

Academic Year End NEWSLETTER 2025-26



Take a glimpse into OWIS Riyadh's remarkable Academic Year 2025–26 a journey filled with learning, growth, achievements, and unforgettable milestones. From inspiring classroom experiences to vibrant community celebrations, every moment has contributed to shaping confident, compassionate, and future-ready learners. Here's a look back at a year of excellence, discovery and success.

Apple Distinguished School

OWIS Riyadh made history as the first Apple Distinguished School in Saudi Arabia. Months of teamwork, innovation, and dedication have brought us here, and we're deeply grateful to our incredible community for making it possible. Ms. Sherifa Aly, Head of Education KSA, and Dmitrii Leshchinskii, Head of Business and Education KSA, representatives of the Apple Distinguished School Programme, visited our campus to formally extend their congratulations. Here's to continuing our OWIS commitment to shaping future-ready learners on a campus powered by technology and innovation.



Literacy Week

We celebrated Literacy Week with a range of engaging activities. Our students enjoyed buddy reading sessions, dressed up for Book Character Day, and came together to celebrate the joy of stories and reading.



Dot Day

Our students celebrated International Dot Day by exploring art, stories, and activities inspired by *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds. The day was a reminder that every small mark matters, encouraging learners to express themselves with confidence and share their ideas with the community.



Healthy Living Week

As part of Healthy Living Week, our students joined the Healthy Snack of the Day challenge. Each day brought a new snack and a small step towards building healthy habits together.



Saudi National Day

Our Students & Staff came together as one community to celebrate Saudi National Day. From wearing traditional attire to enjoying henna stalls and admiring Saudi antiques, it was a beautiful reminder of how our diverse nationalities unite in respect and joy for the Kingdom.



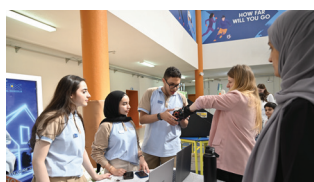
Movie Nights

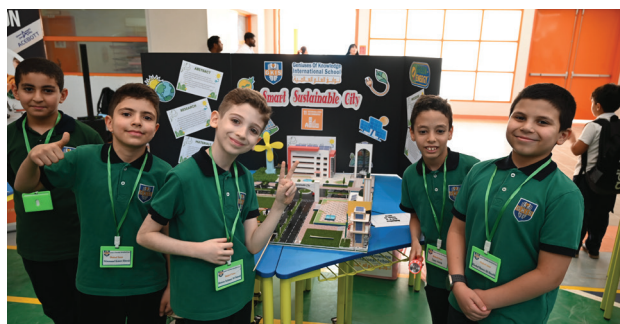
OWIS Movie Nights brought together our Pre-KG to Grade 9 students and their families for wonderful evenings filled with fun and laughter. Each grade level had its own special time to enjoy a movie with teachers, friends, and family, creating moments to remember.



OWIS Ru'ya

OWIS Ru'ya 2026, our first interschool event was hosted, inspired by the Kingdom's Vision 2030 and its commitment to education and growth. With themes spanning sustainability, robotics, well-being, heritage and AI, this event celebrates innovation while staying deeply connected to Saudi Arabia's cultural roots. Open to all OWIS Riyadh students and students across campuses in Riyadh, it will be a platform where best practices and shared values come together to nurture a future-ready generation.





Fall Festival

The Fall Festival was filled with color, excitement and festive spirit. Children came dressed in creative costumes, turning the school into a lively celebration of imagination and joy. The beautiful orange-themed decorations added warmth and perfectly captured the season's charm.



Reading at the Park

OWIS parents and those looking to be part of our vibrant community gathered at King Fahad Library Park for a day of reading and connection. They carried their favourite books and brought along their mats, coming together for a day filled with stories, laughter, and family fun.



Spelling Bee

Our Primary (Grades 1-5) Spelling Bee Competition was held as part of this year's events. This annual ritual is something our students eagerly look forward to every year, bringing excitement and healthy competition to the campus.



Talent Show

The Talent Show 2025 turned out to be a wonderful celebration of our students. We were amazed to see them performing their best, expressing themselves, and enjoying every moment on stage.



KG Sports Day

Our Pre-KG to KG2 students and parents joined us for a bright and happy Sports Day, filled with teamwork, laughter, and little moments of joy. Parents took part in a fun rope-pulling game, adding to the warm community spirit we love at OWIS. It was a lovely morning of play and togetherness, creating memories our little ones will cherish.



Primary Sports Day

Our Primary Sports Day was filled with bright smiles, energetic moments, and a strong sense of togetherness. Our students enjoyed every race and challenge, supported by a community that cheered them on throughout the day.



World Children's Day

World Children's Day celebration felt like pure childhood joy. With bouncy castles, ice cream, popcorn and lots of smiles, our students and staff spent the day enjoying the moments they'll always remember.



Little Leaders, Big Impact Week

We celebrated OWIS Little Leaders, Big Impact Week at OWIS Riyadh, where students explored leadership, teamwork, communication, service, and the importance of dreaming big. From reflecting on values to sharing ideas, helping others, learning from peers and meeting inspiring parent speakers, our learners had a week full of growth and confidence.



Space Learners

Our Little learners explored the wonders of planets and space during our special Early Years session, experiencing play-based learning through a fun and engaging circle time.



Winter Concert

The community came together for our Winter Concert, one of our most loved marquee events, celebrating performances from Pre-KG to Grade 9 across two memorable evenings. From our youngest learners in Pre-KG to KG2, and students in Grades 1 to 9 performing in a beautiful outdoor setting, the stage came alive with music, dance, and creativity as students confidently showcased their talents.



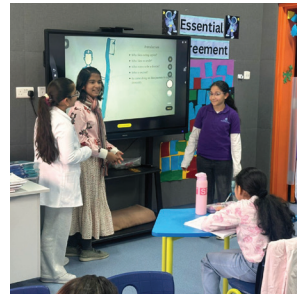
Alice in Wonderland

Our students tumbled down the rabbit hole and into a world of wonder! They were mesmerized by the magical performance of Alice in Wonderland, brought to life at OWIS Riyadh by the internationally renowned UK theater company, S4K International.



Career Week

Our students enjoyed an engaging and insightful Career Week at OWIS Riyadh. From guest speakers representing diverse professions to interactive classroom activities, assemblies, showcases and a fun Dress-Up Day, learners explored the many roles that shape our world.



Career Fair

Our first-ever Grade 9 Career Fair was a big step forward!

With university representatives and career experts from different industries sharing guidance and insights, students had the chance to explore their options and start shaping their next chapter. This is only the first step - we'll be by their side throughout their high school journey, cheering them on all the way.



School Leaders Innovation

We hosted the School Leaders Innovation Forum Riyadh in partnership with Toddle. The forum brought together education leaders to exchange insights on communication, trust and building shared understanding across school communities.

Key discussions explored the role of leadership in shaping school culture, the importance of trust before accountability, making learning visible to families, strengthening reflection and self-assessment and aligning mission, vision and everyday practices.

A special highlight was hearing from one of our own students, who shared how Toddle supports his learning journey.



Cancer Day Awareness Rally

We observed World Cancer Day with a campus-wide rally that brought our community together.

Students from Pre-KG to Grade 9, along with our educators and staff, came together in remembrance of those we have lost, to stand with survivors, and remind one another of the importance of being kind because everyone needs support.



Apple Showcase

We were honored to present a preview of the Apple Showcase to our parent community as Saudi Arabia's first Apple Distinguished School.

The event featured panel discussions led by our senior leadership team and educators, alongside student projects that showcased how Apple technology enhances learning across the school.



Founding Day

Our community came together as one to celebrate Saudi National Day. From traditional attire to henna experiences and glimpses of Saudi heritage through antiques, the day beautifully reflected how our diverse community unites in respect, pride, and joy for the Kingdom.



International Day Exhibition

Our community came together for International Day, representing the 50+ nationalities that call our school home - dressed in traditional attire, sharing food from their heritage, and celebrating everything that makes us, us. Beautiful doesn't quite cover it.



Science Week

During Science Week, there was something happening at every corner. Our KG learners turned their classrooms into hands-on science stations, exploring everyday concepts through play and discovery. Grades 1–3 walked their parents through classroom projects, explaining everything like little experts. Grades 4–9 brought their A-game to the Science Fair with experiments, models and ideas worth talking about.



French Day

Our students celebrated French Day with face painting, fun activities and delicious French cuisine. This annual tradition at OWIS brings students closer to different cultures, helping them appreciate global diversity through meaningful and engaging experiences.



Earth Day Celebrations

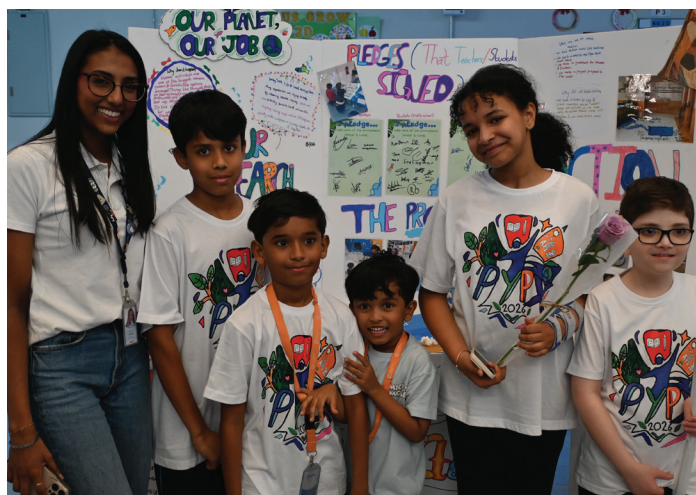
Earth Day celebrations looked beautifully resourceful at OWIS. Dressed in outfits made entirely from reusable materials and creating art inspired by nature, our students across the grades learned about the importance of sustainability, mindful choices, and protecting the planet we call home.



PYP Exhibition

The PYP Exhibition at OWIS saw our Grade 5 learners step forward as thinkers, researchers and changemakers in their own right. This year, our learners explored real issues shaping the world today, guided by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Their topics moved across the environment, wellbeing, the economy, and community life - and across every one of them, our students brought creativity, teamwork, and compassion. Their thinking also reflects the spirit of Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030, with its focus on innovation, sustainability, and building a better future together.

To our young inquirers, risk-takers, and changemakers - thank you for showing us what is possible when curiosity meets purpose. We could not be prouder.





TEDx OWIS

We hosted TEDxOWIS Riyadh Youth 2026 - our school's first-ever officially TED-licensed student speaker event. Guided by the theme Young Voices, Real Conversations, our Grade 6-9 students stepped up to share ideas that mattered to them, speaking with remarkable poise and conviction.

We were also privileged to welcome our guest speaker, Mr. Rayyan Housawi of Alfaisal University, Concept Academy & Danize Events, for his thought-provoking talk, The Absent Lecture.



Book Fair

Books have a way of finding you when you least expect it. The OWIS Riyadh Book Fair 2026 made that real, with learners discovering new reads, and walking away with books they loved. It was a great reminder that the right book always finds its reader.



Achievements & Awards

OWIS Riyadh has been recognized at the Global Annual Leadership Summit 2026, winning the Outstanding Research Contributor Institution Award and emerging as the Runner-Up for Excellence in Parent Engagement and Satisfaction among 64 GSG campuses worldwide. This recognition reflects the dedication of our entire team, whose consistent work shapes the experience of every student and family.



Sports Wins



Field Trips

Throughout the academic year, students across all grades participated in a variety of field trips that enriched their learning through exploration and hands-on experiences. From cultural visits and nature-based activities to science-focused excursions and community experiences, each trip provided valuable opportunities for students to gain a deeper understanding of the concepts they explored in class.



Principal's Essay Writing Competition

In an era where almost everything is typed, swiped, and auto-corrected, a handwritten essay feels almost radical. That is precisely why our Principal, Ms. Shannon Pipes, launched the essay writing competition for Grades 6–9, encouraging students to reflect through their own words.



You can find the essays here:
<https://owis.org/sa/blog/>

End Of Year Concerts & Graduations

PreKG - KG 1 End of Year Concert

Our Pre-KG and KG1 learners celebrated the end of an amazing year with an Oldies but Goldies concert, and it was nothing short of spectacular!

Filled with timeless music, sweet dance moves, and the warmest smiles, the evening was a reminder of just how magical this community is. A huge thank you to our incredible OWIS staff for pouring their hearts into making this event so special, and to our wonderful families for filling the room with so much love and joy.



KG 2 End Of Year Concert & Graduation

We were delighted to celebrate the graduation of our KG2 students during their year-end concert. The event was filled with smiles, proud moments, and beautiful performances that reflected how much they have grown this year. It was a heartfelt celebration of their journey so far and a joyful send-off as they step into their next exciting chapter of learning.



Grade 5 & Grade 8 Graduation

A step forward in the learning journey always brings new curiosities, new challenges, and exciting opportunities ahead. We proudly celebrated our Grade 5 and Grade 8 students as they graduated, marking an important milestone in their academic journey. As they turn the page to a new chapter, we wish them continued growth, confidence, and success in all that lies ahead.



Grade 1 - Grade 9 End Of Year Concert

Grades 1-9 gave us a spectacular evening, and the energy was impossible to contain. Every student, staff member, and parent swept up in the music - singing and dancing without a second thought. A glorious way to bring the academic year to its close.





As we close the chapter on another incredible academic year, we find ourselves pausing to take it all in - the laughter in the hallways, the breakthroughs in the classroom, the friendships forged, and the milestones celebrated together.

To our students: you have inspired us every single day. To our families: thank you for your trust, partnership, and support. To our dedicated faculty and staff: your commitment to every child in this community is seen, valued, and deeply appreciated.

As we head into the summer, we carry with us the memories of a year well lived and the excitement of everything that lies ahead. We cannot wait to welcome you back, refreshed and ready, for what promises to be an even more extraordinary year ahead.