in the prohibition era. In this story, children play adults. On one side, Dandy Dan's gang terrorise the district, taking out those they turn against with their new spray foam splurge guns.

On the other side, Dandy Dan's rival, Fat Sam, runs his successful Grand Slam Speakeasy. There, he deals with business and enjoys the love of attention of his guests, his show girls and his feisty girlfriend, Tallulah.

However, Sam is jealous of Dandy Dan's gang, as he still uses old fashioned custard pies to take out his victims. Sam is under pressure to adapt when his gang are wiped out and his faithful side kick Knuckles and he experiment with inventing their own gun. Things go from bad to worse for Sam and he enlists the help of Bugsy Malone, a smooth talking, man about town. Bugsy embarks on helping Sam whilst simultaneously trying to woo the new girl singer in town, Blousey Brown.



He helps Sam steal a fresh delivery of splurge guns from Dandy Dan but his efforts cost him his relationship with Blousey, after he lets her down by not taking her to Hollywood as promised. Back at the speakeasy Fat Sam and Bugsy have a plan to foil Dandy Dan who bursts into the speakeasy to steel back the guns. Foam pies, splurge guns and flour fly across the bar and chaos ensues, it all comes to a sticky end. In the final song we realise that the gangs have made peace and Bugsy and Blousey have reconciled and drive away to Hollywood.

"You gotta give a little love and the rest comes back to you."



# NATIONAL ONLINE SAFETY

Horizon International School has successfully completed a comprehensive online safety training programme demonstrating its commitment to keeping children and young people safe online.

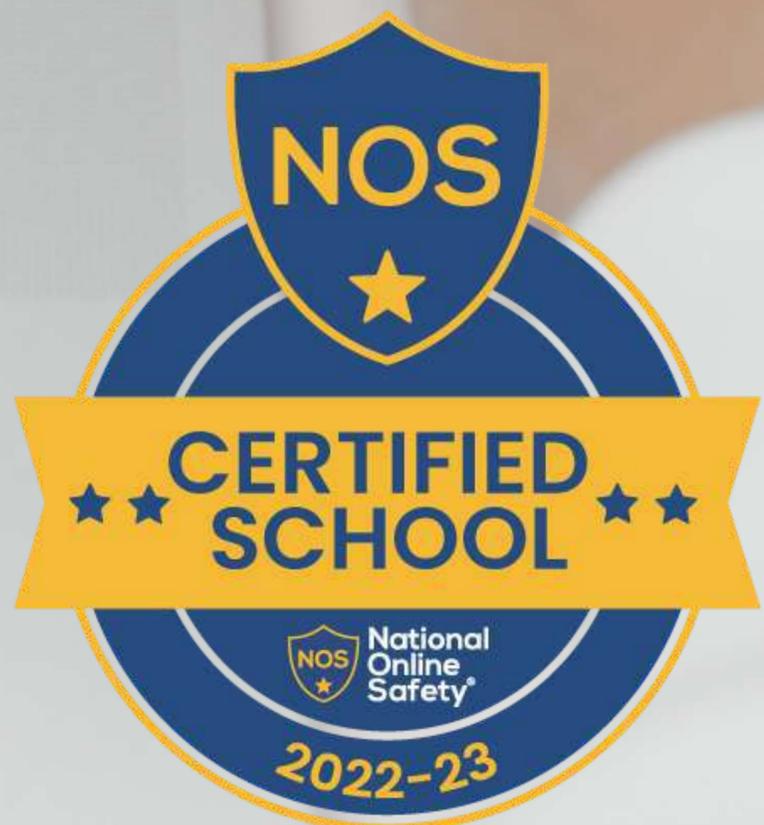
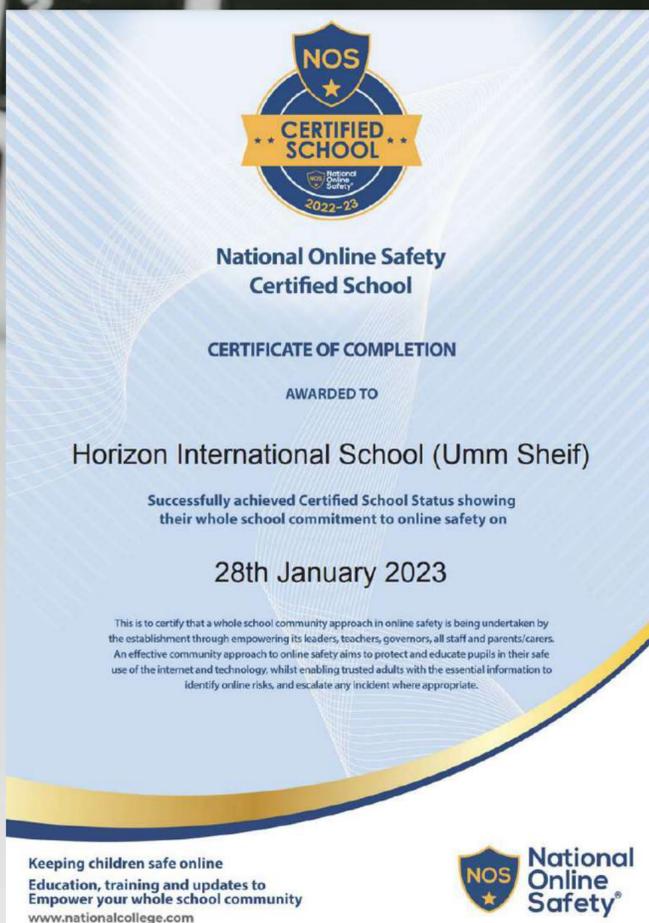
HIS Dubai received a National Online Safety Certified School Accreditation for its whole school community approach to protecting children in the online world.

National Online Safety is a multi-award winning digital training provider with extensive resources in online safety, developed in line with the Department of Education's statutory requirements.

Its CPD accredited courses and educational resources support UK schools in educating the whole school community in online safety– including all senior leaders, teachers, all school staff and parents – on how to make the internet a safer place for children.

James Southworth, co-founder of National Online Safety, said: "Congratulations to everyone at Horizon International School on becoming a National Online Safety Certified School. By completing our training programme, the school has shown its strong commitment to implementing an effective whole school approach to online safety."

"It can be increasingly difficult for schools and parents to stay ahead of online threats and ensure both children and staff are safeguarded from potentially harmful and inappropriate online material. We arm schools with the knowledge they need to understand online dangers and react in the best way possible to any problems."

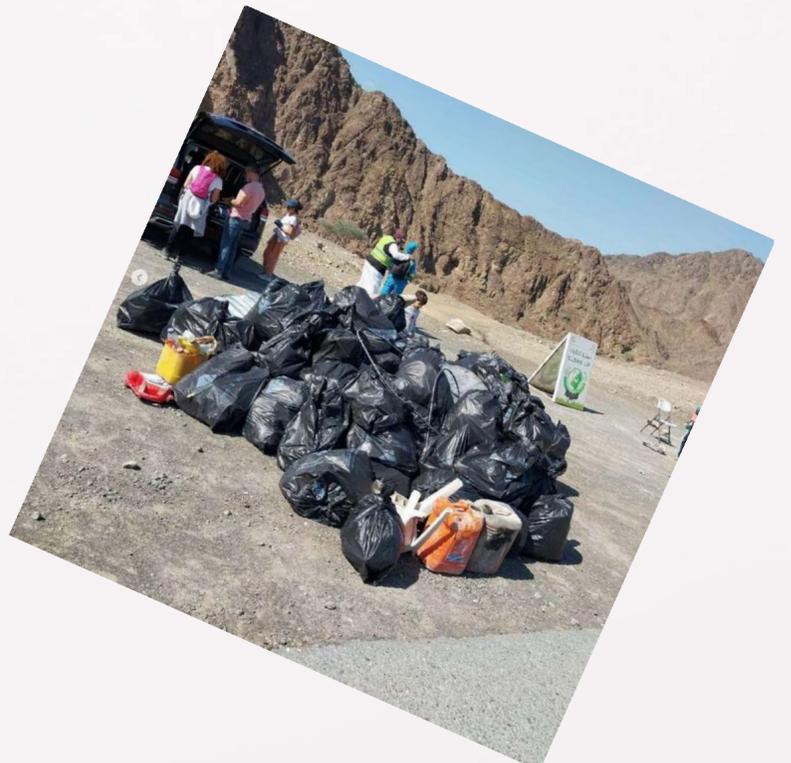


# WADI CLEAN UP

The 3rd HIS Community Wadi Cleanup took place in a wadi near Showka in collaboration with RAK Public Works.

Sadly, the team was also quite successful this year, as a total of 650 kg of trash was collected. We definitely made a difference this weekend, although we wish we did not have to...

When you are out and about enjoying the beauty of nature, please make sure you always take your litter home with you, and remind others to do the same. As the saying goes: "Leave nothing but footprints, take nothing but photographs!"



# CHATGPT & MICROSOFT COPILOT

We have never been a school where we limit student access to useful education platforms and we do not intend to become one.

What we do commit to, is ensuring students have access to as many resources and platforms available to enhance your learning experiences.

ChatGPT is a great evolution of Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a learning model and it will only get stronger over the coming months/years and why not prepare for what is to come. Students are the next generation of technology users, however the purpose of this goes back to enhancing, not replacing.

That being said, we have created and now release a live ethics document when it comes to using ChatGPT in school. We will also look to merge this with ethics for Microsoft CoPilot when it is released.

This ethics and conduct can be viewed here and now forms an integral part of the Student Charter Contract Agreement.

## Ethical Conduct

1. Use ChatGPT for educational purposes only: ChatGPT should only be used for educational purposes, such as research, writing assistance, or language practice. It should not be used for personal or entertainment purposes.
2. ChatGPT **must not be used** for **writing coursework, essay assignments, illustrative media or any work that would constitute to this category**. Any work submitted that is a product of ChatGPT input could be subject to disqualification by the exam board; potentially resulting in disqualification from all subjects under that exam board too.
3. Clearly define the problem you are trying to tackle. This may involve having a range of iterations to provide the most appropriate and effective way of asking ChatGPT a question.
4. Actively seek further understanding to widen and deepen your thinking of the topic and not taking an answer produced by ChatGPT at its surface level.
5. Understand that ChatGPT is an evolving tool; which means that its use within an educational environment could be subject to change and at short notice.
6. Do not use ChatGPT to cheat or produce work that is not reflective of you: Students should not use ChatGPT to cheat on assignments or exams. ChatGPT is a tool for learning and research, but it cannot do the work for students.
7. Protect personal information: Students should not share personal information with ChatGPT. They should also avoid asking ChatGPT for personal and sensitive information.
8. Understand that ChatGPT may produce bias or inaccurate information based on its datasets and learning. Critically evaluate the authenticity of the answers being provided to you by ChatGPT.
9. Verify information before using or sharing with others to avoid deception or passing on false information.
10. Report inappropriate behaviour: If a student encounters inappropriate behaviour from ChatGPT, such as offensive language or inappropriate responses, they should report it to a member of staff.
11. Follow our code of conduct to ensure you are being digitally responsible citizens, securing a safe learning environment and being respectful.

12. Understand that ChatGPT is an AI language model, which is not perfect. Using the tool will help you to explore, facilitate and support your own ideas and it should not be used as the sole place of information gathering.

## ChatGPT Awareness

As a parent, it is important to monitor your child's use of technology and ensure they are using it in a responsible and appropriate manner. Here are some guidelines that can help you monitor your child's use of ChatGPT.

1. Discuss appropriate use: Talk to your child about appropriate use of ChatGPT and set clear guidelines for its use. Encourage your child to use ChatGPT for educational purposes only.
1. ChatGPT **must not be used** for **writing coursework, essay assignments, illustrative media or any work that would constitute to this category**. Any work submitted that is a product of ChatGPT input could be subject to disqualification by the exam board; potentially resulting in disqualification from all subjects under that exam board too.
2. Set limits: Set limits on the amount of time your child can spend using ChatGPT. Encourage them to take breaks and engage in other activities, such as outdoor play, reading, or creative projects.
3. Reliability: ChatGPT may produce bias or inaccurate information based on its datasets and learning. Critically evaluate the authenticity of the answers being provided to you by ChatGPT.
4. Supervise use: Supervise your child's use of ChatGPT, particularly if they are younger or new to using technology. Ensure they are not engaging in inappropriate behavior or receiving inappropriate responses.
5. Check history: Check your child's ChatGPT history to see what they have been using it for and if any inappropriate behavior or responses have been encountered.
6. Use parental controls: Consider using parental control software to restrict access to ChatGPT or limit the content that your child can access. OpenAI has safeguarding protocols in place, however they are not foolproof as the technology is still evolving.
7. Encourage communication: Encourage your child to talk to you about their experiences using ChatGPT. Ask them how they are using it, what they are learning, and if they have any concerns or questions.
8. Report inappropriate behavior: If you or your child encounters inappropriate behavior from ChatGPT, such as offensive language or inappropriate responses, report it to the appropriate authority.

By monitoring your child's use of ChatGPT, you can help ensure they are using it in a responsible and appropriate manner and support their learning and growth.

# FUTURES WEEK

Our Secondary students came together to celebrate International Women's Day and raise awareness of how to plan to be 'future strong'.

Year 9 students spoke about their university applications and choices with @middlesexdubai staff (Abhinav) on hand to raise awareness about the application process and prepare to be the best they can be to stand out from the crowd.

Students across Primary and Secondary had an amazing opportunity presented to them during Futures Week where they can design the side panels of bespoke Morgan cars, a company of Adamas Motors. With these designs, the winning idea will be manufactured and the family will receive the Morgan 4 car for the weekend, provided by Adamas Motors.

In addition to this, Secondary students have the chance for the entire car design to be manufactured at the UK factories and shipped over (with judging regulations taking place) and have the whole journey publicised with Adamas Motors.

Keep an eye out for your child's teams and seesaw announcements to ensure they design and submit by the end of April 2023 deadline!

If you have any questions about this, please reach out to Mr Petkar. Thank you Adamas Motors for the exclusive opportunity and collaboration!

Finally, our Year 9 and a range of secondary students had the opportunity to visit organisations and have expert discussions, which gave them an insight into future pathways and healthcare facilities to ignite and spark their curiosity and thinking!

At HIS we are future strong!



# MAZNIL CENTER

We visited our friends at the Manzil Center as part of a wellbeing initiative.

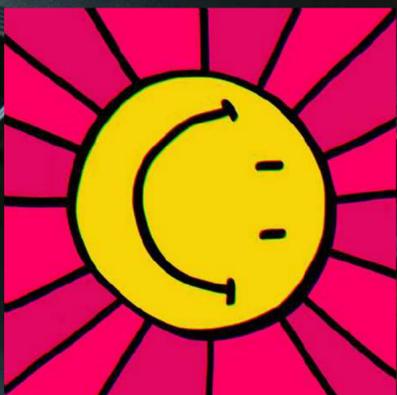
We spent the morning working together to design an inspirational wall which expresses our thoughts and dreams.

We learned that to make a difference in someone's life, you don't have to be brilliant, famous, rich or perfect. You just have to care.

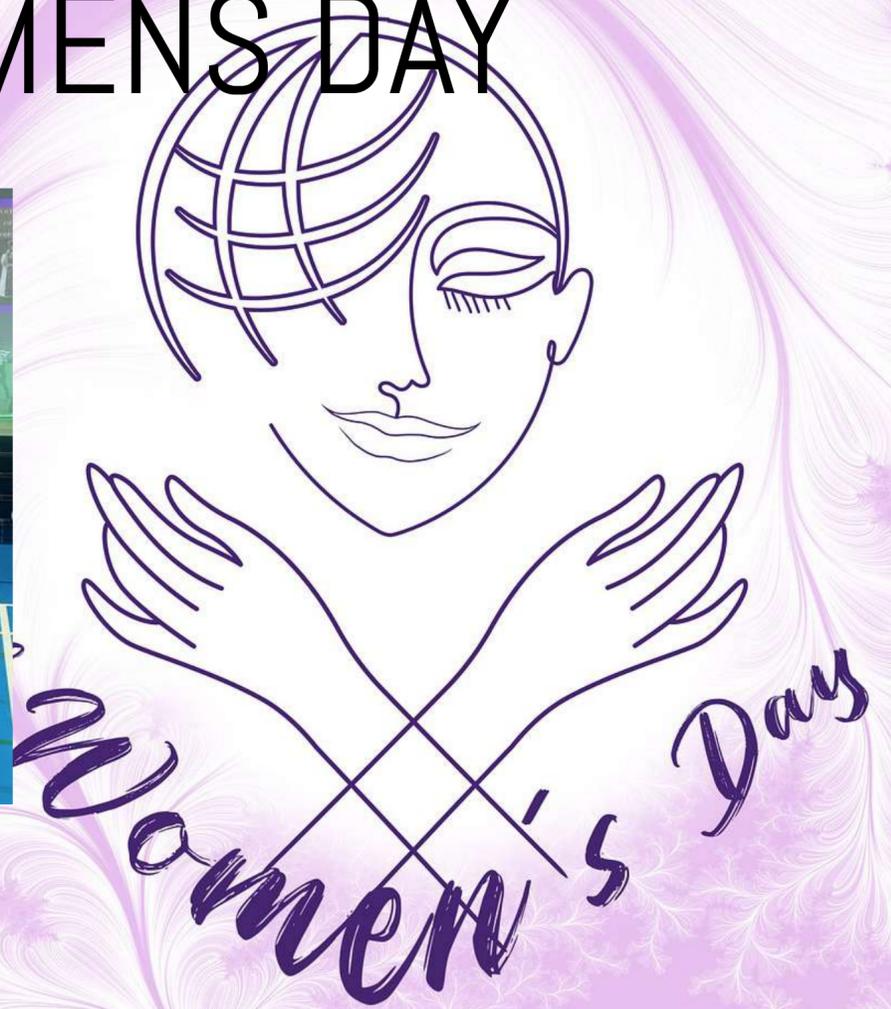


*"Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value."*

-Albert Einstein



# INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY



For this week's #WellbeingWednesday our primary wellbeing ambassadors celebrated our female staff by giving them a well-deserved treat.

We see the continuous dedication and hard work which our female staff put into their roles and chose today to thank them for everything they do.

We also had an International Women's day assembly led by Sofia, Chloe, Hana and Rayya. A fantastic demonstration of the skills of some of our young women.

From inspiring and motivating us to their remarkable contributions, we are blessed to have such a diverse team of amazing women working with us.

Happy International Women's Day!



*International*  
**Women's Day**

# CARBOOT SALE

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our VERY FIRST HIS CARBOOT SALE!

Perfect weather  
Items sold  
Sausage sizzle  
Goods bought  
Happy faces

Until the next time!



Self I have  
explain it y

# SCIENCE WEEK

An action packed week of experiments, explosions and thought-provoking tasks Science week ended with a bang! We wanted to take Science out of the lab and into the wider school. The week started with a assembly for all the students in FS1 up to year 4. Mr Ali demonstrated some “WOW” experiments to get the students thinking about how UAE launched the astronaut Sultan Al Neyadi into space for his 6 month mission in space!

Throughout the week the senior school students were treated to experiments out on the fields as well as being set challenges around sustainability – a key focus for the UAE since 2023 is the “Year of Sustainability”. This culminated in a fantastic demonstration of their ideas and skills during the Science fair. Ideas ranging from making clothing/jewellery from recycled plastic, innovative ways of collecting waste from the sea and vertical farming! Year 10 future engineers demonstrated their creative building skills in the “Ping Pong” challenge.

Year 5 and 6 were treated to a unique experience of seeing of the “WOW” experiments up close in Senior school laboratories. Exploring the ideas of how we can use metals to make fireworks and to unlock the secrets of the universe.

A fantastic week highlighting the excitement and interest in Science.



# NEURODIVERSITY WEEK

This week we celebrated our HIS Neurodiversity Week. Neurodiversity is about recognising and respecting that we don't all learn the same way. Differences in the way our brains are wired means that you may find some things challenging that others find easy. You may also find things easy that other people find challenging.

Each day we celebrated a different part of Neurodiversity which included focusing on Autism, ADHD, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, Dyscalculia. We also rocked our odd socks on Tuesday the 21st of March to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day.

It was a fantastic week which allowed us to celebrate all of our neurodiverse students and staff here at HIS



# QURAN COMPETITION

Internal Quran competition 2022-2023



The Internal Qur'an Competition (2022-2023) was organized earlier this month by Islamic Teachers and supported by the parents. 46 of the top children from Year 3-Year 10 competed in this wonderful event. This competition was used to determine the participants in the interschool Quran competition.

Without a doubt, the programmed was amazing. From juz 30, which has been separated into 5 levels, a few surahs were chosen from juz 29. Native and Non-Native Islamic students took part in this competition. Although it was challenging for all the pupils, their performance was excellent.

This accomplishment is a result of strong collaboration between parents and teachers. Without your support, it might not have been possible.

Inter school Quran competition.



Horizon International School organised its first inter-school Quran competition and invited two other schools to celebrate the beauty and wisdom of the Holy Quran, which is a source of guidance and inspiration for millions of people around the world.

More than 30 students from 3 schools (Horizon International School, Ranches Primary and Emirates International School) participated in this competition. It was undoubtedly an excellent program: Juz 30 and some surahs from Juz 29 were divided into five levels by the Islamic Department. The competition was challenging for all students, but their performance was brilliant.



# MODEL UNITED NATIONS

Friday 3rd until Sunday 5th of February saw the American University of Sharjah hold its sixteenth annual MUN conference. More over 1000 students from schools, colleges and universities from all over the UAE and the Middle East came together for a simulation of the UN. During the 3 days of the conference, participants would get a taste of the working of several UN assemblies and sessions, such as the Security Council, General Assembly, UNHCR and many more!

Every participant had been assigned a country, a committee and 2 topics that would be debated.

20 delegates from HIS went excited and raring to go. The opening ceremony consisted of speeches, quizzes, and performances and after which we all went to our respective committees where we started. We were reminded of the formalities of UN meetings, like asking for permission to leave the room, or showing your 'placard' when you wanted to speak. It all was very formal but we'd been well trained by our Advisors Mrs Ojenikoh and Mr Piller, so we knew just what to do. Before the AUSMUN conference we had been asked to write and submit a "position" paper on a topic - about which, the different representatives of the countries stated their positions on Day 1. Other states could already show their agreement or disagreement with the statements. Talk about 'hitting the ground running'!

Day 2 was even more entertaining. We continued with presentations of everyone's topic and position and there were several debates. Then, all of a sudden, the doors burst open and fake militants staged a mock attack on the Assembly! Whilst we all knew it was fake, when you are concentrating on something serious and suddenly these wild people come running and screaming, you get a bit of a shock - it was all good fun though. Debates, motions and preparations for resolutions formed the main part of the day and at the end we were all treated to a Social Evening.

On Sunday, the last day, the main aim for every group was to write a resolution. In my group (General Assembly III) the debates about "Safeguarding the Human Rights for the Displaced persons of Ukraine" had been so heated and passionate that we did not even have the time to deal with the second topic, about the plight of children in Afghanistan. In the afternoon there was the closing and awards ceremony and a gala diner.

It was an exciting weekend that gave us participants the opportunity to meet with different students from other schools and colleges, to share and discuss ideas and to experience first hand how decisions in the UN are made. We can't wait until we host our very own MUN Conference next academic year. Watch this space...!

Sophia Riggio  
HISMUN Vice President 22/23





Everyone Counts , Everyone Contributes , Everyone Succeeds.

# Community Iftar 2023

We invite you to join us for our annual community iftar.

Date: Thursday 13th April, 2023  
Time: 6:00- 7:30 PM  
Educational Plan: 6:10 to 6:40PM  
Location: Auditorium  
Venue for prayer: Sports Hall  
Adult ticket: 110 AED  
Children Ticket: 55 AED

**Further information:** Please come with ablution and a prayer mat.

**Note:** You need to purchase a ticket which are on sale from Thursday 16th March to Tuesday 11th April from the Gate number 2 at drop off from 7:25 to 7:50 AM At all other times, from Main Reception .

This is ticketed event.

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# WORLD BOOK DAY

What a fantastic World Book Day!

This year's theme was all about the pleasure of reading, so we spent the week exploring different books, sharing books we love and being introduced to books we have never seen before. The Fantastic Flying Books of Morris Lessmore, by William Joyce, was a story that the children from Years - focused on all week and some brilliant pieces of writing were produced.

On World Book day we invited all the children for a read-along, on the field to show off their amazing costumes and read with someone new from a different year group.

We had such a fun and exciting week, well done to everyone.



# SPARKLE GAMES

Last Friday, over 200 staff members from across the Cognita network of schools here in Dubai took part in our first ever Sparkle Games. Hosted by HIS, we connected together to compete in a range of physical and mental challenges to raise much needed funds for the Sparkle Foundation. This successful event raised a magnificent 9,600aed which will help support the relief efforts in Malawi caused by cyclone Freddie.



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