

# THE NGBS VOICE

03 October 2025 | Vol 01

## SEESAW

We are delighted to announce we are moving to Seesaw for all our school and class communication. Seesaw is a simple to use platform that will give you a window into the classroom and learning. Please check your registered parent email.

## ORIENTATION NEXT WEEK

Next week we invite you to an orientation linked to safeguarding and behaviour. This will be run by Mr Walid who is our newly appointed DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead). This will of course also be recorded and a link shared on Seesaw if you are unable to attend. Tuesday 7th October @8am

## MOBILE PHONES AT NGBS

Please see below the update on our policy to mobile phones in school. We are following the UAE agenda on phones not being in schools.

We ask for your support on this matter and enforce this with your children.

## CAT4 AND NGRT

Next week children in Yr 4-Yr 9 will take their NGRT and CAT 4 Tests. These are not tests that you can revise for. After half term we will be holding a parent orientation meeting about the impact of these, and providing parents reports on results after the half term break.

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Another exciting and busy week in NGBS with a few key highlights. I am delighted to launch Seesaw at NGBS, a really user friendly platform that will showcase learning, weekly overviews and act as a communication tool for parents and teachers. We recognise that Canvas, has not been the easiest platform to use and this transition will be a welcomed support.

You will be delighted to know that we are outside for break times and all the children and staff are definitely enjoying the fresh air and social side of this. We do ask that a hat is brought in, as we will become a no hat, no play policy. There will be the introduction of a school hat soon.

We welcomed TeachRex to school today, an award winning company from the UK. FS1 to Yr 5 enjoyed shows and follow up work and to be honest it was spectacular! Videos and photos will be shared on seesaw later today. Our aim is to offer a wide variety of opportunities for your children to experience. We had some of our KS3 children at the Ajman book fair this week as well, selecting books for the KS3 library. **The Ministry of Education in the UAE has issued a directive requiring all public and private schools that follow the national curriculum to enforce strict measures for the confiscation and safekeeping of mobile phones brought by students onto school premises.** At NGBS, we are implementing a no mobile phone policy. If your child has a phone in school, it will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day after you as parents have been informed of this violation. This is all to support safeguarding and behaviour and will be spoken about in our orientation next week.



# Eyfs News

## EYFS HAPPENINGS

It has been such a wonderful week of learning and new experiences! We began outdoor play this week, and the children thoroughly enjoyed the chance to explore and play outside. A big thank you to all the parents who have already sent in hats to keep the children protected in the sun – it would be lovely if more could do the same so that everyone can enjoy outdoor play safely and comfortably.

We also had a valuable health education session led by our school doctor and nurse, focusing on personal hygiene. The children learned the importance of keeping themselves healthy and safe – an essential part of growing up- WE ARE GERM BUSTERS NOW!

Another highlight of the week was welcoming Teach Rex to our school. The children were amazed to see dinosaurs come to life, and their excitement and wonder were a joy to watch. This experience also marked an important transition for our Year 1 learners, as they took their big step into the auditorium. They embraced the experience with confidence and curiosity – we are so proud of them!

Have a lovely weekend and see you next week!



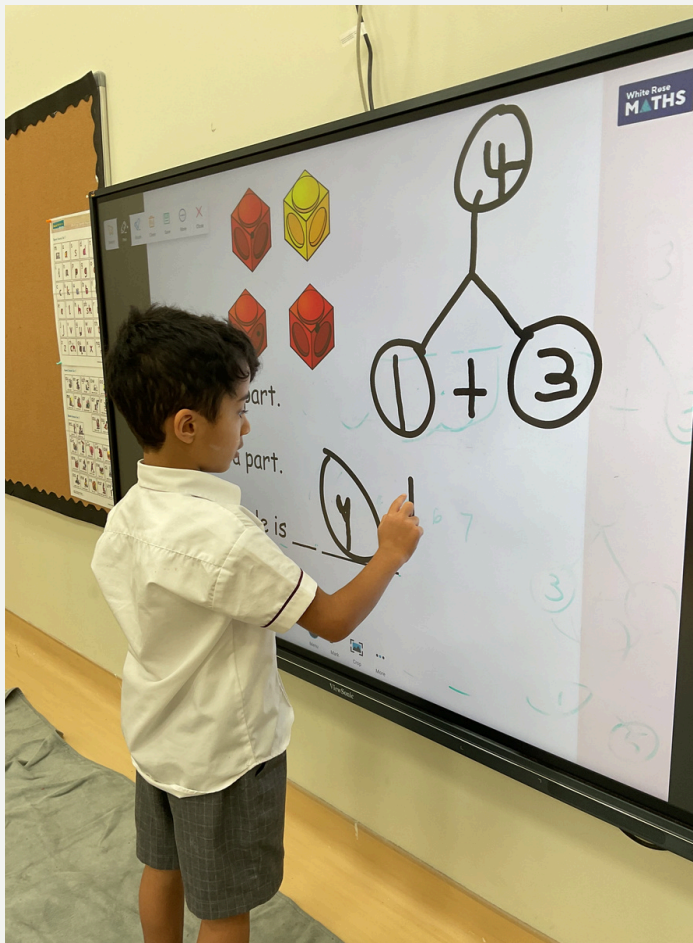
## LEARNING IN EYFS

This week, FS1 was full of fun learning! During circle time, the children talked about who we are and explored the UAE. They enjoyed reading *My Country* and had a blast discovering environmental sounds. We also practiced the initial sounds of their names and worked on writing them. To celebrate the UAE, the children proudly finger-painted their very own UAE flags – what a wonderful way to combine creativity and national pride!

In FS2, we had an exciting week diving into the story *The Colour Monster*! The children explored different emotions and shared moments when they felt happy, sad, angry, calm, or loved. In Maths, they became little number detectives, investigating “one more” and “one less” through fun, hands-on activities. To bring our story to life, the children also enjoyed a colourful nature walk – spotting colours in the world around them and discussing how each place made them feel.

We’ve had a very exciting week of learning in Year 1! In Maths, the children explored the part-whole model and used it to create their own number sentences.

In English, we focused on writing instructions. The children practised recalling steps in order, using capital letters and full stops in their sentences, and choosing command verbs correctly. In Science, we continued our Materials unit by exploring objects made from paper and glass and in ICT, the children investigated the different functions of their iPads.



# Primary News

## PRIMARY HAPPENINGS

We are also excited to share that classes Y2F, Y3E, Y4E, Y5D, Y6G2, and Y6B3 will be presenting during our special Mental Health Awareness assembly next week. Parents of these presenting classes are warmly invited to attend and watch the presentations.

We're delighted to announce that our extra-curricular clubs will begin from the next half-term, providing even more opportunities for our students to explore their interests and talents.



## LEARNING IN PRIMARY

We are delighted to share that our students have had another amazing week of learning experiences! The children have been making the most of our brand-new library and resources, discovering new books and deepening their love for reading.

They have also started enjoying outdoor play, which has given them wonderful opportunities to explore and develop important social and physical skills.

In addition, the students had a fantastic experience in the Food and Technology Room, where they linked hands-on activities to their expository writing projects, making their learning both creative and practical.

On Monday, our Social Studies Department celebrated the International Day of Heat, offering engaging and meaningful activities to deepen the children's understanding of this global event.

We also had a fun Dinosaur Friday with TeachRex that visit the school – an exciting experience that brought learning to life for our students.



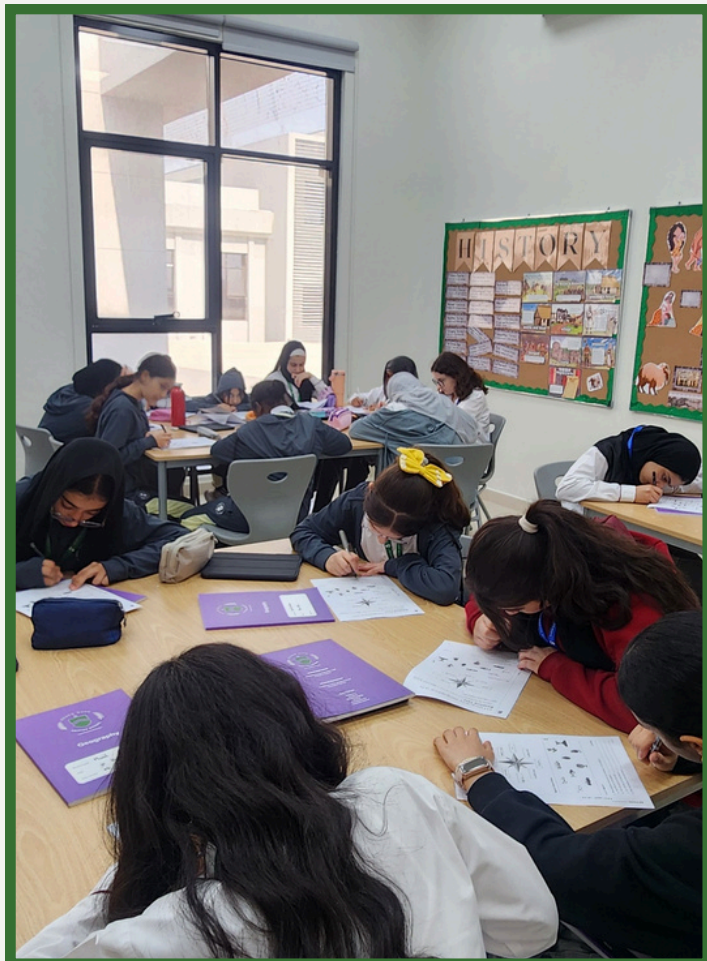
# Secondary News

## KS3 HAPPENINGS

Last week, in Secondary, staff started to send a short message home to students who had made extra-special efforts in school either due to learning progress, being kind or being super organised. Every Friday our teachers will continue to highlight these students so remember to look out for a message from one of your child's teachers.

On Monday some of our KS3 students visited the BIG BAD WOLF BOOKFAIR on behalf of the school to purchase additional books for our KS3 library. They worked as a team to select what they felt students across secondary might enjoy. Giving students a voice is always great to watch - some of the discussions they had amongst themselves were very mature and sensible. The staff left the bookfair feeling quite proud of your children that day!

With the cooler weather, all students have now been able to spend some of their break times outside in the fresh air. Please do remember to send a water bottle with your child so they can stay well hydrated.



## LEARNING IN KS3

Mr Akin & Ms Dani have been busy this week, visiting lessons across the department to quality assure what the older students are learning. What impressed us the most was the level of focus the students are developing!

By observing our students in their lessons, first-hand, we are able to see where students' interests lie and what GCSEs we will need to offer in the future.

We have also been working with our PE Team to ensure everything is in place for us to start swimming lessons very soon (more details to follow).

You will all be aware that schools are strictly regulated across the UAE and we have been waiting for temperatures to drop to the required levels in order that we can fully enjoy the outdoor facilities the school has to offer during our lessons as well as at break-times.

We hope you enjoy looking through the images which will be shared on SeeSaw this week showing some of varied learning experiences our students, your children, have had this past week. Remember you can like and comment on the images which the students and staff love to see!

Every day at NGBS is a day of learning for our students, staff and leaders.

# MFL & MoE

## MFL & MOE HAPPENINGS

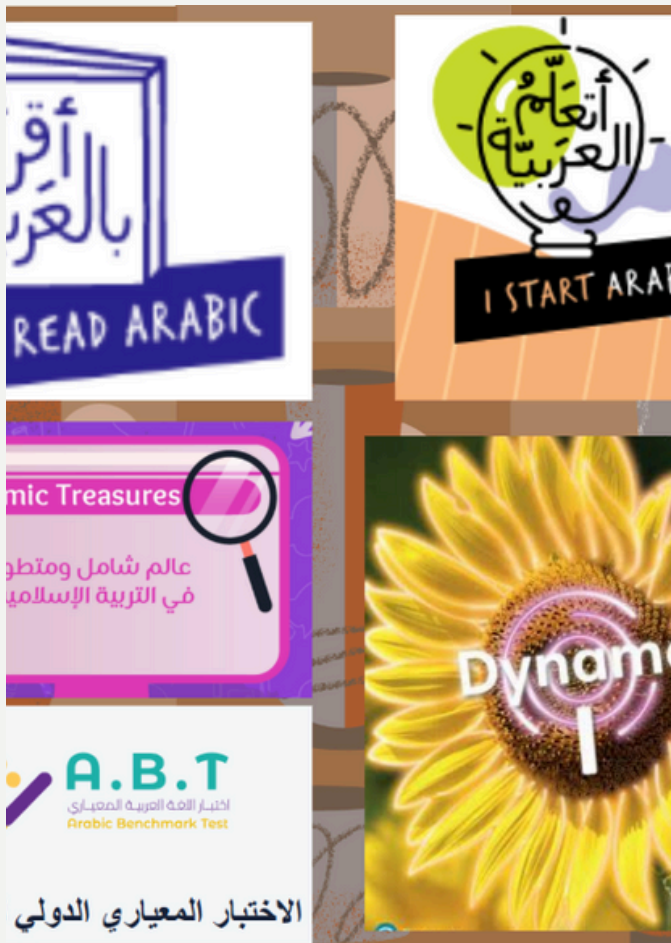
Last week, students engaged in a variety of collaborative group work activities across French, Arabic, Islamic, Social, and Moral Studies. These sessions promoted teamwork, communication, and problem-solving skills, while fostering an interactive and supportive learning environment.

In **Islamic Studies**, each lesson began with Tajweed and supplication, with students encouraged to apply Tajweed rules to the Surahs they are learning.

In **Social and Moral Studies**, the main focus was on exploring the UAE's rich heritage and culture.

in **Arabic A**, students delved into grammar rules and poetry, while **Arabic B** students strengthened their reading comprehension skills through practice with new vocabulary.

in **French**, students were focussing on practising speaking, listening and using the new vocabulary in making their own sentences.



## PLATFORMS

- We are pleased to share that the **Islamic Treasure platform** is now being integrated into Islamic Studies lessons to further support students' learning and encourage independent study. This platform allows students to apply their knowledge through a range of interactive activities and formative assessments.
- In addition, we are delighted to announce the use of **I Read Arabic** and **I Start Arabic** platforms for both Arab and non-Arab learners. These programs are designed to enhance reading skills, offering students texts suited to their individual levels. They also provide engaging activities that enable students to practice and apply their understanding of the content.
- For **French**, **Dynamo 1 and 2** e-books are now available for students in Years 6 to 9. Students can activate their accounts and begin accessing these resources to enrich their learning experience.
- Furthermore, the **ABT, ISBT, and SSBT online assessments** are now accessible. From 5 to 8 October 2025, students will participate in the baseline online assessments. The results will help us identify students' strengths and highlight areas for improvement.
- We kindly remind parents to ensure that students bring their iPads fully charged and carry their own headsets on the assessment days.

# Inclusion Matters

## DYSLEXIA AWARENESS EVERY LEARNER MATTERS

### Dyslexia is a learning difference, not a limitation

- Children with dyslexia are smart and capable, but reading, writing, and spelling can take more effort.
- About 1 in 10 people have dyslexia.
- Dyslexia is a common learning difference.
- Dyslexia looks different for every child.
- Dyslexic children often think creatively and solve problems in unique ways.
- Many are excellent at puzzles, art, and thinking “outside the box.”
- Dyslexia affects how the brain processes letters and words—not eyesight.
- It has nothing to do with intelligence.
- Early support can change a student’s future.



### SUPPORTING STUDENT WITH DYSLEXIA—QUICK TIPS & FREE TOOLS

- Read Together – 10 mins daily; use audiobooks. **Storynory** – free audiobooks online
- Multi-Sensory Learning – trace letters, use magnets, write in air. **Microsoft Immersive Reader** – reads & highlights text
- Celebrate Progress – praise effort and small wins. **Natural Reader** – text to audio
- Support Writing – speak ideas first, then write; try voice-to-text. **Google Docs Voice Typing**
- Break Tasks – short steps; use timers. **Time Timer** – visual timer

# Seesaw at NGBS

## FROM TODAY, SEESAW WILL REPLACE CANVAS

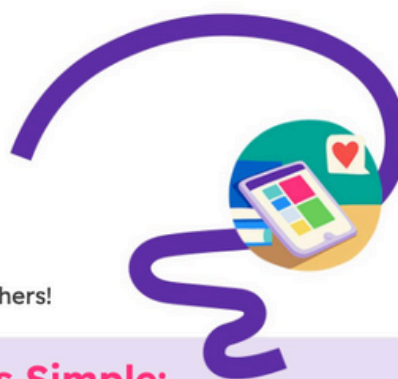
From today, we will transfer all communication to Seesaw. You will have an email in your registered email address on how to download the parent application. We would recommend the introduction video on the link below. We have sent you an email and your child has an account page in their bag today.

<https://seesaw.com/resource/family-resources/>

### Quick Start Guide

## Getting Started with Seesaw for Families

With Seesaw, you can see what your child is learning at school and engage in two-way communication with teachers!



### Staying in the Loop is Simple:

Keeping student data safe is Seesaw's top priority. Seesaw requires a printed, email, or text invite from your child's teacher. Contact your child's teacher if you need an invite.

#### Create a New Seesaw Account

- 1 Download the **Seesaw App** or go to **app.seesaw.me** on a computer
- 2 Tap "I'm a Family Member"
  - Private Invites: Scan the QR Code
  - Text/Email Invites: Click the Link
- 3 Follow the prompts to create an account or sign in

OR

#### Connect a New Child to an Existing Account

- 1 Login on the **Seesaw App** or go to **app.seesaw.me** on a computer
  - Private Invites: Tap your profile icon (top left) Tap '+Add Child's Journal' Scan the QR Code
  - Text/Email Invites: Tap the link to get connected

Once connected, you have a window into your child's learning:



View and engage with all recent posts from all your children



Use Messages to communicate with the school community. Translate typed text into 100+ languages.

*Connected family members can only see their own child's learning.*



# Upcoming Events



## WORLD MENTAL AWARENESS DAY - 10 OCTOBER

### Wear Green with us in Celebration!

On 10 October 2025, we will join the global community in observing World Mental Health Day. This year's theme highlights the importance of raising awareness, breaking the stigma, and ensuring that everyone feels supported in caring for their mental wellbeing. At NGBS, we are committed to creating a safe, supportive environment where students and staff can thrive—academically, socially, and emotionally.

We encourage families to take this opportunity to have open conversations at home about the importance of mental health and the small steps we can all take to look after ourselves and each other. Together, we can build a community where wellbeing is prioritised and every individual feels valued.

## SAFEGUARDING AND BEHAVIOUR

The upcoming Coffee Morning on Tuesday will provide a valuable opportunity for parents and the school community to come together and share ideas on how safeguarding, child protection, and behaviour support can be further developed and enhanced across the school. Working in partnership with parents is key to achieving the best outcomes for pupils, and their thoughts and contributions will be warmly welcomed.



# Activity Calendar

## October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sunday
28	29	30	1	2	3 Teach REX Fs 1 - Yr 6	4 World Teachers Day
5	6	7 Parents Coffee Morning Focus: Safe- guarding and be- haviour ( 8am )	8	9	10 Mental Health awareness - Wear Green	11
12	13 Half Term	14 Half Term	15 Half Term	16 Half Term	17 Half Term	18
19	20 PBL Week: Science and Innovation	21 ECAs Begin Yr2- Y9 Pick up 3:45pm	22	23 ECAs Begin Yr2- Y9 Pick up 3:45pm	24	25
26	27	28 ECAs Begin Yr2- Y9 Pick up 3:45pm	29	30 ECA - Yr 2-9 Pick up 3:45pm Orientation: GL Data and Assessments (8am)	31 Y2-6 PBL Exhibition McGrammar Show	1



**NORTH GATE**  
BRITISH PRIVATE SCHOOL

# Classroom Updates

In Pictures

