



GEMS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
CAIRO



Message From the Head of School



Dear GISC families,

With our first two full weeks behind us, I must tell you how appreciative we are of your comments, suggestions, and recommendations as we refine our processes and systems to support the very best educational environment for your children. Housekeeping, transportation, and security are all improving in some part due to your communications with us. Thank you! Please keep those lines of communication open as we continue to consider every possibility for excellence.

The last two weeks were full of active and engaging learning experiences for your children, as well as the critical gathering of baseline achievement data through the MAP assessments in Grades 2 through 8. Individual student reports will be available later in October in time for the Parent Master Class on understanding MAP data to be held on October 25. We will be setting growth targets with and for each student with expected targets met by the Spring MAP assessments in May. Based on our **admissions MAP data**, our students are achieving at higher levels than their peers in other international schools in Egypt in math and reading comprehension. However, we are seeing math achievement for entering students somewhat lower than students worldwide. The collection of valid baseline scores for all students will be invaluable in planning for the learning needs of each child.

In the month of October, we also want to launch our formal Parent Support Organization and parent volunteers. Our PRE will be sending out information on how you can be involved as a GISC advocate and/or volunteer.

Organized by our Activities Coordinator, Mr. Bayoumy, our first field trips are being planned for October to give our students real world and hands-on experiences to enhance their classroom learning. Grades 5 and 6 students will visit the new Egyptian Civilization Museum and I can personally attest that this will be an exciting expert look at thousands of years of Egyptian history.



Our KG2 students will be exploring sustainability to an Organic Farm experiencing food production and farming practices that are good for our planet.



MY SCHOOL, YOUR CHOICE, OUR FUTURE!

Warm regards,

Catherine



Message From Head of Elementary



Dear Parents,

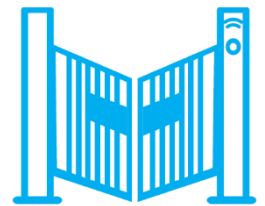
It has been a very exciting two weeks since school started, and we are making the final tweaks as we start the new month. I hope that you are now all on Toddle and can access the different platforms your children have been experiencing. If you have any challenges with any of our online platforms, please contact the class teacher for support or if it's more technical please contact onlinesupport_gic@gemsedu.com



PreK, KG1, and KG2 must bring their healthy snacks and lunch meals to school daily. Please remember not to send nuts or nut products. We are working with the canteen on a snack box that can be purchased for the day however as they are still completing the canteen set up this may not start until the second term.



We are extremely happy with the new dismissal system that has been put in place, as this is now ensuring the health and well-being of our students and staff, especially in case of emergency at the end of the day. We are looking into winter protocols and hopefully, those will be set for November.



Please check Toddle over the month for information on:

- 16th of October with our World Food Day drive
- 24th of October for Diwali celebrations
- 31st of October Halloween learning and dress up.



Best regards,
Hanady Fawzy



Important notes and dates:

Canteen: Cashless payment system is operational for our student food services. Please see recent emails from our PRE for activation procedures. [Parent onboarding and card pairing guide aug 2022.pdf](#)

[Spare - Child Page - Features & Controls.pdf](#)

Hot meals will be served in the very near future. [Click here for menu](#)

[Click here for PreK menu](#)

Textbook distribution began this week and was delayed in order to focus on MAP. Students will be receiving books through each class teacher.

A parent/student ASA SURVEY will be sent to you this week to plan for after school activities beginning Term 2.

HOLIDAYS: The GISC campus will be closed for national holidays and a brief term break on October 6 through October 10. *Please review the most recent calendar* [GISC Calendar - 2022 - 28 August new.jpg](#)

Half day for students on October 27. Dismissal at 12:20PM.

Parent Master Class on MAP – October 25.

Fun captures at GISC!

