



The Springdalian

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مدرسة سبرينج دايلز دبي
SPRINGDALES SCHOOL Dubai



Quintessentially Indian Innovatively International



We Are Sailing....

They say that every ship in calm waters has a good captain. Since joining Springdales just before term 2 last year, this ship has experienced some interesting weather, which has tested Captain and crew! Certainly, the wind has been behind us for some of the time. It was plain sailing as we inaugurated the new indoor swimming pool and seen the array of new facilities in phase 2 completed and brought online. Our sporting prowess has moved from strength to strength, from athletics to football, badminton to tennis, judo to swimming and we can boast the silverware in the display cases to prove it. Academically, the waters have been choppy, but with skillful tacking, we have begun to make steady progress in international benchmark tests. The storm that followed the KHDA headwind in late October certainly tested us, ripping sails from the masts. However, a good crew pulls together when the tempest threatens to dash the ship on the rocks, and although the passage has been rough, the vessel is intact and the crew more experienced as a result.

We are now steering into smoother waters. Repairs have made the bulkheads more robust and we are seeing the benefit of systematic training on the responsiveness of the crew. The ship is on course and we are confident that we will reach our destination and arrive majestically to cheering crowds and the band playing the Springdales song.

It may be a wonderful example of an extended metaphor to share with the students in a creative writing lesson, or test the patience of our readers, but it feels appropriate to consider the journey of our school like a ship under sail. We are not about standing still, becalmed. Our ethos has always been about, pushing onwards, reaching out, navigating into new areas of learning and experience, discovering new ports of call, building new partnerships and chasing the horizon of the future. The Springdalian attests to the growing confidence of our students and staff. A sailing ship relies on each member of the crew understanding their roles. It is knowing that collaboration and professionalism are essential to efficiency and synergy in making those small gains regularly enough to build into sustainable improvement and advantage in the race to port. A flick through these pages demonstrates just how far dedication, integrated working and a sense of destiny can propel the ship through deep waters, while avoiding the jagged rocks of complacency, or even conspiracy.

So, take a deep breath of that fresh salty air and feel the sea spray on your skin. Climb the rigging and unfurl the sails....

Mr. Julian Williams
Principal

READING SESSION



Stepping into KG for story time with a different class every day is like a journey into 'Wonderland'. Sometimes, I wonder if I am going to be accosted by a white rabbit, pulling out a watch from his waistcoat and complaining, "You're late! You were supposed to be here 5 minutes ago!", or "You were supposed to be here yesterday!" Thankfully, Ms. Aru and her team have always managed to restrain themselves and greeted me with sweet smiles, no doubt with little winks and nods to each other which intimated, "Now let's see how he copes...."

In fact, the Wonderland that is KG, enables any story-teller to escape utterly. Being presented with super large reading books, which need the help of students to turn the pages, makes you feel as if you have taken a drink from the a bottle labelled, 'Shrink me'. While sitting on impossibly small chairs makes you feel that you are the embodiment of the 'Big Friendly Giant – BFG'. The KG-ers themselves remind one of Lilliputians from Swift's Gulliver's Travels, especially when they crowd round and pull

and push you in this direction or that, eager to show you what they working on. They are the 'Munchkins' of the land of Oz!

Story time is an opportunity for theatre. I love to change my voice to fit the characters in the story. KG-ers can be held spell-bound by the booming voice of giants, the cackling laugh of a wicked witch, or the deep, sleepy voice of a hibernating bear awakened rudely by a family on a bear hunt. Students love generating sound effects with their voices as we trudge through imaginary mud, or raise our collars against a freezing blizzard with the wind howling around us. It is a joy too, to point out the clever intricacies of the illustrations. Next time you look at The Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen, take a look at Helen Oxenbury's final drawing of the family cowering under the covers, (including the dog), while the baby plays completely at ease with the teddy bear! Books contain hidden secrets.

Other favourites which we explored together include Eric Carle's The Very Hungry Caterpillar, which

became a discussion about metamorphosis and the differences between Lepidoptera, (butterflies and moths), insects and spiders. Story time is the beginning of inquiry and the importance of imagination to understanding the world. Pinocchio provides a wonderful launch pad into what it means to be young, innocent and also mischievous. It is also a cautionary tale about the unforeseen consequences of lying and what it means to be human. The Little Cloud created an opportunity for a class to learn how to recognize and classify cloud types by using Google to bring up pictures of cirrus, alto-stratus, cumulus and cumulonimbus clouds; the stuff of budding meteorologists!

Fairy tales are often stories with a moral message and more than a hint of the macabre. They are ripe for role play and it was fantastic for one class to see how a cooperative 'Fairy Godmother' teacher,

turned Cinderella's rags into a beautiful ball gown by the flick of an imaginary wand.. How the little girl twirled inside our circle to show off her finery! What a shame it was that at the stroke of 12 midnight, (or was it 13?) that she lost the ball gown and had to run back in her rags. The class presented their feet to see if the glass slipper fitted, but as you know, it would only fit the one who lost it. The Prince found her amid the disappointed looks of her classmates and, as only Principals at story-time can do, he married them to the applause of teacher and pupils with the admonishment, "Please be careful how you tell your parents about this." Story time is a great opportunity to explore new learning opportunities and to engage students in a collaborative adventure of discovery about the world and moral values. It is a joy to spend 20 minutes in a different world with the future in the palm of your hand.



KINDERGARTEN

Graduation Day



Today we stand proud of a new beginning, as our little ones move forward from Kindergarten to Grade one. These little ones that are receiving their first diplomas will be our future high school graduates, moving forward to yet another new beginning in their life chapters-were the initial lines that echoed in the Kindergarten fitness gym on the occasion of the Kindergarten Graduation Day held on the 8th and 9th of March,2016.

The event was celebrated in two modules, with great pomp and show. The occasion was graced by the chairperson of Springdales School, Mrs Jasmine Anand, Principal, Mr. Julian Williams and HeadKindergarten, Mrs. Arundathi. The excited and proud parents were present to witness this memorable day.

The ceremony began with the recitation from the holy Quran followed by the UAE and the Indian National Anthems. Next on the agenda was a speech by one of the children to welcome each one present for the big event.

Mrs. Anand, Mr. Julian Williams and Mrs. Arundathi then gave away the scrolls to the proud graduates of the Kindergarten section. The young graduates expressed their feelings on why and what they liked in the Kindergarten.

The cultural programme was mesmerising with the young graduates entertaining and enthralling the audience with their lively foot tapping dance performances representing the various regions of India.

This was then followed by the Graduation song rendered by all the children of Kindergarten 2 with a message that Graduation is not the end, it's just the beginning.

The Grand show concluded with the vote of thanks by one of our little graduates followed by a speech by Ms. Aru, our HeadKindergarten. She expressed her appreciation and thanked the parents for attending the show; the entire team for their hard work and last but not the least she wished the proud graduates as they move ahead in their academic career.







يوم الشهيد

COMMEMORATION DAY

الإمارات العربية المتحدة UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

*“You silent tents of green, We deck with fragrant flowers;
Yours has the suffering been, The memory shall be ours”
— Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.*

In 2015, His Highness Shaikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, decreed that November 30 shall be observed as UAE Commemoration Day and would become an annual public holiday in the UAE.

Commemoration Day is a time to honour and remember those who have sacrificed their lives in the service of their country. UAE Martyr's Day or Commemoration Day recognises the sacrifices and dedication of Emirati martyrs, who have given their lives in the UAE and abroad in the field of civil, military and humanitarian service.

Springdales School, Dubai joined hands in remembering and honouring the great heroes who sacrificed their lives for the country. The Commemoration Day began by lowering the UAE National Flag to half-mast at 8.00 a.m. At 11.30 a.m. precisely, the school stood in attention for one minute's silence in memory of the fallen and also in respect of their families and also those who put the lives of others before themselves, not only in the military, but also in the emergency services and who work for humanitarian relief in conflicts around the world and save lives and protect innocent civilians.

A special assembly was held on the occasion. The young Springdaliens dedicated a skit depicting the journey of life of a true martyr. The echoing silence reverberated the hall with the spirit of patriotism culminating in the singing of UAE National Anthem right from the heart. The Chief Guest of the day, Mr. Ahmad Abbas Mohammad Abdullah Al Blooshi, the school PRO and former UAE military person could only express through the eyes the emotions tried to hold within. Mr. Julian Williams, the principal shared his thoughts on the day and also requested all to hold the spirit of patriotism high in everyone's heart. He explained the significance of the Commemoration Day for the fallen who have given their lives for their faith and their country. It is a time that will remind the families of those who have been martyred that the UAE has not forgotten them or their sacrifice.

The Last Post, the bugle call that signifies the end of the day's activities marked end of the tribute at Springdales reminding all once again that being grateful for our nation is the greatest sensation.





INTERNATIONAL DAY



*‘The highest education is that which does not merely give us information but makes our life in harmony with all existence.’
— Rabindranath Tagore*

Our life in harmony with all existence cannot be a reality without imbibing the belief ‘Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam’...The world is a family at the very core of our education.

At Springdales to celebrate this value the children of different grades and sections came out in festive spirits representing specific countries. The students had an opportunity to research and learn the social and political dynamics of the people living in the country allotted to them and a parade ensued the International Day Carnival that had the food/merchandise vendors at their stalls and a stage full of variety entertainment presented by the students.

The parade projected the colour and diversity of ethnicity, race and culture. It brought out the strong message of peace, friendship and integration amongst humanity.

To realize Rabindranath Tagore’s dream of highest education we took a small step towards bringing understanding and harmony amongst the same species....Mankind. Once this is mastered the harmony with the rest of existence is inevitable. The present dream of sustainable world will become a reality in the future.







D.E.A.R TIME



We have heard it said many times before, reading is good for you. However, helping students to cultivate a love for reading is easier said than done. DEAR an acronym for Drop Everything and Read was instituted at our school last year as part of many initiatives to develop a love for reading in students. During DEAR time, every single person in the school, staff and students have to drop everything and read, thus encouraging a whole school reading culture.

Students should bring books from home or select books based on their interest before DEAR time

begins. The goal of DEAR is to provide students uninterrupted, silent independent reading time for an extended period of 40 minutes on a monthly basis. It is not a graded activity, although students may be encouraged to share recommendations or evaluations of books with their peers.

Over the past months, we noticed that students are quite enthusiastic in their participation in DEAR time. It has helped drive home the importance of reading. We hope to continue with this venture inspiring more and more students to develop the reading habit for life.





U.A.E NATIONAL DAY



*‘A nation’s culture resides in the hearts and in the soul of its people.’
— Mahatma Gandhi*

Come November and National Day fervor grips the UAE as people - expats and Emiratis alike - begin their celebrations in earnest throughout the emirates. All over the country, buildings are lit up in the red, white, black and green colors of the UAE flag. Springdales School Dubai was no exception. As a build up to the National day celebrations a series of competitions were organized. Grades 1 and 2 expressed their love for the country of their choice with ‘I love UAE’ posters. Grades 3 to 5 penned Arabic and English poems on the UAE while our secondary students extolled the virtues of the UAE as a happy nation and much desired destination. With these emotions in our hearts and minds, Springdaliens celebrated this year’s National Day with great vigor and pride.

National day celebrations commenced with the Flag hoisting ceremony followed by a Cultural program which included a song and a dance. It was a riot of color as all students, right from the tiny tots of Kindergarten to our senior most class waved and held aloft their UAE flags. The entire school had been done up in the UAE colors. A poem recital by the students expressed their love for

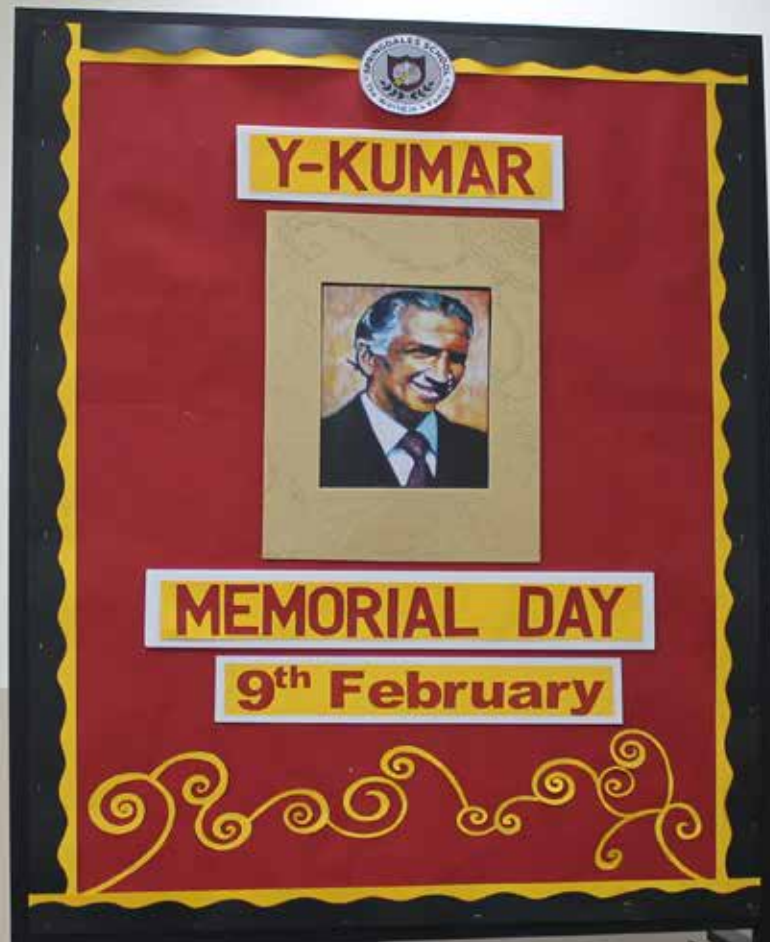
UAE, their fondness for Dubai, their eagerness to blend with the local culture and to be part of UAE’s glorious present and future. The celebration reached its peak with Arabic songs and dances performed by the Primary and secondary students, once more exhibiting the beauty of cultural amalgamation that we at Springdales, instill in our students.

Our budding artists showcased their perception, observation and expectations of and from a vibrant nation like UAE through a beautiful and colorful display of a collage and paintings. A talk on the growth of Dubai from a small trading port to one of the regions and world’s finest cosmopolitan cities was like turning the pages of a photo album that tells you the story of Dubai.

Celebrating UAE’s National Day 2016, by the Springdaliens was a spontaneous outflow of happiness, joy and pride for each and every member. As the balloons in the colors of the UAE flag soared up to dot the vast expanse of the blue sky above, Springdaliens pledged with great emotion to take the nation to newer heights of excellence.



Y. KUMAR MEMORIAL DAY



*“Better than a thousand hollow words, is one word that brings peace”
— Buddha*

Every year there is a special assembly organized in the school as a tribute to Mr. Yudhisthir Kumar, founder manager of Springdales school. Peace and international understanding were very close to his heart and find reflection in our school motto “Vashudhaiva Kutumbakam”, “The World Is a Family”

Acknowledging the importance of collaborative learning in a student’s life, Springdales School, Dubai organized the First Inter School Sing-A-Thon for the students of Grade 1 & 2. The event was held on February 9, 2017 at Springdales campus.

This was a platform for students of six participating schools to come together, learn and sing couple of

songs as a collaborative learning activity. It was not a competition, it was a celebration of music.

The participating schools were:

1. Credence School, Dubai
2. Gulf Model School, Dubai
3. Sharjah Ambassador School, Sharjah
4. The Royal Academy, Ajman
5. Indian High School, Dubai
6. Springdales School, Dubai

At the end of the activity students presented Hindi and English songs. Activity was well appreciated by the school authorities, guest teachers and principals. All students were awarded with participation certificates.



REPUBLIC DAY



Republic day in India is celebrated every year with great honor on 26th of January to honor the Constitution of India as it came into force on the same day in the year 1950. This year's Republic Day was very special for all the Indians living in UAE as the chief guest on Republic Day of India 2017 was Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

At Springdales School, Dubai Republic Day of India was celebrated by the students, staff and parents community with patriotic fervor. The Head Boy and Head Girl hoisted the national flag of India while

all students sang the Indian National Anthem. students of grade 4 & 5 dressed as great freedom fighters presented speeches and famous slogans by Mahatma Gandhi, Rani Lakshmi Bai, Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel and Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh.

A patriotic Song based on values of unity, equality and importance of independence- "Ekta Swatantrata Samanta Rahe" was presented by the School Choir followed by a creative dance presentation by the school dance squared on the tunes of - Vande Mataram.



FLAG DAY



A group as big as 321 students and staff of grades 3 to 5 of Springdales School, Dubai were invited to be a part of the Flag Day celebration in Zabeel Park on 3rd November 2016 during school hours. This was an initiative of The Watani Al Emarat Foundation and His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the Vice President of UAE and Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai graced the occasion.

At Springdales School, Dubai the whole school assembled near the school fountain to celebrate

Flag Day. Principal, Mr Julian Williams hoisted the flag as all the students sang UAE National Anthem in Unison.

During the course of the day teachers explained the importance of celebrating UAE Flag Day to the students. Some students drew UAE National Flag, UAE symbols and monuments as a part of the Flag Day celebration.



ANNUAL ATHLETIC SPORTS MEET



The school playground of Springdales School Dubai was filled with great zeal, excitement and frolicsome atmosphere on Tuesday, 17th January, 2017 as the school celebrated its Annual Athletic Sports Meet. Almost 345 students from the school participated in the event. The events were categorized in to four age categories i.e. Sub Junior (Below 10 years), Junior (Below 12 years), Inter (Below 14 Years) and Senior 9 (Above 14 Years).

The Sports Day started at 8:00 am. The program began with student's march past as per their respective houses i.e. Peace, Unity, Forward and Freedom house. Ms. Jasmine Anand – COO, graced the occasion with her presence. The Head of School welcomed the esteemed gathering and emphasized on the importance of sports in a child's life. Students mesmerized the audience with their energetic performances.

Before the races began, we had a simple Opening Ceremony. The ceremony was auspicated with the recital of verses from the Holy Quran followed by its translation.

The Sports President administered the solemn oath to the

participants. The sports torch was carried by the sports presidents (Sreekar G.), School head boy (Aryan Gulati), Best runner (Siha A.) & Judo National Player (Deepakshi R.). The Head of School made a speech and officially declared the sports meet open, and released balloons symbolizing the vibrant hopes of the sporting students that were flying high.

The best athletes' award was given to Yatharth S. & Ananya P. (under 10), Deepanshu Singh & Rida Khan (Under 12), Joshua S. & Johana A. (Under 14) and M. Anan & Siha A. (Above 14) respectively.

Freedom House Grabbed Overall Girl's Championship. Peace House bagged the Boy's Championship as well as Overall championship too. It was a wonderful day to see participation of teachers, parents & supporting staff in the sports day. The Head of school applauded the effort of the students and the teacher for making the event a huge success.

The event came to end successfully with the vote of thanks given by Deepakshi R, leaving thrilling memories in the heart of each and every one present there.



WEEK WITHOUT WALLS



An exciting ending to the Academic year 2016-17. Week without WALLS. skills of team work.

Students immensely enjoyed from 12th to 16th March as a wide range of activities were arranged for them. They were exposed to many different activities which gave them opportunity to develop and enhance not only the academic, but also their life skills.

The lower primary students engaged themselves in Origami craft work creating birds, animals, fruits and vegetables. They enjoyed showcasing their hidden and inherent talents to their friends during the Talent Show. They had an interactive and fun filled session with the jugglers and a drummer. The children were enthralled to try their hands on juggling with a wide range of objects like plates, Frisbees, balls and the like. They had fun learning the variety of ways in which music can be created using the drums.

The upper primary had the Sports Carnival, organized by the sports department and it was a great success with students participating in a myriad of events and inter house sports activity. The students also went for a picnic to "Creek Park", where they enjoyed a day full of fun and food. They played games and in the process learnt the

For the secondary students the week commenced with the Talent Hunt which provided a platform to the students to display their talents in performing arts. This was followed by the Balloon Debate which exposed the students to speaking on the stage enhancing their public speaking skills and confidence. This was followed by a trip to Yass Water World where the students immersed themselves into a day full of fun frolic and laughter coupled with team building activities. 'All fun and no play makes Jack a dull boy'..... The Sports Carnival was organized by the sports department and it was a great success with students participating in a series of events and inter house sports activity. There were matches to cheer where the boys played football followed by cricket and the girls enjoyed a match of badminton and throw ball.

No matter what they do our students are true crusaders of the environment. The ECO CODE for Springdales School was formulated during the Week without walls to be followed zealously by each member of the Springdales community. Accentuating the importance of recycling they participated enthusiastically in the 'Best out Of Waste' activity.





TASTE OF INDIA



*“Culture is the widening of the mind and of the spirit”
— Jawaharlal Nehru*

India, the country- very well-known not only for its richest heritage, diverse cultures, but also for its creeds, customs, colors and cuisines. On the other hand, U.A.E. shares significant aspects of cultural similarities and has a diverse society where we respect and value people. That's what makes us "Quintessentially Indian and Innovatively International -an Indian Heart and an International Mind". To uphold and celebrate the cultural values and traditions of India in very innovative U.A.E. approach, Springdales school organized "Taste of India" on 10.12.16

True to our Springdalian motto- "The world is a family" the students, staff and parent community of Springdales School Dubai came together to celebrate the "Taste of India" with great gusto. The school premises came alive with themed decorations, flags and balloons that created a festive ambience.

Celebrations were held highlighting the cultural diversity and unity. The culture stage, witnessed several shows

letting the budding artiste opportunity to tap their talents and entertain others. The kaleidoscope of musical heritage and dance presentations made the event worthwhile.

Families were delighted to experience the legendary Indo-Arab hospitality in abundance and enjoy native food, cultures and traditions of India. Beautifully decorated stalls and kiosk added colour and excitement to the festivities. Ladies indulged in a shopping spree while rest of the family satiated their taste buds with delectable Indian cuisine spread from one end to the other.

Whether it is culture, art, shopping, games, raffles, good food or just the opportunity to interact with people, there was definitely something exhilarating for everyone. This is our celebration of 'Unity in Diversity.'



www.springdalesdubai.com



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Springdales School Dubai,
P.O. Box 115930
Dubai, UAE

Phone +971-4-338-1311, +971-4-338-2123
Email info@springdalesdubai.com
Website www.springdalesdubai.com



مدرسة سبرينج دايلز دبي
SPRINGDALES SCHOOL Dubai