

RAHA REMINDERS

Khalifa City Campus

SPIRE Wellbeing Newsletter – Part 3: Intellectual Wellbeing

As we enter the first week of Ramadan, we are incredibly proud of how well our students have settled into the shorter school day and the reflective, peaceful atmosphere that this special time brings. It is wonderful to see the patience and kindness shown by our students as they support one another, whether they are fasting or not.

On Thursday evening, our staff came together for Iftar, sharing a meal and celebrating the sense of community that makes KCC such a special place. It was a fantastic opportunity to connect, reflect, and appreciate the meaning of togetherness during this time.



Ms. Abi
Principal

Intellectual Wellbeing

READ
MORE

Raha KCC Selected as an ADEK Wellbeing Mark Pilot School

We are thrilled to announce that KCC has been chosen as a pilot school for the Abu Dhabi Department of Education and Knowledge (ADEK) Wellbeing Mark recognition program. This prestigious initiative is designed to highlight schools that prioritise student wellbeing and actively promote a culture of care, growth, and personal development.

At Raha, wellbeing is not just an add-on, it is embedded in everything we do. Through initiatives like our SPIRE Wellbeing curriculum, student leadership programs, and mental health support, we ensure that every child feels valued, supported, and empowered to thrive.

Being selected as a Wellbeing Mark pilot school is a testament to our commitment to holistic education, and we look forward to contributing to ADEK's vision of fostering happier, healthier learning environments across Abu Dhabi.

UAE Reading Month – Inspiring a Love for Books

As part of the UAE Reads initiative, the Ministry of Education is leading a nationwide campaign from 1st March to 31st March 2025 to encourage students to read and instill reading as a daily habit. The goal is to create a generation of readers armed with science and knowledge, capable of leading the development process in the country.

At Raha KCC, we embrace the spirit of UAE Reading Month by encouraging all our students to develop a deep love for books. Whether it's through our classroom reading activities, library challenges, or student-led book clubs, we want reading to be an experience that sparks curiosity, imagination, and lifelong learning.



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As His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum once said:

"Reading is the first skill a child should learn. The first book a child reads will shape their future."

How Can Parents Encourage Reading at Home?

- Create a Reading Routine – Set aside time each day to read with your child, whether it's bedtime stories or morning reading time.
- Be a Reading Role Model – Let your child see you reading books, newspapers, or magazines. Show them that reading is a lifelong habit.
- Encourage Discussion – After reading a book, ask your child about their favourite parts, what they learned, or what they would change about the story.
- Visit Libraries & Bookstores – Make reading an adventure by exploring new books together. Let your child pick books that spark their interest.
- Make Reading Fun – Use audiobooks, storytelling games, or even act out scenes from books to make reading more engaging.

By fostering a culture of reading, we not only support intellectual wellbeing but also build empathy, creativity, and a strong foundation for future learning.

Exciting News: IB Career-Related Programme Candidacy!

CP Planned Opening August 2026

We are thrilled to announce that KCC has been approved as a candidate school for the IB Career-related Programme (CP) for Grades 11 and 12, thanks to the dedication of Mr. Barry, Mrs. Ajali, and Mrs. Monica! This marks a significant step in expanding student pathways, ensuring every learner has options that align with their strengths, interests, and ambitions. The IB CP blends rigorous academic study with practical, career-related learning, allowing students to take IB Diploma Programme (DP) courses alongside specialised vocational studies. At KCC, the career-related component will be delivered through internationally recognised BTEC qualifications, equipping students with real-world skills. As an international school, we recognise that students have diverse aspirations, and by offering both the IB DP and IB CP, we provide personalised learning experiences that support different pathways to success. The IB CP is particularly valuable as it balances academic and career-related learning, enables specialisation in fields such as business, technology, and the creative industries, and fosters essential 21st-century skills like collaboration and problem-solving. Over the coming months, we will share more about the specific BTEC pathways we will offer, reinforcing our mission to "Open Doors to Opportunities" and ensuring every student is prepared for university and beyond.

CP Candidacy

READ MORE

Final Thoughts

Intellectual wellbeing is about more than just academic success, it's about raising curious, open-minded, and adaptable thinkers who are prepared for the challenges and opportunities ahead. By nurturing a love for learning, both at school and at home, we can help our children develop the confidence and skills they need to shape their own futures.

With our new IB CP candidacy, our recognition as a pilot school for ADEK's Wellbeing Mark, and our celebration of UAE Reading Month, Raha KCC continues to strengthen its commitment to providing enriching, meaningful educational experiences.

And as we celebrate UAE Reading Month, let's remember that reading is one of the greatest gifts we can give our children, a habit that feeds their imagination, expands their thinking, and opens doors to a world of possibilities.

Wishing you all a peaceful and fulfilling Ramadan.

Warm regards,
Abi, Principal

RAHA REMINDERS

Khalifa City Campus

Key Dates

March	
10-21	School photos
10-21	Re-registration
14	ECPs Signup opens at 6pm
17	ECP Signup closes at 10am
18	DP Mid-course exam webinar
19	EY2 Professions Expo
19	KCC Community Iftar
21	Last day of Term 2
24 Mar-04 Apr	Spring Break
April	
7	Term 3 Begins



Term 2 Menu

The KCC Cobra is on holiday.



Khalifa City Campus
RAHA PARENT TEAM
[Lost & Found]

March

Spring Break Camps

Swim
(at KCC)

Multi-Sport
(at Gardens)



Re-registration for 2025-2026

It is that time of year where we look ahead to 2025-26, and ask KCC families to confirm their child/ren's re-registration for the next academic year. The re-registration window opens next week, and you will receive an email outlining the process, key deadlines, and next steps.

We thank you in advance for your kind attention and timely support of this process; which allows families a smooth transition into the next academic year and time for us to plan appropriately for sufficient teaching staff and resources. Should you have any questions, our Admissions Team is here to assist you.

Thank you for your continued trust in KCC—we look forward to another year of learning, growth, and connection.

PYP

Service-Learning Friday

As part of ADEK's Ramadan initiative, our PYP students took a moment today to reflect by creating thoughtful cards for individuals in their housing complex who play important roles, such as security guards, cleaners, or waste collectors. The students then had the opportunity to take the cards home and personally deliver them as a gesture of appreciation. It was a wonderful way for our students to practice kindness and gratitude during this special time of year.

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Khalifa City Campus

Whole School

Raha Music Festival 2025 Signup

Find all the information [here](#).
Deadline: 4 April 2025, 12pm.
Individual Classes: 12-15 May
Gala Concert: 16 May at 7pm



Caring Boxes @ KCC donations at all gates: 3-14 March

Our KCC Student Leadership Team has been busy organising our annual donation initiative, "Caring Boxes @ KCC," and we are excited to continue collecting donations for one more week! Families may donate items during arrival and dismissal from 3-14 March in the boxes at the gates.

The KCC Student Leadership Team's Initiative:

Caring Boxes @KCC

Help us give back!

The KCC Student Leadership Team wants to show their appreciation to our incredible security, cleaners, nurses and facilities staff. These heroes work tirelessly everyday in the background to keep our school amazing!

Donated items will be given during an appreciation ceremony led by the student representatives.



3rd-14th March

Drop off your contribution into any donation box located at each gate during arrival or dismissal.

*Any empty Kibsons boxes would be appreciated to pack items in.

Suggested donations:

- non-perishable food (canned, boxed, bagged food)
- toiletries (shampoo/conditioner, deodorant, sunscreen, toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush)
- towels
- socks
- reusable water bottles



Ms. Carmen Presenting to counselors at Education City in Qatar

UNIVERSITY & CAREERS UPDATES

ITS BEEN A BUSY START TO 2025

In UCG we have had first aid workshops, future medics information sessions, a masterclass from the dean of business at Queen's University Canada, and over 65 university in person visits. For parents we have had webinars on studying in Europe/UK/USA/Canada, a live Q&A with UK universities Keele and Durham, Imperial, and a Study in Spain information session from the Spanish business council. It never stops and I love creating opportunities for the students to explore different destinations and career paths.



Engaging with Universities:

- Practice your hospitality, ask them if they need anything during the visit.
- Thank them for taking the time to come to Raha KCC

COFFEE MORNINGS

During the month of Ramadan open drop in sessions will be on pause. Starting on April 10th till May 8th at 8am I will have a 5 week series on Thursdays mornings where I cover a brief topic and then have open Q&A so you can drop in still after spring break! I will run these in the Oasis so I can use a screen when needed. Grab your coffee at the cafe and join me in the Oasis.

March 2025 Termly Updates

G8

Grade 8 had their first session with University and Careers Guidance to speak about the importance of exploring their interests and getting involved early to see what they enjoy and what courses they might be best at. Speak to your G8 student about what a transcript is and what is communicated to universities.

G9

Grade 9 had a session on exploring careers and the opportunity to speak with G10 student from the university engagement team on what they with they would have done in G9 and how to prepare for G10

G10

Grade 10 had a CV workshop and should have their first draft of their CV in their one drive folder. They had the opportunity to visit with over 65 universities since the beginning of January and participate in various workshops. We also had our individual parent meetings for course selection.



THE TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION COUNSELOR ADVISORY BOARD

I am privileged to be one of 14 counselors across the globe who is elected to serve on the Times Higher Education advisory board. Times Higher Education is a leader in globally ranking universities and further education pathways and through this I am able to get access to many resources and up to date information for our students as well as establish Raha KCC as a highly respectable international school. Each spring I participate in the global forum where I lead workshops training over 100 counselors from across the globe and network with over 100 prestigious universities which then brings these opportunities to our students and our school.

CAREER DAY MAY 30TH

We need parent support! Students in grades 9-11 under the guidance of the University and Careers Department are running a career day on May 30th for students in grades 8-11. We are looking for parents, family members and friends of Raha KCC to join us to share about their careers, lead workshops or offer internships for our students. If you are able to support us please fill out this form and share it with your community:

<https://forms.office.com/r/YpYIHxVPnT>



Grade 11 University Parent meetings

Meeting with Grade 11 students and parents this year has been a highlight of my time at Raha KCC. It seemed like yesterday when the class of 2026 were having the same meeting about G10 course selection, now working on university application lists and application deadlines. Thank you to all the parents who took the time to come in and go over all your student has accomplished on their futures journey!

Upcoming Parent Sessions

March 14th, 11am, Oasis

- G11 Parent Calendar session
- G10 parents welcome as well
- Go over important dates already communicated and timelines for applications

April 10th, April 17th, 8:30 am in Knowledge Hub

April 10th - Europe/UK applications

April 17th - Canada/USA applications

April 25th, May 1st, May 8th, 8am in Oasis

- Thursday Morning UCG sessions
- Short info sessions followed by an open Q&A
- All things university/courses/futures related

May 30th 7:30-10am, Career Day

June 3rd 8am, Oasis

- G10 - G11 Parent transition meeting with counselor and LTL

June 5th 8am, Black Box

- G8-G9 Parent transition meeting with counselor and LTL

Upcoming Student University Visits

(students to check teams for dates and times):

University of Calgary - May 5th
More to come!

WEEKLY HSE BULLETIN

March 4th, 2025 | Raha International School, Khalifa City Campus, Abu Dhabi

What has Happened!

Online video training on Risk Assessments



During our HSE committee meeting last week, one of the key actions discussed was the creation of a video to provide guidance on how to effectively use and develop risk assessments for trips, events, and activities. These videos have been made available for you to watch through the link [here](#). If you are planning any trips, events, field trips, or special activities for the rest of this academic year or in the upcoming year, please take the time to review the training. This ensures that we maintain a high level of safety and preparedness in all our activities.



Ramadan School Arrangements

As we embrace the holy month of Ramadan, our school has put in place several key measures to ensure the safety, health, and well-being of all our students and staff. Below are the updates and arrangements for the upcoming weeks:

PHE Class Adjustments

The Physical and Health Education (PHE) department has thoughtfully adjusted its curriculum to ensure a balanced approach to physical activity during Ramadan, catering to the energy levels of our students while maintaining engagement and learning. These adaptations are made for both primary and secondary students, with careful consideration for their individual needs during this time.

Primary Students:

For our younger students, we recognize the importance of ensuring their well-being during Ramadan. If primary students are fasting, we allow them to take a rest when needed. In addition, if parents prefer that their children do not swim during this time, we fully respect their wishes. For Grade 5, where a higher number of students may be fasting, the games will be adjusted to include more low-intensity options, ensuring all students can participate comfortably while respecting their fasting status.

Secondary Students:

- Grade 6 & 7: The focus is on movement exploration through low-impact activities such as dance and martial arts tutorials. Students are encouraged to engage in movement while reflecting on their experience through written reflections.
- Grade 8: Students will focus on coaching and leading inclusive sports, which foster leadership and communication skills. The emphasis is on teaching sports to peers, promoting teamwork over high-intensity activity.
- Grade 9: Activities are designed to facilitate participation in sports with strategic positioning to ensure low to moderate physical exertion. For example, roles in netball and volleyball that require less continuous movement will be emphasized.
- Grade 10: Students will focus on performance-based activities like practicing for STOMP-inspired performances, where creativity, rhythm, and synchronization take precedence over physical exertion.

Break and Canteen Timing Adjustments

Given the change in school hours (from 9 AM to 2 PM) during Ramadan, we have revised break and canteen times to ensure students are rested:

- Secondary Lunch Times:
 - Fridays: 9:45 AM to 10:00 AM
 - Monday to Thursday: 11:30 AM to 12:00 PM
- Primary Break Times:
 - AM break: 10:30 AM to 11 AM (Mon - Fri)
 - PM Break: 12:30 to 1PM (Mon - Thurs)



Water Rooms

To respect our fasting students and staff, we have set up designated rooms with water dispensers to ensure hydration while maintaining the sanctity of fasting. These rooms are located in the following areas:

- F1-12
- G1-16
- E2-15
- F2-06
- G2-11



(Image for illustration purposes only)

Additionally, specific arrangements have been made for the ground floor to ensure easy access to water while maintaining respect for those who are fasting.

WEEKLY HSE BULLETIN

March 4th, 2025 | Raha International School, Khalifa City Campus, Abu Dhabi



Bus Inspections - February

Our February bus inspections have been completed, ensuring that safety standards remain a priority. Regular checks help maintain safe and reliable transportation for our students and staff.

DID YOU KNOW?

Bus safety is a shared responsibility, with multiple layers of inspections in place:

- ◆ Emirates Transport conducts its own technical inspections to ensure buses meet regulatory standards.
- ◆ School-Level Checks include daily routine inspections to identify any immediate concerns.
- ◆ Monthly Formal Inspections are carried out to review key safety areas:
 - **External:** Mirrors, cameras, window tint, tyre condition, school name visibility, stop arm, reverse light buzzer, and more.
 - **Internal:** Seatbelts, cleanliness, seats, cameras, air conditioning, firefighting equipment, first aid kits, and more.

This Wednesday, we will hold our monthly meeting with Emirates Transport to review student transportation services. This allows us to address any issues and ensure ongoing improvements in safety, efficiency, and reliability.

Pest Control Treatment

As part of our ongoing efforts to maintain a safe and healthy environment, we worked with our pest control contractor, to carry out a thorough treatment of our school buildings last Sunday. This regular treatment helps to ensure that our facilities remain free from pests, providing a clean and safe space for everyone.



Successful Facilities Audit: 95.7% Score Achieved



Recent Facilities Inspection Results:

We are pleased to share that our recent facilities inspection, carried out by colleagues from Taaleem Central Office, was a success! We scored an impressive 95.7% in this audit. The inspection covered several key safety areas, including:

- Water pipe insulation in good condition
- Power cables securely fastened
- External cracks were compliant with safety standards
- Shades and pergolas securely anchored
- Fire evacuation plans prominently displayed
- Sharp edges and corners protected

These positive results reflect our ongoing commitment to maintaining a safe and well-maintained environment for everyone. A big thank you to all those involved in ensuring our facilities meet high safety standards!

Did you know?

Our school has complex 9 chiller systems, which are critical assets that work behind the scenes to keep our campus safe, comfortable, and functional.

Chillers play a crucial role in our HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning) system, working to keep our classrooms, offices, and shared spaces at optimal temperatures. These chillers circulate chilled water through our HVAC system, regulating indoor temperatures and maintaining good air quality.

As the summer months approach, these chillers play a vital role in maintaining indoor temperatures, air quality, and overall well-being for students and staff.

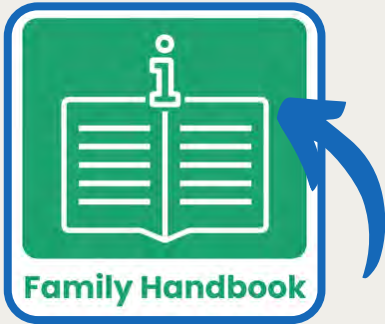
Our Facilities Team carries out routine maintenance, filter cleaning, refrigerant checks, and system inspections to ensure they operate efficiently and prevent disruptions. Without this essential work, learning and working conditions would be severely impacted. (Image for illustration purposes only.)



RAHA REMINDERS

Khalifa City Campus

KCC Quick Links



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Contact us!



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