

April/May/June 2018

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### BITS N BYTES 2018

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#### MEET THE HOD

Mr.Vijesh is from Kerala and has done M.Phil. (P.E). He has an experience of working as a P.E instructor and has been a successful coach for cricket as well as badminton for two years each. He joined the SSIS family in September 2016 since then he has modelled his department a lot, setting up goals and strategies in line with UAE's National Agenda and Vision and mission of the school.

According to him, "A balanced education is my priority at SSIS." To achieve their full potential, I believe that students need to be challenged outside, as well as inside of the classroom so we as a team encourage all children to play an active part in all the Co-Curricular Activities. To develop a holistic personality within each and every child we've incorpo-

rated a number of co-scholastic activities into the curriculum. SSIS offers an interesting range of activities that spark interest and inquiry, whether it be sporting, Art & craft, Music or dance, students develop knowledge and skills to use and apply during lessons and their day to day lives. Ample facilities are provided for sports and games through vast grounds and the wide range of sports equipment by



providing opportunities for the learners to express themselves through inter-class and inter-house competition we help our students to display their talent. Life skills, physical education, and outbound programmes are an integral part of the curriculum along with Yoga and meditation because we strongly advocate that a sound mind lives in a sound body. Adding on to this the school has also tied-up with reputed organizations like ETIHAD ACADEMY which offers expert guidance for budding sports stars of tomorrow.

# SSIS IN NEWS. Board Examination results

### "Success comes to those who crave for it."

SSIS stars have once again made us proud with an outstanding results in Board examination 2017-18. Your performance has proved that you are one among them. We wish you all the very best for your bright future.





# Mather's Day competition



Students of Shining Star has made us proud once again. Adil Ajith of grade 9 C won the third prize at Dalma Mall Mother's Day competition. This competition was solely based upon the likes received by Dalma Mall on their webpage and our champ outshined



the others with approximately 2542 likes and the receiver was rewarded with a cash coupon worth 5000 AED. Congratulations to one of our shining stars!





### ASA Activities













SSIS was proud to introduce the ASA (after school activities) for the session 2018-2019. It stretched from Tuesday 17th April 2018 to Sunday 13 May 2018. These were launched in line with UAE commitment of healthy and safer neighbourhood. ASA's were held twice a week i.e. Tuesday and Sunday. There were variety of paid/unpaid activities to be chosen from. Paid activities were outsourced to persons/companies who specialize in those particular areas.

Unpaid activities were divided into categories grades 1-4, grades 5-9 and 11 boys & grades 5-9 and 11 girls. These activities were efforts away from the normal curriculum because at SSIS we believe that sound mind resides in a sound body. Following are some of the glimpses of our successful venture.



### ARABIC LANGUAGE WEEK

In order to implement His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, UAE President's direction to highlight the importance of Reading, SSIS observed The Arabic week 15th April 2018-19th April 2018. This was celebrated under the theme Year of Zayed and Creativity in Arabic. At SSIS we strongly feel language is one of the most effective tools to strengthen 'MY IDENTITY'. Various activities were designed under the same theme.

It began with the reading of Arabic textbooks in form period every day for 15 minutes of reading under the slogan of reading together. There was an exhibition on Arabic displays which was judged by guest from Al-Bashair school. The whole idea of the display was to express love for the Arabic language.

The purpose of the Arabic week was to enhance an activate participation of the school in reading, writing and learning the language and cultural values of UAE with the help of sports and competitions.

The Arabic week was concluded with great pomp and show where all students were encouraged to be in traditional Arabic clothing where boys could be seen in kandura and girls could be seen in abayas. Following are the glimpses.

















"Empower children by letting them imagine the kind of world they want. Children are the hope and the shining."

A lively session was conferred by an author Christine. S. Bellen for the Grades 8-12 on Sunday, 22nd April 2018, it commenced with probing students about reading and their favourite books. In the session, the interpretations were given about picture books, the importance of telling stories, imagination, and reality. One of her advice was to imagine first before anyone could write stories for young readers. She explained that without reading one cannot write, and when one writes it's finally turning its imagination into reality. In the session, she mainly focused about how she learned to write for children. She answered beautifully that if one has to write it for them through an imagination we must revert to childhood memories. She also mentioned the guiding principles in writing a book, to achieve sincerity as well as passion. The more we read the more we get passion, it is not the knowledge that we get from books but also wisdom. It was winded up through the narration of beautiful story OG U HOG by showing through examples of contemporary original stories and retelling of the Philippines

Classics. The session was really fruitful and students were fully engaged, they enthusiastically participated by probing various questions.







Reported by Ms.Sheroona Nazar.

#### World Book Day Special Assembly

Special assembly was conducted by the primary wing to commemorate as well as spread awareness of world book day. The enthusiasm and creativity of our shining stars could be seen as they came dressed up as their favourite characters the one that they occasionally read and follow. The acronym for B-O-O-K was beautifully presented by fourth graders. The pledge of reading was taken by all the students. The assembly was concluded by reading the extracts from the autobiography of HH Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan al Nahyan the founding father of UAE



#### International Book fair at ADNEC

#### "A BOOK IS A **WORLD IN ITSELF"**

Students of SSIS attended the Abu-Dhabi international book fair at ADNEC. Students from grades 7 to 12 were amongst the visitors, along with different subject teachers. The fair represented the culture of the UAE through 3D formations of few of historical places of UAE, the thing that was interesting about the fair was, a huge book which was placed at the front, which resembled like a story was being about the place.

Students enjoyed visiting different stalls where books were being sold in different languages especially in Arabic along with other languages across the world.

There was also an illustrator's corner that offered a platform for local and global talent to display their work, followed by foodies, space, a sea of stories and where to catch your author. Students enjoyed visiting the book fair and could not resist asking for another visit











**RENU MEHTA** [LIBRARIAN]

#### Sun Safety Day

When it comes to fun filled activities and awareness campaigns, how our tiny tots can take a back seat? Sun safety day was celebrated at the campus where our Shining Stars came up with safety gadgets and walked around the school for sun safety awareness and at the same time showing others too that they are sun safe.



















#### Students' Elections 2018

(Applicable for grades 7 to 11)

We at SSIS are not only there for academics of students but certainly feel they are our future and it's our responsibility to nurture and protect them. We see future leaders in them so as part of on-going effort Students' elections 2018 was announced. The highlight of the entire election process followed by nominations of the students by themselves and ask for the votes from friends to create a manifesto of their campaign. The selected students were then given three days' time to convince others and ask for the votes for them.

The election took place on 6th May 2018, all the elected members were then finalized for the investiture ceremony.

Glimpses of Campaign posters.







### **INVESTITURE CEREMONY**

Shining Star International School organized the Investiture ceremony for the selected School Leader, Assistant School Leaders and other members elected to the School Council on 25th June 2018 at School campus, Abu Dhabi. Student representatives from grades 8 to 12 along with the parents and the rest of the school took part in the ceremony.

The ceremony began with the holy words of Quran followed by UAE National Anthem. The gathering was warmly welcomed by Ms. Anita, the Vice Principal of the school. The presidential address was given by Mr. Alyas Ali, the Principal. His inspiring words encouraged the elected leaders to be dutiful and responsible. The elected leaders profiles were announced and the Principal administered oath to the School leaders and about 33 selected members of the School Council out of which 18 house council members were sworn, they were conferred with badges and slashes by the Principal Mr.Alyas Ali and Vice - Principal Mrs. Anita

Singh along with the Head – Mistress Mrs. Ramla. All wished the student leaders in completing responsibilities entrusted to them in the year ahead. They also mentioned the efforts taken by the School in promoting student's democratic and social skills and offered their support in the future. Words of advice were given by the Vice – Principal Mrs. Anita Singh and the small speech by the Head Boy and the Head Girl of the school proposed there vote of thanks and concluded the ceremony.





















The ceremony also honored the toppers of SSIS from grade 10 and 12 for the session 2017-18. The hard work of the students and the high grades gave a proud moment to the school. The students were acknowledged by giving them the trophies and certificates by the Principal, Vice – Principal, and Head – Mistress.







#### KG ORIENTATION

Kg orientation was held on 30th of April 2018 at SSIS campus. It was presided over by SLT (senior leadership team) and was attended by parents of new Kindergarteners entrants. Parents were made acquainted with vision and mission of the school, KG section Head Ms.Kelly explained EYP (early year programme) which basically focuses on play way method of learning to the students along with the assessment procedures. Main highlight of the event was introduction of the sign language programme that will be taught to the tiny tots which can help to develop the cognitive skills. Induction was followed by meet and greet with the teachers so that parents have insight of class room procedures and class room routines that is followed at the campus.











#### Safety Day

On May the 3rd we celebrated World
Safety Day providir a unique opportun for our students to appreciate the magnitudes



of safety problems. The school recognizes that creating a safe and healthy environment, not only on the campus but in the world, can reduce countless problems and threatening encounters. At SSIS we organized different activities around the school for students of all ages to develop their knowledge about safety.



WORLD DAY FOR SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK

SAFETY FIRST

In the KG, our tiny tots learned about hand hygiene and safety precautions through various rhymes and activities







### Haq Al-Laila

The Haq Al-Laila is a celebration focused more on national identity and the appreciation of local heritage.

The school's Kindergarten marked the occasion by distributing sweets to all the little members of the SSIS family. The occasion serves as a testament to the strong bonds between the school and our students, by creating and establishing these values among our tiny tots in Kindergarten.

May 16th marked the beginning of the Holy month of Ramadan











Shining Star hosted the Earth Day Inter School Competition. Students from different schools displayed their creative and innovative creations such as clay-modelling, Junk Art, T-Shirt painting, PPT logo designing as well as a Green Walk which showcased students with some bright, environment-friendly costumes. It was amazing to see all types of talent coming from different students all in one place and at SSIS we were honoured to host the competition









### FireFighters Day-May 21

KG students at Shining Star celebrating International Firefighters Day, honouring all the heroes that keep us safe in our community.





#### Red Crescent Distribution

SSIS decided, as a Ramadan project, to launch a Charity Distribution with Red Crescent. As a school, we genuinely want to teach our students to be socially conscious and to care for the well-being of others who are less fortunate, projects like this one will instil that awareness in our students.

Over the course of two weeks students and staff all contributed towards a target of 30 cartons of clothes, and by the 23rd of May (deadline day), we had collected a whopping 38 cartons! On Sunday, May 27th, we opened our doors to Parents who so generously donated, as well as members of our friendly neighbours: Al-Bashair Private School. The aim of this part of the project was to unite different members of the community and to work on a common goal and purpose: to serve those who are less fortunate than ourselves. Everyone worked together tirelessly to complete a such a rewarding task in the blessed month of Ramadan Shining Star International School were recognized this week by the GULF Madhyamam newspaper who published an article about the excellent charity work being done in the school. Below is a translation in English for those of you who do not speak Malyalam. A screenshot of the article has been posted below:

നിർധനരെ സഹായിക്കാൻ ഷൈനിങ് സ്റ്റാർ സ്കൂൾ-റെഡ് ക്രസൻറ് സഹകരണം ചെയ്യുക്ക് പുറത്തു പ്രത്യാരം ചിൽ വിദ്യാർപ്പ്രംഗർൽ പരിശ്വരം നാട്ടാർ ഇൻൻനാഷണൽ സ്പൂൾ വിദ്യാർപ്പ്രംഗർൽ പരിശ്വരം സ്വാർ ഇൻൻനാഷണൽ സ്പൂൾ വിദിയ പുത്യാർക്കും ഇതാൻ രോഗത്ത് സ്വാർ ഇൻൻനാഷണൽ സ്പൂൾ വിദിയ പുത്യാർക്കും ഇതാൻ രോഗത്ത് സ്വാർ ഇൻൻനാഷണൽ സ്പൂൾ സ്വാർ ഇൻൻസ് പുത്യാർ വാര്യ സ്വാർ ഇർൻൻസ് പുത്യാർ വര്യ വര്യാർ അവിദ്യാർ പ്രത്യോർ വര്യൻ സ്വാർ ലാക്കൂർല്ലാന്റെ പുത്യാർ അവിദ്യാർ പുത്യാർപ്പിക ജിൽൻന്നും നിരുവർപ്പിക ജിൽൻന്നും നിരുവർപ്പിക

Summary of Malayalam news article in English

Shining Star International School in Abu Dhabi is a school that has a vision of holistically developing its children, not only through academics but also through their development as empathic human beings who positively contribute to the society around them.

The school has developed a strong partnership with the Emirates Red Crescent and works on a different project each month with the aim to help those who are less fortunate. For the last 2 weeks, the school had clothes drive where parents were asked to donate clothes. An ambitious target of 30 cartons of clothes was set by the school, over the course of two weeks, students steadily brought in bags of clothes and by the deadline of the 23rd May 2018, the school had exceeded their target and had collected 38 cartons of clothes.

#### Islamic Week

At Shining Star we believe it important to get involved with Holy month of Ramadan as much as possible and therefore we came up with the initiative to plan an Islamic Week. Throughout the week, the vibe of Islam was spread throughout the school. Every day during the form period students participated in all manners of activities.

The students produced, directed and filmed the Islamic videos that they had designed. Students used their creativity and acting skills to produce videos. Students were then challenged with creating various projects varying from mosque making, to creating blessing trees, illustrating the various schools of Thought and even creating the models of hajj illustrating the process.

Students were highly creative and well engaged throughout. There was the Islamic Talent Show co-ordinated for all grades. Students displayed their talents and performed Qur'aan recitation, Nasheeds, and Skits based on Islamic values. The week ended with a lot of learning outcomes, the students learned the actual values of charity, Islam, and humanity

































# KG Activity "Play is our brain's favourite way of learning.

-Diane Ackerman

21st Century is all about Innovation and creativity and at SSIS we try our best to instil those competencies. Kindergarteners learnt word recognition of word 'r'. They made some cool bots and rockets by using various shapes they see all around and learnt in the class.

Creativity begins with a foundation of knowledge, learning a discipline, and mastering a way of thinking. Children of kindergarten learnt to be creative by experimenting, exploring, questioning, assumptions, using imagination and sintering information. Learning to be creative is akin to learning a sport. It requires practice to develop the right muscles and a supportive environment in which to flourish.











### World Environment Day:

"You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make." —Jane Goodall

The student of SSIS celebrated World Environment Day on 5 June 2018. They celebrated this event by making projects using 3R's Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. They learned the importance and meaning of saving the Mother Earth.

There was also a special assembly in the celebration of World Environment Day. The student gave a presentation on how we can save our Earth and our environment.



















### Iftar Distribution on the Streets

SSIS feels proud by taking the initiative of distributing the iftar on the streets. This initiative would not have been possible without the help of parents and staff contribution for the amount which was collected for the iftar. The team which distributed had parents, students, teachers, administration staff, vice – principal, Mrs Anita Singh and principal, Mr Alyas Ali

A proud moment of SSIS by being a strong part of the society and also helping the society with small gestures in future as well.































### Itar party for Support staff

SSIS held an iftar party for the support staff as a mark of gratitude for their wholehearted services to the









institution. This was a simple gesturefrom the management to thank them for every chore they have been doing with utmost dedication and sincerity.

### Father's day

The heart of a father is the masterpiece of nature. ~Antoine-François.

Celebrating Father's day in our institution made the day of both the children and their Father in KG Section.









The Kindergarteners were told to make cards for their loving and caring Dad's, and they too joined in to multiply the joys of their kids and this turned out to be a surprise for the kids who were overwhelmed upon seeing their respective father's.

### International Yoga Day









The yoga day was celebrated across the school with much enthusiasm, kids according to the grade levels were invited by the PE department who demonstrated the various tricks of performing yoga and shred with them the benefits of performing yoga on the everyday basis. Children were too excited to join the session and learned the benefits of Yoga.

### Cultural Diversity Day:

The cultural diversity day was celebrated with much fervour. Students came dressed up in their regional costumes/dresses, which reflected their home country's culture, adding to this was the food, varieties of home cooked food were brought in and shared with the peers, who relished the food and were all praises for the delicacies.









## Open House:

The open house held in SSIS on 28th of June marked the end of the first term and parents were curious to know about the performances of their children. They were very much satisfied and happy to know that SSIS tracks the students' progress through various modes of assessments and that the data shared with them shows the minute details of their child's attainment levels within the class.













Student Talk

A school is a pious place.
The school plays a significant part in shaping the future personality of a child. A good school is acenter for learninggood habits at a tender age which has an everlasting impact. It promotes optimal functioning among children and increasing their well-being by meeting their needs.

verall, the goal of positive schooling is to turn all students into teachers who will pass down their Wisdom and knowledge to others and teachers who will continue the ways of positive education. In the real sense, our school is an ideal school. I like my school very much and I take pride in being a student at such a good school.

# Parent Talk

First of all, I am really honoured to get a chance to pen down my views and experiences with the school. My daughter started exploring here since the inception of the school i.e. in the year 2014. I got to see many phases of the school. I am happy to say that my daughter actively participates in all the activities being conducted at the school. SSIS empowers and enlightens the students to face the daily challenges by helping them to learn the values of life. I'm glad that my child shares a very good bond with the school including teachers and friends. It is actually marvellous to know that the school considers parents suggestions important and values. An endless thanks from my side for helping my child believe in herself and all she is; and also for teaching her that there is something inside her that is greater than any obstacle. I strongly recommend this school to others also.

Parent of Sania Mary Saban (VIII-A)