

**THE KINDERGARTEN STARTERS - DUBAI  
CIRCULAR**

**KGS / C/ 827- 17**

**05/09/2017**

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new term at the Kindergarten Starters. We look forward to welcoming your children with some exciting learning opportunities and modifications to the learning environment.

The school is currently undertaking an Action Research using the Learnometer, a prototype of an invention by Professor Stephen Heppell to study the impact of environmental factors on learning and we have begun to address some concerns like air quality. To this end, we have installed wall-mounted indoor green plants that absorb carbon dioxide at a rapid rate in every single classroom. It not only improves the quality of air but brightens up every single room and I am sure your children will welcome the addition.



We have also acquired several play based engineering resources like discovery ramps, Light Labs, Magnet Walls, LEGO STEM resources for early years and much more. These will help young children learn the principles of engineering through serious play.



Dora the Green turtle that our students have sponsored is swimming around Abu Dhabi waters with a satellite transmitter on her shell. She was caught and released on the morning of 26th April, 2017. Our students are able to see a map of her movements and will be watching Dora very closely for the next three years, and look forward to finding out where she travels, where she eats, where she builds her nest and lays her eggs. **With the donation to the Gulf Green Turtle Project, our students are making a difference. The data will help them work with local and regional governments to protect Dora and her foraging grounds and nesting beaches and work on the reduction of current threats along their migration routes.**



We are offering our children across the school an opportunity to collaborate with children from several countries to globalize the classroom and facilitate seamless collaboration between students from around the world via pioneering STEAM education. Your children will be co-constructing knowledge by working on STEAM projects with students from Japan, Singapore, Chicago, India and Spain. By participating in this learning our students will not only develop cutting-edge STEAM Skills, but also the softer skills of global collaboration and communication.



The Kindergarten Play area has been completely remodeled with new fencing, play equipment and rubberized flooring making it a more inviting and friendly environment which our youngest students are definitely going to enjoy.

Our little football champions visited Manchester City along with our coaches and spent a week being trained by the coaches there. We look forward to them returning with new found skills and confidence to raise their game and cascade the learning to their peers.



To further improve the understanding of Islamic Culture we have appointed an Islamic Awareness Coordinator who will arrange for visits to places of interest, organize exhibitions and invite scholars to talk to the children. We begin September with the Heritage Month wherein all activities and projects will centre around the land and the people of the Emirates. Quizzes, Exhibitions, Qirat Competitions, visits to Bastakiya, Jumeirah mosque, Miraj Islamic Art Centre, the Fahidi Fort and the Dubai Museum are all part of this exciting month.





Older students in Grades 4 and 5 will visit the Mangrove National Park which is home to around 60 bird species such as the Western Reef Heron, Night Heron, Clamorous Reed Warbler, Greater Flamingos, Crab Plovers, Grey Heron, Sandpipers and occasionally Spotted Eagles. It also supports other biodiversity such as fish, shells, sponges, shrimps, echinoderms, and crabs.



In keeping with the National Agenda, we will be introducing Moral Education as a compulsory subject for all students from Grades 1-5. This will be closely linked to our tolerance and Generosity Curriculum and will be integrated with all subjects. Moral Education books will be issued to children in Grades 1-5 at the rates specified by KHDA.

We have introduced a Global Citizenship Curriculum which will enable our students to develop the dispositions, knowledge and capabilities necessary to understand the world in which they live, to make sense of the way in which globalization shapes their lives and to be good stewards of and contributors to the Sustainable Development Goals. The Core Curriculum has been built around the Global Citizenship Curriculum and this will further enrich the learning for all our students.

We hope you continue visiting lessons as part of the Open Door program and giving us your suggestions so that we can work to making the school a happy, safe and engaging learning environment.

Finally, our inspection dates have already been announced from 25-28 September, 2017 and we hope that our community of parents, staff and students will once again be able to showcase all their wonderful accomplishments and learning to the DSIB Inspecting team.

We look forward to your continued support and cooperation in our journey to make KGS a warm, safe and welcoming learning community!

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Asha Alexander', written over a horizontal line.

**Asha Alexander**  
**Principal**

