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• December 2024

ALUMNI RECONNECTS: A STEP BACK TO THE START

By Lavanya Soni and Aghaanaa Jaiganesh

Monday, December 2nd: the anticipated Alumni Meet took place. Organised by Mrs. Aziz, a member of staff and the sixth-form students, this event aimed to educate the current students about the alumni's past experiences. It wonderful also past ESF opportunity for graduates to connect with their previous classmates and teachers.

The thrilling event kicked off at 8AM as the alumni eagerly set up at their given stations.

Soon after, the curious swarm of students filled up the playground, buzzing with excitement (though whether enthusiasm was meeting the alumni or the snacks remains debatable).

Later on, several alumni took the stage and shared some valuable life lessons. Two of the notable speakers were Ahmad Yatim - who inspired the crowd by speaking about how he overcame the brutal impacts



of COVID-19 on his job life and Dr. Mohammed Alshammari - who gave a light-hearted humorous speech about picking dentistry as a profession.

After some lively discussions, the alumni went down memory lane. experiencing nostalgia reminiscing about their good old days. This event truly paid great testament to the profound impact ESF had on shaping not just their careers, but also their characters and personalities.

SCIENCE DAY

A Journey Through Innovation and Discovery

By Nawarah Alazmi

On November 14th, all of primary school in the English School Fahaheel had a blast; a day filled with various methods to showcase their chosen topic for the Science air. They even dressed up in their own professional scientist coats!

A11 the students who participated in the Science Fair all had very creative ideas. They had huge smiles on their faces while talking about their very own piece of work. Their projects were mind-blowing. The primary school Science team, headed by Mrs. Mirza, has definitely put all of their effort into their amazing work.

In addition to the lovely pieces of work, the year twos made wonderful posters with their class teachers. All of their posters were filled with such beautiful decorations and lots of lovely colours - such hard working students, aren't they? (Cont'd pg 3)



Primary student showing his skill in saving life

LOYAC's First Place Winner

By Tania Ghobar

Arwa Nawaf. young entrepreneur who currently ESF. attends entered competition hosted by LOYAC (a non-profit organisation aiming to help the development of After drinking out of it, there's during young minds) summer. She was part of the which is pulled in order to 5-persons environmental team, activate a solution to help grow and surprisingly, she was its the seeds into a plant. youngest member.

She was tasked with developing with the project's main idea, and after Additionally, failed attempts, eventually came to good terms with their third idea which was



Arwa Nawaf, student of ESF a reusable paper cup that consists of cotton and seeds.

the a tag at the bottom of the cup Well-known companies, such as Zain and Pick, collaborated Arwa's team. many entrepreneurs in those companies offered to help with their project. (Cont'd pg 2)

Wisdom in Educating: Interviewing Mr Al-Qouqa

By Claire Ibrahim



Mr Al-Qouqa being interviewed by Claire

Mr Al-Qouqa, the *head* of Arabic for secondary school, has been teaching at ESF since 2004 (around 21 years). He has great experience in teaching as he has been in this field for about 48 years – since 1976! That means some of our parents weren't *even* born when Mr Al-Qouqa first started teaching!

When asked what his inspiration was for becoming an Arabic teacher and why

he was so passionate about it, Mr Al-Qouga's response was:

"Arabic is the language of the holy **Quran**, it's my grandparents' language. My Arabic teachers would encourage me to pursue language. Anyone the who respects themselves respect their must language." His favourite part about his career is teaching grammar since it's something more 'direct'.

So what is the backstory of Mr Al-Qouga? Mr Al-Qouga was born in Kuwait but his parents were from Jordan. He lived in Kuwait his whole life and even graduated from Kuwait University. His first teaching job was also located in Kuwait. At the end of the interview, Mr Al-Qouga left us with some advice: "Take care of your learning as nothing is more important than learning."

ESF Young Trailblazer



Arwa presenting at the event

ESF YOUNG TRAILBLAZE

(Cont'd from pg 1)

"Winning first
place definitely
made me nervous
but it made me
have faith in
myself."

The win was unexpected since they faced **strong** competitors, some of which had advanced technology. However, to Arwa's surprise, not only did they win certificates, but they also won a *full ride scholarship* to Babson College for Entrepreneurship!

"After joining, winning, and seeing how inspiring this was, I decided I would become an entrepreneur to help people and our environment."

Meet Mrs Abi, Head of Early Years

By Hajra Waqas

Mrs Abi is the early years school principal, previously worked in the UK for about 6 years where she taught in a village school of 38 students. She then moved to Kuwait to experience months at ESF. She was assigned to grade three then moved to teach year two, where she taught for about 6-7 years. She then moved to BSK where she taught for five an effort in experience a career change in Kuwait.

When Mrs Abi left ESF, it was always her intention to one day return which she did and brought her kids along with her to study here.

Mrs Abi's aim is always to prepare her students to learn about the life so they are better prepared for the future, e.g. gaining understanding, learning skills, being able to have good relationships throughout their school life.



Enthusiastic Early Years students

She stated that it is important for students to apply, enjoy and share their knowledge learned at school. She believes that one of the most valuable achievement for them is that "all students should be able to read so they can learn whatever they want and become masters of their own education".

In KG, meetings are held each week, where all teachers communicate and share ideas in building a study plan based on the students' interests as well as focus on building a connection between students and teachers.



Mrs. Abi with a student



Mind Your Mind

By Habiba Elnagi

October 10th. 2024 (Mental Health Day), ESF took pride in showing students that there is no harm or shame in distressing and expressing lingering anxiety. Throughout break times at school, Mrs. Aziz -the girls' pastoral headpassionately walked students through a sedative yoga session in the gym, demonstrating a popular way of unwinding and addressing stress or problems.

"Mental health is not a destination, but a process. It's about how you drive, not where you're going," Shpancer, Ph.D. Noam After decades successfully educating children, ESF still firmly stands on three vital moral pillars that have aided in its prosperity so far: education, awareness, and health. A colossal part of health that has been taking seriously since day one is mental health; it is regarded as equally important as physical health. One of the standout departments within ESF is the pastoral department. This significant unit manages emotional and relational welfare students, making sure all are content and at ease in school.



This year, the pastoral department explored anxiety stress management courtesy of National Mental Health Day. Around 32% of teenagers are impacted by anxiety disorders, making it the most prevalent mental health concern in this age group. During those physical exercises, students were able to alleviate stress and tension from both their minds and aids muscles. Yoga regulating the autonomic nervous system hypothalamic-pituitary axis, both of which are stress response systems.

Science Day (Cont'd from pg 1)

This year, parents were allowed to visit their beloved children at the Science Fair. It was heartwarming just watching as the parents got to see how amazing their children are doing in school.

Even sixth formers got to have a taste of this day by dressing up as scientists where they visited classes and shared information about their characters. The kids were loaded with facts and left with lots of jokes to keep them entertained for the rest of their day.

After Science Day, some students were selected as winners for the best projects. It was fascinating observing all the kids on the stage as Mr. Warner announced them as the winners for this year's Science Fair. It will be interesting to see who will make it to the podium next year.



ESF Mental Health Awareness Day

By Manar Ahmad

The mental health of students is important to ESF. Every year, students across the world struggle to maintain their well-being. On World Mental Health Day, ESF demonstrated an example of how to improve your mental health. During the breaks, Mrs. Aziz, the pastoral head of girls, led the students of ESF in a voga session. Yoga has been proven to be an excellent method for relief stress increasing awareness, and improving mood.

During break time, students had a blast releasing their energy into movements in the gym. Yoga increases feel-good elements in the brain; like endorphins and GABA. These factors play a crucial part in improving your mood and decreasing anxiety. It was also made clear that it is essential to take a break in between sessions like these, which require physical movement. The students had continued their activities but not before taking a well-deserved break to ensure that they did not overwork themselves.

World Mental Health Day is an event that ESF significantly cherishes. A student's mental state is a key element to keep in mind while on the road to success.







LITERACY WEEK

This week was organised by Mrs Nora Smith of Primary and supported by Mrs Warner from Secondary

Rep Your House Colour

By Abdulrahman Alrudaini

ESF recently held its annual House Colour Day. This colourful day is one of the most thrilling days of Literacy Week. ESF's Physical Education (P.E) department splits every student of each year group into four different groups: blue, red, green, and yellow.

House Colour Day has activities such as older kids reading to younger kids; dressing up in your house colours, and plenty of sports activities for early years and primary school.

How did Colour Day start? House Colour Day originated from the "house system," a tradition that began in British boarding schools long in the 19th century, where students and staff are divided into their assigned 'houses'.

On the day, three secondary school students (Habiba Elnagi, Michelle Obodo, and Claire Fady) visited the students of primary and early years schools in the Lloyd Webber Theatre and performed fantastic poems, courtesy of the English Department.

There was even a photo shoot area to make those treasured moments with friends more memorable.

How does House Colour Day impact students and staff?

It encourages teamwork, sportsmanship, and builds long-lasting friendships by participating in fun school activities together.

ROCK WITH THE STARS

By Ayesha Nabeel and Nawarah Alazmi

On Wednesday, 16th, 2024, at the English School Fahaheel, the primary students had a full day of fantastic reading. They all dressed up as rock stars to encourage this rocking reading!

The majority of the students were dressed in dazzling, vibrant colour variants or muted, fashionable attire. On that note, I also noticed that what they wore symbolised their feelings, as they were beaming with enthusiasm to rock the day!



Primary teachers, Mr Smith and Mr Bibi performing

On Rock Star Day, he primary students had an amazing trip down memory lane by going back to the early years school to share some fantastic poems, by reading them to their younger peers—heartwarming, isn't it?

Well, even after a long day, it still sure was a day to remember. I have to say, being there to experience it in person and report about it was an absolute pleasure—I am glad we did!

The Primary students were all amazing hosts to the early years school students. They read out their marvellous poems that were either made by themselves or some lovely poems they found interesting.

NEWSPAPER DAY

By Abeeya & Sameeha

On the 14th of October. ESF held their annual Newspaper Day, which was organised by our amazing English teacher, Mrs. Jackson. Newspaper Day is important because it can help students gain confidence themselves, enabling them to interact with people and improve their communication Additionally, it aids in developing their English-speaking skills.



Newspaper Club Team in Black & White

Newspaper Day is a day where everyone wears black and white attire. Secondary school students have the opportunity to interview and with engage primary kindergarten students, (during newspaper day multiple pupils from school secondary engaged in social activities with younger pupils regarding newspaper day) asking auestions related to Newspaper Day.

Activities on Newspaper Day include a bake sale (as per usual a bake sale was held on the school's courtyard)held outside playground, the offering food items like pizzas, donuts, cakes, pastries, and various drinks. Secondary students assisted primary and elementary teachers with their respective activities.

Character Day

By Layla Sallam and Mariam Al Rabieea

Character Day is a day when you get to dress up as your favourite book/movie/novel character, and a lot of students look forward to it as it is an opportunity to reflect on a person's interests. Character Day is celebrated across the school, and it is a unique celebration that happens once a year every year as a day amongst Literacy Week.

Character Day allows students to get creative and express their interests through nothing but clothes. It shows the imagination of students and what they like to read or watch which gives you an idea of what that person is like.

It's always a fun day, seeing everyone's outfits and cosplaying as a character you love without getting judged as you can just be yourself.

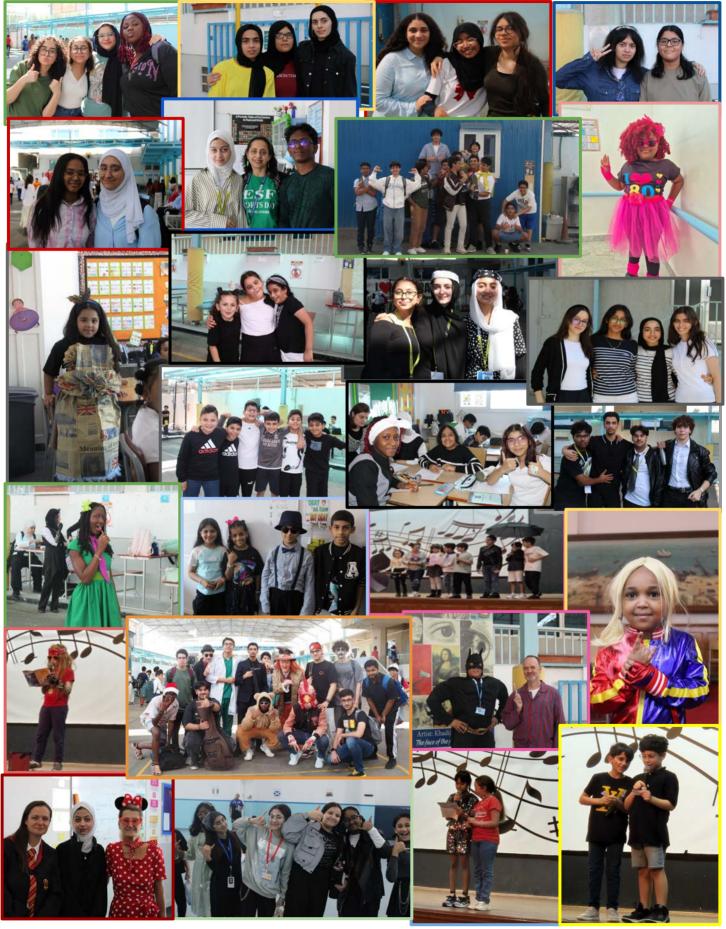
Personally, I enjoyed the day, and even though it was one of the weirdest cosplays, a bunch of people complimented it, showing that you can wear anything and be whatever you want without judgement or discernment, no matter how stupid or 'cringe' the character you dressed up as is. It's all part of the day.

By Azalia, Israa, Layan, Saba, Zainab



Literacy Week *







Preparing for the Future: Blazers and Boosters By Aghaanaa Jaiganesh By Aghaanaa Jaiganesh

University Fair Trip

By Gabriel Mirea

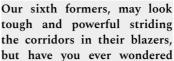
In recent weeks, our school attended the Expo University Fair for Year 10, 11,12 & 13. This fair had a *multitude* of universities from around the world alongside various programmes for the students who attended the exposition.

There were several universities such as AUM, AUK and many more offering various pieces of information for the students who were interested in attending. These universities offered various courses, primarily focusing on business studies and engineering, leaving out other sciences such as chemistry and biology.

Alongside these universities, there were various programmes on offer for students who were able to collect pamphlets to learn more, such as "The Company Programme" and the "Harvard Summer Programme". The company programme is one where students can team up and create a product which would be submitted and reviewed.

of winner the competition is then able to compete another in competition known as the "INJAZ AL Arabs Regional Entrepreneurship Youth Competition". This competition is made for students who are interested in working in the business field later in the future.

Furthermore, there is the Harvard Summer Programme where students who sign up will get to attend courses taught by Harvard professors about debating skills. The skills students learn would later be challenged in a debate at the end of the course.



the corridors in their blazers, but have you ever wondered how they would handle vaccinations?

When they found out they were getting vaccinated, most were nervous, confused, or unhinged. Some, like 'Deputy Head Boy' Nittin Milagu, did their research and discovered it was a "booster for diphtheria and tetanus." Others, like 'Deputy Editor-In-Chief' Ahmad Mahussain, had more creative ideas, such as thinking he was "being injected with robots."

Some students panicked during the vaccinations, especially due to COVID memories, seeing "dramatic" peers,



and fearing needles. Behind closed doors, a few Y12s even shed tears.

After the vaccination, 'Head Girl' Talia Dalibalta was "feeling dizzy" and "had a bit of a headache", while 'Sports Captain' Muhammed Shaik described his experience as "World War III". On the other hand, 'Green House Captain' Mohammed Dashti claimed he only felt the pain for "20 to 30 minutes" after the vaccination.

One thing was clear: Year 12s showed no mercy towards each other, with many claiming they were playfully "whacked" on their sore arms by friends. A day later, our sixth formers were taken on a trip, thankfully back to their tough selves.



Exam Experiences - A Sixth Form Perspective

By Falah Alsaad & Jumana Hany



Mr Williams talking to Falah and supporting Breast Cancer

Recently, we interviewed A-Level and IGCSE students on their exam affairs; they gave rather interesting responses, varying from them advising students of the challenges with the British system, to some saying their exams were a "piece of cake".

A majority of the sixth-form students who were interviewed agreed that the marking for their IGCSE exams were unfair, with some students saying that the examiners could improve on marking as they felt some subjects were marked better than others.

A reasonable number of students feel like they could have done *better* in preparing for their exams, but the overall marking was extremely unrelenting from their perspective. A vast majority of the ESF staff, however, were very satisfied with their students' results, and showed pride in their pupil's ability to consistently deliver amazing scores across the board every year and never disappoint.

An absolutely fantabulous member of staff gave us a shockingly motivational quote for students who are about to start their IGCSE exams:

"You are somebody's son, somebody's daughter, and if you live your day wanting to make your families proud, then you'll be alright."



GUST TRIP

By Israa, Layan, Saba, Zainab



Unforgettable trip to **GUST**

By Aghaanaa Jaiganesh

On Monday, November 18th, the ESF Newspaper Club visited the Gulf University for Science and Technology in Mubarak Al-Abdullah. The trip provided students with an exclusive opportunity to explore GUST's vibrant campus.

The tour started with the enormous and vast library. Students later explored various sports facilities: the gym, squash court, basketball court, and a 25-meter indoor swimming pool. The group also toured the recording studios, bookstore, and dining services, all of which contribute to GUST's reputation as a leading institution in Kuwait.

After the tour, students then split into 4 groups and participated in interactive workshops tailored to their interests.

The Social Media workshop, led by GUST professor and alumni Hassan Mohammed, provided students with hands-on training on how to conduct interviews.

Meanwhile, other students were introduced to the world of animation and photoshop in the Animation workshop led by Professor Marwa A. Marafie.

Lastly, the importance of effective communication skills was emphasised to our students in the Public Speaking workshop led by Dr. Nermeen Karam.

By the end of the trip, it was clear that all of the students had a truly enjoyable experience, with each of them gaining knowledge and insight from GUST's dedicated Mass Communication department.



Breast Cancer Awareness Day

By Abdulrahman Alrudaini

"Awareness is like the sun; when it shines on things, thev transformed." Thich Nhat. Breast cancer is a disease which in abnormal breast cells grow out of control and form tumours. If left unchecked, the tumours can spread throughout the body and become fatal.

On 23rd October 2024, ESF's annual Pink Day was celebrated, where all the students participated in activities like dressing up in pink to show solidarity for those suffering from or affected by breast cancer.

Pink Day is dedicated to raising awareness about breast cancer and supporting survivors. It is observed in October, which is also known as Breast Cancer Month.

The famous pink ribbons are worn across the world symbolising breast cancer.

During the weeks leading up to the day, every morning a group of students from each class in secondary school would perform a speech spreading awareness about breast cancer.

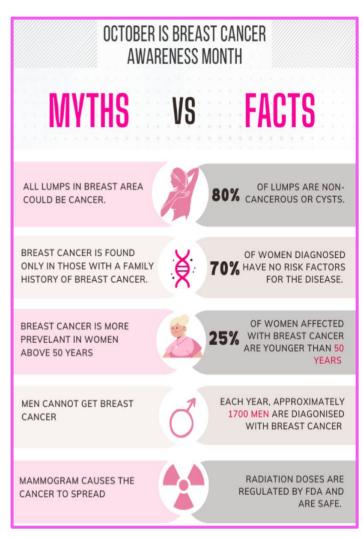
Creatively, the students found a way to spice it up. The class of 9B performed a rap while Kateleyna Dekok performed a song. The **English** School Fahaheel aims educate individuals. students, and teachers on the importance of regular screenings and self-examinations.

An assembly about breast cancer was hosted for year 7 girls and boys in the Lloyd Webber Theatre. The aim of this is to spread awareness and let people know that if they suffer from something like this, they are not alone.





Early Years Students on Pink Day



IN SHADOWS WE STAND

In shadows we stand, with courage so bright, Facing the battle, through day and through night.

With hope as our armor, we rise and we fight, For love is our beacon, our guiding light.

Each scar tells a story, of strength and of grace,

Of moments of struggle, we bravely embrace. Together we gather, in this sacred space, United in spirit, no fear can erase.

Through tears and through laughter, we journey along,

With hearts intertwined, we grow ever strong. For breast cancer may challenge, but it won't last long—

In the face of adversity, together we're strong.

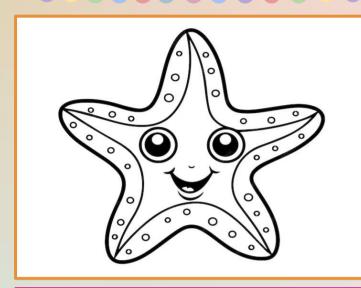
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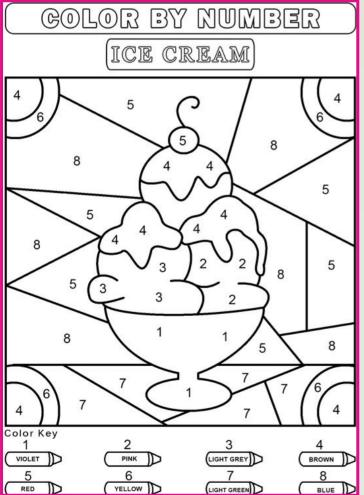
By Achinthya, Azalia, Israa, Layan, Saba, Zainab United in Colourful Celebration of kindness for Pink Day & kindness for Pink Day





Kiddies' Corner







ANIMALS

ZA 0 M C E E G 0 C E U T D T E 0 В D 0 JQVA E LWNIUGNE 0 JVBRUBRTEA WQL

AARDVARK BABOON BEAR BEAVER BIRD CAMEL CAT DOG ELEPHANT EMU FROG HORSE LION LIZARD MEERKAT MONKEY

OWL
PENGUIN
REINDEER
TIGER
TURTLE
VULTURE
WALLABY
WOLF
ZEBRA

SPOT THE DIFFERENCES







Is it More Hype Than Flavour at this Famous Restaurant?

By Azalia, Dillan, Sasha and Ghalya

A few members of the ESF Oracle reviewed a local Mexican restaurant in Salmiya called "El Amigos" on October 10, 2024, to raise awareness for local businesses. They purchased the best-selling dishes, which included the Burrito, Birria Tacos, Pineapple Chamoy Cooler, and Carne Asada Fries.



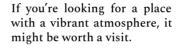


The Mexican Food

The food in general was delectable. However, the Birria Tacos fell short on texture with a mixture of soggy and hard, coming off as overcooked with a slightly bitter taste, while the broth for some was slightly sour, lacking the expected depth and balance. Overall, we wanted more of the rich, layered flavours usually associated with authentic Birria. On the other hand though, Pineapple Cooler Chamoy was refreshing and an absolute delight to drink.

The Service

To be fair, the service was of satisfyingly high quality; they received their meals in under ten minutes. The staff was kind, patient, and always served with a smile. In the end, the students were drawn to the restaurant because of its lively music, pleasant ambience, and impressive social media presence.







Country Spotlight: Mexico's Marvellous Mix

LOCATION

Mexico is a country in the southern portion of North America. It's the world's 13th largest country by area; with a population of almost 130 million. It's also the 10th in the country popularity rank and has the most Spanish speakers in the world.



HISTORY

There was a big struggle for Mexican people to shape Mexico's identity, but now that they have discovered it's true identity, let's take a look together! Well first of all, people tend to mix up De Cinco Mayo Mexican Independence Day when the two events are completely different. Mexican Independence Day is the day that Mexico was freed from the Spanish 300 years later while Cinco De Mayo is a celebration held on May 5th where the Mexicans won over the Second French Empire in 1862.



National Costume of Mexico

Did you know that colour TV was invented in Mexico by Guillermo Camarena?

FOOD

For most of us when we think Mexican food we think spice or we think Tacos and Burritos but there's actually more to Mexican food than just that. You know how we all love drinking milkshakes no matter what season? Well turns out milkshakes have strong ties to Mexico. Also, out tomatoes turns originated in Mexico. I guess there's more to Mexico than just tacos and burritos!



You've Been Spotted!

By Achinthya, Azalia, Israa, Layan, Saba, Zainab



Alumni Day

By Layan Saif





Science Day 🕹



By Azalia





SPORTS DAY:

By Israa Al Omran



YELLOW HOUSE * FINALLY * SPARKED GOLD



By Mariam Shareef

After many years of the Blue House dominating, many members of their team came to the Al Shabab Stadium overconfident that they would register yet another victory.

Unfortunately, these hopes and dreams were crushed when a hardworking and optimistic Yellow House victorious. became

For many years, the Yellow House had consistently missed out on first place by just a few points. The Yellow House managed to all work together from Y3 all the way through to Y13 to help dethrone the reigning champions.

Blue House.

Yellow only won due to the absence of the track events this year, but let's be honest, all 'these people' coincidentally are Blue House members so unsurprisingly may not be taking the loss well. Congrats Yellow House!

Some argue that

Caught in the Act: The Manipulation Has Been Unveiled

By Abdulaziz Ali and Salem Najjarine

Alas, justice has been served and downfalls have been prayed upon successfully, in this long-awaited event of yearning for the fall of these pompous blue gremlins that do not understand the concept of achieving things via hard work.

The 'undefeated streak' of Blue House may have been the product of Mr. Mulley's magic touch on the scoreboard rather than skill or diligence. Isn't it interesting that the moment Mr Mulley disappeared, the infamous Blues lost?Who could have predicted?

Could it be that, over the years, so-called 'victories' were just a complex pantomime in which Mr Mulley acted





as the puppet master, manipulating the game so that Blue House was always successful?

But hey, give them props, at least Blue House has mastered the art of 'stealing the show' without even breaking a sweat.

Let's all give a round of applause Blue house or should we say to Mr. Mulley for making sure the scoreboard always reflects what we want to see, 'shall we?'

New Beginnings in Netball

By Hana Ahmed

With the new school year, so does the long-awaited netball season. The U13, U15, and U19 teams had been eagerly awaiting this season to showcase their improvement after many training sessions before the season began.

The first game of the season was the U13 NES game, they proudly won. the U15 matches Next. began, with the first one against BSK. Although they girls displayed lost, the impressive defence. Following that, the U19s game their first against TEA and brought home a win. The next match was the U15s against TEA.

Though entertaining for spectators, it was very stressful for the players. The game ended in a draw, so an extra three minutes were

played, and with their determination to win against TEA, the girls triumphed!

All the players performed outstandingly matches. Despite some losses, they played very well and secured numerous victories. These hardworking, are determined. consistent. Through their teamwork, communication, and sportsmanship, they led their teams to success. Not only were immensely proud themselves, but the entire school was also eagerly awaiting the scores. cheering them on, and supporting them every step of the way.

SPIKE OF SPIRITS

By Michelle Obodo

The highly anticipated volleyball match between students and faculty draws a lively crowd of participants and spectators, creating an atmosphere filled with joy, competition, and collaboration.

This lighthearted rivalry provides students opportunity to showcase their athletic talents, while teachers engage in a unique bonding experience outside the usual classroom setting. As the competition heats both determined claim victory.

This year, beloved faculty members, including Ms. Aziz and Mr. Riley, represented the teachers, bringing their best performances and uplifting the spirit of the event with their enthusiasm.

In an exciting showdown, students the showcase their skills determination, ultimately clinching victory over their teachers. Regardless of the final score, both teams walked away as champions, strengthening school pride camaraderie through this memorable experience.

