

#### **Keeping in Touch**

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## On behalf of the Principal and CEO, Srivalsan Murugan

15 September 2022

Challenges are what make life interesting and overcoming them is what makes life meaningful. — Joshua J. Marine

We're back to school after hitting the snooze button on our long summer break. I hope everyone is feeling refreshed and revitalized after the summer break. The first drops of monsoon rain are welcomed with joy by a parched planet that can now absorb their life-giving energy. I'm assuming the rains back in India had the same effect on everyone who visited the country. We're overjoyed to have our boys back in the classroom where they belong. As the seasons shift and summer ends, it's time to move on to the next stage. It is going to be a thrilling time when students embark upon new adventures in the world of learning. As they explore new avenues and accrue new skills, a conducive environment will enable them to apply their learning in many ways.

The journey of Our Own Boys as an independent entity was in the year 2007. As such, the school celebrates its Crystal anniversary this year. To mark this momentous occasion, 22 staff members who had completed 15 years of dedicated service to the institution were honoured on the occasion of Teacher's Day on 5 September.

The students of OOB are a constant source of pride and inspiration for all of us. They continue to excel, surpassing all our expectations. In the *All India Senior School Certificate Examination (AISSCE)* and *All India Secondary School Examinations (AISSE)* of 2021-22, our students have produced exemplary results with a 100% pass percentage.

# **Grade 12 Highlights**

- Mehul Agarwal and Sahil Khan topped the Science stream with a whopping 97.2%, followed closely by Abhinav Bharadwaj Nookala with 96.4% and Nayan Shenoy with 96.2%.
- Job Panackamittathu Cheriachen emerged as the Commerce topper with 95.8%, followed by Kevin Joy with 94.8% and Taha Shabbir Hussain with 93.2%.
- Overall school average 81.84%, with an average of 84.05% for the Science stream and 78.02% for the Commerce stream.
- 25.3% of students have scored 90% and above and the following students have scored centum:
  - > COMPUTER SCIENCE (100%): ABHINAVA BHARADWAJ NOOKALA
  - > CHEMISTRY (100%): MEHUL AGARWAL, SHAFEEQ AHAMED and SAHIL KHAN
  - ➤ MATHEMATICS (100%): AMMAR ABDUL RASHEED

### **Grade 10 Highlights**

- Arin Shakil Kunju topped the school with 97.6%, followed by Gaurav Gopikrishna with 97.2% and Ameya Amit Atak with 96.8%.
- Overall school average 81.96%.
- ARIN SHAKIL KUNJU, AMEYA AMIT ATAK, MOHAMMED ZAFAR, JOESTON JOHN D SOUZA and SANJOE THOMAS secured A1 in all subjects.
- 26.88% of students have scored 90% and above and the following students have scored centum
  - ➤ Science (100%): RIYANKUMAR DINESHBHAI SURATI, SHREYAAS KRISHNAMURTHY and BASIL SUNIL
  - ➤ Mathematics Standard ( 100%): SHREYAAS KRISHNAMURTHY, DENNIS JAISON THOMAS, GAURAV GOPIKRISHNA, and SREYAS SANIL
  - French (100%): ARIN SHAKIL KUNJU
  - > CBSE Arabic(100%): MOHAMMED ZAFAR
  - > Artificial Intelligence (100%): IRAJ NAIR and RAYHAN FERSHID

On August 25th, GEMS Education welcomed and inducted 1,600 new educators to its fraternity. Sixteen teachers from OOB attended the GEMS Awareness Day program at Atlantis. In the history of the GEMS Education Teacher Induction Event, The GEMS Awareness Day, this year has been special with the involvement of students to usher in the new recruits grandly into the organization. Among the many applicants from various GEMS schools, Tarun Rawat from 11 D, was chosen to shine as the emcee of the event. The result was a spectacular show, illustrating the possibilities of a GEMS student in front of an imposing audience of thousands of educators and top leaders of GEMS. Our faculty, Ms. Shereen Elza Joji was one of the lead singers in the GEMS Teachers Choir at the event.

In an effort to support teachers to expand their knowledge, learn new skills, and achieve their career aspirations, a week-long Professional Learning and Development session was conducted in the last week of August 2022.

"It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge." We celebrate Teacher's day every year on the 5th of September as a tribute to the great teacher Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan – the second President of India. Our boys of grades 11 and 12 performed a scintillating cultural show to denote their love, respect, acknowledgment, and recognition of the hard work put in by the teachers towards their holistic development. They also entertained teachers by arranging fun games for them. A special assembly was presented by the boys of grades 5 & 6. The very special idea that left a question behind, 'Would our boys make great teachers?' was the highlight of the whole show.

The Kindergarten corridor has been buzzing with energy and happy vibes as our little stars returned to campus and the never-ending fun continues. The department's first assembly after the reopening of school was presented by the budding storytellers of KG2B. Seeing the boys on stage performing with such fervour and enthusiasm, was a real treat.

"Reading adds value to any individual's life. It's a beautiful thing. It really changes one's mindset and mood." For the past 3 years, the pandemic has disturbed the planet in almost all sectors. More than 90 percent of the world's students are affected by the school closure due to lockdown. This year, UNESCO has designated "rethink the fundamental importance of literacy

learning spaces to build resilience" as the theme for World Literacy Day. On this occasion, students and teachers across the school participated in a DEAR session (Drop Everything and Read) devoting the entire period to reading for 35 minutes.

The middle school celebrated 'Emerim 2022', an event meant to honor the middle school's club leaders and the teachers who oversee them. Students of the middle school have had these platforms and opportunities where they have showcased their talents in areas like creative writing, radio jockeying, and speaking skills among others. The Principal honoured student representatives of these clubs with badges and acknowledged the teachers in charge on stage.

Students make the school proud everyday through their achievements, enthusiasm, and wholehearted participation in various activities.

The following students secured a Gold / Bronze/ Silver scholar certificate in the Asset Talent Search Examination

7A	Sharan Satvik	Gold	
	Aayush Kamath	Bronze	
7D	Satvik Gupta	Bronze	
7G	Shivad Sasi	Bronze	
8D	Adithya Rajesh	Silver	
8F	Shaan Ransley Pinto	Bronze	
8G	Indhraneil Saju Sivas	Silver	

- \* Kevin John Ciju of grade 6E, Ritvik Nair of grade 6B, Mohammed Ali of 6G, and Milan Tom of grade 6F won the first position in the Math Challenge competition held at GEMS Cambridge School, Sharjah on 29th June 2022.
- Aditya Rajesh of 8D participated in the #OnlyOneEarth World Environment Day competition conducted by the Students Factory Team. He was selected as the Judge's choice winner for the High school category.
- ♣ On September 10th, NIMS, Dubai hosted an interschool Sudoku and mathematics quiz competition, where our young mathematicians excelled. They displayed exceptional skills in problem-solving and logical reasoning. In the Sub Junior division, Hainz Niren Abraham of 5F and Ritwik Gupta of 4C took first and second place, respectively. Tharun Muthukrishnan of 6A bagged 1st place in the Junior category and Kasinadh Anurag of 8E won 3rd place in the Senior category.

We have picked up where we left off with all of our onsite club activities in full force. This quarter, in addition to our academic obligations, we have a plethora of activities planned, and the Annual Prize Day is first on the agenda.

### GEMS For Life - Opening doors for a lifetime of opportunity

GEMS For Life offers opportunities for learners to gain real-world experience and transferable skills while they explore career and further education options. They encourage them to stand out from the crowd by offering exciting industry pathways that strengthen their personal profiles supported by rigorous university courses they can study while still in school.

For more information: https://www.gemsforlife.net/

At OOB, we strive toward igniting minds to educate, engage and empower. We are ever so proud of our students and teachers and indebted to our parents who have entrusted us with the task of preparing their children for the wonderfully challenging and rewarding world of tomorrow.

With a promise to "Keep in Touch," we look forward to a year of ignited spirits and hopes. We are active on twitter@OOB GEMS and Facebook at www.Facebook.com/GEMSOurOwnBoys/. Do follow us there for regular updates.

Please note that we are also on Instagram now, with the handle,@gems\_oob. By following us on social media and sharing our news, you reprise yourself as a brand ambassador for us.

Warm Regards,

Faizal AK

**Head of Senior Section**