



Bassmati Student Magazine

DECEMBER
EDITION
08 January 2026



December: A month filled with culture, adventure and a touch of magic

December has been a month rich in cultural celebration, academic achievement, and meaningful learning experiences for our students. Throughout the month, students participated in a variety of activities that strengthened their identity, enhanced their skills, and celebrated both knowledge and tradition within our school community.

One of the highlights of December was the celebration of Traditional Yemeni Day, a vibrant and educational event that brought Yemen's rich heritage to life. Students explored the different regions of Yemen by dressing in traditional clothing that represented various areas of the country. They learned about regional customs, history, and traditions, and proudly shared foods that reflected each area's culture. This immersive experience encouraged cultural appreciation, strengthened national identity, and allowed students to learn from one another in an engaging and memorable way.

December also marked our celebration of World Arabic Language Day, honoring our mother tongue and its deep cultural and historical significance. Students took part in a wide range of activities designed to highlight the beauty of the Arabic language. These included poetry recitations, storytelling sessions, Arabic calligraphy, vocabulary games, presentations, and creative writing activities. Through these events, students developed greater confidence in using Arabic while celebrating its richness and expressive power.



Academic excellence was further encouraged through several important competitions held this month. Our Qur'an Competitions provided students with the opportunity to demonstrate their memorization, recitation, and understanding of the Holy Qur'an. These competitions promoted discipline, focus, and a strong connection to Islamic values, while also building confidence and pride in students' achievements.



In addition, the Spelling Bee Competitions challenged students to expand their vocabulary, improve spelling accuracy, and perform under pressure. Participants displayed determination, preparation, and enthusiasm, making the competitions both exciting and rewarding. These events supported language development while fostering healthy competition and perseverance.

As we conclude the month, December stands out as a time of celebration, learning, and personal growth. Through cultural events, language celebrations, and academic competitions, our students continued to develop confidence, knowledge, and a strong sense of identity. December has truly been a meaningful and memorable month for our school community.

Yemeni day





Archery competition

A total of 140 students from different schools competed in the Archery Competition, and seven enthusiastic students proudly represented Bassmati School. They had been training hard in the Afternoon Club with Mr. Ghassan, and their dedication truly paid off.

We are incredibly proud to share that our Bassmati students made it into the finals, making the competition especially exciting for everyone! Our amazing archers were: Jana Shehari, Farah Wahib, Ahmed Al-Hajj, Selma Al-Sharafi, Eleen Al-Shargabi, Tala Hamid, and Qamar Al-Hajj.

A Day in the life of a

1. Our principals (**Selma Al-Sharafi**) (**Malek Al-Kebisi**)
2. Finance (**Alexander Al-Hadad**)
3. Teacher (**Ahmed Al-Hajj**)
4. Secretary (**Malak Mujali**)
5. Activity coordinator (**Jana Sherian**)
6. Social worker (**Tala Germozi**)
7. Maintenance (**Madyan Guthaim**)
8. Guard (**AbdulRahman**)

As part of a special school activity, our students participated in a "Student Roles Day," where they stepped into different staff positions across the school. The goal of this experience was to help students understand how a school functions beyond the classroom and to appreciate the hard work, responsibility, and teamwork required in every role. By experiencing these positions firsthand, students gained respect for the people who support their learning every day. Below are quotes on what the students had to say:

Selma Al-Sharafi + Malek Al-Kebisi (Principal):

"Being the principal for a day showed me how much responsibility this role has. You have to listen to everyone and make fair decisions all the time."

Alexander Al-Hadad (Finance):

"I learned that finance is not just about numbers. It's about planning and making sure the school runs smoothly."

Ahmed Al-Hajj (Teacher):

"Teaching was harder than I thought. Making sure every student understands really takes patience and effort."

Malak Mujali (Secretary):

"Working as the secretary taught me how important organization is. Everything depends on being accurate and on time."

Jana Sherian (Activity Coordinator):

"I loved being the activity coordinator because I saw how much planning goes into making activities fun and successful."

Tala Germozi (Social Worker):

"Being a social worker helped me understand how important it is to listen and support others."

AbdulRahman (Guard):

"Being the guard made me feel responsible for everyone's safety. It's an important job that deserves a lot of respect."



Biggest Myths about our schools

There are so many myths about our school, and honestly, some of them make no sense at all. One myth is that we only do activities. Yes, we do a lot of activities but that's because we believe in activity based learning. It helps us understand better and actually enjoy learning. That being said, it's totally balanced. We follow a strong Oxford curriculum, and our academic results prove it. Our ministry exam results are amazing, with many students scoring over 90%, so clearly learning is a priority here.

Another myth is that we don't have exams. I wish but that's definitely not true. We do have exams, because exams are an important tool to measure our learning. They help teachers understand where we are and how to support us better. Exams are part of learning, and we take them seriously. And the funniest myth of all is that there is no student voice. Are you kidding me? I'm literally writing this right now my voice is being heard! We have a student council, and student opinions actually matter. We also have an open-door policy, which means we can talk to the principal anytime we have an issue or even a crazy idea and it actually gets listened to.

So no, these myths are not true at all. Our school focuses on academics, activities, and student voice all together, and that's what makes it special.

Written by Selma Al-Sharafi

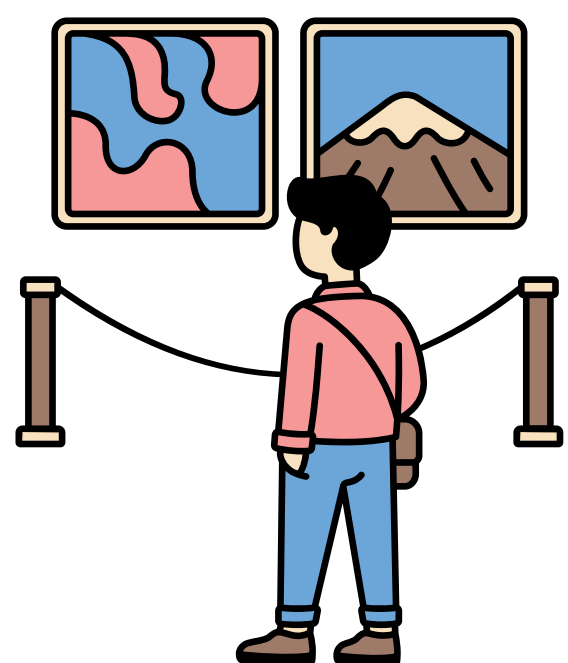


Artwork winner for December, Gheed Muharram Grade 2. Congratulations

Congratulations!

We will be inviting all the parents to pass by at home time to check out the students Art work in a fun exhibition.

COMING SOON



Our online students

At Bassmati, we have many students who study online because of travel and other circumstances. Even though they are learning from home, they are still a big part of our school community. Our online students have access to all the resources, are included in all class groups, follow their homework, and even take their exams online. They stay connected with their teachers and classmates, and many of them really enjoy the experience.

We are very proud of our online students for their commitment and hard work while studying from home.

We contacted one of our online students, Alman Rashed in Grade 4, to ask her about her experience. Let's hear from her!

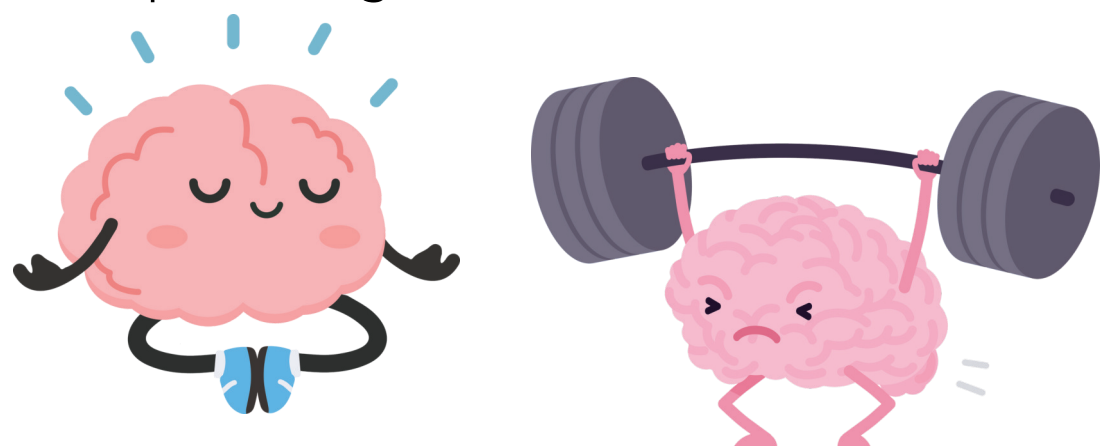
'Hi My name is Alman, I am Grade 4 and I study online, I also have a Whatsapp group, they also give us homework and the topics that we need to know. I have a private teacher at home that follows the homework and teachers me all the subjects. I don't like online school because I cannot do activities and I miss all my friends, I also miss all the Bassmati animals.'

Mental wellness tips

Hi! We are Seba and Jude from Grade 7, and we went around the school asking different students what they like to do when they're feeling stressed or a little down. We spoke to random students and gathered their responses, then organized their tips into a list to share with everyone 😊

Here are the tips we collected:

- Tip 1 - Listening to music
- Tip 2 - Eating
- Tip 3 - Listening to music
- Tip 4 - Playing with my cat
- Tip 5 - Spend time with my friends
- Tip 6 - Eating Ice cream
- Tip 7 - Snacking
- Tip 7 - Visiting Bassmati farm
- Tip 8 - Watching my favourite Netflix series
- Tip 9 - Wearing something comfy
- Tip 10- Taking a bubble bath
- Tip 11 - Playing playstation
- Tip 12 - Yoga with Ms Wafa



Business section

Every month, our business section highlights something new, whether it's a local business or a startup created by our very own students. This time, however, I wanted to focus on Founders Day, an exciting experience that encourages creativity, innovation, and teamwork. As part of our upcoming theme, students will be starting their own businesses from the ground up. From developing an idea to creating logos and slogans, students will explore what it truly takes to build a brand.

They will have the opportunity to work individually or with partners, make important decisions, and think critically about how their business would operate in the real world. The excitement has already begun, with students sharing ideas, brainstorming concepts, and planning how to turn their visions into reality. It has been inspiring to see their enthusiasm and creativity take shape even before the project officially begins.

I can't wait to see what they create and how their ideas come to life throughout January. This experience is sure to be both educational and memorable for everyone involved.

By Malak Mujali



When I grow up I'm going to be...

Hi my name is Jude Akram, and my name is Lamar Ghuthim, we asked random students what they wanted to be when they were adults, and this is what we got!

Silwan G3 said 'When I grow up I'm going to be an Ambassador'

Seba G7 said 'When I grow up I'm going to be a Lawyer'

Murad G2 said 'When I grow up I'm going to be a Pilot'

Lareen G4 said 'When I grow up I'm going to be a business woman, a very rich one!'

Yousef G5 'When I grow up I'm going to be a famous football player.'

Lamar G3 'When I grow up I'm going to be an actress'

Selma G6 'When I grow up I'm going to be a mafia boss like my uncle'

Mariam G5 'When I grow up I want to be a fire fighter'



World News

The Great Meme Reset of 2026

The Great Meme Reset of 2026 is a TikTok trend where Gen Z and Gen Alpha users are calling for a return to classic 2010s-style memes. The movement pushes back against today's internet humor, which many feel is overwhelmed by AI-generated content, "brain rot" slang, and algorithm-driven posts.

Supporters want memes that feel more creative and meaningful like image macros and relatable jokes, rather than random or low-effort trends. Whether serious or ironic, the Great Meme Reset shows that many users are ready for a fresh take on online humor.

By Selma Al-Sharafi

My Comic

Hi everyone! Yes, I'm back 🙌

I'm Rawaf Al-Dhafari, and I'm here to share an update from the last newspaper about my comic idea!

I'm excited to say that I wrote and created my own comic, and I feel very happy and proud of it. I wanted to share it with all of you and hear what you think!

My comic is called "Rawaf: The Problem Guy."

Below are photos of my comic hope you enjoy reading



I still believe we should start writing comics, maybe during the hour of the class! with best friends and classmates, it's super fun and exciting.

New library Books

We recently received new library books all the way from Oman, and it has been very exciting for everyone. We helped carry the books and organise them on the shelves, which made us feel responsible and proud of our library. This time, the books are especially for us older students, so it feels more interesting and enjoyable. There are many different types of books to choose from, and they look fun to read. These new books have made library classes much more exciting, and I am really happy to see our library looking better than ever.

By Alouma Al-Areqi



Kindergarten corner

December, the kindergarten kids had a sensational time that can only be described as an absolute jubilee! They wrapped up the year on December 31 with a fabulous Yemeni Traditional Day, where they participated alongside their mothers, all decked out in beautiful traditional clothes representing different governorates. The classroom transformed into a vibrant showcase of culture as they played games with their moms and teachers, laughing and cheering each other on.

Throughout the month, the kids also enjoyed exploring three main themes: fruits, vegetables, and insects! They searched for insects in the yard, filling out their charts with curious finds, and even decided to plant their favorite fruits, creating a mini garden that they lovingly tended to.

Now, as they look forward to the coming theme of recycling, excitement is bubbling in the air for the little entrepreneur activity set for January 14. With all this fun, December became a month filled with laughter, cultural pride, and a pinch of playful chaos, making it the perfect send-off to the year!



Business

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E	M	K	O	P	O	R	E	G	C	T	R	F	G
E	O	N	T	E	B	M	C	T	N	M	F	O	T
N	N	R	S	R	U	A	L	T	I	I	O	O	N
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N	N	U	O	R	R	G	L	R	P	T	G	S	R
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G	S	R	R	O	C	A	L	E	A	G	T	S	N
I	U	R	E	D	I	U	B	A	O	P	I	R	G
I	O	D	I	I	R	Y	S	E	L	L	K	I	I

DEAL
SHOP
OFFICE
PROFIT
BUY
MEETINGS
CUSTOMER
FARMING
PAPERWORK
SELL
MANAGER
MONEY
BUIDER
COMPUTER
ENGINEER

Drama

I believe that we should have drama lessons, drama uses different emotions like a sad person or a happy person or maybe an angry person. For me I love becoming different people. I was once Cleopatra, Audrey Hepburn and once I was even a detective. Drama allows us to become interesting people.

I want to add drama to the curriculum next year, what do you all think?

By Silwan Nuwairah



Stranger things

We're Grade 6 boys (Quest Seekers), and we're here to talk about one of our favourite TV shows of all time, stranger Things! With Season 5 on the way, fans everywhere are getting excited to head back to Hawkins for what could be the biggest and scariest season yet.

Stranger Things Season 5 is going to be awesome. All our favourite characters are coming back, and that means more action, more danger, and more crazy stuff from the Upside Down. Eleven will be back using her powers, and Mike, Dustin, Lucas, and Will will stick together like always.

We really want to know what happens to Max, and we hope she's okay. Hopper and Joyce will probably be protecting everyone again, and Steve and Robin will be doing brave (and sometimes funny) things. Nobody knows exactly what will happen, but we think there will be new monsters, big battles, and some surprising moments. Season 5 is the last season, so it's probably going to be the biggest one yet.

We can't wait to watch Season 5 with our friends and see how the story ends. Stranger Things has been an amazing series full of friendship, bravery, and unforgettable moments. Now we want to ask the newspaper readers: what is your favourite TV series, and are you excited for Stranger Things Season 5 too?

By Malek Al-Kebisi, Ghassan Al-Amdi, Farooq Sallam, Basem Anbool



Pottery

Hi, my name is Jana and I am in Grade 3. Today I will talk about the clay activity. We will do this activity with DADA, who is an amazing pottery professional. DADA will teach us how to use clay and show us different pottery tools.

The students will be making cups using clay. We will learn how to shape the clay with our hands and how to make it smooth and strong. It will be fun to try something new and be creative.

This clay activity will help us learn new skills, use our imagination, and enjoy working together.



Jokes section

Why did the Yemeni goat start a podcast?

Because it had a lot of baa-
rilliant ideas!

By Yahya G5

Why did the cat sit on the computer?

Because it wanted to keep an eye on the mouse.

By Yahya G5

Riddle

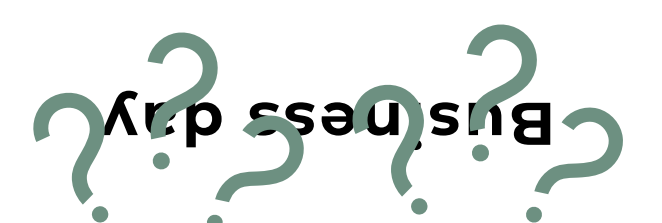
I'm a day at school that feels a bit grown-up,

With "jobs" and "money" and things to set up.

You might sell lemonade or trade your art,

We all work together, each playing a part.

What am I?



Business Day

31st of January



Final Exams
will start on the 2nd of
February