

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022

## Secondary Week Ending 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

A very warm welcome back to our returning families, and a big hello to the new families who are joining our wonderful community. We are thrilled to have you with us this academic year, and we promise to make it a successful one, full of new opportunities!

### The Active and Futures Schools

As you will be aware, we have the Active and Futures Schools within the Secondary side of Metropole. Our Active School (Prep: Years 7-9) ensures students are active within the school and their community through Sport, Performing Arts, volunteering, and project work. Students leave the Active School with energy, confidence, improved self-efficacy, and expanded friendship groups, having experienced a new world of learning. The Futures School (Seniors: Years 10-13) enables students to prepare for their future, encouraging self-sufficiency and confidence to work successfully within society. Students continue to strive for higher qualifications through tailored academic pathways and have the opportunity to learn new vocational and life skills. Work experience plays an important part of this school. Students are awarded scholarships for their academics, flair, and ambition throughout each of the schools. For more information, watch [this](#) video for the Senior School, and [this](#) for the Prep School. We are also pleased to share with you our whole school video, which can be viewed [here](#). Enjoy seeing our wonderful students in action!

### Exam success!

We are delighted with our 2022 GCSE, A-Level and BTEC results. Our students showed great resilience and determination, leading to a fantastic set of outcomes which we are incredibly proud of. These results will now allow our students to go on to begin to fulfil their dreams. Some headlines for A-Level results that I'd like to share include:

- Outperformed UK averages for A\*-A and A\*-B grades
- Performed in the top three of 22 GEMS schools
- 100% BTEC pass rate
- 80% A\*-A grades in Economics
- Top achievers included Kateryna Golovko (A\*, A\*, A, A) & Hana Abdelsalam (A\*, A, A, A)

For our GCSE results, the headlines include:

- 24% of grades at 9-8 (A\*\*-A\*)
- The average grade was a Grade 7-6 (A/B)
- For Triple Science, 88% of grades were 9-7 (A\*\*-A)
- Top achievers included Yasmine Hamzeh (9,9,9,9,9,9,9,9) & Qasim Syed (9,9,9,9,9,8,8,8)

## School trips

We are excited to announce a wide range of school trips for this academic year. You will hear more details about these in due course, but I wanted to share them with you now so that you can start having discussions with your son/daughter. You can find the list of trips with some basic information on the final page of this letter. Please note that these are subject to change, and international trips will only run if a certain amount of students sign-up.

## Upcoming Key Dates (more information will be shared about the individual events)

<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Squad trials begin
<b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Curriculum Information Evening: Years 10-13
<b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Curriculum Information Evening: Years 7-9
<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Metropole Innovation Launch
<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Parent webinar: Student Expectations   Swim gala (2 days)
<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September</b>	House election week starts
<b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Staff INSET   Parent coffee morning: University and Careers
<b>Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September</b>	House Colour day

As always, I welcome your feedback - about this letter, or any aspect of your child's experience with us: [d.aschettino\\_mts@gemsedu.com](mailto:d.aschettino_mts@gemsedu.com).

I wish you a wonderful weekend!

Kind regards,

**Daniella Aschettino**  
Secondary Headteacher



School trip	Year group	Estimated cost	Approximate date
Eco Venture Residential	7	Around 1700 AED	October 2022
Dubai Opera Backstage Tour	7 - 13	50 AED	October 2022
Absolute Adventure Residential	9	TBC (dependent on numbers)	November 2023
IMG World of Adventure (Reward Trip)	7 - 13	150AED	December 2022
Ferrari World	9	150 AED	January 2023
Coastal Management (Geography Trip)	10 – 12	Free	4 <sup>th</sup> January 2023
New York (Business and IT Trip)	11-13	TBC (dependent on numbers)	31 <sup>st</sup> January 2023
Ski Trip (Georgia)	6 - 13	4500 AED plus flights	February 2023
Bounce (Reward Trip)	7- 13	100AED	March 2023
Nasa Science Trip to America	7 -13	TBC (dependent on numbers)	Spring break
Large Hadron Collider CERN (Science Trip to Europe)	7 - 13	TBC (dependent on numbers)	Spring break
Art Gallery in Dubai Mall	10	100 AED	30 <sup>th</sup> May 2022
Berlin International Trip	10 & 12	TBC (dependent on numbers)	23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2023
University of Birmingham Campus	12	FREE	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023