

# THE NGBS VOICE

24 October 2025 | Vol 04

## PINK THURSDAY

Globally, we recognise October being Breast Cancer Awareness month.

Next Thursday the 30<sup>th</sup> October we will all be in **PINK** to raise awareness. The students have been really passionate about highlighting the need to have an awareness day.

## SWIMMING

Swimming has started and although only some year groups are in the pool right now, all year groups from Year 2 – Year 9 will swim next term.

It is critically important that all children are using this time to improve core skills. Please ensure children are sent in with swim kit when asked.

## SAVE THE DATE

Parent consultations are being put on the calendar for Monday 24<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November. The timings for these will be 3pm – 6pm and 3pm to 7pm, a formal booking link will be sent out in a few weeks for you to book a 1:1 session with your child's teacher. This will also give you an opportunity to visit the classroom and see the book work from the term.

## MC GRAMMAR VISIT

Whilst we are all starting to enjoy the cooler weather across the UAE, we still need to remember to stay hydrated. We do provide chilled, drinking water across the school, however students need to bring water bottles which they can refill at breaktimes during the school day if necessary. Please ensure your child has a clearly labelled water bottle after the half-term break.

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Welcome back! We hope everyone enjoyed a restful half term break. It's been a great start to the second half of the term, with our ECA programme now in full swing and plenty of new faces joining our team. We've welcomed 17 new staff members supporting across classrooms, another 10 Teaching Assistants joining soon, a big boost for our growing school community.

We're also thrilled to announce that the award-winning MC Grammar will be performing at school next Friday! The world Book Day ambassador and Emirates Lit Festival Author who teaches children all about story telling and grammar in a fun and modern way. This exciting event is for all Year 1 – Year 7 students.

Over the coming weeks, there's lots to look forward to. Our Parent Consultations and National Day celebrations will take place during the last week of November, so please keep an eye out for confirmed dates and details. These will be added to the November Calendar that will be attached to next week's newsletter.

PAG: Our **Parent Action Group** will be established in November and I would welcome parents interested in working with us on a volunteer basis to help support the growth of our school community. We will meet once a month for feedback session, events etc. Partnerships with parents is critically important to us at NGBS. We are looking for around 16-18 parents to join, If you are interested please email: [care@northgatebritishschool.com](mailto:care@northgatebritishschool.com). I will host our first meeting next week. We will also launch applications for our **Student Council** applications with the children in Year 4-9 next week.

The formal opening of our new Foundation Stage outdoor learning environment and our Little Souq will take place on Friday 7th November. We will give more details about this but will welcome FS parents into the space to explore it at pick up time. Have a wonderful weekend ahead !



# Eyfs News

## EYFS UPDATES

Welcome Back to the Second Half of Term 1! We are delighted to welcome everyone back after the half-term break! . It has been lovely to see purposeful learning taking place both indoors and outdoors from creative play to hands-on exploration.

### **RWI Phonics Focus**

This term, our phonics learning is progressing well:

- FS1 children are developing their oral blending skills exploring sounds in the environment and practising rhymes and songs . They will begin Set 1 phonics in Term 2, building the foundations for reading and writing.
- FS2 children will complete Set 1 sounds and continue to explore Set 2 sounds throughout the year, consolidating their reading and writing skills along the way.
- Year 1 children will work across Sets 1, 2, and 3, continuing to build on their phonics knowledge and applying it in reading and writing throughout the year.
- To support your child at home, we've included links to the [RWI Sound Writing Mats](#) and [Red Words](#). Just a few minutes of practice each day – labelling drawings, writing shopping lists, or practising tricky words – can make a real difference in helping children become confident, independent readers and writers.



## LEARNING IN EYFS

This week, our little FS1 explorers had a wonderful time with the story *What a Wonderful World*. The children enjoyed singing along to the song and discussing all the things that make our world special. They also practised using the iPad, playing an interactive Maths game and writing their names.

Children took part in a variety of hands-on activities, including creating colourful nature collages, exploring patterns, and playing ball games with friends. These experiences encouraged curiosity, creativity, and collaboration, making it a week full of discovery, fun, and joyful learning.

FS2 has had an exciting week back! The children enjoyed *The Gruffalo*, joining in with repeated phrases and using puppets to retell the story, showing great recall and sequencing skills. They described the Gruffalo and other animals using exciting adjectives like "terrible tusks" and "knobbly knees."

In Maths, the children focused on finding one more or one less than 4 and 5, using counters, number cards, dice, and dominoes. They are becoming super subitisers, quickly recognising quantities and confidently saying, "One more than 4 is 5" and "One less than 5 is 4." Amazing FS2s!

Our curious Year One students had an exciting week of discovery! In English, they explored the world of inventions, using their imagination to create and describe their own clever ideas with rich, expressive vocabulary. In Maths, children practised finding the missing part in number stories through hands-on activities, building confidence with addition and number flexibility. In Science, our young material detectives compared wood and fabric, learning how different properties help us choose the right material for each purpose. In ICT, children experimented with "Free Form" tool to create shapes and patterns, while in Design and Technology, they took inspiration from nature to design and build their own beautiful bird nests using a variety of materials. We are on our way to becoming innovative students!

# Primary News

## LEARNING IN PRIMARY

What an exciting first week back it has been! The children have returned full of enthusiasm and energy, ready to dive into a new term of learning and discovery.

Our focus this week has been on cross-curricular project-based learning, where the children have had opportunities to apply knowledge from different subjects in creative and practical ways. The highlight for many has been our Science learning, which has inspired curiosity and innovation across the year groups.

Our budding historians and artists wowed us with their 3D models of the Colosseum, blending history, design, technology, and art. Their models captured incredible detail – we could almost hear the roar of the ancient crowds.

Meanwhile, some of the young engineers took on the exciting challenge of creating their very own Rube Goldberg machines. These clever contraptions explored forces, motion, and cause-and-effect in the most fun (and sometimes hilariously unpredictable!) ways. The teamwork and perseverance they showed were nothing short of brilliant.

Not to be outdone, our senior scientists delved into the mysteries of light, building periscopes, solar ovens, and pinhole cameras. Through these hands-on projects, they explored how light behaves – turning theory into discovery through creative experimentation.

It's been a week of curiosity, collaboration, and creativity – and we couldn't be prouder of our young innovators!



## HAPPENINGS IN PRIMARY

### 1. McGrammar Visit – 31 October 2025

We are thrilled to announce that NGBS will be the only school visited by McGrammar – a truly exciting event for our young learners! To celebrate, all Primary students are invited to dress up as a “rapper” for the day to match the theme of the show. It promises to be an engaging, educational, and entertaining experience for everyone.

Take a sneak peek at what's in store: [McGrammar in action](#)



### 2. Revision Booklets and Required Materials – 31 October 2025

Revision PowerPoints, booklets, and required materials will be shared to support students as they prepare for their assessments. These resources will also be reviewed and completed in class with teachers, ensuring that key concepts are discussed, reinforced, and clarified. Answer keys will be provided for guided revision at home.

### 3. Primary Assessment Calendar

The Primary Assessment Calendar is now available on Seesaw. Please note that regular school hours will remain unchanged during the assessment period.

### 4. Parent–Teacher Conferences – 24 & 25 November 2025

Parent–Teacher Conferences are scheduled for 24 and 25 November. More details, including appointment bookings and logistics, will be shared closer to the date.

### 5. Exhibition of Project-Based Learning – 30 October 2025

We are excited to invite parents to our Project-Based Learning Exhibition on Thursday, 30 October, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Some of our students' incredible projects will be on display, showcasing their creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking. Parents are welcome to walk through the exhibits, explore the displays, and ask student representatives questions about their projects.

# Secondary News

## KS3 UPDATES

**It has been lovely to see the students returning in uniforms and wearing their lanyards. The uniform office is now at the front of the school if you still need to collect any missing items.**

A few logistic updates follow which come from some of the questions parents & students have asked us this week:

- Almost all students are now in uniform which has been lovely to see! In our KS3 assemblies this week I have explained to the students that *PE uniform* should be worn only on their *PE day* and on their *ECA day IF they are doing a sports ECA*. Otherwise, we expect to see them in proper NGBS uniform please.
- We now have e-books for French and maths uploaded to student iPads, Science will be added from Monday. Hard copies of MOE curriculum books are with the students already. Home Learning notebooks need to be returned with HW every week please.
- Swimming is a compulsory part of the curriculum. If your child cannot participate due to illness, please send a doctor's note in advance. Boys will swim for two more weeks this term then girls will start on 10.11.25, as previously informed.



## LEARNING IN KS3

**A topic of conversation which has been raised quite a bit this past week centers around end of term assessments, grades, report cards etc.**

We will be sharing finer details of all of this next week. For now everyone needs to know that attainment in lessons, effort, attitude to learning, attendance and behaviour are all part of the assessment process at NGBS just like it is in any other school. We have high expectations of our students, as we know you do as parents.

Information regarding end of term assessments will be shared on SeeSaw next Friday. Rest assured assessments will directly reflect the teaching & learning that has taken place since the start of this academic year with revision being conducted in lessons as well as being shared on SeeSaw for those who want additional reinforcement at home. Our aim is to fully support and prepare students in their learning journey at NGBS.

Finally, for this week, an update on how SeeSaw can best support students and parents at home:

- **Powerpoints** are a tool used by the teachers when they are stood at the front of lessons, facilitating learning. We share them so students have a visual reminder of their lessons. They are not meant to be a teaching tool for parents, especially in secondary where students should take responsibility for their learning.
- **Photos** will be shared of learning in lessons, special moments for families to enjoy and students to recall fondly.
- **Messages** will come from staff, to students and/or parents and should not have the facility to chat - this will be blocked by our IT team as a safeguarding issue.
- We would love **parents** who see something they like (be it an image, presentation or message) **to respond** with a thumbs up, smile emoji etc so we can support more of what you want and less of what is not important to you.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL WITH A WATER BOTTLE!**

## MFL & MoE

### MFL & MOE HAPPENINGS

This week, our **Foundation Stage** students had a wonderful time learning about family members in Arabic. Through fun and engaging activities, they expanded their vocabulary while connecting language to real-life experiences. In **Islamic Studies**, they practiced and reflected on the importance of good manners and cleanliness, key values that help them grow into responsible and caring individuals. In the **Primary section**, students from Year 2 to Year 6 were busy working on their mid-term projects. They showed great enthusiasm and teamwork as they collaborated with their classmates, carefully following the project rubrics. The week concluded with exciting presentations, where students confidently shared their work and celebrated each other's efforts and creativity. In Islamic, the students practiced Salat Al Jamaa (the Congregation Prayer).



### KS3 ASSIGNMENTS

In **KS3**, our students enjoyed working on their MoE and MFL assignments. In Arabic, they worked on their big-write.

In **Islamic** they worked on their research and presented their assignments to their partners. The students in **French** engaged cooking French famous food.

### NATIONAL DAY PLANNING

Our school is busy planning for **Eid Al Ettihad**. Our teachers are excited discussing together the program for this important day in the history of UAE..

### EXTERNAL COMPETITIONS

Wishing all the students taking part in the external competitions — including the Chevron Group Reading, Poetry Recital, and Ajjal Projects — the very best of luck!

# Upcoming Events

## BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

October is recognised globally as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

On Thursday, 30th October, our school community will come together by wearing pink to raise awareness and show support for this important cause.

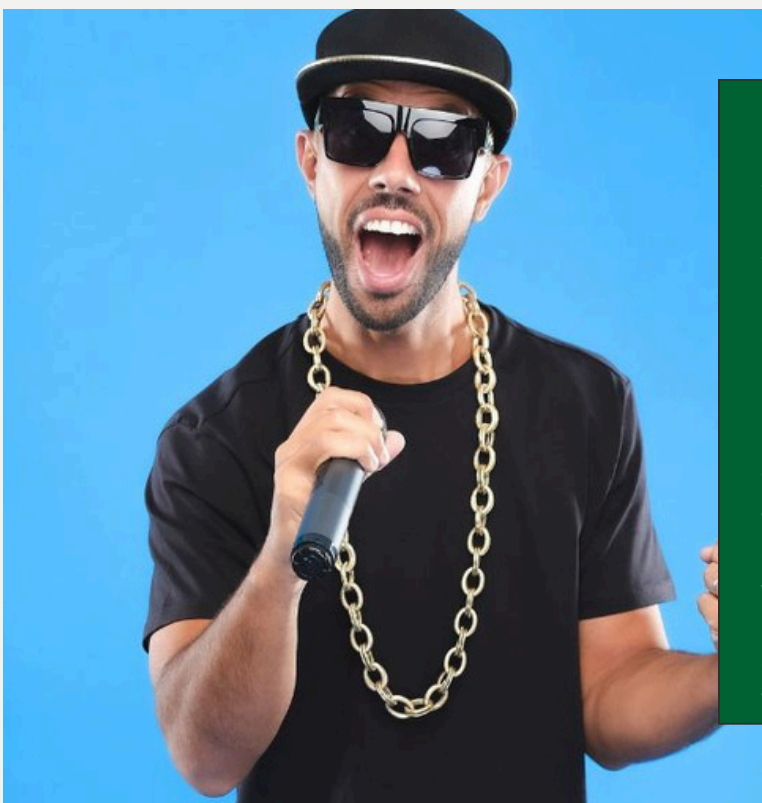
Our students have shown great enthusiasm and passion in highlighting the importance of dedicating a day to awareness, compassion, and understanding.



## MC GRAMMAR VISIT

We're thrilled to welcome the award-winning MC Grammar to our school on 31st October! A World Book Day Ambassador and Emirates Literature Festival Author, MC Grammar is celebrated for transforming English lessons into dynamic rap performances that inspire a love for language and storytelling.

Through rhythm, rhyme, and creativity, he teaches children about grammar, vocabulary, and the art of storytelling in a fun and modern way. This interactive and educational performance promises to engage and inspire all Year 1 to Year 7 students, making learning truly unforgettable.



# Classroom Updates

In Pictures

