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#### Read, Reflect and Reason

Albert Einstein said, "Education is not about learning of facts but training young minds to think." There is a big difference between cramming up facts and learning them so that they can be applied in productive ways.

@JSSPS we strive to work towards the holistic development of our students by providing them the tools and experiences that encourage them to think.

The aim is to create empowered minds so that students are able to decide what is good for them, differentiate between right and wrong, choose opportunities that help them to be future-ready. We are also mindful of developing their personal values, including the importance of trust, respect, and a sense



of community. The 3rd edition of Verve is now @your click, and it's a great reflection of all our students' holistic thinking, creativity, practices, and achievements.

When we brainstorm to understand the need for preparedness for the Future, we are confronted with several terms - a broad set of knowledge, skill development, attitudes, and values; critical thinkers, research-driven thinkers, and so on. However, the concept of competency implies more than just the acquisition of knowledge and skills. It typically develops through practical problem-solving, such as through design thinking and systems thinking. Students need to apply their knowledge in unknown and evolving circumstances.

For this, they need a broad range of skills, including cognitive and meta-cognitive skills; social and emotional skills, and practical and physical skills. The attitudes and values can be observed at personal, local, societal, and global levels. While human life is enriched by the diversity of values and attitudes arising from different cultural perspectives and personality traits, there are some human values needed to transform our students and shape their future.

Students should be able to think creatively, develop new products and services, new processes and methods, new ways of thinking and living, new enterprises, new sectors, new business, and social models. Adolescence can now be seen as a time not just of vulnerability but of opportunity for developing a sense of responsibility. This so perfectly embodies the character of our school, developing minds that grow up into enlightened human beings who achieve success yet are firmly grounded on earth.

Wishing you all happy reading, reflecting and reasoning through @Verve Warm Regards,
Bindhu Rajiv
Vice Principal
JSS Private School, Dubai

#### **EDITORS DESK**

It gives us great pleasure in releasing this issue of 'Verve', the school magazine of JSSPS. The name and fame of an institute is determined by the caliber and



achievements of its students and teachers. The role of a teacher is to be a facilitator in nurturing the skills and talents of students.

Through this magazine, our students can showcase their literary skills and innovative ideas. In appreciation of all who contributed to making this effort successful, we wish to take this opportunity to record our gratitude and heartfelt thanks.

We are immensely thankful to the management for giving support, encouragement, and a free hand in this endeavor. Last but not least we are thankful to all the authors who have contributed their articles for the magazine. We truly hope that the pages that follow will make an interesting read.

While we have made a sincere effort towards the compilation of this magazine, any error is deeply regretted. We look forward to your comments and suggestions!



#### KG I Learning for the Month

#### <u>Literacy</u>

#### Introduction to Letter Zz:

Students were introduced to recognition and formation of letter 'Zz'.

Children were engaged in lots of hands-on activities like picture association and blending of words with letter z.

#### **Introduction to Letter Qq:**

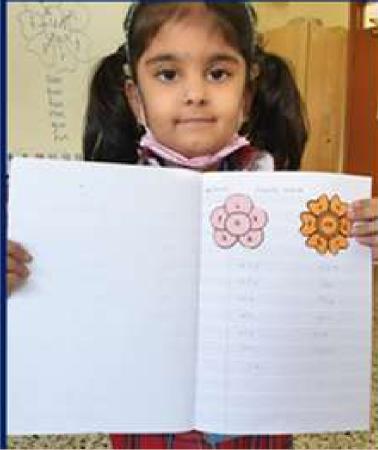
We are happy to inform that we have come to the end of learning the letters from Ss to Qq through jolly phonics. This week students were introduced to letter Qq, they learnt the phonic sound, formation, and related vocabulary.

#### **Introduction to Family words:**

Word families, also called "chunks," provide us with groups of words that have a predictable pattern or "chunk." These words have the same ending, and they all rhyme. In accordance with this topic a new reading strategy "Chunky Monkey" was also introduced. This strategy helps in enhancing their reading skills. The word family 'at',

'it', 'ap' and 'un' were introduced.













<u>Math</u> <u>Introduction to the concept of pattern:</u>

Students learnt a new topic of "Patterns' which means repeats in design, shape, size and color. They enjoyed doing the picture talk using the math vocabulary and also applied the same looking at surrounding in the class. Children showed excitement in doing different hands on activities and created their own new patterns using different objects.

#### Introduction to Number 18

Students learnt number 18 through a picture talk on "Toy Exhibition" with different of toys. They explored and discussed about it using the math vocabularies during the class. Later they enjoyed doing place value and formation of number 18 along with the value counting.





#### Introduction to Number 19:

Students were introduced to new number "19". They started with math talk using the vocabularies which is an integral part of their learning. Later they had fun playing a game called "I spy with my little eyes" where they were eager to observe the pictures keenly and find the magic number.

#### **UTW**

Introduction to exploring with toys:

Students looked excited by exploring the toys having different patterns. They were encouraged to create a pattern using tang rams and showcased their emotions by looking at the magic happening by using a mirror.





#### **Introduction to Moving toys:**

Students showed a lot of interest during the introduction of our new topic moving toys. The little ones had a group discussion related to topic, through the strategy of visual routine thinking (VTR). This strategy helped children to think, ask wonder questions and explore more about the moving toys by using new vocabularies (bounce, spin, roll, push and pull)were emphasized. They also enjoyed all the different hands on activities.





Introduction to puppet toys:
Students showed interest in learning different topics on toys like indoor and outdoor toys, pattern toys, moving toys etc. This week they were introduced to new topic called 'Puppet toys 'which will be continued till the upcoming week.

#### KG 2: Learning for the Month

#### **Literacy**

The learners were encouraged to recall the beginning, middle and end of the story 'Rude Robot' and they were motivated to use directional coding in order to complete the sequence of the story.

A new lesson was taught in Literacy this week — Connectives. The topic was introduced in the form of Shared reading with the help of a story related to Rashid and Latifa's visit to the Expo 2020. The students were then encouraged to connect two sentences using and, because, but.

They grasped it beautifully and the worksheets enhanced their learning.

Additional worksheets were provided as homework in order to consolidate the topic in the minds of our young learners.

An interesting lesson was introduced in Literacy this week — WOW words. The students picked it up very quickly and had a lot of fun doing worksheets related to them. They were also challenged with some questions at the end of the lesson to further consolidate their learning process.

"Imagination is the beginning of creation". This is exactly what the budding kindergarten authors showcased in their Literacy lesson this week on Creative Writing. The students were asked to use their imagination in writing a story as per their level expertise and also illustrate the same on a worksheet.



## Little one's in Action







#### Math

The concept of directional coding was established and applied in solving Subtraction problems. An interesting concept of measuring height using non-standard unit of measurement was introduced which was a hands-on activity enjoyed by all.

The highlight this week had been revision of numbers, number sequence, number names and their values.

The worksheets were designed in a way that the students have a clear concept of addition matrix and coding as part of Funmatics.

The Math session this week was based on clocks — analog and digital where the students were taught how to read time using the hour and minute hand. They were also asked to associate time with different activities.

The Math session this week was focused on revision and consolidation on clock. The students learnt a short clock jingle which further helped them understand how the short hand and the long hand works.



#### **EAD**

A very interesting activity was planned for EAD this week which included building human and robot with the help of different shapes.



Space is something that excites everyone and our little students were mesmerized when the solar system was introduced to them. They enjoyed learning about the planets, their position from the Sun and their characteristics. It was a fun-filled session packed with interesting facts.

#### **UTW**

The highlight this week had been directional coding and as part of UTW lesson, the students were challenged to apply their directional coding knowledge in order to help Bott the Robot reach his home overcoming various obstacles.





SST

A practical worksheet was designed in order to help students take a practical approach and help the robot find its way from JSSPS school bus area to the classroom by creating a route map.



Events
World Polar Bear Day



#### Octopus Activity





**Story Telling** 

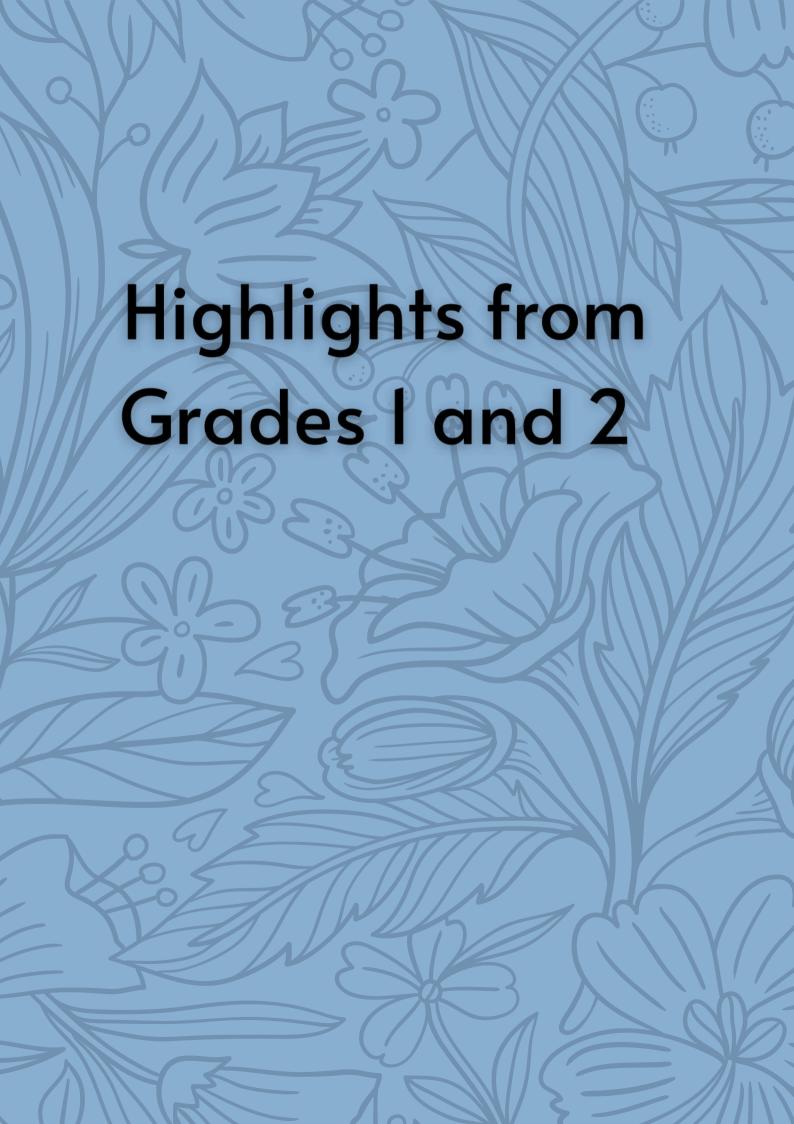
Create an Imaginary Robot





#### National Story-telling Week





#### <u>Celebration of Theme: Lemon Fish - Life Under Sea</u>





## PREPARATION @ JSS

#### The Buzzing Week

#### Grade 1

#### Rocket Math:

Students learnt how to design different types of patterns using different objects.

#### Grade 2

#### Curious Squad:

Students created a story about journey of water.

#### Rocket Math:

Students designed Fraction Sundae with different scoops.

#### Grade 1 & 2

#### Word Wonder:

Students integrated Art to enhance their knowledge and observational skills. They were shown a video on Expo 2020 theme song and thereafter their listening and observation skills were put to test.

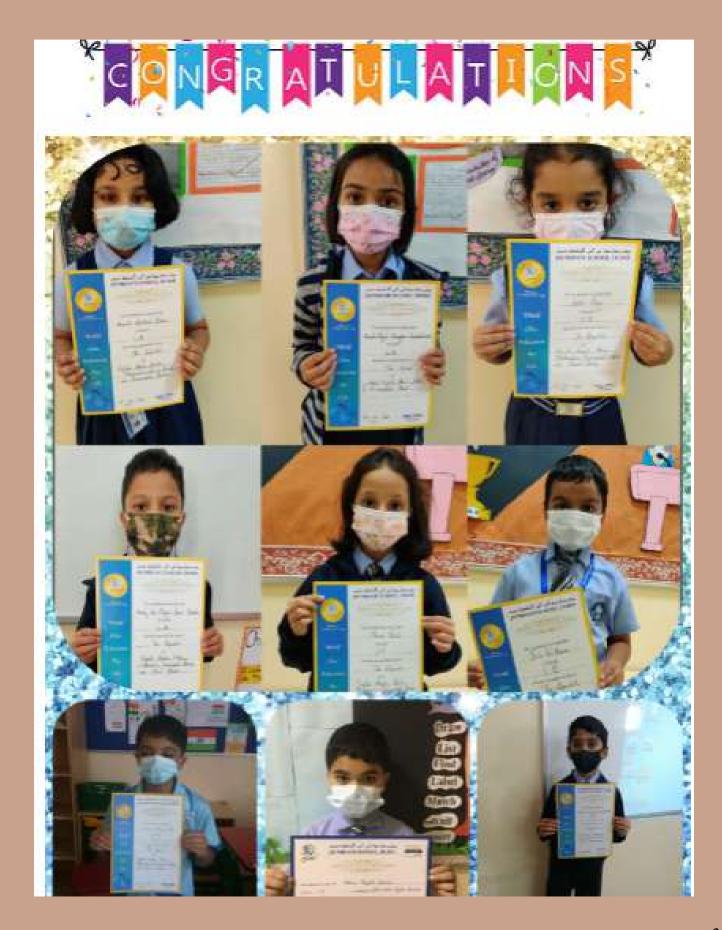
#### S4L

Little artisans made a string of heart shaped cards to represent their love of nature and care for our planet. The children were asked to get natural materials from outdoors and they decorated their cards with these materials. It was a fun-filled learning activity for our little ones!





# Royal Spelling Bee Certificate of Excellence



## Royal Spelling Bee Certificate of Excellence





I am proud to announce that our children participated in Literary Fest organized by the Indian high Group of School, Al Garhoud, in which they excelled brilliantly

Category: 1 – Solo Elocution – 2<sup>nd</sup> prize won by Isabella Bijo Manadan – 1D

Category: 2 – Young reporter – 3<sup>rd</sup> prize won by Oviya Tripathi 2A and Aarushi Santosh 2B

Category: 3 – Declamation – 1<sup>st</sup> prize won by Parv Yogesh Gidiya 3B

Appreciate the English team of teachers for their fantastic contribution and efforts as always...



Hearty congratulations to Isabella of Grade I-D (2nd place), Oviyia Tripathi of Grade 2-A (3rd place) and Aarushi Santosh of Grade 2-B (3rd place) for their outstanding performances in the Inter School Literary fest conducted by Indian High School group of schools on Feb 28th, 2022.



Congratulations to the winners of Royal Spell Bee competition among Grades 1& 2.



#### French Inter-House Solo Singing Competition



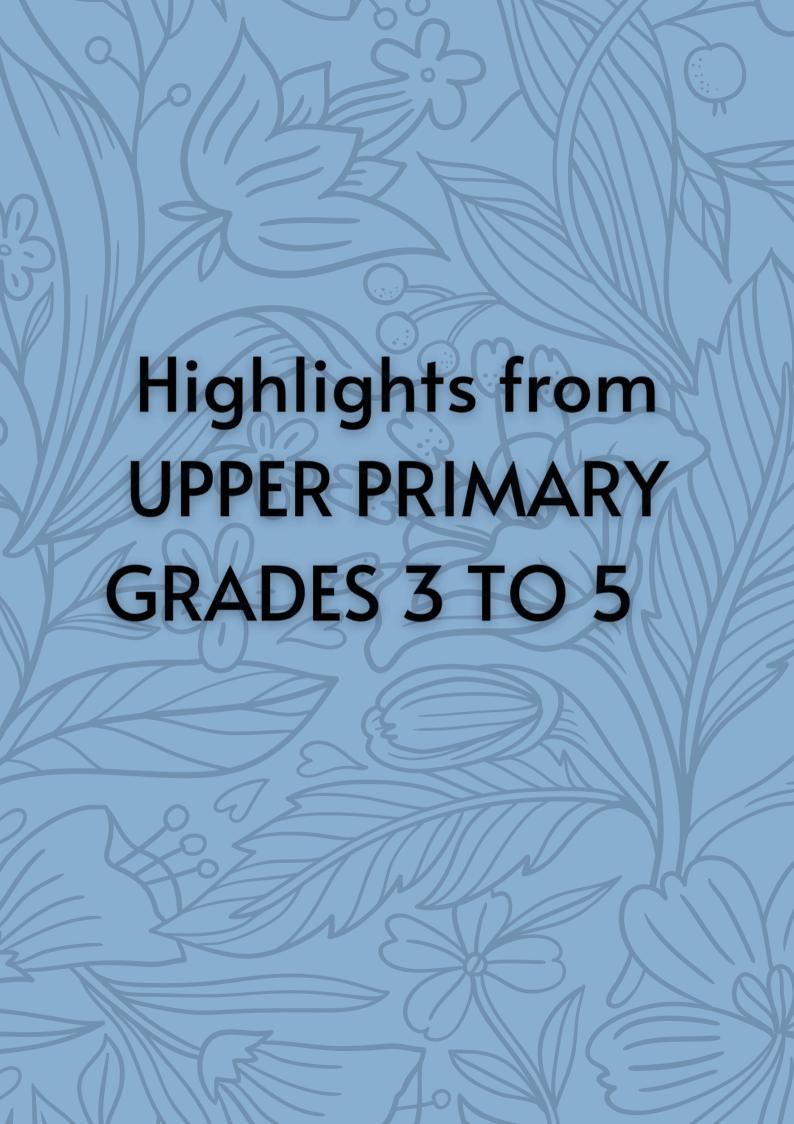
Learning a language through music is always fun. Our young talented budding singers of Gr 1&2 showcased their language skills in the French Inter-house Solo Singing competition.

#### Simply Bottles Recycling Challenge



Educating kids about the importance of recycling and protecting the environment is the first step in a life-long commitment to preserving the environment. As an initiative to reinforce the habit of recycling in children, all our grade 1 & 2 students were asked to get maximum no. of plastic bottles they could get to school. Stuti Satpara of Grade 1-B emerged as the winner in the challenge.

Congratulations Stuti!



#### **ACTIVITIES**

Department of French at JSSPS conducted its very first Inter-house Competition, LE TOURNOI DE CONNAISSANCE for its Primary School students. The students' knowledge of French grammar, vocabulary, history and culture were tested as a part of this endeavour. All of our talented finalists showcased brilliance in their accurate and timely answering. The competition was nail bitingly close, and the final wins were by a very small margin. What was amazing about the quiz was that not a single question went unanswered. The champions of the quiz were as follows:

Primary (Grades 3-5): 1st place: Macaw

2nd place: Flamingo ,3rd place: Hornbill ,4th place: Falcon











### **Achievements**

"Believe in yourself. You are braver than you think, more talented than you know, and capable of more than you imagine."

#### Congratulations!!

Ammar Rajkotwala of Gr-4B cured first place in Elocution competition (Junior Boys Category) in JSS International Islamic Festival. Ammar put forward valuable points on the topic- Rights of parents and children in Islam.

The competition was conducted by JSS International School on 5th February, 2022

We are proud of Ammar



Congratulations Students who have achieved Regional/International Rank in the: International English Olympiad (IEO) and International General Knowledge Olympiad (IGKO)

Roll No.	Name of the Student	Grade	Regional Rank (All Foreign Schools)	International Rank (All Schools)
SOF-IEO	AARYA JINESH DOSHI	Grade 4	9	10
SOF-IEO	GRACE BIJO MANADAN	Grade 4	1	1
SOF-IEO	JESSICA SUSAN FRANCIS	Grade 4	1	1
SOF-IEO	SAMARTH SUDHAKAR	Grade 4	4	4
SOF-IEO	ARNAV PAWAR	Grade 4	1	1
SOF-IEO SOF -IEO	HARSH RAMESH NATHAN PETER DMELLO	Grade 5 Grade 5	2 8	3 16
SOF-IGKO	ACHINTHYA RAO	Grade 3	3	4
SOF-IGKO	PRASANNA VENKATESH	Grade 5	7	67
S OF-IG KO	TEJOM PATEL	Grade 5	9	86



Congratulations to the winners of the plastic bottles collection conducted at school in November and December.

The environment committee extends their sincere thanks to the entire JSS Private School family for supporting them in winning the 2nd Prize at Simply Bottles.

Nimisha Tripathi (5A) - 1165 bottles



Prasanna Venkatesh Rajagopalan of Grade5C secured 3rd Rank in the recent competitive exam conducted by PIXEL Maths. More than 1000 students participated from other countries and Prasanna topped up with his great acheivement through his sincere and dedicated work.

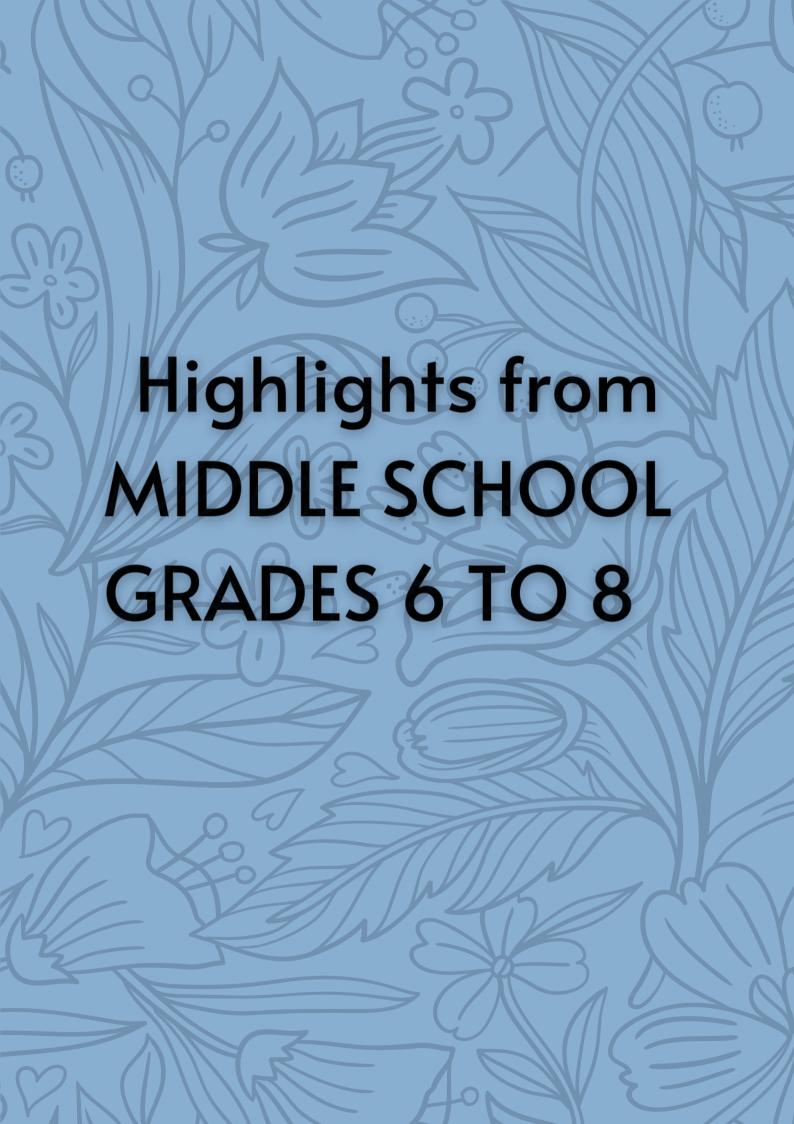
Congratulations! We are proud of you.

# Felicitation of Royal Spelling BEE Winners





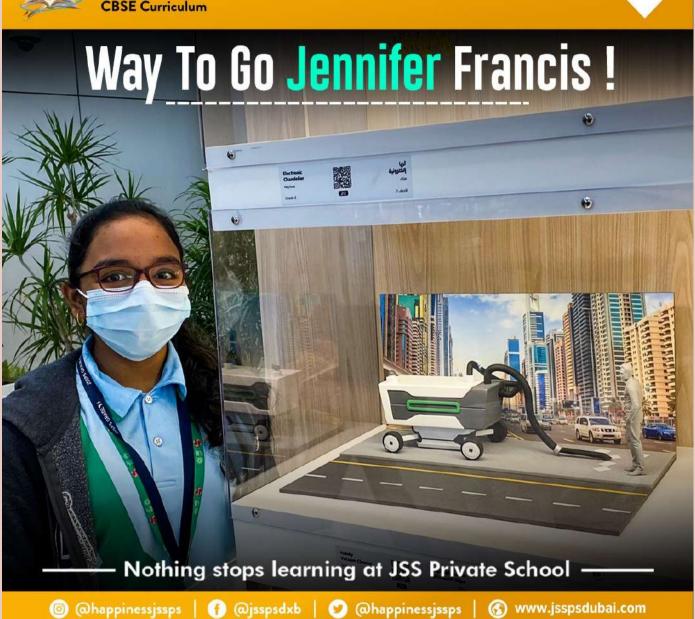
Congratulations to all the winners who have qualified for Emirates Level. We are very proud of YOU!



# Congratulations!







EXPOS are festivals of innovation and imagination. The napkin challenge was an interesting way to connect, imagine, innovate and create.

Dubai EXPO 2020 exhibited, the idea of Jennifer Francis of Grade 7 - a futuristic & innovative vacuum cleaner in line with the universal goal of sustainability



'We should never lose our sense of wonder. Continue to dream, explore, invent and discover.'

Middle school students engage in designing and exploring in the Maker's Hub. They create the prototypes, program the functioning of the model and experiment. The Grade 7 students of middle school performed an activity on Acid-base indicator.

Students investigated and found if the given substances are acidic or basic by using different organic indicators. Different household substances like lemon juice, baking soda, vinegar, soap solution, orange juice and indicators like turmeric paper, red cabbage solution, and litmus paper were used.





# FRENCHSE INTERHOUSE Competition

On 11th February 2022, the French Department of JSS Private School hosted the 1st ever French Inter-School Competition for all the French students of Primary & Middle School.

All the students from grades 3 – 8 were given a Preliminary Round of questions to be answered. Students who scored the highest in the Preliminary Round were chosen House—wise to participate in the Final Round.

The Round Consisted of 4 Rounds:

- 1) Vocabulary
- 2) Culture and Civilization
- 3) Grammar
- 4) Grammar

Each team consisted of 3 students. In primary and middle school, a student for each grade.

All teams competed vigorously and in Primary School,
Macau earned First Place and in Middle School, Flamingos
earned First Place.

- Pavan Arun 88

# Expo Significant Property of the Industrial Prop

The most awaited middle school field trip held on 17th 23rd & 24th in the February month, children got an opportunity to witness the futuristic world, visiting different Pavilions of EXPO 2020. It was indeed a fantastic and unique field trips all have ever experienced.

الة الفرص

Opportunity Pavilion















A spell bee is a competition in which contestants are asked to spell a selection of words usually with a varying degree of difficulty. In the Spell Bee competition conducted at JSSPS, the students had to go through different levels of challenges to reach the next levels of the competition. Students had to memorize the spellings of words thoroughly. Spell bee is quite fun and helpful too. It helps to promote literacy by providing children with a positive goal to work toward, and give them a forum to display the fruits of their hard work.



# CODE Battle DUBAI

The Code Battle Dubai was a competition that was held on the 26th of February. There were two teams representing the 8th graders of JSSPS and the teams had to make a webpage/app about on one of two topics, one of them was to make a short story app and the other was to make a website that portrayed the monuments of Dubai. Many schools competed against each other and there were about 200-250 students from 2nd grade to 12th grade. The competition had started at 10:00 and the contest ended at 4:00. The students used coding languages like JavaScript, HTML, Python, C++, C# etc. Most of us had a lot of fun and we learnt many things from the competition

-Surya Harish 8E

## Assets Sites

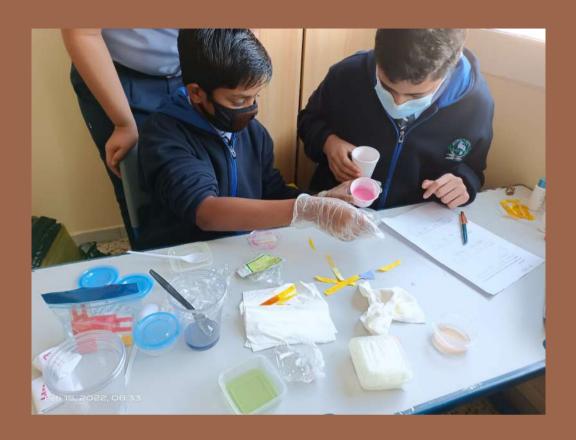
The Asset test are benchmark tests for students across the world to test their knowledge in the field of Science, Math and English. JSSPS had conducted Final Asset Test from 17th February to 3rd February for grade 3 to grade 9 students.



- Aditya Arora 6E

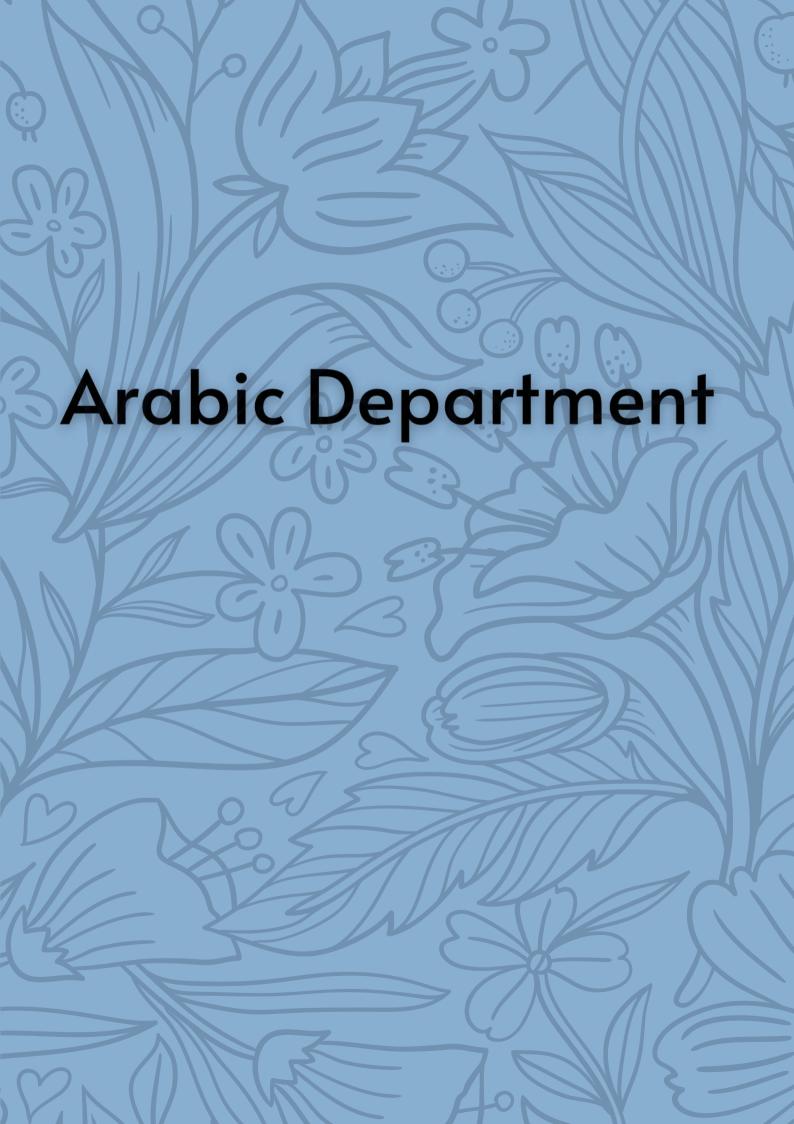


## **Experiential Learning**



## **Research and Reasoning**





## **Characters Day Celebration**

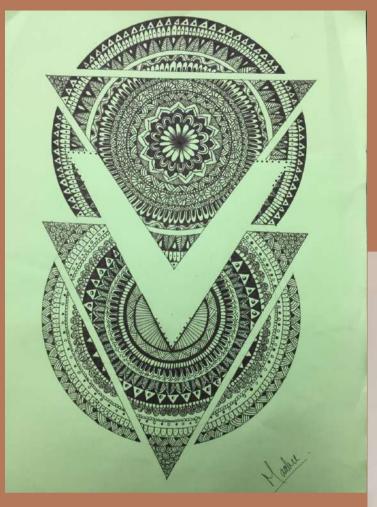
Such a fabulous day celebrating world book day by Arabic team. Lots of discussions were conducted between the Arabic teachers and students, and students had fun trying to guess the characters. It was wonderful way of learn Arabic with joy.

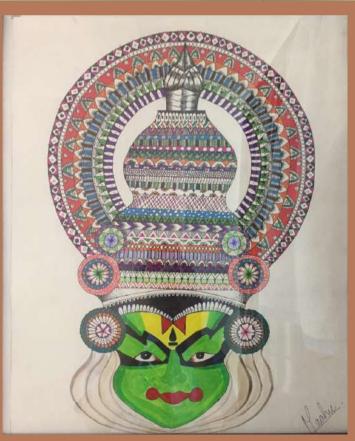














BY MAAHEE 12-D

## Short Story Aleksei's Curse

(Introduction: The reason our group took this topic was because of the recent times. Before The pandemic, there was a massive outcry to stop deforestation, pollution, and other ways which affected the environment. Unfortunately, it took a pandemic to realize what the humans had done and that they had to suffer the consequences. From this, I could easily construct the characters with the help of my responsible team members to symbolize the pandemic through a play.

#### Characters:-

The Narrator played by BHARAT RAJESH Adras played by DEV KHANNA Aleksei played by ADITHYA MENON Faunus(God of nature) played by KURT DSOUZA

Backdrop:- Athens Forest, Greece. A tree must be set in the middle of the stage.

(Narrator recites the lines from backstage: Alekseland Adras are brothers as well as woodmen i.e. their livelihood depends on trees. This includes consuming and selling its apples to people as well as local doctors for medicinal purposes, using its dead branches for firewood, Its leaves and branches for sewing hats, and its shade during the summer season. They even live on the trees, sleeping on its larger branches. But now, monsoon season approaches and they must build shelter soon to avoid risking their health. Adras approaches the tree, axe in one hand, along with Alexei).

Aleksei: (holding back Adras) What do you think you're doing, brother Adras?

Adras: (Pushing him away) What does it look like I am doing? I am chopping down the trees. How else do you expect to survive the rain?

Aleksei: But what about all the things they have provided for us. What happens once all of the trees are gone? How do we expect to earn our livelihood then?

Adras: (Irritated) It doesn't matter right now, we can't save ourselves from the heavy rain by selling apples or living under its shade, can we?

Aleksei: Brother Adras, isn't there any other resource we can use? I'm sure we can borrow mortar and bricks from master Alastair.

Adras: (Surprised) Alastair? Ha! I wouldn't trust him if he was the last person on this land. (landing a strike on the tree with his axe) He'll let you borrow from him, but then will demand large payments later, even if it doesn't cost that much. That man is pure evil. Now stop wasting time and help me.

(Adras and Aleksei cut down the trees and built their shelter in time. Their house, now lying on the land that used to belong to the trees. It starts drizzling in a few minutes as the brothers watch)

Adras: (proudly) see brother Aleksei, you should thank me. We would have died of the cold if we laid on the branches. Now we have a roof over our head so stop sulking about those trees. See they are more useful to us now than they ever were.

Aleksei: (Disappointed) You don't see it, do you? There is no forest anymore. Only barren land and a wooden house protrude through the ground like an ugly molehill on a beautiful garden. (Looking at Adras) Do you have no regrets?

Adras: I only regret not chopping more trees for our firewood.

(even though it was predicted the rains would only last a few hours, it continued raining for days. After the first day, massive floods started accompanying the rain, and Adras and Aleksei's house could only withstand two waves before it eventually succumbed to the powerful force of the water. Adras and Aleksei did not survive the flood. Adras and Aleksei wake up, now finding themselves in a large forest that appears to have every tree they ever knew and even more unknown species. Beautiful fruits and flowers can be seen from these branches.)

Adras: Where am I? What is this place?

Faunus: (Appearing from behind them) You're in Arkadia. You have been sent here to repent for your sins. Adras: Wait, we died? But what about the house we built? It was supposed to withstand any amount of rain. Faunus: It drowned with you and your brother (Coming close to them) You do realize, you caused your death. Adras:(shocked) B..Bu..But how?

Faunus: Because, Adras, trees have roots which retain the soil during floods and prevent the land from displacing. Your brother warned you but you didn't pay heed to him. You cut down all the trees around you, the soil was loosened and your house couldn't support itself on solid ground. Now you will live here forever, taking care of these trees. Every single one of them. That will be your punishment.

Aleksei: (Running to Faunus's feet) Please Faunus forgive us! Send us back to earth and we shall never cut down another tree for as long as we live.

Faunus: You can leave Aleksei, for you tried stopping Adras many times. It isn't your fault. However, Adras must stay. He will learn to love nature and be her prisoner forever. But return to earth on one condition. That you must make other woodmen realize not to repeat the same mistake Adras did. Make them realize nature can give many gifts but also has the power to take them back within a second.

(Adras watches his brother leave. He feels powerless. Faunus tells him to start watering the oak trees. Aleksei returns back to earth. He now walks with the curse of immortality among mortal men. His one and only mission. One which will never end. To save nature from people like Adras, the only problem being that there will be many Adrases but only one Aleksei......)

#### THE END

Here are the members of the group acting out a part of the script to get more clarity on the play.



### Current Affairs Ukraine Russia

On Thursday 24 February, Russia attacked Ukraine along multiple axes, bringing to a calamitous end weeks of fruitless diplomatic efforts by western leaders to avert war.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine headlines

- Melipotol mayor detained by Russian forces.
- Ukrainian officials say Russia is preparing a "false flag" terrorist attack on Chernobyl nuclear facility.
- Heavy shelling from Russian forces on Kyiv as air raid sirens sound in the capital
- World Food Program warns that global wheat and grain prices could soar as crop shortages are reported due to the conflict
- Goldman Sachs warns that the Russian invasion of Ukraine could send US and EU economies into a recession
- President Biden announces new sanction for the Kremlin, revoking Russia's "most favored nation" trade
- The International Atomic Energy Agency reports that it has lost communication with Chernobyl nuclear site
- Roughly 13,000 protesters were arrested in anti-war demonstrations in Russian cities





- Ukraine receives first green light in their move towards becoming an EU member state, but President Zelenskyy has "cooled" on the prospect of joining NATO
  - On Day 17 of the Russian Invasion 12th march,
     Russian forces move to encircle Kyiv after being repelled by Ukrainian troops for days

#### **Driverless Cars**

Self-driving cars might seem like something out of a science fiction movie but they are closer to becoming a reality than you might think.

The recent announcement that self-driving taxis will be tested in Abu Dhabi after Dubai granted permission for licenses to try out automated vehicles, means we are closer than ever to seeing driverless cars on the UAE's roads.

UAE will become first in ME to test driverless cars on its roads, says Mohammed...His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President.

Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, tweeted on Tuesday "The UAE will be the first country in the Middle East and the second globally to test self-driving cars on its streets.

Our goal is for this type of vehicle to be safer, safer, and more reliable. We are awaiting the report of the Ministry of Interior, in coordination with the Office of Artificial Intelligence, for the results of the tests, to take the appropriate decision."



Later during the day, the UAE Cabinet, chaired by Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid, approved a temporary licence to test self-driving vehicles, a move that comes as a part of the government's continuous efforts to adopt advanced technologies within all sectors.

Testing autonomous vehicles comes within the UAE strategy to become a global leader for attracting innovation and advanced technology applications.

The testing process will be carried out through the RegLab, an initiative by the General Secretariat of the Cabinet that provides a safe test environment for legislation that will govern the use and applications of future technologies.

• A 10-seater smart driverless car is tested by the Roads and Transport Authority, in Business Bay, Dubai. Photo:



A Zoox Inc. self-driving car is operated outside the company's headquarters in Foster City, California.

Bloomberg



• A Jaguar I Pace autonomous vehicle takes people on a drive during the Dubai World Congress for Self-Driving Transport. Chris Whiteoak / The National

#### Hackathon

#### TEAM METAHUMANS FROM JSSPS SHINES AT THE UAE HACKATHON 5.0

Our students were the proud winners of third place at the prestigious UAE Hackathon 5.0. Team MetaHumans consisting of Yugmee Gidiya, Pravardh Phaniraj, Sherwin Barretto, and Bavishyaa Sriraman have developed MetAbles, a one of a kind collaboration app for students with physical disabilities to enter the metaverse and experience education virtually with classrooms, field trips, lab experiences and so much more. The prototype is developed in Unreal Engine 4 using C++ and was the main highlight. The event was graced by H.E. Hessa Bint Essa Buhumaid, Minister of Community Development and H.E. Eng. Majed Sultan Al Mesmar, Director General, TDRA, and many other dignitaries. The competition attracted 2000+ participants from 250+ teams from all across the UAE. MetAbles solves an an important problem associated with lack of interaction in online classes for students with physical disabilities and is a great step towards fostering inclusivity, creating opportunity and empowering ability in students with physical disabilities.

It was an exhilarating experience and a great learning and networking opportunity for us. My heart skipped a beat when our team name was announced! The sheer joy and pride is evident on our faces as we stood on the stage with some of the most esteemed guests and our mentor Ms.Raji. A big thank you to the school management for their constant support and encouragement!





We whole heartedly Thank you for all your contributions for this edition of Verve. We look forward to hearing from you with your valuable suggestions and feedbacks.

> Send in your contributions to: vervejssps@gmail.com

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