

COLLOQUIUM

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#ALWAYSTOGETHER

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INTER
VIEWS

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CEPTION

FUN

VOLUME 3 | ISSUE 2

THE BELL

Anticipated by students...

OOB concert
'Gandhi' makes
history amid
excellent reviews

>>> More Inside



THE BELL

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This is probably one of those rare occasions when you decide to read the editorial for whatever reason, unless you are one of those who carefully study every line of a publication to avail of the gratification of spotting a misspelt word or a missing full stop

Not reading editorials is a very widespread phenomenon among human beings. About 3 in every 3 humans are affected by this puzzling yet fairly common habit.

There is an underlying reason. Writing style. In my observations I have discovered that articles, stories and poems that assume a first-person perspective have a better chance to captivate the reader than a third-person perspective.

No wonder thick volumes on mathematics have always been boring!

Speaking about editorials in particular, the 'BORING!' scale hits a new high. When was the last time you read an editorial that did not deal with an abstract topic? 'Stay Positive!' and 'Children's magazine editorial' are possibly almost synonymous. As a result, editorials rarely have any incentive to be read.

I propose to change that!

I have a dream, a dream where editorials are interesting and worth reading, a dream where people take away something useful after reading an editorial. So to all aspiring editors out there: ~~BE UNIQUE~~ Don't refer to other editorials before writing your own.

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GULF DEBATES

The Gulf Debates took place at Jumeirah College on Friday 23 November, 2018. Three teams from our school participated in the Junior Category and one in the Senior. The one-day event had the participation of 36 schools.

After three rounds of debates (1 impromptu and 2 prepared) there was a decisive power round. The aggregate score fixes them in 4 divisions viz; Cup, Plate, Bowl and Shield. Three teams from our school entered the semi finals. Our senior team entered the finals in the Plate Division and won the second prize. Team A in the Junior Category, lost in the semi finals. They received a trophy for the third place in the Bowl Division. Team B lost in the semi finals and Team C could make it only up to the quarter final.

The day-long debate was indeed an edifying experience for our debaters. They gave a tough time to the opponents - most of whom were of international curricula or native English speakers. Though deadbeat, after a long tiring day, all returned with spirits and heads high with the satisfaction of having done their best and learning newer strategies of debating.



BOOK FAIR

Cherishing the love of reading in accordance with the International Library Week, OOB was proud to host a Book Fair within the campus. Held for two days on the 12th and 13th of November, the Book Fair was graced by the presence of author and alumnus Hrishikesh, who had the pleasure of inaugurating the fair. Students were greeted by a plethora of books on a variety of topics and genres at the school auditorium, which were available at discounted prices. Besides aiming at cultivating the habit of reading among students, the Book fair was also successful in providing the opportunity for students to make independent purchases.



COMMEMORATION DAY

On 29th November 2018, the school observed Martyrs' Day. From 8 am to 11.30 am the UAE flag was at half mast. It was followed by a minute's silence. The UAE flag was raised again by the Principal along with the Senior Management team and the administration personnel at the main venue. This was followed by the rendition of the UAE National Anthem.

Simultaneously the Supervisors of the various Departments followed a similar protocol in the Quadrangles and the Sheikh Zayed Multipurpose Hall. Early in the morning, during the House Assemblies, the significance of the day was reiterated to the student community underscoring that the monumental sacrifices of the Emirati martyrs would not go in vain and the nation cherishes them fondly.

CONSULATE

DEBATE



The 19th Inter -School debate competition was held at GEMS Our Own Indian School on 4 th October, 2018 in partnership with the Indian Consulate. His Excellency, the Consul General, Mr. Vipul was present to witness the verbal battle. Our students, Aryan Krishnan and Soham Chawda brought home the much-coveted Championship Trophy. Aryan was the best speaker on side proposition and Soham was the second on the opposition. The motion for the finals was “Artificial intelligence and Robotics is a dangerous invasion into the humane world”. There was a preliminary round on 26 September 2018 in which 27 schools had participated. 8 schools got qualified to compete in the finals.

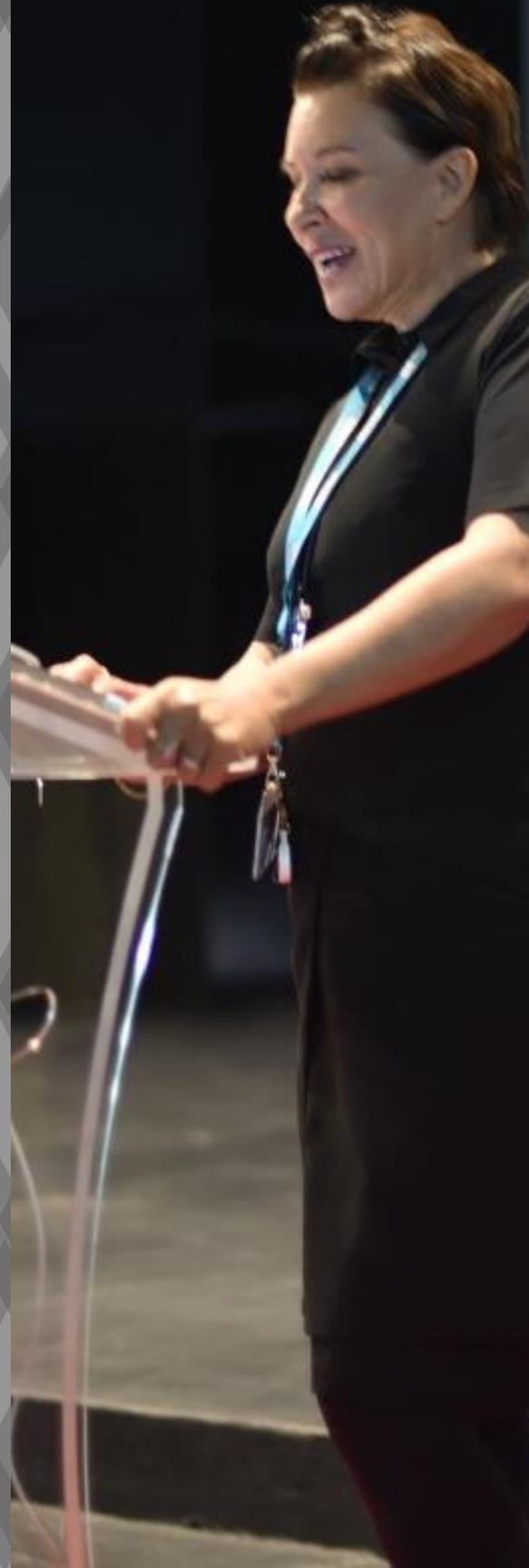


OOB COLLOQUIUM

WITH TRACY MØXLEY

REPORT

On 2nd October 2018, OOB bore witness to a historic milestone- its first ever Colloquium- a thinking hub of deliberation and discussion on various topics that confront the young learners of today. The inaugural meeting of the OOB Colloquium was graced by Ms. Tracy Moxley, Head of Global Education Initiatives (GEMS Education). She has been involved in Global Citizenship Education for more than twenty years, thus possessing immense experience and thoughts on real world issues. The event was concluded with a Q and A session with Miss Moxley on the pertinent theme of Global Citizenship in today's times.



AVINASH SWIMS TO SUCCESS!

It was a proud moment for the school when the OOBite from grade 5, Avinash won three medals, 1 silver and 2 bronze at the CBSE UAE Cluster Swimming



Competition 2018 conducted at Bright Riders School, Abu Dhabi. He also qualified for the CBSE Nationals in 50 metres back stroke. It was his commitment, steadiness and determination that helped him to achieve success. We wish him many more years of extraordinary achievements!

GEMS XHIBIT

GEMS organized a high-profile event 'GEMS Xhibit', on 25th September at Emirates Towers. The event was graced by the presence of His Excellency Omar bin Sultan Al Olama, UAE Minister of State for Artificial Intelligence and 200 leading professionals from the public and private sectors, including organisations such as Dubai Future Foundation, DEWA, Emirates, Emirates NBD, VISA, GE and more. The focus of the event was to raise awareness of our youth's innovation, entrepreneurial and technical skills and to increase collaboration and youth work opportunities with organizations. This event included a student product showcase, a student vs. business challenge and a talent hunt where businesses engaged with students on ideas, feedback and skills of the future.

OOB projects that were showcased at the event-

- 1) Vision Education
- 2) Drone Aid
- 3) Apollo
- 4) V Loops





IN CONVERSATION
WITH LILLY
SINGH

7th November 2018 will go down in the history books of OOB as one of the most iconic days of the school. On this day, the one and only Lilly Singh aka Superwoman, graced OOB with her presence.

In the latest addition to the school's "In Conversation With" segments, the content connoisseur was interviewed by Aryan Krishnan (11B) and Vighnesh Prasad (12C), on matters ranging from her YouTube career and success to her UNICEF endeavors and even feminism. The interview segued smoothly into the book signing, where a plethora of fans were blessed with a golden opportunity to meet her. Glimpses of her experience have been put up on YouTube, in her vlogging channel, SuperwomanVlogs.

Apart from OOB being absolutely starstruck by the whole experience, we were all thoroughly inspired by her raw perspective on life and success, her journey from humble beginnings, and her absolutely witty approach to convey her message. OOB will indeed take to her inspiring book and strive towards becoming Bawses, ready to conquer life with confidence and willpower.

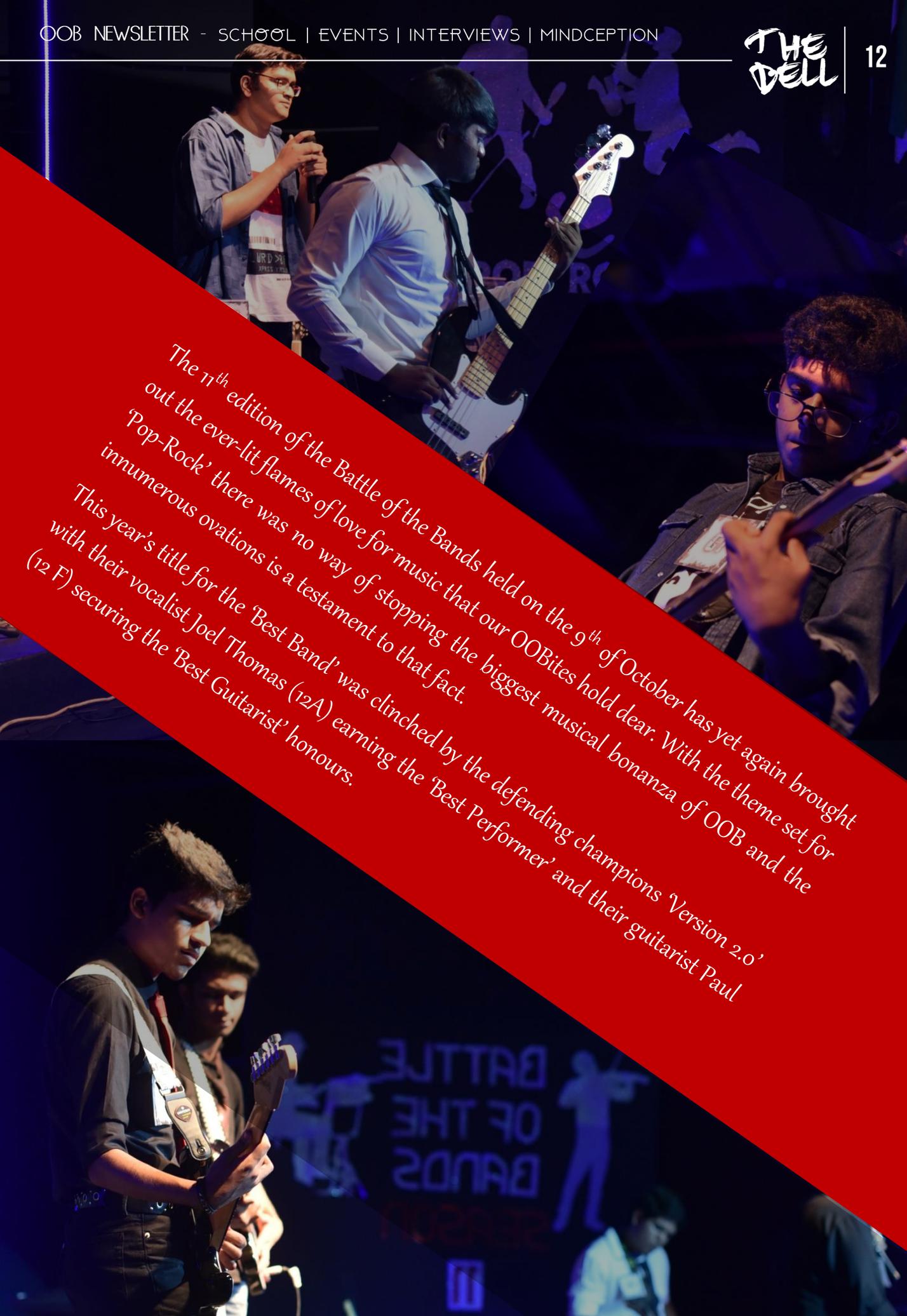




BATTLE OF THE BANDS

SEASON 11





The 11th edition of the Battle of the Bands held on the 9th of October has yet again brought out the ever-lit flames of love for music that our OOBites hold dear. With the theme set for 'Pop-Rock' there was no way of stopping the biggest musical bonanza of OOB and the innumerable ovations is a testament to that fact.

This year's title for the 'Best Band' was clinched by the defending champions 'Version 2.0' with their vocalist Joel Thomas (12A) earning the 'Best Performer' and their guitarist Paul (12 F) securing the 'Best Guitarist' honours.

LITERARY WEEK

The students of OOB participated in the Literary Fest conducted by the English department from the 15th to the 20th of September 2018, under the tag line, 'Words finite...Imagination infinite'. Winners were awarded with gift vouchers from DC books..

The week-long celebration of the English language witnessed a host of engaging activities and competitions, ranging from speaking and acting to marketing and commentary, enhancing the students' diverse thinking and helping them hone their creativity and imagination. All the way from Primary to the Senior section of the school, the Fest was received greatly by students and faculty alike. 20th September witnessed the thrilling conclusion to the endeavor by the felicitation of the winners and entertaining the audience with the winning performances of the 'Literary Fest'.

Harshal Bini of class 9G and Mohammed Umair of class 4D were recipients of the 'Senior and Junior Eloquator' award respectively for displaying exemplary skill in the use of this universal language in its myriad forms.



VIGNESH 12C
KIRAN 11B

LOOK WHO'S ANSWERING

SENIORS

For many years, OOB has been producing inquisitive juggernauts who have honored the school banner with accolades in quizzing. And it is pertinent that, in the same manner as we have inter school competitions where quizzers represent OOB, we also have an intra-school competition for budding inquizitors.

The 2nd edition of the seniors Look Who's Answering competition was held on Thursday, 15 November 2018. Participating in it were 4 contestants, Mihir Dinesh of XII D, Sidhaarthaa SV of XII D, Aniket Roy of XI A and Rehan Nasar of XI A. These four emerged as the top contenders after two written rounds with 470 students taking the initial test, from which 44 moved to the next round. The finals was anchored by Vighnesh Prasad of Grade XII C. The opening round was conducted by our Principal and CEO Mr Srivalasan Murugan who aptly asked questions on books in keeping with Library Week. The quizmasters for the rounds were Ms. Geeta Ramanath and Cyriac George of Grade X. The 4 contestants were put through 9 intense rounds of nerve-wracking quizzing. Mihir Dinesh emerged victorious as the Senior Inquizitor of OOB.

As the baton of Inquizitor is being passed down and the dawn of graduation is upon us, OOB eagerly awaits to see who will be the next quiz whiz.

RHAPSODY

KARAOKE

For the 4th consecutive year, the Rhapsody Music Club of Our Own Boys' organized the 'Rhapsody Solo Singing- Karaoke Competition' with the aim of showcasing the performing skills of all its members and the school community at large. The competition which was held from 17th to 19th September witnessed a tremendous response from the school community.

The main objective of this competition is to create a platform for all the musically talented artistes of the community to showcase their singing prowess. The amazing performances by parents, students and staff of OOB captivated the audience. Parents performing duets with their wards demonstrated not only their support and encouragement for their own, but also endorsed the endeavor of the school in promoting the talented.

The performances in various Indian languages ensured cultural togetherness as it culminated into a great evening of diverse and multicultural entertainment.



SAUDI ARABIA

NATIONAL DAY

The Saudi National Day was celebrated with gusto and gaiety on 23 September, 2018 at OOB, Sharjah. The visitors to the school were greeted to the sight of the Saudi Flag displayed at the Reception. In honour of the event, the Saudi National Anthem was sung. The Moral Education period on Sunday(23/9/18) across the school was transformed to knowing more about UAE's biggest neighbour – Saudi Arabia. A plethora of related activities were conducted for the students to highlight the deep bond of friendship shared by the twin regional economic powerhouses. The speech by Mohammed Adnan of Grade XII through the Public Address system highlighted how the two nations have forged an alliance of economic prosperity, striving relentlessly for the happiness and welfare of the people. Indeed the day marked the shared history and closeness of the two nations as rightfully summed through #Always_Together.



SEN WORKSHOP

OOB believes that regular communication and interaction with its parent community forms the cornerstone of the school's success story. With this intent, a coffee morning was organized for the parents of the determined ones on 26th September, 2018. The workshop commenced with the SEN team welcoming the parents to the session and introducing the guest speaker, Ms Anu Margaret. Ms. Anu is a social worker and a child specialist working in a clinic under the umbrella of NMC with 20 years of experience.

She briefed the parents about the learning strategies that could be employed as parental strategies at home with relatable examples. Various behavior strategies were discussed and ideas were shared. Some of the topics covered in her presentation were curriculum, importance of parental involvement, outcomes of psychometric assessments and how to improve learning. She also touched upon behaviour management techniques with appropriate examples and shared a few case-studies. She gave tips on how to train children and the importance of timely intervention.

The Principal, Mr. Srivalsan Murugan, then addressed the gathering and reiterated the School Inclusion Policy and assured complete support from the school. Parents shared their suggestions, interacted with the guest speaker and other participants. The workshop concluded with the Headmistress Designate, Ms. Sindhu Padmanabhan, thanking parents for being engaged and reminding them to keep communication channels always open.

FARE THEE WELL

On 25th of October 2018, OOB bid a fond farewell to Ms. Sindhu Sreeramakrishnan Nair who has been steering the Department of Malayalam in the school for an eventful tenure of 18 years. Sincerity and commitment personified, Ms. Sindhu has been the proud recipient of the GEMS Best Teacher Award and Priyadarshini Award. She had been serving as the house coordinator for the past 10 years with admirable poise and has also endeared herself to all of us with her countenance composed and radiant personality!

The programme commenced with the rendition of the rustic folk song of the alluring backwaters of Kerala followed by a reminiscing segment – Down the memory lane. Music rivets – a segment of fusion music by our boys – Paul, Amal, Benji and Aryan was followed by a mellifluous medley of songs by our own nightingales. The traditional dance that followed was yet another artistic treat.

The programme concluded with the handing over of a token of our love and appreciation along with a portrait to Ms. Sindhu S. Nair. We wish and pray that she be blessed with peace, happiness and prosperity in all her future endeavours.



UAE NATIONAL DAY

'This is the Year of Zayed. This is the UAE'- the fervent theme resonated across the Sheikh Zayed Multipurpose Hall on November 28, 2018 in concurrence with the 47th National Day celebrations. An array of events showcased the glorious heritage, culture, customs and traditions of the nation-our home away from home. The lilting tunes of the song dedicated to the martyrs along with the mellifluousness of the song in honour of Baba Zayed enthralled the audience. The rhythmic beats of the Al Ayala dance, the mesmerizing rain and umbrella dance, the blend of the past, present and the future captured in a foot tapping number enhanced the gaiety and the grandeur of the occasion. A short skit exhorting the present generation to serve the country culminating in a soldier dance was amply applauded. The dancers with Led lights had the audience spellbound with creative formations of the UAE flag colours.

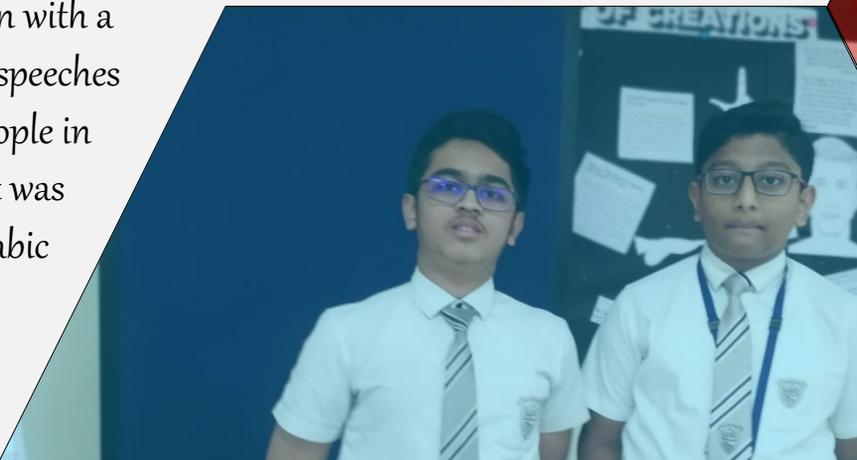
Truly it was a day of rejoicing at the birth of the nation, saluting the spirit behind the phenomenal transition and transformation of the United Arab Emirates. Long Live the Nation and its rulers!



Arabic Week

Arabic Week is celebrated every year at OOB in alignment with the national agenda framework to enhance Arabic language skills and espouse national identity in the student community. Commencing from 7th October, 2018, the week was witness to activities such as creating a 'Garden of Letters', 'Fun with Grammar', 'My language, My identity' and 'Tweeting about the Arabic Language' among others. During the course of a special assembly, a short speech on the importance of the Arabic language was given in English and Arabic. His Highness Sheikh Zayed's views on education was also discussed, followed by a video on his life.

The assembly concluded with a song 'Lughati'. A special programme was also held in the audio-visual room which began with a song 'We love Arabic'. There were speeches on 'Majlis', 'the Most generous people in Islam' and old Arabic. A short skit was performed while riddles in the Arabic language were asked. The Arabic Week integrated academics with the arts and entertainment.





“

Generations to come will scarce believe that such a one as this, ever in flesh and blood walked upon this earth” – Albert Einstein

That man was none other than Mahatma Gandhi, pioneer of non-violent principles that were largely responsible for India's independence. This legend was the focus of the OOB concert this year. The much awaited 'Gandhi' was showcased on Wednesday, 13 December 2018 with great fervour and bravado.

The evening was graced by Sir Christopher Stone, Global Chief Education Officer, MENASA (GEMS Education), Mr. Michael Guzder, Vice President, Indian Schools (GEMS Education) along with a host of distinguished dignitaries.

Celebrating 150 years of the 'Mahatma', the show brilliantly chronicled the journey of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi from his days in South Africa as a young lawyer, to the battle he waged for the independence of his motherland after his return, against the invincible might of the British empire.

The audience remained spellbound throughout as they witnessed the riveting histrionics, mellifluous songs and foot tapping dance numbers, as the 'Father of the Indian Nation' came to life on stage. The gargantuan presentation involved more than 100 students. It was yet another testimony to the prodigious talent the school boasts of and indeed sweet success for the weeks of sweat and toil put in by the cast and the crew involved. The evening reverberated with rave reviews rendering the atmosphere electric.

OOB CONCERT

REVIEWS

According to a survey conducted by The Bell, the concert received largely positive reviews. Direction, coordination and performance were appreciated by many. Among those surveyed, most agreed that Gandhi was the best character overall.

Choir (Average rating: 8.89)



Dance (Average rating: 9.16)



Acting (Average rating: 9.32)



Overall (Average rating: 8.82)



What did you like most about the concert?

"Overall everything was excellent. We expect a lot from OOB and you raise the expectations every time."

"The team work coordination, flawless performances, great script and direction. Overall a splendid experience."

"Presentation of the history of India in a fascinating way along with the life of Gandhi."

"Energy and passion."

"Direction and costumes."



ANNUAL ATHLETIC

MEET



And so it was time...for the boys to test their agility and endurance at one of the most electrifying sporting forums of OOB, the Annual Athletic Meet! An immense amount of hard work was put in by both teachers and students to bring out such a breathtaking event on the 11th of October 2018. Chief Guest, Engineer Sulaiman Abdul Rahman Al Hajri, Director of Sharjah RTA for Road Affairs and Guest of Honour, Mr. Ali Hassan Al Balushi, Manager of Individual games, Sharjah Sports Club, graced the sports field with their presence.

The event kick- started with the four Houses marching their way to the lush green field. The event was one that was packed with rigorous competition among the four Houses for the win. The athletes displayed their skill and potential in various track events. Distance events, throws and jumps had been completed in school earlier. The highlight of the Annual Athletic Meet was the Inter school 4x100m Invitational relay won by athletes from Our Own Al Warqaa.

It was a treat to one and all, to witness our budding sportsmen display their passion, prowess and loyalty to their respective Houses vying for the top spot. Finally, Mars House clinched the Championship Trophy leaving all the other houses in awe.



KEVIN | 10H

ANTI BULLYING WEEK



Assemblies were held to spread awareness on anti-bullying and school policy. "Speak up" boxes were set up in Supervisors' rooms to provide students with opportunities to voice out concerns. The Anti-Bullying committee members had a meeting to discuss ideas and ways to make OOB a bully-free zone. An Anti-bullying parade was held across the school making it clear that the school is a no-bullying zone and everyone has an important role in making it happen.

Parents were re-informed about the bylaws and how it was going to impact their ward's marks.

The fact that Our Own Boys has ZERO tolerance towards bullying was reiterated by a loud and clear message that was announced to the whole school during that week.

The Head of Child Protection and Safeguarding – Mr. Faizal and the Deputy attended a training workshop on the new crisis management process for Child Safeguarding conducted by GEMS corporate. Ideas were shared and discussions were held around improving policies and procedures. The Wadeema Law was also discussed and deliberated upon apart from other useful points.

A skit on anti-bullying was displayed by our middle school students in the classrooms showing the impact bullying had on little minds and what should be done about it.

Teachers (Grade 1 to Grade 12) generated discussions in the classrooms.

The Anti-bullying week was a successful attempt in reinforcing the principles of mutual respect and harmony among students.

In accordance with the Ministry of Education Campaign on anti-bullying, GEMS Our Own English High School, Boys Branch participated in the anti-bullying week from 18 November till 22 November 2018 with a series of activities.



CAREER



FAIR



2018-2019



14th November 2018, witnessed Our Own English High School, Sharjah-Boys' Branch hosting a Career Fair, inviting the parents of the Senior and the Secondary section to attend the event, along with their wards. It was inaugurated by Smit Khandelwal, an alumni and an inspiring role model for the OOB student community.

The Principal, Head Mistress Designate, Supervisors and the Guidance and Counseling team were also present at the inauguration. The event included representatives from 39 Universities and Institutes offering a wide variety of courses from Mass Media and Business Management to Engineering and Medicine both from within UAE as well as some University representatives who flew down from Germany, Georgia and the United States. The event gave parents and students a wonderful opportunity to interact with these universities and gather information about various options within the UAE, the course requirements, fees structure and admission procedures. The exhibitors were impressed that our students were well informed, more focused, with specific questions and many already knowledgeable about the application process of several of the institutions present at the fair thus meeting the very objective of a career fair.



Breast Cancer AWARENESS

“FIGHT THE FIGHT... FIND THE CURE... THINK PINK!”

The month of October is associated with breast cancer awareness- an effort to raise mindfulness and reduce the stigma of breast cancer through education on symptoms and treatment. This will lead to early detection associated with higher long-term survival rates. To commemorate the month, OOB organized a Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign on 24th October, 2018 in the Sheikh Zayed Multipurpose Hall. This was hosted by Thumbay Day Care Hospital, Sharjah. The event included a talk by a gynaecologist, followed by a Q/A session. The participants also benefitted from the discount vouchers offered by the hospital.

Woman of the Millennium

Dr. Shabana Salim

Dr. Shabana Salim, heading the Urdu Department of OOB since 2008 was conferred with the prestigious 'Woman of the Millennium' Award on 21st October, 2018 at Karnal (Haryana), India. Her unstinted efforts to make a difference in the lives of the disadvantaged - especially children – made her nomination stand out. She has been associated with 'Anwar –Ul Uloom', an organization initiated by her grandfather in the year 1975 at Bhopal, India. From a mere handful, it now houses 250 students wherein the light of knowledge is imparted to children from the lower strata of society. She ascribes her true success when she sees her former students, well placed and successful, coming back and educating the ones who are still mid-way.



DEALING WITH CLASSROOM BULLYING

TAKE ACTION — PROTECT THOSE STUDENTS WHO ARE TARGETED

School days should be a happy time in a young person's life. What can make their life a misery then? In my opinion, there is one word which answers this question – bullying. Unfortunately, bullying is quite common in schools around my neighbourhood. It can affect students of any age, and both boys and girls. A friend of mine had a deeply negative experience at school last year as an older boy continuously called him names and sometimes used to post nasty messages about him on Facebook. Obviously, my friend felt very upset and this affected his studies. Some days, he didn't want to come to school at all.

What can people do to stop this problem?

I think that teachers need to be

aware that bullying may be taking place in their classes; they need to be very strict when they come across a case of bullying. Another thing teachers could do is prepare lessons to talk about such problems with their pupils; this might make bullies realise how badly they hurt their victims.

I think seniors should be more helpful and understanding towards their juniors. As for students, if they find out that a classmate is being bullied, they should support their peer and let a teacher know about it immediately.

Bullying can be a nightmare but there are things we can do to prevent it. Hopefully, one day all students will be able to go to school without the fear of being bullied.

Harsh Desai 8H

RAISE IT HIGH! PROUD!

The Flag Day was celebrated with customary gaiety and aplomb at OOB, Sharjah on 1 November, 2018. The UAE Flag, a symbol of pride, and belonging was raised at the stroke of 11 am, by the Principal in the presence of the senior management team, administration staff and student leaders followed by the rendition of the National Anthem. This event was held near the main entrance of the school, simultaneously the Flag was also hoisted at different venues (Auditorium, Quadrangles) by Supervisors in the presence of student representatives. The importance of the Flag Day was reiterated through activities in classrooms and extended research work given to students. Truly, the Flag Day reflected amongst the citizens and expatriates the feelings of loyalty and dignity for the country.





GEMS Modern Academy

Inter-School Swimming Meet

2018



AVINASH STRIKES AGAIN!

The GEMS Modern Academy Inter School Swimming Meet 2018 was held on 16 Nov. 2018 at the Gems Modern Academy campus in Dubai. Avinash (5C) from OOB made

us proud by winning in two events - silver medal in 50 meters Back Stroke and bronze medal in 50 meters Free Style.

HEALTH IS WEALTH

“It is health that is real wealth and not pieces of gold and silver” – Mahatma Gandhi.

OOB celebrated the ‘Health is Wealth’ week from 4th to 8th November 2018 to establish a link between nutrition, physical activity and learning. First grade students drew pictures of various fruits and vegetables related to the colours of a rainbow. Second grade students prepared a healthy plate that included the various food groups. Students from both grades engaged in the sorting of the different foods which are beneficial for the teeth and in preparing lemonade. Third grade students prepared the perfect healthy school lunch by drawing five different foods and a healthy sandwich. They also sorted good and bad calories. Fourth grade students interviewed the Principal and the Headmistress Designate regarding their eating habits, prepared a fruit salad, discussed the contents of their tiffin which included the various food groups and prepared a Healthy eating book. On 7th November, parents competed with one another by preparing “Little

Veggie Persons”.

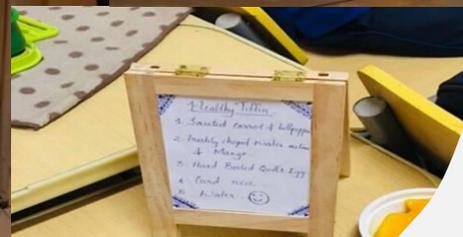
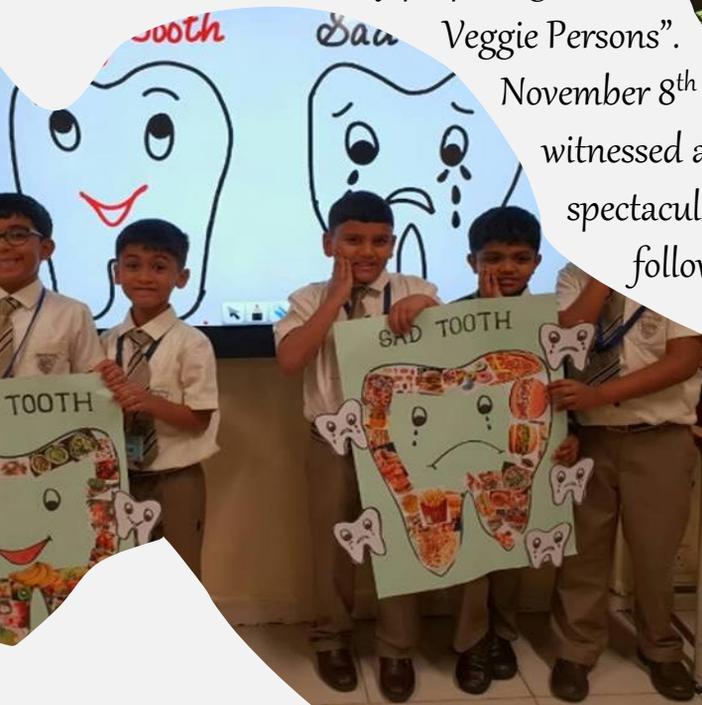
November 8th

witnessed a

spectacular assembly by class 3B

followed by a talk by our

school Doctor.



INQUIZITIVE MINDS-2018

NOTHING SUCCEEDS LIKE SUCCESS

Yet another Quizzing accolade reaches OOB, Sharjah as two teams emerge proud winners and Runners Up respectively in the Inquizitive Minds-2018 (Regional Round). On 9 November, 2018 in a fiercely competitive arena of 28 schools and 150 teams, Elvin Sam Isaac and Srinjoy Bose (Grade XII) emerge victors in the ultimate battle of the minds answering questions put forth by Mr. Aniket Mishra, the Quiz host, with aplomb. The school retains the prestigious title second time in a row. The team comprising Elvin Jinu and Harshit Raj (Grade XI) clinched the second spot. The two teams travelled to New Delhi to participate in the National Round held on 18th November, 2018. Kudos to the Quiz wizards!

Srinjoy Bose and Elvin Isaac (Grade XII)

Elvin Jinu and Harshith Raj (Grade XI)

Winners of the Inquizitive Minds Quiz -2018

Runners up in the Inquizitive Minds - 2018





The Manipal Media Fest '18, the annual creative festival for schools and universities in UAE was held on the 27th and 28th of November and hosted by the School of Media and Communication MAHE, Dubai. Our students participated in 15 of the events and achieved a scintillating victory in 11 categories. OOB also bagged the Overall Winner's Memento for the year.



MANIPAL MEDIA FEST 2018



5 o' clock in the morning, the time of creep,
 all day, every day, everyone now asleep.
 We breathe, the void breeze in our sound sleep.
 All we know, is the silence known in the days of peace.
 Silence, something not so common now-a-days;
 all of us are very busy, minding our own ways.
 Crowded, bustling, busy; filled marketplaces:
 by the words, we can see, silence is not favored.
 Rural areas, free of concrete jungles -
 where farmers carry crops in big bundles,
 where washer men wash clothes with river water -
 silence here, you can see, is way better.
 Villages have plenty of scenic beauty in their lands
 unlike cities that have only machines in their hands.
 The sound of silence is not heard here or there
 (and I know you'll ask right now: "Okay, so then where?").
 My answer to that is quite surprising
 as I am not here to bake a cake with icing.
 As I tell you the harsh truth,
 I hope you do not yell at me "Boo!";
 for I say that silence is totally extinct
 given our current human instincts
 where we start war for silly reasons
 and blame each other for no such treason.
 Nature has suffered a really long way,
 losing its nature day by day.
 Now it is too late to be sorry
 as we have damaged her for quarries.
 The Sound of silence has gone away
 even from our silent bays.
 Musicians stay away from violence
 as they try to make the sound of silence.

THE SOUND OF SILENCE

MINDCEPTION

'Oasis Of Dignity'

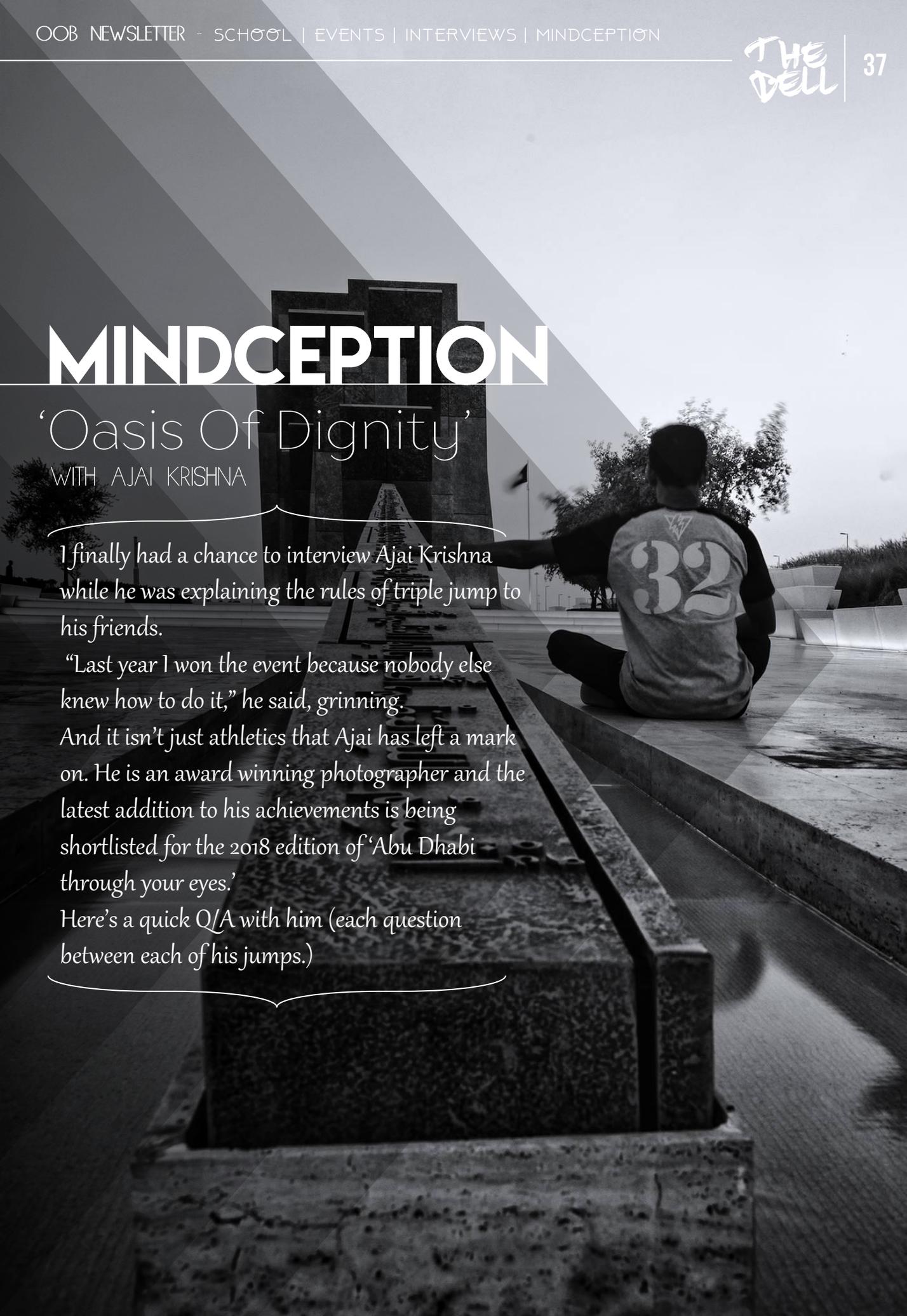
WITH AJAI KRISHNA

I finally had a chance to interview Ajai Krishna while he was explaining the rules of triple jump to his friends.

"Last year I won the event because nobody else knew how to do it," he said, grinning.

And it isn't just athletics that Ajai has left a mark on. He is an award winning photographer and the latest addition to his achievements is being shortlisted for the 2018 edition of 'Abu Dhabi through your eyes.'

Here's a quick Q/A with him (each question between each of his jumps.)



Q: Congratulations, I heard you're a 1000 bucks richer!

(Laughs)

Q: Tell me about the competition.

'Abu Dhabi through your eyes', like the title suggests, is an annual photography competition organized by the Abu Dhabi authorities. It's all about capturing the spirit and essence of Abu Dhabi.

Q: So, what was your picture about?

It was the 'Wahat Al Karama' memorial. The name literally translates to "Oasis of Dignity." The site is a permanent tribute and war memorial to honor UAE's martyred soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the service of the nation. I think it isn't just important but also an unforgettable moment in the Emirati culture. My picture is about receiving strength and energy from the memorial.

Q: Wow! what gear did you use to click this one?

Ah! My favourite; the Nikon D750. (grinning)

Q: I've heard you aren't a huge fan of Canon and that you only use Nikon. Is it true?

What?! Nope. Not true.

Q: Which editing software do you usually use? Are you good at it?

Professional photographs require a professional editing tool. I mostly use Photoshop. I was an editor for last year's magazine so I guess you could say I'm fairly good at it.

Q: Do you think you could have won?

Have you seen the entries? People have mad skills, dude! Luckily, I made it that far. Maybe next time, eh?

Q: Thanks for your err... time?

"Sorry, dude; selections," he laughs and proceeds to his jumps.

Anand Anil
Editor



OUR OWN BOYS CREATE HISTORY

The prestigious Our Own Sharjah Inter-School Soccer Tournament - 2018 was played on the OOB school ground from 10 to 15 November 2018. The 34th edition of this tournament had 15 schools participate on a knock-out basis. The jubilation felt by all knew no bounds when the home team emerged as victors of the tournament beating the three time champions, The Westminster School, by 1-0; indeed a precedent that would go down in the worthy annals of the school's history.

The finals of the Our Own Sharjah Inter-school Soccer Tournament 2018 was graced by the presence of Mr. Antony Joseph, Principal of Sharjah Indian School (Boys' Wing) who presided as the Chief Guest while Mr. Ajay Kaul, General Manager of Access

Hire had been the Guest of Honour. Other dignitaries included the Principal, Mr. Srivalasan Murugan, Headmistress Designate, Ms. Sindhu P. Nair, Acting Head of Senior School and Chief coordinator of the tournament, Mr. Faizal and the Supervisors. Invaluable ground support was afforded by teachers and students who kept the spirit of the game alive.

The teams were felicitated in the Prize distribution ceremony which followed. The Best Goal Keeper was Hajis Hamza from OOB; the Top Scorer was Mohammed Adnan from OOB and the Best Player was Faruq Malik from TWS. The trophy for Fair play and Equitable Conduct was given to DPS, Dubai.



OOB TEAM WINS SIBF QUIZ!

The OOB team comprising of Cyriac George (XB) and Om Gupta(XD) emerged winners at the Inter School Quiz Competition held on 3rd November, 2018 under the aegis of the Sharjah International Book Fair at the Sharjah Expo hosted by the Siraj Newspaper. Our boys were felicitated with certificates by Mr. Manoj Vasudevan, World Champion of Public Speaking.



PRIMARY SPORTS DAY 2018

The much awaited Annual Sports Day was held on 22nd November 2018, with the theme U.A.E – Our Pride. The chief guest for the day was Mr. K. Venkatraman – The Pencil Man of U.A.E.

The Junior Head Boy welcomed the gathering followed by the arrival of the mascot named ‘Our X – I am the future’.

A well synchronized March Past by the four houses ensued. Thereafter, the school Principal administered the oath and Chief Guest declared the Meet open.

The students entered into the spirit of the occasion while the pledge was being administered by the junior Sports captain, followed by the speech of the Principal who spoke about the importance of Sports in a child’s life and a speech by the Chief Guest who spoke about the importance of ‘Philanthropy’. An energizing cheer-leading display themed ‘United in Destiny’ set the tone for the rest of the event.

The most intriguing aspect was the splendid field displays based on the theme ‘U.A.E- Our Pride’.



Young athletes of Grade 1- 4 competed in events like Race (50 and 200 m), Hurdle Relay, Baton relay (4 x 50 m and 4 x 100 m.)

The highlight of the event was the educational races in which Grade 1 students had to match the iconic building of the U.A.E to the ones displayed on the board and identify their names. The race was themed Iconic Splendour, while the Grade 2 race was themed Emirati finesse where they had to quickly dress up in the Emirati costume which were kept at certain distances and run the race. The educational race for Grade 3 themed 'Spirit of the Union' comprised of 4 students per group who had to paint the flag of the U.A.E neatly. While the Grade

4 educational race was themed 'Centennial Zest' where the students had to solve Math problems from the numbers given and paste them on the board.

The Sports Day was marked by a host of remarkable individual performances of teachers and parents who did their bit for the spirit of sportsmanship.

The Best March-Past trophy and the overall champions was awarded to Mars House.

The culmination of the Sports Day witnessed a spectacular performance themed 'Pinnacle' by the students of grade 3 and 4 who were dressed in the hues of the Flag of the U.A.E and performed a drill to form the flag.

IMPORTANCE OF MORAL EDUCATION

WHAT MORAL EDUCATION IS... AND WHAT IT COULD BECOME

Behaviour precedes academics and the way we behave in life determines our status. Moral education plays a major role throughout the life of students. It is the aspect which must be given importance throughout our life.

In various countries, moral education is given utmost priority in lower grades. Only after perfecting their moral values are they given academic lessons. Various values like honesty, humility, respect and perseverance must be brought out in children from an early age. Especially in this era, where there are examples of wrong doings all around us, moral education holds the foundation of the nation.

Children must be taught how to behave and must be moulded into ideal citizens who work for the nation.

However, if moral education lacks proper implementation, they may be met with criticism from students. Moral education must be assessed in schools by looking at how students behave in their daily life rather than assessing what they write on a piece of paper. With proper ways of assessment and implementation of a practical way of approach to assess students, moral education can give a nation wings to fly.

Akash Prasad

11 A

Synergy 2018, was hosted by the Senior Middle Department on 21 November 2018. With a range of listed activities such as Instrumental Music, Solo Songs, Group songs and Group dances, the event was a real treat. As part of the Parental Engagement Week, parents were invited to Judge the show. Ms. Sindhu Pradeesh, an exponent of Indian classical dance and a dance teacher at The Indian High School, Dubai and Ms. Rajani Sunil Parekkel, who is currently working in New Delhi Private School, Sharjah and Music Instructor at Harmony Music and Dance Institute, were the parent judges who graced the occasion. This time the boys were encouraged to sing as a band and they demonstrated a mind blowing performance with an assortment of pleasing and melodious numbers. Coordination and elegant moves were at its best amongst the dancers. The event ended with the special performance of the instrumentalists. 'Chenda', the traditional drums of Kerala played by Sreehari was the highlight of the day.

SYNERGY 2018



“Good deeds last forever, while position in life do not. The deserving, even if buried, are succeeded by their reputation.”

— H.H Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan

SEWA WEEK

CELEBRATIONS

2018

In the month of October, we commemorate the Year of Zayed and focus on charity and health. We believe that ‘Joy of giving’ is the way of life at OOB. To render our students best amongst citizens, we strive to inculcate and instill the values of charity and kindness. We celebrated ‘Sewa Day’ on the 4th of October 2018. The Primary department put up a programme for

ancillary staff members. Primary students, who made key chains for all 125 staff members, also came up with a choir session singing in English, Hindi and Malayalam. Staff also took part in fun filled interactive games and winners were awarded gifts. A dance was also showcased for staff to admire and enjoy. As an icing on the cake, a goody bag was handed out with basic necessities like soap,



toothpaste, toothbrush and socks. Materials were collected by Sewa volunteers and teaching staff.

As a step towards providing the deserving ones with a small gateway towards progress, a drive was organised to collect pencils and notebooks from the student community right from Grades 1 to 12. The collection drive ran from 24th September to 4th October. It was well supported by the students. The materials collected were handed over to Emirates Red Crescent.

There are many people in our society who play a vital role in keeping our lives smooth and safe in various ways such as construction laborers, public transport operators and litter collectors. But many of them lack in basic tidings such as first aid. Hence, a group of students and well trained teachers set out to a labour camp to create an awareness on First Aid and Responding Measures on the 6th of October.

Just like past years, this year also we had a medical camp for our ancillary staff. The camp was set up in association with Thumbay Hospital, Ajman on 7th October. Doctors assessed ancillary staff's health in G.P, Sugar, B.P and Vision.

All the aforementioned activities were covered and broadcasted live on MediaOne news channel, by Mr.Shinoj Shams. It was telecasted on 8th October at 10 pm GMT, under the Mideast Hour segment of the channel. It was also posted on their Youtube channel and link is-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UyaAzLFiOIM>

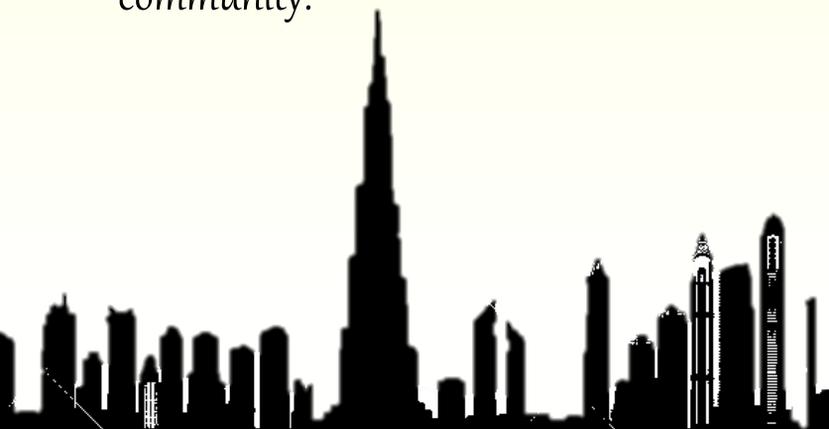


UAE SST WEEK-2018

When Tradition and Modernity blend



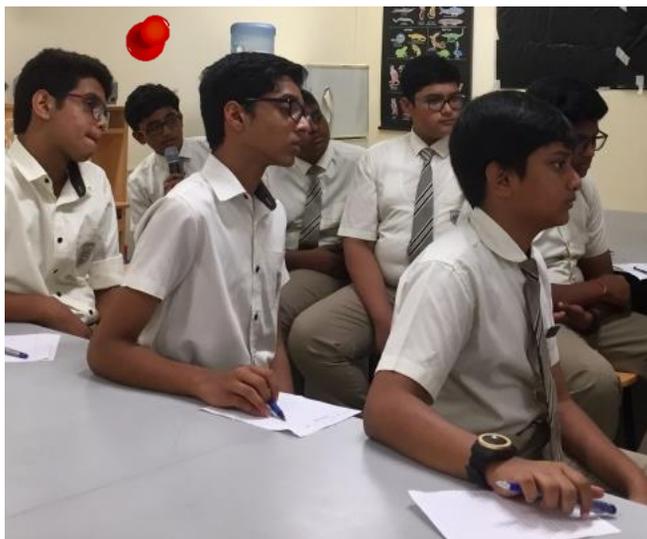
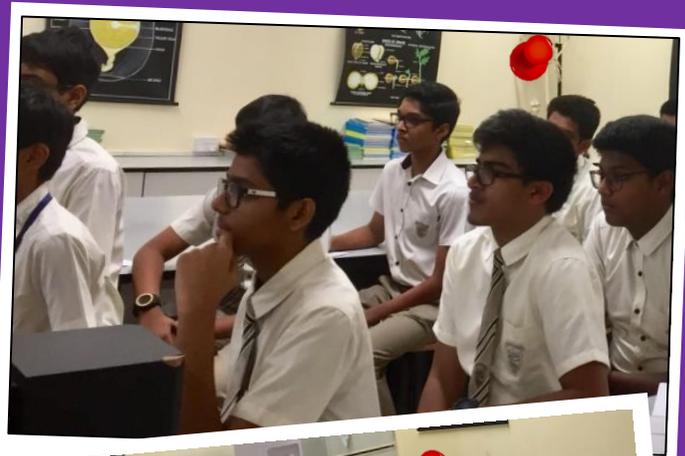
The UAE Social Studies Week was celebrated with much gusto and enthusiasm across the school from 30th September to 3rd October, 2018. The week showcased the latent talents and skills of the student community who participated in large numbers taking inherent pride in the nation – their home away from home. The gamut of activities ranged from UAE based assemblies, Canvas paintings, Collage making, traditional Arabic dances, games, Market Souq, Commerce Fest. The week proved to be truly a lesson in experiential learning for the student community.





GENERATION GLOBAL VIDEO CONFERENCES

A series of Generation Global video conferences were held during the months of September, October and November in which OOB was a part of. The video conferences were aimed at the discussion of a variety of topics which were: 'Power of Narrative', 'Wealth, Poverty and Charity', and 'Art of Expression'. The languages of conversation were Hindi and English. OOBites were exposed to a variety of different schools and ideas from students across the world.





YEC

YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS' CHALLENGE



The Young Entrepreneurs Challenge was hosted by Gems Millennium School, Sharjah on the 28th November, 2018 as a part of the Manzil Carnival.

Ahsan 11-C, Deep 11-F, Aakash 11- F, Saahil 11-F, Somil 11- F, Vidyut 11- F, Muhammed Darwish and two of our TDO boys Afeef 8- G and Kevin 9- K participated in the challenge.

The event commenced at 9:00 am and went on till 2:30 pm.

Our boys set up their kiosk with items for sale, like handcrafted bookmarks and Polaroid's pictures. They also came up with a challenging and interesting set of tasks for the audience to pay and play. The boys were enthusiastic and involved and had an exhilarating experience.

At the end of the event the boys had raised AED 816 which was then donated to the Manzil Foundation.

“There are only two lasting bequests we can hope to give our children. One of these is roots, the other wings, not to forget the preciousness of time”.

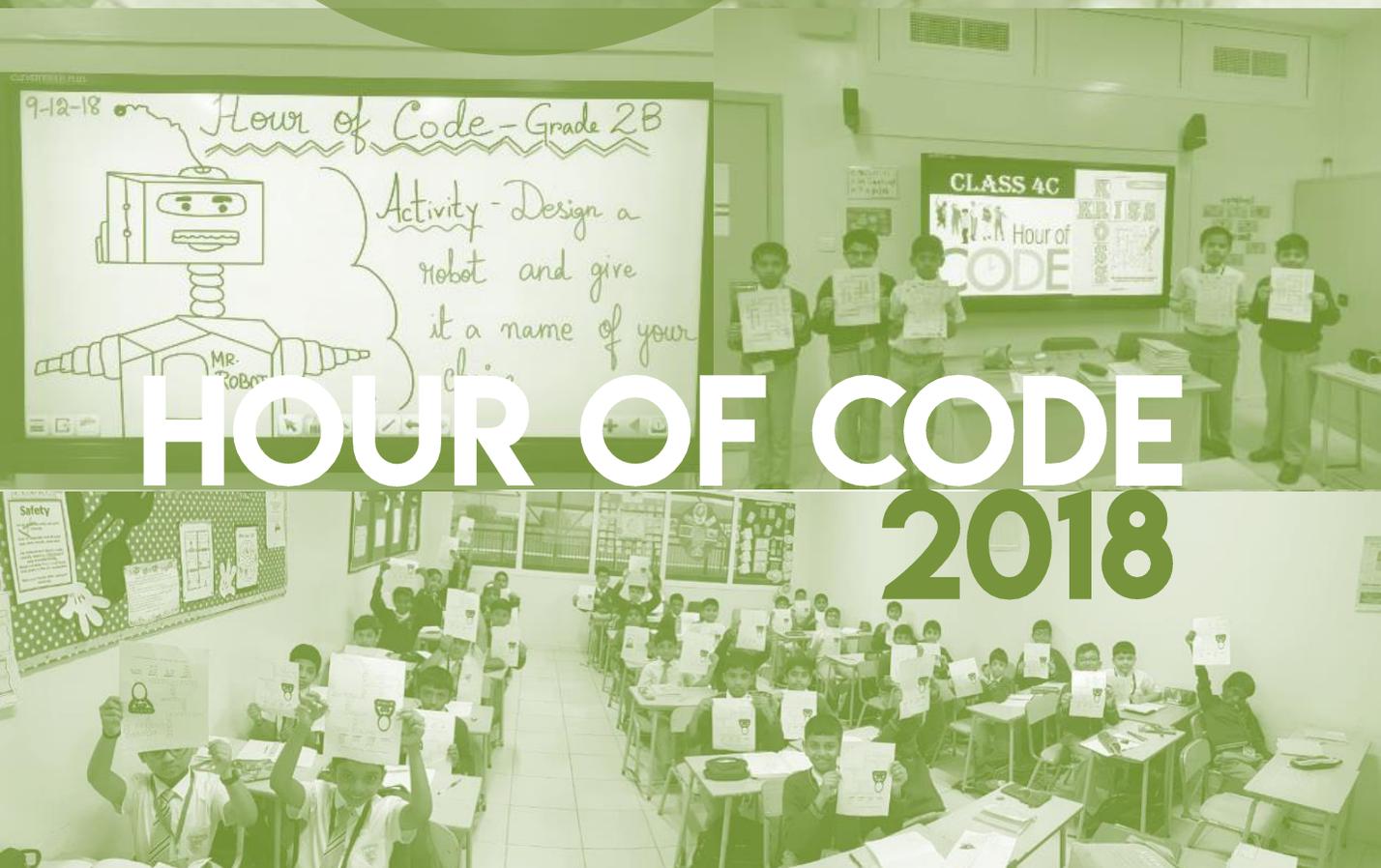
PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT WEEK 2018



With this adage in mind, OOB has been instrumental in organizing a plethora of activities to strengthen the bond between the two, under the aegis of Parental Engagement from 7th to

10th December, 2018. The sessions were diverse and stimulating, enhancing the personal, emotional and social development of an impressionable mind. Zealous parents engaged the student community in a range of activities from the preparation of healthy sandwiches to a boisterous father –son football match, from spending time at an Old Age Home to tips on personality development, nutrition and healthy diet. Basic guitar lessons imparted, proved to be a star attraction. Instructing the finer nuances of the Arabic Language through a simple yet an easy to remember manner was indisputably a crowd puller. The importance of reading was reiterated through the Parent’s Read Aloud sessions. Stories of the Prophet (PBUH) were read out in the Primary Department within the classrooms while the Senior Middle Department convened it’s sessions in the Library as part of the Library Week. Indeed the time spent, no doubt was valuable beyond measure and would be long cherished and adored by the parents and children alike.

The Primary Department organized an 'Hour of Code' event on 9th, December 2018, from 7.45 to 9.00 am to celebrate 'Computer Science' with a 1-hour coding activity, designed to demystify "code" and to broaden participation in the field of computer science. A variety of engaging unplugged projects, were hosted across the department which required no devices at all.



CAREER OPTIONS COMMERCE

WITH MR GANESH

On Thursday, 6th December 2018, Mr. Vaideeswaran Ganesh from Grey Matter Academics took time from his hectic schedule to enlighten the students of Grade 10 and 11 on career options post school and some integrated courses offered in different institutes.

He inspired students with examples of sportspeople and spoke about the importance of discipline and attitude in a young boy's life.

He also cleared misconceptions about the field of Chartered Accountancy and B.Com and enlightened students on the difference between CA, ACCA, CMA and Company Secretaryship.

He shared personal experiences of how hard work and focus paid off and that in life 'There is NO FREE LUNCH'. Students were motivated by this interactive session and they participated actively in the same.

Grade 10 boys were exposed to career planning tips and Mr. Ganesh stressed the importance of self-reflection to know which stream would best suit them for their next level.

Students and teachers alike left the room feeling a bit more confident and better informed.

GEHS
EDUCATION



FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY