

# GIS REVIEW

*The latest Gulf international school news, views and announcements*

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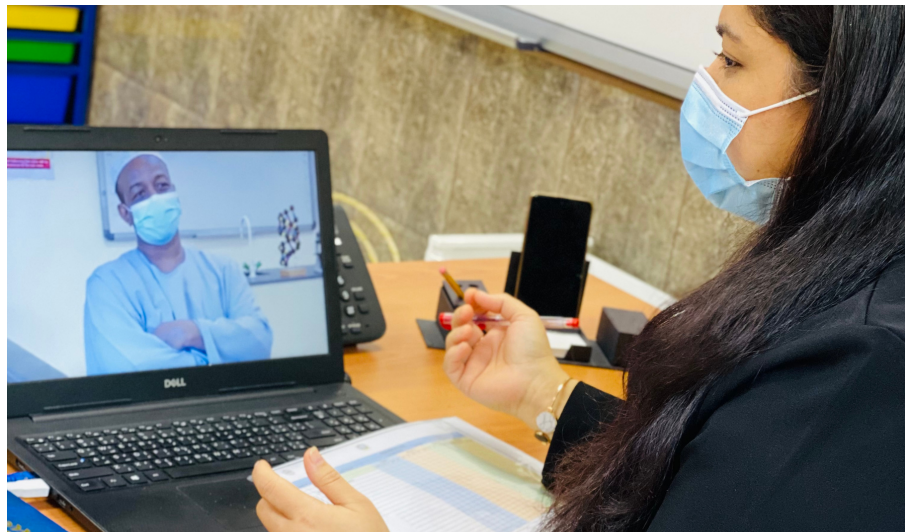
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## **Virtual Parent/Teacher Conferences**

GIS will hold its Virtual Parents Day for this academic year during March. Parents are invited to attend the meetings online where they can meet their child's teacher. In order to follow the strict guidelines during the pandemic and for the convenience of our parents, the meeting will be conducted on three separate days.

A link to schedule an appointment will be sent on March 9, 2021.

Grade	Date
KG - Grade 3	March 13, 2021
Grade 4 to 7	March 13 and 20, 2021
Grade 8 to 12	March 20, 2021



# Let's Go Global

Due to the COVID, all schools in Saudi Arabia have been temporarily closed since March 9, 2020. At GIS, we have been operating virtually since then. For more information and updates, we have taken another step to make the online learning process easier and bring us closer through the global channel. The website links below can also be found on our school's website Connect Now:

You are just one click away from joining our global community

<https://www.facebook.com/gulfintschool>

[https://www.snapchat.com/add/gis\\_khobar](https://www.snapchat.com/add/gis_khobar)

[https://twitter.com/gis\\_khobar](https://twitter.com/gis_khobar)

## Teachers' In-service Day Students Day Off

On Thursday, March 25, 2021, GIS will hold its second semester In-service Professional Development Day for teachers. As educators, we know it is very important to stay abreast of new developments and research in teaching and learning.

This is exceptionally true with the new format of virtual, distance learning. With that objective in mind, GIS will be holding a professional development workshop for all our teachers. All classes on March 25, 2021, are canceled. Students enjoy your long weekend!





## Graduating Seniors (2020-2021)

As the school year comes to an end, graduation is the perfect time to look ahead, offer encouragement, and express optimism and excitement about the graduates' futures. As you cherish the fruits of your hard work, the school wishes that success keeps following you in everything that you do.

For this month and next month's GIS Review, we will be highlighting this years' graduates.

### *Ahmed Ameer Hejazi*

Senior means to be cool and living your life. Well, it's not all true; I feel it is the first step to a big dream. Like mine of being a medical student and my obsession for learning. After 10 years I will probably have a brighter future more than my computer screen.

### *Lilian Anwar Mousa Al Najjar*

"Nothing can dim the light that shines from within." Life is like a roller coaster; I would suggest to incoming juniors to have fun while it lasts because you will miss those days where you sit with friends and laugh.

### *Tala Ahmed Hankir*

I'm about to graduate from my senior year. My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to succeed; and to do so with devotion, compassion, humour and some style.

### *Sohaib Zahid*

The most challenging task as a senior has been maintaining balance in every aspect of the school year. It's vital to have a confident personality and feel proud when juniors look up to us as their role model. I'm Looking forward to the new beginning and the chapter of life.

### *Maria Al Shamali*

"Our lives are before us, our pasts are behind us, but our memories are forever with us." We all have our inspiration which helps us to pursue and thrive to do better. My inspiration is my father. Always remember whatever we do, they will play a big role in our lives.

### *Graduation Ceremony:*

How do you want your Graduation Ceremony to be?

Now's the time to share your view. The School is planning to have a Virtual Graduation Ceremony and is open for suggestions, from our seniors. If you are interested in sharing your ideas; then leave your comments on the form link shared by your teacher.

# **IGCSE and AS Level Examination**

The registration for IGCSE and AS Level is completed, and the students are appearing for the mocks and preparing for the upcoming examination. In order to deal with the stress and prepare in a more effective way here are some tips for you.

## **Say Goodbye to Exam Phobia!**

**“The best way to increase confidence and reduce anxiety is to be well prepared, so start your revision early. Many tutors will build it into your course, but you will need to make your own plans as well to make sure you have covered all the topics you think you need to know.”**

### **Two months before your exams:**

Now is the time to think seriously about your revision timetable. You should:

- Check the most up-to-date syllabus for every subject.
- Find out about the exam. (For example, is questions multiple choice or essay-based?)
- Prepare a revision timetable.

### **Some revision tips:**

Try to schedule revision during the most productive times of your day. For example, if you feel fresh and alert in the morning, make sure you do most of your studying early. You should also try to.

- Prioritize exams that make up a large percentage of a subject’s grade.
- Take regular breaks to refresh your mind.
- Use a variety of study tools to revise including books, audio guides, and online video summaries.
- Highlight important points in your study notes.
- Ask family and friends to quiz you on each subject.
- Practice past papers so you get a feel for the questions and timings
- Make time for relaxation with family and friends.

So, you have revised and prepared for the big day, don’t worry. If you feel a little nervous – that’s only natural. Follow a few more simple tips to stay relaxed and get the best possible exam results. Try to:

- Stay calm and take deep, even breaths.
- Read the exam paper completely before you start.
- Plan your time.
- Move on to the next question if you get stuck.
- Read the questions carefully and make sure you answer each one properly.
- Sip fresh water throughout the exam.
- Check each answer, particularly if you finish early.

## **Admissions Open:**

**“Reserve your seats now.”**

GIS has started the registration and admission process for all grades for the academic year 2021-22.

The academic year 2020-21 is coming to an end. The school is in the process of planning and preparing for the new academic year.

The first preference will be given to current students. A form will be shared with the parents for the next academic year. The seats will be reserved for them after the payment of SR. 1000 for the next academic year.

## **After-School Activities are Back**

We are excited to announce the return of the fun After-school Activities Program. The Program Starts the week of March 7th and going through until the end of March. Students in grades KG-G7 will have a once-a-week activity after school to enjoy. Can’t wait to see you there!

**الإختبارات الدولية  
PIRLS 2021**

**مشاركة طلابنا جزء من ولائنا لوطننا**  
**فلنترك بصمة واضحة على خريطة العالم**  
Our Students participation is a part of our loyalty to our country. Let them leave a clear fingerprint on the world map.

**المهدف من المشاركة في الإختبارات الدولية:**

- تزويد متخذي القرار في وزارة التعليم بمعلومات حول جودة التعليم في المملكة واتخاذ قرارات التطوير المناسبة .
- وضع النظم والآليات لقياس القدرات والمهارات من خلال مقارنة أداء الطلبة بنظرائهم على المستوى العالمي في مهارات القراءة .
- تزويد معدّي المناهج بمعلومات حول التغيرات المطلوبة في المناهج الدراسية وتطويرها .

**The objectives of participating in international tests :**

- To provide the decision-makers in the Ministry of Education with information about the quality of the education in the K.S.A and to take appropriate development decisions.
- To develop systems and mechanisms for measuring the abilities and skills by comparing the performance of students in the reading skillwith their counterparts at the global level .
- Provide information to the curriculum designers with the required improvements in the curriculum.

**تساعد الإختبارات الدولية على :**

- تقييم معارف ومهارات الطلبة ومقارنتها عالمياً بالأعداد الضخمة من الطلبة المشاركين في مختلف الدول .
- إيجاد العلاقة بين مستوى أداء الطالب والعوامل المحيطة به كالدراسة والبيئة المنزلية والعلاقات الاجتماعية .
- تسليط الضوء على السياسة التعليمية .

**International tests help to :**

- Assess the knowledge and skills of students globally and compare them with large number of students participating from different countries.
- studying the relationship between the students' performance and factors surrounding them; such as school, home environment, and other social factors.
- Measure changes in the level of student performance over time.
- Shed light on the educational policy.

**PROGRAM COORDINATORS: Mr.Abdulrahman Alarfaj Ms.Ebtihal Alansari**

## PROGRESS IN INTERNATIONAL READING LITERACY STUDY

## BROADCAST ASSEMBLY

We would like to inform you that the Ministry of Education (MOE) has chosen Gulf International School to participate in the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) exams. The exams are being conducted throughout the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and worldwide as well. We are honored to be one of the international schools asked to participate. The PIRLS reading exams will be conducted once a week for our 4th-grade students in both the girls' and boys' sections of the school. This exam is online and the results of the exams, as will the results of all chosen international schools in the Kingdom, will be used to rank and compare the Kingdom's international schools to schools around the world. It is very important that our students participate in the study and do their very best to represent Gulf International Schools as well as the country. PIRLS allows us at GIS to explore the factors which help support strong readers and allows research to drive educational policies. It is not solely about the score, but it also allows researchers to understand the interests and engagement that students have towards their learning, classroom practices, school resources, and the support at home. We hope that as stakeholders, you are as excited and honored to be a part of this study as we, at GIS, are to receive this honor and distinction to be chosen by the MOE.

Morning assemblies are conducted with the objective to provide maximum opportunities for students to improve both personal and social skills to connect them through global means. Every class from KG3 to grade 12 has a turn to participate in the program. These assemblies are heard live at 7.40 am every morning on an active link.

<https://mixlr.com/gulf-international-school>



Please follow the link below for more information about PIRLS.  
<https://www.nfer.ac.uk/international/international-comparisons/pirls/>