



مدرستنا الثانوية الانجليزية، الشارقة - البنين
OUR OWN ENGLISH HIGH SCHOOL, SHARJAH - BOYS

GEMS
EDUCATION

Keeping in Touch

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On behalf of the Principal and CEO, Mr. Srivalsan Murugan

26 June, 2023

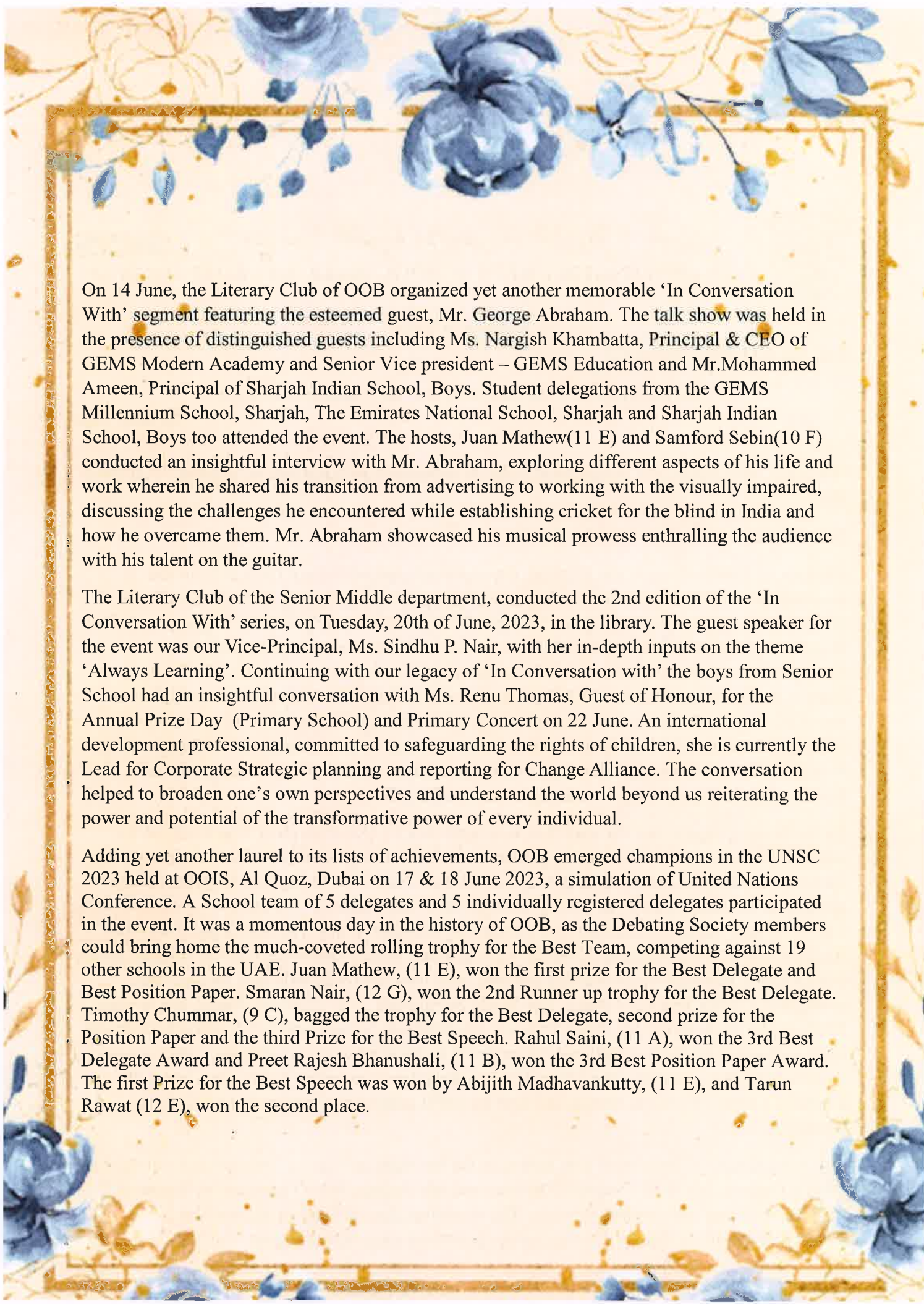
“Patience , persistence and perspiration make an unbeatable combination for success”- Napoleon Hill

Dear Parents,

Nujoom Al-Masa'a-Stars of the Evening, the much-anticipated Annual Prize Day for the academic year 2022-23, unfolded with an air of grandeur and splendour at the Sheikh Zayed Multipurpose hall on the evening of 15th June 2023. The event was graced by the presence of illustrious guests including the Chief Guest and Keynote Speaker, Mr. George Abraham, a distinguished social entrepreneur, inspirational speaker, and disability activist, Mr. Michael Guzder, Senior Vice President GEMS Education and distinguished Principals from GEMS and non- GEMS schools. In his motivational address, Mr. George Abraham conveyed the significance of having dreams in life and the unwavering commitment, determination, and discipline required to achieve them. Mr. George Abraham's message instilled a sense of hope, resilience, and a holistic perspective on living a meaningful and fulfilling life.

As the evening progressed, the audience was captivated by Our Own choir who rendered the celestial melodies crafted by musical geniuses, Muthaiah Bhagavathar and Mark Burrows. The stars of academic excellence from grades 5 to 12 were felicitated for their remarkable success along with the Look Who's Answering Champions of the academic year 2022-23 (Groups III-VI). The Principal's Award recognized four outstanding students: Philip Thomas Chummar (7D), Adithya Anush (9 E), Samford Sebin (10 F), and Tarun Manoj Rawat (12 E). The dedication and extraordinary accomplishments of the teaching staff were also acknowledged through the prestigious GEMS Teacher Awards. Ms. Bindu Sunilkumar, Ms. Mandeep Bhatia, Ms. Meagan D'Silva, Ms. Najla Idriss, Ms. Nana Sripriya, Ms. Nosheen Naeem, and Ms. Sunitha Sudhakaran were applauded for their exceptional commitment and tireless efforts in shaping young minds. Additionally, the esteemed Core Value Teacher Award was presented to Mr. Joy George for instilling a sense of selfless service amongst the OOB community through the Sewa Club initiatives.

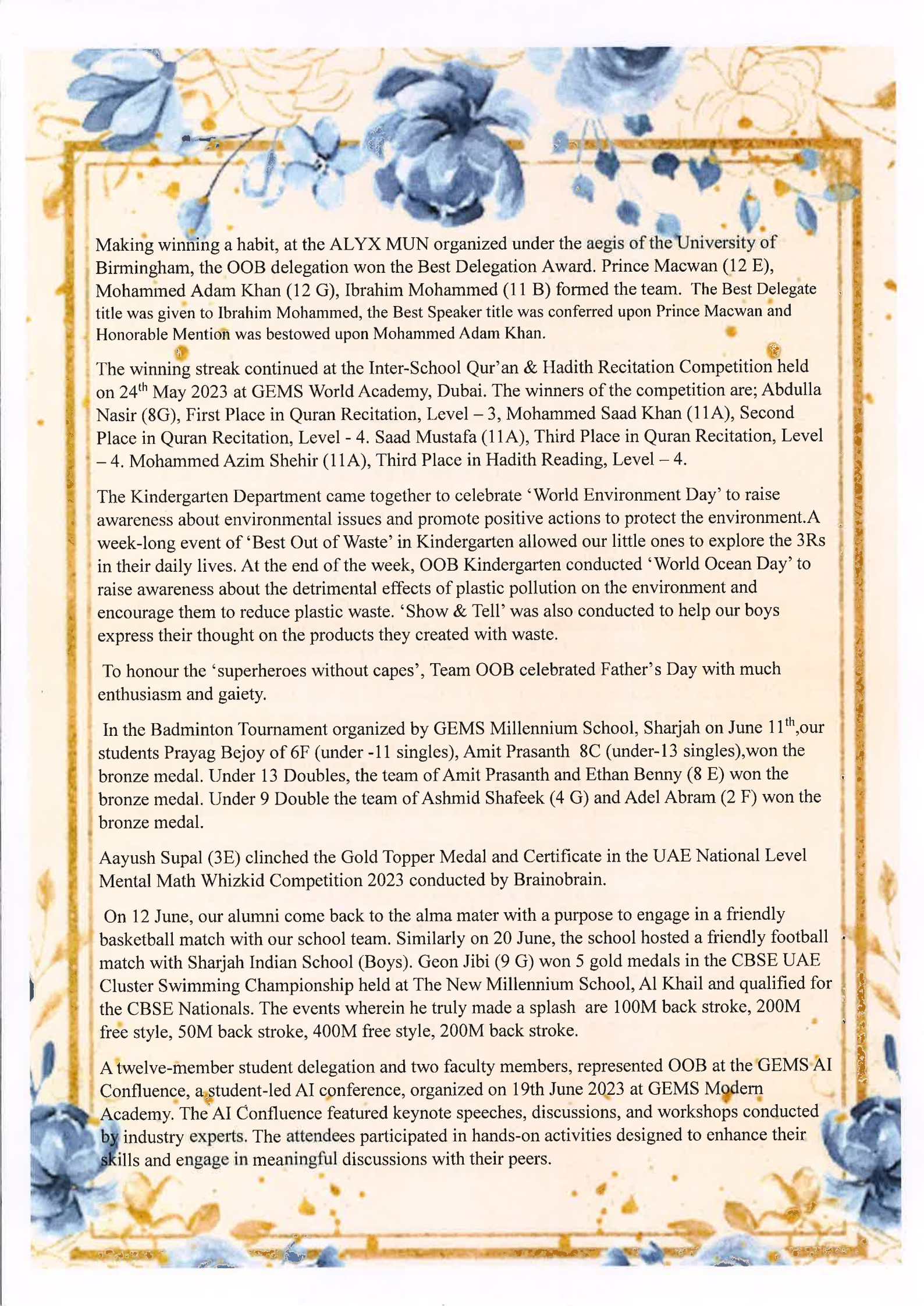
The Administrative department also basked in the limelight as three exceptional individuals, Mr. Thahar Basheer, Mr. Reji Thadathil Abraham and Ms. Judiza Rubia Laguna were honoured for their unparalleled commitment to work. The crowning glory of the evening was the announcement of the Overall Championship, bestowed upon Jupiter House.



On 14 June, the Literary Club of OOB organized yet another memorable 'In Conversation With' segment featuring the esteemed guest, Mr. George Abraham. The talk show was held in the presence of distinguished guests including Ms. Nargish Khambatta, Principal & CEO of GEMS Modern Academy and Senior Vice president – GEMS Education and Mr. Mohammed Ameen, Principal of Sharjah Indian School, Boys. Student delegations from the GEMS Millennium School, Sharjah, The Emirates National School, Sharjah and Sharjah Indian School, Boys too attended the event. The hosts, Juan Mathew(11 E) and Samford Sebin(10 F) conducted an insightful interview with Mr. Abraham, exploring different aspects of his life and work wherein he shared his transition from advertising to working with the visually impaired, discussing the challenges he encountered while establishing cricket for the blind in India and how he overcame them. Mr. Abraham showcased his musical prowess enthralling the audience with his talent on the guitar.

The Literary Club of the Senior Middle department, conducted the 2nd edition of the 'In Conversation With' series, on Tuesday, 20th of June, 2023, in the library. The guest speaker for the event was our Vice-Principal, Ms. Sindhu P. Nair, with her in-depth inputs on the theme 'Always Learning'. Continuing with our legacy of 'In Conversation with' the boys from Senior School had an insightful conversation with Ms. Renu Thomas, Guest of Honour, for the Annual Prize Day (Primary School) and Primary Concert on 22 June. An international development professional, committed to safeguarding the rights of children, she is currently the Lead for Corporate Strategic planning and reporting for Change Alliance. The conversation helped to broaden one's own perspectives and understand the world beyond us reiterating the power and potential of the transformative power of every individual.

Adding yet another laurel to its lists of achievements, OOB emerged champions in the UNSC 2023 held at OOIS, Al Quoz, Dubai on 17 & 18 June 2023, a simulation of United Nations Conference. A School team of 5 delegates and 5 individually registered delegates participated in the event. It was a momentous day in the history of OOB, as the Debating Society members could bring home the much-coveted rolling trophy for the Best Team, competing against 19 other schools in the UAE. Juan Mathew, (11 E), won the first prize for the Best Delegate and Best Position Paper. Smaran Nair, (12 G), won the 2nd Runner up trophy for the Best Delegate. Timothy Chummar, (9 C), bagged the trophy for the Best Delegate, second prize for the Position Paper and the third Prize for the Best Speech. Rahul Saini, (11 A), won the 3rd Best Delegate Award and Preet Rajesh Bhanushali, (11 B), won the 3rd Best Position Paper Award. The first Prize for the Best Speech was won by Abijith Madhavankutty, (11 E), and Tarun Rawat (12 E), won the second place.



Making winning a habit, at the ALYX MUN organized under the aegis of the University of Birmingham, the OOB delegation won the Best Delegation Award. Prince Macwan (12 E), Mohammed Adam Khan (12 G), Ibrahim Mohammed (11 B) formed the team. The Best Delegate title was given to Ibrahim Mohammed, the Best Speaker title was conferred upon Prince Macwan and Honorable Mention was bestowed upon Mohammed Adam Khan.

The winning streak continued at the Inter-School Qur'an & Hadith Recitation Competition held on 24th May 2023 at GEMS World Academy, Dubai. The winners of the competition are; Abdulla Nasir (8G), First Place in Quran Recitation, Level – 3, Mohammed Saad Khan (11A), Second Place in Quran Recitation, Level - 4. Saad Mustafa (11A), Third Place in Quran Recitation, Level – 4. Mohammed Azim Shehir (11A), Third Place in Hadith Reading, Level – 4.

The Kindergarten Department came together to celebrate 'World Environment Day' to raise awareness about environmental issues and promote positive actions to protect the environment. A week-long event of 'Best Out of Waste' in Kindergarten allowed our little ones to explore the 3Rs in their daily lives. At the end of the week, OOB Kindergarten conducted 'World Ocean Day' to raise awareness about the detrimental effects of plastic pollution on the environment and encourage them to reduce plastic waste. 'Show & Tell' was also conducted to help our boys express their thought on the products they created with waste.

To honour the 'superheroes without capes', Team OOB celebrated Father's Day with much enthusiasm and gaiety.

In the Badminton Tournament organized by GEMS Millennium School, Sharjah on June 11th, our students Prayag Bejoy of 6F (under -11 singles), Amit Prasanth 8C (under-13 singles), won the bronze medal. Under 13 Doubles, the team of Amit Prasanth and Ethan Benny (8 E) won the bronze medal. Under 9 Double the team of Ashmid Shafeek (4 G) and Adel Abram (2 F) won the bronze medal.

Aayush Supal (3E) clinched the Gold Topper Medal and Certificate in the UAE National Level Mental Math Whizkid Competition 2023 conducted by Brainobrain.

On 12 June, our alumni come back to the alma mater with a purpose to engage in a friendly basketball match with our school team. Similarly on 20 June, the school hosted a friendly football match with Sharjah Indian School (Boys). Geon Jibi (9 G) won 5 gold medals in the CBSE UAE Cluster Swimming Championship held at The New Millennium School, Al Khail and qualified for the CBSE Nationals. The events wherein he truly made a splash are 100M back stroke, 200M free style, 50M back stroke, 400M free style, 200M back stroke.

A twelve-member student delegation and two faculty members, represented OOB at the GEMS AI Confluence, a student-led AI conference, organized on 19th June 2023 at GEMS Modern Academy. The AI Confluence featured keynote speeches, discussions, and workshops conducted by industry experts. The attendees participated in hands-on activities designed to enhance their skills and engage in meaningful discussions with their peers.

Some of the areas explored include XR and AI, Future Workforce Generative AI, AI and ethics, AI and humanity, and, AI and Policy during the event.

The student leadership team comprising Smaran Nair (12 G), Mohammed Zafar (12 D), Basil Sunil (12 B), Mirav Prajapat (11 B) Juan Mathew (11 E) and Madhav Nair (11 B) attended the third edition of The Interschool Youth Leadership Summit held on 20 June at Winchester School, Jebel Ali bringing together aspiring young leaders from fifteen schools. The event helped to foster their leadership potential instilling a sense of responsibility through their valuable insights over the themes of Sustainability, Education, Healthcare, Sports and Technology.

The School was recently honoured with a Certificate of Appreciation and Recognition from BEEAH which was received by the Principal & CEO, Mr. Srivalsan Murugan for the school's stupendous efforts towards Sustainability and Recycling. Nearly 2600kg of paper was collected in the month of April and handed over to the organization.

On 22nd June, the Primary Department hosted its scintillating Annual Prize Day and Primary Concert for the year 2022-23 with the theme 'The World Beyond'. The keynote speaker Ms. Renu Thomas exhorted the gathering to leave meaningful imprints through their actions. The academic achievers from grades 1 to 4 were felicitated for their academic prowess along with honouring the Look Who's Answering Champions (Groups I-II). The Principal's Award winner from the Primary Department was Adhib Zayaan Subeesh (5 C). The evening witnessed sailing through stormy seas to sojourn at mysterious islands and return with the priceless life- lesson that 'Friends accept you for who you are, but also help you become who you should be'. The action packed, musical rendition of Sinbad- the Modern Saga was our own adaptation of the Legend of Sinbad, the Sailor. The Principal & CEO, Mr. Srivalsan Murugan in his cameo role urged the audience to find the Sinbad in each one of us and explore the infinite possibilities.

We thank you for your unstinted support as we continue to forge a collaborative bond to lend roots and wings to our boys in their transformative journey. We post regular updates on the day-to-day happenings of our school on our Twitter account @OOB_GEMS, Instagram @gems_oob, and our Facebook account <https://www.facebook.com/GEMSOurOwnBoys/>. Do follow us on social media so that you never miss the happenings in the school.

On the occasion of Eid Al Adha, Team OOB wishes Eid Mubarak to you and your loved ones! With the onset of summer holidays, do take time to rejuvenate, refresh and recharge creating memorable memories along the way! Stay blessed always!

Warm Regards,

Jessy Paulose



Supervisor – National Agenda, UAE Social Studies & Moral Education

Designated Safeguarding Lead