



KEEPING IN TOUCH

Ref. No. KIT 001 – 13Jun24

13 June 2024

Dear Parent,

From outstanding academic performances to enriching extracurricular events, our students and staff have demonstrated remarkable dedication, talent, and enthusiasm.

Arnesh and Adhib are shining examples of how you excel in your interests and stand apart from others. Arnesh Sinha of Grade 8 emerged as the winner of the Sastra Prathibha contest 2023, from a field of 24,500 students across 90 schools in the UAE. Adhib Zayan of Grade 6 achieved the first runner-up position out of more than a thousand participants across 13 schools in Radio Mirchi Jam Junior Season 2. Their accomplishments are just the tip of the iceberg.

Here, we share with you the highlights, showcasing the accomplishments that make our School a beacon of excellence.

We are thrilled to announce the stellar performance of our students in the Grade 12 exams, achieving a perfect 100% pass rate. The school has maintained a commendable overall average of 82.1%, with the Science stream averaging 82% and the Commerce stream averaging 76.2%. In the Science stream, Ibrahim Ali Mohammed set a high standard with a total of 481 marks, achieving 96.2%. In the Commerce stream, Srivatch Thangirala topped with 463 marks, achieving 92.6%. Our Grade 10 students have also excelled, achieving an impressive average score of 82.09% with a 100% pass rate. Notably, 25.17% of our students scored 90% and above. Our top performer, Aaron George, who is also the GEMS Second Topper, scored an outstanding 98.6%.

The School has performed exceedingly well in National Agenda Parameter tests. Our students' performance in reading, mathematics and science domains of Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2022, far exceeds their peers in other schools of Sharjah and OECD. Similarly, our reading scores in Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) exceeds the UAE scores. Students from grades 3 to 9 also take Assessment of Scholastic Skills through Educational Testing (ASSET) in English, Math and Science and their overall performance was rated outstanding in English and very good in Math and Science.

We envisage parents as partners in education and engage with them to ensure a conducive learning environment for our students. We kickstarted the academic session with orientation sessions for our parent community from KG to Grade 12. The Parent Advisory Council held its inaugural session for 2024-25 on 30th May, with active participation and valuable inputs from members on school self-evaluation. Mr. Murugan Geetha Anush, one of the PAC members, presented a talk on developing financial literacy in children at an early age. In a first of its kind, the famed in-house "In Conversation With" series, featured conversations with parents of our stellar students, Geon Jibi, an ace swimmer and Aaron George, Grade 10 topper. The idea was to make our students aware about the pivotal role played by families in the success of individuals. Based on the theme, 'Family First', they spoke about the support rendered by them in helping their children achieve their goals. On International Mother's Day, the

kindergarteners crafted handmade crowns and flower bouquets to honor their 'Super-Sheroes'. The special event 'Tea and Tiaras: Celebrating the Queens of Our Hearts!' was held on May 13, 2024, with 44 mothers participating in activities filled with creativity, collaboration, and delicious treats.

Aligning with our vision of good role models, better human beings and the best among scholars, 116 students were officially invested to the prefectorial board on May 20, 2024. Mr. Matthew Tompkins, Vice President of GEMS For Life, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Following this, the School Clubs' Investiture Ceremony on May 23 highlighted the pivotal role of school clubs in fostering skills and hubs of talents. Presidents, Secretaries and Coordinators for 21 clubs were invested. The newly elected prefectorial board met on May 23 to plan and collaborate for the year ahead. They also re-visited the school vision statement. The Primary School Prefect Investiture was held on May 16. The Ace-Scholar Ceremony held on 9th May, celebrated the dedication and perseverance of 48 scholars.

OOBites are always facilitated with opportunities to remain agile and be in sync with future needs. Grade 12 students were provided an online internship stint with 8billionideas, exploring fields like Human Resources, Product Management, and Sales & Marketing. At the GEMS Principals' Education Conference, we presented two innovative applications: the WOW (Weeks of Well – being)app and the Smiling Minds. These were developed by our students, Samford Sebin and Aditya Rajesh, alongside teachers Ms. Hajira and Ms. Zainab. We are proud of Samford Sebin, who won the 1st place in the senior category at the Waxing Eloquent event at The Millennium School, Dubai. Our students excelled in the Al-Khaleej Quran Competition 2023-24, with Mohammed Sulaiman (10G) and Saad Khan (12A) securing First Place, and Mohammed Azim (12A) securing Second Place. Our ace cricketers, Madhav Manoj and Fadhil Ahmed secured spots in the Sharjah Under 19 Cricket Team. In the Coding competition at GMA Tech Fest, Muhammed Hayyan, Shaun Kareparambil Shelly, and Aryan Akshaykumar Shah secured third place. Our team also secured the First Runner Up in the Resilience Sustainability Competition organized at ASPAM Indian International School, mentored by Ms. Vijayalakshmi Venugopal. Congratulations to Hamad Aamir Baig (8F) who was awarded the 1st Runner-up in the Kids Achievers Award 2024 for Public Speaking, and to Philip Thomas Chummar (8D), who won the Runner-up Best Delegate of the UN Security Council, MUN Junior at GEMS Modern Academy. Devam Parth Desai (7E) was part of the UAE Academies 11 team that won the Indian National Federation Cup in Bangalore. Muhammed Eshan of Grade 12 was declared the winner of the Blog Competition, organised by TERI, India and Amarnath Sreevalsan was declared as the winner of the CBSE Budding Authors Programme 2023-24. Mithil Pramod of Grade 11 and Timothy Chummar of Grade 10 were awarded the Best Speaker and the Best Chair at the GEMS World Academy Youth Business Summit.

We celebrate the achievements of our faculty, Ms. Najla Idriss, who secured second place as a Top Teacher for her use of the Arabic reading app KUTUBEE, and Ms. Sunitha for winning the BITS STEM Teacher Award 2024 in the category of Outstanding Projects. Mr. Sanoj Abdu and Mr. Joepaul Nalppatt were selected as Head Coach and Team Manager respectively for the GEMS Education Cricket Squad for the Yuvraj Singh Center 'Camp with the Champ.'

English Week was celebrated with the theme 'Timeless Tales: Journey Through Expression'. The week also featured story narration and elocution. Hindi Week featured competitions like creating an advertisement, storytelling, poster Making, and poetry Writing.

April and May saw a multitude of activities preparing students not just academically, but also to develop them into well-rounded and responsible individuals. By learning and practising environmental stewardship from a young age, children can grow into informed, responsible, and proactive adults who are equipped to protect and sustain the planet for generations to come. A plethora of activities were organized in the Primary and Kindergarten to celebrate the Earth Day, World Environment Day and the World Ocean day. Talent Day celebrated on 7 May, 'Breakfast with Friends' on May 9. The Rubik's

Cube Challenge on May 24 in the Primary Department not only celebrated the diverse skills and abilities of students but also helped them build confidence and teamwork.

Committed to learning beyond the classroom, thirty-two boys accompanied by their teachers went for a six-night, seven days STEM trip organized by Compass International, to the United States of America, which was a memorable learning experience filled with unforgettable memories. The trip included visits to the vibrant cities of New York, Orlando and Washington D.C. KG1 learners visited the 'Sharjah Aquarium', ensuring an enriching and enjoyable experience for the little ones.

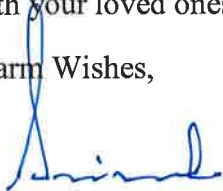
The eighth edition of our TEDx event, TEDxOOBSchool, took place on June 8, 2024, with 13 speakers presenting their thought-provoking ideas on the theme 'Reimagine.' Reimagining allows for new possibilities and better opportunities. **As we reimagine our School Vision, we invite inputs from all members of our parent community.**

Sending good vibes your way and a promise to 'Keep in touch'. For streamlined updates on the vibrant life of the OOB campus, please feel free to check out our Twitter account @OOB_GEMS, Our Instagram @gems_oob and our Facebook account <https://www.facebook.com/GEMSOwnBoys/>.

We are immensely proud of our students and staff for their remarkable achievements and look forward to continuing this journey of excellence. #TogetherWeAchieveMore.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a happy Eid al-Adha and I hope you enjoy the long weekend with your loved ones.

Warm Wishes,



Srivalsan Murugan
Principal & CEO

