



Keeping in Touch - FROM A D I S T A N C E

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18 October 2020

Dear Parent,

It gives me great pleasure to revive 'Keeping in Touch' after the summer break. As you are aware distance learning continued when the school reopened on 30th of August and since 27th of September students have been returning to campus. The number of students who have opted for the blended learning approach is not very high but we hope it will improve as the days go by.

Please find below some updates from our campus. I am sure you will enjoy reading this.

Our Own English High School, Sharjah, Boys' takes a lot of pride in being an outstanding school in meeting the needs of our students. This was re-affirmed by Sharjah Education Council in a virtual ceremony held on 17th October, announcing and felicitating our school at the 26th session of The Sharjah Awards for Educational Excellence in the Distinguished School category – second position. Gaurav Jayaprakash of Grade 6, recipient of the Distinguished Student Award, was also honoured at the ceremony.

Another milestone achieved by the school was when 28 students graduated with their Bronze Awards after successfully completing the requirements for The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Foundation. A virtual ceremony was organized on 4th October to present the awards. Kudos to the Award Coordinator, Joepaul Nalppatt, for his significant contribution to this achievement. The Chief Guest for the evening was Mr. Jonathan Bramley, Vice President, Communications, GEMS Education, who, in his inspiring speech, told the boys to be open to all opportunities, be the authentic YOU and treat everyone with respect. For the uninitiated, The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is available to all 14-24-year-old students and is the world's leading youth achievement award operating across 140 countries around the globe. It equips all young people for life regardless of their background, culture, physical ability, skills and interests. Our school is licensed as an 'Independent Award Centre' to deliver this programme to registered students.

The ebullient OOB Quiz team comprising of Pranav Rajesh and Sreehari Sreejith of Grade X emerged worthy winners in the online Inter School Quiz Competition conducted under the aegis of Science India Forum on 10th October. The theme of the Quiz celebrated the life and works of India's eminent scientist and the former 'People's President' Dr A.P.J Abdul Kalam. The felicitation ceremony for the same was held on 15th October, 2020 coinciding with the birth anniversary of the distinguished academician cum statesman. Sreehari Sreejith was also declared the week 3 winner of the prestigious Star Quiz Online Challenge 2020. Under the aegis of ACT Universal FZE, an Inter-School Online Speech Competition in English and Hindi, was held on 2nd October to commemorate the International Non-Violence Day. Our participants delivered stellar performances. Shiva Srinivasan of Grade 8 clinched the first place in the English (juniors) category. Vidit Shah of Grade 8 secured the second place in the Hindi (juniors) category. Varun Rawat of Grade 12 earned the jury's special recommendation in the Hindi (seniors) category. The very talented Shiva Srinivasan and his brother Kiran Srinivasan

of Grade12 (Class of 2020) were adjudged the second-place winners in 'A Story By Me', a competition for writing and illustrating children's picture book, held by SPEA. Their story titled 'Future Rebuilt' highlighting the need for planting trees for a better future won a cash award of AED 4,500. Swasaanth Sudhanthira Selvan of Grade 7 won the 2nd position in the poetry writing competition organized by the Consulate General of India, Dubai, held on the occasion of the Indian Independence Day. Kudos to the Champions and their Teacher Mentors! Renowned entrepreneur and educationalist, Arpit Dugar, delivered a career guidance talk to the students of Grades 10 and 12 on 18th October, providing an insight into the future job market and the skills required for the same. He engaged in an interactive Q/A session advising the boys to consider a multi –faceted approach to career development.

The KG and Primary department celebrated days to commemorate varied themes viz Explorers of Global Goals Day on 13th October, Puzzle Day on 14th October, Life Skills Day and Universal Music Day on 15th October. From learning to tie a shoe lace to using a fork and knife, from learning to cover a book to wrapping a gift we had it all on Life Skills Day. These skills are imperative for children to be successful in their lives as they learn to incorporate them into their daily life. Students of Grade 1E were the ambassadors of Zero Hunger as they took us on a journey from the farm to the plate during a special assembly on World Food Day on 15th October. The Latin motto of FAO, 'Fiat Panis – Let there be bread' resonated with the participants and audience alike. Universal Music Day saw kindergarteners creating child friendly percussion instruments and encouraging everyone to create heart to heart connections through music. Puzzle Day was organized to help students develop cognitive skills, hand-eye coordination, spatial skills as they put the puzzles together.

Kindly note that a circular regarding the Open House will be sent from the respective Heads of Sections, soon.

Meanwhile, we have much to celebrate as we proudly declare that our faculty member, Ms. Nazia, from the Middle School has received a certificate of thanks and appreciation from the Ministry of Health and Prevention for her participation and volunteering in the phase 3 clinical trials of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Currently, registration for the new academic session 2021-22 is on and you may wish to refer OOB to your family and friends. To enroll, click the link: [Enrollment - OOB](#)

Continuing with our series of #Super Sunday Well –being Tips - you must engage in positive self –talk always, i.e., change a negative message to a positive one. For example, don't tell yourself, "I can't do this." Instead tell yourself, "I can do this," or "I'm doing the best I can."

Let us all do our best to remain safe and keep our community and neighborhood safe.

Warm Wishes,



Srivalsan Murugan
Principal & CEO