

Principal's End of Year Newsletter

June 2023



“The roots of true achievement lie in the will to become the best that you can become.” ~ Harold Taylor

Dear Parents,

The end of another academic year is upon us. It has been an eventful, exciting and rewarding year, with the highlight being the Golden Jubilee Celebrations in January 2023. A year filled with activities and programmes that kept the entire community engaged and involved!

The A-level Graduation Ceremony on 23rd June was a fitting finale to the Golden Jubilee academic year 2022–23. Our young graduates are leaving the nurturing and familiar school environment with the confidence to cope with their university education.

The graduation ceremony for our FS2 children moving to KS1 was delightful. I am impressed by the way the children love coming to school and look forward to what they learn. Seeing the big smiles on their faces in the morning is heart-warming. The little ones have been in very safe hands and are well-equipped to take on the next part of their educational journey. They have strong foundations, and we are confident that we have given the children a great start in life. They have learned many priceless lessons.

The students of Year 6, who have spent their formative years in the Primary, had a memorable graduation. Their excitement and enthusiasm to move into the secondary section of the school permeated throughout the ceremony.

Our students in the Primary enjoyed the theatrical performance of ‘Hercules Saves the Day’ by Kevali Productions on June 13th, 2023. Watching a theatrical production is a unique and enriching experience for children, providing numerous benefits, including enhancing their creativity and imagination and improving their language and communication skills.

The annual prize day and the entertainment programme showcased our students' accomplishments and academic successes. The Yearbook sent home through our students will give you a glimpse of all our initiatives and the tremendous effort of our dedicated staff to provide our students with opportunities to display their skills and talents.

I was extremely proud to attend a ballet at the Dubai Opera in which four of our talented students—Drishti Advani, Abigail Pinto, Chloe Soares, and Prachi Saini—performed along with their peers in the presentation of 'The Story of Princess Aurora' by the Turning Pointe Youth Ballet Company.

Twenty delegates from secondary attended the 7th Emirates International School Model United Nations (EISMUN) conference held in June. Our students did remarkably well, and I am delighted to share some of their well-earned achievements. Samarth Rawal and Muhammad Usman were presented with the Best Delegate award. Shams Khan, Shreeyash Pilani and Anaaya Malik received the award for the Best Position Paper. Additionally, three students were also selected to facilitate the event. Advait Shetty officiated as President Chair, while Haya Khalid and Vania Adnani presided as Co-chairs.

Our students' achievements and successes are not possible without parental support and encouragement. I thank our parent community for their continued support, trust and confidence in our endeavours.

We constantly review our provisions, respond to parents' recommendations, and believe in a collaborative effort to positively impact our students' outcomes. A parent handbook has been created, which will be useful to understand the culture and ethos of the school. The handbook is available on the school website and on D6 in September 2023.

Provisions for the academic year 2023 -2024 will be carefully evaluated, with student and staff well-being prioritised. Class allocations and student groups across the school will change depending on cohort strengths and room capacity. Parents are requested to trust and support management decisions. Students must be supported and encouraged to make new friends and be resilient to change.

After serving the school for almost sixteen years, Ms Kiran Vasandani is leaving us to fulfil family obligations and responsibilities. We wish her the very best.

Our long-serving, dedicated member of the support staff, who has been with us for 27 years, Ms Lanie Mercado, is also retiring and returning to the Philippines. She will be missed by all.

There are a few other members of staff who will not be returning next year. Ms Sheryl John, the Sociology teacher. Ms Srividhya Ravi, the English teacher in KS 2, Mr Hany Mohamed Fouad, HOD for Arabic. Ms Arlene Legaspi, the music teacher for FS and

KS1, and Ms Aparna Kantipudi assistant teacher, are some of the other staff members leaving us.

The management has appointed qualified and experienced staff to replace those leaving. The new teachers will be introduced to the parent community in September.

With a heavy heart, we share the news of the passing of Ms Yogeeta Prithvi, the teaching assistant for Year 1C, on 26th May 2023. Ms Yogeeta was a beloved member of our school community, known for her kindness and gentle spirit. Her absence will be deeply felt by all who knew her.

I wish the DGPS community a very blessed Eid Al Adha and a relaxing and safe summer holiday. I look forward to welcoming you in September 2023.

Warm regards

Ms Humera Ibrahim