

SHINING STAR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



TABLE OF CONTENT

1. MEET THE HOD
2. ART & CRAFT SESSION
3. SSIS AT THE NURSERY SHOW
4. SSIS RED CRESCENT CHARITY DRIVE
5. LIBRARY LOVERS' DAY
6. ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION
7. SAY 'NO' TO PLASTIC
8. ANNUAL DAY CELEBRATION
9. GRADUATION DAY
10. SSIS IN THE NEWS
11. SSIS REACHES OUT TO MALYALI COMMUNITY
12. STUDENT'S TALK
13. PARENT'S TALK
14. TEACHER'S TALK
15. FUNNY SIDE UP

BITS N BYTES 2018

MY JOURNEY

AS A FACILITATOR

STARTED NEARLY THREE

DECADES AGO WHEN I BECAME A

PART OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL, BACK IN

INDIA. I WAS PLEASED AS I WAS GETTING A

CHANCE TO FULFIL MY PASSION. THEN, IN THE

MID-EIGHTIES I JOINED KV (KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA) ONE OF

THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS AS A HINDI LANGUAGE

TRAINER AND I GAINED A LOT OF EXPERIENCE. THEN FATE BOUGHT ME

TO ABU DHABI. I WORKED AS TEACHER/ SUPERVISOR IN INDIA FROM 1990

-2014. FINALLY, IF YOU ASK ME WHICH POSITION WAS THE HAPPIEST ONE, I WOULD

HAPPILY SAY THE POSITION OF A HOD IN SHINING STAR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, ABU

DHABI. EVEN THOUGH I AM AWAY FROM MY HOME COUNTRY, I FEEL LIKE I AM AT HOME HERE.

LOOKING BACK ON MY CAREER I CAN HONESTLY SAY THAT MUCH OF WHAT I HAVE LEARNT ABOUT LIFE

WAS WHEN I WAS A TEACHER. I GAINED MOST OF MY CONFIDENCE AFTER EMBRACING THIS PROFESSION I

STILL REMEMBER THE DAYS ME AND MY SIBLINGS ENACTED ROLE-PLAYS WHERE I ACTED AS A TEACHER, IN THOSE

DAYS WE USED THE WALLS AS BLACKBOARDS, PLANTS AS STUDENTS AND I LOVED TO MARK ATTENDANCE IN A ROUGH NOTE

BOOK. THAT WAS THE TIME WHEN I DEVELOPED A LOVE FOR TEACHING. SINCE I TOOK UP TEACHING THE TEACHER'S PROFILE HAS

COMPLETELY CHANGED. IT'S SERIOUS BUSINESS NOW. THE STUDENTS, THEIR PARENTS, THE

ADMINISTRATION, LESSON PLANS, OBSERVATION REPORTS, REPORT CARDS, BULLETIN BOARDS,

ASSEMBLIES, SKITS, COMPETITIONS, STANDARDIZED TESTING – THE LIST IS ENDLESS BUT I CONTINUED

TO FIND WAYS TO KEEP IT FUN ESPECIALLY IN MY CLASSROOM. IN THE GULF MY JOURNEY WAS BOTH AS A

LEARNER AND AS A TEACHER. THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY HAS ASSISTED MY TEACHING AND THEREFORE I'VE ALWAYS BEEN

KEEN TO LEARN. IN DUE COURSE I WAS GIVEN THE RESPONSIBILITY TO BE THE SUPERVISOR. WHEN I BECAME THE HEAD OF

SECOND LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT AT SHINING STAR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL. I SOON LEARNED FROM FELLOW MIDDLE LEADERS

HOW TO SUCCEED. ALONG WITH MY TEACHING I HAD SEEN THE APPEAL OF BEING A TEAM LEADER, ABLE TO COMMUNICATE MY

ENTHUSIASM FOR MY SUBJECT NOT JUST TO THE STUDENTS. I TAUGHT BUT, THROUGH THE REST OF THE DEPARTMENT, TO ALL

THOSE STUDYING THE SUBJECT ACROSS THE SCHOOL. BY THE GRACE OF ALMIGHTY, I RECEIVED THE SUPPORTING HAND OF MY

SENIOR LEADERS AND FACULTY MEMBERS. IT WAS ALL ABOUT THE SUCCESS OF THE TEAM AND MAKING THEIR PARTICULAR

DOMAIN AS STRONG AS IT COULD BE.



MRS. B , NOORJAN VAKKIL.
HOD - SECOND LANGUAGE

Art and craft session

It has been seen over years that students whose parents are involved in their school have better academic performance as well as fewer behavioural issues. Involvement allows parents to monitor school and classroom activities, and to coordinate their efforts with teachers to encourage acceptable classroom behaviour and ensure that the child is doing well in their academics as well. Such an initiative was taken by one of student's parent at SSIS campus and it was absolute delight to have Mrs. Sreelekha one of the parents of KG-2 E student Anvita to conduct an art and craft session for our tiny tots. The main theme of the session was various modes of transportation. Students learnt various modes of transportation by diving into realms of their



imagination and drawing them on a piece of canvas. The session was concluded with the presentation of a memento and a Handmade card was given as a token of appreciation. SSIS really thanks the parents who are taking out their valuable time and getting involved in school activities and we really appreciate such parent school collaboration.

- Reported by Anurag Pathak

SSIS at the Nursery Show

Shining Star International School team was very proud of presenting at the domes- Zayed Sports city, Abu-Dhabi on 2nd and 3rd February. The School was represented by the Senior Leadership Team along with members of the Student Council. The School & Nursery show at the domes is an event- in a league of its own where elite schools across the Emirate showcase their qualities.



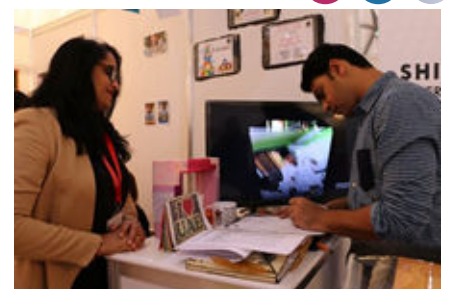
The quality of education is one of the major drivers of the Country Vision 2021, these types of events are awaited by the parents as well as educationalist too. It serves as one of the platforms for the parents to spot the best school for their children and gives schools a real time opportunity to have discussions with many parents.

Parents gathered around SSIS stand (no.19) where they were briefed about the Mission, Vision and various facilities present



at the campus along with the fee structure by Senior Leadership Team and the admin team. Parents were very curious to see students' work and oh yes we did have something for tiny tots coming over there like play dough mats and colouring sheets.

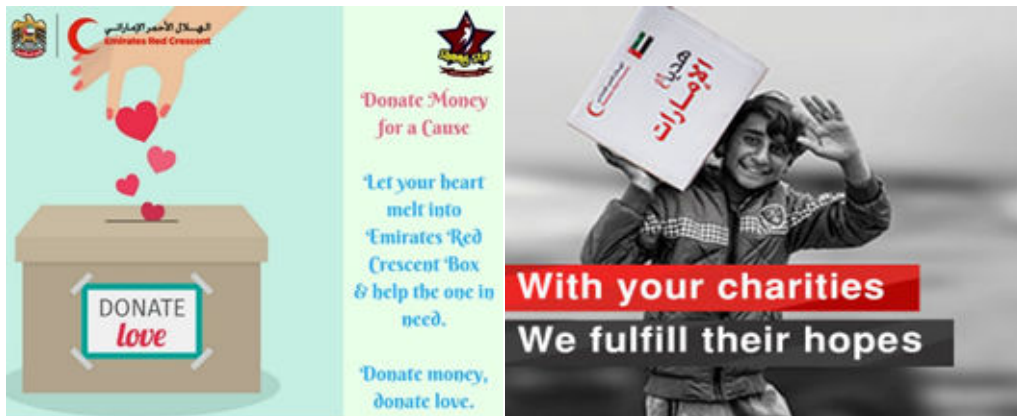
The Real show stopper was the parents taking selfies in super themed selfie frames especially crafted for this huge event.



- Reported by Anurag Pathak



The SSIS Charity Drive



Those who spend in CHARITY will be richly awarded. - Al Qur'an 57:10

To instil compassion amongst the students SSIS collaborated with The Emirates Red Crescent. The whole school fundraiser was organised for the poor and needy from the 11th February to 22 February 2018. The Donation drive was in the form of a competition and was divided into two categories from Grades 1 to 4 and Grades 5 to 12. Each class competed against each other in different categories. The passion of the students was amazing as they eagerly waited for the form period to give their donations. Students would rush to break time to see the updates on the TV in the quadrangle every day. Students and parents donated generously, the school beat its target of 7000 AED, at the end of two weeks the school raised over double the initial target. All classes were rewarded with an end of week class party, the highest donating classes were also given a cake to thank them for caring for others.



- Reported by Anurag Pathak

Library Lovers' Day

BOOK TASTING COMPETITION

Shining Star International School conducted a 'Book Tasting' competition on the 14th February 2018 as a part of celebrating Library Lover's Day. It was held for students from grades 7 to 9 and grade 11. The finalists were selected based on the preliminary test taken class wise. The participants were given selected books according to their grade levels along with the criteria based performance wherein they were instructed to fill in the details of the book they were reading. It was a fun-filled activity as we were all engaged in reading together by competing with each other, rushing in to complete the book and fill in the details for which we had only 30 minutes of time given, which was a challenge in itself. I conclude by saying that this was the best activity/ competition for avid readers like us!!



- Reported by Ms. Shamela Yousuff,
Grade-11A

Easy Writing Competition

"Essays, which can be defined as interpretative or analytical literary compositions are a part and parcel of student life. Essay writing is one of the important tools to develop students' writing skills."

Library Lover's Day-2018 looks at the love that we all hold for libraries and how they help to shape our national identity. Therefore, our Grade 1 and 2 students were given the opportunity to write an essay about their "Favourite Book"

Our jury panel judged each essay individually based on various criteria such as creativity, writing style, knowledge skills and presentation amongst others.

Essay writing is not just a method of academic assessment, but also an art. This is an art of reporting and describing about a topic.




- Report by: Ms. Meera,
Coordinator 1 & 2

Say 'No' to Plastic

Al Bashair's visit to SSIS



As part of the implementation of the #MyIdentity Program the school arranged a collaboration with the neighbouring MOE School Al Bashair.

41 Students from Al Bashair School came to SSIS to implement a drive for removing the use of plastic bottles from schools. This drive is due to the effects on plastic bottles on the environment and the issues with the decomposition of plastic.

Students from Al Bashair were divided into groups, they pre-prepared a PowerPoint presentation with activities for students before arrival.

The Al Bashair students then delivered these presentations and conducted the activities within classes.

Students learnt about the use of plastic bottles and developed an awareness of the issues that arise with their use, all students pledged not to use plastic bottles anymore by the end of the presentation



Annual Day Celebration

“The most exciting acting happens tends to happen in roles you never thought you could play.”

The most awaited event of the year... ‘The Rising Stars’ was held on Saturday 24th February, 2018 with great enthusiasm and zeal. This was the forth event of it’s kind since the beginning of SSIS, it was the perfect venue for children to showcase their abilities and talents, through an array of entertaining programmes. The chief guest of the event was Dr. Abdul Qadir, renowned educationalist and the Principal of Model School Abu-Dhabi who gave a short but empowering speech. Other dignitaries included our guest of honour Mr. Ansari (CEO-Adeep group) and Mr. Wazir . other guests present were the school School chairman Mr. Sanjeev Khanna, Principal Mr. Alyas Ali and Vice-principal Mrs. Anita Singh with other members of the Senior Leadership Team who were there to cheer the students and boost their morale.

The program was proudly anchored by The KG & Primary Activity Coordinator Ms’ Farah Imtiaz Khan. The programme commenced with the Quran Recitation followed by the UAE National Anthem. Then there was a lighting of the Ceremonial Lamp by the Honourable Guest along with our Vice-Principal Ms’ Anita Singh, Followed by the facilitation of our honourable guests. This was entailed by our respected Principal, Mr Alyas Ali welcoming the guests with a short speech.

The show commenced with the kindergarten performances with a short introduction. The parents were content to see their children perform confidently on stage. Their costumes shined and shimmered and complimented every role that they were to play and dance about be it the minions asking for banana treats in the minion’s language, the ompla lompas rushing right out of the chocolate factory, the trolls telling you the actual recipe to be happy or the penguins trying to make you happy by tapping their feet.

After the KG 1s the KG2 performance commenced with even greater exhilaration as the students performed a role play in which they travelled around the globe in Etihad airways and saw the diverse cultures and different fashions of life. From the subcontinent to Antarctica and back. Their message of accepting diversity in every positive manner was well received the audiences. Parents witnessed different dances from bhangra (Punjabi dance) to classical Indian, the Chinese umbrellas, to Antarctica’s penguins and Mexican hats, all the colours were extensive and vivid keeping the parents and guests spell bound.

The showstopper for the day was the “The Selfish Giant” which included different songs and dances. The show was ended by a vote of thanks from our esteemed Vice-Principal Ms Anita Singh thanking all our guests especially the parents, teachers and the students without whose support this show would not have been succesful. Our Shining Stars surely are one of the “Rising Stars”.



- Reported by By Ms. Sudha Suresh & Ms. Farah Imtiaz Khan along with Ms.Afreen





Graduation Day

"Follow your passion, stay true to yourself, never follow someone else's path unless you're in the woods and you're lost and you see a path then by all means you should follow that."

- Ellen DeGeneres

The most important day of a student's life is the Graduation Day. The day when they are accredited and recognised. Graduation for grade 12 students was held on the 26 February 2018 at the SSIS campus in conjunction with grade 11 students. It was chaired by the principal Mr. Alyas Ali and the Vice-principal Mrs. Anita Singh, Mrs. Ramla the Headmistress and Mr. Rajneesh the Section Head.

It was well addressed by the principal who stressed the importance of the day and applauded the hard work and determination of the students who are graduating, a total of 95 students graduated on that day.

A Dance and farewell song was presented by the grade eleven students. It was an emotional moment for the parents to see their children in graduation robes and receiving the scrolls from the School Principal. This was followed by class photos with respective facilitators and then with all subject teachers. Grade 12 students expressed their deep gratitude towards their teachers in the form of poems and mementoes that they purchased and presented to their beloved teachers.



- Adapted from the report of Ms. Annette, Counsellor

SSIS in the news

Young collector in search for elusive commemoration coin

'A unique bond was established when I first saw the coin,' said the 17-year-old numismatist.'

From the moment he laid eyes on the 'I love UAE' Dh1 coin with its unique design, Nihad Hassan knew that it was the beginning of a new passion.

"I was amazed by its shape and design, I had never seen anything like it. It had a heart shape with the UAE map inside it and 'I love UAE' in words. My uncle gave it to me and when I googled it, I found out that it was issued in 2010 in celebration of the I Love UAE national campaign," said Nihad,

a 17-year-old Indian living in Abu Dhabi.

"A unique bond was established when I first saw the coin and that's when the hunt began and I started collecting more and more," he said.

Nihad has managed to collect around 32 different Dh1 coins during the past year and is still looking for more to add to his collection.

"Some of the coins are rare and were very hard to get, but my uncle who runs a fruit and vegetable shop in Abu Dhabi managed to find many of them. I got three of them from the supermarket and the rest were collected with the help of my father who works at a governmental authority.

"It wasn't an easy process as you can wait for so long to find one, it needs patience and desire." Nihad said that he learned a lot about the country's history, culture and attractions through his passion.

"The oldest coin I have is the '35th Anniversary of the National Bank of Dubai' Dh1, which was issued between 1963 and 1998 and shows the bank building. Each coin tells a story about the country and its development. My favourite one is the '75th Anniversary of Sharjah International Airport' Dh1, which has three flying birds," he said.

For those interested in following suit, however, he warned that coin collecting is a hobby that takes hard work and dedication.

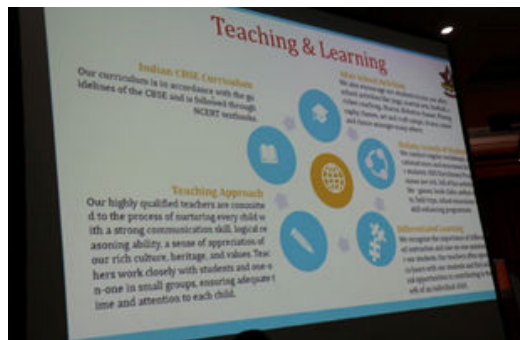
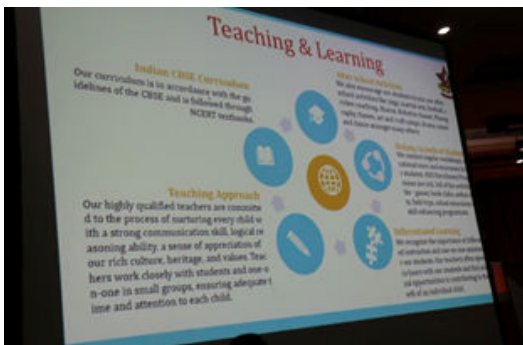
-The National

SSIS students have been the runner up at Dubai Chaunna Youth Cup Soccer Tournament, conducted by Bharatiyam Sports.



SSIS reaches out to the Malyali Community of Abu Dhabi

SSIS was one of the main sponsors of AKVA - Abu Dhabi Kerala Vanitha Association's food fest 'Khalbile Swad' held at the Sudanese Social Club, Abu Dhabi on the 23rd February 2018. Ms. Asha from the Admissions Team represented SSIS at the event, and delivered a PowerPoint presentation to its audience talking about the school, meeting parents and counselling them about the admission procedure, fees structure as well as various facilities available at the SSIS campus. Kids also had a great time in solving the 10 Seconds Maze Challenge at our desk and winning SSIS's signature game mug. They also posed in front of camera with the SSIS photo frames with quirky designs. SSIS was honoured with a shield – a badge of honour for being one of the main sponsors of the event.



Student's Talk

School is a place from where we get to know ourselves. We do not just learn to succeed in our careers but also to gain success in our life. We keep on moving by getting up from failures and learning from our mistakes. The seed once sown, sprouts into a beautiful and healthy sapling, one can never predict whether this particular sapling could be tomorrow's greatest treasure. Each and every student turns out to become every nation's most prized possession. Students are capable of enlightening everyone's heart with a ray of hope and desire. All of this becomes possible when learning becomes our passion and school turns out to be our home...

- Shamela Yousuff & Nihala Azad,
Grade-XI-A

Parent's Talk

As one of the happy parents of SSIS I can proudly say that school has come long way since its inception. I am very content when my child comes back to me says he loved it out there at school and it makes day. Besides the balanced curriculum provided at the campus there has been alot of improvement in methods of instructions. One can see more of a differential approach rather than a traditional dogmatic approach generally we see in schools delivering the Indian curriculum. One thing I love the most about the school is parental involvement which is marvellous. I still remember the last time me and my son patinted together in the school and it was so exciting. Another good thing is the mode of communication i.e. Class dojo no matter where I go I am always connected to my child besides that I must appreciate the role of the class teacher and not to forget the nanny that provides day care facilities and whom with which son plays every day. I am a satisfied parent of SSIS and strongly recommend the school to others also.


- Anurag Pathak

Teacher's Talk

I joined this renowned organization back in October 2017 and feel I am so fortunate to be working with Shining Star International School Abu Dhabi.

I enjoy every opportunity I'm given to connect with educators I admire and I actively participate in teaching groups-it's my way of contributing to this wonderful global exchange of ideas.

The curriculum is thematic in nature based on national standards and influenced by the UAE vision and student body. Curriculum maps are used to facilitate integration between disciplines. Each core area is guided by a set of outcomes generated from the best available standards. Students can thus progress at an appropriate pace, accelerating or remediating as needed.

Learning about the scientific process and the science concepts in context allows students to understand the role of science in the world beyond school.

I would like to deliver my full potential to this organization to achieve the management goals as well as quality education to the students. I have had many new experiences and I believe there are a lot more to come.



-Ms. Remya, Form Tutor of VIII-C

Funny side up ●●●

Life is way better when you are laughing. Laughter is an instant vacation. Then, why not flip your funny side up and roll over the floor laughing?

Classroom Fun

© NAEK ANDERSON

WWW.ANDRETOONS.COM



"That grade is so unfair! She skipped right over 'E!'"

This child is indeed smart. As he reaches out to his parents with his school report card and they notice his poor performance; he simply acts super smart by saying that the 'E' grade is so unfair as the teacher skipped all grades, right over to the 'E'.



**DID YOU
KNOW?**



Hummingbirds are the only bird that can fly backwards.

The Brain Teaser

If you are a Sudoku lover, here you go:

6				5				2
	3		4		8		5	
		8				1		
	8		3		1		7	
4								5
	1		5		4		8	
		7				5		
	5		6		9		4	
8				1				9

Tickling your Funny Bone



Teacher: "What is the future tense of the statement: 'I had killed a thief?'"
Student: "You will go to jail."