

# GIS NEWS

*The latest news and updates for Faculty and Staff of Gulf International School*



IN THIS ISSUE

---

**LETTER FROM THE  
SCHOOL DIRECTOR**

---

**PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
SESSIONS: PAST  
AND UPCOMING**

---

**SCHOOL EVENTS**

---

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

---

**TEACHER OF THE  
MONTH**

---

**COGNIA**

---

## LETTER FROM THE SCHOOL DIRECTOR

*Dr. Brenda Mathis*

Dear All,

As we settle into the school year, I want to take this time to thank all of our faculty and staff for all they've done to get this academic year off to a great start.

Thank you for being here today for our second Parent/Teacher Conference. These conferences are vital to ensure greater communication with our stakeholders.

I also want to take this opportunity to welcome all of our new faculty and staff to the school. We hope that you are as excited to be here as we are to have you here.

I've started this newsletter to showcase school events, share announcements and generally comment on the progress we are making. I hope you will find it useful, informative and just a little bit entertaining.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Mathis

## Professional Development Sessions: Past and Upcoming



We all enjoyed Mrs. Rasha's lecture regarding building students' self-esteem and self-worth. We should all be applying the strategies and techniques she shared with us to enhance our students' feelings of confidence and importance. We should make it our affirmation to tell our students how important they are and how we care about them. Our last Teacher Conference was a great

success and as planned, we will have a second one in December. Vice-principals will be announcing the date, time and topics that will be presented.

## School Events

Students in KG1 and KG2 had a special event named as "Red Day" where they learned in a fun-filled day about

### KG: Red Day

the primary colors. The classrooms were colorfully decorated with red. Each student showcased their red object to their friends and shared a little information about the object. The students were organized into groups to have group discussions and have some fun using paint. They used the paint to mix the colors blue and yellow to create the color red.





## Parent/Teacher Conferences



Our Parent/Teacher Conferences took place today. The turnout was great. The main reception had tables set up for parents to learn more about our new programs; EPIC! And IXL. The feedback from parents very encouraging. Thank you for dedicating part of your day off to this very important conference.

See you all tomorrow.

## Soccer Tournament

Earlier this month, there was a soccer tournament held in the school field on the rooftop. Mr. Ahmed Rajab was the facilitator of this match. Grade 6 played against grade 5. The game ended with grade 5 winning. The students shook hands and congratulated the winning team. Congrats to grade 5.



## Field Trips



We were pleased to send our students to King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture, also known as Ithra, for their school field trip. The Center incorporates a museum for children, a cinema, library, and many educational activities and workshops. Grades from KG to grade 12 were all welcomed to the Center on various days to enjoy all that the Center has to offer. Teachers also had a trip organized just for them to visit the Center.

## Saudi National Day

Saudi National Day was a success for Gulf International School. We visited Rowad Al-Khaleej School and were able to showcase our creativity with our booth. We received many compliments on the beautiful booth as well as our presentation. We had one of our talented students give a ribbon gymnastics show. Also, we had one of our talented and creative employees create a miniature version of our school for display. All of the participants including the Ministry of Education leaders were very impressed with all the details and effort put into our booth and presentation.



## Announcements

### Science Fair

From all reports, last year's Science Fair was a great success. We are looking forward to our upcoming fair. Mrs. Heba and Mrs. Sheba are working together to bring everyone all of the details.

### Fire Drill

Our appreciation to everyone for their cooperation during our first fire drill. All faculty and staff should be reminded of the procedures. Kindly address your direct supervisor if you have any questions regarding the procedures. A second fire drill has been scheduled for the very near future.

### Parent-Teacher Conference

Our second parent/teacher conference was a great success today. In addition, Mrs. Abida gave a very informative presentation regarding COGNIA and our upcoming re-accreditation process. There is more information regarding this process in a separate section of this newsletter

# Faculty and Staff Members of the Month

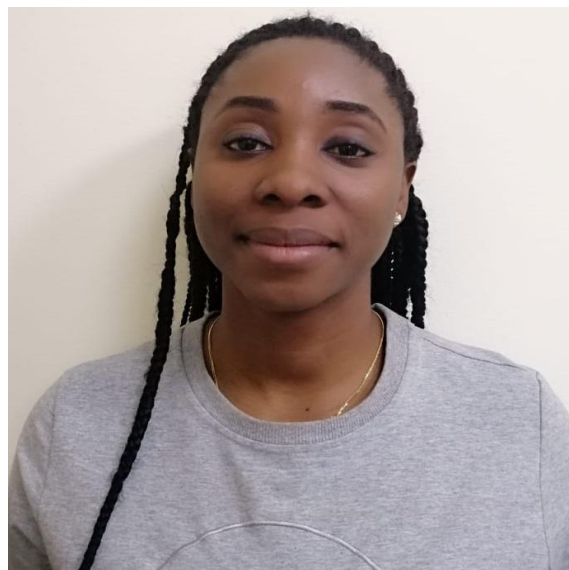
Gulf International School is fortunate to have many outstanding faculty and staff members. We are grateful and appreciative of the dedication and achievements of everyone who is a part of the school's organization. The administration would like to make it a regular occurrence every month to recognize our outstanding educational leaders and staff members. The criteria for nominating and choosing the faculty and staff member each month, includes, but is not limited to, individuals who go above and beyond their job description. Nominations of these individuals by the School Administrators must be documented with artifacts that reflect the qualities of this criteria.

With great pleasure, we announce the following October recipients:

**Mrs. Rehab El-Hada**

**Mrs. Juliet Onuona**

**Mr. Yuvaraja Selvaraj**



## **Mrs. Abida to lead GIS's COGNIA Re-Certification Process**

Let us all welcome Mrs. Abida, Girls Section Academic Director, back to the school. Last week Mrs. Abida was in Jeddah serving as an accreditation team member with the newly renamed COGNIA (formerly AdvancED).

As most of you are aware, our school is scheduled to renew our accreditation in 2020. Mrs. Abida has announced that a COGNIA team will be on site from February 15 through February 20, 2020, for our school's review process.

Some of the processes and procedures in this review process include visiting classrooms using the ELEOT form of evaluating the classroom environment, reviewing the schools' documents and artifacts regarding compliance to the COGNIA Domain Standards, interviews with all stakeholders, and Conduct Data Talk which includes understanding how we assess the data we collect to guide our continual improvement plan.

During today's Parent/Teacher Conference, Mrs. Abida presented information and procedures that will be followed during the next three months to ensure school compliance. She will be announcing the teams that will lead the process of documentation gathering and data analysis.

This process will take a great team effort. Many of the faculty and staff have been through this process earlier and we will rely heavily upon their expertise and experience. In addition, some of our faculty and staff are new to this process, but the teams will be grateful for the participation of everyone.