



# Welcome to the Future Welcome to GISC!

## What Not To Miss

- Nov.5-9, Book Week
- Nov.6 & 7 IB visit (PYP)
- Nov.8 MAP parent Master Class
- Nov.12 Humanitarian Aid Event. Admissions for Siblings EEP Cup Starts
- Nov.13 & 14 Parent Teacher Conference
- Nov.22 - No School for Students Staff INSET Day
- Nov. 23 Whole School off Thanksgiving Day
- Nov.26 Fire Drill
- Nov.29 & 30 School Photo

### October IB Magazine

click here

<https://rb.gy/f4cp0z>

## Book Week



**At GISC, our mission is to cultivate and nurture future pioneers. As Margaret Fuller famously stated, "Today a reader, tomorrow a leader."**

**GISC delightful Book week will be brimming with engaging activities .**

### We are excited to invite you to our upcoming Book Fair!

You and your family are welcome to visit the book fair anytime between 8:30 AM and 3:30 PM, from Sunday through Thursday next week. It will be a great opportunity to explore a wide range of books and foster a love for reading.

**We look forward to seeing you there!**

# A message from Ms. Catherine Spencer The Head of School.

## Siblings Admissions

We are thrilled to announce that sibling admissions for the upcoming academic year will officially kick off on November 12th. Get ready to secure a spot for your sibling at our school.

## IB visits

Important milestones lie ahead with the visits of both MYP and PYP verification teams this week and next. With IBDP candidacy in hand, we will host our consultation visit in February with the verification visit scheduled for fall 2024. Your support of the GISC IB journey has been gratifying!

On the academic front, we have completed our Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) assessments for Grades 2 through 9, and you will be receiving your child's individual reports this week.

For half of our students, these are new baseline assessments that begin to chart student progress. For returning students, you will see your child's learning growth with three or four assessment points over a full year. I am especially proud of the achievement growth of our students from 2022-23. Returning parents will recall that our initial baseline data in October 2022 highlighted the negative effects of the COVID-19 years with unstable learning environments across the globe. At that time, only 27% of our students' assessments were above international averages. In our MAP assessments in June 2023, 57% of assessments were at or above international medians. This is a remarkable improvement growth that we seek to continue to increase over this new academic year.

We encourage and invite parents in Grades 2 through 9 to join me and GISC school leaders for an overview of schoolwide data and a walk-through reading of individual school reports to enhance your understanding of your child's progress, their strengths, and challenges. This **parent Master Class** will be held at **8:15 AM on Wednesday, November 8 in the MPH.**

As we enter the second half of Term 1, we do so with a great spirit of gratitude for our GISC community. We have seen you at Parent Master Classes, Coffee Mornings, at special events for The Prophet Mohamed's birthday and breast cancer awareness. You have been patient with the continued difficulties with overseas payments for online and classroom resources, which appear to be close to resolution after weeks and months of banking negotiations.

Our PTA executive board has brought parent involvement to a new level with the Breast Cancer Foundation fundraiser bake sale – 28000 EGP raised!

Self-nominations for class representatives are in progress. Student Council is up and running! After-school activities, team sports, and music rehearsals have exceptional student participation. From college fairs (our first!) to KG school trips to emphasize fitness, to PYP students visiting the Egyptian Civilization Museum, not a week has gone by that has not demonstrated our school community in action for learning and service.

**THANK YOU!**

As we continue to face economic turmoil in Egypt, and the devastating effects of war in neighboring Gaza, the GISC family continues to stand in solidarity with those suffering at home and abroad. Our decision to convert our traditional Halloween activities to a Celebration of Humanity speaks to our commitment to global understanding and peace. We appreciate that our families are joining us in these efforts and emphasizing the common goals of peace and prosperity for all. The partnership of home and school in building values and character is of tremendous significance as we seek to change our world.

November brings us the Book Fair, Parent-Student Conferences, the EEP Cup sports events, and special activities to emphasize kindness and gratitude in this month of Thanksgiving. We look forward to seeing YOU at GISC!

The campaign will run until Nov.12, giving everyone the opportunity to contribute at their own pace. With an ambitious goal of raising 70K LE, we will be able to launch a Packing Campaign on our campus, empowering our students to engage in hands-on service by packing 200 boxes of essential supplies for those affected by war.

We kindly encourage each student and parent to consider making a donation at the reception's donation box.

To make this campaign even more special, we have planned a fantastic Fundraising event on Nov.12 exclusively for our GISC community. This event will be led by our amazing PTA members, who have organized a variety of fun paid activities for students, staff, and parents to enjoy.

On this day, we will also have the privilege of hosting representatives from the MISR AL KHAIR Foundation on our campus. All proceeds from the Fundraising event will go directly to this worthy cause. We truly appreciate your support and participation in making a difference through this campaign. Let's come together as a community to help our brothers and sisters in GAZA.

## GAZA Fundraising Campaign

## Message from Ms.Hanady Fawzy, Head of Early Years.

With such an exciting last month, the children often refer back to the wonderful events and have insightful discussions with teachers and friends, which is always inspirational to see. Moving into the new month of November, more events will be coming, starting off with Book Week. This is a great opportunity for students to dress up as their favorite character and explain to their friends and teachers why they have chosen this character. Children also move into their second unit of inquiry. They are excited to dive deep into new topics and a new ocean of information. Our teachers are always extremely happy and appreciate it when they receive feedback from parents about how much their children are learning and how they are expressing their newfound knowledge at home.

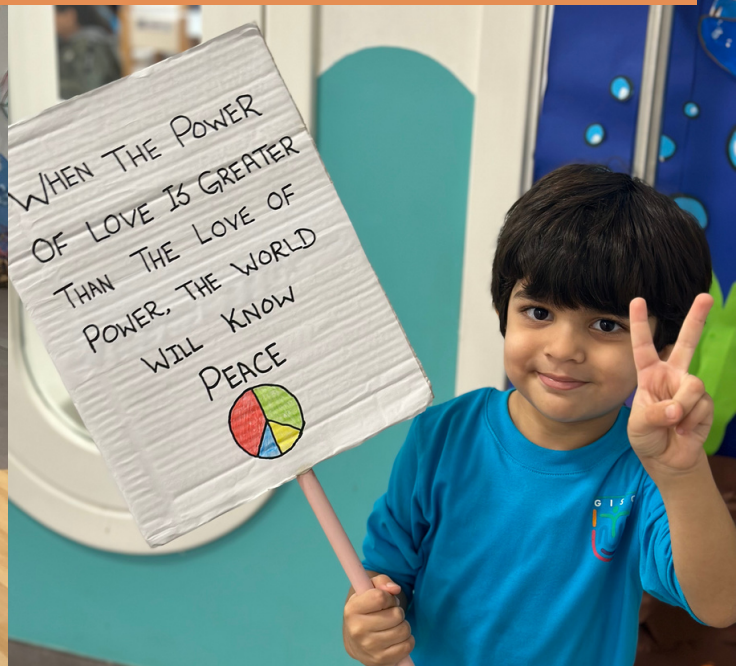


Congratulations!  
Maryam Mostafa  
Won a Golden Medal  
in Artistic Gymnastics





As we shone the spotlight on the October Learner Profile attribute of "Caring," we had a lineup of fun and detailed activities that taught our young learners how to care for themselves and others.



During Humanitarian Day, we spread peace and learned the importance of being kind and showing empathy towards others. We came together and made a difference in the world!



We also had a Grandparents Day, where we showed our love and appreciation for our beloved grandparents. We prepared heartwarming activities that made our grandparents feel special and cherished.





Humanity Day – What does it mean to be human? On Tuesday, we celebrated Humanity in recognition of the conflicts occurring on our planet where we emphasized the importance of us being a caring and kind community. CISC is an inclusive and international school; welcoming families from across the world no matter what nationality, culture or religion. However, with this approach, we understand that students come to school with certain mindsets and beliefs that are modeled at home that may not align with the school's approach. As a school community, it is important that we, parents and educators, are aligned in our messages to our children where we strongly encourage and develop the skills of empathy, listening to understand and kindness.

## Message from Mr. Mark Broom , Head of Elementary.

Humanity Day ended the month of October with us, as a gracious community, to reflect on all that it means to be human. It was wonderful to meet parents at all the parent coffee mornings for each grade as well as the most recent PMC on behavior management. Weekly assemblies have provided an opportunity for students to gather to celebrate learning as well as remind students of the school expectations as we move forward to be an inclusive, international community. Moving into the new month of November, we kick off with Book Week. This is a great opportunity for students to dress up as their favorite book character on Thursday as well as engage in other fun literacy activities this week. Grade 2-5 students have their MAP results on Toddle now with a PMC soon to support parents in understanding the data. Children have started their second unit of inquiry with activities that provoke inquiry. Both teachers and students are uploading learning experiences to Toddle that are linked to the unit's learning outcomes. Please encourage your children to take action on their learning outside school and share this with their teachers.



### Birthday Celebrations

Birthday celebrations are to only occur during the **first break time (10:05 – 10:25)** and not at the end of the day to avoid instructional time being taken for this. Please ensure that birthday celebrations are arranged with the homeroom teacher in advance and not during their time on duty. Celebrations are just with your child's class during this time without the attendance of parents. Please drop off any cupcakes at the Front of House (FOH) in the morning of the pre-arranged day. Please note that candles (naked flames) are prohibited in the classroom.

### Beginning of the Day: Meet & Greet

To support the welcome and connection with students, Homeroom teachers and TAs are meeting and greeting students at the start of the day by the doors of their classrooms. In addition, to support our staff in focusing on students on their arrival, from next week (Sunday 5th November) all students (including Grades 1 & 2) are to be dropped off at the gate or at the entrance to the school so they independently enter the classroom.

### IB PYP Verification Visit – Monday and Tuesday

With the IB PYP verification visit this week, we ask that any meetings with teachers are scheduled from **Wednesday this week.**

# Book Week

"Once you learn to read, you will be forever free." – Frederick Douglass. The skill of reading unlocks the world around us and gives us access to knowledge. Book Week is a celebration of the love of reading.

Please see the activities planned for the week.



**Drop Everything and Read (D.E.A.R)** - There will be different times in the week where Ms. Nada, the Librarian, will indicate with a bell for students and teachers to stop what they are doing and pick up a physical book to read for 10 minutes. No devices are to be used by students or teachers at this time.

**Extreme Reading** - Extreme reading involves reading in an unusual place or position. Please see the Toddle Learning Experience for students to upload photos of themselves extreme reading. Please note that this activity is to be completed outside of school under the supervision of parents. The best extreme reading photos will be recognized in the assembly on Thursday.

**Six Word Stories** - The six-word story usually refers to a famous short story, supposedly written by Hemingway. 'For Sale: Baby Shoes. Never Worn.' However, there are lots of examples of six-word stories that attempt to capture great excitement or poignancy in such a short word count. Students are encouraged to create their own six-word stories during the week and upload them to the learning experience on Toddle. The best six-word stories will be recognized in the assembly on Thursday.

**Reading Challenge Bingo** – To encourage students to read more diverse books across the week, the reading challenge bingo activity will support this. This activity will be uploaded to Toddle.

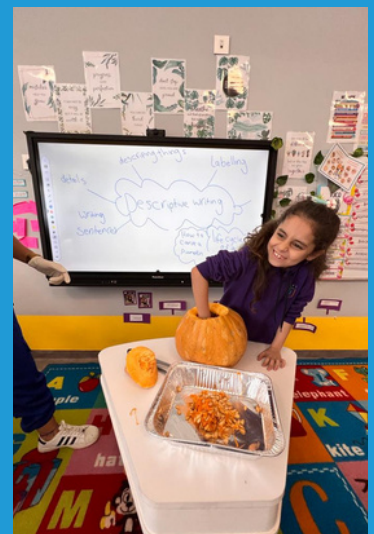
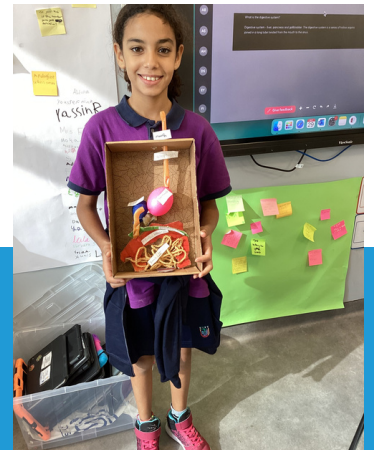
**Book Character Dress Up Day – Thursday 9th November**

Students and staff are encouraged to wear a book character costume on this day alongside bringing the book (or a printed front page of the book) that the character comes from. There will be an assembly that day where we will celebrate reading, writing and all our book characters. Please note that there are to be no scary masks/costumes, and no real or toy weapons of any kind.

Kind regards,

Mr. Mark Broom Mrs. Fatima Seedat

Head of Elementary PYP Teacher Leader



**We see genius in every child. We enable them to make an impact.**



Grade 2 & 5 Trip to the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization



Grade 1 Trip to World Gym



6th of October Celebration



Congratulations!  
Ghena Ahmed Hassan-G1  
For winning a Golden Medal in  
Gymnastics



Guest Speaker  
Aya Ayman Abbas  
Youngest Paralympic swimmer





During the MYP assembly, the students had the privilege of welcoming a guest speaker from the Interact organization. The speaker delivered an insightful presentation on the topic of Rotaract and shared valuable insights on how to actively contribute to one's community. The session provided the students with a deeper understanding of the importance of giving back and the various ways in which they can make a positive impact on their local community



## Message from Mr. James Merry , Head of Secondary.

This week has been eventful and tiring for us as we hosted the IB Visiting Team. They conducted thorough evaluations of our Middle Years Programme (MYP) and met with our dedicated staff, engaged students, and supportive parents.

In addition to the evaluations, we organized a coffee morning for GISC parents to discuss effective ways to understand and track their children's learning progress. We also held a parent master class, which focused on providing valuable insights and strategies for parents to understand, support, and positively influence their children's behavior both in and outside of school.

We are excited to announce that Nouran, one of our outstanding students, received an "honorable mention" for her remarkable achievement at JCIMUN. This recognition is a testament to Nouran's exceptional dedication and hard work.



And let's not forget about the **Food Drive Campaign!** We rallied together to collect food and made a difference in the lives of those in need. It was all about caring for our community and ensuring that everyone had access to nourishing meals.



October also brought **Pink Day**, a day dedicated to showing love and care to all the brave fighters battling breast cancer. We engaged in activities that contributed to this important cause and demonstrated our support for those fighting this disease



Many subjects are currently commencing new units, providing an excellent opportunity to engage with your child's education. Take the time to inquire about the specific concepts and global themes they will be exploring during these units. This will not only allow you to stay informed about their educational journey but also foster meaningful conversations about the topics they are studying.

MAP tests reports are being sent home. Please read through them with your child.

Uniform is our focus of the month. Please ensure your child is appropriately dressed.