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The Springdalian Edition-2



مدرسة سبرينج دايلز دبي
SPRINGDALES SCHOOL Dubai



Quintessentially Indian Innovatively International



Learning beyond Classroom Boundaries

This edition of the Springdalian is dedicated to learning beyond classroom boundaries.

In today's modern world, learning must extend beyond the classroom. Indeed, with the integration of Learning Technology, students are frequently transported to other parts of the world, flipped classroom and virtual learning environments. Every effort is made to bring context to learning and thus bring learning to life.

It is only when children feel, think, say and do, will they make a 'connection' with the world around them; from the powerful performance of VAMA at the Indian Consulate to the feeling of pride for UAE National Day, being heard through Student Voice, doing our best in the Swimming Gala and seeing and exploring our local environment.

We passionately believe that learning should involve all 5 senses. Children should see, hear, feel and do "Learning" with a focus on involving students in this process and ensuring that progress is tracked and monitored.

We are very confident that the all-round learning experience for our Springdalian will give them the skills to break through any boundaries.

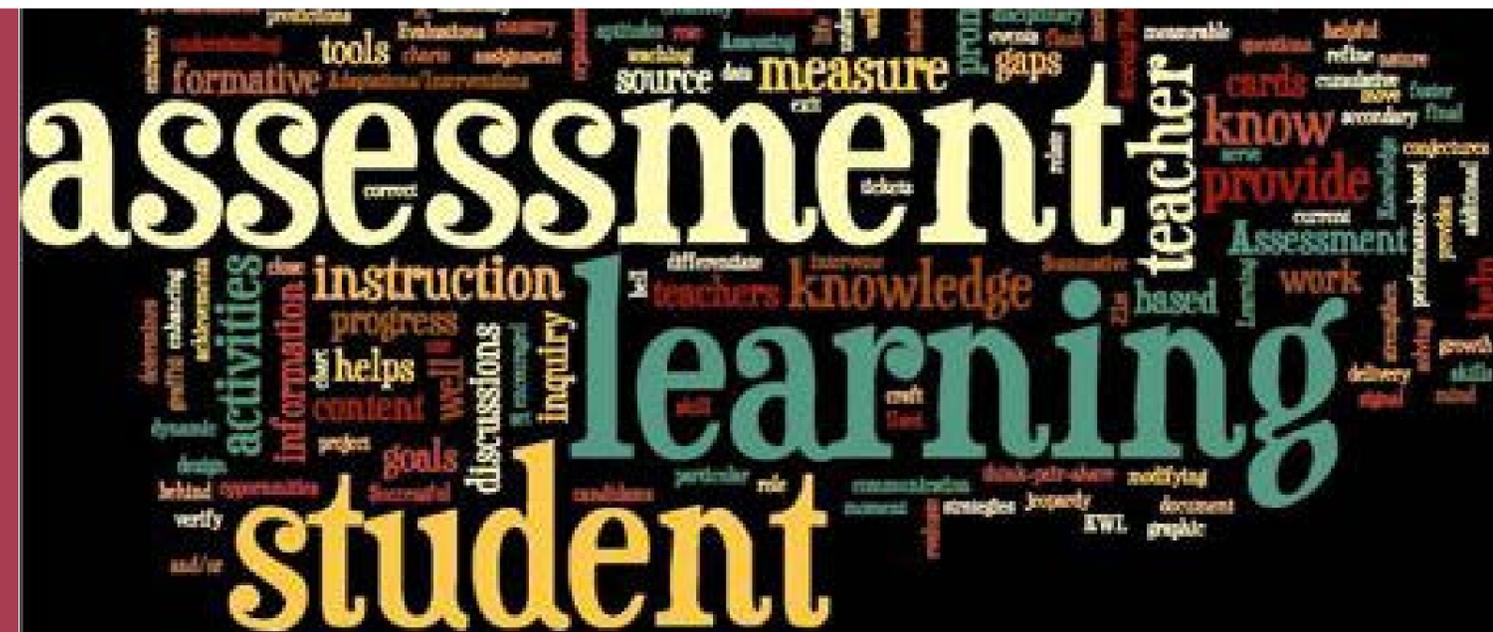
Enjoy the read.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Gale
Principal

From Teaching to Learning

A New Paradigm



“Feedback functions formatively only if the information fed back to the learner is used by the learner in improving performance.” Dylan Wiliam

The importance of assessments as a tracking tool is to enhance learning which cannot be undermined. Good quality, comprehensive and timely feedback is an extremely important factor in driving student learning.

Students today, are accountable for their learning and that’s where assessments provide feedback to students on their progress towards achievement of their learning outcomes.

This feedback helps students realize how they have done and indicates what they could improve on.

However timing is of essence here. Feedback that is given too soon may disrupt the student’s reflective process whereas if it is

provided too late then it is no longer relevant.

But the question that comes to mind is which assessment, Formative or Summative, helps students to improve and excel?

Actually both complement each other. Formative assessments reflect improvement whereas summative talks about accountability.

Formative assessment is about using information to adapt teaching to the needs of the students, to monitor and adapt the work of children so that learning proceeds in the right direction. “ So it’s what happens when you don’t just lecture students and rattle through the material and then ask them if they understood OK. ” aptly sums it up.

Thus one would use the term ‘summative’ to describe assessments that are used to certify student achievement or

attainment. On the other end of the spectrum is the term ‘formative’ for those that provide feedback to learners about how to go about improving and advice on how to maintain and improve their progress.

When the cook tastes the soup, that’s formative; when the guests taste the soup, that’s summative.’ This statement clearly reflects how the two complement each other.

Education in the modern world is student centric and learning its primary focus. In such a scenario, developmental feedback set in the context of learning outcomes has many advantages. It builds learners’ confidence, motivates students to improve their learning, helps them identify their strengths and weaknesses and provides them with diagnostic measures to improve their performance. Thus, providing each student the opportunity to advance progressively.

CHALLENGES

Don't Run Away From Challenges, Run Over Them



You can't cross the sea, merely by staring at the water

One of many of Rabindranath Tagore's inspiring quotes that so often I have used to enthuse my students to fear not of challenges lying in their paths but to cross them with courage and determination.

In a world of rising competitions and challenges, it is important as educators and parents, to teach our students the true worth of taking on a challenge. The children of the current generation have much to take on other than academic pursuits, as the world seeks a generation of people who are all-rounders and excel in the fields of creative or performing arts, in sports, in public-speaking and oratory as well as showing leadership skills. Thus it's a full platter of show-casing great personality traits and interests. It is daunting for many who are pressurized to chase and reach the finish line at the earliest and make a collection of as many awards and trophies as they can. Is this what 'challenge' is all about?

At Springdales, our students are taught to be fearless, to step forward and remove every obstacle, every rock that they think is thrown in their path

of progress and development. They are taught to accept challenges to know their inner strength and potential. They are encouraged to take the roads less traveled, to be different and not just be one of the crowd.

Our students have thus taken their competitions with much vigour and enthusiasm. In a term full of tournaments, meets and championships, Springdalian proudly came forward to test their potential in various sports activities, they challenged their physical endurance and mental agility; be it in swimming, soccer, tennis, football or chess, Springdalian did not suffer from any trepidation when they competed with better teams. In no way our chess players gave up before the masters of the game or our swimmers felt threatened before their stronger opponents, as their mission was to learn, to face their areas of improvement and to challenge their own selves to gauge their abilities and skills.

It is the fun of the game, the rigours of the tournament and their nimble minds to comprehend the moves of the game that holds more attraction than winning a trophy. As youngsters they take their losses and victories with the same enthusiasm; they are a happy bunch of children and teenagers who are eager learners and fervently await their next opportunities.

They remind me of the climbers scaling the slopes of the highest mountains of the world who take the greatest pleasure, find the heights of thrill during the climb while reaching the summit is the inevitable end to all the adventures.

They are our wonderfully spirited Springdalian for whom challenge isn't all about winning but losing too with grace and dignity and learning from every opportunity to better themselves in the next one.



As youngsters they take their losses and victories with the same enthusiasm; they are a happy bunch of children and teenagers who are eager learners and fervently await their next opportunities.





Kindergartners - A treat to watch, each one being special and extremely talented. They have come a long way ever since the beginning of the academic session and progressed in all areas of development.

SING-ALONG

KINDERGARTEN

'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.

The Kindergartners are always a treat to watch, each one being special and extremely talented. They have come a long way ever since the beginning of the academic session and progressed in all areas of development.

To showcase their confidence and singing skills, a sing-along event, 'Making Melodies', was organised on the 10th of December 2015. The children were all geared to perform the songs that they had learnt during their music sessions in front of their parents.

The bright and clear skies, the fresh morning air, the tastefully aesthetic arrangements, the eager and

enthusiastic audience contributed to a perfect setting for an amazing show that followed. Each and every child of the section was a participant and together as a group, the young Kindergartners had the crowd tapping their feet, clapping and cheering as they mesmerized one and all with their soulful singing.

The songs they rendered were related to the themes they had learnt. The grand finale in the end heralded the festive season and added joy in the hearts of everyone present there. All in all, it was a spectacular and memorable show that will be cherished for a long time to come.



VAMA

A Musical Production



Life is about more than work. It is about family and community; it is about us, the individual. Helping our children leads to a truly balanced life which involves both modeling balance in our own life and helping them find balance in theirs.

Extracurricular refers to activities our children do outside of normal school classes. Extracurricular activities are important for all of us.

The most common extracurricular activities for children are connected to sports, public speaking art, and music. Children begin participating in these types of pursuits early.

They learn discipline, leadership, and teamwork. They develop responsibility, sense of purpose, and caring. They create bonds with their peers and other adults and become part of new communities. They learn about their own talents, interests, strengths, and limits.

At Springdales we take extra measures to help our students excel in all these fields. Term – 2

Hindi Dramatics & Indian Dance Club practiced for Vama during Pupils' Enrichment Programme and presented the same in association with Consulate General of India in Dubai. We showcased the act of sacrifice of Panna Dhai through 'VAMA' a musical production under 'Stree Shakti'.

An initiative of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, who narrated the entire episode of this lady who sacrificed her own son for the sake of her country.

Seventy two students participated in this production which was wonderfully presented and a spectacle of colour and grace.

The event was graced by Consul General of India in Dubai H.E. Shri Anurag Bhushan accompanied by Mr. Darren Gale, Principal of Springdales School, Dubai and other dignitaries.

All the students were given certificates of participation by Consulate General of Indian in Dubai.

Springdaliens dramatized the act of sacrifice of Panna Dhai through 'VAMA' a musical production under 'Istri Shakti'

Where words fail MUSIC speaks.



WIWA

World Inside World Around



How would young Springdalian feel if they were to embark on a journey around the world and while they were at it, get to be the representatives of different nations? Excitement knew no bounds for the students of Grades 1 and 2 as they presented dances from the world over, under the annual programme WIWA 2015 -16.

True to its theme, WIWA which stands for World Inside World Around, aims at acquainting students to the world at its best – the culture, tradition, dances, music and the like - and providing a platform to showcase and present their talent and learning.

This year WIWA was held on the 25th and 26th of November and almost all the students participated with a lot of vigour. The show sparkled with a variety of dances from different nations and continents – the peppy Mexican hat dance, the groovy Hawaiian dance, the feisty Spanish flamenco dance, the wild tribal African dance and the charming Russian folk dance. Adding to the repertoire, were the songs and poems presented by each grade.

All the parents and staff swelled with pride to see the budding Springdalian put their best foot forward with such confidence and ease!

“Springdalian embarked a journey around the world “



SWIMMING GALA



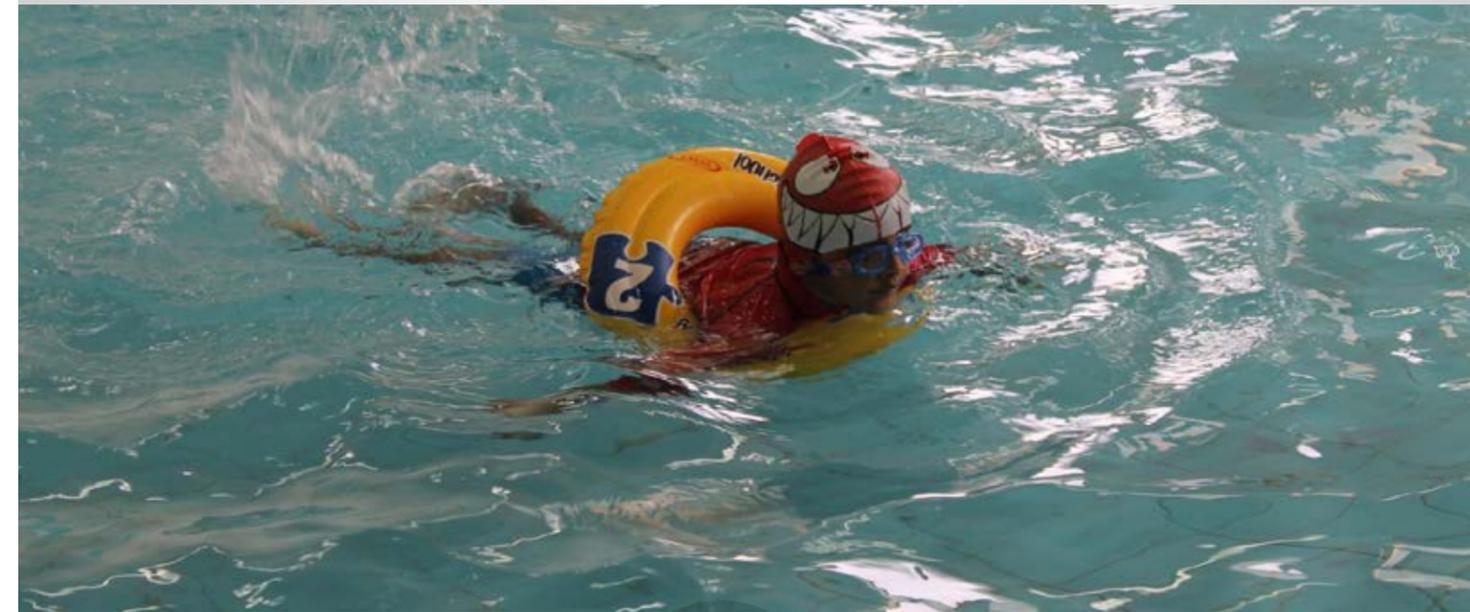
This was proved right by the little Kindergarteners who came all equipped with their swimming kits on 26th and 27th October 2015, ready to take part in the second Annual Swimming Gala of the Kindergarten section. The joy and excitement on their faces was enough to prove that they were all set to participate irrespective of winning or not.

The events were conducted very efficiently by the able staff members of the PE department who were equally enthusiastic as the children were to be part of the show.

They motivated and encouraged the little ones to display their swimming skills. It was amazing to see the young swimmers display confidence and a sense of pride as each time they would get ready to plunge into the pool eager to do their best.

Though there were three winners declared after every event, the children were all smiles and cheered each other. It was participation that mattered for these little ones and not winning. It was an enjoyable as well as a good learning experience for all the Kindergarteners.

“It was participation that mattered for these little ones and not winning”



"CHAMPIONS"

GRADE	1st Position	2nd Position	3rd Position
KG 1 A	Jadeep Ennagowni	Nivedh Kiran	Mahir Chhugani
KG 1 B	Aarush Ajoy	Shourya Deshmukh	Ghazal Mathur
KG 1 C	Amvi Arun Pai	Misha Kallan	Shaurya Sidana
KG 1 D	Ayaan Mujtaba Shaik	Aylise D'souza Jamadar	Malan Lanka Rodrigo
KG 1 E	Nethra Satagopan	Arya Srivastava	Inaaya Kaushik
KG 2 A	Pranav Ajit Kumar	Ruheen Fawaz Abdulla	Shenelle Saldanha
KG 2 B	Namya Pandey	Ezra Dsouza	Taashvi Suri
KG 2 C	Saachi Anand	Aaryaa Shenoy	Keith Mathew
KG 2 D	Lavitra Dhoot	Susmita Jena	Heer Desai
KG 2 E	Andriella Sitjar	Aarav Dadlani	Arham Ansari
KG 2 F	Soghra Habeeb	Abhinanda Basu	Mahika Nilesh
KG 2 G	Ishaan Tushar	Alya yaqoob	Saanvi Bhusari
KG 2 H	Kavya Gulechha	Izaak George	Shraddha Krishnan
KG 2 H	Arjun Chakraborty	Arjun Vivek	Sniti Upadhyay

NATIONAL DAY



It was a bright golden morning and I could feel the gentle breeze playing with the flags adorning me. The colours of the nation were splashed all over me. There was a feel of gaiety as the first yellow bus appeared in the distance bringing in the little blooms into my arms; I too was equally happy and elated. That's what I am, happy always, eager always to hear the sounds, the noise, the vibration of old and young as every nook and corner reverberates with their smile, their chatter and cheer. Still wondering who I am?

I am Springdales School Dubai. I encompass the family whose members are known as Springdalians. I house them to prepare them for the future, nurture them into beautiful minds, nurture them into well-rounded individuals who will take their rightful place in the adult world, one day.

The day was 29th November, 2015. My family members were all busy, ready to express their love for the nation, their adopted homeland. It was heartwarming to see the crowd gathered in my courtyard, around the fountain, waiting eagerly to pay homage to UAE, three days in advance, on the occasion of her 44th National Day.

As the courtyard filled up with students, teachers, parents, the leadership team and the dignitaries, it was a sight of joy, jubilation and the feeling of oneness. Everybody was dressed up in the UAE colours or local attire. Mr. Gale, the Head of my family was looking dignified in the white robes and the head gear; the attire of the UAE men.

The celebration began with the recitation of Holy Quran and the National Anthem, hoisting of the UAE flag and then followed by speeches, songs, dances and poems. It was a moment of pride to see the children embracing the local culture with such love and respect, dancing to the beats and tunes of Arabic songs, expressing their feelings in the language, making sincere attempts to master the language.

It was soon the time for the much awaited finale. The little ones had held on to their excitement for too long but now when the colourful balloons were out in full sight, they knew no end to their exultation. Old and young cheered when the balloons were released as they rose higher and higher splashing the endless blue above the school with the nation's colours. It's a beautiful emotion from either side: the family expressed their gratitude to the nation, blessing it with more success and greater heights of excellence while the nation thanked the family for showing much love and respect for her and blessed them for bringing up beautiful people to serve the country and the world.

Yes, that's how I spend each and every day with my family members imparting knowledge, skills and wisdom, sharing emotions, the highs and lows, reveling in feats and achievements no matter how big or small and celebrating life in all its hues and colours.



WE THE
FOSS
Friends of Springdales School

Partners involved in the educational journey together

PARENTS CHILDREN SCHOOL



FOSS - has its origin in an idea that aims to provide an interface to the partners involved in the educational journey together viz. the parents, the school and the children. It has been envisioned as an organization that would take initiative and support the activities that make this beautiful journey even more worthwhile and enjoyable.

The FOSS group has already elected a committee of core members towards this goal. The core members, per se, and the FOSS group as a whole, plan to take up causes that blend with the famed 'Springdalian' pedagogy of well-rounded personality and global citizenship.

The 'Taste of India' was a step towards it. It was the first event held under the aegis of FOSS, and the superb reviews it garnered has been a cause of much elation for us!

We look forward to hosting many more academic and co-curricular events of this scale in near future.

We realize that as parents we have definitive views about the kind and quality of education our child should get. But when we opt to become a part of such symbiotic platforms, we also get to know first-hand the challenges faced by the educators. Believe me, this is an amazing insight and really enriches you as a parent.

As the FOSS chairperson, I invite you, to be a valuable contributor in this initiative.

On behalf of my team,

Au revoir and a Happy New Year!

Dr. Bharti Gautam



STUDENT VOICE

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

Representatives are elected by the peer group.

Enrichment programs enhances our strengths and works on our weaknesses, especially when they are related to sports and extended learning. I have found that in Springdales these programs have empowered me and have allowed me to explore my talents and interests in different areas of work.

Md. Fazil (8B)

Singing has been my biggest passion and I enjoy martial arts. Strange, isn't it? However, in Springdales, we are recognized for being different and I find my passion and interests are being nurtured well. It is helping me to bring out the best in me.

Rachel D'Souza (8B)

We must have more than academics to enrich ourselves. Such co-scholastic activities open doors for us to know our hidden potentials and help us to nurture them and bring them out before the world.

Jitakshara Nain (6B)

Enrichment programs help us to develop our knowledge, build up and polish our talents, help us to find newer hobbies and interest and make us happily engaged at all times.

Aarushi (7C)

Enrichment programs at school or from other institutes aim to give us wider view of the world or giving us knowledge beyond school and classrooms. We come to know more about different career options, we have more knowledge about a variety of fields and areas of work

Tejas Thomas (7B)

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