

College Beat

Beyond The Classroom
DESS College Newsletter
February 2025



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Learning That Lasts a Lifetime



I would like to welcome you to the new magazine format of our half-termly update and to once again thank our contributors for reminding us just how achievement-packed life at DESS College is for both our students and the incredible staff who guide them.

Reading this edition, I am struck by how much learning at the College extends beyond our classroom walls. Whether it is navigating the trading floors of Dragon Mart in our business challenge, conducting real-world physics experiments on Dubai's beaches or debating global issues through poetry, our students are not just absorbing knowledge, they are experiencing it.

This hands-on, immersive approach to education is at the heart of what we do. Learning is not just about grades and qualifications (although we are immensely proud of our students' academic successes), it is about developing character, confidence and curiosity, qualities that can only be truly shaped through experiences, challenges and opportunities to lead.

Throughout this issue, you will see countless examples of how our students are pushing boundaries, taking risks and applying their knowledge in meaningful ways. Year 12 mathematicians testing themselves against the best in the Dubai Maths Super League. BTEC Hospitality students running a high-profile dining event with professionalism and precision. Sixth Form leaders guiding younger students through the psychology of resilience.

At DESS College, we do not just prepare students for exams, we prepare them for life.

Enjoy the read!

Matthew Cotgrove
Head of School

Big Ideas, Bright Futures

Professional Finance Training for Year 12

A huge thank you to Ben Bolger for leading our first-ever CISI Level 2 Fundamentals of Finance course for Year 12 students in early January. This exciting addition to our curriculum gave students invaluable insights into the financial sector while developing skills that will serve them well in the future. A special mention goes to Ms Davidson from the Business and Economics Department, who dedicated her weekend to supporting students throughout the course and is now guiding them towards their qualification exam later this term.



Industry Insights for Year 10 & 11

We were delighted to welcome Simon Athwal DipFA and Tom Pewtress from Skybound Wealth Management, who shared their expertise on money management and careers in financial services with our Year 10 and Year 11 students. Their engaging session sparked plenty of curiosity and we hope to see many of our students exploring this dynamic sector in the years to come.



Enterprise, Innovation & Future Schools

A big well done to our Year 8 and Year 9 students for successfully completing their DESSCareers exploration projects in their GROW lessons.

- Year 9 focused on entrepreneurship, pitching innovative business ideas. Congratulations to the winning groups behind 'Candle Café' and 'Gentlemen's Glow'! A special thank you to our Year 13 BTEC Enterprise and Entrepreneurship students, who mentored and inspired their younger peers throughout the challenge.
- Year 8 designed the school of the future, envisioning institutions that offer cutting-edge subjects to prepare students for tomorrow's world. Congratulations to the winning teams behind 'Konah Font College' and 'Phoenix High School'!

Winning Year 8 students: Madeline Delahaye, Elaine Steyn, Holly Devereux, Riana Akhaimka, Konah Burness, Fernando Font Cortijo, Aarav Jain

Winning Year 9 students: Sydney James, Mia La Roux, Maxine Sainsard, Nandi Ndebele, Ky Zac Kong, Aarav Jain, Theo Hayward, Pranshu Agarwal



Looking Ahead: DESSCareers Week 2025

Mark your calendars! DESSCareers Week returns from Monday, 14th April, bringing an exciting lineup of guest speakers, workshops and career-focused events for students across the College. Reflecting on last year's success, we extend our sincere gratitude to all those who generously contributed their time and expertise. The impact of your support is immeasurable and we look forward to another inspiring Careers Week.

Speaking of Success..... Celebrating our Love of Languages

Marhaba Morning: Supporting Our Dual Linguists

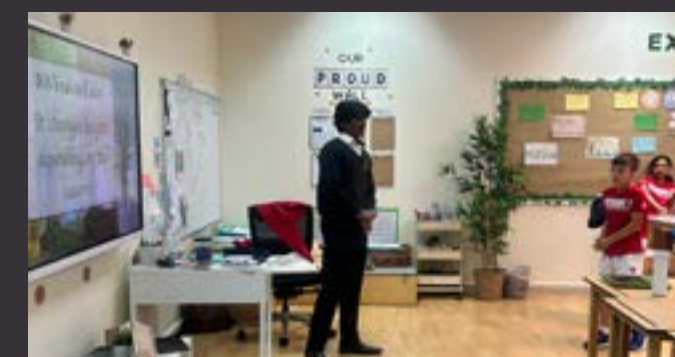
The MFL department recently hosted its first-ever Marhaba Morning, an exclusive event for parents of our Dual Linguist students. This was a fantastic opportunity to provide insight into how the Dual Linguist programme progresses from Year 8 to Year 11, as well as to highlight the many benefits of studying two languages. We loved engaging with parents, answering their questions and sharing tips on how to support their child's language-learning journey. With such a positive response, we look forward to hosting more Marhaba Mornings in the future!



From Students to Teachers: A Language Learning Adventure

Our incredible Languages Society recently took language learning beyond the classroom, planning and delivering French and Spanish lessons for Year 5 students at DESS Primary Oud Metha. Keen to refine their teaching skills, a group of our Year 12 French and Spanish students stepped up to lead the sessions, teaching back-to-back lessons with enthusiasm and creativity.

Their hard work certainly paid off - our Year 5 learners kept them on their toes, but the sessions were a huge success! After this experience, our Sixth Formers have gained a whole new appreciation for teaching and are already brainstorming fresh ideas to inspire our KS2 students next year.





An Arabic Adventure in Salalah, Oman

At the end of Term 1, Year 8 students embarked on a truly extraordinary educational journey to Salalah, Oman - a trip that blended language, history, geography and culture into an immersive and unforgettable experience.

From exploring ancient ruins and stunning landscapes to engaging with local communities, every moment of the trip was designed to bring classroom learning to life. Students gained hands-on insight into the region's rich history, deepened their understanding of Arabic heritage and developed valuable life skills such as adaptability, problem-solving and teamwork.

The response from both students and parents has been overwhelmingly positive. Many students expressed how the trip inspired them to learn more about the world, while parents have shared their pride in their children's growth and newfound appreciation for different cultures.

This experience has reinforced our commitment to providing meaningful learning beyond the classroom and we look forward to more enriching opportunities for our students in the future.

A Landmark Victory and a Journey of Discovery

Championing Arabic Poetry on the National Stage

For the first time in our school's history, DESS College students have triumphed at the national level in the Arabic Poetry Recitation competition at the Emirates Literature Festival - an outstanding achievement against both Arabic and non-Arabic schools across the UAE.

We are incredibly proud to announce that Yassin Mokhtar (Year 7) won first place in the under-14 category, while Yaseen Moussa (Year 11) took the top spot in the under-18 category. Their success is the result of three years of dedication, perseverance and passion for Arabic poetry, with both students consistently reaching the finals before this well-earned victory. Congratulations to Yassin and Yaseen on this exceptional accomplishment!



Al Shindagha Museum: An Immersive Learning Adventure

32 Year 7 students took part in an exciting educational journey to Al Shindagha Museum, located in the heart of Dubai's historic district. The trip provided a fantastic opportunity for students to immerse themselves in the rich cultural heritage of the UAE.

At the museum, students took part in an interactive treasure hunt, designed to make learning both engaging and hands-on. Over the course of 90 minutes, they explored the 'Life on Land Houses' exhibit, uncovering essential themes such as trade, water and UAE heritage. Guided by thought-provoking clues and challenges, the students worked collaboratively to unlock the 'Locked Box,' demonstrating their teamwork and critical thinking skills.

It was truly inspiring to see their enthusiasm as they solved clues, engaged with UAE history and reflected on the heritage that shapes their lives today. The visit to Al Shindagha Museum brought history to life in a way that no textbook ever could, offering students a memorable and meaningful learning experience.

Innovation, Competition, Exploration

Year 7: A Hands-On Approach

Over the past six weeks, Year 7 students have embarked on three exciting Science projects, choosing pathways that allowed them to explore real-world applications and develop an even deeper love of Science.

- Cooks and Chemists experimented with freezing points of different substances, investigated energy content in foods and even had fun creating hot chocolate bombs and ice cream.
- Robotics teams built and programmed Lego robots, testing their speed, agility and precision as they responded to external environments.
- Marvellous Medicine students dissected a variety of organs, explored the history of medicine and learned how deadly diseases have been discovered and treated over time.
- Physics in Motion challenged students to investigate crumple zones, design parachutes to slow down falling objects and explore friction through real-world applications.

- Astronomy enthusiasts studied the solar system, planetary orbits and the mysteries of the moon, even getting the chance to taste real astronaut food.
- Olympics Science focused on Biology and Sports Science, where students analysed athletes' diets, macronutrient needs and training plans to understand what it takes to fuel an Olympic champion.

Each project gave students the opportunity to develop investigative, planning and application skills, reinforcing that Science is all around us. It has been a truly rewarding experience to see them engage with curiosity and enthusiasm.



British Physics Olympiad Success

In November last year, 17 of our Year 12 and Year 13 students took on the prestigious British Physics Olympiad Round 1, competing against 3,777 students from 550 schools worldwide. This challenging competition goes beyond A-level content, pushing students to demonstrate deep knowledge, problem-solving abilities and resilience.

We are thrilled to announce:

- Gold Awards: Alexander Kindstrand Saliba (Year 13) & Jeff Sunil (Year 12) – placing in the top 17.1% of entrants.
- Silver Award: Arnav Gupta (Year 12) – placing in the top 40.7%.
- Bronze II Awards: Four additional students were recognised for their strong performance.
- Commendations: The remaining participants received commendations for their impressive efforts.

Several students entered last month's online competition and we eagerly await the results. Meanwhile, 18 of our Year 11 students participated in online competitions tailored to their age category and we look forward to celebrating their achievements when results are announced.

A huge well done to all our students for their dedication, perseverance and excellence in representing the College at such a high level.



DESS College Takes on the British Biology Olympiad

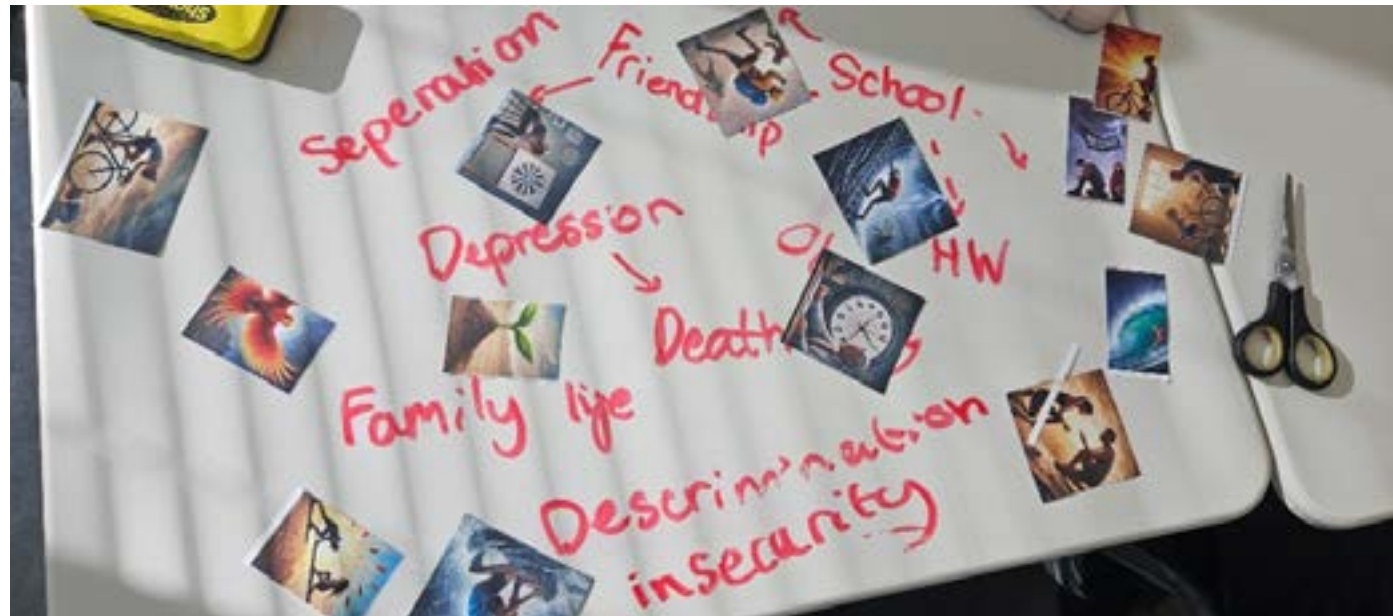
In early February, our Year 12 and Year 13 Biology students took part in the British Biology Olympiad (BBO) - a competition designed to stretch and challenge students with a passion for Biology.

The Olympiad is open to post-16 students worldwide and consists of two rigorous 45-minute multiple-choice papers completed under exam conditions. The challenge is designed to test problem-solving skills and core biological principles, often presenting students with unfamiliar topics that require deep analytical thinking.

Beyond individual achievement, the BBO serves as the first step in selecting a UK team for the International Biology Olympiad (IBO), where students compete against the best young biologists from over 60 countries.

As we go to 'press', our students are preparing to complete their second paper and we will be eagerly anticipating their results. The highest-scoring students may have the opportunity to progress further in the competition, with the potential to train and represent the UK on the global stage.

Building Resilience in Young People



What makes one child thrive under pressure while another struggles? Why do some bounce back from setbacks, while others feel stuck? The answer often lies in resilience - the ability not just to recover from challenges, but to grow stronger because of them.

This term, the KS3 Psychology Club has taken an exciting new direction. After exploring a series of mini-GCSE psychology lessons, we have shifted our focus to a hands-on, applied psychology experience with a special project: Building Resilience in Young People.

Even more exciting, some of our dedicated Year 12 Psychology Society students have stepped up to help run sessions, developing their own skills in leadership and teaching along the way.

What is Resilience?

Resilience is the ability to bounce back from adversity - but in positive psychology, it's also about learning to bounce forward and grow from life's challenges. Young people face many transitions and pressures, from changing friendships to academic demands. Understanding how to navigate these experiences builds confidence, emotional strength and long-term wellbeing.

Why Does Resilience Matter?

When young people develop resilience, they are better equipped to handle stress, adapt to change and maintain a positive outlook. These skills don't just help in the short term - they lay the foundation for future success and happiness.

What Are Students Learning?

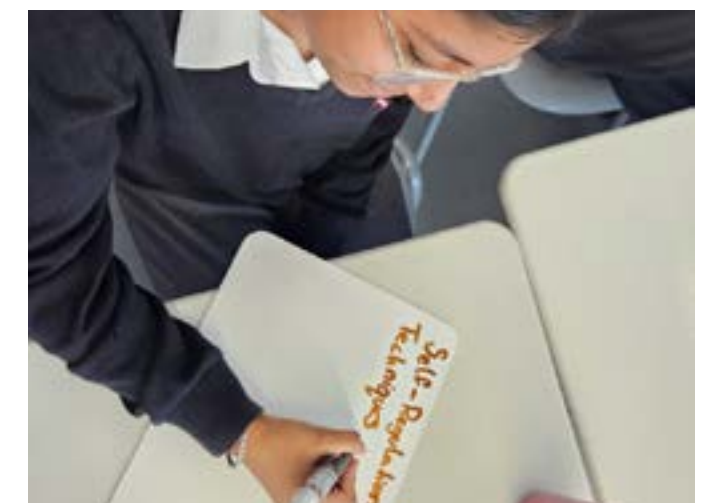
Over the next eight weeks, our students will explore key resilience-building strategies, including:

- Understanding resilience
- Emotional awareness & self-regulation
- Impulse control
- Optimism
- Flexible & accurate thinking
- Empathy
- Self-efficacy
- Building strong social connections

Already, just a few weeks into term, our students are fully engaged, learning and are clearly also having fun. Each session is filled with enthusiasm as they take part in discussions, activities and group challenges. Meanwhile, our Year 12 facilitators are not only reinforcing their own psychological knowledge but also developing valuable teaching and leadership skills.

It's inspiring to see students at all levels working together to explore the power of resilience - learning not just how to overcome challenges, but how to grow from them.

We can't wait to see how they continue to thrive!



Learning Beyond the Classroom

“Learning outside the classroom is important for all young people if they are to connect with their local place, find a relevance for the classroom-based learning and develop a meaningful understanding of what environment really means.” Turney, 2009

Geography is more than just maps and textbooks – it’s a journey into and around the world and a lens to explore the ways we interact with it. Being able to explore real environments is essential for students to bridge the gap between theory and reality, which is why fieldwork is embedded into the curriculum at KS3, GCSE (accounting for 25% of the overall grade) and A Level (20% of the overall grade).

Over the past month, Year 11 students have fully embraced this practical side of Geography, applying their classroom learning in two exciting fieldwork investigations.

Urban Fieldwork: Does Dubai Follow Burgess’s Concentric Ring Theory?

For their first fieldwork study, students investigated whether Dubai’s urban development aligns with Burgess’s concentric ring model. To gather evidence, they visited a range of locations - Manara, Satwa and Bay Square - conducting traffic counts, field sketches and environmental quality surveys to compare these diverse areas.

After analysing their findings, students evaluated their results, drawing conclusions about Dubai’s unique urban structure. The experience has strengthened their confidence and they now feel prepared to apply their knowledge in their exams this May.



Coastal Fieldwork: Investigating Dubai’s Beaches

For their second study, students spent a day at the beach, collecting data to determine whether Dubai’s beaches are constructive in nature or if signs of erosion are becoming more evident. Working together, they:

- Measured the beach slope
- Conducted longshore drift studies
- Completed a pebble analysis

Back in the classroom, students focused on presenting their findings using scatter graphs and line graphs, applying their mathematical skills to visually support their hypotheses.

The Power of Fieldwork

These experiences go beyond exam preparation - they help students see Geography in action. Whether standing in the middle of an urban hub or analysing coastal erosion on a beach, students gain a real-world understanding of geographical concepts that is difficult to achieve in a classroom alone.

Parents, next time you travel, encourage your children to look beyond the landscape and question how human and physical geography shape the world. Do classic theories still hold true in today’s rapidly changing world, or do we need new models to explain 21st-century geography?

Dubai Maths Superleague

Celebrating Excellence

Towards the end of January, we had the honour of hosting the prestigious Dubai Maths Super League, an event that brings together top young mathematicians from across the Emirate. Designed for exceptionally talented students, the competition provides a platform to showcase mathematical skills, strategic thinking and teamwork in a high-pressure yet exciting environment.

Year 12: A Thrilling Competition and a Podium Finish

The Year 12 competition featured a challenging four-round format, testing students' problem-solving abilities and exposing them to mathematical concepts beyond the traditional classroom setting. The event was not only a celebration of mathematical excellence but also an opportunity for students to collaborate, compete and grow as mathematicians.

We are incredibly proud to announce that one of our teams secured an impressive second-place finish, a testament to their dedication, perseverance and skill. This event not only enriches students' learning experiences but also strengthens the mathematical community across Dubai, inspiring young mathematicians to push their limits.

Congratulations to our Year 12 representatives: Colin, Xayaan, Arnav, Joon Woo, Areeta, Jinnuo, Ilyas and Lukas.



Year 9: Stepping Up to the Challenge

In an inspiring display of mathematical enthusiasm, our Year 9 students recently represented the College at the Dubai Maths Super League hosted by Jumeirah College. Competing alongside their older peers, these budding mathematicians demonstrated their growing passion and ability, taking on a series of stimulating challenges designed to sharpen their skills and ignite their love for mathematics.

The competition provided an exciting introduction to high-level mathematical problem-solving, allowing students to experience the thrill of collaboration and friendly rivalry. As they prepare to enter Key Stage 4, this experience has clearly reinforced their enthusiasm for the subject, setting a strong foundation for future academic success.

A huge well done to Cheryl, Selina, Poppy, Elias, Ojasvi, Vedant, Johan and Syed for representing the College so brilliantly!



Looking Ahead

Participating in competitions like the Dubai Maths Super League not only strengthens mathematical proficiency but also encourages students to embrace a lifelong love of learning. As our younger competitors follow in the footsteps of their Year 12 counterparts, they are inspired to strive for even greater success in the years to come.

We look forward to seeing our future mathematicians continue to challenge themselves, build confidence and excel in this exciting field.

Seeing Commerce and Trade Through a Different Lens

The DESS College Economics Photo Competition 2025

Economics is all around us - from the prices we pay at the supermarket to the way cities grow and industries evolve. Here at DESS College, we believe that understanding Economics goes beyond textbooks and our annual Economics Photo Competition is designed to bring the subject to life in a creative and thought-provoking way.

Students are challenged to capture powerful images that reflect key economic concepts in the real world, such as market behaviour, resource allocation and global trade. The competition not only encourages them to think critically about the forces shaping everyday life but also helps them develop a deeper appreciation of Economics in action.

Over the years, the College has proudly produced multiple winners of the prestigious EconFrame competition, an internationally recognised platform that celebrates the intersection of Economics and visual storytelling. Winning entries from our in-House competition will receive prizes and be encouraged to submit their work to EconFrame, offering students the chance to compete on a global stage.

We are excited to see how our students use their creativity to capture Economics in action and look forward to showcasing the winning entries in April 2025.

Fresh Perspectives: Desconomic Review is Back!

Reminding us that Economics is much more than numbers and theories (it's the story of how the world works), our Desconomic Review students' platform is back to explore, analyse and challenge economic ideas beyond the classroom.

The latest (January) edition features a diverse lineup of thought-provoking articles, tackling everything from government policy to the rise of social media giants:

- An Analysis of the UK Budget – Yash Ramchandani breaks down the key economic policies shaping the UK.
- Private Equity: Explained – Dev Singh unpacks the role of private investment in today's economy.
- The Rise of TikTok and Instagram – Vukasin Dzenopoljac examines how social media platforms influence markets.
- Businessman of the Month: Jensen Huang – A closer look at the visionary behind Nvidia's success.

This edition also marks an editorial transition, welcoming Chris John, Dev Singh and Jincheng Zhou as the new Year 12 editorial team. A huge thank you to our outgoing Year 13 leaders, Neev Baruah and Aleena Ashfaq, for their outstanding contributions to the publication.

By connecting classroom learning with real-world economics, The Desconomic Review continues to inspire critical thinking, collaboration and curiosity among our budding economists. We invite parents to explore this latest edition and see the creativity and ambition of our students in action.

Navigating the Marketplace: Year 13 Take on the DESS College Purchasing Challenge

Inspired by BBC's The Apprentice, Year 13 students recently put their business acumen and negotiation skills to the test in the inaugural DESS College Purchasing Challenge. Organised by the Business Studies (BTEC Enterprise) Department, this high-energy competition sent students deep into the maze-like corridors of Dragon Mart, armed with nothing but a shopping list, a tight budget and a ticking clock.

Their mission? To source ten obscure items - including a children's kite, goldfish food, a fresh coconut, artificial flowers, a 10mm ratcheting spanner, a hi-vis vest, a brake/taillight for a car and a beach towel featuring a dancing zebra - all within a budget of just 100 AED (cash).

Staff accompanying the students were impressed by their ingenuity and determination, as all teams successfully located and purchased at least eight of the ten items. The challenge tested communication, teamwork, negotiation, time management and budgeting skills - all essential qualities in business.

Two teams managed to tick off all ten items on the list, but it was Lillia Younis and Milla Cass who came out on top, with their purchases most closely matching the original brief. The pair were crowned winners of the DESS College Purchasing Challenge, taking home the Winner's Trophy.

A huge well done to all participants for their creativity, resilience and business-savvy thinking - proving that real-world commerce is all about strategy, adaptability and smart decision-making.





The Power of Poetry

DESSCreates Competition Celebrates Young Voices

Poetry has a unique way of capturing emotions, challenging perspectives and sparking conversations. Last term, our English Department invited students to harness that power in the annual DESSCreates Poetry Competition, bringing together budding poets from Years 7, 8 and 9.

This year's theme, Global Issues, encouraged students to explore some of the most pressing challenges of our time, from climate change and inequality to cultural diversity and identity. The response was nothing short of inspiring. Through their words, students reflected on the world around them with thoughtfulness, originality and passion, proving that poetry remains a powerful tool for both self-expression and social commentary.

After much deliberation, six winners were selected from each year group, with Earth House claiming the overall first-place prize. However, beyond the competition itself, the event served as a reminder of how poetry can connect us, challenge us and give voice to ideas that matter.

One of the standout pieces from this year's competition was Dear Me by Farah Al Hashimi (Year 9), a heartfelt reflection on identity, cultural pride and belonging.

A Poetic Reflection: Dear Me by Farah Al Hashimi

Dear Me

Always embrace your country,
Share when people have curiosities.
Celebrate everything that comes your way,
Whether it is Hag Al Laila or National Day.

Speak your language openly,
Who cares if it is publicly?
You shouldn't mind when people stare,
If you wear traditional clothing everywhere.

Don't try to hide where you are from,
Instead, stand tall and tell the world who you are.

I'm an Emirati,
And I love my country.
From the language that we speak,
To the food that we eat.

Embrace the traditions,
Embrace the sceneries.
From the heat of the sun,
To the feel of the sand.

Watch the wind dance with the dunes,
And the sun bloom in the clear sky.

Don't forget where you are from,
Since your culture helped guide the way,
To who you are today.

Farah's poem beautifully captures the importance of cultural identity and heritage, reminding us all to take pride in our roots and the experiences that shape us.

As we celebrate the DESSCreates Poetry Competition, we are reminded of the power of young voices to challenge, inspire and create change - one verse at a time.

Plein Air Adventures

Year 10 Artists Capture Dubai's Historic Heart

Last month, Year 10 Art students swapped the classroom walls for the bustling souks and waterways of Dubai Creek and Al Seef, embarking on an inspiring plein air drawing trip. This hands-on experience gave students the chance to observe, sketch and immerse themselves in the energy of some of Dubai's most historic locations.

Armed with sketchbooks, pencils and an enquiring spirit, students set out to capture the movement, textures and character of early morning life. From the narrow alleyways of the souk to the wooden abras gliding across the Creek, every scene was an opportunity to record the world through direct observation. Teachers encouraged students to look beyond the obvious, noticing the subtle details - from rustic doors and intricate shopfronts to the patterns of light and shadow cast across the cityscape.

Back in the studio, these on-location sketches and photographs became the foundation for further artistic exploration in students' sketchbooks, reinforcing the idea that great art starts with great observation.

Beyond the pages of their sketchbooks, the day was a shared creative journey, allowing students to experience art in the real world - learning to see, feel and express their surroundings in new ways. The Creative Arts Department remains committed to fostering these kinds of experiences, where students can expand their horizons and develop their own artistic voice.



A Taste of Success

The Eighth Annual BTEC Hospitality Lunch

Our Eighth Annual BTEC Hospitality Lunch – held here at the College, was a resounding success, celebrating the skill, dedication and professionalism of our BTEC Hospitality students. Welcoming 40 guests - including parents, Senior Leadership team members, Board of Trustees members and staff - the event was a true showcase of culinary excellence and teamwork.

This year's menu paid tribute to European cuisine, with guests treated to an impressive array of authentic dishes, each meticulously prepared and presented by the students. Working independently, students demonstrated precision, creativity and mastery of technical skills, ensuring that every dish was a testament to their passion for hospitality. From flawless execution in the kitchen to impeccable service, their professionalism shone through.

Beyond the culinary achievements, the event was also a practical demonstration of event planning and execution, an essential component of the BTEC Hospitality curriculum. Students took full responsibility for menu planning, time management and service delivery, proving their ability to run a large-scale hospitality event with confidence and skill.

The success of this event reflects the hard work and dedication of our students, supported by the tireless guidance of our Food and Nutrition Department. It was a proud moment for all involved, as months of preparation culminated in a seamless and highly professional dining experience.

Congratulations to our BTEC Hospitality students for their outstanding achievements. We look forward to seeing where their culinary journeys take them next!

Empowering the Students to Shape a Greener Future



Sustainability isn't just about policies and pledges - it's about real action. From reducing waste to rethinking how we use resources, young people have a huge role to play in shaping a greener future. Here at the College, we believe that sustainability should be part of everyday life, not just a topic in the classroom.

Students Lead the Way at The Big Green Legacy Workshop

Four members of our Eco-Committee recently took part in The Big Green Legacy Workshop, an inspiring event that brought together students, educators and sustainability leaders to explore how schools can embed greener practices into education and campus life.

Held at Casa Mikoko in Mangrove Beach Park, the workshop saw students from across the UAE working alongside representatives from the Ministry of Education (MOE), Play Verto and the Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation (AGF). Through a mix of discussions, activities and brainstorming sessions, they tackled key questions: How can we make sustainability part of everyday learning? What can schools do to reduce their environmental impact? How can students lead the change?

Representing DESS College, Amelia, Jordanna, Rabiaah and Aylise played an active role, sharing ideas from our own school initiatives, including food waste reduction and sustainable living projects. They also connected with like-minded peers and experts, bringing back fresh inspiration to drive change within our own community.

Events like this show just how important student voices are in shaping the future. A huge well done to our Eco-Committee for representing the College with such passion, insight and leadership.



But Wait... There's Even More to Come!

With one packed half-term behind us, there's no slowing down at DESS College - the next few weeks are set to bring even more adventure, challenge and achievement both inside and outside the classroom.

From the UAE to Japan: Learning Without Borders - Our Year 7 students will head to Hatta, swapping the classroom for the great outdoors as they take on team-building activities and outdoor challenges. Meanwhile, a lucky group of students will travel much further afield, heading to Japan for an immersive cultural and educational experience that promises to broaden their horizons in a truly unique way.

A Stage Set for Success - Excitement is building for this year's school musical, with performers, musicians, and backstage crews all working hard to bring their production to life. After months of rehearsals, the big moment is just around the corner - stay tuned for show dates and ticket details!

A Test of Endurance and Teamwork - Our Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award participants are preparing to put their skills, resilience, and teamwork to the test in the great outdoors. With planning well underway, this will be a true challenge of perseverance and adventure.

Making Numbers Count - The College will be celebrating Pi Day on Friday, 14th March, proving that maths can be both fun and fascinating. Meanwhile, our Year 7 mathematicians will be representing the school in the Dubai Maths Super League, tackling tricky problems in a competitive but exciting environment.

The next half-term will also see our Year 8 geographers taking to the field, our Model United Nations delegates debating global issues and our rugby teams giving their all in the DASSA Finals. Students will also take part in House Leaders Training, Character Calls and a celebration of the International Day of Happiness - because well-being matters just as much as achievement.

Plenty to look forward to, and plenty more to celebrate in the next edition!



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