

TWS ENVIRONMENTAL NEWSLETTER

TERM 2 (2022-2023)

PALM TREE PLANTATION

The 21st of March is celebrated as the International Forest Day every year. Planting a palm tree on International Forest Day is a meaningful way to celebrate this important day. It helps to support the local ecosystem, and serves as a reminder of our connection to the natural world. This event was graced by the Head of school/Deputy CEO Dr. Vijayakumari Sathyan, the MSO Mr. Madan Menghani, and the Green leaders along with the student volunteers. The theme, this year is 'Forests and Health', which calls for giving not just receiving, recognizing that healthy forests will bring healthy people. This Iconic tree is a symbol of the U.A.E's heritage and is known for its many uses, including as a source of food, medicine, and construction materials. We, at TWS promise to protect and preserve the environment for future generations.



GREEN CONSORTIUM



Invent To Prevent

Sustainable Business Solution

Inter-School Competition, 2022-23

The 21st February morning had great expectations from TWS, Dubai. The School Multiplus was all set with incredible ambience ready to welcome 13 teams from 6 different schools.

The most awaited event of the year, Green Consortium had all the participants geared up with their Prototype in place with incredible solutions for the environmental problems.

THE BEST PITCH

BEST SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION

BEST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

BEST BUSINESS PROPOSAL

GREEN CONSORTIUM AWARD



Our prestigious judges, Ms Ranju Anand- Senior Vice President at GEMS Education, Dr Yasemin Nielsen- Associate Professor at Herriot Watt University and our Executive Principal/CEO, Mr. Carl Roberts judged each team for The Best Pitch, Best Sustainable Solution, Best Community Development Project, Best Business Proposal, and Green Consortium Award.

They were left completely enthralled by the innovative business ideas from all the teams. They had a tough time on deciding the winners.

The second half of the event was much enticing as it left the audience in awe with the unique fashion show titled 'Junk Couture'. It included the students from FS to Year 11 and had incredible handmade designs by the students themselves. They incorporated everything from tissues, spoons, wrappers to the shopping bags. The show-stoppers had extravagant dresses made of newspaper. It was truly Avant Garde.

The fashion show was followed by prize distribution, and the following were the winners:

AWARD CATEGORY	RUNNER UP	WINNER
Best Pitch Award	Every Piece Matters	The Beet Drop
Best Community Development Project	Hydrodrive	Every Piece Matters
Best Business Proposal	Every Piece Matters	Echo
Best Sustainable Solution	Aeris	Carbon Capture Program
Green Consortium Award	Aeris	The Beet Drop

The immense contribution of the student volunteers, the student leaders, the Green Team of teachers under the guidance of Dr. Vijayakumari Sathyan, our Head of School/Deputy CEO, made the event conclude with grand success. The Westminster School, Dubai stands for sustainability and believes in action towards climate change. It will continue its journey towards being the best green school in the U.A.E.



PARTICIPATING TEAMS



Team- The Beet Drop



Team- EC(H)O



Team- Green Clean



Team- Every Piece Matters



Team- Namor



Team-Natura



Team- Wolves of Wall Street



Team-E2B



Team- Carbon Capture Program



Team - Greeniors



Team- EV Truck



Team- Hydrodrive



Team- Aeris

PRIZE DISTRIBUTION

BEST PITCH AWARD

RUNNER UP

Every Piece Matters



WINNER

The Beet Drop



BEST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

RUNNER UP

Hydrodrive



WINNER

Every Piece Matters



BEST BUSINESS PROPOSAL

RUNNER UP

Every Piece Matters



WINNER

Echo



PRIZE DISTRIBUTION

BEST SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION

RUNNER UP

Aeris

WINNER

Carbon Capture Program



GREEN CONSORTIUM AWARD

RUNNER UP

Aeris

WINNER

The Beet Drop



JUNK COUTURE *Fashion Show*



FROM THE DESK OF EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL/CEO



This year's event was a natural progression from the events we have held in the past where students thought of big ideas to solve green issues. It was great to see the models and prototypes of the solutions which brought the ideas alive for the judges and injected a level of realism. It is relatively easy to think of hypothetical solutions but much harder to think of realistic ones – the students were certainly up to the challenge.

I left the event feeling very positive about the future and reassured that our planet will be in safe hands when these brilliant students become the leaders and entrepreneurs who will ultimately find solutions to global problems. I am very grateful to all the organisers of this event for the many hours that they put into making it a success. I must also thank the teachers from all schools who supported the students to come up with their practical solutions. I am very much looking forward to next year's event which I know will be even bigger and better than this year – perhaps another international event.

Mr. Carl Roberts
Executive Principal/CEO
The Westminster School, Dubai

FROM THE DESK OF HEAD OF SCHOOL/DEPUTY CEO



The TWS initiative, 'Green Consortium', an Interschool Sustainable Business solution competition with 13 teams from different schools showcasing their models and prototypes incorporating SDGs, Net Zero 2030 objectives and COP28 agenda, was not only a huge success but also resulted in inculcating a sense of reassurance that the planet is in the safe hands of young environmental leaders.

I take this opportunity to thank my Green Team- Ms Marshanil, Ms Shelmy, Ms Sruthiba, Ms Florence, Ms Jyothy, and Ms Ashwini for all their vigour and passion for making it an excellent experience for all involved. I would also like to thank the participating schools, the students and the teacher mentors for their enthusiasm and commitment.

Dr Vijaya Kumari Sathyan
Head of School / Deputy CEO

JUDGE'S FEEDBACK



Firstly, congratulations on your amazing projects and organization in the Green Consortium 2023 at the Westminster School Dubai. It was a great pleasure to be part of the initiative. Your care for the environment, sustainability awareness, creative thinking, innovative projects, and vision combined with your skills gives encouragement that the world will be a better place for future generations.

The projects were all remarkable and the excitement of the team members. I had the pleasure of talking to each team member and I shared their enthusiasm. While I tried to give specific feedback, I can say that each project was a successful result of your environmental awareness, futuristic thinking, and creativity.

I would like to thank your schools, your teachers, and your families for their success in teaching you these values.

Your projects addressing the COP 28 agenda will add great value for the region and for the global agenda. I was delighted to witness your creative projects aligning with the SDGs and COP 28 agenda.

I think our paths will cross in the future as you will continue developing innovative research, ideas and projects with high impact. I could see entrepreneurs, engineers, environmentalists, innovators, and leaders in you.

The future will be brighter with your efforts.

Best wishes,

Dr. Yasemin Nielson
Associate Professor,
EngD in Construction Programme Leader,
Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Building Design,
School of Energy, Geosciences, Infrastructure and Society,
Heriot Watt University Dubai Campus

ORGANISER'S FEEDBACK



Being the Climate Change Leader at TWS, I had the pleasure of working with the various teacher mentors from six GEMS and NON-GEMS schools and their amazing team of students during the entire course of this mega event, Green Consortium. This marathon which began in the month of November witnessed its culmination on 21st February.

The teams worked very hard, were super enthusiastic and communicative, attended the virtual progressive session in January and were incredible throughout. Two very important pillars of today's world- sustainability and economic growth, formed the very basis of the foundation of Green Consortium. The sustainable business solutions proposed by each of the participating teams were not only unique and innovative but also an achievement by itself. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the teacher mentors, participants, the designers of Junk Couture and our esteemed judges for making this event a grand success.

Ms Marshanil Sinha Roy
Head of Pastoral, Secondary Girls
Climate Change Leader



The choice of focusing on sustainable business solutions was timely and relevant, given the pressing need for environmentally conscious strategies in today's world. This theme encouraged students to think critically about the challenges we face and devise innovative solutions that address these issues.

It was great to see students from various schools and backgrounds coming together to compete and learn from each other. The competition was well-organized, with a seamless registration process, clear communication, and timely updates. The event ran smoothly, with minimal delays and disruptions, allowing participants to focus on their presentations and enjoy the experience.

Ms. Shelmy Peter
Head of Business Science
Events Manager

TEACHER MENTORS' FEEDBACK



Ms Gayatri Nair
Teacher Mentor
Team- E2B

First, I would like to congratulate on the success of Green Consortium 2023. I am in shortage of words to describe how wonderfully the show was put up. I really agree to Mr. Carl's words. We are glad to see the future working on clearing the trash created by our generation. I feel very lucky to be a part of this event. To be very honest, this day had been a turning point as I got to learn a lot.

I learnt that business and science always walk together. Business will always need technology and science will need business to spread their ideas to the world. I look forward to being a part of events like this in future.



**Ms Ashwini
Deshpande**
Teacher Mentor
Team- The Beet
Drop

Green Consortium had been an enriching experience as a team and as a teacher mentor. We had a huge challenge of incorporating almost all of the SDGs, Net Zero 2030 objectives and COP28 agenda in our solution. The students were not only ebullient and passionate about their sustainable business solution in the form of a Sustainable Restaurant- 'The BEET Drop' but also did a detailed study and planning for the market launch. The intricately designed 'Menu' was the most eye-catching. The team balanced their examination preparations with this event, and went beyond their way to pave the path for themselves and for the future generations.

We were intimidated with all our competitors, as all the teams had their best solutions for the big day. It made the team really nervous and anxious. However, their zeal, conviction and meticulous thorough work made them a winner.

I am glad and immensely happy about the team winning the Green Consortium Award. It just gave us motivation to take up this project further.

Lastly, I would express my gratitude towards the entire Green lead teachers Ms. Marshanil Sinha Roy and Ms. Shelmy Peter for organizing an outstanding event for us. Sincere gratitude to Dr. Vijayakumari Sathyan for guiding the entire team.

STUDENTS' FEEDBACK

"Hello!! I'm Nezni and I was a model for green consortium 2023. I was very excited and honored to have the opportunity to model for a sustainable fashion show. it was a rigorous process, constantly having to made changes to the dress and trying to make it very creative. We had many practices for the modelling runway walk and it was tiring but worthwhile in the end. It was a wonderful experience to be on stage and showcase a unique dress for the event. I'd definitely do it again!!"

Nezni Raiza year 10- (Student Model for Junk Couture)

"The experience was interesting, we got to work with supplies that were not conventional for clothing, and it made us think out of the box as had to use unusual materials like gloves and newspaper. The challenging yet most fun part of it was making it appealing to the eyes and wearable, a huge thanks to Ms Florence for helping us from the beginning to the end."

Erum Fathima year 10- (One of the Student Designer for the Junk Couture)

The winning team also added their feedback with enthusiasm- "We are overwhelmed with our Victory! We are more than happy to bag two prizes in this event. Our project showcased a sustainable restaurant aiming to design a NET -Zero model applicable in all the countries. We experienced mind boggling solutions by other teams and they were quite intimidating to make us nervous enough. It was one of a kind of an experience We would like to thank all the Organizing Team of The Westminster School ,Dubai, The Judges and our Teacher Mentor Ms. Ashwini"

Zahra , Shariqua , Sebastian , Zync (The Beet Drop Team)



CARROT CULTIVATION AT TWS , 2022-23 (A CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVE)



The Westminster School, Dubai organized the 'Carrot cultivation initiative', which commenced in the month of November (2022) and continued till the month of March (2023).

The entire cultivation process required the school's Green Team to plan ahead, make reports, and hold regular observations in the school's garden.

This initiative was led by Mehnaz Chowdhury of Year 11, the Green Leader at TWS under the guidance of the Green Teacher coordinators of the school.

Students of all the grades were asked to bring in carrot tops and seeds in order to teach them about the importance of self-sufficiency.

The cultivation drive was carried out smoothly with the ELTs, the SLTs and the Nature Ambassadors joining hands together in harvesting the carrots on the 23rd March, 2023. The eye-catching yield was then distributed among fellow staff and volunteers as a 'Thank you' for their support throughout the journey.



THE WESTMINSTER SCHOOL

GLIMPSES OF THE HARVESTING CEREMONY AND DISTRIBUTION





THE WESTMINSTER SCHOOL

GLIMPSES OF THE HARVESTING CEREMONY AND DISTRIBUTION



THRIFT FOR GOOD- CLOTHES DONATION DRIVE



The Westminster school, Dubai organized a clothes collection drive in collaboration with an organization that forwards 100% of its profits to charity organizations and for donations to different causes. Students and staff across the school participated in this drive with a lot of enthusiasm and the school's efforts went a long way to save a lot of items (687 kgs) from ending up in a landfill and help enrich the lives of 21 school children.

The drive commenced on January 10, 2023 and lasted till February 10, 2023. This entire process involved rigorous announcements, collections and wrapping of the boxes which were finally put together in order to be sent off to the organization on the 15th of February, 2023.

This initiative was led by Mehnaz Chowdhury of Year 11, the Green Leader at TWS under the guidance of Ms. Florence Anthony. Each and every member at TWS joined hands together in this noble act of donation for the children of the underprivileged communities across the world. TWS Cares



GLIMPSES OF THE DONATION DRIVE





Middlesex University Dubai – Sustainable Food Seminar

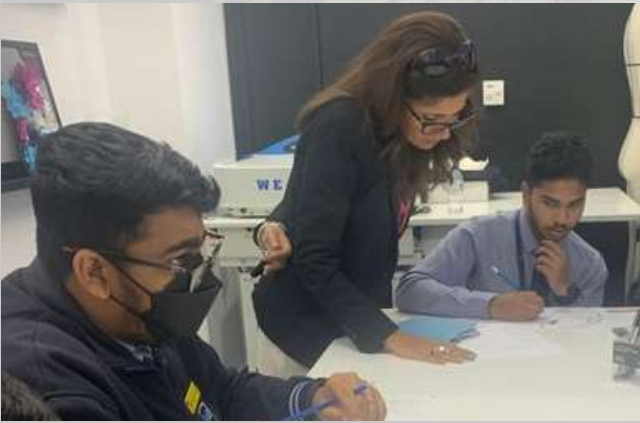
Through TWS's unwavering commitment to sustainability, we student representatives attended a sustainable seminar that focused on the theme of Food Sustainability at Middlesex University Dubai.



Upon our arrival, we firstly attended a short briefing session by a counselor about programs and clubs which were offered for students to partake in and enhance their skills.



We were then taken forward to attend the sustainable fashion design workshop, the main theme brought up was designing fashionwear without affecting the environment resulting in clothes that are not just sustainable but are comfortable and fashionable to wear as well. We also took part in an activity given to us to create a shirt containing all the factors discussed for its sustainability while keeping in mind of its design and fashion accounted to today's time describing one's identity and personality.



In addition to the design workshop, we attended a small exhibition where businesses showcased their sustainable food-related products. One of the businesses aimed for sustainability through the use of a vessel, capable of cooking up meals in no time, while still reducing the heat, water and electricity usage.

Another business, focused more on the waste side of things; they collect waste from individuals and businesses and either recycle them, donate them, or make compost out of it. This way, we can re-use whatever we discard.





Another interesting product was a hot sauce, it aims to achieve breathtaking flavor, while using up only the freshest of local ingredients, and utilizes paper bags and re-usable bottles for packaging, all once again, contributing the sustainability of the environment in the long run.



Aromatherapy is an organization that is dedicated to using various recycled materials to create candles.



Organic Living, a brand dedicated to recycling materials and crafting new products from yoga mats, old cotton sari's, book covers and pouches made from newspapers.





Last but not least, Co Chocolat a brand created with the health and wellness of its customers, organic and healthy chocolate made in such a way it doesn't harm you neither the environment.



STUDENTS' FEEDBACK

My trip to Middlesex University was a memorably and exciting event this event has given me the opportunity to learn about sustainability in food and fashion in different fields and businesses.

-Danidhu Shamika

In conclusion, the trip to Middlesex was a mesmerizing one, where we learnt of the various ways in which different industries and businesses aim to achieve sustainability through the community.

-Pahan Dulanga

The trip allowed us to gain a new experience and learn more about food sustainability increasing our awareness on global food scarcity. It was truly exciting and really informative.

-Laiba Fatima



THE WESTMINSTER SCHOOL



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