

SOMERSET GAZETTE



VOLUME 1. ISSUE 4.

Summer, sun, and everything fun

Farewell

from

grade 11

Civvies Day

Volleyball

match

House

activities



PALESTINE

UPDATE

BOOKS



MOVIES

Formula 1



The



heartbeat
of summer

I think it's very helpful as it presents our school in a great way, and shows Nizam's true nature, and we appreciate the work that they put in

It was very
behave very
Mindful very
cutsey

The newspaper is very creative and motivates me to read everyday

They had an amazing thought and ideas looking forward for more of those

I liked the comic, the teacher info and the info all over the newspaper.

I think it's a good newspaper
GIMME MORE
-Aoblox

The newspaper club presents informative, well-written news with a side of humour and fun.

Me personally, I feel like the newspaper is getting better by each term. I appreciate the effort!!

The newspaper was phenomenal I loved the drawings. It was conveying a beautiful message about the Heritage of South Africa
It's very interesting

The newspaper is entertaining and has valid information that we need to learn

I really enjoyed this year's newspaper. I felt that it was connecting me to the things happening in the world. I appreciated the newspaper girls

I think this magazine was inspiring and encouraged a lot of us to contribute to the school a lot more.

The newspaper club taught me so much about our school that I never knew about, it's so cool

It's Kwaga!

It's really creative

Never read it to be honest
It's a great club that showcases Nizam's is an amazing place to live, laugh and learn.

The pictures were cool and the fact that the club allowed others to write stuff for the news paper was really cool.

I think the newspaper club is doing a great job. Keep up the good work. I love the structure and design of the newspaper it is amazing
I am looking forward for more!!

In dress to impress terms I'd rate it 5 stars

Very skibidi.
Very sigma.
Very grimace shake

The newspaper club is awesome
The News Paper club of 2024 is amazing, hardworking and provides good quality information

It's very creative and colourful!

1 word , 4 LETTERS
SLAY!
The newspaper was a great idea. the recipe were delicious. overall, it was a superb. and club know what they doing

The newspaper was a very creative idea I loved how they formatted everything.

Aesthetically pleasing
cute!!

I loved it!

The newspaper was funny, creative and it taught me a lot about the teachers

STUDENTS CHOICE AWARDS

MS. TASKEEN MAHOMED



**THE TEACHER THAT WOULD CATCH YOUR ATTENTION
AT THE NEW YORK FASHION WEEK**

MS. ATIYYAH LOONAT



**THE TEACHER THAT COULD BREAK A WORLD RECORD
FOR BEING MOST ORGANISED**

MS. SAALIAH VARIAWA



THE TEACHER THAT IS SWEETER THAN SUGAR

MS. SHEEZA HASAN



**THE TEACHER THAT SETS THE MOST MIND
DESTROYING PAPERS**

MS. SHAMSHAAD MIA



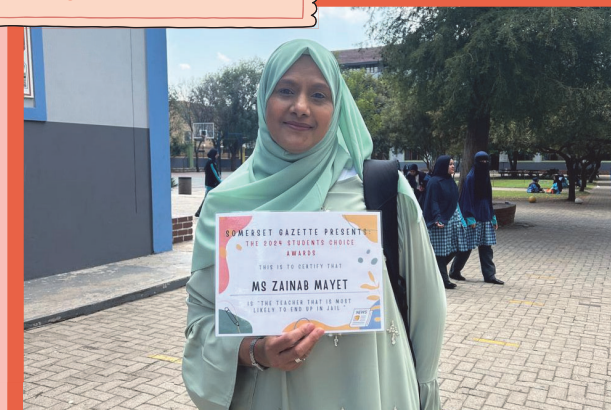
THE TEACHER OF THE YEAR

MS. UMRAN ZOR



**THE TEACHER THAT TEACHES WITH THEIR MIND,
HEART AND SOUL**

MS. ZAINAB MAYET



**THE TEACHER THAT IS MOST LIKELY TO END
UP IN JAIL**

MR HASAN ERBAY



**THE TEACHER THAT IS MOST LIKELY TO BECOME AN
INTERNET SENSATION**

MR OSMAN BABACAN



**THE TEACHER THAT IS ALWAYS READY
WITH A JOKE**

TEACHER FAREWELL

Written by: Imaan Rawoot



Nizamiye School bids a heartfelt farewell to one of its most beloved educators, Ms. Zainab Mayet. During her time here, she has been more than just an Afrikaans teacher; she has been a guide, a motivator, and a friend to everyone fortunate enough to cross her path. Her departure marks the end of a remarkable chapter filled with dedication, passion, and a deep commitment to her students and colleagues.

Ms. Mayet's influence extended far beyond the classroom walls. She consistently found ways to inspire her students and encouraged them to strive for excellence. She wasn't just an educator—she brought life to learning. Whether through moments of shared joy, singing and dancing in the classroom, or her ability to make difficult Afrikaans concepts understandable, Ms. Mayet made the subject lovable and relatable, leaving an indelible mark on her learners.

Her pride in watching her students achieve good marks, and even helping some secure that elusive A, speaks volumes about her dedication. She saw potential in each learner, even when they doubted themselves. She believed in them and taught them to believe in themselves. Ms. Mayet didn't just teach a language; she instilled confidence, discipline, and curiosity.

However, Ms. Mayet's impact went far beyond academics. She built meaningful relationships with students, staff, and the school community. She was more than a teacher—she was like a family member who was loved by all. Becoming a deputy was not just a title; it was a testament to her leadership, compassion, and ability to inspire those around her.

The decision to leave Nizamiye was not an easy one. After experiencing trauma from a hijacking, Ms. Mayet has shown us an invaluable lesson in prioritizing mental health and self-care. Her courage is a reminder to us all that true strength sometimes means stepping back to heal and rebuild. We admire her bravery and know that she will emerge even stronger.

Thank you, Ms. Mayet, for everything. You've made a difference in ways words cannot fully capture, and you'll always hold a special place in our hearts. Nizamiye will not be the same without you, but your legacy will live on in every learner whose life you've touched.

As she leaves, Ms. Mayet leaves behind not just memories but a legacy. Her advice to always seek knowledge and believe in ourselves will remain with us forever. We hope she will keep in touch with us because just as she has touched our lives, we want to keep her close, no matter where life takes her.

Written by: Rubab Zaidi

Teachers are more than people who teach you, they are motivators, they are inspirers and encourage us to become the best version of ourselves. Some teachers, we are lucky enough to stay with until we matriculate but with some, we have to say goodbye to before we are ready. It fills our hearts with sadness as we bid farewell to Nizamiye Mayfair's very own Miss Umran Zor-A teacher who has taught more than just the value of x , she has taught kindness and inspired, but mostly she has been a mother to all her students.

Miss Umran had always wanted to become a teacher. She chose teaching as a career from a young age as she was inspired by another scholar, Fethullah Gulen. Fethullah Gulen was a teacher who emphasized the power of knowledge through interfaith dialogue and social harmony amongst people of different backgrounds. His idea made Miss Umran realize she wanted to do the same by meeting different people around the world and spreading knowledge with a smile. Teaching is a rewarding career. As Miss Umran says, "Getting to see the students who once sat in your class, with their heads down in concentration, go onto achieve greatness and live life to the fullest is a great reward." Miss Umran believes that although she is saddened that she will not get to see her students matriculate in person, she hopes to see each of her students unlock their potential and succeed in all aspects of their lives.



Miss Umran has built many memories and achievements in her time at Nizamiye. To her, building meaningful relationships with her coworkers and students has always been her greatest achievement. And while she enjoys the happy memories with her students, she emphasized the value of the tough times and overcoming obstacles together as well. Matric dinners and valedictory ceremonies have always been emotional for her; remembering those times when the graduating young adults were once simply clueless children holds sentimental value for her. Miss Umran will remember all her students but mentions her registration class when saying, "I will miss our meetings during long break. Discussing a topic with you and hearing the beautiful and positive ideas you have. It makes me hopeful of the future. Insha'Allah you will all make a positive impact in your community."

She will be leaving to teach in Cape Town as of next year, but she makes special emphasis that she is content with the Trust's decision and encourages others to feel the same. Since she has started teaching her goal has always been to meet new cultures and people and she has always known that the Trust would place her where there was a need for a teacher. Although this is a difficult adjustment for her and the students she leaves behind, through this change her goals are being achieved.

We all wish Miss Umran the best in this new adventure of her life, and we make dua for Allah to grant her success and ease any difficulties she may face. She has always been an integral part of our school, and it will be difficult for everyone to say goodbye to a woman everyone considers a great teacher, friend and mentor but as Miss Umran puts it, "Maths gives us hope that every problem has a solution"

And lastly, she wishes to leave her students with the following lesson to remember:

~~"Don't cross oceans for people who wouldn't cross a puddle for you."~~ No, do it. Do cross oceans for people. Love people, all people. No conditions attached, no wondering whether or not they're worthy. Cross oceans, climb mountains. Life and love isn't about what you gain, it's about what you give

Farewell From The Grade 11 Newspaper Club



Maryam Ravat: Joining the newspaper was not something I planned on doing this year however I’m so happy that I did. It was a great way for me to take my mind off my academics and the stress of grade 11. I will forever be grateful for this experience, and I wish the newspaper team the best of luck for next year and the future.



Fatoumata Saccoh: Working in the newspaper club has boosted my creativity so much. Working with everyone was a lot of fun, and it was exciting to create something that all of the students would read. I sincerely appreciate the time and work put out by everyone in the newspaper, especially Ms Ameera. I can’t wait to see what the newspaper club does next.



Romisaa Fadel: When I first joined the newspaper club I prepared myself for fun times spent writing articles and working with my peers, but I couldn’t have prepared myself for the experiences I got to cherish. It’s more than a collection of articles, it tells a story, our story, and I’m so grateful to have been a part of that.



Ameera Vally Omar: Being part of the newspaper club has been an incredible experience, allowing me to develop my writing, editing, and communication skills while working with a passionate and creative team. It’s a fun and rewarding opportunity to share stories, collaborate on exciting projects, and make a real impact on our school community!



Imaan Rawoot: My time at the newspaper club was a truly wonderful experience. It inspired my creativity and really deepened my love for writing. It left me with skills and memories that I will cherish forever.



Rafeeah Kabir: I cherished my time in the newspaper club, where I gained invaluable experience, created lasting memories, and had an absolute blast! Thank you, newspaper club, for the headlines, bylines, and memories.



Yemen Khan: As a driven academic and public speaker, publishing articles has been my way of voicing my thoughts with purpose. It has been an insight on my journey to reach out to others in a dynamic way and has helped me flourish.

Goodbyes are never easy

Winnie The Pooh once said, "How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard." As the class of 2024 take their final steps at Nizamiye, the concept of saying goodbye to 43 bright individuals becomes harder and harder. For them lies ahead a new adventure and for those of us who watch this beautiful step remains nothing but the cherished collection of memories they leave behind.

The year began on a bright note with a matric jacket ceremony that deserved a place in fairytales for its immense amount of happiness and smiles. The matriculants made it clear since the beginning of the academic year that they too like every other lot Nizamiye has witnessed, will be a hard one to let go of. However, the matriculants of 2024 are unique with their own vibrant characters and personalities.

The thought of bidding goodbye only set in at the Valedictory invite ceremony. The end drew nearer but even in the face of the sad future to come, the matriculants danced together to different songs ranging from the most popular Bollywood tunes to Amapiano. The day was filled with speeches conveying words of gratitude and the classic tales of first encounters - but more than that was a display of the strong connection between the learners and their educators because of the large number of tears that were shed.

The Met Gala themed matric dinner was a spectacle of glamour and elegance. The matriculants never failed to dazzle the crowd with their stunning appearances. The night was one to be remembered and once again served as a reminder that the 2024 matriculants were always going to hold a special place in our hearts.

The 2024 matriculants have been an amalgamation of laughter, intelligence and astounding characters. Saying goodbye has never been harder but remembering what Winnie the Pooh said, we bid farewell to this lot of wonderful learners



Written by: Romisaa Fadel

Designed by: Rimsha Zulfiqar

Civvies day: workout day

For Term 4, Nizamiye's civvies day took a sporty turn. Learners entered with attire that was ideal for the Workout Day theme. Everything from stylish sportswear to classic '80s aerobics ensembles filled the halls.

Everyone brought their own unique style to the day, whether they arrived looking like they were going to a yoga class or prepared to crush a cardio session. This civvies day allowed learners to flex their style and creativity.

Workout Day marked the school's last civvies day of the year. It served as a good reminder that a little whimsy in our dress can make the most mundane of days feel like an occasion.

Written by: Ilhaam Hajat

Designed by: Rimsha Zulfiqar



Teachers VS Volleyball Team match

The excitement had started building weeks before, and the day had arrived when scores could finally be settled in an epic student versus teachers volleyball match. The learners gathered around the courts as the sight of Ms Kaneez and Ms Gonca doing their warm ups added to the atmosphere.

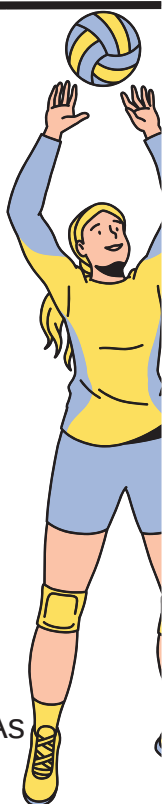
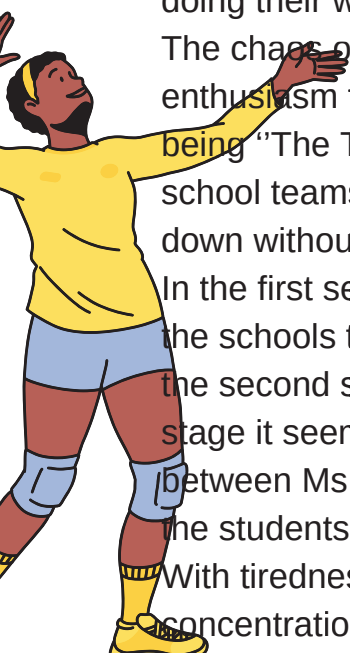
The chaos of student's cheers and laughter often broken by Ms Zainab chanting in enthusiasm for her team to win. This match consisting of two teams, the first team being "The Teachers" and the second, the schools volleyball team. Despite the school teams tremendous efforts the teachers stayed strong and were not going down without a fight.

In the first set the teachers worked hard to stay in the lead. Unfortunately for them the schools team managed to steal a vital point and end the set with a 21-19 win. As the second set started the crowd went wild as Ms Ameera made her debut. At one stage it seemed as if Team Teachers were going to pull away as combination play between Ms Zehra, Ms Zainab, Ms Gonca and Abla Gulbano proved too strong for the students.

With tiredness setting in, the school team took advantage of the lapse in concentration and a series of tactful play and strategy saw them winning the second and final set. The highlight of the day was students watching eagerly and laughing after hearing Ms Zainab shouting continuously: "Your all going to fail Afrikaans!" One thing for sure the second match is definitely going to be a humdinger.

Written by: Rubayyi Akhalwaya

Designed by: Rimsha Zulfiqar



Science Quiz

Science- a fundamental aspect in all our lives, something to explain the universe which surrounds us. Our very own brilliant young minds took to answering some of these complex science-related questions with the science quiz which took place on the 15th October. The questions were prepared by Mr. Osman Babacan, the resident Nizamiye chemistry teacher. The quiz consisted of the Junior category and the Senior category; each category contained 15 multiple-choice questions with varied time given to answer, which was based on the difficulty level of the question. All the questions related back to the theme, which was water. Our teachers who judged the quiz were Ms. Sheeza and Ms. Guncha. The questions were exceptionally structured and provided a brief explanation to each answer. The houses put in maximum effort to answer the questions, and the Fiery Phoenix took the win for the Junior category and the Jade Serpents won the Senior category. We take a moment to appreciate the effort put into the quiz from the students and the teachers. We hope everyone was able to acquire some knowledge and learn something new with this quiz.



Written by: Rubab Zaidi

Designed by: Rimsha Zulfiqar



Tribute to Hoca Efendi



Written by: Gulnur Jorayeva

In our world of chaos where cultural differences separate humanity, the *Hizmet* movement, initiated by *Fetullah Gulen Hoca efendi*, brings us all together in the name of service for humanity. Since the 1970s, the *Hizmet* movement has grown into a global movement advocating for education, interfaith and intrafaith dialogue, and humanitarian efforts. This has been done through various types of educational institutions, hospitals and charity organizations all over the world – in South Africa known as the Trust schools.

This journey of the movement began in Turkey, back in the 1970s. At the end of the 1960s, there was a time of violence and habits like doing drugs were common. People either weren't able to send their children into schools due to the unsafe environment or the education was lacking quality – to some it was unavailable altogether. To address this issue, *Fetullah Gulen Hoca efendi* and people who were inspired by him decided to create a project which was funded by businessmen and students who needed education. They built dormitories to accommodate students, so that they could be educated in a safe environment. These dormitories quite literally solved the education crisis of Turkey, students were able to excel in their studies and the project grew bigger and spread through Turkey, creating more schools around the country. In just a little over a decade, families who never planned to send their children to a middle school, now had their children attending the best universities in the country.



After the Soviet Union collapsed, Turkic countries were in need of education and the *Hizmet* movement spread over to those countries, this was done through much sacrifice by small business owners and by young graduates who wanted to help the other countries. Over time the *Hizmet* movement was acknowledged and admired internationally and it spread globally with the same ideals and principles. With their developments and growth, they expanded and worked on other projects of humanitarian aid organizations such as time to care and helping hands. People around the world volunteer to actually go these areas to bring help first hand through such organizations. Today, there are schools in more than 140 countries inspired by this very movement aiming to improve the quality of education and encourage unity amongst all different cultures and religion.



Fetullah Gulen Hoca efendi says that as students going to school every day, we shouldn't make it our goal to learn for the sake of it, just so that we can have a good job and a live a comfortable future, this limits us to only this intention. Instead, he says that we should give ourselves goals of magnificence. Knowing how religion and science or *ilm* (knowledge) interconnects with each other, we should make it our intention to gain this knowledge for a greater purpose. Being knowledgeable in this current world won't only make our words convincing but also will spread the words of Islam and the name of Allah (SWT). Gaining this *ilm* (knowledge) will help us to evolve, personally and spiritually. It should be our aim to learn about both the book of Allah (SWT), the Qur'an, and the book of the universe, *ilm*. Let's use this movement as an inspiration to be of service and for our benefit in the afterlife.

Thus, here we are in our school, which strives to improve our education even in the slightest way possible, even if it means harder math and science for us. So, the next time you think about our school, try looking at the bigger picture and the inspiring purpose behind it.

**Designed by:
Juwairiah Salim**

PALESTINE UPDATE

WRITTEN BY: YEMEN KHAN

"Until Next Year: Palestine, We Will Rise Again"

In recent weeks, Gaza has become a theatre of relentless violence, with airstrikes claiming countless lives and leaving entire neighbourhoods in ruins. The recent tragedy in Beit Lahiya, where an Israeli attack resulted in the deaths of over 70 innocent individuals, serves as a stark reminder of the human cost of this conflict. Each statistic represents a life cut short, a family shattered, and dreams extinguished in an instant. How much longer will we stand idly by while lives are shattered, homes are destroyed, and futures are erased?

The humanitarian crisis unfolding in Gaza is exacerbated by a breakdown in critical infrastructure. Access to clean water is increasingly compromised, deepening the health crisis in a territory already grappling with poverty. Hospitals, already operating at full capacity, are overwhelmed by the influx of casualties and are running dangerously low on essential supplies. It is heartbreaking to consider that healthcare workers are being forced to make unimaginable decisions regarding who receives treatment in a region where every life is precious.

Amid this chaos, here are the latest updates I shall provide to the Nizamiye Mayfair School learners. The recent attacks in Lebanon and the involvement of Iranian forces highlight the complex web of alliances and hostilities that define the Middle East. In Lebanon, the bombing of a refugee camp housing Palestinians led to widespread outrage and calls for accountability. The casualties there are not merely numbers; they represent a collective memory of loss, resilience, and an enduring struggle for dignity.



Moreover, Iran's support for militant groups in the region complicates an already volatile situation. The nation has positioned itself as a key player in the ongoing conflict, providing financial and military support to groups that operate within Gaza. This raises a critical question: at what point does the pursuit of geopolitical interests overshadow the imperative of humanitarian considerations?

As we bear witness to these unfolding tragedies, we must confront a fundamental truth, the plight of the Palestinian people is not just a political issue, it is a profound humanitarian crisis that calls for our collective action. The voices of those affected—children, mothers, fathers—resonate beyond the rubble and debris. Their pleas for safety and basic human rights remind us that our shared humanity must prevail over the forces that seek to divide us.

The world's response to the crisis must reflect our commitment to justice and compassion. How many more lives must be lost before we prioritize dialogue over discord, before we advocate for peace instead of escalation? The time for action is now.



Until next year, Palestine, we shall see you again.

DESIGNED BY: AYESHA KASHIF

FORMULA 1

WRITTEN BY: Illham Hajat

The **2024 Formula 1** season has been anything but predictable, with high-speed drama and twists that would make even a rollercoaster jealous. *Max Verstappen* seemed to have the championship on lockdown after winning seven out of the first ten races, leaving fans thinking he was invincible. But since Miami, Red Bull's dominance has started to fade, and Verstappen has had to battle for podiums rather than just cruising into first place. However, it's not just Verstappen making ripples on the grid

The young British talent *Lando Norris* has turned up the heat. After some victorious performances, achieving the podium 11 times this year, Norris has cut the once massive points gap down to merely 52. With just a few races left, he's on a mission to chase Verstappen down and keep the battle for the championship title alive. It's a game of cat and mouse at 200 mph.

In the **Constructors' Championship**, McLaren is hustling for their first title in over two decades. Ferrari is hot on their tail, revving up for a fight, while the recent struggles of Red Bull have left them spinning their wheels.



Max Verstappen



Lando Norris



Lewis Hamilton



Carlos Sainz



Daniel Ricciardo



One of the season's biggest stories is the impending move of *Lewis Hamilton* to Ferrari for the upcoming 2025 season. Fans are buzzing with mixed emotions over this event, especially so considering he will be consequently taking the seat of the fan-favourite *Carlos Sainz*. Everyone is questioning what this new chapter could mean for the seven-time Dutch world champion.

On the other side of the paddock, *Daniel Ricciardo's* departure from Formula 1, after 13 years, 32 podiums, 1329 points and 8 shining gold medals, has stirred the hearts of fans all around. The Australian driver, known for his infectious grin and fearless racing style, has taken a step back from his F1 career - at least for now - after the **Singapore Grand Prix**.

With the season approaching a grand finale in Abu Dhabi, every single lap counts. The unpredictable excitement of F1 makes it more than just a sport, it's a full-throttle adventure, both on and off of the race track. So, whether you're a diehard Verstappen fan or cheering for Norris, the last races are set to deliver an outcome that will have everyone talking long after the checkered flag drops.

DESIGNED BY: AYESHA KASHIF

Q&A

WITH AUNTY NIZ

AUNTY
Niz

Advice column



MINDSET IS
EVERYTHING

Q. How can I balance my time during the holidays so that I'm both productive and relaxed?

A. Create a flexible schedule that includes time for spirituality, physical fitness, studying, relaxation and family time. Try to maintain a routine with set times for different tasks. Balance is key, it will help you stay on track while enjoying a well-deserved break.

Q. What's the best way to set New Year's resolutions that actually last?

A. Make a list of what you'd like to achieve in different areas of your life, such as academics, personal growth and spiritual development. Check in on your progress. Use the SMART goal-setting method. Remember to be yourself but always strive to better yourself.



Q. I'm struggling to dress modestly while staying comfortable in the summer heat. Any advice?

A. Opt for light and breathable fabrics that allow air flow. Choose loosely fitted clothes and consider wearing throw over abayas for comfy layering. Remember modesty is an act of worship so embrace this opportunity to dress in a manner which is pleasing to your Creator.

Q. What can I do to strengthen my connection with my family over the holidays?

A. Plan and create memories through shared stories and laughter, meaningful conversation and simple joys. Try limiting distractions from devices to ensure more quality time together. Appreciate and cherish the precious moments with family.



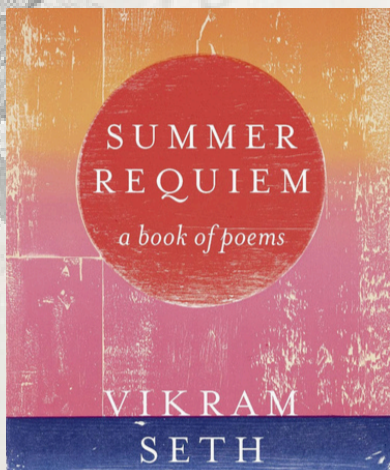
WORK ON YOU,
FOR YOU

BOOKS



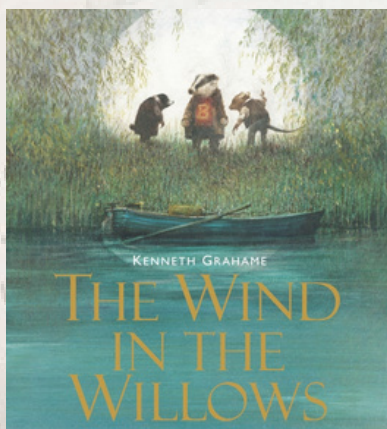
THE SUMMER I TURNED PRETTY -BY JENNY HAN

Belly's summers are alive with ocean swims and the chaos of first love. But beyond the sunshine lies a story of family and growing up. Jenny Han captures the magic and bitter-sweetness of summer, where everything feels new and fleeting.



SUMMER REQUIEM -BY VIKRAM SETH

Seth's poetry is a blend of nostalgia and contemplation, perfectly encapsulating the beauty of the season. This collection invites readers to savour the season's light while acknowledging the inevitable shadows that come with it.



THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS -BY KENNETH GRAHAME

In this timeless tale, Mole, Rat, and Toad revel in the joys of summer adventures. Whether it be through riverside picnics or whimsical mischief. Grahame's classic celebrates friendship, and the magic of sunlit days.



MOVIES

MOANA 2

Set several years after Moana's original adventure, this animated sequel, released on **November 27, 2024**, follows Moana as she embarks on a new quest to reconnect the islands and restore a mystical, sunken island called *Motufetu*. Guided by a vision from her ancestor, Moana learns that the ocean's bond with the people has been broken by the malicious storm god *Nalo*. As her island faces the threat of being deserted, Moana assembles a crew, including her friends, a Maui superfan, and a grumpy farmer to find the lost island. Spanning **105 minutes**, the group faces their greatest test yet, Moana must unlock her true potential to save her home and the ocean's connection to humanity. With heart-pounding adventure and powerful themes of self-discovery, *Moana 2* explores the courage to face impossible odds and embrace one's destiny.



MAMMA MIA! THE MOVIE



Set on a picturesque Greek island, this joyful musical, released on **18 July 2008**, follows *Sophie Sheridan*, a young woman preparing for her wedding. *Sophie's* quest to find her father leads her to humorous and heart-warming encounters as she seeks a father to walk her down the aisle. Over **108 minutes**, secrets unravel and Sophie's quest brings about laughter and chaos. With the iconic music of *ABBA*, *Mamma Mia!* is a fun and feel-good celebration of family, love and self-discovery, set against the backdrop of beautiful Mediterranean scenery. Listen out for the amazing vocals and follow along this story where one girl faces her fears, but braves them on anyways.

MAMMA MIA!

TOMORROWLAND

When teenager Casey Newton discovers a mysterious pin that transports her to a futuristic world, she joins forces with Frank Walker, a former inventor with ties to the utopia. Together, they uncover the secrets of Tomorrowland, a place that holds the power to shape humanity's future. Through **130 minutes**, they face danger and unravel hidden truths, they realize the importance of hope and imagination in saving the world. Released on **May 22, 2015**, *Tomorrowland* delivers stunning visuals and a hopeful message, making it an inspiring and thrilling sci-fi adventure.



WHAT TO DO IN THE HOLIDAYS?

The December holidays are almost here, and Johannesburg is buzzing with holiday fever! Whether you're looking to bask in the summer sun enjoy festive cheer, or try something new, Joburg has something for everyone. The best part is you don't have to break the bank to have an unforgettable time. From outdoor adventures to holiday-themed spectacles, here's your guide to the most exciting activities this holiday season.

1. Johannesburg Zoo's Festival of Lights:

Kick off the festive season with a magical evening at the Festival of Lights at the Johannesburg Zoo. The zoo comes alive after dark with breathtaking light displays, perfect for a family stroll through the animal enclosures. Accompanied by live performances from local artists, this event brings together the spirit of the season and Joburg's vibrant culture. Grab your tickets early to enjoy this spectacular show!



2. Berry Picking Fun:

For a wholesome outdoor activity, gather the family for berry picking at nearby farms. This interactive activity is a fantastic way to enjoy the summer sunshine, picking fresh, juicy berries to take home. It's a great hands-on experience for kids and a chance to embrace the beauty of Johannesburg's natural surroundings.

3. Catch a Show at Joburg Theatre:

Feeling festive? Head over to Joburg Theatre, where this December's lineup includes festive musicals, comedy shows, fairy tales and dramatic performances. The theatre's eclectic mix of shows promises entertainment for everyone. There's no better way to get into the holiday spirit than with a night out at one of Joburg's premier performing arts venues.



4. The Ski Deck Adventure:

Who says you can't ski in Johannesburg? For those seeking a little adrenaline rush, hit The Ski Deck in Ferndale. It's the perfect spot for some summer skiing, snowboarding, or even sliding down their toboggan run. Whether you're a seasoned skier or just looking to try something new, it's an exhilarating experience right here in the city.

5. Free & Affordable Holiday Fun:

If you're looking for activities that won't cost an arm and a leg, Johannesburg still has plenty to offer. Parks like Walter Sisulu Botanical Gardens are perfect for family picnics, and the city's many hiking trails provide a budget-friendly way to stay active while enjoying Joburg's stunning landscapes.



For the latest on family-friendly events and activities, visit Jozikids online to stay updated throughout December. Their website features a fantastic selection of ideas to keep the kids entertained, from arts and crafts workshops to holiday camps. With so much to see and do in Johannesburg this December, it's time to soak in the holiday cheer and create lasting memories.

EASY BROWNIES



INGREDIENTS

- **250g** soft butter
- **2 cups** sugar
- **4** eggs
- **1 cup** flour
- **1/2 cup** cocoa powder
- **1 tsp** vanilla essence
- Chocolate chips **to taste**

METHOD

- Cream the butter and sugar.
 - Add the eggs and mix well. Add cocoa powder, flour and vanilla essence and mix until combined.
 - Once batter has been made, fold in chocolate chip pieces.
- Pour into a lined tray and bake for 20-25min on 180°
- Enjoy while warm with a scoop of vanilla ice cream





HOLIDAY

Written by: Kashaf Zia

"HOLIDAYS UNPLUGGED: A DAZZLING JOURNEY THROUGH GLOBAL CELEBRATIONS"

Holidays can be fun, strange, or downright wild. From dancing devils to water fights, here are seven celebrations from across the globe that will leave you excited, confused, or maybe even a little spooked.

1. North America: Halloween (USA)

Every October 31, the USA transforms into a land of ghouls, ghosts, and goblins for Halloween. Kids dress up, knock on doors for candy, and brave haunted houses. It's a night where the line between the living and dead feels thin—perfect for a bit of fright-filled excitement. And let's face it, watching adults compete for the best costume is half the fun.

2. South America: La Diablada (Bolivia)

In February, the town of Oruro in Bolivia hosts La Diablada, or "Dance of the Devils." Dancers in devil costumes perform parades symbolizing the battle between good and evil. The festival is vibrant, but those devil masks add a chilling edge. One minute you're dancing, the next you're questioning if you just locked eyes with something... sinister.

3. Europe: Walpurgis Night (Germany)

On April 30, Germans celebrate Walpurgis Night, when witches are believed to gather on the Brocken mountain. Bonfires are lit to keep them away, with singing and dancing. The mix of fire, folklore, and witches creates a night that's as magical as it is eerie—just don't expect to sleep easy afterward.



4. Africa: Festival of the Dancing Masks (Burkina Faso)

In Burkina Faso, the Festival of the Dancing Masks marks the harvest. People wear carved masks representing spirits and ancestors, blending joyful celebration with reverence for the spiritual world. It's cheerful, but you don't want to mess with the sacred energy behind those masks.

5. Asia: Songkran (Thailand)

In April, Songkran is Thailand's New Year festival and the world's biggest water fight. People splash each other to wash away bad luck and start fresh. It's joyful and spiritual, but mostly, it's just an epic chance to soak your friends—and strangers—without consequences.

6. Oceania: Anzac Day (Australia and New Zealand)

On April 25, Anzac Day honors soldiers who served in war. Dawn services, parades, and moments of silence are held to remember those lost. It's a day of reflection and gratitude, reminding people of the sacrifices made for peace. The quiet respect shown across both countries is a powerful reminder of the cost of war.

7. Antarctica: Antarctic Treaty Day

On December 1, Antarctic Treaty Day marks the signing of the Antarctic Treaty in 1959, which protects Antarctica as a scientific preserve and bans military activity. While not a loud or joyful holiday, it's a day of hope and collaboration. Scientists and researchers in Antarctica celebrate with small gatherings and discussions, reminding the world that even the coldest, most desolate places can symbolize peace and cooperation.



Designed by: Amina Jaaouaq

BASIC FACTS

Jokes

and more !!

•BASIC FACTS

- The word "holiday" comes from "holy Day".
- The most popular holiday destinations are France, Spain, Italy, and The United States.
- The average person takes 3-4 holidays per year.

JOKES

- Why did the tourist bring a ladder? To elevate his vacation!
- What did the beach say? Nothing, it just waved!
- Why did the traveller bring a magnet? To attract some fun!
- Why was the pizza in Italy unhappy? It was feeling a little crusty!
- Why did the tourist take an umbrella to the beach? To have a dry sense of humour!

CONVERSATION STARTERS

- What's your favourite holiday memory?
- What's your dream holiday destination?
- What's the best holiday gift you've received?

HOLIDAY-THEMED QUOTE

- "The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only one page"

-Saint Augustine



THE HEARTBEAT OF SUMMER



Written by: Jannat Fatima Ahmed

My sun kissed skin bathes in the warmth,
Summer is here,
I strain to hear her song of beauty, miracle and
mirth.

She charms the earth with her sunshine,
She sings the flower buds to life,
She stirs again my frosted blood and engulfs in me
a new desire,

On the bark of a tree she weaves me a willow tree,
She adorns my dreams with precious peace,
I feel her heart beat against my own when I walk
where the fields surge and swell,
Oh, sweet summer, you are my breath of life



Designed by: Fatoumata Saccob



ILLUSTRATED BY: DADO MAGUIRAGA

The School Year Express

written by: Maryam Ravat

Each school year is like a long train ride that begins at the beginning of the year and ends in December. There are new stops with different passengers every quarter and the occasional surprise of a new train conductor joining the journey.

The early months are exciting as you glide smoothly over the train tracks taking in knowledge and enjoying the newness of it all. It is a little intimidating at first but that changes into enthusiasm as you start this grand trip. As March rolls around you hit the occasional bump, a test here or a pop-quiz there, but it is nothing that can knock you over.

When winter sets in you realise you are in for the long trek as the workload becomes heavier and your enthusiasm begins to wane. It feels like the tunnel you are traveling through is never going to end and you are never going to see the light again. However as soon as you write your half-yearly exams the end of the tunnel has arrived and you start seeing the sun again.

The penultimate stretch of the journey is once again calm as you watch the scenery and take in as much as possible, with only one or two minor bumps on the way. You continue to hold strong because you know the end of the journey is near and you are one step closer to freedom.

In October you can almost see the end but there is one large mountain blocking your way; your final exams. The train becomes frantic with train conductors bustling around trying to calm the passengers and prepare them for the journey across the mountain, with extra explanations and past papers.

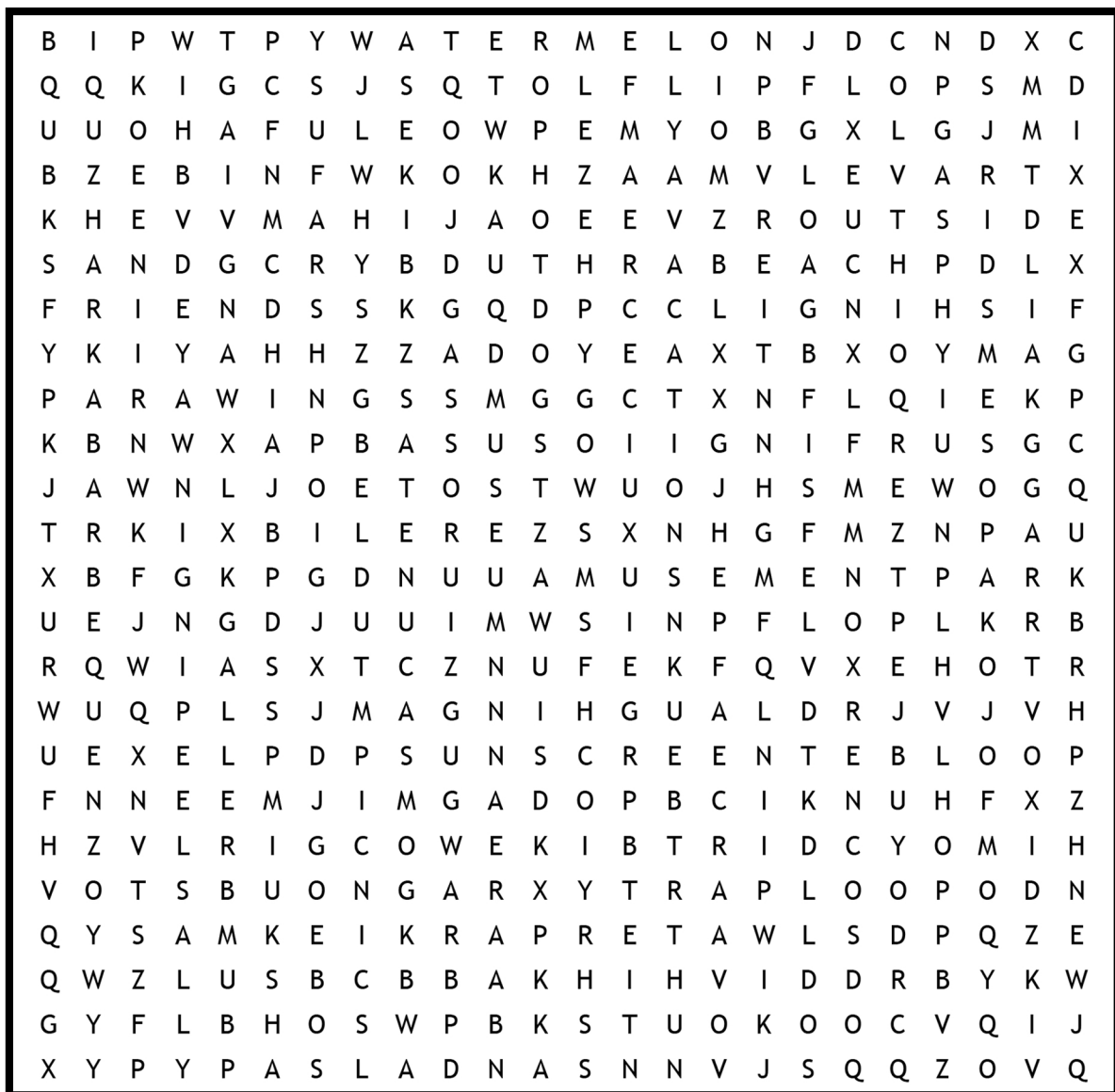
Then finally as you complete that exhausting part of the journey... you see it. The final station in all its glory, waiting for you up ahead. There is a buzz of laughter and goodbyes in the train as people pack up their belongings and prepare to disembark the train for the last time.

As you step off the train and breathe in the fresh summer air you realise that it won't be long before you and others will board again, some for the first time and you and your cart for the last time.



Designed by: Fatoumata Saccoh

SUMMER



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dirtbike	museum
laughing	bikes
vacation	beach
icecream	sand
cookouts	pool
hot	fun