

Primary

# Newsletter

6th January 2023

Volume 2, Issue 1



Photos courtesy of the Year 6 residential camp in RAK





# Head of Primary's Message

Dear Parents,

It is with an incredibly sad heart that I break the news that one of our current students, Diza Dhir passed away this week and a former alumni student, Arun Pancholia passed away during the break.

Diza in Year 9, who had been going through treatment for a heart condition, was an incredibly bright and talented student, kind hearted with such a wonderful smile.

Arun, who graduated in 2019 tragically lost his life in a car accident. He was a popular, charismatic young man who embraced life with both hands.

Some of our primary staff pupils and families are connected with Diza, Arun and their families and this tragedy will be heavily impactful for those individuals. Moments like this help us find humility and perspective and encourage us to hold loved ones that much tighter when we next see them.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families at this time. May they both rest in peace.



# Head of Primary's Message

This week marked the start of our residential camps. Year 6 took to the waters, leapt from 40ft poles and pushed their limits in a host of different ways. I am so proud of all who conquered fears or supported others in conquering theirs.

Next week students in Years 2-6 will take the NGRT (New Group Reading Test) reading tests. This short test will be administered in class. Please ensure your child has headphones in school. There are no parent reports produced for NGRT so the information is solely used to support our internal assessment data, which in turn feeds PTCs and school reports.

Finally, the winter break did bring with it some celebratory news amongst the staff body with Ms. Amber (KG2) giving birth to her beautiful baby boy, Ms. Jessica (KG1) getting married and myself getting engaged.

Kind regards,  
Tom Collar



Question popped



Baby Oliver



The Happy Couple

📅 9th January  
CCAs begin

📅 9th - 19th January  
Class photos  
See comms from Homeroom

📅 9th January  
Junior Dukes Assemblies  
Pupils only KG2 - Year 6

📅 10th January  
Year 4 Ecoventure Parent Meeting  
Time: 8-8:30  
Venue: KG Gym (No need to sign up)

📅 9th - 13th January  
NGRT Reading tests (1 test of 30 mins per pupil)  
Year 2 - 6  
No preparation required from home (see info above)

## Extreme Reading

Reading never stopped for some. Thank you for sharing.



## REMINDERS

- Swimming lessons convert to additional PE lessons for Term 2 and swimming will resume in Term 3.
- Please remove or tape earrings for all sports activities.

**SATURDAY, FEB 4 AND SUNDAY, FEB 5**

I am pleased to share with you that one of community role models, Kathy Urban, who is an accomplished author, will be at the Emirates Airline Festival of Literature this year.

The details are below and should you wish to attend then please follow [this link](#) for either or both of the two sessions.



## Join local children's author Kathy Urban at LitFest 2023



Includes a fun crafts workshop

**Sunday 5 February**  
**13:00-13:45**

Venue: Al Amwaj II,  
InterContinental, Dubai  
Festival City

Age: 3+  
Session No: 233  
AED40

**Saturday 4 February**  
**16:15-17:00**

Venue: Al Riwaq I,  
InterContinental, Dubai  
Festival City

Age: 3+  
Session No: 192  
Free Entry