



# جيمس مدرستنا الثانوية الإنجليزية، دبي GEMS OUR OWN ENGLISH HIGH SCHOOL, DUBAI

Recognised and approved by the Knowledge and Human Development Authority, Dubai, United Arab Emirates  
Affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education, Delhi, India  
(Affiliation Number: 6630002)

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2021-22

2021-22 is a year in which GEMS OOD achieved major milestones in both academic and co-curricular realms.

Post pandemic, the entire cohort of students returned to campus last October. Thanks to the efforts of our brilliant and resilient student, teacher and parent communities, we were able to seamlessly transition from virtual to blended to face-to-face learning, without compromising the quality of academic instruction and safety protocols. This was rightly reflected in the outstanding Board Exam Results of Grades 12 and 10.

In the CBSE Grade 12 Examination, our students excelled – the school average is 86.97%. 56 students secured A1 in all subjects. Out of the 437 students who wrote the exam, 38.2% secured 90% and above, 93.6% secured 70% and above and 100% secured 60% and above.

I'm delighted to share that OOD has toppers in all the 3 streams – Science, Commerce and Humanities. Divyalakshmi Varadha Rajan Prem Sudha, is the overall topper across all GEMS Schools and even topped the Science Stream in the Dubai Region with an impressive 99.2%. In the Humanities stream, Iola Ann Mathew is the GEMS Topper in Humanities with 98.8%. In the Commerce Stream, Riona Fernandes, is the second topper across GEMS schools with 98.4 %. We also have the third GEMS topper in Science and Commerce – Eshana Raj and Chhavi Suresh Kumar respectively. In fact, it is a matter of honour that out of the first 10 GEMS toppers, 5 students are from OOD.

To add on, an impressive number of 56 students scored centum. In 12/18 subjects that we offer, students of OOD have secured perfect scores.



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In the CBSE Grade 10 Examination, the school average is 82.55%. The School Topper is Sai Thanishkha Saravana Kumar with an impressive aggregate of 98%.

In the second position are Mahdhiya Ameer John and Nakshatra Rajani Prasanth with aggregate of 97.8% each and in the third position is Alkha Susan Saju scoring an aggregate of 97.6%. Of the 675 students, 29.8 % of students secured 90% and above, 77.8% of students secured 70% and above and 96.6% of students secured 60% and above. Overall, the school secured 23 Centum.

In the National Agenda Benchmarking Test, ASSET- 2021, our students did extremely well by securing an overall rating of Outstanding in English, Very Good in Science and Good in Math. This has been no mean feat and we thank all our teachers, parents and students who worked hard for this achievement.

This year, OOD hosted the first ever Madam Varkey Memorial Pitch Perfect Competition, in memory of our beloved Madam Mariamma Varkey. Futuristic in vision and focused on 21st century skills, the competition is a tribute to the innovative and entrepreneurial spirit of Madam Varkey. In its first edition, a total of 74 contestants representing 26 schools of the UAE participated in the Preliminary Rounds. The Grand Finale was graced by the presence of our Chairman, Mr. Sunny Varkey and members of the Varkey family.

Our school continued to make strong strides in Innovation by winning many Inter-School competitions.

- In SCOPE Build the Planet, our students were winners in 7 categories.





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- In DIDI Project Design Space 6, 103 of our students participated and four of them were Gold Award winners.
- In CodeX, the first ever web development challenge organized by GEMS Modern Academy, our students emerged First Runners-Up.
- 3-D Exhibits of 4 Innovative Napkin Sketches from OOD came to life at the EXPO Young Innovators Exhibition, located at the Terra - Sustainability Pavilion.
- In the GMA Sapere Aude STREAM Competition, OOD won the First Place in Best Artistry and the First Place in the 'Fact or Fiction' Competition.
- In the prestigious Global Innovation Challenge (GIC) 2021, we won prizes in five categories - 2 Gold, 1 Silver and 2 Bronze.
- In iQuesta 2022, the Inter-school quiz competition hosted by the University of Stirling, Ras Al Khaimah, our students walked away with 5 Winners & Runners Up prizes.
- In Global Social Leaders (GSL) Competition, 9 Teams were Awarded in special Categories and 47 Students received individual Certificates besides the Team Commendation Certificates!
- The icing on the cake was OOD's signature project - Global Game Changers - where 17 student Agents of Change have actively collaborated with their peers across continents, and proposed practical solutions to address the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Divyalakshmi Varadha Rajan Prem Sudha was the recipient of Sheikha Fatima Award for Excellence.

In the co-curricular front too, our students brought home many laurels.

- Our KG team were the winners of the 6th Interschool Kindergarten Rhythm and Rhyme competition organized by GEMS New



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Millennium School, Al Khail. This year was a Hat-trick – we have won the trophy for three years in a row now.

- In NMS Model United Nations, our school won the Best Delegation Award for the second consecutive year.
- In United Nations Simulation Conference organized by Our Own Indian School, our school team was the First Runner-up.
- In Al Lulu Wal Marjan Islamic Festival organized by GNMS, Al Khail, our school emerged as the overall winners with our students winning prizes in 9 categories.
- In INNORITE 2022 hosted by Our Own English High School, Sharjah Girls, our students won the First Prize in the Script Writing contest.
- In SparkX MindSpark Business Challenge, organized by Our Own Sharjah, Boys School, the team of five Grade 12 students bagged the First Position.
- In the 'On the spot painting competition' conducted by GEMS United Indian High school, Abu Dhabi, our Grade 7 student won the Second Prize.

In the sports field too, which has gradually come alive post pandemic, our students have made their mark.

- Indhuja Nandakumar, Grade 11 student is Our Own's star cricketer and she has found her place in the Under 19 UAE Women's Cricket team for T20 World Cup.
- In Badminton, Nayonika Rajesh, Grade 12 student represented UAE in Badminton at the ISF Gymnasiade, an international sporting event conducted in Normandy, France. She won the 4<sup>th</sup> position in Girls' Singles and the 3<sup>rd</sup> position in Girls' Doubles.
- In the first GMS Inter-school online chess championship, we bagged the Overall Championship Trophy.





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- In the Inter School Badminton tournament held at GEMS Millennium School (Sharjah), we were the Overall winners in the Girls Category.

The holistic development of children is of prime importance to our school. The school-wide initiatives - Just-a-Minute sessions, Leadership Module, Our Own Reads and Our Own Writes are rigorously implemented with the sole aim of moulding students into confident individuals. Virtual Competitions such as Talent Contests, Inter-House Elocution, Artistic Expression, Qirat and J.A.M were conducted across all grades. Various virtual interactions by experts and guest speakers were also organized, covering a range of topics from Goal setting to Study Skills. KS Varkey English Elocution Competition, Pitch Perfect Competition and Farewell for the outgoing batch of Grade 12 were conducted in the school auditorium, amidst strict safety protocols.

At OOD, student well-being is given prime importance. With this end in mind, the school formed Student Focus Groups at every grade level. These groups meet every month and play an instrumental role in showcasing student voices for greater student welfare.

We would like to profusely thank all our well-wishers and promise to continue the good work that we are doing, with greater enthusiasm and commitment. We appreciate our parent community deeply for their unstinted support and unwavering trust in us.

Together, we will continue to create history.

Thank you and enjoy the evening.

Thomas Mathew  
Executive Principal

