

NEWTON INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY

"An international community of learners striving for excellence and celebrating success"

ISSUE 2 TERM 2

SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

2020 - 2021

NIA TODAY

Principal's Message

Paul Williamson



IN THIS ISSUE

- Principal's Contribution ..1
- Deputy Principal2
- HOS Contribution3
- Prefects and Senior Students4- 8
- Science..... 9-11
- Photography.....12
- Maths Week.....13-14
- English 15-16
- Art.17-18
- Geography19
- Business20
- THIMUN The Hague..... 21
- Show Jumping..... .. 22
- Mental Health Week.....23
- Debating..... ..24
- Lessons @ NIA..... ..25
- Senior Blog 26
- Digital Drawing27

Dear Parents,

As a means of preparing to write this newsletter piece, I looked back on Term 2 last year. The pandemic had just hit in Qatar; schools had been closed ever so quickly, and our heads were spinning. 12 months on and some are now receiving vaccinations, and there is a glimmer of hope on the horizon. Although it appears that masks and social distancing will be with us for some time, the opportunity to travel with limited quarantine, is something we all look forward to.

Twelve months ago, school was fun, sometimes the hardest thing in the day was getting here through the traffic! In the space of 12 months NIA's students, like those all over the world, have learned new ICT skills; improved how they care for themselves and created a classroom environment at home. They have overcome many obstacles, focusing on the positives, and continued to learn. As a community we have continued to wake up every day

and accept the new challenges whether in the classroom, or online. We have learned and even enjoyed it. School has continued to be fun, just in a different way.

Thank you to all the families who have had to push through the challenges of COVID class closures and mandatory testing. To those students who have had the virus, well done for continuing with your studies, and doing your best in difficult circumstances.

This term we have experienced our usual Science, Maths and Bookweeks. There have been secondary students participating and experiencing success in MUN and debating activities, albeit online. We finished the Term with exams followed by Business Week. I hope you enjoy reflecting on these in our Newsletters.

School will resume on Monday 11th April and I hope your family can enjoy some down-time in the break.

Paul Williamson
Principal

Deputy Principal's Message *Nadia January*



Dear Parents,

It is with great pleasure that we announce the end of Term 2 and we would like to highlight the achievements and wonderful work which took part this term.

Students and teachers have worked exceptionally hard despite the challenges we are facing with COVID-19.

As parents, you can be proud of your child's performance and achievements and you can be proud to part of NIA. We are proud of our students and appreciate your ongoing support in your child's learning and participation in all school activities.

Due to COVID-19, schools have faced many challenges, however, with the excellent

partnership between teachers, students and parents, NIA successfully achieved its goals to continue Teaching and Learning. It has not been an easy time and we appreciate everyone's efforts in making this work.

We are also very proud that NIA is participating in two International Tests, PISA 2021 (Programme for International Student Assessment) and the PIRLS 2021. These tests are completed across the world in many countries to test the levels and standards of students Reading, Mathematics and Science levels. We are very confident that our students will perform well in these tests.

Once again, I would like to highlight our school's vision: **'An international community of learners striving for excellence and celebrating success'**. It is clear through these times of change that our vision is always clear in everything we do. We would like you to continue working with us and be part of NIA community so that we can end this academic year successfully.

Have a lovely break. Stay safe wherever you may be.

Kind regards,

Nadia January
Deputy Principal





Head of Secondary's Message

Dr Tereza Woolgar

Term 2 has been very eventful at NIA Secondary and it was amazing to see so many students participating in a variety of extra-curricular activities during the Maths week, Book week, Science week, Business week, Debating, MUNs and Mental health week.

We continue to be immensely proud of our boys and girls working hard in the classrooms, at home and outside of classrooms in online ECAs and of the teaching staff providing a high quality education as well as many opportunities for our students to develop their skills and confidence in a wide range of enriching activities.

Our community has become very resilient and supportive of each other since the start of this academic year.

Term 2 proceeded very smoothly due to a high commitment of all stakeholders to safety and outstanding quality of teaching and learning.

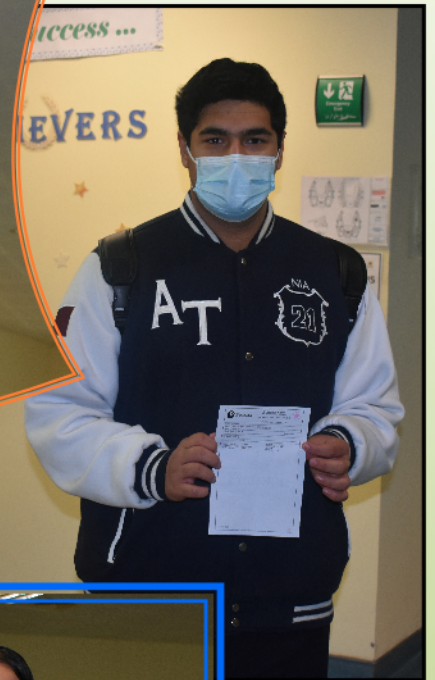
Thank you parents for your ongoing positive cooperation – our mutual efforts certainly proved to be very beneficial for your children and our pupils and enabled them to successfully continue to progress with their education and development. Whether I look at our Year 7s or the seniors – all Secondary students have matured over the last two terms and did much better in their end of term exams.

Well done to NIA Secondary community! Enjoy your well-deserved spring holiday.

Dr Tereza Woolgar



PREFECTS & SENIOR STUDENTS



PREFECTS & SENIOR STUDENTS



PREFECTS & SENIOR STUDENTS



Prefects Environmental Gardening Project

What exactly are vertical gardens?

During the past week or so, you might have spotted quite a number of small colourful gardens vertically dangling from the school's balconies, which is generally all there is to the term 'vertical gardens'. They have been set up by a few of the school's prefects, with the intentions of making our school more environmentally friendly, as well as adding life and vibrancy to our atmosphere.

When I interviewed Bilqis Khan, the Co-head of the environmental committee, about what exactly vertical gardens are and the purpose behind their creation, she said, 'A vertical garden is actually just that, a garden created in a vertical structure. Nowadays they're made with the purpose to grow more in less space. They're really beautiful since they can fill up empty walls, while adding some vibrancy to the area.'

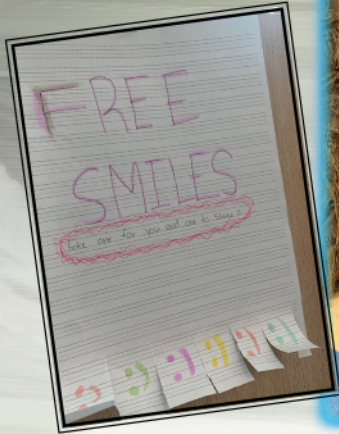


How can they help make our school more environmentally friendly?

Needless to say, creating vertical gardens is a big step taken towards the aim of trying to make our school more environmentally friendly. As Bilqis further explained, 'They're very captivating at first glance and many students and staff have already noticed them despite not being completely finished yet, so I think the gardens will definitely give them ideas and inspire many to start gardening at home as well. As for being more environmentally friendly in our school, it might make more students become aware of how to recycle and be less wasteful as well as motivate them to start up their own green initiatives for next year's school projects.'



PREFECTS & SENIOR STUDENTS



Mental Health Awareness Prefect contribution



PREFECTS & SENIOR STUDENTS



Subjects Prefects and Options

For the first time ever, our subject prefect got involved in giving careers advice to our younger students. Each subject prefect held a virtual Q&A about the different subjects on offer at NIA.

This was great for our year 9s and 11s because it gave them the opportunity to know more about the subjects from the student's point of view. This was organised by our deputy head boy, Talha! Thank you so much for this!

Our year 13 also got involved! They created a fantastic promotional video sharing their experiences of year 13 at NIA, why they chose to continue in year 13 and the subjects they enjoyed the most. Thank you to our NIA subject prefects and year 13 students!



Science WEEK

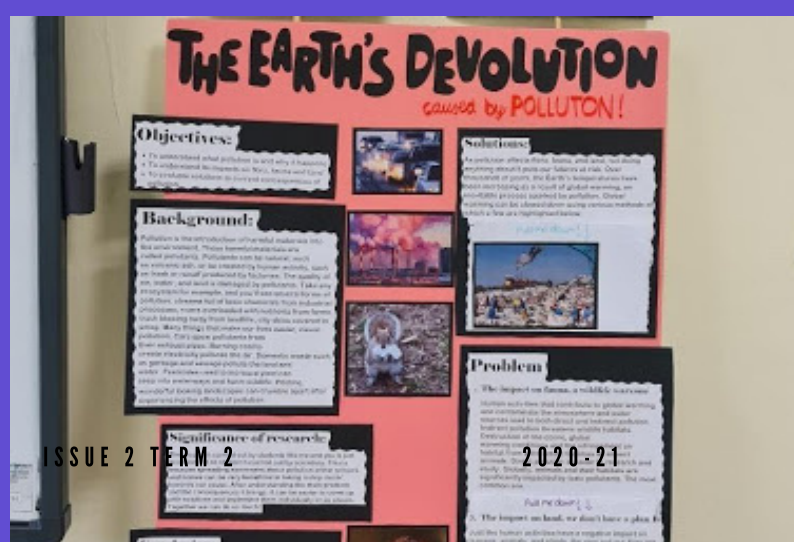
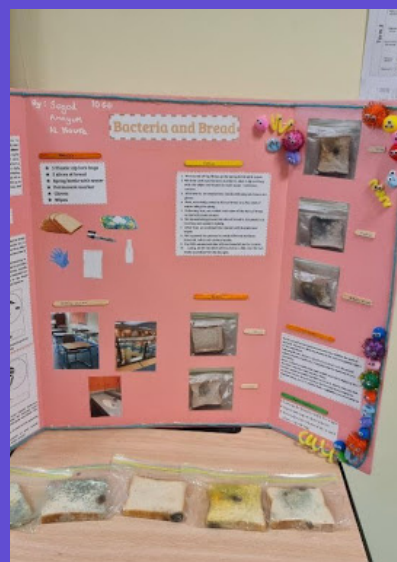
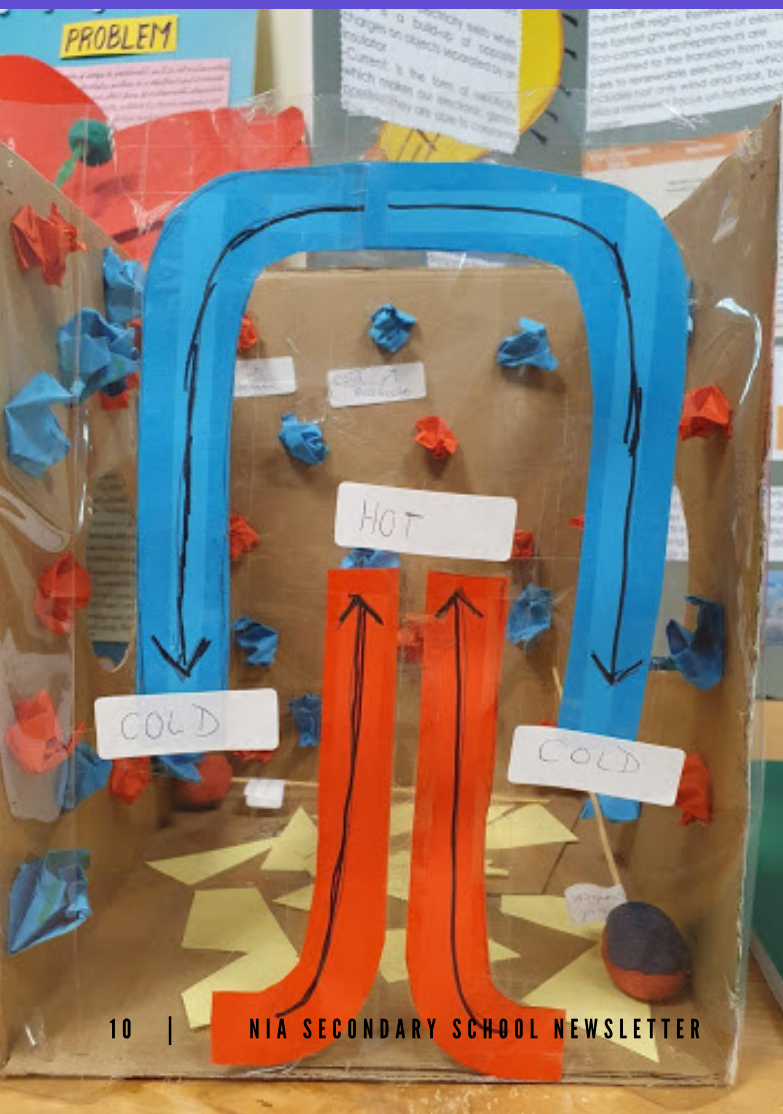
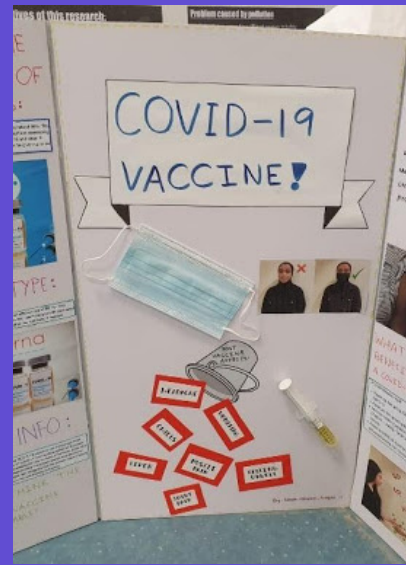
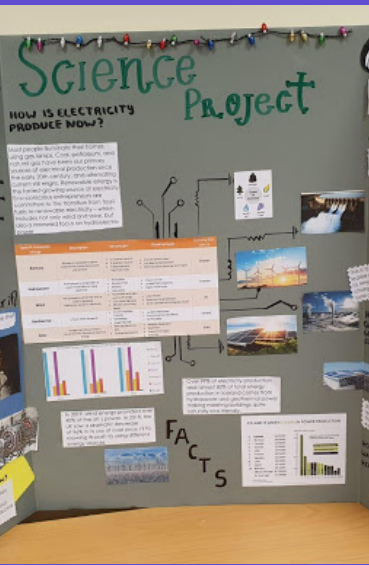
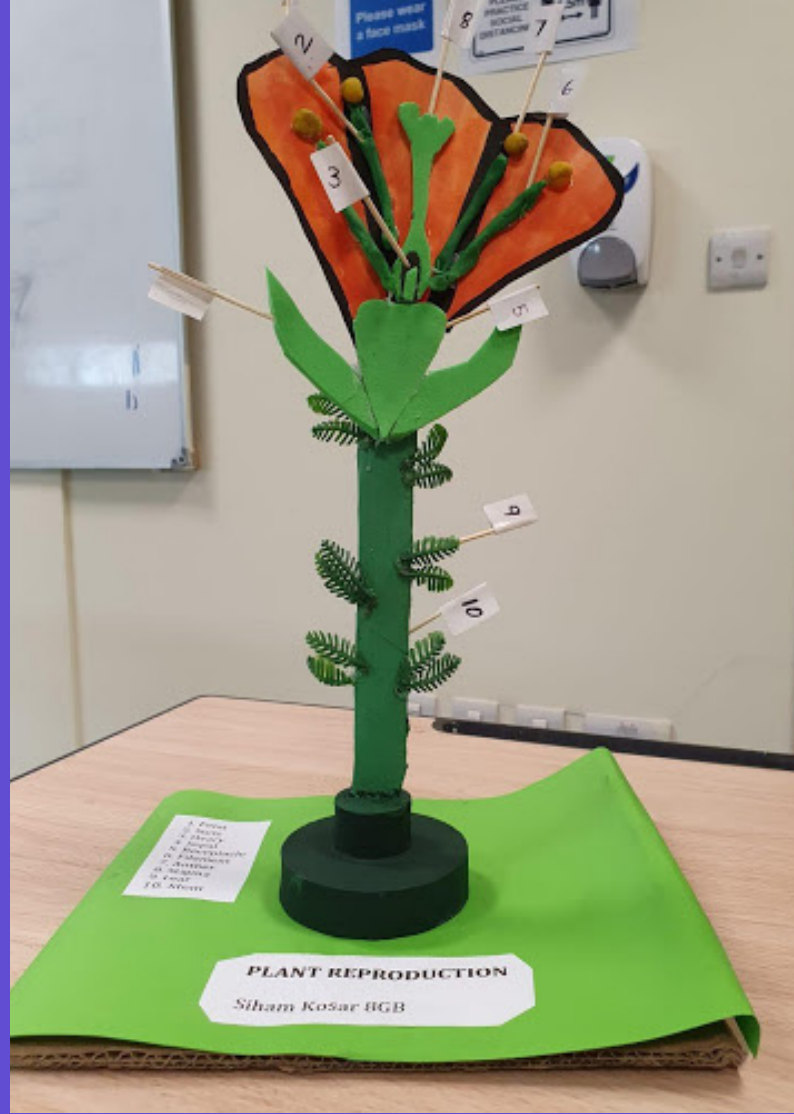
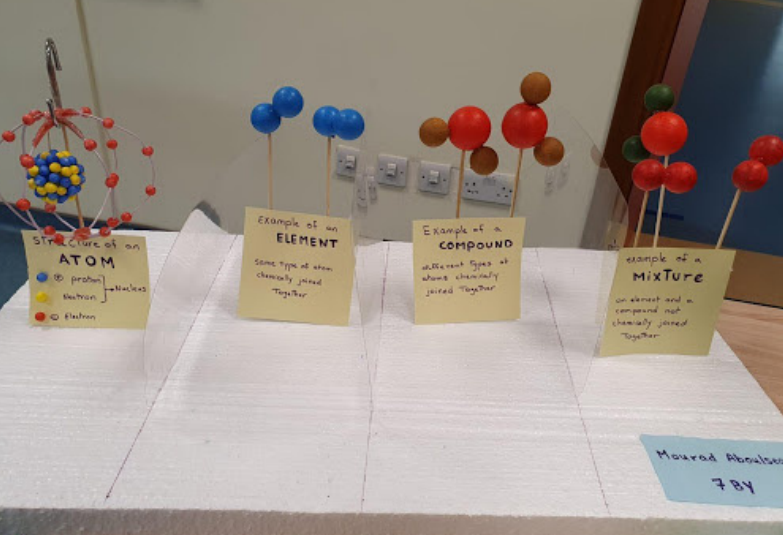
Science Week at NIA kicked off on Sunday 21st February when the first daily scientific fact was announced over the intercom. What followed was the busyness of students in every secondary tutor class cooperating with their fellow peers in the Kahoot quiz competition.

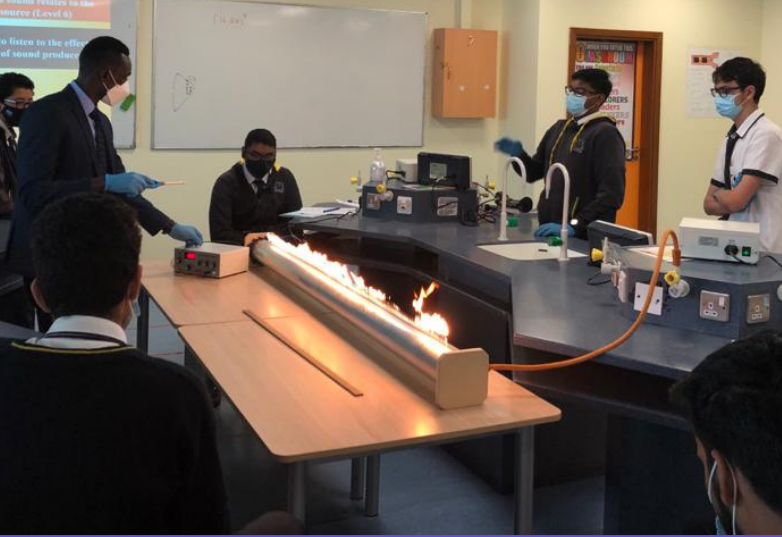
Y10-13 students were involved in several problem solving and experimental activities during their science lessons. In Physics students built up a rocket by using a household items and learnt how the force of the air moving in one direction can propel balloon in the opposite direction, like a rocket. Students then measured the distance travelled by the rocket that they built.

In Chemistry, students and staff had the opportunity to make customisable slime, watch “elephant toothpaste” explode into the ceiling and even hold a flame and pass it to the next person in the “hands on fire” activity.

In Biology students investigated how dirty their phones are. Pupils swabbed their phones and cultured the microorganisms in an agar petri dish, and compared their growth.

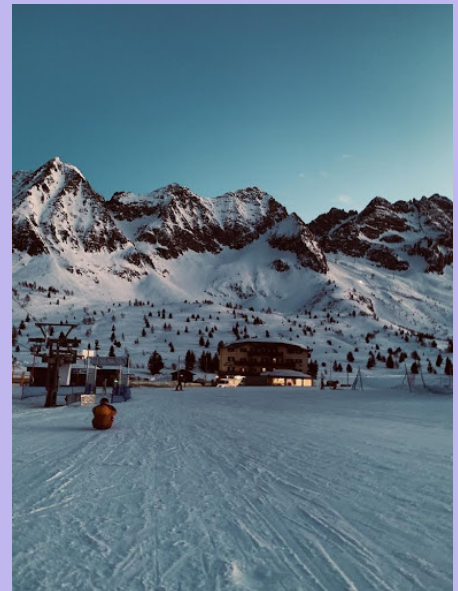






Photography Competition

The photography competition consisted of students submitting their photographs from how Covid has impacted the environment positively.



MATHS WEEK

This year, despite ongoing restrictions, we managed to have a fun filled math week here at NIA.

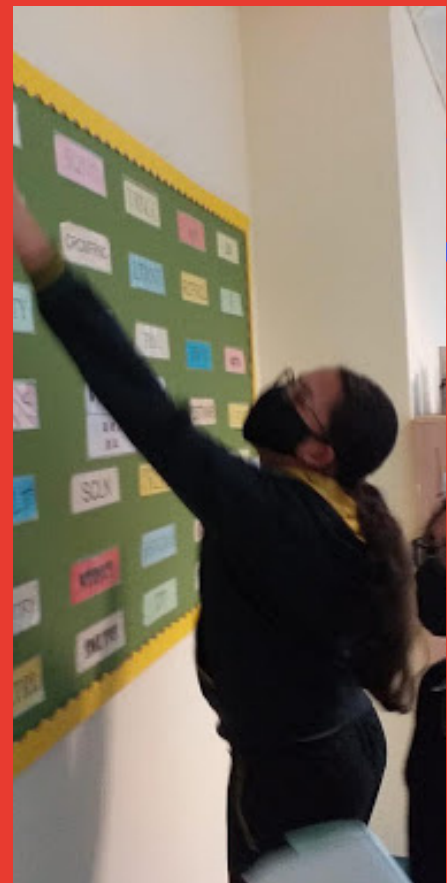
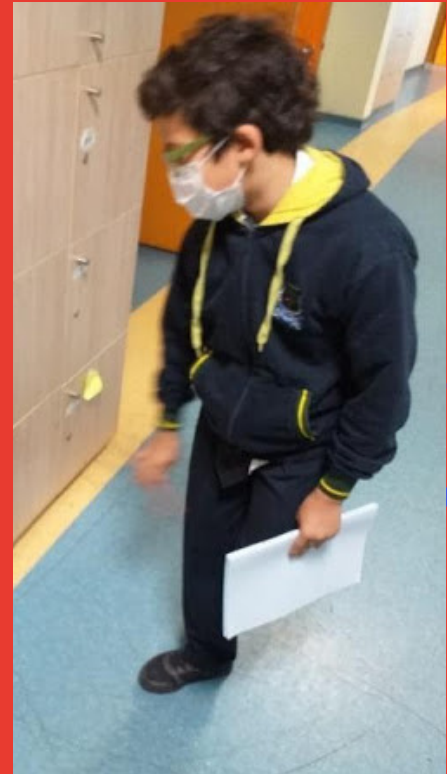
All tutor groups across the school completed maths quiz during tutor lessons. They completed these in their house groups and gained a lot of points for each house. Edison were in the lead of maths weeks from the first day. The students got very excited and eager to complete the Kahoot quiz challenge during their break time. Competing in houses they got very competitive and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. We also had online students join in using Google classroom and complete Kahoot! Challenges and quizzes from the live stream. The treasure hunt was very popular with our year 7 students who hurried around the school collecting clues to the next destination and solving math problems.

The treasure hunt was completed during lesson time as part of their active learning activities.

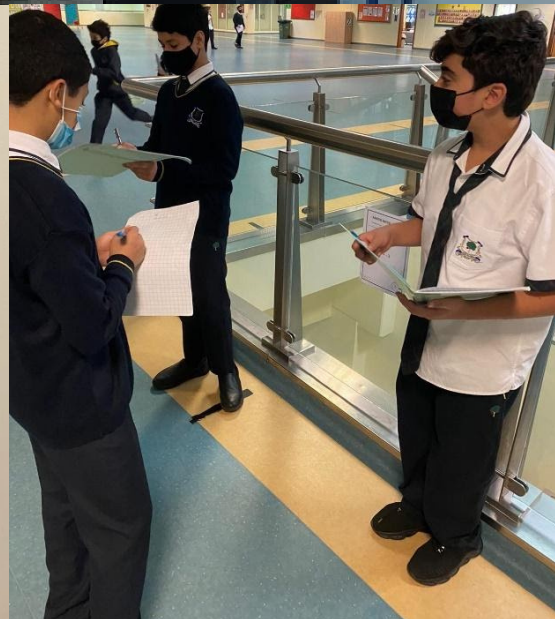
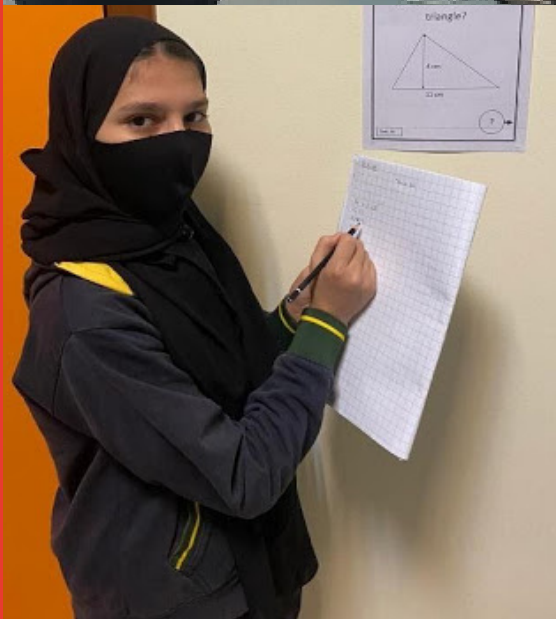
Students attempted to guess the number of coffee beans in a jar as part of our break time challenges. Mohamed Nogal 9BG was so close with the best guess of 893. There was a total of 929 beans in the jar.

A large number of points were collected throughout the week with students getting competitive and eager to have their house come out on top. In the end Bell took the Math Week Champion title with a huge number of 819 points. 1st place Bell- 819 points. 2nd place Edison- 747 points. 3rd place Curie - 696 points. 4th place Wright- 524 points.


Well done to all students who participated and thank you for another successful Maths Week at NIA.



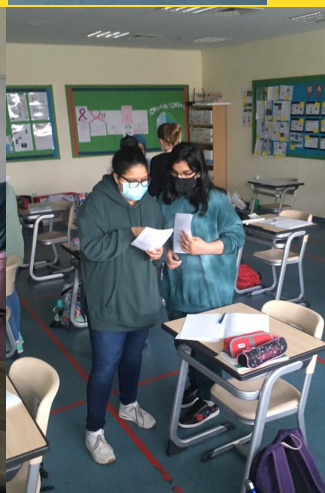
MATHS WEEK

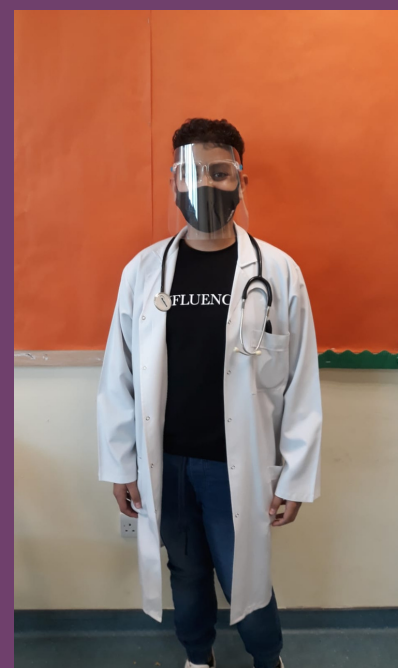
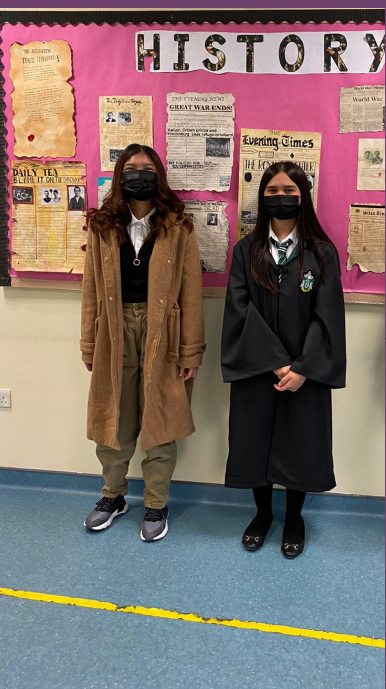
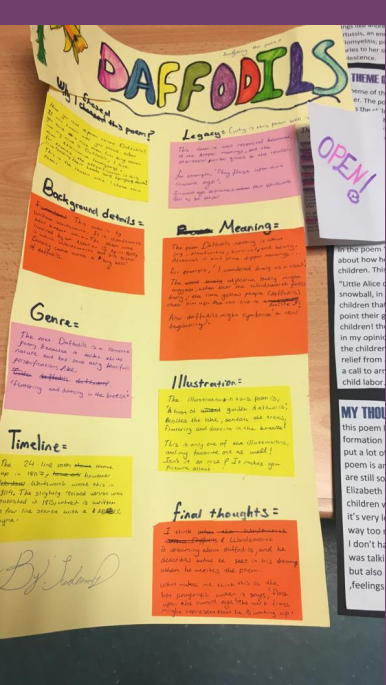


ENGLISH

o be or not to be" the popular line from Shakespeare goes and whether we like it or not, we have seen the end of yet another term in the English Department.

Highlights such as the annual Book Week and Shakespeare Day meant that students were able to zoom into literature and poetry and bring out their creative edge in writing, reading and dressing up (of course!). A few lovely poems were also born from Ms. Lauren's class. Philosophy for Children entertained and challenged students to perfect their questioning and reasoning skills.





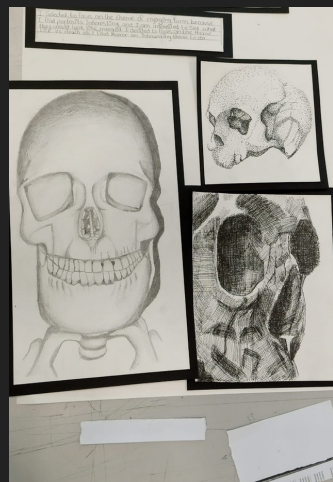
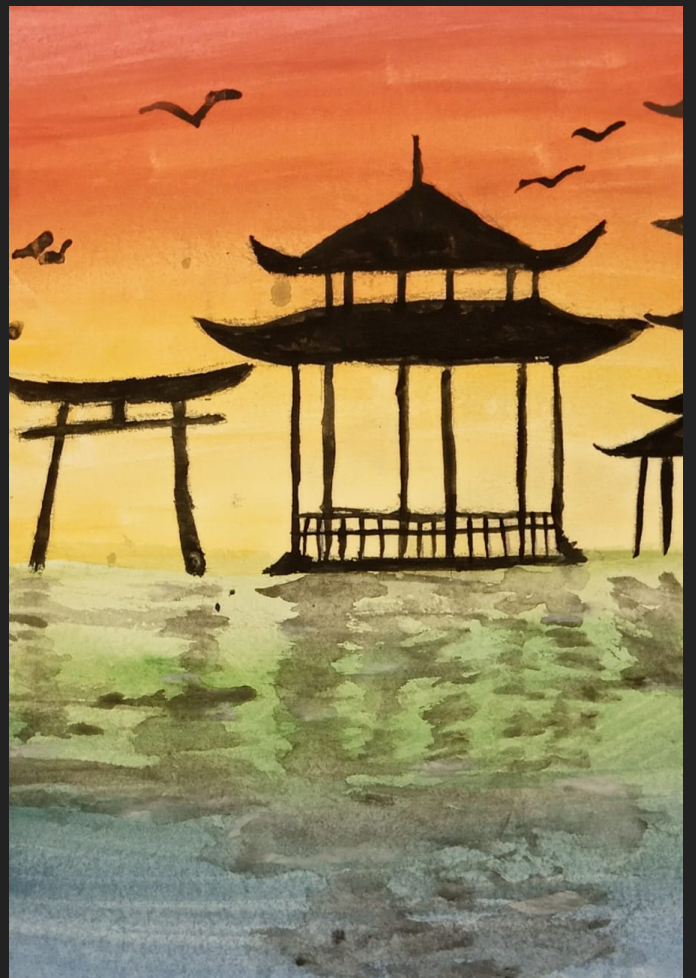
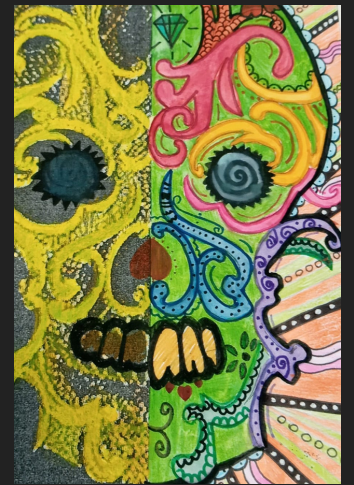
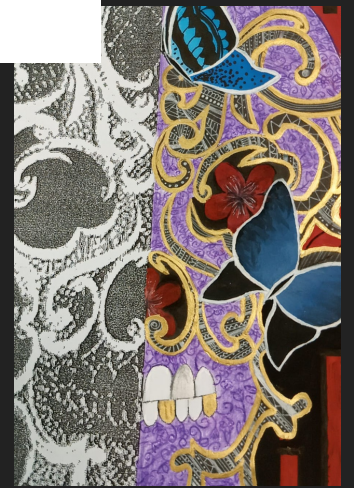
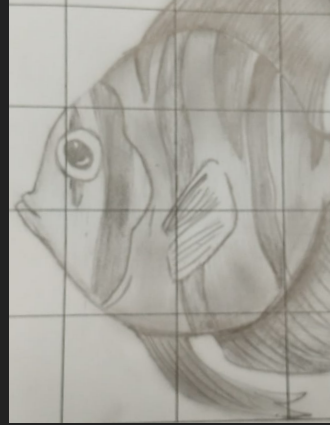
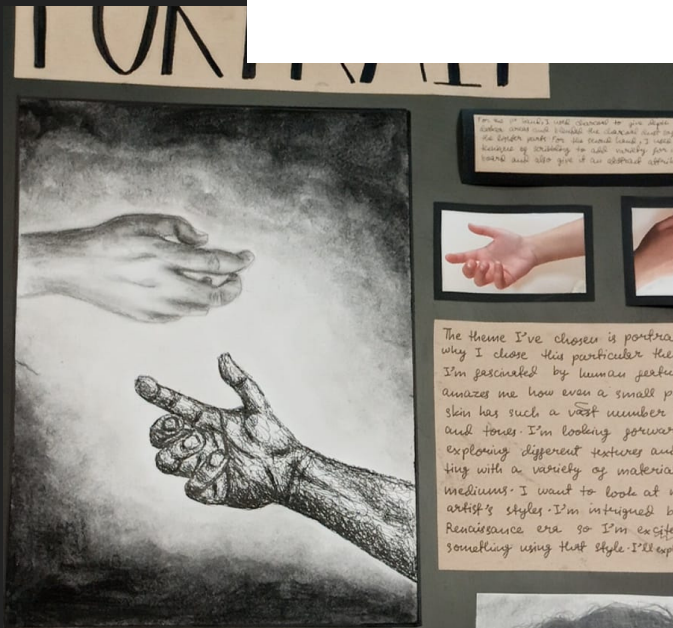
ART



In my drawing I decided to use cross hatching as it suited the texture the most. I used fine lined ink pens to create many lines going horizontally/vertically to create the texture. I would say that this technique is better than shading as I can layer the lines to create the texture shading would require precise blending.



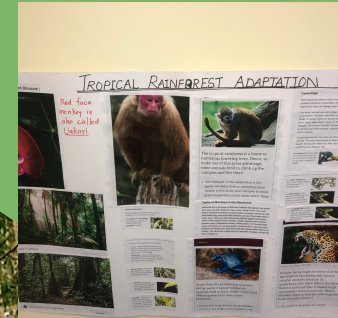
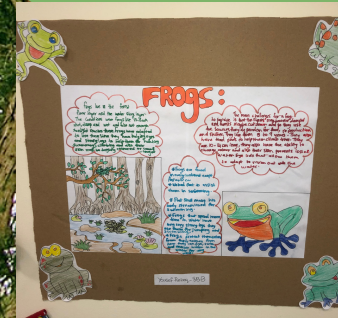
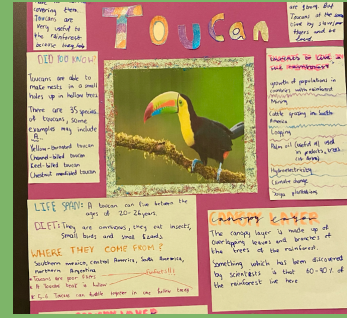
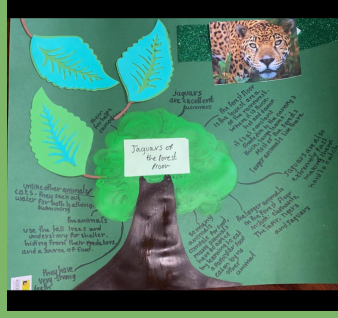
NEWTON INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



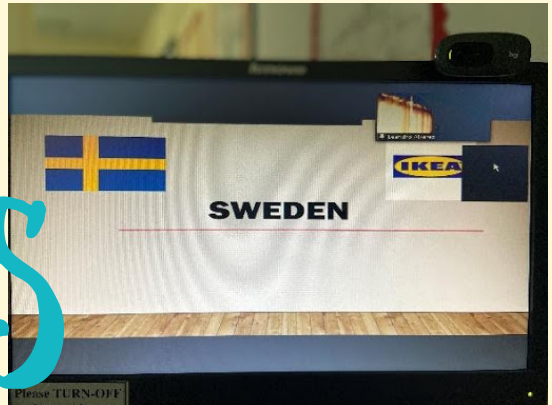
GEOGRAPHY

Year 8 Project
 “The Tropical Rainforest”.

This involved students researching key animals within the rainforest and how they have adapted to live there. Students built models, created PowerPoints or designed posters.



LET'S TALK BUSINESS



Year 13 Business students were given a list of some factors that could make a country attractive as a market. Each one of them analysed different countries according to these factors and had the opportunity to explain to the rest of the class. At the end, students discussed which one would be the best country as a market. This activity included in person and online students.



THIMUN 2021

THE HAGUE ONLINE CONFERENCE

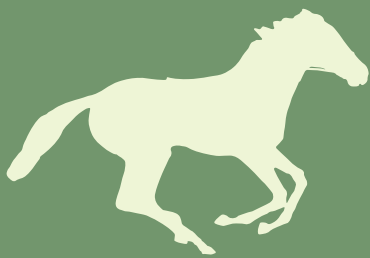
The season kicked off with the Senior Girls who performed relatively well in 7 NIA students, participated at the first THIMUN The Hague Online Conference. Although delegates didn't meet in person due to the current pandemic, more than 1600 students from all around the world came together and using their expertise and high quality skills they had the chance to lobby, debate and vote on resolutions covering a vast number of issues that the world around them is facing. Our diversified and experienced team made us all very proud once again. Well done to all!

THIMUN The Hague was amazing! I have no words to describe the conference. I attended THIMUN The Hague as the delegate of Ireland in the Political Committee. At first, I was so nervous to contribute to my committee, looking at how experienced and intellectual all the delegates were. Eventually, I started to warm up, and I was eager to raise my placard and get picked for asking a POI and saying a speech. The chairs Doga, Dogu and Tomasso were very encouraging and patient; so many delegates had questions yet they were willing to answer them all – to the point where we were in a time crunch! I loved my committee, especially the delegate of Iran who really uplifted the whole mood of the committee. I do not regret signing up and joining and if I had the opportunity to, I'd do it over again. I am forever grateful to Ms Sara for allowing us NIA students to participate at a prestigious conference! I cannot wait for more! Johanna Karen Sarsonas, Political Committee



JUMPING TO NEW HEIGHTS

NIA Secondary is very proud of the achievements of Mohammed Ibrahim Al-Hor from 11BR who achieved silver medal in HH The Emir's sword show jumping competition on 18th February 2021 in the Equestrian Federation. Well done! Very inspiring for the community.



MENTAL HEALTH WEEK



Our Student Council students have organized activities on mental health awareness. The following activities happened during mental health week:

1. Mandala coloring activity.
2. Tree of Gratitude, in the library throughout the week. Leaves were handed out and the students pinned their leaves to the tree after they wrote what they were grateful for on the leaf.
3. Mental Health PowerPoint, Sunday, during tutor period.
4. Poster Competition about depression (causes, symptoms, treatment) Winner received a Virgin Megastore voucher.
5. Fundraiser for a mental health institution located in Doha.
6. Motivational Quotes said out by Class Representatives every day throughout the week (on intercoms)
7. Kahoot activities during breaks.

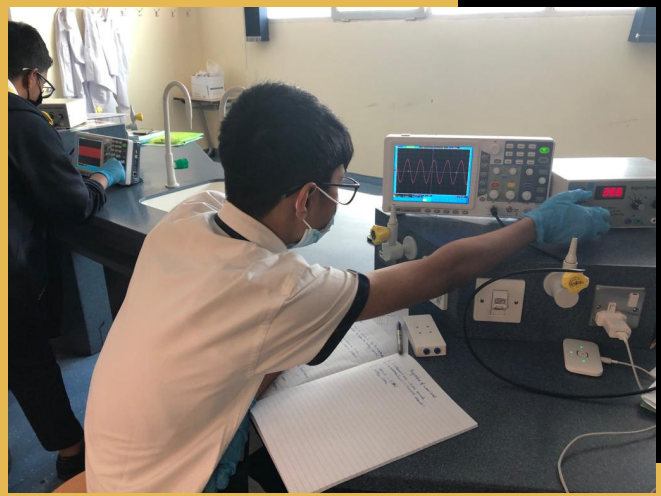
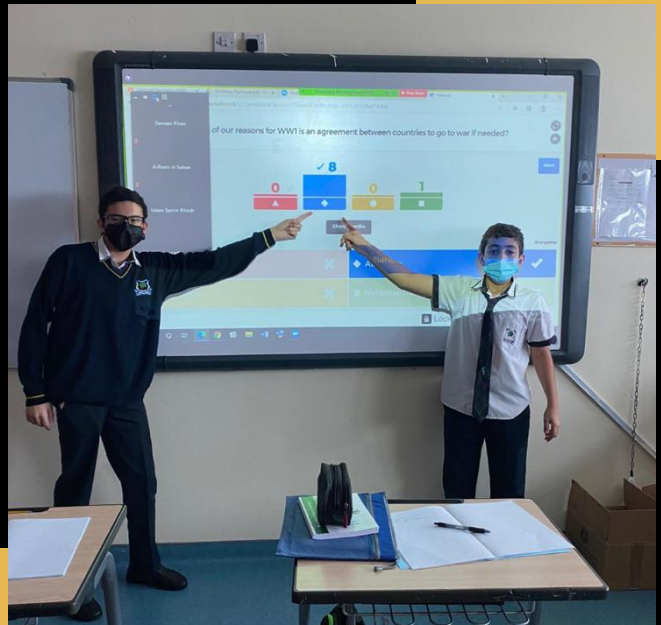
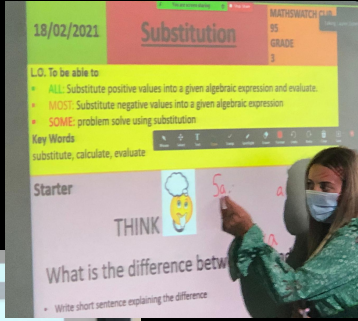


DEBATE DEBATE DEBATE

Congratulations to our Girls' Preparatory Team who won the trophy for Runners Up in the 2019-2020 Qatar Schools Debate League season. Priscilla Agbozo deserves a special accolade for winning the Best Speaker Medal. The team members are Priscilla Agbozo, Reem Elsheikh, Amayum Khaled, Jordyn-Lee Visser, Taashlyne Sam, Umaima Intiaz, Christine Joseph, Sakshi Manohar, Imaan Ahmed and Loujayn Haggag. Well done, girls! We are extremely proud of you.



LESSONS @ NIA



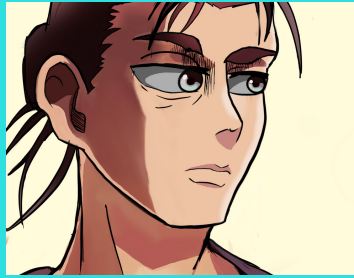
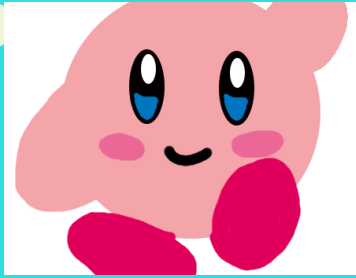
Seniors

As the end of the academic year looms in near sight, the time has arrived for a major turning point in senior students' lives. University decisions are coming in, whether that may induce disappointment or a sense of accomplishment – with interviews, acceptances, entrance exam results and scholarships in abundance. Students are reaping the fruits of their labour after a difficult past two years, and having recently worked extremely hard off the back of January external examinations. Responses have arrived from universities across the world, from the UAE to the Netherlands to the UK and a wide variety of courses. For many, the application process was long and draining; having to write personal statements, sit standardized tests, attend interviews and await the all-important decision.

One such example is a year 13 student who has received an unconditional offer from the University of Waterloo in Canada to study biochemistry and a unique opportunity to gain work experience in the field, during the summer breaks. Aside from higher education-driven learning, senior students have busied themselves with a variety of activities and extracurricular such as MUN conferences, business week projects, graduation planning and various fundraisers for causes such as cancer awareness and environmental organisations. After the cancellation of the customary May/June external A-level exams, the final stretch remaining, before progressing onto the next stage of our lives, is the preparation for mock 4 examinations. Following which, students and staff will attend the long-anticipated graduation ceremony to cap the end of 12-13 years of school education and the beginning of a new chapter.

Written by: Fatima Alsharif





DIGITAL DRAWING

