



ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

"Education is not preparation for life; Education is life itself." – John Dewey

1. Good evening to everyone present here. GEMS Our Own Indian School is proud to celebrate our dear children and their achievements in the year gone by. A hub of activities, OIS offers a wholistic learning experience, wherein a whole gamut of academic subjects are taught while laying equal emphasis on the all-round development through physical, social, environmental, emotional and aesthetic pursuits. 2023-24 has been especially significant, in terms of our achievements as a school.
2. I would like to begin my Annual Report by proudly announcing this year's result of the **DSIB inspections for the academic year 2022-23**. We are no longer a Good School – We are VERY GOOD!!!
3. Allow me to mention the key strengths and best features of the school as identified by DSIB.
 - Very strong leadership and governance, fostering a highly inclusive school with a basis of very effective care and the promotion of well-being for all. The leadership team knows the school very well in terms of its many strengths and areas for development. In addition, they are well supported by a dedicated body of parents.
 - A broad and balanced curriculum meeting the needs and aspirations of students; one which offers considerable choice.
 - The very strong personal and social development of students.
 - Excellent CBSE board results in the secondary phase.

DSIB has identified that at OIS, we foster a highly inclusive learning environment with a basis of very effective care and the promotion of well-being for all. Students of determination often make good or better progress because of the very strong and individualized support that they receive. This has also been corroborated by the GEMS Inclusion Audit.

The quality of wellbeing in terms of provision and outcome has been identified at a very high level. We are ranked among the top 6 Indian and Pakistani curriculum schools. We owe this to a strong vision, a systematic approach and a clearly defined policy. Our school places a great emphasis on embedding well-being in the curriculum and it regularly evaluates, monitors and reviews the well-being programme.

There are no secrets or shortcuts to success. It is the result of preparation, hard-work and learning from failure.

4. Our students displayed exemplary performance in the Board Exams.

a) Here are a few highlights of the Grade 12 results:

The batch average was 84.4 %.

23 students scored A-1 in all subjects.

32.1% students scored 90% and above.

Ishika Khandelwal in the Mixed Stream is the Overall School Topper as well as the Overall GEMS topper with 98.6%.

Panshul Humad topped the Science Stream with a score of 96.4%.

Sandhra Rajesh Balan is the topper in the Commerce stream having secured 97.2%.

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b) Highlights of Grade 10 results:

The batch average was 81.42 %.

24 students scored A1 in all subjects.

27.2% students scored 90% and above.

The grade topper this is Shreya Pramod who secured an aggregate of 97.6%.

In second position is Navya Suresh Nair with a score of 97.4%.

The third position is shared by two students, Noora Fathima Musalian Veetil Tharayil and Sayanth Santhosh. Both of them scored 97.2 %.

Please join me in congratulating these students.

c) The Diana Award recognizes and celebrates young ambassadors, young leaders, young humanitarians, environmental campaigners, peer mentors and those who inspire others in society. Dhanu Sree Suresh, Muskan Fathima, Shiuli Shetty, Imranah Ilias and Muhammed Yaseen Nivas are the proud recipients of this prestigious award. They are a part of the living Legacy to Princess Diana's belief that young people have the power to change the world for the better.

d) Our hearty congratulations to Nidant Krishna, a robot design champion of Grade 8E. He was a part of Team 'Googly' of Unique World Robotics. The team represented the United Arab Emirates and won the INNOVATION PROJECT AWARD at the FIRST® LEGO® League held in Morocco.

e) Srinikesh Vinod of Grade 6 ranked 1st in the UAE and 3rd in the World in the 'Master' category at the Mental Math World Cup'23.

f) Inaya Afzal of Grade 8 bagged the 18th rank in the UAE in the 'Grandmaster' category of Mental Math World Cup '23.

g) Amiya Sachdeva of 7 won the first place in U13 Girls Doubles category and was Runners Up in U-13 Girls Singles category at the Punjab State Badminton Ranking Tournament organized at Mohali in May 2023. Amiya also secured the Runners Up position in U-13 Girls Doubles and U-15 Girls Singles in the 44th India Club UAE Badminton Gold Junior Championship 2023 Tournament, organized by UAE Badminton Federation at India Club, Dubai. We are extremely proud of her achievements.

h) The OIS Badminton Team secured Second Runner Up position in the Under 17 Category of UAE CBSE Cluster Badminton Tournament held in Abu Dhabi. Congratulations to the team members: Prapthi Prasanna Kumar, Amiya Sachdeva, Esther Biju and Aarushi Biju.

i) The Girls U-17 Team of OIS clinched victory in the CBSE Football Cluster 2023! Congratulations to the team and kudos to the coach Mr. Daison.

j) Our School Team secured the 4th position in the CBSC Cluster Athletics Competition among 53 participating Schools. Saad Hussain bagged the gold medal in the 100 M Under 14 Category while Jayne Dsouza won the silver medal in the 800M Under 14 Category.

k) Anishi Vihara Silva Maduwage of Grade 6 secured the position of National Runner, UAE while Raina Sera Shibu of Grade 8 was declared as the SCIENCE National Level Topper, UAE by Ei ASSET 2022-23. Their achievements are invaluable to our school.

l) In the ASSET Talent Search 2024-25 results, out of 111 brilliant students, approximately 15% clinched gold medals. Congrats to the high scorers who are now unlocking doors to elite education programs with Ei's esteemed partners in India and the US!

m) Our School stands 3rd in the UAE in the Achieve 3000 reading programme. Congratulations to the students who secured high reading scores.

n) Heartiest Congratulations to Mr. Bridson John and Ms. Nisha Mol on receiving their Leader Identity Cards under Dubai Scout Mission! We are the first school to have official Scout trainers.

o) Ms. Gazalah Shahnaz for stood among the top 10% teachers globally in the International Teachers' Olympiad organized by Suraasa and Ms. Sammi Mamgain and Ms. Arsha Bhushan received the Gizmos Award 2023. We are proud of these teachers.

p) 50 students from the senior secondary section of our school have won placements in foreign universities across the globe thus spreading the light of OIS to the corners of the world.

Change in the leadership team:

Ms. Prathimanag Agraharapu has been promoted to Supervisory role of Chief Innovation and Digital Officer w.e.f. April 2022.

Ms. Prathima has been a part of OIS for about 7 years. She has been an outstanding teacher of Informatics Practices and Computer Science. All these years she has effectively handled the Phoenix platform. She has been instrumental in bringing innovation to the foreground by introducing a plethora of Microsoft Applications to the teacher and student community. She spearheaded the seamless digital shift of the entire school eco-system during the COVID-19 pandemic. She was a part of the team that introduces STEAM in our school. Owing to her efforts and support, close to 95% of our teachers are Microsoft Innovative Educators.

Ms. Kavitha N S (Nityanamdan Syamala) has been promoted as the Head of Inclusion w.e.f. _____. Ms. Kavitha has 25 years of experience in psychology in hospitals and schools. This is her 4th year as a part of OIS SEND department. She has an M.Phil in Clinical Psychology and is pursuing a Masters Degree in SEND Education from Middlesex University.

Ms. Gawari Agarwal Sheth has been promoted to Deputy Head of Inclusion w.e.f _____. Ms. Gawri is a Clinical Educational Psychologist who has a Master's degree in Clinical Psychology from SNDT University, Mumbai and another Master's degree in Educational Psychology from the University College, London in the UK. She has been working in the field of school counselling for over 9 years of which the last 3 years have been with OIS.

Conclusion

This brings me to the end of my part of the Annual Report for the academic year 2022-23. We will continue with an audio-visual of the others key events that have taken place over the past year.

But before I hand over to the presentation team I render my deep gratitude to you, our dear parents, for your unwavering support and cooperation. Thank-you for trusting us to do our best for the all-round development of your wards at OIS.

I am truly grateful to the Ministry of Education and the Knowledge and Human Development Authority for their constant support and co-operation in ensuring that we continue to deliver quality at all levels.

To our Chairman, Padmashree Mr. Sunny Varkey, a UNESCO goodwill Ambassador, your support towards the OIS family is tremendous. We are truly honoured to work for such a well-known educational entrepreneur and educational philanthropist.

Mr. Michael Guzder, Vice President, GEMS Education you are an integral part of this institution. We are grateful for your constant guidance and unstinting support in all our endeavours.

I take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt thanks to the members of our Local Advisory Board and the members of Friends of School for their critical inputs and support.

My report will be incomplete without the mention of my entire staff – teaching, non-teaching, and support staff who sustain my vision and drive to the school at every step and every moment

I sincerely thank my senior leadership team for standing by me through all the innovations, and successes.

I end with a few inspiring lines by Barabara Vance.....this is dedicated for all my students and staff

If you always try your best

Then you will never have to wonder

About what you could have done

If you have summoned all your thunder

And if your best was not as good as you hoped it would be

You could still say I gave today all that I had in me