

9th September 2021

Primary Week Ending 9th September 2021

Dear Community,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our children and families and thank them for their support; ensuring that we are able to maintain a safe environment in which all of our learners can feel safe, happy and are able to flourish. To our returning children and families, it is brilliant to welcome you all back and for those new to our school, on behalf of our staff and children, I would like to welcome you to our school community.

Sway

Please remember that every week, each school produces a Sway newsletter as a means of sharing what has happened in our school as well as reminding parents/carers about upcoming events. The newsletter is sent via the class teachers Thursday email and uploaded to GEMS Connect. We would encourage all families to read the Sway as a means of finding out what's been happening at GEMS Metropole as well as ensuring you have the most up to date information which is essential for all families to know. If you are not receiving this newsletter, please email Haya Rimawi our school Parent Relations Executive h.rimawi_mts@gemsedu.com and she will advise you accordingly.

Drop Off Procedures

As a school, we are working hard to ensure we have the systems in place to keep everyone safe as well as promote our high expectations for attendance, punctuality and academic outcomes. As students begin to settle into routines, from Sunday 12th September, only students in FS1 – Year 2 will be allowed to be accompanied by one parent during the morning drop off. Students in the Junior School should be dropped at the gates to walk into class independently. Please ensure that students are in school before 7.45 to ensure that they are not marked as late and miss any learning time.

Junior School Students Rule the School.

Our student leadership teams will ensure we have dedicated teams of children from all year groups to share their thoughts and opinions on a regular basis on a range of topics. Next week marks the first of our "Meet the Leader" meetings. Each week, different groups of students from across the school, will be invited to meet one of our senior leaders to share their thoughts, ideas and concerns.

Masterclass

We are very excited with the range of Masterclass activities on offer this year. Some examples of the activities on offer are musical theatre, water polo and Arabic calligraphy. The Masterclasses are additional to the ESM after school activities on offer and will be held during school hours on a Wednesday afternoon.



EDUCATION

We see **genius** in every child

GEMS Metropole School - Motor City
Honsho Road, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

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Every child not only becomes a reader but they are able to become a **GREAT** reader at GEMS Metropole!

More information about this will be shared during our **Phonics and Reading** workshops in the coming weeks however, one way in which you can ensure that your child becomes a **GREAT** reader, is to ensure that they read every night for at least 15 minutes. This expectation should increase as your child gets older. Don't forget, reading to your child is also incredibly important as a way of modelling good reading techniques as well as sharing the pleasure of reading together.

Uniform

As you are aware, we have re-vamped our school uniform. Despite the delay in stock at Threads store (thank you for your patience!), we have some students looking really smart in the new uniform items. All uniform items are due to be in Threads store by 25th September. The school has a strong identity which we encourage our students to be proud of, and a key part of this is the school uniform. To maintain our high standards, students who fail to adhere to the uniform code will only be permitted back to school once desired uniform standards are reached. It is important that our students look ready for a day of learning. We thank you in advance for your support in upholding the high values and expectations we have for each student, so that they can identify well with their school with a sense of pride. A stock update from Threads store is attached to this letter.

Upcoming Key Dates

WB 12.09.21	Year 5 overnight trip to the planetarium
WB 12.09.21	Foundation stage curriculum evening
14.09.21	Friends of Metropole (Parent Council) welcome – Infants
15.09.21	Friends of Metropole (Parent Council) welcome – Juniors
15.09.21	Junior school reading parent workshop (Y3-6)
23.09.21	Phonics and early reading parent workshop (Y1-2)
16.09.21	Phoenix classroom parent workshop
20.09.21	Professional Development day – Early finish at 12:15pm

As always, we welcome your feedback and I look forward to meeting many of you during the upcoming 'Happy Meet' on the 28th September.

Ms Tara Foster

Primary Headteacher

 Tara Foster

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