

A Salute with Gratitude

29th Nov: With gratitude in our hearts for residing in a beautiful country like the UAE, the National Day was celebrated. Welcome dance, Arabic dances and welcome songs by both the secondary and primary section students lent colour to the festivity, spreading joy and happiness on the occasion. "Great participation. Great appreciation to all the teachers and students," expressed Majen Kochery, a parent.

The rich culture and strong traditions of the country were brought to life through a colourful display of Emirati Handicrafts and arts at the Meena Bazaar which was set up by the KG section. Musical beats of the march past animated the festivities. A book, *Always and Forever Fairy Tales Volume 2*, was released and the best writers were felicitated with certificates. A musical play on the UAE sketched the milestones of the nation's progress, where the audience witnessed how success evolved in the nation through the years, with hardship and perseverance.

On the occasion, the UAE SST and Social Studies department set up an exhibition to showcase the culture of UAE. "We got to know history beyond the text book," said Dannie Victor of Grade IX. "Through models, students have expressed the past and present of the nation in an interesting way," added Shreyas Deogirkar of Grade IX. The heritage museum was also inaugurated where models of relics and charts traced the roots of the culture and heritage of the UAE. Stories of ancient days of UAE and its ties with India were displayed through an audio-visual presentation. "Museum is the best place to explore history," remarked Ayesha Zaman of grade VIII.

The Commerce department conducted Ozal Souk, an exhibition cum seller's market. "The purpose is to explore the world of commerce," said Ms. Maria Kennedy, Commerce department teacher. Grade XI students from the commerce stream put up a market with paintings, greeting cards, stationary, photo frames, guides, bangles, phone covers and shawls. Ms. Sajina M, HoD of Commerce department said that the sale was a practical experience in entrepreneurship. "It is running on profit and we will donate it to charity," said Mohd. Hafeez and Firaz Ibrahim, grade XI students. "I am really happy that this is a great success. Next year we are confident that we can pull it off," declared Hannah Jabbar of Grade XI.

To understand the heritage of the UAE by depicting it through art work, an art competition, EXPO ADIS-Vision of UAE, was conducted where parents and students participated enthusiastically. "It is a good motivation for the children and an excellent medium to communicate," said Pravitha Jayan, a parent. Another parent Mohd. Salahuddin said that he enjoyed drawing because art was an expression of life itself.

The auditorium, on the day, accommodated a gala science exhibition. Students from grades I to XI presented novel ideas during the science exhibition-Lite Expo- that took form from scientific exploration and observation. The exhibits of working models in various fields like electronics and electricity, magnetism and kinematics, eco-cradle, sustainable development, human body and health and models of solar system made the science exhibition a grand success. Research, planning and hard work to think innovatively and develop a scientific approach to life was the objective of the exhibition. "It is an event to showcase our talent," said Allwin Suresh of Grade IX.

The exhibition also had a cross-curricular outreach; the computer science department explored the field of robotics through various models and interactive games; the Islamic department integrated a few projects with science and put up an astrolabe. Through PPTs and models, the Hindi department introduced the Indian Scientist, Sir C.V. Raman (noble prize winner in Physics) and his contributions to Science, in Hindi language while the English department put up a quiz. An interesting personality assessment stall was put up by the psychology department. Grade I student Naveen P. R. summed up the atmosphere as, "I like it because there are many activities."









