

# THE SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS TID BITS ISSUE #1

"THE FUTURE BELONGS TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN THE BEAUTY OF THEIR DREAMS."

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www.sips.ae



### Sheikh Faisal Bin Khalid Bin Sultan Al Qassemi

#### **CHAIRMAN**



Dear SIPS family,

We, the SIPS community, have been on the educational platform of the Emirates of Sharjah for almost two and a half decades. The school in particular has been led by a purpose: the purpose of giving quality education in a premises that entails a family atmosphere where students, parents, staff members experience a deep-rooted sense of belonging. This mission of giving quality education, creating leaders, providing the best facilities and an environment conducive to learning, stands true today as it did when the school was in its inception and in its years of growth. Today, we continue to take immense pride in the high standard of our school, our qualified and experienced teachers and the myriad opportunities that we strive to make available for the young learners under our care. The children in our school and their interest lie at the heart of our institution. You joining our school is a choice you have made, and to serve you, is our privilege. We persevere to honor your choice through providing comprehensive education. Our teaching-learning process includes subject content that is linked to other curricula, to the national identity of UAE and to real-life situations. All this and more, with close reflections to well-being and e-safety are catered to, at SIPS. Education is a journey of discovery, self-improvement, innovation, critical thinking, creativity and clear communication. We are proud to comprehensively and continuously offer all of this to our wards. We, as a school seek to do things better every time; learning as we teach is our inherent quality. We believe in a foundation that works in enterprise with SPEA, the parents, the teachers and the boards of examination. It is thanks to the métier of this partnership that we are able to provide the most outstanding learning experience and environment. We persevere to bring about academic outcomes that are both encouraging and inspiring. Feedback from our parent community is always welcomed; we believe it is the best gear to propel progress. We harness the growing interest of technology of the current generation to make sure the students remain adept with digital knowledge that will shape and navigate their future. SIPS has always and will always be a pioneer of human values: kindness, respect, empathy and compassion. Our hallmarks of the Emarati culture: generosity and hospitality and tolerance towards other cultures are and will continue to be inculcated. SIPS believes in transformation. We have transformed and brought out the mettle our students possessed. We persevere to bring out the best in all. Many students from different batches from yesteryear have moved far and wide to various parts of the world, to different horizons, to fulfill different dreams. We hear from our alumni and we see them when they visit us or when we invite them. It is with pride we connect with our young professionals even long after they had set their last foot in their sanctuary, they proudly belonged and called SIPS.

Thank you sincerely for placing your trust in us, in SIPS...

Warm Regards, The Chairman





# Ms. Lana Koyi

**PRINCIPAL** 

Dear SIPS Family,

I hope this message finds you well and filled with anticipation for the upcoming academic year. As we embark on this new journey together, I am excited to share some important updates and plans for the year 2023-2024. This year, we are thrilled to introduce two exciting additions to our curriculum - French and Global Prospective subjects. These subjects are designed to broaden your horizons, foster cultural understanding, and prepare our students for the global challenges of the future. But that's not all! We also have some wonderful plans this year. We are very proud to announce that our school has received accreditation from UK Pearson Edexcel and we have introduced this Curriculum for our Sixth Form students in Math and Business Studies and have plans to fully expand to all subjects from the next Academic Year. Educational trips will be provided for our students, with hands-on learning experiences, allowing them to connect classroom knowledge with the real world. These trips are not only educational but also fun, ensuring a well-rounded school experience. Furthermore, we are dedicated to supporting each student's journey towards success. To this end, we have established support classes that will provide additional assistance where needed. Our aim is to Ensure that every child receives the guidance and encouragement necessary to excel academically and personally. The new academic year is a fresh canvas, and we are excited to watch each student paint their unique story of growth and achievement. We look forward to working closely with our dedicated parents to nurture the potential within every child. Together, let's make this year one filled with inspiration, exploration, and accomplishment. If you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Here's to a fantastic year ahead!

Warm Regards,

Lana Koyi

Reach out @: principal@sips.ae



# Ms. Bushra Afreen HEAD OF SECONDARY



Dear SIPS Family, Greetings!

It is with immense pleasure and gratitude that i welcome you to the first edition of SIPS News Tid Bits of Secondary School for the Academic Year 2023-24. As the Head of Secondary, I'm ecstatic to embark on this journey with the whole school community including student, staff and parents. Our aim is to provide holistic education with a safe nurturing and simulating environment where hollistic development of your child is prioritized to make them adept 21st Century learners. This Newsletter includes updates on teaching and learning important dates/events highlights of the month including subject specific week celebrations and accomplishments of our students. this Newsletter serves as a communication tool between school and home for academic and events updates. i'm also happy to share that we are also starting off with support classes to our academically week learners besides also including the After School Activities (ASA's) and we look forward to welcoming our students for these wonderful initiatives. Apart from all this, our school is now a part of Climate Action Project which is an International Project recognized by the United Nations and our students will be collaborating and representing SIPS at an International level with classrooms accross the globe. I'm so excited with the positive changes that we are bringing in our school for our wonderful students. Hence, I encourage the entrire SIPS community to take responsibility and commitment for fostering and environment where each child can reach their full potential. Your support and coordination is exclusively needed for them to thrive as 21st Century learners. Please do not hesistate to reach out to me or our amazing staff if you have any queires, concerns, and suggestions we are always there to provide best possible solutions for making your child's educational journey incredible.

Thank you for being a part of our School Community. #WeAreAllInThisTogether!

Kind Regards,

Bushra Afreen

Reach out @: afreen-1112@sipsbr.onmicrosoft.com





# Mr. Bachar Bourhan VICE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

I am delighted to seize this opportunity to introduce myself as the Vice Principal of SIPS. My name is Bashar Bourhan, and it is a great honor to become a part of this exceptional educational community. I earned my Bachelor's Degree in English Language and Literature from Damascus University and later completed a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership in the UK. With 25 years of teaching experience, including 15 years in educational leadership. I am deeply enthusiastic about contributing to the ongoing leadership and success of our school. As a certified Vice principal from the MOE, and a certified international trainer, I am dedicated to maintaining highest standards of excellence and fostering an inclusive atmosphere where every student can realize their full potential.

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# Ms. Hatice Yurkadul HEAD OF ASSESSMENTS

Hi Everyone! I am Hatice Yurdakul, Head of Assessment and Data in Sharjah International Private School. My journey in education started at Middle East Technical University, Turkey, where I received my B.A in English Language Teaching and M.A in Human Resources and Development in Education. My professional career as a teacher started at Baskent University, Turkey where I worked as an English Instructor from 1998 to 2011. In 2012, I spread my wings and ventured to the vibrant land of India, joining Excelsior American School as an ESL Teacher. This experience offered a cultural kaleidoscope, enhancing my adaptability and pedagogical approaches. Between 2013 and 2015, I had the opportunity to work at Atilim University back home in Turkey, where I taught English to freshmen and sophomore students with diverse backgrounds. From 2016 to 2021, I proudly served as the Literacy Coordinator and EAL/English Lead Teacher at RAK Academy's International Secondary School, which was followed by my service as the EAL/English Coordinator at St. Mary's Private High School from 2021 to 2022. As the Head of the English Department at Harvest Private School in RAK from October 2023 ill June 2023, I undertook the responsibility of leading a team of 11 teaching staff and worked together with them to ensure that high standards in English Language teaching are both achieved and maintained. My journey in international schools led me to Manchester University, where I started studying my second Master of Arts degree in Educational Leadership in Practice, in September 2022. My commitment to education extends beyond the conventional classroom setting. I have passionately offered extracurricular activities that ignite students' interests and foster holistic development. From the Turkish Cooking Club to Speaking Clubs (Turkish and English), and from the Book Club (online during Covid19 and on site afterwards) to engaging school debates, I have strived to create platforms where students can explore, learn, and grow. I also had joy in coordinating

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### Ms. Ligi Antony HEAD OF PASTORAL CARE

Hello everyone!

My name is Ligi Antony, Head of Pastoral Care Department in SIPS. I have completed my Masters in Social Work with the specialization of Medical & Psychiatry and holds a Diploma in Special Education. I started my career in 2011 as a Medical Social worker in Aster Medical college, India. With more than 8 years of student counseling experience across UAE am aware of various cultures, their differences and helped students and families to overcome their difficulties in both academics and behaviour. Parents want their children to be safe, secure and happy at school. Education, health and well being are closely linked. Recent studies have shown that pupils with better health and well-being are likely to achieve better academics. SIPS has a dedicated and high standards of Pastoral care which put well -being at the centre of our operations. We believe that people who have high levels of emotional, behavior and social wellbeing live happy, successful and purposeful lives. So, we have lot's of well-being and Pastoral care activities and events planned for this academic year to ensure that our students, teachers and whole school staff receive the full support they need to have a successful and peaceful year.

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#### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

## OCTOBER 2023

MON TUES WED THU FRI SAT SUN 3 5 2 8 IGCSE/ WORLD WORLD AS/A LEVEL WORLD TEACHER'S SMILE HABITAT DAY DAY BEGIN 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 WORLD TERM 1 GLOBAL HAND MENTAL FORMATIVE WASHING HEALTH DAY ASSESSMENT DAY / YELLOW MUFTI DAY BEGINS 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 TERM 1
FORMATIVE
ASSESSMENT
ENDS / UN INTL
DAY OF
ERADICATION OF MID TERM MID TERM BREAK BREAK POVERTY 24 25 26 28 29 23 UN FORMA-COFFEE TION DAY / ODD SOCKS DAY / MUN CLUB LAUNCH MORNING / OPEN HOUSE TERM 1 31 30

#### **Important Events:**

10th Oct - Yellow Mufti Day, its non uniform day.

24th Oct - UN Formation Day, Odd Socks Day, MUN Club Launch Day.

28th Oct - Coffee Morning with Principal and Head of Secondary/ Open House Term 1

Parent Teacher Meeting.



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

#### ENGLISH

The English department engaged the students in an orientation introducing themselves as part of the "Welcome to school programme". The variety of the activities engaged all the students and made them so excited. The students wrote some gratitude notes to astronaut Sultan Al-Neyadi who is one of the first astronauts from the United Arab Emirates to serve on an international space station for a six month mission. "Love for Reading never dies but it spreads all over"". The students in the primary stage celebrated the International literacy day. Some students visited the school library and others shared their books with their school mates. We Celebrated the World Gratitude Day. The idea is to teach students to offer personal gratitude and also remember that it is an essential emotion that should be universally shared.



At the Secondary Level in the English Department, the teachers and the school welcomed the students with a presentation giving a bird's eye view to the work, changes and challenges they will meet as they move on from September to the end of the year. The department plans to integrate all skills to achieve their final goals in enhancing communication, creativity and critical thinking, the three Cs of 21st century skills. As we progress through the Academic Year 2023–24, we will be reaping the benefits of sustainability in our very own lives as citizens of the world, in particular as community members of this glorious country we live in, the U.A.E. Yes, WE ARE GOING GREEN!

Our teacher, Mr Tamer reflects the year to be a fresh canvas that awaits the strokes of brilliance the students will add along the year. He believes it's an opportunity to learn, grow, and discover the world around us with our students, and that learning is about fostering love for learning, nurturing creativity, and developing character.

Mr Ahmed, on the other hand, has decided to make it as fun-filled as possible with so much to say and write. Equally excited are his students! Walking anytime into his class fills one with enthusiasm to see how much his students have got to say!

Ms Ruby shares her thoughts: "One of the most inspiring aspects of the new school year has been meeting a new group of students. Each student brings with them a unique background, experiences, and potential. I'm enjoying getting to know them, building relationships, and creating a positive and inclusive learning environment where every student feels valued and supported".

Ms Raji's enthusiasm speaks as she embarks on this journey of a new academic year. She says, "I look forward to embracing opportunities and adventures that lie ahead.





This year is a fresh chapter, and it holds the promise of new friendships, new knowledge, and new adventures in learning. Getting to know the students with lice breaker sessions in the first week was indeed exciting. Here's to making this year an enriching and successful one. Remember, every challenge is a chance to grow." Ms Uzma anticipates yet another year of successes with her students in Year 11: A year of achievements like all others and a great bonding time with students. "It is always nice to start the year with so much enthusiasm especially when by the middle of the month means a plan laid out, work put in place and syllabus discussed. What's encouraging is the turn-out of assignments and submission of work. This year is going to be definitely more fulfilling as every student in the class seems self-motivated and determined." The International Literacy Day, our first activity in the department, was a grand success. Our Year 8-13 girls got together to put up an amazing show on Literacy as they spoke about the importance of Literacy in Islam and in the UAE. Effects of illiteracy, was another aspect covered as a presentation. Empowered literary women was another topic covered as the girls brought forward women writers and their contributions to the literary world. Who knows how many J.K Rowlings, Agatha Christies and Maya Angelou's are in the making. We have so many wonderful writers and speakers in whom we take so much pride! The event ended on an amazing note with Ms Lana thanking the English Department and the students for contributing in making the event an accomplishment. Ms Uzma announced the literary and debating clubs which will be part of the school time soon. The department wishes a great time to all the students as they move from one part of their learning journey to the other during the Year 2023-24.

# WE GONG REEN













#### **ARABIC & ISLAMIC WEEKS**

The Arabic Department welcomed the students with many curricular and extracurricular activities. There was a special assembly to celebrate the homecoming of Sultan Al Neyadi in Secondary School. Islamic Education Department held a Quran recitation classes for students. Both Arabic and Islamic Weeks were celebrated with fervour and enthusiasm including presentations on the origin and importance of Arabic Language. They also celebrated Prophet's (PBUH) Birthday sharing his legacy of moral values and virtues. Students were encouraged to improve their public speaking and presentation skills through participating in such activities held during subject weeks.

#### LAUNCHING CLIMATE ACTION PROJECT



As part of Sustainability initiative advised by SPEA the school is now signed up for this amazing project which is spread out across 150+ countries globally with 34 million classrooms.











# Our Senior Leadership Team signing the pledge to #UnitetoActforSDGs.





#### **OUR FRENCH LEARNING JOURNEY**









# MUFTI DAY (RED COLOR DAY)





We have monthly Mufti Days which is a non uniform day for our students where they are free to wear clothes as per the color code. This is a part of our Happiness and Well-being initiative in school.

#### **MATHEMATICS CORE CONTENT AREAS**

NUMBER PROPERTIES AND OPERATIONS

**MEASUREMENTS** 

**GEOMETRY** 

DATA ANALYSIS AND PROBABILITY

**ALGEBRA** 

#### **ACTIVITIES**

The math Department in primary and secondary engaged the students in many activities to make them entertained. Presentations were given for parents orientation to explain well about our curriculum and rules and regulations of the school. Mental math programme has started for primary level. New innovative ideas have been shared with teachers every week ,with the support of our SLT team our journey is going smoothly forward to approach and attain great success.





#### **MATHEMATICS**

Mathematics is the science and study of quality, structure, space, and change. Mathematicians seek out patterns, formulate new conjectures, and establish truth by rigorous deduction from appropriately chosen axioms and definitions. Number Properties area focuses on students' abilities to represent numbers, order numbers, compute with numbers, make estimates appropriate to given situations, use ratios and proportional reasoning, and apply number properties and operations to solve real-world and mathematical problems. Measurement area focuses on students' understanding of measurement attributes such as capacity, weight/mass, time, and temperature as well as the geometric attributes of length, area, and volume. Students may be asked to select appropriate units and tools for measuring, to measure length with a ruler at all three grades, to measure angles with a protractor at grades 8 and 12, and to solve application problems related to units of measurement Geometry area focuses on identification of geometric shapes and transformations and combinations of those shapes. By grade 4, students are expected to be familiar with simple plane figures such as lines, circles, triangles, and rectangles as well as solid figures such as cubes, spheres, and cylinders. The Probability area focuses on students' skills in four areas: data representation, characteristics of data sets, experiments and samples, and probability.

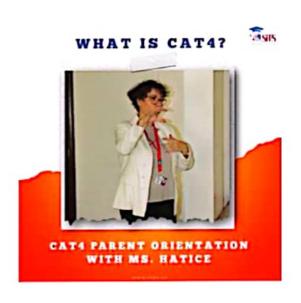






#### **ORIENTATION**

CAT4 Parent Orientation Session was held to highlight the importance of bench mark assessments in developing the Cognitive ability of our student and how it helps theteachers to identify the areas of intervention and support to improve the learning abilities of our students.





#### MOE SUBJECTS - SHARING OF BEST PRACTICES AT SHARJAH EDUCATION ACADEMY

Our School was invited to Sharjah Educational Academy for sharing of best practices in the MOE Subjects. Ms. Noha HOD MOE Subjects represented our school at SEA along with the students.











### STAFF CREATIVE CORNER

It is SEPTEMBER out here-September of 2017-09-07 I have just returned from my holiday Bought new shoes, bags and books so many All, but a promise to bring it to the best use- September will mark the beginning of so many things One big 'S' that starts the September shall also start the word SUCCESS

OCTOBER I know will be rough, I promise to beat the bumpy road with nothing but strife Will work equally on all my subjects
Will follow every word my teacher says Will learn every good thing I must

For, I had made a promise back then in September

In keen NOVEMBER, I will feel settled and happy, The weather more inviting and I'll be out in the fields, Will learn a new sport or two-I know it well, A healthy mind lives in a healthy body, I will, but work only to succeed, in every field I run For, I had made a promise back then in September

DECEMBER, the month I love, I'll come to school in my jackets and see my friends in the same For, I had made a promise back then in September

There's just so much to see-so much to do in this beautiful month
The National Day and the spirit of UAE will keep me inspired
It is for the exams that come I will work,
For, I had made a promise back then in September

JANUARY will come—the winter will remain
Calendars will turn pages to welcome the 2018
As I wait for my result to know how I did,
I know I would do well enough
I know my parents would feel the pride

FEBRUARY-I will be tired-there will be so much to do
Swim, run and play-jackets will be gone-sun will welcome
The teacher will remark-there's so much to do but the month is small
Yet again I will work as I could,
Have goal in mind, have the inspiration to do For, I had made a promise back then in September I'll explore the parks and the
fleid

For it will be spring that will spring in me the energy I need Yet, keep in touch with bonds at home and at school, For, I had made a promise back then in September

MARCH-the most awaited will arrive
For the break it brings from weather and school
I'll hit the playground more often than I did

APRIL will follow with more work and less fun I have two months to go Effort, endeavour and exhaustion Are to mark my days, There will be so much to do For, I had made a promise back then in September

MAY, it seems will invite more of Math-lots of science-plenty of English
I have to work now cover to cover,
Master every skill that came by
This is the time when I will reap the fruits of all my labour
I followed all of it and here I am chasing my dream
For, I had made a promise back then in September

It will seem I did my best when I shall see the marks in JUNE

That shall make me proud and stand Face to face the people who cared-my teachers and parents alike My earnest wish was to get there, For, I had made a promise back then in September

THE YEAR, I will reflect is long gone

That will be time to refresh myself
I have yet another year to go, yet another promise to make and that's once again the SUCCESS and in SEPTEMBER
Fervently, it is that I pray
May my school prosper...
May my parents stand by me...
May this safe haven...
The UAE live long-may it reach the heights it dreamsfor it is the place

I love and the place I live...
JULY and AUGUST will fly as I go for a holiday

I start on this lovely morning, morning of SEPTEMBER-2017
I will start again on another lovely morning of the year to come-another morning in SEPTEMBER OF 2018
Yet again, I will make another promise, once more and always
In SEPTEMBER

Written by: Ms. Uzma HOD English





## COFFEE MORNING SESSION

Every Mid term we have the Coffee Morning Sessions along with the Parent Teachers Meetings to discuss the progress of your child, share ideas and suggestions to foster strong Parent Teacher relationship over a cup of coffee. Details of coffee mornings will be shared a week prior to the sessions.

Here are the details of our first Coffee Morning;

Date: Saturday, 28th October 2023

Time: 9:00 am to 10:00 am Venue: School Auditorium

Parent Teachers Meeting Time: Date: Saturday, 28th October 2023

Time: 10:30 am to 12:30 pm

**Venue: Respective Student Classrooms** 





#### IMPORTANT REMINDERS

#### SCHOOL UNIFORM

It is mandatory for students to come to school in proper uniform. P.E uniforms must be worn only on P.E days. Year 10 to 13 students can wear the P.E uniform only this academic year. Colourful jackets, track pants, colored shoes and casual clothing is strictly not allowed. Black and white shoes to be worn as applicable.

#### JEWELLERY AND MAKEUP

Fancy or any kind of make up is strictly not allowed. Girls can wear a small stud on their ears. No bangles, long earrings, necklaces, or rings to be worn. Applying Lip glosses and nail paints too are not allowed in school.

#### TIMINGS

Punctuality is cruical in developing child's holistic character. The school gates open at 7:00 am and class Assemblies, Attendance is marked during the form time which is up to 7:30 am. Classes according to the time table begin at 7:30 am. Please ensure thta your child reaches school on time and avoid being late.

Afternoon pick up timings are at 2:30 pm onwards. Parents are advised to pick up the child on time and inform the concern person in advance if there is any delay in picking up their child, this is very important as part of safety and well-being of our students.



#### CAREER GUIDANCE SESSION

Every term we have the Career Guidance Sessions for our students to englighten them about career pathways that will help them in selecting their subject specific electives which will lead to admissions in respective universities.









CAREER DISCUSSIONS
OVER BREAKFAST WITH
SIXTH FORM STUDENTS

Our Sixth Form students get a chance to socialize with their teachers and fellow classmates along with the Senior Leadership Team over a breakfast to discuss career pathways. This is one of the student-led initiative and is a part of social and emotional well-being of our students in our school.









# AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

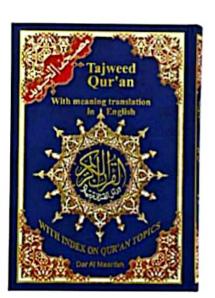
At SIPS we are also introducing After School Activities (ASAs) to improve social and emotional competencies which will lead to improve the behaviour, intrinsic motivation, better consentration, efforts, and lets our students to work beyond the class-rooms and make them stress free whilst they innovate freely.

The Activities are divided into Paid and Unpaid each student can access the unpaid activity only if they opt for ONE PAID activity. Register with the link given below;

https://forms.gle/TfucHz18MMnXwLv6A

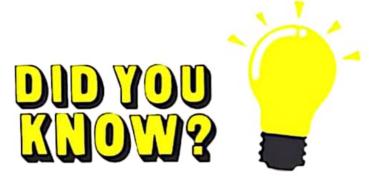
PAID ACTIVITIES	UNPAID ACTIVITIES
QURAN TAJWEED CLASSES GYMNASTICS KARATE	SUSTAINABILITY CLUB DEBATE CLUB HAPPINESS AND WELL BEING CLUB ROBOTICS AND CODING CLUB

Paticipation in the After School Activities is an amazing way to help your child in building self confidence and working beyond the classrooms to explore their creative and innovative skills.











Did you know each insect is a host to ten bacterial species?

There are around 2 billion species on Earth—with 6.8 million likely to be species of insects. And up to 10 types of bacteria lives inside of each of these insects!

### **FUNTIME!**



How do you get straight A's?
By using a ruler!