

11th November 2021

Secondary Week Ending 11th November 2021

Dear Community,

This week we began our Secondary **EXPO 2020 school trips**, with Year 12s and 13s being the first of the year groups to experience EXPO 2020! They thoroughly enjoyed themselves and immersed themselves in the huge range of learning experiences – from the ball pit at the Hungarian pavilion, to the giant slide at the Luxembourg pavilion. Each week we have a special EXPO 2020 feature in our Weekly Sway (newsletter) – please take the time to look through our photos from the trips and the work our students have been completing on the EXPO. I know our other year groups are very excited for their turn!



6th Form students taking some time to relax in the ball-pit at the Hungarian pavilion, EXPO 2020!



Mariam Kotikela (Year 13) Winner of the Sheikhha Fatima bint Mubarak Award for Excellence

It has been another week of success at Metropole School! We revealed our **Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak Award for Excellence 2021-2022** winner - Mariam Kotikela (Year 13) who has been selected by the school to receive the award; a scholarship presented annually to exceptional female students across GEMS Education in the UAE. Mariam has exhibited outstanding academic success, commitment to social responsibility, and commitment to global citizenship. Mariam will now work as an ambassador of the award at Metropole School, ensuring its profile is raised and is something our female students aspire to.

There is a lot to be looking forward to at the school throughout November, including our **Sports Days**, the **Farmers Market**, and **National Day** celebrations:

Sports Days: For all students these will run from Sunday 21st to Thursday 25th November. Students will take part in a range of activities based at the school at various points throughout the day. More information will be released via our PE department, which will confirm which day each year group will participate, with an overview of how the days will run.

Farmers Market: Our Farmers Market will take place on Saturday 27th November at the school. This will be an opportunity for our community to be brought together, look around our many stalls, buy produce and gifts, try festive food, soak up the entertainment, and enjoy some games! We welcome you to come along to enjoy the fun and see how hard our staff, students and parents have been working. The Farmers Market will be accessible to the community between 10am and 2pm.

National Day: We will celebrate the wonderful UAE on Monday 29th November at the school, where students and parents will have an opportunity to experience food stalls, face-painting, and performances amongst other activities and cultural experiences. More information coming soon!

As per previous correspondence, the **GEMS Parent Survey** will be released to you on 22nd November. We have listened to your feedback from the last survey, and of course will continue to do so. We love to hear about the things you are happy with at the school, as we have received positive comments from many of you on our social media pages, during face-to-face conversations, and during our webinars. We would be extremely grateful if you could take the time to complete the survey once it is released. Please read through our 'You Said, We Did' information which summarises the areas we have been working on. The survey scoring system works as follows:






We see **genius** in every child

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	Detractor: score of 0-6. This means you are unhappy
	Passive: score of 7-8. This means you are satisfied
	Promotor: score of 9-10. This means you are happy

Next week, from Sunday 14th to Wednesday 17th November, we will have our **British Overseas Inspection (BSO)**. The inspectors will be in lessons over the four days and will be conducting interviews with staff and students. This is an opportunity for us to showcase excellent learning, our incredible facilities, and all the amazing opportunities our students have at the school. Please could you ensure your son/daughter is punctual to school, dressed smartly, and arrives to school ready to learn. These form our basic expectations of all students.

Finally, it gives me great pleasure to welcome our new **Secondary Deputy Headteacher** to Metropole School. Sinead McElhone will be joining us from January 2022. She has extensive leadership experience within the GEMS group, coming from GEMS Wellington Academy, Silicon Oasis. Her 6 years at a Premium, Very Good (KHDA)/Outstanding (BSO) school will bring further strength to Metropole's growing leadership team. Sinead has held various leadership roles during her career, including curriculum development, pastoral management, and teaching and learning.

Upcoming Key Dates

Sunday 14 th – Wednesday 17 th November	School's BSO (British Schools Overseas) Inspection
Tuesday 16 th November	Anti-Bullying Day – students complete activities during LEAD time
Sunday 21 st – Thursday 25 th November	School Sports Days – more information coming soon!
Sunday 21 st – Tuesday 30 th November	Mock Exams (Year 11 & Year 13)
Saturday 27 th November	Farmers Market
Monday 29 th November	National Day Celebrations
Tuesday 30 th November	Martyrs Day – awareness raised during assemblies

As always, I welcome your feedback - about this letter, or any aspect of your child's experience with us:
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I wish you a wonderful weekend!

Kind regards,



Daniella Aschettino
Secondary Headteacher

