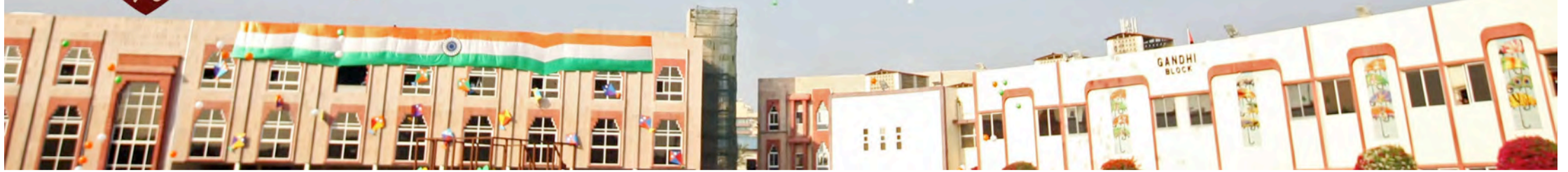




55 GLORIOUS YEARS OF THE INDIAN HIGH SCHOOL, DUBAI

KHALEEJ TIMES | ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT | MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2016



Pioneers of Indian education in the UAE

The purpose of education at the school is not only to bring out the best in academics, but also build character and instil life skills and values in students

■ Suchitra Steven Samuel

Sunil Umrao Singh, Honorary Chairman, The Indian High School, Dubai (IHS), has been associated with the institution for a very long time and is privileged to be one of its first alumnus. In his role, he has pressing issues at hand, important decisions to be made and meetings to be attended. Nevertheless, the secret of his working day is careful planning and organisation.

He reminisces in an interview with *Khaleej Times*: "My association with the school runs deep and I've enjoyed each and every bit of this journey. Serving in the capacity of Honorary Chairman has been more of an emotional connection rather than a job. We've had 55 glorious years, but we're not resting on our laurels; we are looking towards the future."

Singh has an endearing leadership style that wins the hearts and minds of those around him. He firmly believes that his team should have the freedom to build on strengths and take independent decisions. "Team work is essential to the growth of any organisation. It's never about 'I' but 'we'. The way forward, according to me, is

by moving together in the same direction," he says.

The Chairman strongly believes that teachers should have passion and dedication. "As long as you love what you do, you'll be great at it. My advice to aspiring teachers would be to take up teaching as a profession only if you are really passionate about it, as that passion and love shines through when you deal with students. Also, I think it is really important for a teacher to connect with his/ her students, to make students comfortable enough to open up to the teacher."

Over the years Singh has witnessed changes in the education system in the UAE. "For example, technology has been integrated into the education system. There's a lot of focus on learning by doing or experiential learning and students have exposure to some of the great techniques of teaching and learning. We've also moved forward towards inclusive education in a big way. There's a movement towards hands-on activities and connections with the real world. We're moving towards globalisation," he explains.

Singh constantly endeavours to create an

IHS CHAIRMAN BECOMES GOVERNOR OF ROUND SQUARE

Sunil Umrao Singh, Chairman of The Indian High School, Dubai, has been nominated as the Governor of Round Square International, a worldwide network of 160 schools in 40 countries. He will be representing The Indian High School, which will continue to be a leading global member of Round Square embracing the six ideals of learning – Internationalism, Democracy, Environment, Adventure, Leadership and Service. The school was notified of this development through a letter from Papri Ghosh, Regional Trustee and Director, Round Square, South Asia and Gulf Region.

ideal school environment that is safe for students – a place where they are nurtured through technology as well as nature; a student-driven curriculum that caters to all students; and varied learning styles. Here students would not just develop their academic skills, but also values and emotions.

Under Singh's leadership, IHS has built a strong ethos and a sense of community spirit. "Above everything, we're a big family. With a strong focus on values, IHS is a safe haven for students. We have an open channel of communication among our members and their opinions are respected," the Honorary Chairman says.

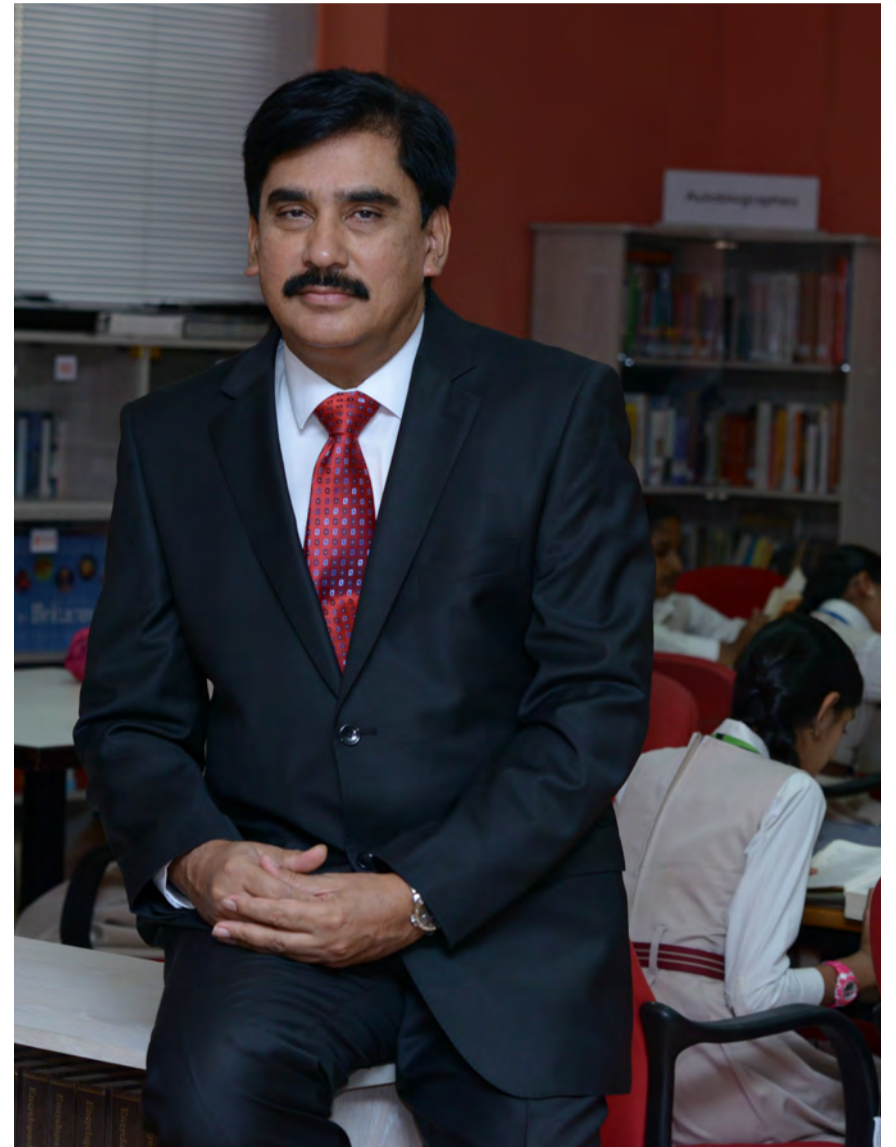
Not surprising that 55 years down the line, the school embarks on its next chapter confidently with greater achievements in sight.

IMPORTANCE OF TIME

"I wish there were more hours in a day. There is so much that one wants to implement and achieve in spite of great time management."

— Sunil Umrao Singh

— suchitra@khaleejtimes.com



Sunil Umrao Singh, Honorary Chairman and former alumnus of The Indian High School, Dubai



"The goal of education is the advancement of knowledge and the dissemination of truth." — John F. Kennedy

Fifty-five years is a milestone. It is an occasion to celebrate and an opportunity to reflect and think of the way forward.

On this occasion, I wish to remember and thank those who, in the course of the last 55 years, have offered their services in accelerating the ongoing development of our institution that has enabled IHS to achieve astounding heights of success.

As a part of the management committee, I feel proud to see the progress of IHS since its establishment in 1961. The undaunted vision of our team, their unfailing dedication, devotion and determination have been some of the major contributing factors to the accomplishments of IHS and its mission.

My boundless gratitude goes to the Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA), staff members and all those who have been instrumental in the rise of this great institution. They are our pillars of support without which the vision of IHS could not have been attained.

Girish Jethwani

Honorary Vice-Chairman of The Indian High School, Dubai



Dr Ashok Kumar (right), CEO; Vasu Shroff, ex-Chairman; Dr Abdulla Al Karam, Chairman of the Board of Directors and Director General, KHDA; Sunil Umrao Singh, Honorary Chairman; Maghanmal Pancholia, Founder Chairman; and Kritagya Arora, Happiness Ambassador at the inauguration of Happiness Hallway at IHS

DRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE

The school is celebrating 55 years of excellence and has set high standards in the sector

The Indian High School, Dubai was established in 1961 (the first private school in UAE) with a view to providing education to children of Indian expats. It was originally known as 'Bharat Vidyalaya'. Over the years, it has developed into one of the most successful educational institutions in the United Arab Emirates and the Gulf region.

IHS is the largest school in the region with more than 13,000 students on roll. The Indian High School is managed by a philanthropic Board of Trustees on a non-profit sharing basis.

The school is recognised by the Ministry of Education, Dubai and is permanently affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) Delhi. With the motto, "Knowledge is Power" the school is closely involved with the activities of the academic community in Dubai and has special programs, such as Round Square Conferences and Model United Nations, aimed at cre-



Hon. Chairman Sunil Singh receiving a memento from Rear Admiral Ravneet Singh, with Consul General HE Anurag Bhushan

ating awareness of the environment and ethics.

The Indian High School is an institution wherein each individual is provided an opportunity to be a shining member of the global village through his acquired skills and virtues, setting a benchmark in every aspect for others to trail!

Awards and Certifications:

► The only Indian (CBSE) school to get an "Outstanding" rating by the KHDA for five consecutive years — 2011-2012, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 & 2015-16 by the DSIB school inspection cycle. The Dubai Schools Inspections Bureau (DSIB) is an organi-



Consul General of India Anurag Bhushan at the Convocation Ceremony at IHS

sation within the Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA) developed to define and measure education quality in schools through an annual cycle of school inspections.

► Only school in the Gulf to be two-time winner of the Sheikh Hamdan Award for Distinguished School and School Administration (2002, 2005).

► First school to have received ISO 9001:2000 Certification (in 2003) for "Quality Management Systems in the provision of education with an international outlook."

► The first school to receive certification from CBSE as "CBSE New Generation School"

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Permitted by the Knowledge and Human Development Authority, The academic qualifications granted by this institution and certified by KHDA shall be recognised in the emirate of Dubai by all public and private entities for all purposes.



55 GLORIOUS YEARS OF THE INDIAN HIGH SCHOOL, DUBAI



Proposed façade of the Nehru Block (left) and Gandhi Block (right) at IHS



The Indian International School at Dubai Silicon Oasis'



The Indian High School, Junior Campus

FROM CANDIDATES TO GRADUATES

Students acknowledged for academic excellence

The convocation ceremony for the batch of 2016 held at IHS was graced by Dr Eesa Bastaki, President, University of Dubai; Anurag Bhushan, Consul General of India to Dubai and the Northern Emirates; Honorary Chairman Sunil Singh; Ex-Officio Chairman Dr L M Pancholia; IHS Founder and Chairman Vasu Shroff; IHS Trustee and former Chairman Mohan Valrani; and trustees and members of the management committee.

The School Brass Band rendered a salute to the special guests to the tune of *Saare Jahaan Se Achha*. After the oath-taking ceremony on school grounds, the Head Boy and Head Girl led students to the auditorium. Dr L M Pancholia welcomed Dr Bastaki, the Chief Guest; Anurag Bhushan, the Guest of Honour; and all dignitaries and parents. In his inspirational address, he shared the achievements of the school and extended his wishes to the students.



The ceremony progressed with a motivating keynote speech by the Chief Guest, Dr Eesa Bastaki followed by Anurag Bhushan.

More than 500 students from the Science, Arts and Commerce streams received their certificates. The Head Boy and Head Girl reminisced about their days at IHS and the memories attached with it. This was followed by a beautiful 'Turn-

ing the Tassel' ceremony, which marks the shift in roles from candidates to graduates.

The event concluded with a candle lighting ceremony.

Message to the batch of 2016:

Go confidently in the direction of your dreams; a whole new world awaits.



FOR A BETTER TOMORROW



As part of the Swachh Bharat Campaign, one of IIS, DSO, students Pranav Sreekumar was invited to attend a meeting with Sushma Swaraj, Indian Minister of External Affairs, in New Delhi. Pranav supported the Swachh Bharat Campaign by donating Rs50,000. He had received this money as part of the Shaikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award won in Dubai. Swaraj applauded this initiative by conveying her message through India Development Foundation of Overseas Indians' (IDF-OI). Twitter page: www.twitter.com/GivingtoIndia



FIRE SAFETY CAMPAIGN: The school organised a Fireworks Awareness Campaign in collaboration with the General Department of Protective Security and Emergency, Dubai Police.



Donating books to local libraries



AN EVENING ON A HIGH NOTE: The school hosted an electrifying evening of musical extravaganza by the Indian Naval Band

DRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE

» Continued from previous page

Encyclopedia Britannica has conferred upon IHS the Excellence in Digital Learning Award for using digital content in its learning programmes.

Collaboration with International Bodies:

- The first Indian school which adapted the F1 International program in the UAE since the inception in 2009 and the only school to have a complete F1 lab facility.
- IHS is a member of the prestigious Round Square Program which is made up of 60 member schools across five continents who regularly organise student exchange programmes.
- Member, Duke of Edinburgh Award program which develops students' skills.
- Encyclopedia Britannica has inducted IHS in its prestigious Britannica President's Club for South Asia.
- Regular collaboration and partnership with Rashid Pediatric Therapy Centre and Dubai Cares.
- Students of Rashid Pediatric Therapy Centre and IHS jointly created the 'Palette of Love' (a wall created by students).
- IHS contributed a sum of Dh50,000 to Dubai Autism Centre as part of the Test4Good campaign organised by KHDA.

HON. CHAIRMAN	YEAR
Mr. Maghanmal J. Pancholia	1961-1979
Mr. Murijmal J. Manghnani	1980-1983
Mr. K. N. Khiara	1984-1987
Mr. Bhagwan V. Jethwani	1988-1991
Mr. Vasu Shroff	1992-1995
Mr. Naval Ved	1996-1999
Dr. Ram Buxani	2000-2003
Mr. Narain R. Sawlani	2004-2007
Mr. Mohan Valrani	2008-2011
Dr. L. M. Pancholia	2012-2015

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55 GLORIOUS YEARS OF THE INDIAN HIGH SCHOOL, DUBAI



HAMDAN AWARD BESTOWED UPON IHS YOUTH IN 2015

Students receive merit for educational performance



Ragini Sharma



Satvik Vashisht



Amiteash Paul



Sreelakshmi Prakash

Ragini Sharma (Grade 3), Satvik Vashisht (Grade 4), Amiteash Paul (Grade 8), and Sreelakshmi Prakash (Grade 9) are the young, bright minds of IHS, Dubai who were recently felicitated with the prestigious Hamdan Award for academic performance. This is the second time Satvik Vashisht is honoured with the recognition.

The Hamdan Award, established in 1998 after a decree by Shaikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, UAE Minister of Finance, is a way of recognising excellence in educational performance and fostering talent.

The Indian High School is very proud of this achievement and wishes its students continued success in the future.



IHS auditorium



PET THERAPY AT IHS: IHS conducted a Pet Therapy session for Grade 12 students that allowed them to laugh and play with four-legged friends. The session proved to be a relaxing exercise and made students more self-confident as they embarked on their exam journey. The school had also invited Dr Abdulla Al Karam, Director General of KHDA, for the session.



Honorary Chairman Sunil Singh and CEO Dr Ashok Kumar with the toppers of CBSE XII board exam at the Felicitation Ceremony at IHS

IHS STUDENTS TOP THE CBSE XII BOARD EXAM IN SCIENCE AND ARTS STREAMS IN THE UAE

Students of IHS showed exceptional results at the CBSE XII Board Exam with 100 per cent pass rate among a total of 514 boys and girls.

Around 99.8 per cent students of IHS secured first division. Notching up last year's performance, 40.2 per cent of students secured 90 per cent and above, while 9.3 per cent students ranked above the 95 per cent aggregate.



The Indian High School Management & Board of Trustees
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Tree Adoption Day at the school sensitised students on the importance of planting trees, with members of ICAI UAE, Dubai chapter



HUMBLE BEGINNINGS: A school assembly in progress in 1961



IN TOUCH WITH NATURE: School aviary



GREEN FINGERS: Gardening in school



INSET: The school mosaic

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55 GLORIOUS YEARS OF THE INDIAN HIGH SCHOOL, DUBAI



AWARENESS DRIVE: The Pink Campaign at The Indian High School, Dubai



FIELD TRIP: Kindergarten students visit the zoo



COLOURS: Young ones discover the joy of colouring at the Indian International School, Dubai Silicon Oasis



SMASHING WINS: Students get to discover their potential and talent in various sports activities at the school premises



REPUBLIC DAY: Staying true to annual tradition, The Indian High School, Dubai, celebrated the 67th Republic Day of India with patriotic zeal and fervour on January 26 this year.

FOND MEMORIES OF LEARNING AND FUN

Former students of The Indian High School, Dubai, look back on their golden years spent at IHS



INFUSED WITH THE SPIRIT OF LEARNING
Sheikh Rehmatullah
Senior PR Executive at Raae PR & Social, Dubai, UAE

“Being a former student of The Indian High School, Dubai, is a special feeling. As one of the oldest schools in the UAE, it has a rich heritage and shares the journey of progress and development with the nation itself. All of us siblings are a product of this school, so you can say IHS ‘runs in the family’. I was part of what was then called the ‘golden batch’ because we graduated during the 50th anniversary. It has been five years since that day, but I still miss many things about it — from the iconic Shaikh Rashid Auditorium, well-stocked library, overflowing canteen during lunch break, and the green outfield right in the middle of the school. But above everything else, it is the teachers that will always remain the highlight of my journey as a student of IHS.

I have studied under some of the most kind and genuinely caring teachers who took lessons beyond the textbook and infused a spirit of learning in us. At times I recall words of my teachers that had a profound effect on my friends and me in school. Indeed, just as the true reflection of a nation lies in its people, a school is celebrated by the quality of its teachers. I hope IHS continues its strong legacy into the future while inspiring students in the quest for knowledge.”



READY FOR THE REAL WORLD
Shlok Mishra
Pursuing BSc in Aeronautical Science at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach, Florida, US

“I have transformed from a young boy to a man at IHS, ready to face the uncertainties and challenges this world has to offer. In my opinion, IHS has done an excellent job in providing a whole lot of opportunities for its students in a challenging and competitive atmosphere. You always have someone to guide you and that is the most beautiful part of the IHS experience. IHS will always remain close to my heart for allowing me to be a part of the huge family. I feel blessed to be a part of the school.”



INFLUENCING GENERATIONS OF LEADERS
Rhea Mathew
Corporate Communications at HP in California, US

“Happy birthday, IHS! My heart fills with pride whenever I think about how the school has inspired me to think bigger and has influenced generations of leaders, regardless of their background or where they came from. This is truly the best school in Dubai and I am so lucky to be called an IHS alumni. Shine that light forward!”



PROMOTING A GENERATION OF THINKERS

Message from **Dr Ashok Kumar**, CEO, IHS, Dubai

I feel very proud to be associated with The Indian High School, Dubai (IHS) for more than two decades. I would like to thank the Chairman, Board of Trustees, parents, staff and students for shaping IHS into a haven of learning. At IHS, we are committed to promoting a generation of thinkers, who will go on to become Proactive Global Citizens. On this momentous occasion, my heartfelt wishes to each and every member of the IHS family who has made this journey possible. Congratulations! Here’s to another 55 glorious years!

CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME

IHS has undertaken various initiatives in the last five decades that has allowed its students to focus and explore different sectors. It regularly partners with Dubai Cares, Rashid Paediatric Centre, and Al Noor. Such long-term associations have helped students appreciate the importance of giving back to society and lend a helping hand to the underprivileged. Some of the popular programmes and initiatives include:



Students with KHDA staff

BACK TO SCHOOL: For the ‘Back to school’ initiative, IHS students contributed 1,001 stationery boxes to the underprivileged children. These were collected for the Zayed Humanitarian Work Day programme run by KHDA.

TEST4GOOD: IHS also enthusiastically participated in the Test4Good programme run by KHDA, where-in students and parents raised Dh50,000 for the Dubai Autism Centre.



Students dropping money envelopes into Honest Boxes

CINEMA FOR A CAUSE: IHS runs this programme regularly at the school premises for all grades from kindergarten to Grade 12. Students are shown a movie in the school auditorium at the minimal cost of Dh5. They are provided juice and popcorn as they drop their money in ‘Honest Boxes’ kept outside the auditorium before stepping in for the movie. The aim is to inculcate the quality of honesty even when no one is watching.

FORTNIGHT DELITE: This is an inter-disciplinary programme wherein students from the Home Science, Accounts, Marketing, Fine Arts and Environment clubs work together. The Home Science Lab whips up delicious and nutritious recipes that are sold in the school canteen every alternate Thursday.

CHARITY BAZAAR: Organised by students, the Charity Bazaar has the look and feel of a neighbourhood fair and includes a variety of food stalls, games stalls, sale of trinkets, used books, plants, etc.

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