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درسة حيمس الهندية المتحدة

Dear Parent,

Greetings!

Students, their parents and educators around the world are experiencing the extraordinary ripple effect of the novel COVID -19 as schools are shut down and quarantine methods are being ordered to cope with the global pandemic. While the government and the health authorities across the globe are finding ways to slow down the out- break, global education systems are finding innovative ways to provide quality education for all even during these difficult times. GEMS UIS is at the forefront of the Remote Learning Program with its research-proven synchronous and asynchronous schedules of learning.

It gives us immense pleasure to share information on the success of our first week of Cycle 2 & 3 online – Remote Learning Program at UIS. With a few initial teething problems, we are glad to say that all the problems faced have been resolved successfully, thanks to our adaptive and supportive students and parents.

The impact is no longer just on the students, but the instructors at hand as well. Many teachers were faced with challenges and issues, which they had not foreseen. Although students of this century are born digital natives and many skilled instructors are trained in online platforms, the difficulty of the "distance" still proposed multiple challenges. Over the past two weeks, we have seen quick settling of students and we have overcome these initial challenges very successfully.

Education in the physical classroom versus in the online classroom has disparities in outcome. Teachers may experience certain challenges expressing instructional content to their students, especially Synchronous and Asynchronous lessons. With our rigorous training and coaching, UIS teachers have overcome all such challenges. Parents you must note the merits of RLP in the unfortunate situation. We are confident by the end of the term, you will notice your child practicing independent learning skills coupled with responsibility, self-discipline and resilience to overcome difficult times.

Happy to share that overall 96% of student's attendance has been observed throughout this week. We encourage students to send in their assignments on Microsoft Teams / Microsoft Forms as guided by teachers. Teachers will send back personalized feedback for students to further work on.

We have also created a platform for parents where we reach out to them for their feedback and analysis on the Remote Learning Program.

Students will be reminded by their teachers on guidelines for maintaining online behaviour. Please encourage those netiquettes as they are valuable skills to employ in future as well. Student expectations for online behaviour are part of this newsletter and features as the last segment. We encourage you to go through the same and reiterate with your child.

Towards the end of the day, there is" REFLECTION TIME "where in students are encouraged to reflect on the knowledge gained every day and analyze on what went well and what they need to do better or still need to understand.

Throughout this time of uncertainty, something we can take control of is our health and wellbeing. So whatever your situation, try to keep active, eat healthy and stay hydrated.

Stay safe...stay healthy!

Warm regards,

Mrs. Sunitha Nambiar & Mr. K. Joseph

Senior Supervisors

In this segment, you will find a gallery of students' work for your viewing. We've capture some moments of students working on feedback from their teachers.

In the first week of e-learning students of Grade 7 learnt the various concepts of fraction through activities and the real life application of the same. Students designed a crossword puzzle, a story line and a subject enrichment activity was done on the topic. Students reflected their concept using Frayer's Model and Mind map.





While we are working on resolving and reverting to each parent's communication with us, here are some parent testimonials.

Parent's feedback

- Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2020 3:29 PM
 - To: Bhawna Sharma <bhawana.s_uis@gemsedu.com>

Subject: Appreciation on e-learning

Dear Bhawana ma'am,

Greetings,

Firstly, I am very impressed about the smooth going, of the e-learning sessions which are conducted by the school on regular basis.

I am able to view that my child is actively promoting interest in the studies during the classes, and this is only possible due to the remarkable hardwork of the entire GUIS family.

I am also very satisfied with all the subject teachers. It reflects all the amount of hardwork taken by them, in such a critical condition.

I really appreciate you being my ward's class teacher. Till today, you have been extremely helpful, supportive and encouraging and most importantly, available, not only for my ward but for all the students. Your experience is reflected in your teaching methods.

I am also very thankful to the entire GUIS family for making such a wonderful station available, where the students are able the cope up with the studies during these tough times.

From the bottom of my heart, I am very delighted with all the efforts taken by GUIS.

Kind regards,

Niketa Kulkarni

Sent: Saturday, April 11, 2020 6:25 PM To: Indravati Pandey <<u>indravati.p_uis@gemsedu.com</u>> Cc: Sunitha Nambiar <<u>sunitha.n_uis@gemsedu.com</u>> Subject: Re: Class Teacher In

Dear Indravati Ma'am,

My name is Sheny and I am Jessica's mother. Firstly thank you for your e-mail and my sincere apologies for not even acknowledging it on time.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support as the children embark this new journey amidst the troubled times that we face.

I know that as teachers you all are putting in a lot of effort from your side to ensure that our children are provided the necessary resources and materials are covered in time. The efforts of all the teachers are much appreciated, please convey the same to all of the other teachers also. You all are also in our prayers and we wish you strength and wisdom from above in all that you do.

The children are really missing school and the face-to-face sessions. I sometimes hear that some of them feel so upset of the situation. Keeping their spirits high and motivated. However, we are hoping for everything to be back to normal soon. They will all be stronger after this and with the support of all of us they will get through this too. We shall overcome this together !!!

Thanking the SLT also for all their timely interventions and support.

Please let me know if there is anything from my side which needs to be addressed.

Kind Regards,

Sheny (m/o Jessica Lis Liju)

Sent: Monday, April 13, 2020 6:52 AM

To: Neema Narayanan <<u>neema.n_uis@gemsedu.com</u>> Subject: Re: Welcome to academic year 2020-21 Good Morning.

My son Bharadhwaj attended all classes last week and he thoroughly enjoyed the digital medium and environment.

As I understand all subject teachers has done tremendous work and preparations for this new way of online teaching. Our Congratulations and thanks to all the teachers.

Please find attached the photo of Bharadhwaj taken while attending a class.

Thanking you once again Regards Manikandan.N



Sent: Friday, April 10, 2020 12:37 PM

To: Lubna Kazi <<u>lubna.k_uis@gemsedu.com</u>>; Surayya Mohammed Asif Shaikh <<u>surayyamoham.s_uis@gemsedu.com</u>>; Hema Gopalakrishnan <<u>hema.g_uis@gemsedu.com</u>>; Rohini Sasikumar <<u>rohini.s_uis@gemsedu.com</u>>; Sindhu Devadas <<u>sindhu.d_uis@gemsedu.com</u>>; Mohamed Ali Mohamed Ali <<u>mohamedali.m_uis@gemsedu.com</u>>; Tahira Arshad <<u>tahira.a_uis@gemsedu.com</u>> Subject: E-learning

Dear Ma'ams,

I am Farhan Shihab's (7B3) mother. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all of you teachers for making the e-learning also effective. I understand each of you are walking the extra mile to bridge the gap in studies during these difficult times. I truly acknowledge the hard work and sincerity and thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Thanking you,

Best Regards,

Ayesha Shihab











E-Learning Activities



Student online learning behaviour expectations

- Establish daily routines for engaging in the learning experiences (7:45 am start).
- Identify a comfortable, quiet space in your home where you can work effectively and successfully.
- Ensure you are on mute mode till asked by the teacher to participate in the session. Check assignments, complete and submit what is expected of you on a daily basis. Meet timelines, commitments and due dates.
- Ensure your language is not offensive, derogatory or discriminatory towards anyone.
- Submit work that has been done by you and has not been copied/lifted from any other source. Be honest about your own learning.
- Demonstrate online behavior that will enhance the positive learning experience of your peers. Collaborate and support your UIS peers in their learning.
- Be a reflective learner; learn from your daily reflections.
- Download or forward material only if it is educational and contributes to learning.
- Regularly monitor online platforms (Phoenix Classroom, MS Teams, email, etc.) to check for announcements and feedback from teachers.
- Communicate proactively with your teachers if you cannot meet deadlines or require additional support in understanding what was taught. Share your reflections with your teachers regularly.