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The Springdalian Edition-1



مدرسة سبرينج دايلز دبي
SPRINGDALES SCHOOL Dubai

Quintessentially Indian
Innovatively International



Well-Rounded Individuals

You will read on many school websites and in school prospectus that all schools are now striving to educate 'well-rounded individuals.' It has become one of the en vogue 'buzz' words. It is understood that the world in which our children will take up the challenges of adult life will be different from today. Indeed, for many of our KGI students, who will graduate in 2030, jobs for them have not yet been invented. So how do schools best prepare for this challenge?

The answer is to focus on developing the whole child. Whilst curriculum content, assessments, exam expectations, entry criterion and careers may change, our need to develop and refine life skills does not. Therefore the 'buzz words' of educating 'well-rounded and humane' individuals is very much the role of 21st century schools.

It is important for children to develop skills for them to take their place as global citizens. This has very much been the Springdalian 'way' for 60 years; indeed the school was progressive for its time. A Springdalian education is so much more than knowledge and recounting facts, often drilled

by teachers. By opting for Springdales, you are ultimately opting for a lifestyle choice. A young adult who can not only hold their own in the top international universities but also appreciate the Creative and Performing Arts with a strong sense of emotional intelligence.

One should never underestimate the challenge faced by schools today. However, at Springdales, we remain committed to the progressive values from the school's inception in 1955.

Whilst the future remains uncertain and unknown, what we do know is that Springdalians can rise to the uncertainty with "enlightened minds and compassionate heads, children who will grow to make the world more vibrant." - Dr Rajni Kumar.

Enjoy witnessing a Springdalian future unfold.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Gale
Principal

Language and Literacy Week

What do our students gain from it ?



"All educators who are searching better ways of teaching, to help their students find better ways of learning and who by doing so begin to enjoy and rediscover the delights of their profession" – is very rightly put by BARBERRA. Scaffolding is a teaching technique used to build connections for learners by establishing details surrounding a unit before it is actually taught. This allows the teacher to build a bridge from the learners' current knowledge to the information being taught. Language & Literacy week provides the learner with a platform where they can showcase their talents in all areas of language development. There is no right or wrong until they reach the audition to the final round. Each phase provides our learners to sow the seed of self esteem and confidence to prove themselves as the real talented and successful person. A rendezvous of skills and knowledge expressed in multiple styles emphasizing on the single aspect "Every child matters"

Language & Literacy week helps students to imbibe to change the way they speak and write to suit different situations, purposes and audiences. They read a range of texts and respond to different layers of meaning in them. They explore the use of language in literary and nonliterary texts and learn how language works. Students explore how to speak in a range of contexts, adapting what they say and how they say it to the purpose and the audience. Taking varied roles in groups gives them opportunities to contribute to situations with different demands. They also learn to respond appropriately to others, thinking about what has been said and the language used. To speak with confidence in a range of contexts, adapting their speech for a range of purposes and audiences, students use vocabulary and syntax that enables them to communicate more complex meanings. With the effect of these they gain and maintain the interest and response of different audiences

This provides them with an opportunity to participate in a wide range of drama activities and to evaluate their own and others' contributions. Students have pride in exhibiting their talents to create, adapt and sustain different roles, individually and in groups. They use character, action and narrative to convey story, themes, emotions, ideas in plays. They devise and script, use dramatic techniques to explore characters and issues [for example, hot seating, flashback] which is really a mind-blowing treasure of we as teachers to see them presenting their skills and talents. I tell my students, it's not difficult to identify with somebody like yourself, somebody next door who looks like you. What's more difficult is to identify with someone you don't see, who's very far away, who's a different color, who eats a different kind of food. When you begin to do that then literature is really performing its wonders.

Ms. Sreevidya Harikrishnan
Head of Academics-Primary

Digital Technology



Not so long ago, the back to school season was marked by a dash to the Mall for exercise books and coloring pencils. Today books and pencils are joined by Chromebook laptops and tablet computers as educational essentials. Children now entering school are fully fledged digital natives.

Digital learning is a key concept that needs to be embraced by Teachers in today's classrooms, digital learning could refer to the use tablets in the classroom. It could mean using online sites, services and programs as teaching tools, or as study aids built for at-home use. Alternately, it could even refer to the practice of using popular apps, social networks and communications platforms as tools to create your own digital assignments and agendas.

The possibilities when it comes to digital and distance learning are endless. Regardless of your personal definition, for educators seeking ways to empower and get the most out of their students, here are reasons why digital learning is so important, and can no longer be ignored.

- Digital learning offers an unprecedented ability to provide educational experiences that are tailor-made for each student. As pupils advance in programs on English, math, science, history, and art or other subjects, teachers can now track their individual progress, identify specific areas of focus for each student with actual data to back it up, and present solutions that address their specific needs.

- By embracing digital devices and connected learning, classrooms around the country and around the globe can not only connect to one another to share insights and boost learning, experience and communications skills. The practice also allows educators to enjoy a level playing field, where inner-city classrooms, charter schools, private schools and even homeschooled children all have access to the same learning and opportunities.

- Digital learning solutions also bring to bear a number of key efficiencies, both real and virtual, that can't be matched by traditional learning techniques. Whether it's the environmental impact recognized by the need for less paper for handouts and books, time savings provided by pupils' unprecedented access to information.

- At Springdales, students use technology as an education tool, and have become more engaged in the process and more interested in growing their knowledge and skill base. In some cases, to the point that they don't even realize they're actively learning! Online programs have provided better context, a greater sense of perspective, and more interesting activities that allow them to better connect with students. They continue to offer a more interesting and involving way to digest information and apply new skills.

Ms. Faryal Arsalan
ICT Teacher



Facilitates access to learning and improves engagement, motivation and curiosity. Staff & Students using digital technology to support the delivery of curriculum.



Help the Helper

This program aims to give the Students an opportunity to do something worthwhile and fulfilling by spreading happiness and harmony. Thus, keeping 2nd October, the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi in our mind, we celebrate Help the Helper Day, commemorating the great work that he did in his lifetime towards humanity and mankind. Springdalian and staff donate some essential items for day- to-day life to the support staff.

As teachers and parents, we need to work in perfect partnership in all the endeavours that are taken up by our students and allow them to revel in the greatest happiness of finding themselves in the joys of others. As Gandhiji so rightly said, 'The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others'.

Ms. Farah Soonawalla
Head of Secondary

"Be the beacon of the light in someone's darkness"

'The purpose of life is not just to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honourable, to be compassionate, and to have it make some difference that you have lived, and lived well.' – Ralph Waldo Emerson.

In a world that sees so much strife and struggle, harmonious coexistence and peaceful cooperation for a better living is perhaps the most yearned dream for all. Humanity is a much threatened practicing philosophy and for the planet to be still beautiful and wonderful, we need to make a conscious effort to work towards it. This could be only achieved if we prepare tomorrow's citizens with the right values, having a logical mind and a compassionate heart. At Springdales, we inculcate our children to do work

with their hearts and hands in tandem. No matter how big or how small the effort is, every endeavour counts for a bigger cause or change in the society or for the world as a larger community. Thus keeping the school motto in our mind 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', our students will be engaged in a charitable program 'Helping the Helper'; an attempt to make everyone involved in the school as part of the larger family who works for a common cause: nurturing and raising the guardians of tomorrow's world.



EXPRESSIONS-KG



Springdales School has always believed in nurturing the spirit of creativity and expression in the minds of young children. True to its belief, on 15th September, 2015 an art competition, 'EXPRESSIONS,' was organised in the Kindergarten section to promote all the young budding artists. The little bundle of talents were provided a platform to explore and express their creativity and imagination. The children exhibited their passion for drawing and used a variety of vibrant colours to create absolute magic.

Each one of them diligently worked towards creating a colourful and unique picture. Some even got messy while trying their hand at using an array of water colours. But nevertheless, they enjoyed dipping their paint brushes in colours of their choice and painting their unique masterpieces.

"Please excuse the mess, our learners are making memories"

They were delighted to share and express themselves about their pictures. It was amazing to see and hear the young minds being so expressive and clear about their creations. The participation spirit of the little Kindergarteners was a treat to watch and cherish as they created pictures which reflected their innocence and brilliant creativity.

Ms. Arundathi Srinivas
Head of Kindergarten





STUDENT VOICE

The principal role of the Student Voice is to represent all the students in leading and developing our school.

Representatives are elected by the peer group.

They also promote and encourage involvement of students in organizing school activities. The student voice attend meetings and bring ideas and concerns of their peers. They report to the classes whatever decisions are taken at the meeting. They also encourage other students to participate in Student Voice activities and volunteer during school events; helping organize educational and charitable activities; participating in activities related to EEG are also part of the Student Voice responsibilities. I feel privileged to have been chosen by my peers to carry out all the above responsibilities and I assure that I will deliver to their expectations.



Ms. Vedhika Santhosh
Grade Representative – 4

"I have more confidence in me since the time I have become the member of Student Voice. I have acquired the courage to speak.".....
Nikita Bianca (8A)

"Student Voice made me understand the meaning of 'responsibility'. I feel nice about myself, being accepted as representative of my peers and doing something so very related to student issues and concerns.".....
Govind Nair (7B)

"I know my potential as a leader. It gives me a platform to share my views and bring forth the views of my friends.".....
Aryan Pathak (6B)

"It feels good to do good for my friends. It has made me learn about the greatness of doing good for others.".....
Saamiya Sheikh (7B)

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