

THE NGBS VOICE

7th November 2025 | Vol 06

FLAG DAY

We celebrated the UAE Flag day in a number of ways. Some of our children took part in a celebration by the main flag pole at 11am, other made a human flag, whilst some took part in celebrations in their classes. As always it is a pleasure to mark these occasions alongside the school community.

PAG PARENT ACTION GROUP

It was wonderful to have our first Parent Action Group meeting. Thank you to the members who turned up. We discussed ways we could be active in the school community. We took on ideas for improvement in wider school life and communication & discussed the progress we had made this term. Our next meeting is at the end of Nov.

ODD SOCK DAY

With Anti-bullying week next week we would remind you that we will have odd sock day on Monday. A visual reminder that although we may all be different we must respect each other and get along.

Set a reminder for your odd socks!

SCHOOL FARM

With our school farm we are able to involve students in understanding more about the environment and farming. With many new things being planted keep your eyes out for our next harvest. Anything grown will be available in the front reception.

Thank you to our senior boys who planted cabbages this week. Corn will be harvested on Monday.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Next week we have an exciting week ahead, with our end of term assessments starting this gives the school community the opportunity to set targets for Term 2 as well as review the learning from the term. These results will be shared in our parent consultations and end of term reports.

Ms Ahlam, who many of you will know as the Principal PA has taken on a new role as the Parent Champion, the reason behind creating this new role is for parents to have a direct person to contact for general information.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms Jo, the founding Head of Primary, for her service to NGBS. She is moving on and her last day will be next Friday. We are pleased to announce that after an extensive interview process, we have appointed Michael Lynch as the new Head of Primary for NGBS. He will take up the role in Term 2. We would like to invite Primary Parents in to meet Mr Michael on Friday 14th November at 8am. He will introduce himself and map out his vision for the primary department.

We are less than a month until the winter holiday and so I would ask that any unsettled schools fees are addressed.

Yesterday it was announced by the rulers of the UAE that 2026 will be The Year of the Family, something that we will ensure to fully embrace at NGBS. As we build our community we wish to ensure all family members feel welcomed and involved in life at NGBS.

Our Foundation Stage Parents will also be welcomed in next Friday to the official opening of our Little Souq and the Outdoor Learning Area. Having a variety of enriched learning spaces is key to the long term vision of NGBS. Both spaces offer our young learners so many different opportunities to think critically, have risky play, talk, create and investigate.

Anti-Bullying week is next week and I would ask that all parents remind children of expected behaviour in school and the importance of respecting each other.

EYFS UPDATES

Eyfs News



Dear NGBS Families,

It has been a calm but productive week across EYFS. The children have continued to show steady progress in their learning. There has been a growing excitement as we gear up for our upcoming Outdoor and Little Souq Launch! This week, the children worked on creating their video (FS1 and FS2) and written (Y1) invitations, which you will soon see on Seesaw. They are very proud of their efforts and are looking forward to the next stages of preparation in the coming days.

In Year One, the Project-Based Learning journey has been wonderful to see unfold. The children have been sharing thoughtful ideas and showing great enthusiasm as their projects gradually take shape.

A gentle reminder that Assessment Week for Year 1 begins next week. For FS1 and FS2, assessments will be done through continuous observation as part of their everyday learning – no revision or extra preparation at home is needed.

As part of our Little Souq setup, we would like to request families to kindly send in clean and washed milk cartons, containers, boxes, or bottles that we can use to stock our supermarket area. We look forward to another engaging week ahead!

LEARNING IN EYFS

This week in FS1, the children had lots of fun exploring our party theme! In English, they read *The Party* story and worked together to create a colourful party banner. In Understanding of the World, the children used playdough to make cupcakes and added details using loose parts, drew their happy faces to show how they feel during a party, and even designed a cake plan before making their own playdough cakes. In Maths, they practised counting 1, 2, 3 using their fingers and balloon gloves, making learning numbers a fun and hands-on experience. We are on our way to be super speedy subitisers!

This week, in FS2, our focus story was *Handa's Surprise!* The children enjoyed retelling the story in their own words and shared their favourite parts of the story with the class. In Phonics, they learned the sounds t, i, n, and p, practising how to say and write them, and even began blending simple CVC words. It was such a joy working on blending those sounds together.

In Maths, the children explored the composition of numbers 4 and 5 through various engaging activities. Our highlight of the week was definitely when we brought some fruits to share amongst friends – thank you, dearest mummies and daddies, for helping bring our story to life!

We have been treasuring every part of the day this week- focusing on our projects! What amazing discussions and ideas were shared amongst the Year Ones. In Maths, we explored fact families and how numbers are connected, while also having fun identifying and building 2D and 3D shapes around the classroom. In English, the children used adjectives to bring their "Bear Hunt" descriptions to life and practised writing full sentences with great imagination. Through project-based learning in Science, they explored, questioned, and experimented to learn more about the world around them. In ICT, the children created digital art using Freeform, confidently expressing their creativity through technology. Meanwhile, in D&T, our young designers continued building and creating in their projects, showing fantastic teamwork and problem-solving skills. Well done, Year Ones!



Primary News



LEARNING IN PRIMARY

We've had a busy and exciting week across Primary.

A gentle reminder that please ensure that your child comes to school ready to earn each day, wearing the correct school uniform, and bringing their pencil case and equipment. Being prepared helps them to make the most of every learning opportunity. We also encourage all children to bring a book from home to enjoy during reading time – developing a love for reading is something we value greatly at our school.

The children have been working hard in all areas of learning and showing great

Enthusiasm in class. Year 2 pupils have been busy exploring the world of plants. They've enjoyed looking closely at different species and identifying their various parts. It's been wonderful to see their curiosity and excitement during these science activities – what fun they've had outdoors!

Our Year 3 children have been focusing on improving their writing by adding descriptive language to make their sentences more detailed and interesting.

The progress they are making as confident young writers is fantastic!

HAPPENINGS IN PRIMARY

In Science, Year 4 have been learning about different energy sources, expanding their knowledge to understand the difference between renewable and non-renewable energy. Their enthusiasm and questioning have really impressed their teachers.

Year 5 pupils have been working on persuasive writing, developing strong arguments and writing with confidence. The creativity and effort they've shown in their work have been outstanding – well done, Year 5!

In English, Year 6 have been writing powerful stories about a poor child, showing real empathy and emotional understanding in their writing. Their work has been thoughtful, expressive, and deeply moving – we're very proud of them!

Thank you for your continued support in helping your children come to school ready, focused, and excited to learn. Together, we can help them build confidence and curiosity in everything they do.



Secondary News

KS3 UPDATES

Answers to some of the questions I have received this week:

- MOE subject assessments will begin on Monday, 10th November, 2025 (the schedule was shared on SeeSaw last week).
- British curriculum subjects will run the following week (commencing 17th November, 2025).
- Students will only be assessed on the units of work they have been taught in school since September. If they have been attending lessons regularly they are familiar with the work.
- Teachers are busy revising key concepts with the students in preparation for these assessments during the lessons.
- Teachers have also shared revision materials via SeeSaw for students to further follow-up at home with. These materials do not need to be printed. Students can work in their 'Home Learning' notebooks that were shared in October to make notes on the revision materials; writing things out is a well-researched method which supports memory retention. We are actively encouraging the students to use this strategy.
- School will run on 'normal working hours' during assessments. We have worked the school day so that they have time to sit assessments, time to revise and time to de-stress with their peers. We trust you agree that the children need a healthy combination of all three to show their very best work, attitude & behaviour during this time.



LEARNING IN KS3

Lessons have mostly been focused on revision this week so I thought I would share some information about upcoming events:

- The 10th - 14th November is **Anti-Bullying Week**. This is internationally recognised as a time to focus students on what bullying is, the harm it can do and the ways to prevent it.
- The **UAE fully supports Anti-Bullying Week** each year and there is a program we will be following, as a school. Monday, 10th November will be **ODD SOCKS DAY** - students will come to school in full school uniform but their socks should be mis-matching, bright colours, something fun to help unite them.
- During the week we will share some activities with the students which will encourage them to think about bullying during morning registration & first break while they are eating in class.
- The Secondary students have also been invited to **plan, create and lead carnival style activities** during our **National Day celebrations** later in the month. The students are very busy planning for this and they are keen to be recognised as leaders across the school. More details will be shared in next week's newsletter.
- **Swimming** will start for **Secondary girls** from Monday 10th November, 2025. Some timetables may have been swapped so these lessons do not interfere with assessments. Please ask your daughters to check their SeeSaw for messages from Ms Anna.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL WITH A WATER BOTTLE EACH DAY.

MFL & MoE

MFL & MOE HAPPENINGS

Our FS and Year 1 students were filled with excitement and pride as they came together to form a Human Flag in celebration of UAE Flag Day! The energy and enthusiasm of our young learners were truly inspiring as they waved their flags high, showcasing their love and respect for the nation.

The festive spirit continues to grow as students rehearse passionately for the upcoming UAE National Day (Eid Al Etihad) celebrations. The school is abuzz with songs, dances, and performances that reflect the unity, culture, and pride of the United Arab Emirates.



Meanwhile, our Year 1 students have also been balancing their celebrations with dedication to their academics. They have been diligently preparing for their end-of-term assessments, attending revision sessions with focus and confidence.

Across the school, Primary and KS3 students took part in meaningful Flag Day assemblies, where they learned about the symbols and significance behind the UAE flag colours and discovered the story of the visionary who designed the UAE flag. These sessions not only deepened their understanding of national heritage but also instilled a strong sense of patriotism and pride.

The day was a perfect blend of joy, learning, and unity – a heartfelt tribute to the spirit of the UAE!



Upcoming Events

ODD SOCK DAY MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER

All Staff and students are invited to wear odd socks on Monday as a reminder that although we are all different we must all get along and respect each other.

This behaviour is especially critical in school.



MEET THE NEW HEAD OF PRIMARY, MR MICHAEL LYNCH

We invite our primary parents to meet our new Head of Primary, Mr Michael Lynch. 8am – Auditorium, Friday 14th November

As an experienced educator, I am thrilled to be joining North Gate British School in January with over a decade of experience in schools across the world, I am thrilled to be joining North Gate British School – a place where the leaders of tomorrow are nurtured. From the moment I met Ms Rachael and saw the passion within this community, I knew this was a school where a world-class education for children truly comes to life. My approach to leading a primary school revolves around one guiding principle: **care**. You are entrusting us with your most precious gift – your children – and they will be treated with the care, respect and attention they deserve. Throughout my career in Kuwait, the UK and the UAE, care has remained the foundation of my philosophy. While teaching approaches evolve, genuine care must always be at the heart of what we do.

At North Gate, I want every child to look back on their primary years with joy – filled with experiences that spark curiosity and creativity. Our pupils will have opportunities to perform, compete, explore and imagine, developing the confidence and character that will stay with them for life. Your children will learn through a skills-focused, forward-thinking curriculum that connects knowledge to real-world contexts. It will be quintessentially British, yet global in outlook, preparing them for an ever-changing world shaped by innovation, AI and technology. It is my aim to make the primary years your children's most inspiring and rewarding chapter – and to make North Gate a benchmark for excellence in international education. I am delighted to be joining this vibrant community, where children learn and grow in harmony with nature. Michael Lynch

Classroom Updates

In Pictures

